OCTOBER 14, 1955

Puget Power Plans \$35 Million Project

The Federal Power Commission yesterday issued a license together up here to meet the to Puget Sound Power & Light challenge ahead," said Monrad, Company to construct a \$35,- who presided over last night's 000,000 Upper Baker River pow- meeting. "These workers and er dam, and the upriver town of Concrete immediately began to have homes. And we want wrestling with the problems good housing-not cheap, quick which will result from the construction boom.

the Baker River will be eight ley residents will provide apartmiles north of Concrete.

Its construction plus additional installations at Puget Power's present Lower Baker River pro-140,000 kilowatts in power generation on the Baker.

high, 200 feet wide, will be and move full speed ahead in an-

tain to affect the Skagit Valley ever undertaken." and most directly the town of site is in Whatcom County, it storing 980,000,000,000 gallons of at Concrete.

some 1,500 men will be employed by Stone and Webster, Inc., the construction firm which will build the dam. Many of those workers will be housed in con- by 60 feet wide, and intake secstruction camps. But the prob- tion will be located at the base of lem of providing quarters and facilities for the employes still the river. Two water wheels of is certain to present a formid- 60,000 horsepower each, operatable problem to the Upper Skagit Valley.

Eyes Housing

Ed Monrad, Concrete business-Club, said this morning that figure out how we are going to that will be flooded by the dam. put up just 35 engineers and just isn't any empty housing in their problems."

Monrad said he was "shocked" the dam project was highlighted. share of that contract.

"We are going to have to work their families are going to have projects."

Monrad added that the boosters The site of the second dam on are hoping that many upper valments and rooms in their homes for the construction workers.

A total payroll of \$11,000,000 will be paid out to workmen on ject will mean an increase of the upper and lower river proj-

"The stage is set so that con-The new dam will be 300 feet struction can start immediately constructed of concrete with a ticipation of a 1959 completion straight gravity section, and will date," Frank McLaughlin, combe 1,200 feet long with a 12-foot wide road across its top. Seattle. "This is the largest pow-The construction boom is cer- er development project Puget has

Behind the new dam a reser-Concrete. For while the dam voir some nine miles long and can be reached only via the water will be created. North of Baker River Road which starts the dam a dike 1,260 feet long and 50 feet high, requiring 270,000 At the peak of construction cubic yards of earth and rock fill will be constructed.

120-Foot Powerhouse

The powerhouse, 120 feet long the dam in the mtin channel of ing on an average head of 275 feet, and two generators of 42,500 kilowatts each will be provided.

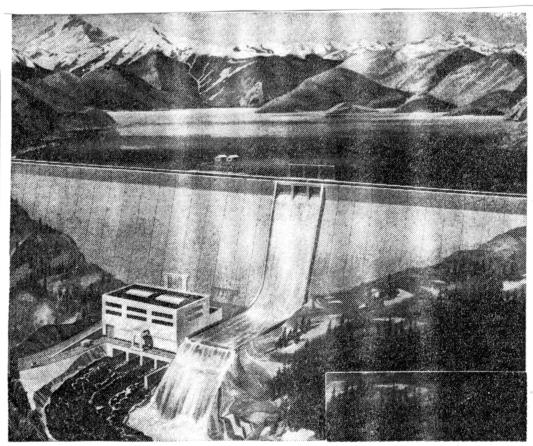
The U.S. Forestry Service, in anticipation of the approval by man and past president of the the government to let the com-Upper Skagit Valley Booster pany build the dam, already has started sales to loggers of the "right now we are trying to timber in the nine-mile-long basin

Though the first engineers are offiicals who will be arriving due to arrive sometime next in the next two weeks. There week, company officials today were unable to put their finger town, and the communities fur- on a starting date, saying only ther down the valley also have that construction would start "as soon as we get organized.'

The engineering figures involvby a poor turnout for a booster ed in the project are staggering. club meeting last night-only sev- Some 1,200,000 tons of concrete en persons appeared — at which will be poured. It is thought likediscussion of how the community ly that the cement plant in Conis to solve the housing and other crete of the Superior Portland problems which will be posed by Cement, Inc., will get the major

MOUNT VERNON DAILY HERALD

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WHAT IT WILL LOOK LIKE—This artist's drawing shows what the new Upper Baker River Dam and reservoir, authorized yesterday by the Federal Power Commission, will look like when the giant Puget Sound Power and Light Co. project is completed.