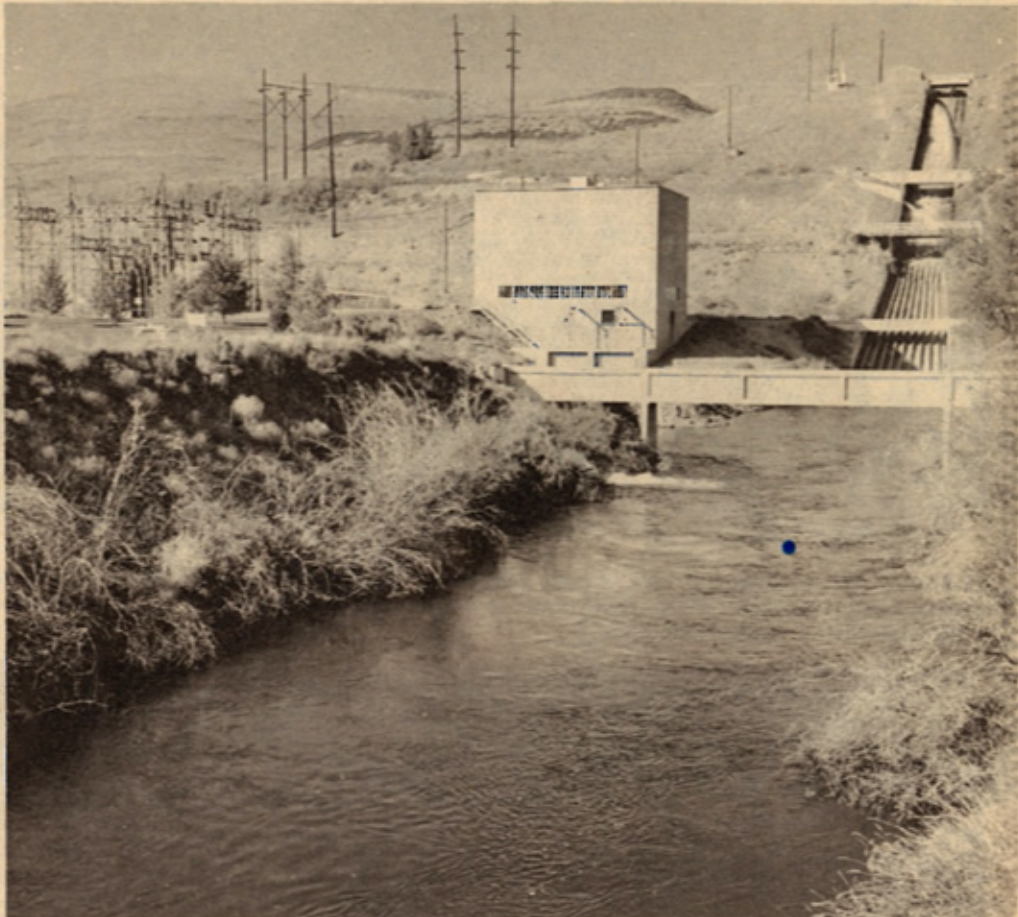


Byproduct Provides Big Aid To Irrigation



SPRINKLED IRRIGATION—Yakima River water, delivered through the Roza Irrigation District, is sprinkled onto crops which the water would not be able to reach without the aid of electricity. The Roza district supplies its own power by means of a power plant near Yakima.



ROZA POWER—The power that sends water to high ground on the Roza Project comes from this plant at Yakima. Water used for the generation of power here is used again for irrigation.

Electricity Powers Irrigation Sprinklers To Bring Water To Higher Ground

While most products of irrigation are but beneficiaries of a man-made process, there is one product which, while a beneficiary, also lends its sinews to irrigation to produce more irrigation.

This beneficiary-turned-assistant is electricity. Never a true product but a byproduct, electricity in the Yakima area was all but born in an irrigation canal. Today it powers pumps from one end of the Yakima Project to the other to bring water to land which, without electricity, would be devoted to sagebrush instead of crops.

Yakima received its first electricity in 1890, five years after the first electric service was established in the Northwest at Astoria, Ore.

In 1889 Yakima granted a franchise for electricity to George Woolston but Woolston became ill and was unable to begin construction. The franchise was canceled and a new one was issued to Edward Whitson in 1890. Whitson formed two corporations, one for electricity and one for water for the new city. He diverted water

from the Naches River four and one-half miles upstream from Front Street and carried it by canal three miles to a powerhouse he constructed on Lincoln Ave.

Electricity was turned on Sept. 4, 1890.

The following year Whitson combined his two companies into the Yakima Water, Light and Power Co.

Meanwhile, in the Lower Valley, the Prosser Falls Irrigation Co. was formed in 1893 but while the intent of the corporation was to supply power in addition to irrigation, nothing came of the effort. However, in 1902 Alfred W. Z. Thompson, a Prosser Electric Co. incorporator, filed on 5,000 second feet of Yakima River water.

Pasco got its first electric service in 1907 through water power but converted to steam in 1908.

Back in the Yakima area the Yakima Water, Light and Power Co. purchased the Wapatox Canal in 1904 and built a power plant on the Naches River 11½ miles up the river from Yakima. Construction of the plant

was slowed by weather conditions, however, and the plant was not in operation until 1907.

In 1909 a steam plant for generating electricity was built at Toppenish. A steam plant had been built in Kennewick was tied to the Yakima area system by means of a transmission line and distribution systems were established at Mabton and Sunnyside.

The lights were really being turned on in the Yakima Valley. Meanwhile, way across the nation in Maine, the Pacific Power and Light Co. was incorporated. While PP & L was and is a western concern, the business was incorporated in Maine in 1910 because of the favorable corporation laws then in existence in that state.

Following the union of the Yakima and Pasco power facilities in 1910, the holdings of that company were sold to PP&L.

In 1914 PP&L installed the "drop" plant at Naches to take advantage of a drop in canal water to generate additional electricity.

For years PP&L maintained

its Yakima Valley water rights but in 1926 sold them to the City of Yakima.

In the early years of irrigation electricity did little to further the cause of irrigation but, here and there, electric pumps were used to irrigate a few more acres.

When the Roza was built, the use of power to bring water to the land became an important part in the plan. The Roza Power Plant was built to pump water to approximately a third of the irrigable acres on the project. A unique feature of the plan is that the water used to generate power is returned to the Yakima River to be used again for irrigation.

Virtually all the Roza's electricity—11,250 kilowatts—is used on the project. That which is not used on the project is sold, providing the district with a non-irrigation revenue.

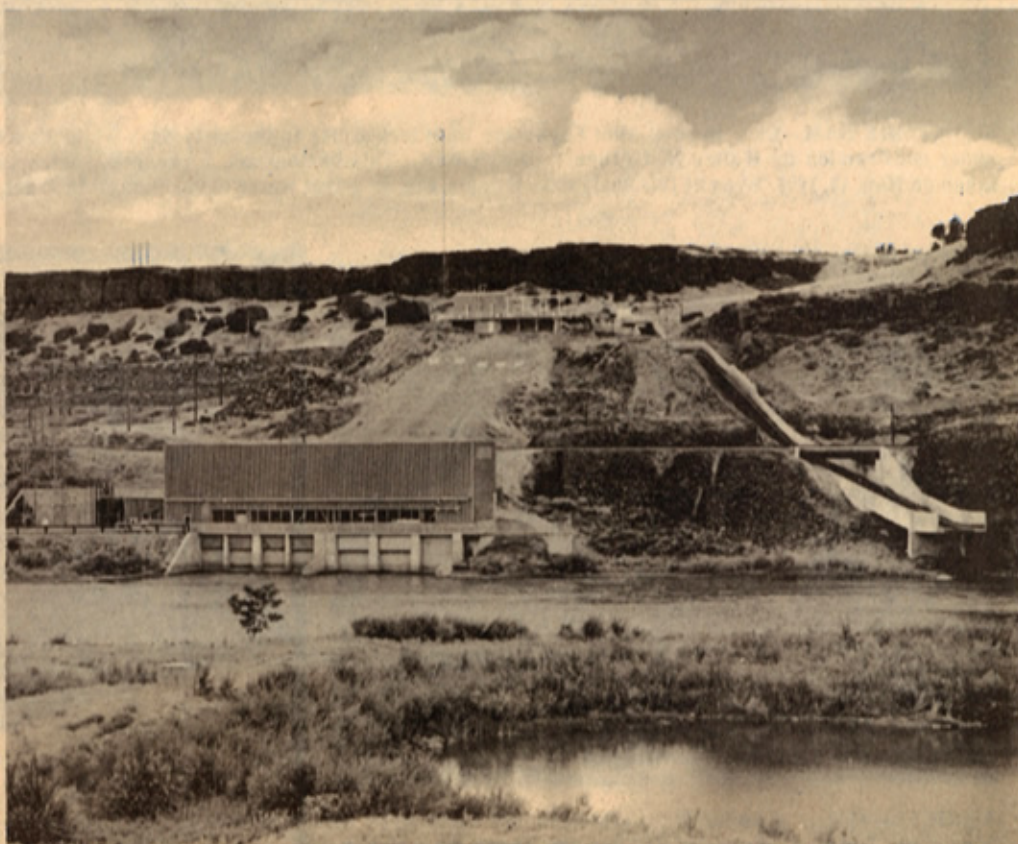
The electricity generated at Chandler east of Prosser is a different matter. Chandler develops 12,000 kilowatts but since the power is not needed for irrigation it is dumped into the

Northwest power pool for use throughout the entire Northwest. As with the Roza, this provided the district with a source of revenue not related to irrigation.

The water which powers the Chandler plant comes from the Prosser Dam. This water also is used to irrigate the land on the Bureau of Reclamation's Kennewick Division and powers the hydro pumps which lift the irrigation water across the river to the irrigation district.

Irrigation, though, no longer can depend only upon the electricity it supplies to operate the irrigation pumps used on the Yakima Project. Sprinkler irrigation, which makes possible the irrigation of high and rough but fertile land, depends on much upon electricity as it does upon water for its success.

Water supplies power to generate electricity and electricity supplies power to bring water to the land—that's what's known as scratching each other's back.



CHANDLER POWER—The Chandler Power Plant along the Yakima River east of Prosser gets its water to run its generators from the Prosser Dam. Some of the water returns to the river but the remainder is pumped across the river to the high ground on the south side and irrigates the Kennewick Project.



SCHANNO DITCH—The Schannos were among the first irrigators in the Valley. In 1903 their intake from the Naches River was transferred to the Yakima Water, Light and Power Co., a

predecessor of Pacific Power & Light Co. The canal from this intake is known as the Fruitvale and once served the PP&L power plant on Lincoln Avenue.



OUT OF SERVICE—This power plant on Lincoln Avenue, now no longer in use, once was one of the main sources of electricity for this area. Generators which once were housed here now are in service in South America. The plant was partially destroyed by fire a few years ago.



EARLY PLANT—This PP&L power plant on the Naches Highway is one of the first power plants in the Yakima area. It derives its power from the old Wapatox Canal. PP&L later built the "drop" plant just outside of Naches on the old highway to take advantage of a natural drop of the water in the canal.





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