FACT SHEET

This Fact Sheet has been prepared to acquaint representatives of the press, radio, and other media with the Grand Coulee Dam and Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake, which will be dedicated by President Truman, May 11, 1950. It contains details regarding the dam, Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake, the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project, and the town of Coulee Dam, Washington.

Part I of this Fact Sheet lists significant details regarding telephone, telegraph, postal, and other services which will be of particular concern to those covering the dedication.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Reclamation
Coulee Dam, Washington

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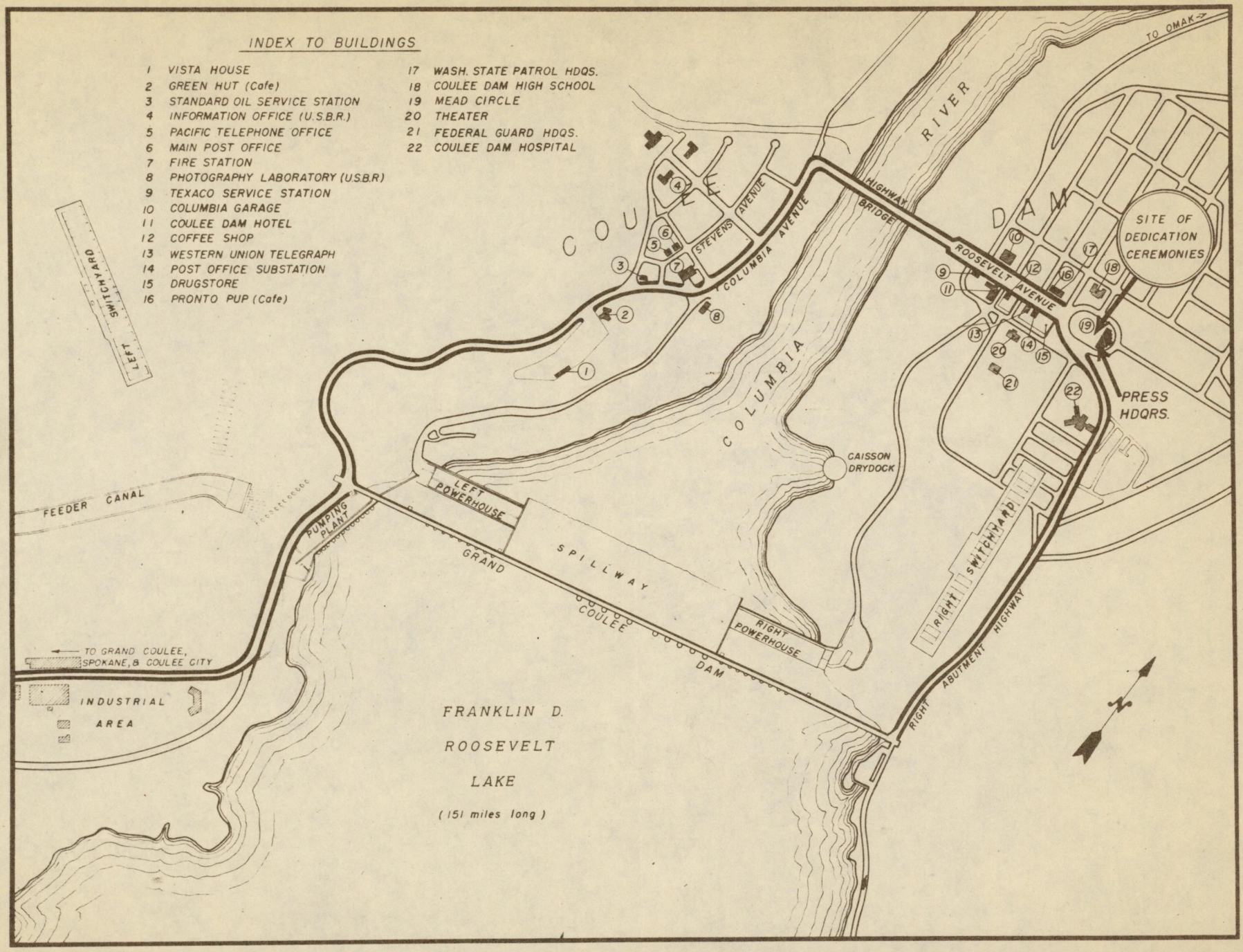
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(151 miles long)

PART I - SERVICES IN THE TOWN OF COULEE DAM

Telephone Service

Public telephones are operated by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, Coulee Dam, Washington. Telephone offices are on Stevens Street, next to the Main Postoffice. All arrangements for special services, such as leased wires, should be placed with the Coulee Dam office of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. THE NUMBER OF TRUNK LINES OUT OF COULEE DAM IS LIMITED AND ARRANGEMENTS TO LEASE THESE SHOULD BE MADE EARLY.

Dial telephones in the area are those of the Bureau of Reclamation. If you are using a dial telephone in Coulee Dam, dial 9 for "outside" and the answering operator will be one of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph employees. If you dial "operator" on a Bureau of Reclamation telephone you will get the Bureau of Reclamation operator.

Western Union

Western Union Telegraph offices are on Roosevelt Avenue, on the east side of Coulee Dam. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The telephone number is 190. After office hours you can get Western Union by calling the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph operator and asking for "Western Union".

Postal Service

There are two postoffices at Coulee Dam, the Main Office on Stevens Street (west side) and the substation on Roosevelt Avenue (east side). Street mail boxes are spotted at strategic points. Postoffices open at 8 a.m. and close at 5 p.m.

Mail Closing, Eastbound and Spokane only, saving about 12 hours for eastbound air mail only -- closes at street letter boxes and substation on Roosevelt Avenue at 8 a.m. and at Main Postoffice on Stevens Street at 10 a.m.

Mail Closing, all points, closes at street letter boxes at 4 p.m., at Substation on Roosevelt Avenue at 4:30 p.m., and at Main Postoffice on Stevens Street at 5 p.m.

There are no other mail services out of Coulee Dam, and none at all on Sunday.

Photographic Facilities

The Bureau of Reclamation has a well-equipped Photographic Laboratory at Coulee Dam which can be used to service pictures to be sent by wire.

Rush-order development of negatives taken by news service on the day of the dedication and printing of glossy photographs for wire-service transmission from Coulee Dam will be handled by the Photographic Laboratory. The laboratory also will provide a special room for setting up equipment to transmit photographs by wire. However, arrangements for leased-wire and special telephone circuits required in transmitting photographs by wire must be made direct between a news service and the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. Although the Bureau will provide the space for your equipment it cannot negotiate the use of leased wires for you. If you plan to wire your pictures from Coulee Dam the day of the dedication please let the Office of Special Services and Information, Bureau of Reclamation, Coulee Dam, Washington, know as soon as possible so necessary space for equipment will be reserved. PLEASE MAKE YOUR NEEDS KNOWN EARLY.

Press and Radio Headquarters

Special headquarters to serve representatives of the press and radio will be available in the gymnasium, behind the speakers platform. Telephones, tables, and other facilities will be provided.

Identification Badges for Visiting Correspondents

Special badges identifying representatives of the press and radio will be distributed by the Bureau of Reclamation.

Transportation

There are no local buses in Coulee Dam. All transportation is by private automobile or taxicab. Taxicab services are available from:

Ace Cab Company	Telephone	333
Brodrick Cab	"	337
Continental Cab	"	98
Yellow Cab	"	1042 or 71

Buses for Spokane, Seattle, and other points have their terminal at the Coulee Dam Hotel. There is no passenger train service to Coulee Dam.

Hotels

There are several hotels in the Grand Coulee Dam area. Principal ones are the:

Coulee Dam Hotel, Coulee Dam	Telephone	90
Continental Hotel, Grand Coulee	"	205
Coulee Center Hotel, Grand Coulee	"	1081

HOTEL SPACE IS AT A PREMIUM AND NEGOTIATIONS FOR RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE STARTED EARLY.

Meals

There are many restaurants in Coulee Dam and the nearby city of Grand Coulee. Coulee Dam restaurants are the Green Hut Cafe, on the main highway into Coulee Dam from Spokane, and the Coffee Shop and the Pronto Pup, both on Roosevelt Avenue.

Physicians

Dr. Ronald Gill	Coulee Dam	Telephone 691
Dr. Paul Lee	Coulee Dam	" 180
Dr. Edgar Allen	Grand Coulee	" 678
Drs. Watt and Beasley, Dentists		" 300

Drugstores

Atwater Drugs,	Coulee Dam	Telephone 75 (Emergency - 196-M)
Russell Drugs,	Grand Coulee	Telephone 386

Hospital Facilities

The Coulee Dam Community Hospital is the medical center for the area. It is maintained for the service of the general public.

Coulee Dam Community Hospital	Telephone 300

Laundry Service

Laundry service is available from the following firms in the Coulee Dam area.

Victory Laundry, Grand Coulee	Telephone 23
Grand Coulee Cleaners, Grand Coulee	" 64
Betterway Cleaners, Grand Coulee	" 113

Town of Coulee Dam

The town of Coulee Dam, Washington, is an incorporated Government community with a population of approximately 4,000. It occupies areas on both sides of the Columbia River immediately below (north of) the Grand Coulee Dam. The town came into being in 1933, when construction of the dam began.

The easterly portion of Coulee Dam once was known as Mason City. Most of the dwellings there are the temporary houses, erected by contractors for their employees during construction days. They were acquired by the Bureau

of Reclamation in 1942, and most of them are occupied by employees of the Bureau. The dwellings on the west-side portion of Coulee Dam also are occupied by Government employees. These permanent dwellings were built to house Bureau of Reclamation engineers and other Bureau personnel who came to the area to participate in construction and operation of the dam.

To accommodate the many new employees who have come to the area because of the accelerated construction program in the Columbia Basin Project, the Bureau of Reclamation has acquired many house trailers and has moved in temporary houses formerly assigned to West Coast war-time construction centers. Most of these units are north of the original town area of what was Mason City.

Coulee Dam is unique in that virtually all buildings are heated by electricity, which is generated at the nearby Grand Coulee Dam. It is not a chimneyless city, however. A few of the homes have fireplaces and some of the business buildings are oil heated.

PART II - THE GRAND COULEE DAM

History and Construction Facts

The Grand Coulee Dam, to be dedicated by President Truman May 11, 1950, is the largest concrete structure on earth. It contains approximately 10 million cubic yards of concrete and weighs 22 million tons.

Construction of the dam began in 1933 and the principal structure was completed December 31, 1941.

The Grand Coulee Dam is named after the nearby Upper Grand Coulee, which was carved in the basalt (lava) of Eastern Washington ages ago when the Columbia River was blocked by an arm of a glacier and sought a new channel to the sea. The ice dam formed near the site of the present Grand Coulee Dam.

Known as a "gravity type" structure, the Grand Coulee Dam holds back the Columbia because of its extreme weight and not because of the fact that it is wedged between massive granite abutments on both sides and rests on a granite foundation cut into the bed of the river.

Relationship to Irrigation Project

The Grand Coulee Dam is the keystone structure for the Columbia Basin Project, largest development of its type ever planned by the Bureau of Reclamation. This project is being constructed to provide irrigation water for an ultimate total of 1,029,000 acres of dry land in the Big Bend area of Eastern Washington.

In connection with the irrigation development, the Grand Coulee Dam will:

1. Pay more than three-fourths the total estimated cost of the entire development by the sale of power generated at the dam. The project is estimated to cost a total of $773,000,000, including the cost of the irrigation structures, the Grand Coulee Dam, and related facilities.

2. Furnish power for driving the world's largest irrigation pumps, to be installed at the Grand Coulee Dam Pumping Plant,

3. Furnish low-cost power for secondary pumping throughout the project so that water from canals will reach higher-lying farm lands,

4. Make low-cost power available for widespread use on irrigated farms to be established in the project, and

5. Raise the level of the Columbia River (by creating Lake Franklin D. Roosevelt) so that pumping of the primary water supply for the project is feasible.

Size of Power Plant

The dam serves the greatest power plant on earth. This plant consists of two powerhouses on the downstream side of the dam, the left (on the west side) and the right (on the east side). The Left Powerhouse, first to be activated, began producing electricity March 22, 1941, when two small "house" generators of 10,000 kilowatts each began operating. As World War II began engulfing more and more nations, the Bureau of Reclamation rushed installation of the world's mightiest hydroelectric generators in the Left Powerhouse. The first of these 108,000-kilowatt giants went into operation September 28, 1941. Others followed until a total of six were in service.

As an emergency measure, the Bureau of Reclamation "borrowed" two smaller, 75,000-kilowatt generators designed for Shasta Dam in California. These were installed in the Left Powerhouse also. After the war, the two 75,000-kilowatt units were removed and were installed permanently at Shasta. Meanwhile, postwar demands for low-cost electricity in the Pacific Northwest continued upward, and the Bureau resumed the schedule of generator installations, completing the 9th and final Left Powerhouse unit April 23, 1948.

Status of Generator Installations

With the Pacific Northwest still hungry for hydroelectric power, the work of installing nine generators in the companion Right Powerhouse was started. The first Right Powerhouse unit began operating May 20, 1949, when President Truman pushed a key in the White House, 3,000 miles away,

and switched the unit into commercial service. The second Right Powerhouse generator went into service July 13, 1949; the third, September 30, 1949; and the fourth, in April of this year. The fifth and sixth Right Powerhouse units are scheduled for commercial service this year, and the final three generators in 1951.

Production Records

All major generators at the Grand Coulee Dam have a "nameplate" rating of 108,000 kilowatts (144,720 horsepower), but they have proved capable of operating efficiently and without damage under loads approaching 130,000 kilowatts (174,200 horsepower) each.

The Grand Coulee Dam holds all world's records for hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly power production. The thirteen major generators now in operation can carry a peak load of 1,690,000 kilowatts (2,264,000 horsepower). They could provide enough electricity to illuminate 3,400,000 average-size homes.

Since it began producing commercial power March 22, 1941, the Grand Coulee Dam has turned out a total of approximately 48 billion kilowatt-hours of electrical energy. As a war-time workhorse, it made possible the establishment of the Atomic Energy installations at Hanford, the growth of Spokane as one of the aluminum capitals of the world, and the firm establishment of scores of new industries throughout the Pacific Northwest. (See additional details under "Power Facts" on page 7).

Ultimate Power Capabilities

In 1951, when the final three Right Powerhouse units are completed, the dam will have a total of 18 major generating units operating. Their total rated capacity will be 1,944,000 kilowatts. In addition, there are 30,000 kilowatts from three "house" units, thus bringing the total ultimate rated capacity to 1,974,000 kilowatts. Under peaking conditions, the plant will be able to carry loads approaching 2,370,000 kilowatts (3,175,000 horsepower). This peaking capacity, however, can be realized only under optimum water conditions, which can prevail only if adequate upstream storage is provided by additional dams.

President Roosevelt Visits Dam

President Franklin D. Roosevelt visited the Grand Coulee Dam twice. On August 4, 1934, he came here with Mrs. Roosevelt. Large-scale construction was underway and thousands of men from all parts of the Nation were working on the massive dam. His second visit was October 2, 1937. The dam still was far from completion, but rapid progress was being made. He never was able to return to see the completed structure.

Statistical Information Regarding the Grand Coulee Dam

Construction started	December 13, 1933
Construction completed	January 1, 1941
Peak employment	7,000 men
Concrete content	10,230,776 cubic yards
Approximate weight	22 million tons
Production electricity began	March 22, 1941
Major generating units (present)	13 - each with a nameplate rating of 108,000 kilowatts and a peaking capacity of about 130,000 kilowatts each.
Ultimate total of main generators	18 - each with a nameplate rating of 108,000 kilowatts and a peaking capacity of about 130,000 kilowatts each.
Length of dam at crest	4,173 feet
Height above lowest bedrock	550 feet
Width of spillway	1,650 feet
Width of dam at base	500 feet
Width of dam at crest	30 feet

Note: The Grand Coulee Dam, although the largest in the world, is not the nighest nor the longest. Highest is the Bureau of Reclamation's Hoover Dam on the Colorado River (726 feet). Longest is Fort Peck Dam, on the Missouri River (4 miles).

Power Facts

By using the power of falling water instead of vital oil and coal for steam-driven turbines, the Grand Coulee Dam saves the United States 208,000 barrels of fuel oil or 13,000 tons of coal every 24 hours. It would require 460 railroad cars of coal every day to serve the Grand Coulee Dam power plant.

The Columbia River Power System, consisting of the Grand Coulee Dam of the Bureau of Reclamation and the Bonneville Dam of the Army Engineers, today is the second largest producer of power in the Nation. During the coming decade it will take the topmost position as the largest in the United States, public or private.

Availability of large blocks of power from the Grand Coulee Dam was instrumental in the establishment of the famed atomic energy operations at Hanford, Washington, during the war.

All power from the Grand Coulee and Bonneville Dams is marketed by the Bonneville Power Administration of the Department of the Interior. Today, BPA has a total of 3,200 miles of transmission lines, 100 substations, and represents 1,922,400 kilowatts in nameplate-rated capacity of hydroelectric generators. By 1958, as Federal power projects under construction and recommended in the Pacific Northwest are completed,

BPA will have nearly 10,000 circuit miles of high-voltage transmission lines and an installed generating capacity of 6½ million kilowatts.

Home owners of Oregon and Washington use nearly three times as much power as the average U. S. consumer and pay less than half the average U. S. rate for that power. Oregon and Washington residents pay an average of 1.4 cents per kilowatt-hour, compared with the U. S. average of 3.01. The average cost of power in the Northeastern U. S. is 3.65 cents per kilowatt-hour, North-Central, 3.04, Southeast, 2.99, South-Central, 2.88, and West, 2.14 cents.

In 1938, before production of power began from Federal dams on the Columbia River, the average residential consumer in Oregon and Washington used 1,410 kilowatt-hours of electricity a year and paid an average of 2.65 cents per kilowatt-hour. In 1948, the average customer in the two states used 4,160 kilowatt-hours and paid 1.4 cents per kilowatt-hour, or about half the 1938 rate.

Power rates in Oregon and Washington are the lowest in the Nation.

Low-cost power has paced the industrial and agricultural growth of the Pacific Northwest. Since 1940, the Pacific Northwest has experienced a 44 percent increase in population, compared with 13 percent for the U. S. Net migration exceeded 1,000,000 between 1940 and 1949. Oregon led with an increase of 59 percent. Washington had a 48 percent increase.

All major public and private utilities in this area are members of the Northwest Power Pool, an interconnected system formed during the war to insure delivery of power to points where the need was most critical. This pool represents a total of 14,000 miles of transmission lines, more than 400 substations, and total generating capacity of 3,360,000 kilowatts. Of the total energy used by the pool in the Fiscal Year 1949, more than 56 percent came from the Grand Coulee and Bonneville Dams. And the Grand Coulee Dam provided more than 9 billion kilowatt-hours of the total of nearly 13 billion kilowatt-hours carried on the Bonneville Power Administration transmission network.

Members of the Northwest Power Pool include the Bonneville Power Administration, Tacoma City Light, Seattle City Light, the Washington Water Power Company, the Puget Sound Power and Light Company, the Portland General Electric Company, and the Pacific Power and Light Company.

Aluminum plants in the Pacific Northwest consume 47 percent of the power generated by the Grand Coulee and Bonneville Dams and account for 42 percent of the operating revenues realized by the BPA system. The average rate to industrial consumers of Columbia River Power transmitted on the BPA lines is 2.41 mills per kilowatt-hour. During the past 11 years the aluminum industry has consumed more than 33 billion kilowatt-hours of Columbia River electricity.

The Bonneville Power Administration system, marketing Grand Coulee Dam and Bonneville Dam electricity, serves 11 electro-processing plants, including 5 aluminum reduction, 1 aluminum sheet mill, 2 ferrosilicon, 2 calcium carbide, and 1 chlorate and DDT plant. These plants represent a total investment of 200 millions of dollars. Thus far they have produced $750 millions in materials, paid $35 millions in State and Federal taxes, and more than $4 millions in local property taxes. They employ an average of 7,500 persons and have paid a total of $110 millions in wages.

Total revenues received from the sale of Columbia River power to these electro-processing plants exceeds $75 millions. In 1948 alone, the plant production of these installations totaled $150, or 6 percent of the value of all products manufactured in Oregon and Washington that year.

In 1949, the Bonneville Power Administration, marketing power from the Grand Coulee and Bonneville Dams, sold 13½ billion kilowatt-hours of electricity, or more than 900 times as much as it distributed in 1939.

More than 50 percent of the total aluminum production of the United States comes from the Pacific Northwest plants using Grand Coulee Dam and Bonneville Dam power distributed by the Bonneville Power Administration. National production of aluminum was 603,000 tons in 1949. Of that, 302,000 tons came from the Pacific Northwest.

The huge aluminum rolling mill at Spokane sells plate, sheet, and tubes to more than 600 fabricators throughout the United States. These fabricators manufacture some 2,000 products and employ 350,000 workers.

The two Henry Kaiser aluminum plants in Spokane used twice as much Columbia River power in 1949 as was produced by municipal power plants of Seattle, Tacoma, and 13 other Northwest cities.

During World War II, one out of every three fighting planes was made of aluminum produced in the Pacific Northwest in plants using Columbia River power. Large blocks of Columbia River power went to the record-breaking shipbuilding plants at Portland, Oregon. In World War II, one Portland plant produced more ships than were built by all U. S. yards in World War I.

The more than 15 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity produced by the Grand Coulee Dam during World War II for the atomic energy plant at Hanford, for shipyards, aluminum mills, and aircraft factories was equal to the amount of work performed by 1 million men working steadily for 78 years.

PART III - FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LAKE

Length of Lake

Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake, to be dedicated May 11, 1950 by President Truman, is the 151-mile lake formed by the Grand Coulee Dam. It occupies the valley cut by the Columbia River, and extends from the Grand Coulee Dam to the Canadian border. The lake does not extend into Canada.

Formerly called the "Columbia River Reservoir," the lake received its present name in 1945. Shortly after the death of President Roosevelt April 12, 1945, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes renamed it Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake in honor of the 31st President.

Type of Scenery

Lake Roosevelt is the longest man-made lake in the West. The area through which it passes is sparsely settled. This adds to its appeal for those who prefer the natural beauty of a great waterway, where a wide variety of scenery invites those who seek to explore primitive areas.

Beginning at the Grand Coulee Dam, the lake has majestic cliffs marching to the shore. As one travels northward, the scenery changes to one of heavily wooded slopes where deer and bear are frequently seen.

History of Creation of Lake

Lake Roosevelt began forming in 1938, and first reached its maximum elevation of 1288 feet above sea level in June 1942. It is so new that only a handful of persons has traveled its length of 151 miles by boat.

Highways along Lake

Because it is locked between cliffs at its lower end in the vicinity of the Grand Coulee Dam, no scenic highway has been built in this area. The local road on the east side ends a mile upstream at a seaplane base. About 40 miles from Coulee Dam, a highway leading to the Canadian border skirts the east shore of the lake. Another highway, following on the west side, begins about 50 miles from Coulee Dam and extends to Canada.

These highways reveal the natural beauty of the lake -- inviting inlets, heavily wooded islands, large bays where seaplanes and pleasure boats can be moored. A few summer homes have been established, but the lakeshore still remains largely unsettled.

Future Recreational Development

Recreational development of the Lake Roosevelt is being directed by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior. Plans call for establishment of picnic and bathing spots and boat moorings. These developments will be carefully spaced so that the natural beauties of the lake and its shores will not be spoiled.

Lake Part of International Waterway

By boat from Coulee Dam, one can travel a total of 328 miles northward without portage. The trip covers 151 miles on Lake Roosevelt and 167 miles through the Arrow Lakes of Canada to Revelstoke, British Columbia. Each year, flotillas of pleasure craft from the United States journey northward on goodwill tours to Revelstoke via Lake Roosevelt and the Arrow Lakes.

Commercial use of the lake is limited mostly to logging operations in its northerly reaches. There are only a few mills, and the logging operations do not interfere with recreational use of the reservoir.

The waters of Lake Roosevelt are sparkling clear, and free of silt.

Primary Purpose of Lake

The recreational uses of Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake actually are of secondary importance. The primary purpose of the lake is to provide irrigation water for the vast Columbia Basin Project, of which the Grand Coulee Dam is the key structure, and to provide a "head" for power production. Creation of the lake raised the waters of the Columbia approximately 350 feet, to make irrigation pumping feasible. The pumping plant for the irrigation system can be seen across the lake on the west side, upstream, and adjacent to the Grand Coulee Dam.

Because the pumping season and the peak flow of the Columbia will occur simultaneously in the spring and summer, Lake Roosevelt will not be drawn down during the period of the year when it is most inviting to visitors.

Falls at Grand Coulee Dam

Lake Roosevelt terminates in a thundering water fall at the Grand Coulee Dam. This spectacle, witnessed by hundreds of thousands of persons each year, sees water plunging 320 feet down the face of the dam to rejoin the Columbia below. During the seasonal peak, reached about mid-June, the volume of water plunging over the spillway sometimes reaches 4 million gallons a second.

The fall is twice the height of Niagara, 5 city blocks wide, high as a 32-story building, and covers an expanse of 15 acres. The billows of spray at the bottom of the fall sometimes reach a height of more than 100 feet.

Water plunging over the spillway is wasted energy, representing millions of unharnessed horsepower. Only a fraction of the peak flow of the Columbia is utilized by the generators at the Grand Coulee Dam. Dams above the Grand Coulee Dam could store part of this flood water and release it gradually during periods of low stream flow, producing power as it is released and giving the Grand Coulee Dam a better opportunity to operate its generators at full capacity for longer periods.

PART IV - THE COLUMBIA BASIN PROJECT - IRRIGATION DIVISION

Size of Project

The Columbia Basin Irrigation Project, of which the Grand Coulee Dam is the principal structure, is the largest development of its type in the United States. It has been designed by the Bureau of Reclamation to serve an ultimate total of 1,029,000 acres of dry land in the Big Bend area of Eastern Washington with irrigation water.

First Water from Main System Due in 1952

Large-scale settlement of the Project is drawing near. In 1952, the Bureau plans to have sufficient canals, siphons, dams, and other structures in readiness to carry water to the first 87,000 acres in the Basin. In succeeding years additional irrigation blocks will be served with water until in 1959 there will be a stable supply available for approximately 500,000 acres, or half the irrigable acreage.

Present Construction Program

Today, from the Grand Coulee Dam southward through the Basin, thousands of men are employed in building the many structures of the multi-million-dollar irrigation system. Three earth-fill dams, whose combined bulk is greater than that of the Grand Coulee Dam, already are complete. Many miles of concrete-lined canals and massive concrete siphons stand ready for water. Much of this work has been completed since President Truman visited the project June 9, 1948.

World's Largest Pumping Plant

At the Grand Coulee Dam, work is being rushed on the Grand Coulee Dam Pumping Plant, where the world's largest pumps, driven by the world's largest motors, will boost water from Lake Roosevelt into a Feeder Canal, to flow toward the irrigable land. These pumps will begin operating in 1951 to "prime" the irrigation system for the first delivery of water to the land in 1952.

Each pump motor is rated at 65,000 horsepower and will be powered with electricity generated by the Grand Coulee Dam. Each pump will have a maximum capacity of 1,600 cubic feet per second. At full development, 10 such pumps will be operating simultaneously. As for size, they have no equal. Each pair of pumps could easily supply the domestic water needs of the combined populations of New York City and Chicago. In a 24-hour period, a single pump will be capable of handling 1 billion 36 million gallons of water.

To reach the first irrigable land in the Basin, irrigation water from Lake Roosevelt must travel a total of 60 miles from Coulee Dam. About 27 miles of this journey will be by way of the Upper Grand Coulee, where an Equalizing Reservoir will be formed between two earth-fill dams.

History of Post-War Construction Program

Construction of the irrigation features of the Columbia Basin Project, delayed because of the war, started in 1946. In the past 3½ years, millions of pounds of explosives have blasted the way for tunnels, canals, dams, and siphons; millions of cubic yards of earch and rock have been moved; millions of pounds of reinforcing steel have been placed.

Present Population and Expected Growth

The Basin today is a sparsely settled area. Most of it is as it has been for years -- great expanses of sagebrush-covered land extending as far as the eye can see. Because of the extreme dryness of the area there is little farming development. But the land is fertile and can grow a wide variety of crops if given irrigation water.

Only a few thousand persons now live in the area to be irrigated, which is included in an expanse of approximately 4,000 square miles. Some 13,000 family-size irrigated farms ultimately will be established in the project and the population is expected to reach approximately 200,000. You can drive for miles in the project today without seeing a single dwelling.

Speculation in Irrigable Land Outlawed

All irrigable land in the project is covered by a "ceiling price," the appraised dry-land value of the land which does not take into consideration the fact that such land ultimately will be irrigated. This prevents speculative practices.

Farming Opportunities for Veterans

The Bureau of Reclamation has purchased many thousands of acres of this dry land from persons who are not interested in farming. This acreage is being divided into family-size farms and will be resold by the Bureau, without profit, to qualified settlers. Veterans will have priority in purchasing the Bureau-owned land, but it will not be sold until just before water is available for it. Disposition of such land is being held in abeyance because the land must be divided carefully to avoid drainage problems and to permit rational planning of water-delivery points to farms, so that construction costs can be held to a minimum. Since the farms cannot be productive without irrigation water and since water from the main irrigation system will not be available until 1952, it would be futile for veterans to move onto the land now. Furthermore, clearing of the land of its protective covering of sagebrush and range grass should be delayed until just before irrigation water is available so that costly wind erosion will be avoided. The soil is very light and will "blow" unless it is cultivated carefully and moistened.

No Homesteading Land in Project

The Columbia Basin Project is not an all-veteran project. Many farmers who are not veterans will have an opportunity to settle in the area. However, veterans are assured of first choice when family-size farms are created from Government-owned land. These are not homesteads. THERE IS NO HOMESTEAD LAND ON THE COLUMBIA BASIN PROJECT, AND THERE WILL BE NONE.

Self-liquidating Features of Project

Of the entire cost of the Columbia Basin Project -- estimated at approximately $773,000,000 -- the sale of power generated by the Grand Coulee Dam will repay to the Treasury of the United States more than three-fourths of that amount. The remainder, approximately $87,500,000, will be repaid by the irrigated land to be benefited. Thus, the construction cost to be borne by the land averages approximately $85 per acre.

Despite its immense size, the self-liquidating Columbia Basin Project will add less than 1 percent to the farmland area of the nation.