

# \$30 MILLION FLOWS INTO JORDAN PROJECT

The Jordan River hydro-electric project is virtually stopped now, a victim of the construction lockouts and cement shortage that have stopped almost all major construction in the province.

People who live in the small company town at the mouth of the Jordan can see, several hundred yards upstream, the new powerhouse site and adjoining construction and hydro trailer camp.

The powerhouse now is constructed to the floor level and work has been proceeding on schedule with a slight lag before the summer work phase began.

The only major work now under way is on the tunnel being built by 110-man crew.

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The summer schedule — which includes more work on the Elliott dam site and the powerhouse — will await the end of the current labor troubles.

The first sections of the steel penstock are to arrive from Yugoslavia soon to be fitted to the powerhouse. Each section is nine feet by 40 feet.

Hydro officials say that when the project is finished

the area, hydro-electrically, will be fully developed and will end hydro development that began more than 60 years ago on the river.

"We are spending over \$30 million on Jordan River to ensure uninterrupted supply for the city of Victoria and southern Vancouver Island," B.C. Hydro Chairman Gordon Shrum said in a Vancouver interview.

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The new plant which is a peaking plant will produce 150,000 kilowatts and replace the present peaking system that generates a capacity of 26,400 kilowatts. A peaking energy plant can be plugged into an electric system to provide adequate power during periods of highest demand or peak periods.

Power from the project will feed into the Island system by dual overhead transmission lines of 138,000 volts each. Hydro's decision to run the overhead lines through Saanich to Victoria has sparked numerous protests to Hydro officials, including Shrum, in Victoria and Vancouver.

In redesigning the present system, engineers have kept

only existing dams and both of these are being rehabilitated. The 5¼-mile wooden flume, a small forebay, four two-mile penstocks and the old powerhouse will become obsolete.

The new energy-producing system will include:

- General remedial and strengthening work on the existing Diversion Dam that was first built in 1912-13;

- Addition of five feet to the height of the existing Bear Creek Dam, five miles upstream from the diversion dam;

- Construction of the new Elliott Dam, to be 117 feet high and 430 feet long and located 1½ miles downstream from the diversion dam;

- Building of an 18,000-foot tunnel from the Elliott Dam site;

- Installation of a 5,300-foot steel penstock from the end of the tunnel to the new powerhouse that will house a single Japanese turbine and generator unit capable of producing the 150,000 kilowatts.

The old power system first produced energy in 1911.