TEMPORARY PLANT ON UPPER SKAGIT IS NOW COMPLETED

IT WILL PROVIDE LIGHT, AND POWER DURING CONSTRUCTION OF MAIN PROJECT - THE SKAGIT TO BE BRIDGED.

According to a statement issued by C. F. Uhden, engineer in charge of the construction of the power plant for the city of Seattle on the upper Skagit, the temporary plant was built on Newhalem creek, several miles below the main plant, and is now being used to light the houses and streets of Newhalem, the new town in the upper valley. Later it will be used to furnish power and lighting for the construction of the huge dam at Gorge creek and the first unit of the plant two miles below the dam site, as well as for the 11,000 foot tunnel connecting these two parts of the development. This work will be performed under three separate contracts, bids for which will probably be called by the city of Seattle before the end of the month. The Seattle council recently appropriated sufficient funds for the completion of the first unit of the project, and it is understood that the work will be rushed until the big plant is ready for operation.

The work of building the extension of the railroad from Newhalem to Gorge creek, a distance of four miles, is going ahead rapidly, and the first two miles of the extension is now about completed. The end of the road is now at Devil’s Elbow, where a bridge will be built across the Skagit River, work on the bridge being now well underway. At the present rate of progress it is estimated that the bridge will be built and the railroad completed to Gorge creek before November 1. Under present plans the railroad will not be extended beyond Gorge creek.