

THE CONCRETE HERALD

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OVERTIME EDITOR

WHAT DO PEOPLE think about when they watch millions of dollars and a familiar place disappear before their eyes, with nothing they can do to prevent it? A relentless natural force is something that can hold a person's entire being in a grip that is hard to break. Some of those who came early Tuesday morning to see "what had happened" remained throughout the day for a sight they will probably never again see – a whole mountain moving and heaving as if alive.

What did they talk about...

Keith Hicks, operator on duty, "There was no excitement, just the closing down to be done. This was all as had been set beforehand."

George Theodoratus: "I thought it was just another clean-up job for the outside crews. After getting out in the boat I went home and went to bed. I came back in the morning to see how it looked and found this.

Dick Gardinier: "I've been around the powerhouse for thirty years and I just can't believe it is gone. I've done a lot of work down there. My tools are down in that mess somewhere."

Spectator: "Why doesn't the hill stop moving? It's eerie the way it creeps along and never stops."

"Everytime I look at it (the hill) I think I'm going to be sick, but I can't keep from it."

As a building collapsed: "The sound is horrible – like the building was dying."

"I knew it was going to do this – you can't fight against something like that. Nature always wins."

"Why don't somebody start a hot dog stand up here. I don't want to leave."

"I used to do down there a lot when I was a kid. It was a fascinating place to see."

"Anybody got another roll of film?"

"I knew every inch of that place like it was my own" – Ray Arnold.

"Look at that hill – there's more up there to come down than has already moved. Must be a million tons they'll have to dig out.

Most universal comment on seeing the destruction for the first time: "Oh, My God!"