

# Dam Projects Could Create A Million Jobs

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## Material Makers as Well As Actual Construction Workers Would Benefit

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Jobs for thousands of skilled and unskilled workmen will be created in every part of the country when congress approves plans and provides funds for building more than 400 irrigation and power projects proposed by the bureau of reclamation in its \$5,000,000,000 post-war inventory.

Although these proposed irrigation and power projects will be located in the 17 western states, where the bureau of reclamation since 1902 has been responsible for the conservation and wise use of water resources, their construction will create job opportunities from Maine to California.

Behind every man on the construction job there will be one or more helpers who may be thousands of miles away. An employment analysis of the bureau's postwar inventory reveals that of the 4,250,000,000 man-hours of labor required to construct all the projects about 1,650,000,000 man-hours will be required at construction sites.

### Materials from 31 States.

The materials needed for reclamation work, of which such basic products as iron and steel, cement, electrical equipment and supplies, foundry and machine-shop products, and lumber are of primary importance, must be obtained from widely separated sources. Much of this material and equipment will come from the 31 states outside the arid and semiarid regions of the west.

If funds are made available for construction of all the projects, bureau officials estimate that more than 450,000 men could be put to work the first year, less than half of these at construction sites. At peak employment in the second or third year almost 1,000,000 men could receive pay envelopes in different parts of the country as a result of this mighty effort.

Agricultural and industrial enterprises in the West will help to support and give homes to servicemen and others who have expressed their desire to settle on irrigated farms. Of the 2,000,000 westerners in the armed forces, it is estimated that 265,000 will want to return to the land.

Veteran legislation, authorized and pending, gives servicemen priority of settlement on bureau of reclamation projects. On some projects public lands will be open to homestead entry.