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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
MINIDOKA PROJECT

ANNUAL PROJECT HISTORY

REPORT OF CONSTRUCTION,
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Including

Construction of 7th Unit, Minidoka Power Plant;
Construction of laterals, Snake River Slope Area
of Gooding Division;
Operation and Maintenance, Minidoka Project and
Upper Snake River Project

Vol. 56

Calendar Year, 1942
Burley, Idaho

CHRONOLOGY OF IMPORTANT
EVENTS
1942

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May
7

Unit No. 7, Minidoka Power Plant, placed in commercial operation for delivery of power for the Miner Low Lift Irrigation District.

11 Service interruption, Minidoka transmission system, due to sleet and snow storm which deposited six inches of heavy, wet snow in Burley and vicinity, with resultant damage to power lines, trees and telephone lines.

28 Grassy Lake reservoir filled to capacity and spilled, for the first time since its completion.

June

24 Jackson Lake reservoir filled to capacity.

Construction started on Minidoka Japanese Relocation Center, northwest of Eden, Idaho - Morrison Knudsen, Contractor.

27 Agreement made with Farm Security Administration to use Camp BR-55 as Farm Migratory Labor Camp, for housing Japanese laborers imported to relieve labor shortage.

29 Construction began on the new \$3,000,000 Army air base on Michaud Flats, east of American Falls.

July

9 License issued under Permit No. 15134 and R-269 for diversion of 1,700 c.f.s. of the waters of Snake River, and storage of 1,500,000 acre feet in American Falls reservoir.

11 Inspection of Grassy Lake dam and spillway in connection with the movement of the spillway chute walls.

11 Storage releases began from Jackson Lake reservoir.

12 Storage releases began from Island Park reservoir.

16 Annual Project History completed for 1941.

21-24 First mowing operations for the 1942 season were started in the Minidoka Main South Side Canal.

25 Storage releases began from Grassy Lake reservoir; Maximum temperature of 101 recorded at Burley.

August

1 Transfer of personnel from Mann Creek to Twin Falls completed in connection with establishment of Bureau office to supervise construction of laterals etc. on the Snake River Slope area of the Gooding Division, in cooperation with War Relocation Authority.

15 Storage draft discontinued at Grassy Lake reservoir.

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land farm units covered by homestead entries more than five years were charged \$1.55 per acre for operation and maintenance in 1942, while farm units on which entries were less than five years old were required to pay but \$.50 per acre. This is the district's procedure to lighten the financial burden of the new settlers as they have more resources to apply to the reclamation of their units. The private new lands paid \$1.55 per acre for operation and maintenance. The 73,972.55 acres of "old lands" of the district, for which the American Falls reservoir provides only a supplemental water supply, paid \$.50 to the district, and also paid O&M charges to the Big Wood Canal Company from which they originally obtained their water supply. River lands of the district paid from 2 3/4 to 8 1/4 per acre, according to the amount of supplemental water purchased. The total 1942 O&M assessment of \$53,646.43 covered 90,123.65 acres and town property.

The Cross-cut canal of the Upper Snake River project was operated by the Fremont-Madison Irrigation District, in connection with delivery of Island Park and Grassy Lake stored water to lands of the district. Operation and maintenance charges were 12¢ per acre foot of water used for the year 1942. The amount of the O&M assessment levied, \$12,738.91, represented a 4 mill levy on the assessed benefits. 68,593 acres of land received the supplemental water delivered by the district through diversions from Henry's Fork, Fall River and the Teton River.

The Main South Side Canal of the Minidoka project was operated by the Government as a part of the reserved works, as shown in detail in Chapter III of this report.

The power plant was operated satisfactorily during the year, with one interruption to service. The entire project was without service one hour and twenty-five minutes the night of January 3, due to a break in the Idaho Power Company's 132 Kv line between the Minidoka generating station and American Falls. The project crew was requested to do the switching at the Minidoka station, and it was necessary to travel through three miles of hard, drifted snow, and thaw out frozen switches before the switches could be operated. The temperature had fallen to -20°.

Under the power interchange contract with the Idaho Power Company the project received 12,367,530 kw. hrs. as needed, and delivered to the Idaho Power Company 1,081,619 kw. hrs. of surplus power from the original six units of the Minidoka power plant.

The Seventh Unit of the Minidoka power plant was put into operation for commercial purposes on May 7, and was kept in operation until September 30, generating power which was sold to the Milner Low Lift Irrigation District and the Idaho Power Company. After September 30, some power was generated intermittently for the Idaho Power Company.

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9. Unloading Platform

This platform, constructed in the downstream end of the new power house, was completed in March, 1942. It is floored with heavy timber planking.

10. General

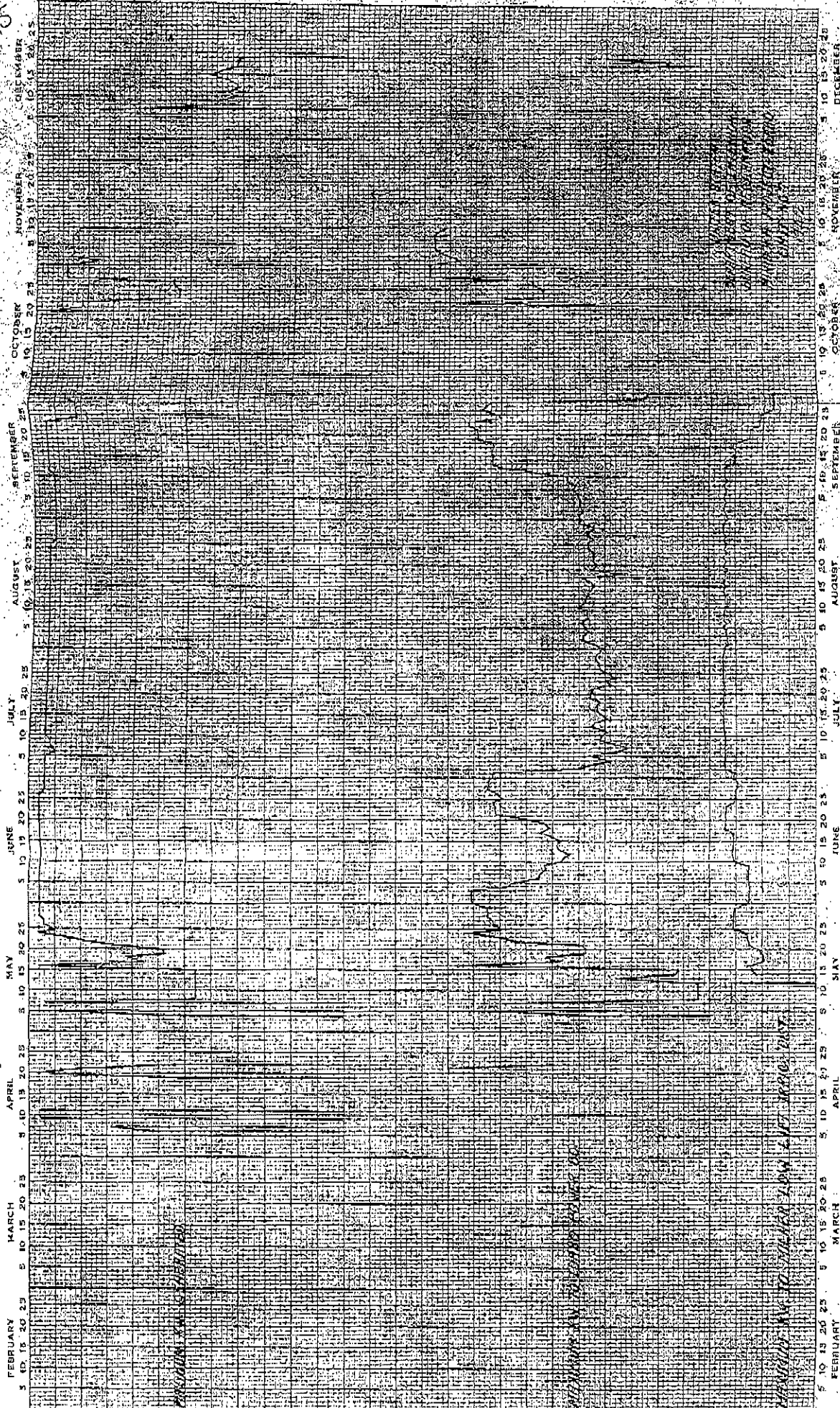
The Seventh Unit of the power plant was first turned over on March 27, 1942, and following the acceptance tests was released for regular service on May 7, 1942, at which time a load of 1,800 k.w. was generated and delivered to the Milner Low Lift Irrigation District. The load was increased to 5,800 kw. on May 16, 1942, the surplus being delivered to the Idaho Power Company.



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