Funds Allotted for State Highways, St. Albans Bridge

5 Million Given
Jobs for 6,000 for Ten Months Provided by Road Allocation

$410,000 Appropriated for Span Over River; 107 to Get Work

Loans and grants totaling five and one-half million dollars for public works projects in West Virginia were approved Friday by the federal Public Works Administration.

Of these, $2,114,500 was allotted to the state for road work, and $1,942,500 was granted for the construction of a bridge over the Kanawha river between Charleston and Point Pleasant, where a toll bridge was contemplated, amounting to $2,200,000 for the construction of a reservoir.

All of the loans were for so-called "liquidation" work, for which the government makes a gift of 70 per cent of the cost, covering the amount spent for labor, and accepts a security certificate for the remainder of 70 per cent of its loan.


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Funds Allotted for Roads, Span

Five Million Grant Made on Highways, St. Albans Bridge Over Kanawha

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the river between Charleston and Point Pleasant where a toll bridge was contemplated over the Kanawha river.

To Give Revenue Bonds

The St. Albans bridge project was the first for which application was made to the public works administration at Washington under the four-year plan financing, according to D. N. Mohler, attorney for the bridge.

At St. Albans. Originally, he said the application was for $425,000, but $15,000 was cut from the estimate by the administration.

It is planned, Mr. Mohler said, to have application approved for the bridge this year. St. Albans, and in anticipation of such a move, the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad has installed an underpass at the crossing in that town.

Revenue bonds, the attorney declared, will be issued by the City of St. Albans and given to the government for the portion of the loan which must be repaid. In 20 years, he estimated, the bridge will have earned sufficient money to retire the bonds.

Points-of-Way for the bridge approaches are owned by the St. Albans-Nitro Bridge company, of which Mr. Mohler is a director.

The company made the original application for a permit to construct the bridge, upon which work was granted to it by the war department in 1926. Construction was delayed, however, by the need of St. Albans by the administration, and the permit was allowed to expire.

It expired about three months ago. Under provisions of the act, Mr. Mohler assayed. The

The bridge will connect routes Nos. 69 and 25, the principal ones through the Kanawha valley, with banks of the Kanawha river at that point. It will replace ferries, which now serve the gap, and will provide a way to cross the stream at that point.

Plans for the bridge were drawn up by J. E. Grinner company, of Baltimore, which will have charge of the construction. Mr. Mohler assayed. The bridge will have a 30-foot roadway and sidewalks for pedestrians.

Work to Begin Soon

Work upon the span, Mr. Mohler said, will begin as soon as possible, perhaps within 30 days. The government, he declared, has requested that all public works projects be carried out as much as possible. On the other hand, the attorney said, a minimum of $15,000 will be required about two years to finish the project.

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