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Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton today announced the awarding of a $73,948 contract to the Ruud Construction Company, Spokane, Washington, for the construction of seven bridges on the Colville Indian reservation in central Washington.

The bridges are part of a construction program for the summer of 1957 which will provide better farm-to-market and school bus and mail route roads on the reservation.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Glenn L. Emmons, said the seven bridges total 354 feet. One will be a reinforced concrete structure 98.5 feet in length, supported on concrete piling; the other six will be reinforced concrete deck bridges supported on treated timber trestles. Under an agreement between the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Okanogan County, the bridges and the 10.85 miles of road, contract planned for award in early June, will be turned over to Okanogan County for maintenance.

Commissioner Emmons said the Bureau reviewed 10 bids ranging to a high of $105,584.10 before making the award. The engineer's estimate was $84,344.50.