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Flood Control Election Dec. 3 Vital to County

The future of flood control in Skagit County will be decided at a special election Tuesday, Dec. 3, when voters of the county will indicate their wishes on the proposal of forming a giant, county-wide flood control district as provided by the 1935 legislature.

Voters will mark their ballots "For" the proposition or "Against" the proposition, indicating whether or not they wish the special district formed.

Full information on the special election was furnished The Journal this week by County Auditor C. P. Kloke.

The election has nothing to do with any particular plan of flood control, or any bond of issue, Kloke said. This is merely an "organization election," setting up the machinery as required by law, so that federal or state help may be secured in the future.

Territory included in the proposed flood control district, and in which people will vote at this election, is all of Skagit county mainland, Fidalgo Island excepted.

The district, if approved by the voters, will not take over the present diking or drainage districts and will not supplant them, Kloke said. The law does state that if the big district should want the use of present ditches or dikes, paying maintenance costs, etc.

The board of county commissioners will become directors of

the new district, with the auditor as ex-office clerk. The only money-spending power they would have would be a maximum levy of two mills on assessed valuation of property within the district. A maximum levy of five mills could be made, but only by majority vote by the people at a special election. No levy would be made, of course, until some flood control plan had been worked out with army engineers, etc., Kloke said.

The flood control election will be conducted as a regular general election, with voting places in every precinct in the district. The proposed district would have jurisdiction over all flood problems, including the Samish as well as the Skagit River.