

# THE MOUNT VERNON ARGUS

8—The Mount Vernon (Wash.) Argus, February 15, 1951

## Red Cross Ready to Help

Rehabilitation grants to flood victims will be given on the basis of need, not loss, according to Mrs. Martha Dobson of the American Red Cross.

Only a few inquiries for welfare aid have been made to the Mount Vernon office, Mrs. Dobson reports, but when the water recedes in Conway and residents are able to make an estimate of damages sustained, a large number of applications is expected. A full-time case worker and a \$2,000 fund are expected here by Monday.

Families which do not have sufficient resources in savings, bonds, and insurance, may be given money or materials for medical and nursing aid, household furnishings, farm supplies including livestock and equipment, and occupational equipment and supplies, including repair of buildings.

During the flood last weekend, Skagit Valley chapter of the Red Cross undertook or supervised the following—feeding of 1300 workers at Burlington and Conway; coordinating communications between amateur radio operators; handling shelters in Mount Vernon and Conway in which 60 people slept; feeding 100 sailors and 140 national guardsmen; and providing cots and blankets for troops at the YMCA.

## STROMBOM GIVES FLOOD REPORT, DAY-BY-DAY

Flood Coordinator Harold Strombom of the County Engineer's office yesterday made public the entire operations of engineer units during last weekend's flood. In daily reports, here is what happened:

Friday—8 a. m., Skagit at 19 feet, rose to 20 feet by 12 a. m. .

Hamilton flooded by evening.

Saturday—Steady rise all day, with 38.35 feet reported at Concrete and 25.1 in Mount Vernon. . . Engineer H. O. Walberg appointed coordinators at 12 a. m.: Strombom, Hugo Thiret, Al Moberg, and Lee Wright. . . first dike break at Fir Island west of the bridge on the North Fork, covering about 1000 acres. . . the Samish flooded . . . roads were closed at Conway, Clear Lake, and up river. . . volunteers were called in the evening to strengthen dikes.

Sunday—Continued dike breaks near Conway flooded Fir Island and later Conway about 6:30 a. m. . . volunteers worked throughout the night evacuating families and placing sandbags on weakened dikes. . . 225 sailors arrived from Ault field. . . Elks and Legion members supplied food. . . Highway 99 was closed south of Mount Vernon. . . West Mount Vernon was flooded outside the dikes. . . 142 National Guards troops worked. . . Seattle Corps of Engineers sent 150,000 sacks, 500 shovels. . . flood crest was 28.2 feet

Monday. . . Cool, clear weather lowered the Skagit. . . no schools were open in the county except at Anacortes. . . most volunteers stopped work early in the morning. . .

Tuesday—River down to 18 feet. . . rescue of livestock continued. . . .

Wednesday—River at 15 feet. . . all school open except at Conway,

## 'Clean and Chlorinate Your Wells'

Was your well flooded?

Then it's easy to purify it, and cheap.

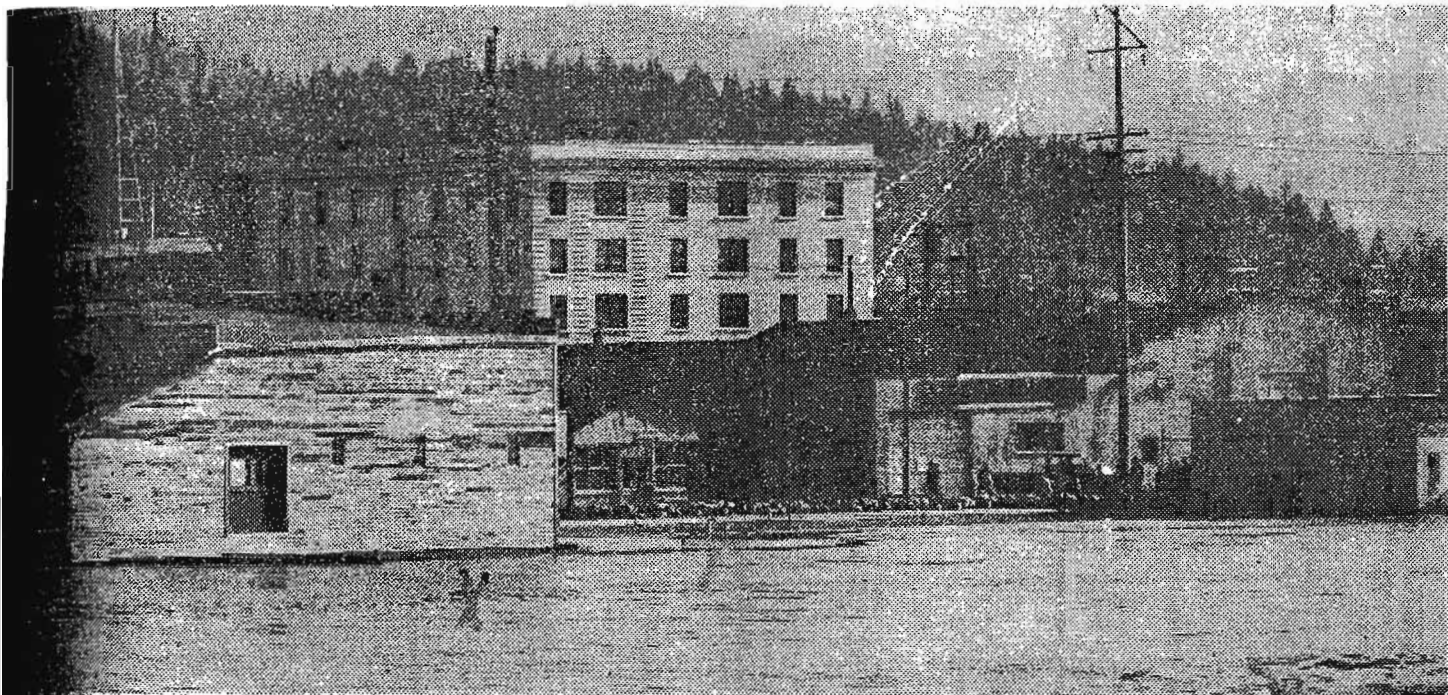
All you need to do is clean it out, then pour in (for the ordinary small well) a quart of the chlorine rinse you buy at the grocery's, such as Purex.

So said Dr. Robert Jackson, county health officer, and Robert Stockman of the state department of health, who came to Skagit county Wednesday to check on water supplies. It won't hurt to dump in a gallon of the purifier, if you want to do an especially thorough job, he said.

Emil Jensen, the department's sanitary engineer, was here over the weekend helping on flood matters and checking on his many relatives in the county.

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FEBRUARY 15, 1951



**DIKE STRUCK**—Near their record high, 28.2 feet, Skagit  
today licked at edge of Main street in Mount Vernon  
logged against overflow. Ripple in foreground is edge  
of front revetment recently completed. This photo and  
one of first North Fork dike break—that upset and  
blew Moore house in two—were taken by Dr. Darrell M.  
Invest Experiment station. Other photos at right, from  
replaced cars on Front street on West Side, plumb-  
all-submerged truck in background (Slomer photo);  
over dike against homes below bridge, West Side  
Slomer photo); Dispatcher W. P. (Perc) Watkins, Ma-  
ver, USN, head of Whidbey Naval Air station dike-  
ment, and Wayne Anderson at Elks club, labor force  
at work on dikes, and bottom picture showing re-  
ember 7, 1950 when last load of rock was dumped, with  
Councilman Aaron D. Light, City Engineer Denny  
men John Bustad and Charles Bendrickson, Public  
Herman Hansen (father of project), Chairman Elden  
ning commission, and Mayor Harve Vaux, out to  
compare lower photo with upper!

