

# THE MOUNT VERNON ARGUS

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## We May Have To Modify Our Defenses Against Floods

The raging old Skagit (Wildcat, in Indian language) has cooled down and now flows meekly along as if nothing ever disturbed it or ever will again. But the Oldtimers know better.

The Skagit just gave a hint as to what may come if conditions shape up for high water. And those conditions seem to have become changed in the last 50 years. Once was a time when only the warm winds melting the snows caused high water. That was before the forests were cut away. Today, a heavy rain will bring the Skagit up in a hurry. That's what happened a little over a week ago. That and some snow. Give us a lot of snow and a warm wind and rain to go with it and we might have a record breaker.

Seems to us we will have to alter our plans but no doubt engineers are aware of this. Higher and stronger dikes and dredged channels no doubt are the answers. Sometimes modern conditions are not all they are cracked up to be. At least when they come to greater threats that were not so serious in the old days.

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