

# THE CONCRETE HERALD

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## SAUK, FABER DAMS AS FLOOD CONTROL MEANS STUDIED

### 48% OF THE FLOOD WATERS COME DOWN SUIATTLE AND SAUK RIVERS.

Means to secure better flood control protection from uncertain waters of the Skagit River, a problem which has bothered Skagit county residents since the first settlers arrived, were again thoroughly considered at the June meeting of the Skagit County Planning council held at the Skagit county courthouse Monday night.

While no definite conclusions were reached, three possibilities were studied with considerable detail by Roy E. Smith, representing the U. S. army engineers' office in Seattle, railroad representatives and planning councilmen present.

The three plans which received the most discussion were:

1. The proposed Avon by-pass which would carry off surplus flood water from the Skagit River, from either a point north of Avon or from a point near the southeast corner of the Burlington City limits;
2. The proposed Sauk River Dam;
3. The proposed Faber Dam.

The Avon cut-off was proposed by the army engineers in 1936 and the project authorized in congress. This proposal has been estimated to cost \$4,900,000 of which local sources would have to raise \$1,800,000 as sponsor's share.

A dam on the Sauk River has long been considered as a possible flood control solution since approximately 46 percent of flood waters come down the Suiattle and Sauk

Rivers into the Skagit. While no cost figures have yet been prepared, it was estimated at Monday night's meeting that a dam on the Sauk would necessitate an expenditure of approximately \$14,000,000. The proposed Faber Dam, which only recently has been advocated as a flood control measure, calls for an erection near the site of the present Faber ferry above Concrete. This dam would control the entire upper river waters with the exception of the Baker River and offers many opportunities, including greater power resource development, but would cost "considerably more" than the Sauk Dam. If built this dam would have a 35,000-acre lake extending eastward up the Skagit almost to Newhalem.

Means of financing any of the proposals proved another troublesome problem. A strictly flood control dam was deemed non-feasible although a multi-purpose dam with power interests assisting in construction costs was felt possible.