

St. Paul, Minn., October 6, 1922

Mr. Ralph Budd,
President.

Mr. G. O. Jenks,
Vice President.

Gentlemen:-

Herewith copy of letter from Mr. Bowen of September 26th with report from Mr. Herzog, concerning the high water trouble we have experienced between Mount Vernon and Burlington, Washington, due to extreme floods in the Skagit River last December, in December, 1917, and on one or two previous occasions:

Mr. Herzog has spent considerable time and has given careful study to this, and his report can be relied upon as covering the situation quite accurately. There seems to be no question but what the breaking of the dykes above Bridge #36 is what has saved this bridge from being carried out by floods similar to those of December, 1917, and December, 1921.

The breaking of these dykes, while it saves Bridge #36, causes the Railway Company great damage north of this bridge up to Burlington and westerly on the Anacortes Line, and, of course, causes a great deal more damage to the land owners. No doubt these dykes will in time be built high enough and strong enough to withstand the flood waters and we are then quite certain to lose Bridge #36 during a similar flood, also the two bridges below ours of the Electric Line and the State Highway will most likely go out. This makes a very serious situation, and as brought out by Mr. Herzog and Mr. Bowen, can only be handled to the best advantage by joint action of all the interested parties.

While it will require a very heavy expenditure to provide an outlet for the flood waters sufficient to overcome the trouble now being experienced

by all the various interested parties, I believe it will be greatly to our interest to attempt to bring about united action, and for this purpose I would suggest that Mr. Gilman be instructed to try and handle the matter in that way in conjunction with Mr. Bowen.

Yours truly,

A. H. Hogeland