

The Burlington Journal

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A Flood Control Plan

Flood control talk again takes the spotlight, after the highest water seen in Skagit county in years. A year from now, with more melting snow in the hills, we'll probably still be talking, with nothing more accomplished.

Everybody has different ideas on what must be done. Even old-time river "experts" disagree. Some pretty definite theories are expressed, however, some costing great sums if tried.

A three-point practical control plan that would cost certainly no more than is now being spent, is here presented by The Journal as something to start from:

1. Secure co-operation in some way with the power dams up river to help regulate the volume of water in the river. At periods of low water in winter or spring, water in these reservoirs could be lowered; during periods of heavy thawing there would be room to hold much water while the river was naturally full.

2. With the money being spent this year and next by diking districts, buy or build a Skagit River Dredge that would remain constantly in the Skagit, digging a channel deep enough to carry the water out, straightening out the stream by taking out the bends, and putting the rich silt where it will do the most good.

3. With the foregoing dredge, build strong emergency dikes equidistant from the river banks all the way down. This would eliminate the wide places and "bottlenecks" in the present dike system, which so often cause breaks and weak spots in the dikes.

There it is. Perhaps it is all the bunk. If you think so, there is space in these columns

any week, for your ideas.

Meanwhile, let's get down to work and
GET SOME FLOOD CONTROL.