

## SEVERAL FARMS, HIGHWAYS ARE UNDER WATER

SKAGIT RECEDES AFTER RISING WITH UNPRECEDENTED RAPIDITY; HIGHWAYS REOPENED; DIKES GUARDED DURING NIGHT

After threatening another serious flood in Skagit county, swirling waters of the Skagit river began to recede this morning, and the dread menace of the last twenty-four hours began to disappear as rapidly as it had overtaken this community. Rising with unprecedented rapidity, the Skagit river had reached a height of 23 feet on the county's gauge last night, where it remained until this morning, when the drop started.

As a result of the high water, several farms in various parts of the county were inundated, but little damage was done, the Daily Herald learned. Southbound traffic on the Pacific highway was practically paralyzed between Conway and a point beyond Silvana, but according to reports received at the Automobile club here this morning, traffic had been restored from this city to Everett.

The Nookachamps community, which bore the brunt of the flood early this year, was partially under water again today, following the breaking of the newly built dike, The Herald was informed. The water was not high enough to enter any of the farm homes and little or no damage was done, it was declared.

The new dikes south of Burlington and west of Fir were said to be holding up well under the new pressure, but seepage from the new dike in Dodge Valley had flooded the Art Anderson and F. X. Thein farms, it was declared. A crew of men piled scores of sacks of sand on the weak spots and succeeded in keeping the dike from going out after a night long battle.

Anxious farmers guarded dikes at other places throughout the night. The Pat Sullivan farm, south of Fir, was under water, but little damage was done to the dike at that point.

County roads were flooded in the vicinity of Hamilton yesterday, but autoists were able to get through with difficulty. The Pacific highway southeast of Silvana was flooded late yesterday and traffic was routed by way of Arlington until today.

Due to the heavy rains, the short detour south of Conway was

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closed Friday night and a long detour around the hill, coming out at Milltown, was necessitated. The Pacific highway was opened again this morning, however, the old detour around the Fisher Slough improvement having been put in use once more.

A log jam east of the Great Northern bridge at Riverside was causing some worry and a crew of men remained on guard throughout this morning. It was said blasting might be restored in an effort to break the jam.

Reports were received here that a new steel bridge on the new route of the Pacific highway, between East Stanwood and Arlington crossing, had been washed out. It was said the bridge, which spans the Stillaguamish river, was nearing completion.

The rise of the Skagit river was the most abrupt in the memory of old timers. Between Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, until this morning, the river had risen a total of fifteen feet, according to records kept by the county engineer's office. The rise was caused by a deluge of rain and melting snows in the Cascades. An inch and a fourth of rain fell between Saturday morning and this morning, the county records showed.

On Saturday night the river climbed steadily until it reached flood proportions last night. Cooling weather was believed to have checked the rise and at the same time probably saved this section from another disastrous flood.