

DIKE UNION IS URGED TO GET FEDERAL AID

BURLINGTON C. C. WANTS DIKE ORGANIZATION SIMILAR TO UNION HIGH SCHOOLS; DREDGER ALSO PROPOSED

BURLINGTON, Feb. 6.—(Special)—A super organization of all county diking districts, so that the county can appeal to the federal government for aid in curbing the flood waters of the Skagit and Samish rivers, was proposed at a meeting of the Burlington chamber of commerce here last night, and the group adopted a resolution asking the state legislature to pass the necessary laws to make this possible.

The proposal, as outlined at last night's meeting, does not mean that the dike districts would consolidate, which was described as virtually impossible. The idea is to organize a dike union, similar to union high schools. This would give all the dike districts an organization which could go to the federal government for aid. At present, no single district is large or strong enough to carry any weight in appealing to the government, it was pointed out.

This proposal, and others, will be taken up at the monthly meeting of the Skagit county chamber of commerce at La Conner next Tuesday evening. Another feature of the county gathering next Tuesday will be the presence of A. C. Lundin, president of the Seattle chamber of commerce, who will be the principal speaker.

J. B. Caldwell, manager of the Massar Lumber company here, was elected president of the Burlington chamber, succeeding John Gould. Other officers elected at last night's meeting were L. A. Chase, vice president; C. J. Moen, treasurer; John Hanson and W. V. Sells, trustees.

Another flood control measure was advanced at the meeting by W. D. Knipe, well known local man. He proposed an investigation to determine the feasibility of the county bonding itself to the extent of \$100,000, or the amount necessary to purchase a dredger for use on the river. He said various districts which use the dredger could be assessed a certain amount for operation expenses and depreciation. The dredger would not only deepen the channel, but at the same time it would aid in strengthening the dikes. In this connection, Knipe said it would permit the building of sloping dikes so that the pressure of the river during high water would not undermine the dikes by boiling up in the fields.