

FLOOD CONTROL HEARING WILL BE HELD HERE

TWO U. S. DEPARTMENTS TO
HEAR FLOOD FACTS AT SES-
SION CALLED FOR MARCH 2
AT CITY HALL

A joint public hearing will be held by the U. S. departments of war and agriculture in the city council rooms of the Mount Vernon city hall, at 10 a. m. Tuesday, March 2, 1937, for the purpose of securing the views of interested parties relative to flood control on the Skagit river and its tributaries. Col. H. J. Wild, district head of U. S. engineers, made the announcement.

Congress has directed a preliminary examination of the Skagit river and its tributaries, with the view to control of their floods.

Information is desired:

As to amount and extent caused by previous floods;

As to probable damage of future floods;

As to desired method of controlling floods; and as to the probability that the terms of local cooperation required by the flood control act of 1936 will be complied with.

All interested parties are invited to be present.

Oral evidence will be heard, but for accuracy of record all important facts and arguments should be submitted in writing. Six copies of all letters, papers, maps and photographs submitted are desired. Written statements may be submitted to Colonel Wild or mailed to the district engineer, U. S. Engineer Office, 754 Central building, Seattle, Wash.

The flood control act of 1936 provides:

"That, hereafter, federal investigations and improvements of rivers and other waterways for flood control and allied purposes shall be under the direction of the secretary of war and supervision of the chief of engineers, and federal investigations of watersheds and measures for run-off and waterflow retardation and soil erosion prevention on watersheds shall be under the jurisdiction of and shall be prosecuted by the department of agriculture under the direction of the secretary of agriculture, except as otherwise provided by act of congress; and that in their reports upon examination and surveys, the secretary of war and the secretary of agriculture shall be guided as to flood-control measures by the principles set forth in section 1 in the determination of the federal interests involved: * * *

"That, hereafter no money appropriated under authority of this act shall be expended on the construc-

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Flood Control

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tion of any project until states, political subdivisions thereof, or other responsible local agencies have given assurances satisfactory to the secretary of war that they will (a) provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements, and rights-of-way necessary for the construction of the project, except as otherwise provided herein; (b) hold and save the United States free from damages due to the construction works; (c) maintain and operate all the works after completion in accordance with regulations prescribed by the secretary of war: PROVIDED, That the construction of any dam authorized herein may be undertaken without delay when the dam site has been acquired and the assurances prescribed herein have been furnished, without awaiting the acquisition of the easements and rights-of-way required for the reservoir area."