

SEWAGE PLANT WEAKENS DIKE, COUNCIL TOLD

The Mount Vernon sewer disposal plant project, subject of many a heated controversy since it was first proposed, hit a new snag last night when district dike commissioners protested to the city council that the location of the plant weakens the dike at that point.

Appearing before the council on behalf of the dike district were Commissioners Dan Sundquist, Magnus Johnson and Pete Lee, together with their attorney, James G. Smith.

Called Hazard

Johnson, speaking for the group, stated that the commissioners believed the construction work on the disposal plant, involving continuous operation of pumps to combat seepage, is endangering the safety of the dike at that point. He said that pumping silt from the base of the dike might easily undermine that structure dangerously.

Bruce Nelson, city supervisor, stated that the water pumped from the excavation at the site of the disposal plant was clear and there was no evidence of silt being drawn from the foundation of the dike.

Base Is Poured

He reported that the base of the disposal plant building has been poured and that the pouring of the walls will be started later this week. He gave the opinion that work on the plant will strengthen, rather than weaken, the dike.

Since the council felt unqualified to act in the matter at this time, the dike district's protest was referred to a conference between dike commissioners and representatives of the engineering firm, Parker and Hill, to be held in the near future.

Protest Meters

William and D. A. Affleck and Robert B. House appeared to protest the placing of parking meters along Main street and Division street along the bus depot property where buses have been loading. They suggested that if more parking space is the object, it would be better to use the lot adjacent to the bus station for public parking and retain the curb space for bus loading.

The matter was turned over to the traffic safety committee.

The parking meter head placed on posts adjoining the bus station will be removed, pending settlement of the dispute.