

The Mount Vernon Argus, Thursday, September 27, 1923

### Discuss River Problems Here

#### Two committees meet with the Board of County Commissioners

A delegation from the river improvement committee, which was formed of Skagit County Citizens last year, and a committee from the Mount Vernon Rotary Club, met with the board of county commissioners yesterday afternoon. The delegations asked that the board again include in the budget a 1-mil levy for river protection purposes, but were told that it was too late to include this in the budget for 1924.

H.L. Willis was spokesman for the river committee and asked the board if it would be possible to include the 1-mil levy again this year. He stated that in order to get any outside assistance it was necessary that the county make some start toward creating a fund for river improvement and protection. He also stated that the committee desired the board to hire a competent engineer to make the necessary plans for the improvement of river conditions.

E. Van Buren, chairman of the board, said that the board had discussed the Skagit River question when the budget was being prepared but as there was still about \$20,000 in the fund created, the board decided there was no further action to be taken, as they had received no report of the survey work made by an engineer named Stewart. The commissioners hired Stewart when the fund was created by the 1-mil levy.

Mr. Van Buren told the committee that it would be impossible to add to the budget at this time as it already been advertised and that the hearing on it would be held Monday, October 1.

W. R. McKinstry, speaking for the Rotary Club, told of an investigation made by a committee from that organization on the question on river this committee wished to urge action protection for Mount Vernon, and that on the board of County Commissioners and larger business interests and civic organizations of Mount Vernon. He called attention to the formation of a bar just north of the bridge here and that it was becoming a menace to the city. He advised the construction of wing dams on the east bank of the river to counteract the current's wash towards the business district.

When it was found that no action could be taken by the Board of Commissioners on the budget, the committees adjourned the meeting.