THE MOUNT VERNON ARGUS

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1937

WAR DEPARTM'T KILLS BILL FOR SKAGIT SURVEY

Existing Flood Control Act Covers Local River, Secretary of War Rules

SEEK ENGINEER'S ADVICE

Senator Homer T. Bone Advises That Delegate Be Sent To Portland to Present Local Cause

Possibilities of securing federal survey of the Skagit river and in the immediate future appear rather remote this morning following the receipt of a letter on the subject from Senator Homer T. Bone at the nation's capitol in Washington, D. C.

Failure to receive the approval of the Secretary of War, the Washington delegation's senate bill authorizing a preliminary examination and survey of the North and South Forks of the Skagit has been recommended to be killed.

The bill authorizing the survey of the Skagit was introduced by Senator Louis B. Schwellenbach of this state during the week of May 10. It followed Postmaster Clyde F. Shrauger's hastened visit to Washington, D. C., in effort to bring immediate action for the Skagit flood control situation.

Letter to Grange
In a letter to Mrs. Lila M. Mc-Cormick, secretary of Skagit county Pomona Grange No. 10, Senator Bone, who is on the committee on naval affairs, definitely explains the latest procedures as follows:

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"The Secretary of War has reported that passage of S. 2329, to authorize a preliminary examination and survey of the North and South Forks of the Skagit river, is unnecessary and has recommended that it be not passed. It is probable that this adverse report will kill the bill since the Secretary declares that under the Flood Control Act of June 22, 1936, examination and survey of the Skagit river and tributaries, for flood control purposes, is authorized. The secretary of war takes the position that a further authorization is unnecessary.

"In view of this letter, I believe the next step is for me to write to the Secretary of War asking that the examination and survey be made as provided by the Act and this I am doing today."

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"I note in the Mount Vernon ARGUS that I am supposed to have received a request for the construction of a dredge to be located on Puget Sound. None of the communications that I have received in regard to the Skagit river improvement project have mentioned that the objective is the permanent assignment of the dredge to this area. The resolution from your Grange, for example, asked that the two outlets of the Skagit be dredged and, as you know, the I Continued on Page 41