

The Burlington Journal

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1955

Information On Dike Problems

The following letters were sent The Journal by Senator Paul Luvera and should be of interest to Journal readers:

June 4 1955

W. A. Galbraith, Director
Dept. Conservation and Development
Olympia, Washington.

Dear Mr. Galbraith:

Enclosed find letter from a good friend of mine of Burlington; the letter is self-explanatory.

I have made some investigation on this matter, and these people do need some assistance in order to protect their property from floods. While they are a small group, yet they are quite willing to pay their own way to the best of their ability.

Will you check this over for me and contact Mr. Bourns directly. I would appreciate receiving a copy of your reply.

Thank you very much, Bill.

Cordially,

PAUL N. LUVERA,

State Senator

COPY OF LETTER RECEIVED FROM MR. B. J. BOURNS, SECRETARY STERLING DIKE ASS.

Honorable Paul N. Luvera
State Senator

Dear Senator Luvera;

I am writing to you in behalf of the Sterling Dike Association, a group which we recently formed to explore the possibilities of obtaining adequate dike protection for our area.

As you will note from the enclosed map, we have a small area of about 600 acres

representing homes and farms of over 40 families and individuals. This is excellent agricultural land and portions of it now are opening up as subdivision property.

As the situation now stands, Dike District No. 12 has recently included additional lands within their district, and including the city of Burlington.

Other areas to the south of this are included along the Skagit River, but Sterling district has been dike out.

We have attempted to work out a proposition with the Dike commission but have met with no success to this point.

We feel that by being on the outside of the dike we will be subjected to increased flood damage since about 600 acres down the river from us will be included in the new dike, thus tending to confine the flow of the river and force it back into unprotected area.

Those who have built new homes in the vicinity are very concerned that the land which has not previously flooded will be subject to overflow as a result of the new protected dike and it is obvious that a dike at our backs would lessen the value of our property.

My purpose in writing to you is to ask if it is not possible to obtain advice or assistance thru our State Agencies in the way of engineering, or financial assistance in order to help us help ourselves. We are willing to do everything possible in a financial way, but we are a small group.

We will appreciate any assistance and advice you might give.

Yours very truly,

B. J. BOURNS, Treasurer, Sterling
Dike District.