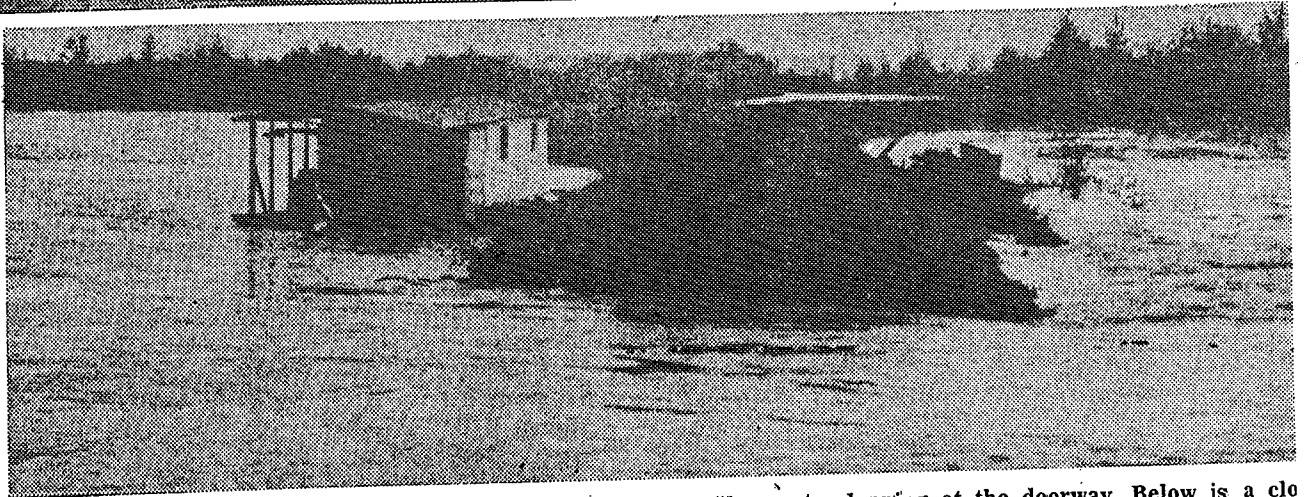
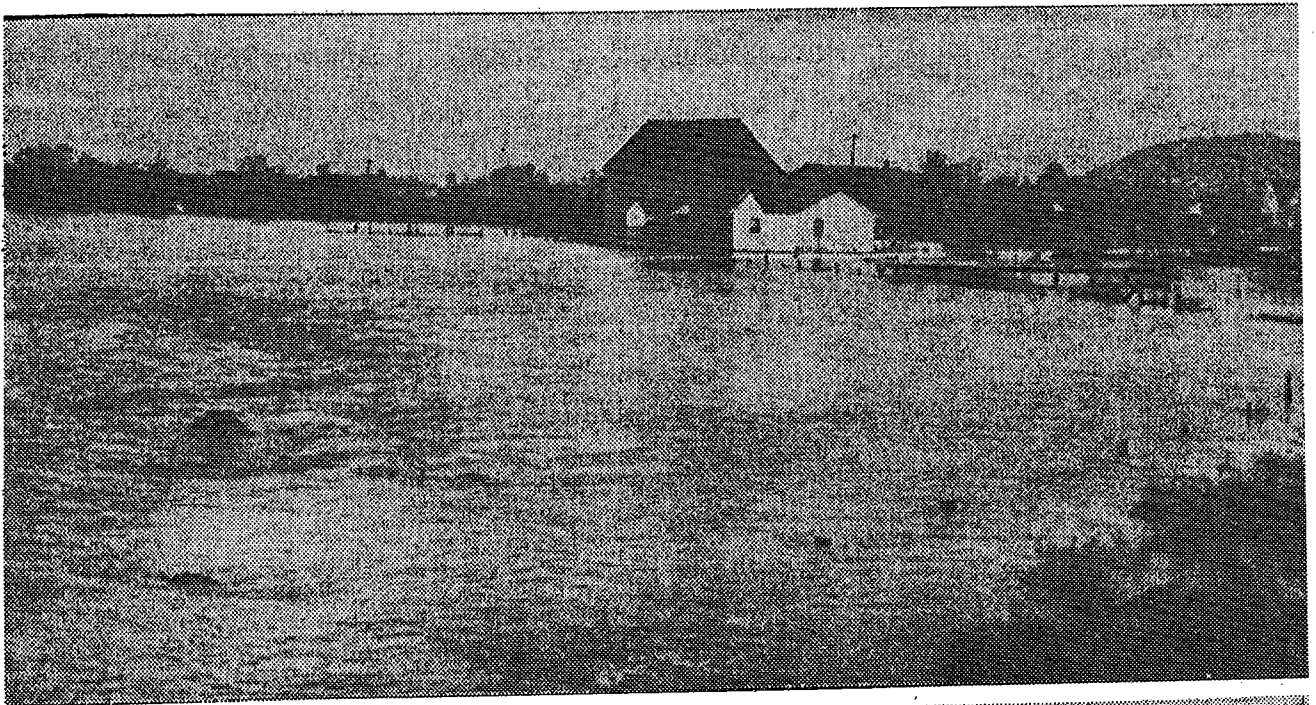


Flood Breaks Dike--

2000 Acres Under Water



OLD MAN RIVER caused quite a rumpus Wednesday afternoon with a break of the dikes (shown above) near the Lundeen farm on Fir Island. In the middle picture is shown the Lundeen home with the

water lapping at the doorway. Below is a close-up of the millrace as the waters cut out over the rich farmland.—Argus photo, Scanagraving.

THE MOUNT VERNON ARGUS

OCTOBER 27, 1955

DIKE BREAKS TO FLOOD FIR ISLAND

Considerable loss of crops, some damage to property but no loss of lives and questionable loss of live stock seems to sum up the high water and flood situation this morning.

BREAK AT LUNDEEN'S

A break in the dike on Freshwater slough near the Lundeen farm southwest of the Fir-Conway bridge plunged about 2,000 acres of farm land under water Wednesday afternoon. Although the dike was being patrolled at the time, the break came suddenly and the dike seemed to "fall in" all at once over a 75-foot width.

ANTICIPATED

Many residents had already moved household belongings to safer spots and cattle had been rounded up, mostly in advance of the break. The dike caved in a little after noon with the water still two or three feet below dike level.

RIVER GOING DOWN

Local river reading reached 23.7 and top reading at Concrete was 35.17. The crest was reached at 7 a. m. Wednesday and held fairly steady for several hours. This morning it was down to 18.5 and still falling at Concrete although more rain is anticipated.

TO BREAK DIKE

Engineer Whitnall this morning said that it is likely the salt water dike will be broken to allow the flood waters on Fir Island to recede. The water this morning covers the Fir-Island road and is still slowly rising.

SOME DAMAGE

There is still some freezing vegetable stock in the fields that will be damaged, said Whitnall. He said that high waters in the Nookachamps area had been anticipated and there seems to be little damage there. He further said that the current high water is not nearly as damaging as that of 1951 when nearly all of Fir Island was under water.

Rains caused the rapid rise. It was reported that a 4.36 inch rain fell within 24 hours at Diablo.