

# THE CONCRETE HERALD

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## SKAGIT RIVER GOES ON WILD RAMPAGE; LIGHT DAMAGE HERE

### HIGH WATER MARK OF 1909 IS REACHED HERE AND PASSED IN LOWER VALLEY—CITY ISOLATED FOR FEW DAYS

After being on its good behavior for four years, the Skagit River went on a rampage again Monday, and when the flood reached its crest at midnight Monday night it was found that the highest mark in the history of Concrete had been reached. The steady rain of Saturday and Sunday brought the river to flood stage Sunday night, and it was then feared that the river would go over its banks before midnight. The weather turned colder in the evening, and by midnight the river was at a standstill, and by morning had fallen about 18 inches. Early Monday forenoon the rain started again, accompanied by a Chinook wind, and the Skagit soon began to rise rapidly again, reaching its greatest height about midnight.

About three o'clock in the afternoon it went over the banks in Crofoot addition and the residents of that part of town began to move out, being taken care of at the homes of friends in the higher part of town until the flood subsided. The waters also crept up around some of the dwellings in East Concrete, and some of the residents moved out for the night. In Crofoot addition only three residences remained above the high water mark, the water being to a depth of an inch to 14 inches in the others. No particular damage was done, except for small articles outside being washed away, and the job of cleaning out the mud left by the flood. The Vlist, Milton and Hemspenyer families lost a

considerable number of chickens and several loads of wood were washed away. In East Concrete practically no damage was done.

The damage caused in this vicinity and throughout the upper valley was considerably less than during the flood of four years ago, except at Sauk, although the water was almost two feet higher than in 1917. The county roads were somewhat damaged, and the ferries at Van Horn and Sauk were washed away. At Sauk the water was from four to six feet deep in the store and residences, and the total loss is heavy. Much damage and caused along the Sauk River from Sauk prairie to the Skagit, many farms being cut up and fences and buildings being damaged. The Stafford and Young farms near Sauk are said to be practically ruined. The house and barn from the Young place floated past this city last Monday evening.

The local branch of the railroad was badly damaged and has been closed since the flood. East of town the long trestle is partly washed out and it will probably be some weeks before it will be repaired. Otherwise the road to Rockport is said to be open. Several long sections of track were washed out between Hamilton and Lyman and near Sedro-Woolley were washed out, but detours have been built and it is expected that by tonight the road will be open to auto travel.

The city was without mail from Sunday evening until noon yesterday, when an

auto load of mail sacks was brought here from Sedro-Woolley by Frank Goe, the stage driver, in a Ford car. He expects to be able to make daily trips from now on and will bring mail at least once each day. Conditions are much better here than after the floods of 1909 and 1917, when it was several weeks before mail was received or the roads were open for travel. There is no shortage of supplies in the city, and as roads are now about open there is not likely to be any.

There is some argument as to whether this flood was higher than that of 1909, but the general opinion seems to be that it was just as high or a few inches higher than the mark reached that year.