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ANACORTES HAS A REMINDER OF THE JOHNSTOWN FLOOD

160,000,000 GALLONS OF WATER POURS THROUGH BREAK IN DAM AND DELUGES OAKES AVENUE DISTRICT.

A little trickle at first, a runlet, a break, a roaring torrent, and then a wall of water rolled down from Cranberry lake to the Sound, when a portion of the dam gave way and a million tons of water swept down the half mile from the dam to tidewater, carrying dirt, gravel, boulders and logs with it, cutting great gashes in the hillside, destroying roads and burying the railway tracks and foreshore beneath thousands of tons of debris. The break began early Monday evening, and at 8 o'clock 500 yards of Oakes avenue, Anacortes, below the lake was under a deep flood - a veritable Niagara was falling with terrific force and noise down the final drop of a hundred feet over the bluff to the beach below. One home, almost in the path of the flood, was abandoned, the owner with his life and baby taking to the sea in a skiff, Watchmen in the fisheries plants were imprisoned in the buildings; others attempted to keep the water out of their homes. In a few hours the flood crest had passed, but still thousands of tons of water was tumbling down the heights as the lake emptied itself, and it was not until Tuesday morning that stock could be taken of the damage.

The damage was huge, that could be seen at a glance, but it cannot yet be estimated; that will be work for experts. Several inches of dirt and mud covered the main floor of the codfish factory of the Robinson Fisheries; three feet of mud and

water filled the basement of the old Marani fertilizer plant; five hundred yards of the Great Northern track was under rock, mud and gravel to a depth ranging from a few inches to a few feet, and in places it was undermined and twisted badly; the loading platform of the Fisheries had disappeared beneath the avalanche, and building that had stood high on piling twelve feet above the water appeared to be standing on dry land, the slide having filled the bay beneath them.

Cranberry lake was originally a pond of a few acres in extent and many years ago furnished much of the water supply for Anacortes, when a small wooden dam was built across the outlet. Later this dam was made higher, but it was not until about 20 years ago that any serious attempt was made to utilize the waters of the pond, and for emergency purposes only, and on but few occasions was the water ever turned into the city system. This was usually in big salmon years when the canneries were using millions of gallons of water monthly right in the dry season.