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FLOOD SURVEY WORK IN SKAGIT VALLEY WILL BE CONTINUED

MORE DATA TO BE SECURED IN HOPES OF FEDERAL AID—APPROPRIATION FOR NEXT YEAR OVERLOOKED

The Skagit River Improvement committee, of which H. L. Willis is chairman, met with the county commissioners Wednesday and urged that the one mill levy for flood control survey on the Skagit River be continued. Chairman Van Buren of the board called attention to the fact that the tentative budget for 1924 had already been published and that it would be illegal to add any new items at this time. The committee made an earnest plea for the appropriation, but it was told that it was now too late to make changes in the budget and that no additional funds would be available from the 1924 taxes and that no levy could be made until the next budget was adopted in September, 1924.

The committee now has available for use about \$20,000 raised from the 1923 levy of one mill. When the levy was made last year it was believed that this sum would be sufficient to complete the work, but it has been found to be entirely too small an amount to cover a thorough survey of the river.

James E. Stewart, an expert government engineer, has just completed a survey of the volume of water that went down the river in the big flood of 1921, and the committee is now planning on securing an expert river engineer to make a survey to determine how this water could best be controlled and present his findings to the government in hopes of securing federal aid. The expense of the survey will be met by drawing on the \$20,000 fund, and it is likely that all of this money will be needed to cover

the cost of the work.

The movement for planning some way to control the flood waters of the Skagit river was started immediately after the flood of 1921, and judging by the progress made on the work since that time, it is likely that there will be several more big floods during the years that will pass before any work is started on the main project.