THE COURIER-TIMES

JUNE 6, 1946

Flood Control Action Asked by Committee

Present Plans Would Not Be Effective Until 1955, Report Shows

Seeking to get immediate Congressional action on the soil erosion problem of the upper Skagit valley, the Skagit County Planning Commission last week adopted a resolution to be sent to Congressman Henry Jackson outlining the immediate needs for a flood control program and asking that a directive be issued ordering the Seattle office of the Engineering Corps to proceed at once on a Skagit river erosion control engineering report to be ready for congressional action by January 1, 1947.

In a letter to Congressman Jackson drawn up by the Water Resources Committee of the Planning Council, of which A. H. Ward of Sedro-Woolley is chairman, it was pointed out that the recent study of the Skagit conducted by the U.S. Engineering Corps will not leave the Seattle office until 1948 and will not be ready for congressional action until 1950. Effective construction work along the river could not begin until 1955.

A report prepared by the Water Resources Committee recommended that a joint engineering plan for control of the Skagit be worked out by the four agencies responsible for soil erosion in this area, namely, the U. S. Engineers, the State Department of Conservation and Development, Skagit County, and the Skagit Soil Conservation District.

The plan would call for study of the past habits of the Skagit indicating the changes in its course between the period 1932 and 1946 and working a master plan for easing the river into its most logical course and holding it there with rock revetment. Costs would be worked out from local funds and matching state and federal funds.