

FLOOD CONTROL ACTION URGED AT CONFERENCE

UNITED PLEA MAY GO TO FEDERAL OFFICIAL ASKING SURVEY OF ALL RIVERS IN WASHINGTON

OLYMPIA, May 11.—(P)—Washington flood control groups were urged here today to unite behind a program calling for a survey of all rivers in the state, whether navigable or non-navigable, as the first major step necessary in bringing permanent flood control to the state.

A statewide river survey, with the federal and state governments cooperating, was advocated before a flood control conference here by Howard A. Hanson, Seattle, president of the Puget Sound flood control association.

The conference was called by the flood control committee of the state planning commission. Recommendations of the conference will be submitted to the planning commission at its next meeting later in the month.

Hanson pointed out that without a river survey a permanent flood control program could not be developed. Under existing legislation no federal funds can be spent on river surveys except on navigable streams.

"Washington has the resources to lead the way in bringing about adoption of a national flood control policy by congress," Hanson said. "An active campaign by this state will bring other states into the fold."

The conference is expected to recommend that the planning commission press for favorable action by congress and the enactment by the Washington legislature of laws that would enable the state to cooperate with the federal government.

In the absence of J. M. McClelland, Longview, unable to attend because of illness, Fred Nelsen, planning commission member, presided. Members of the flood control committee are Nelsen, E. F. Banker, director of conservation and development, and McClelland, chairman.

Other speakers on the program were Capt. S. L. Damon, U. S. army engineer; H. G. Porak, assistant construction engineer, state highway department; J. W. Mathias, Aberdeen, representing the Pacific Northwest Flood Control association; Lars Langloe, supervisor, flood repair work, WERA; and Col. J. H. Sturdevant, district army engineer.