MOUNT VERNON DAILY HERALD

JUNE 5, 1937

DREDGING ONE STEP NEARER BY U. S. ACTIO

CONGRESSMAN WALLGREN SENDS TELEGRAM TO SHRAU. GER TELLING OF ACTION IN FIGHT FOR DREDGING PRO-JECT

Congressman Mon Wallgren today notified Postmaster C. F. Shrauger of this city by telegram that U.S. army engineers in Washington, D. C., had approved plans for a complete survey of the north and south forks of the Skagit river from the bay as far as Mount Vernon.

"This means that we are one step nearer in our campaign have the lower Skagit dredged for the benefit of flood control, drainage and navigation," declared Shrauger.

The postmaster was sent to the national capital as a representative of the Skagit River Dredging Association a few weeks ago, and secured endorsement of the project by the National Rivers and Harbors Congress.

Informed of Wallgren's gram, Commissioner J. T. Mason, president of the association, expressed delight at the approval of the army engineers for the survey. The survey is necessary to determine the need and cost of the dredging project, he said, and must be made before action can be taken on Congressman Wallgren's bill which calls for the dredging.

Officials of the Skagit dredging association expressed much concern over a report sent to Washington, D. C., that the association was advocating a government-owned dredge. While this might be desired, the association did not think it advisabe to ask for other than the dredging of the river, Mason declared. He commented that today's action by the army engineers shows that the congressman and the two United States senators have fully presented the Skagit problem to the war department.

It was explained several days ago, in a dispatch to the Daily Herald from Washington, D. C., that a bill filed in the senate by Senator Homer T. Bone, which called for the survey, was unnecessary since the war department of-ficials declared they had power to make the survey without action of congress. This being so, the senator joined Wallgren in a plea for the survey.

Some confused the senator's action and concluded that the army engineers had turned down the plea for a survey, which was not the case, Postmaster Shrauger declared.

Mason said the dredging association, which is made up of representative farmers, business and professional men, will continue its campaign, and feels it has won its initial fight for dredging of the lower Skagit by the army engineers' approval of the survey.