

Organization Planned For Future Flood Emergencies

The Skagit river raised four feet in the past 24 hours due to torrential rains that fell last night but clearing and colder weather has prevented any reoccurrence of the disastrous flood that struck the county last week-end.

Meanwhile it was announced that the Skagit county board of county commissioners will set up an organization in the immediate future to coordinate all activities in case of any emergency that may arise because of flood conditions later on.

Last night's heavy rainfall caused the river to rise to 20.03 feet shortly before noon today but resulted in no further damage other than in the Nookachamps area where flood waters from the Nookachamps creek inundated several acres of land.

Two families in Hamilton, fearing a reoccurrence of the flood that inundated that town, moved out during the evening.

Miss Evelyn Maley of San Francisco, Pacific coast disaster director for the American Red Cross, is conducting a survey of flood damage today, starting at Rockport. She is accompanied by Mrs. Clio Baldrige, executive-secretary of the Skagit Valley Chapter of the Red Cross.

Families Aided

The local unit of the Red Cross has thus far taken care of the immediate needs of 30 flood-stricken families, mainly from upriver points, according to Mrs. Hugo Thiret, home service secretary. Several families, Mrs. Thiret said, lost practically all their personal belongings in the flood as well as vital furnishings, such as bedding, mattresses and other items. Several blankets, mattresses and clothing articles have been given out in the past three days, valued at well above \$1,000.

Many of the families, Mrs. Thiret pointed out, were unemployed and were in dire need of food as well as other items. Food kept in cold storage lockers in Hamilton, on the lower shelves, were condemned by health authorities due to contamination from flood waters.