WORK STARTS ON
$216,000 FLOOD
CONTROL SYSTEM

Dangerous Skagit Bend At
Sterling Receives First
"Strengthening"

TEN PROJECTS PLANNED

As part of Congressman Mon
Wallgren's proposed $2,000,000
flood control project on the Ska-
git river, Engineer Iver Nelson is
now at work on a WPA project
for which $216,000 has been ap-
propriated for revetment work on
dangerous portions of the river
bank lying from Burlington to a
point east of Hamilton. Nelson
hopes to have some 120 men
working before long and now has
approximately 50 men on the job.
This is just the start of the flood
control and erosion relief program
which Congressman Wallgren
plans for the Skagit river, to ex-
tend from far up the river to its
mouth.

Actual work has started at the
C. Brider place at the Sterling
bend near Burlington. The banks
are being sloped for placing the
brush mats and revetment. A
trestle is being built across the
slough to reach the big growth
of willows in the old Sterling
bend channel. Tool houses and
other portable buildings are be-
ing constructed.

Use Steel Cables

Another crew of men is at work
building a concrete mixing plant
on the river bank, just below the
Northern Pacific bridge near Se-
dro-Woolley. This is near a big
supply of gravel and will be used
for making fascine cores which
are wrapped in willows, and will
be fastened by steel cables to the
toe of the brush mat.

Concrete blocks will also be
made, to be placed on top of the
brush mats, all of which will be
fastened by cables, with mats and
fascines extending well under wa-
ter to prevent erosion. Engineer
Nelson estimates that the work as
outlined will take about a year
with a full crew of 122 men.

Some ten projects have been
mapped out along the river be-
tween Burlington and Lyman, as
the most dangerous places, toge-
ther with four other locations, at
which flood control work will
probably be done later. Both Bur-
lington and Sedro-Woolley have
been threatened by possibility of
the river breaking through into
slough channels, and either run-
ning through the towns or caus-
ing huge damage.

Remove Danger

This danger will be removed by
the work now under way, Nelson
believes. One of the worst points
on the river is the Burlington

[Continued on Page 8]