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PLAN TO CONTROL FLOODS IN SKAGIT AT RUBY CREEK DAM

ENGINEER SAYS A THIRD OF FLOOD WATERS CAN BE HELD IN PROPOSED DAM UNTIL ALL DANGER IS OVER

That the waters of the Skagit River can be controlled, in time of flood, by the huge dam that the city of Seattle proposes to build at the mouth of Ruby creek, in connection with its power project on the upper Skagit, was the argument advanced by C. E. Uhden, chief engineer on the project, at a mass meeting held in the Rex theatre in Mount Vernon Tuesday night. He stated that the plans for the dam, as drawn for the power project, would have to be modified if it was also to be used as a means for flood control, but that the additional cost could be financed through state or county aid.

The proposed dam, according to Mr. Uhden, would be 480 feet high, and would back the waters of the river up to form a lake over 25 miles long, and would cost between eight and nine million dollars when completed. He claims that the dam would hold the full normal flow the Skagit river for three or four days, and that during times of flood the waters from the upper river could be held back for at least 24 hours, giving the flood waters from the streams of the lower valley time to run off, then the water held at Ruby creek could be gradually released. By modifying the construction of the dam it would be so built that it would hold a larger raise without any danger of flooding the lower valley when the spillways are opened. He stated that it would require at least ten years before the dam could be built so as to be available as a means of relief in time of flood.

During his address Mr. Uhden showed some views of the work that the city of Seattle is doing on the upper Skagit, and gave some interesting figures regarding what the development of the project would mean to the entire Skagit valley.