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LIGHT DAMAGE DONE BY FLOOD WATERS IN SKAGIT VALLEY

WARM WIND AND HEAVY RAIN MONDAY BRINGS RIVERS TO A FLOOD STAGE-ONLY DAMAGE IS TO RAILWAY AND ROADS

The residents of Concrete and other points in the upper Skagit valley were surprised Tuesday morning to find the Skagit and Baker rivers running bank full and the waters still rising, and in many instances preparations were quickly made for meeting flood conditions of 1917 and 1921. However, the rise in the Skagit ceased about noon Tuesday and the waters have gone down rapidly and the rivers in the upper valley are now almost down to normal.

A heavy downpour of rain Sunday night and all day Monday, followed by a strong Chinook wind Monday night and Tuesday morning brought the rivers up with a rush, and the valley was only saved from a real flood by the fact that the weather turned colder and snow fell in the hills early Tuesday forenoon. The Skagit at this point was bank full and the low ground in East Concrete was overflowed, but Crofoot's addition on the west side of the Baker escaped the flood by two feet. Here the river lacked from eight to 10 feet of being up to the flood mark of 1921, but near Mt. Vernon and at other points in the lower valley, it is reported that the river came within two feet of reaching the 1921 mark. The storm appears to have been general through the northwestern counties, and all streams in Whatcom, Skagit and Snohomish counties were at flood state Tuesday.

The damage from the flood this week is reported as being unusually light when the

stage of the river is considered. At Hamilton a considerable portion of the town was overflowed but no great damage caused. Between Hamilton and Lyman several bridges on the road went out and about 200 feet of track on the Great Northern line was washed out. The railroad was opened to traffic again last night after being closed for almost two days, and it is expected that all damage on the county road will be repaired by tonight.

East of the city the only damage reported so far is the railroad and county roads. At the Thompson hill, about 400 feet of railroad track slid into the Skagit River, and the county road is closed by mud slides. It will probably be a week or more before the railroad is opened to Rockport but mail and passenger service to the upper valley by the local train running to the slide and transferring mail and passenger there to the trolley car of the Seattle railroad, which will run from the slide to Rockport and then on to Newhalem.

In the lower valley there were no serious breaks in the dikes and the damage from the flood was light. The east line of the Great Northern was out for about 24 hours on account of damaged bridges, but rail and stage service to Bellingham and Seattle is said to be normal again.