EDITORIAL

While the proposal to build us a new road to Rockport is generally welcomed in the valley, we are not at all convinced that the rumored route on the high level back of the Rockport park is where the future highway is to be located. Our belief is that when a final main arterial is built it will follow the river on a low level that will eliminate the grades over ridges, the bridges and fill over ravines and the ballets with slides and erosion. Our idea of the perfect river road is the short piece below town which proves that the river is no longer a highway problem. Of course, the state men may know more than we do about the future of the valley – maybe the proposed Faber dam is going to flood the valley to Marblemount and force all future traffic up on the side hills. We don’t like to think about this ever happening. One of the best ways we know to prevent the dam would be to have a road system that will develop the upper valley to a point where a dam would be impractical. It appears this could best be done with a highway that eliminates our long-standing hazards – Faber Hill, Rockport Hill and so on up the Skagit. We’d hate to have to spend another half century accomplishing this end.