

# THE COURIER-TIMES

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## THE RIVER SITUATION

The federal government has already spent more than a quarter million dollars on revetment work on the river banks to protect them from erosion, and save valuable farmland from being washed down the river, and is prepared to spend another \$420,000 in the same work. But unless something is done to hold the log towing companies responsible for damage done to this work, a large part of it will be wasted.

At Utopia, some five hundred feet of the revetment has been eaten away because tows of logs were allowed to swing into the river bank, breaking the steel cables that held the brush mats in place. The farmers who thought they had finally obtained protection, are now threatened with destruction of their farms.

When the citizens living along the Skagit river are for the first time in history, getting a huge sum spent on this river, to protect farmland, there should be some way to force the log towers to do their towing without damage to the river bank, or to pay for damages. The county officials should take a little more interest in maintaining this quarter of a million dollars work on danger spots on the river, and should delay no longer in the purchase of a \$10,000 dragline which will automatically result in another \$420,000 in WPA funds being spent immediately in Skagit river bank work.

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