MARCH 4, 1939

## NEW DISTRICT IS OPPOSED

SEDRO-WOOLLEY, March 4.— (Special)—A group of farmers, who reside east of this city, will meet in Burlington city hall Wednesday night at 8 o'clock to discuss the proposed river control district, it was announced here.

An initial meeting of the group was held at the George Harrison home, at which time a fund collection was made for the employment of Attorney James G. Smith, of Mount Vernon, to direct a fight on the proposed district.

It was said the farmers fear that the district would cast too much money. It has been proposed that the district raise funds by levy each year to maintain the river bank revetment work along the river.

Petitions calling for formation of the district, bearing more than 300 names, including names of Sedro-Woolley property owners, who would also be taxed, are now at Olympia, awaiting action.

It was declared here farmers who are opposing the district feared they could be taxed excessively. It was pointed out that the law provides a maximum 2 mills as the annual levy, with a total of 5 mills, if approved at a special election. The law provides that the limit of indebtedness of the district shall not be over 1.5 per cent, or 3 per cent by an election with a three-fifths majority.

Some farmers thought the 1.5 per cent meant that the annual tax could be that much, which was incorrect, it was declared by Attorney Arthur Ward, who drew the petition for the district at the request of the local chamber of commerce.