

Wildlife Group Urges Levees In Valley Area

By Carl Smith

WASHINGTON, March 25.-(Washington Bureau of The Journal)-A declaration for levees rather than dams for flood control in the Willamette valley is contained in a resolution just adopted by the North American Wildlife conference, at its fifth annual meeting in Washington.

The resolution followed an address by William L. Finley of Portland, vice president of the conference, who contended that the salmon runs can be protected only by dropping the plan for high dams on the tributaries of the Willamette. The resolution asserted that the seven-dam program will destroy the largest Chinook runs of the Willamette, and concluded as follows:

"In the published report of the army engineers it states that flood control in the Willamette can be equally handled by levees and bank revetment at the cost of \$33,000,000 or by high dams at a cost of \$62,075,000; therefore be it resolved:

"That if this project is carried out the levee instead of the dam system should be adopted as a protection to the salmon runs, as well as reducing federal expense."

Record Crowd Expected for Kipp Address

Silverton — The program of the Chamber of Commerce at Wednesday night's banquet promises to draw the largest crowd of the year as the speaker will be Robert H. Kipp, executive secretary of the National Rivers and Harbors congress, with his talk to be concerning flood control in the Willamette valley.

The discussion will be doubly interesting to Silverton folk and those of the surrounding communities because of the resolution adopted by the fifth annual North American Wild Life convention at Washington, D. C., sponsored by William L. Finley, Oregon naturalist, aimed at the flood-control project.

Previously, at the Washington annual session of the National Rivers and Harbors congress, Kipp, executive secretary, urged that funds be appropriated for the start of the project in the near future. This action was said to have been taken in spite of the stand taken by President Roosevelt on rivers and harbors appropriations in his "economy budget."

As Silverton people will be able to hear both sides of the much discussed question, many are expected to attend the Wednesday evening affair.

Harold W. Adams, superintendent of schools, and Herman J. Kramer, principal of the senior high school, are program committee members making possible the coming of Mr. Kipp to Silverton.

The banquet will be served at the Chamber of Commerce rooms at 8:30 o'clock with the women of the Calvary Lutheran church in charge. Carl Lagerfeld, president of the forum, will preside at a brief business meeting when it will be decided if the change be made from the evening meetings to a noon luncheon period in order to have a more representative number present from different civic groups of town with credit for attending given their organizations.

At a previous meeting of the Chamber of Commerce executive board, efforts were put forth to retain the Mill City CCC camp near Silver Creek Falls state park, with encouraging results. The question for cleaning and landscaping the banks of Silver Creek in the city limits is still under discussion as a forum project for the year. The Chamber is backing the establishing of the Siewert mill as a Silverton industry.

Dams Necessary Flood Control Kipp Declares

Silverton—Many sportsmen as well as a fair turnout of other guests were present at the Wednesday night Chamber of Commerce banquet and program to hear the address of Robert H. Kipp, executive secretary of the Willamette river valley basin project.

Kipp met the arguments of "W. L. Finley, my good friend," in presenting the facts and figures assuring safety for game fish and telling of the impossibility of levees instead of dams in carrying out the three-fold purpose of the project, flood control, supplemental moisture and navigation.

Carl Lagerfeld, forum president, introduced the possibility of Silverton doing some radio advertising; of the forum being asked to visit the Mill City CCC camp open house Sunday; of the plans talked for having the Chamber of Commerce meet at a noon hour instead of in the evening with tentative plans for this to go into effect for the April meeting, and of the aims of the forum to encourage other industries to come to the local community.

Alf O. Nelson introduced his guest, Dr. Hunter of Grand Forks, N. D., and asked the influence of the forum to urge the straightening of dangerous curves on the short-cut highway from Bend to Portland in the Evergreen vicinity as another accident had happened Saturday when three people were injured.

M. C. Storrusti, forum secretary, announced the Friday night community jamboree program as an aid to the school lunchrooms and kitchen.

Willamette River Project Attacked

CHICAGO, March 29 (UP) — William L. Finley, Portland, Ore., national vice-president of the Izaak Walton league, charged today that a proposed flood control project on the Willamette river in Oregon threatens to ruin a \$10,000,000-a-year salmon industry.

"The farmers and bona fide landowners of the Willamette valley did not start this agitation for flood control and do not want it," Finley told the 18th annual convention of the league.

He said the argument for flood control was raised by local promoters and speculators as a camouflage "in order to obtain federal pork monies, largely at the expense of more populous states, to the tune of more than 100 million dollars."

La Grande, Or. Observer