

*Ore. City Courier - Apr. 23, 1940*

As a vindication of the stand this newspaper has taken for some years we hope that William L. Finley, naturalist, will have a notable audience at the Thursday noon meeting of the Kiwanis club. While we long since stopped our opposition to the high dams in the upper Willamette and tributaries upon the ground that the fight was lost, Finley persists and his stand should receive real consideration. Finley is internationally known as a naturalist, and attracts more attention in New York City than he does in his home county of Clackamas.

Of course the high dams will greatly reduce the run of salmon and kindred migratory fish, just as the Bonneville dam has done. The only real thought back of the matter is whether the spending of \$62,000,000 of the taxpayers' money for flood control and irrigation will be worth more than the lost fish. We will let those who hear Finley decide.

### **Finley Will Take Hides Off Thursday**

*Apr. 23, 1940  
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William L. Finley, nationally famous naturalist, will be the guest speaker at the Kiwanis club next Thursday noon and several hides will be taken off.

Finley, who lives at a river-front home at Jennings Lodge, has been touring the country and speaking in opposition to the proposed high dams in the Willamette river. Having come back home and gathered new facts it is generally believed that he will make it unpleasantly warm for some of those who are promoting the high dams instead of a series of low ones.

As the Banner-Courier took the same attitude more than two years ago and had charges preferred against it before the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce for trying to obstruct a needed public improvement, it is natural that considerable interest is taken in the local appearance of Finley.

Those not members of the club can reserve luncheon seats by phoning the Chamber of Commerce, or can hear the speech by arriving at 12:30 p. m. and not partaking of lunch.

# Santiam Dam Project Discussed By R. H. Kipp

*884  
Stayton, Ore., Mail*

## Criticism of Dams Taken up Point by Point; Clubs Adopt Resolutions in Support.

*Apr. 25, 1940*

In a discussion of the Willamette Valley river development project at the Lions' club Tuesday evening, R. H. Kipp, executive secretary of the Willamette Valley commission, stated that he doesn't know of a single person who was originally in favor of the building of the several dams who is now of the same opinion.

Recently there have been attacks levelled at the project, notably by William L. Finley, a Portland mortician and naturalist, and by the Salem Capital-Journal's editorial column. It was around these criticisms that Mr. Kipp centered his remarks.

The Oregon Fish commission has made an adverse statement concerning the erection of the dams across the several rivers but has not gone on record formally against the project. A report by the federal bureau of fisheries, due to be issued next week, is expected to form a basis for further consideration of engineering problems and it is thought by Mr. Kipp that this report will have weight with the Oregon commission in reaching a final decision but will be intended primarily for the army engineers who are directly responsible.

Opposition among fishermen is not so much from commercial circles as from the hook-and-line variety, according to Kipp, who expressed the belief that among the latter group only a minority is opposed to the dams, with the larger number having the belief that the development could have a beneficial effect in that the dams would maintain higher water levels at the normally low-water periods.

Although the North Santiam fishing might be destroyed for a distance of about five miles above the proposed dam at Detroit it was pointed out that the government has approximately \$150,000 which would be available for fish propagation and protective measures. This sum would be part of a million-dollar fund available for work throughout the valley project.

Flood control was cited as the main objective sought in construction of the dams with other benefits expected to accrue to industries and irrigationists because of a steadier flow of water throughout the year.

Work on relocation of the North Santiam highway near Detroit is being held up until the army engineers have definitely determined that the dam will be built, which, it is said, is now dependent only upon settlement of the fishing controversy.

The Lions club and chamber of commerce (the latter was represented at the Tuesday meeting) voted to go on record as favorable to the erection of the dam at Detroit and to prepare resolution to this effect. Comment by Stayton people was unanimous in deploring the criticism which has arisen, particularly in Salem.

## College Party Will be Held at Finley Home Tuesday, May 28

*Apr. 25, 1940*  
Annual benefit party for P. C., sponsored by the Pacific college auxiliary, will be held Tuesday, May 28, at the lovely home of the well-known naturalist, writer and lecturer, William L. Finley and Mrs. Finley, on the banks of the Willamette river at Jennings Lodge.

The auxiliary has voted that proceeds of this party are to be added to the Pennington Foundation, the endowment fund authorized to be raised in honor of President and Mrs. Levi T. Pennington.

*Newberg, Ore. Graphic*