



Remember 1928?

Here's one from the Journal's historical picture files. We published this picture two years ago hoping to learn the identities of the men in the photograph. Last week Mrs. Joe Connor of Starkweather brought in an old newspaper clipping which names most of them. The photograph, taken in 1928 by Howard Maher, marked the visit of Sec. of War Patrick J. Hurley to Devils Lake, and also was close to the start of the campaign which ended in construction of the Garrison Dam. The men are posed in the skeleton of the Minnie H steamboat on the east shore of Creel Bay. Left to right: Albert Thompson, Brocket; Judge Aloys Wartner Sr., Harvey; A.V. (Allie) Haig, then

mayor of Devils Lake; Olger B. Burtness, Grand Forks, then congressman; Frank Hyland, Devils Lake, then state senator, and afterwards candidate for the GOP nomination for governor; Prof. H.E. Simpson of UND; Major Frank Anders, Fargo; S.W. Thompson, often called father of Missouri diversion and former state highway commissioner; Sec. Hurley; M.H. Graham, former publisher of the Devils Lake Journal; an unidentified man; Andy Taylor, Rolla; U.S. Sen. Gerald P. Nye; Dr. W.F. Sihler, Devils Lake; an unidentified man; Seth Richards, Fargo, then U.S. attorney; an unidentified man.

Post Card of a Billboard at
Jct. Hwy. 20 & 57



Back of Post Card

DEVILS LAKE
North Dakota

So named because of its strong alkali waters, this lovely lake in the wooded area of North Dakota is being restored by waters diverted from the gigantic Garrison Dam project. The thriving city of Devils Lake was settled in 1880 and serves as a trade center for the region. Just south of the lake is Sully's Hill National Park, an important wild animal preserve.

Task Force To Be Established

Joint Water Board Seeks Lake Outlet

Members of the six-county Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Management Board agreed Tuesday to establish a task force representing governmental units, concerned organizations and the public to explore a possible outlet to the closed basin.

Chairman Charon Johnson of Churchs Ferry said the item was placed on the agenda because of concern expressed over potential damage to property if the lake continues to rise in future years above the current level, a record for this century.

Fears of additional damage to roads, bridges and other in-

stallations, plus the threat to the city of Devils Lake's sewage lagoon, were expressed at a meeting last Wednesday called by Mayor J.H. Mahoney and, by concensus, action on solution to the problem was left to the joint board.

The board approved a plan to seek representation from the boards of commissioners of Ramsey, Nelson and Benson counties, the Devils Lake city commission and Chamber of Commerce, the Lake Preservation committee, Fort Totten Tribal Council, the National Guard at Camp Grafton, Tri-County and Nelson county park boards, a public representative

from Devils Lake and farmers from the East Devils Lake and Stump Lake vicinities. Legislators would be non-voting members.

An organization and preliminary planning meeting was set for 7:30 p.m. August 21 at the Ramsey County Memorial Courthouse.

The task force, Johnson said, will be asked to look at both emergency measures, in case of another high runoff next spring, and more permanent solutions.

The next regular meeting of the joint board was scheduled for October 16 with the possibility of special meetings

before that date on call of the chairman.

Most of the discussion revolved around the rights of water management boards to maintain channels and the rights the federal Fish and Wildlife Service has through its wetlands easement program. T.K. Lybeck, consultant to the Ramsey county board, reviewed a situation in Cavalier County where wildlife easements were taken in the "dry years" of the early 1960's along a natural channel where the original channel base had not been determined. Since then, he said, flooding had af-

ected non-easement land and the channel capacity reduced, and dikes in the coulee installed by individual farmers seeking to protect their land.

Mike Dwyer, State Water Commission attorney said the State Legislature has given water management districts authority to clean out channels to their natural condition and, when soil tests determine the historic depth, there has been little conflict with the Fish and Wildlife Service. Lyle Stemmerman, FWS representative, said he would review the files on

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Board

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the Cavalier problem and compile a report for the board.

After a plea for more cooperative effort between water boards and the FWS to solve drainage problems, Chairman Johnson said a suggestion by Dwyer that a task force be appointed to work with the FWS in evaluating different controversial drainage projects would be pursued at the next meeting.

In other agenda items, the board:

—Heard a report that the water boards in the affected counties are “moving ahead” on solution to the problem of flooding below the outlet of Hurricane Lake in Pierce county.

—Was told by Dave Sprynczynatic, head of the Water Commission’s engineering division, that an existing survey of the Mauvias Coulee, main inlet into Devils Lake, would be reviewed during the winter months to determine major obstructions and recommendations for channel improvement would be made.

—Approved a motion to request cost figures and a method of handling transfer of the Devils Lake Basin’s hydrological model from the N.D. State University computer center to the state computer system in Bismarck. Sprynczynatic said the Water Commission is interested in the model for use in other watersheds and has hydrologists available on its staff but would need assistance in gathering

data on a continuing basis.

Dwyer, Sprynczynatyk and Cary Backstrand, drainage engineer, conducted a hearing in the afternoon on proposed revisions of rules and regulations covering drainage permits. The comment period on the proposed rules will end August 17, following a series of six hearings.