

Queen City Mailer
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Flood Spurs Move to Get Control Project Here

The hopes of Spearfish officials for a government flood control project on Spearfish creek were strengthened this week in the wake of the worst flood conditions in several years.

Neither city officials nor government engineers would place an estimate on damage done but it was without question the costliest flood since the early '30s.

Damage in Spearfish and the lower canyon probably was the most severe in the northern Hills although the heavy rains washed out many bridges and damaged roads in every section of the county.

At the urgent request of Mayor James T. O'Neill, F. E. Grossell of the United States engineer's office at Fort Peck arrived here Saturday morning to investigate the flood and make an estimate of the damages.

Lt. Col. Roberts, also of Fort Peck, man an inspection of the damage.

City officials were in touch with Congressman Francis Case, who said he would take immediate action to get army engineers here for a survey of damage.

The flood did considerable harm to property along the creek within the city limits. One cabin camp was flooded, several basements filled with water, one gas line broken, several foot bridges and one large bridge washed out in the city and the sewage disposal plant was flooded.

The worst feature of the flood was the damage done to the city water supply. Mayor O'Neill estimated that a half mile total of water line in Spearfish canyon below the intake was washed away and much damage was done at the intake.

For the present Spearfish is depending on the Hungry Hollow storage tank for its entire supply of water. This tank is being supplied by springs in Hungry Hollow and by pumping from a spring near the city park.

With government engineers on the scene to survey flood damage, city officials hope that it will be possible to obtain funds for a federal flood control project.