

# Give Testimony At Dam Hearing

Witnesses at the Army Engineers' hearing in Orofino Friday relative to the construction of proposed dams included three sportsmen in the Panhandle district, reports President Cecil McCracken of the Coeur d'Alene Wildlife Federation, who was in attendance.

Frank Cullen testified as official delegate for the local Federation; Monk Shellmon, Bonners Ferry, testified on behalf of the District Wildlife Federation, and Frank Evans, both for the sportsmen's organization and the Wilderness Society. All voiced strong opposition to the Army Engineers proposals because of the harm that would result to fishing and big game hunting.

Mr. McCracken reports that the Army Engineers had "nothing to offer" in solving the matter of getting fish runs over the proposed dams. He said Chief Black Eagle, Blackfoot Indian tribe, recited a treaty made in 1855 with Washington Territory Governor Isaac Stevens assuring tribesmen their fishing rights will be safeguarded.

It was stated the Army Engineers eliminated ten of 13 originally-proposed damsites, and this sudden change caught protestants unprepared at the hearing.