



**The Mississippi River Floods; Hearings Before the
Committee on Flood Control, House of
Representatives, Sixty-fourth Congress, First
Session, on ... River, March 8,9,10,13,14, and 15,
1916**

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1916 edition. Excerpt: ...to dig the Panama Canal. It costs from forty to sixty thousand dollars to build and operate one of those machines; you have to have about that much money. You can cut the price in two with those machinies, but you can not get contractors to put money into those expensive machines unless you can show them they are going 'to get work right straight along--not now and then, but right along for a period of five or six years. If you can do that you can do this work for half. That has been demonstrated. Ma'. Markham, who is here, will testify about the machines, because e has been operating them down there. Those machines will handle the work for at least half what we have to pay now. Mr. FOSTER. You spoke a little while a o to the effect that these eople were taxing themselves about to the imit. Now, if they could be assured that this work would be done and be effectuall done so as to protect their property, would not the valuation of t e property increase very materially so that they would be able to raise more under their taxation than they are raising now? Mr. PHARR. I think so. This is what would happen: These people would go ahead and develop that country. The would open it up. There would be more 1ailroads built in there, an the value of those lands, because of this improvement and development, would increase. Mr. FoST1:R. They would be able to raise more money by taxation than they are raising now?. Mr. PHARR. Yes, sir. They can raise more money if they can be assured that this improvement of the Mississippi River is going to be completed in reasonable time and they are not going to have to suffer. Every time the levee breaks through in our district there is a terrible loss. There was a loss there of anywhere from \$1,000,000 to...

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