

2-FP4F01

57/6

OLE MAN RIVER IS BEDDED DOWN.

Floods in the Mississippi valley are a centuries-old problem that U.S. Army engineers are trying to solve by the novel method of lining Ole Man River's bed with a blanket of concrete. The sections are prefabricated, and they're linked together to make a huge flexible mattress which can be laid from a specially-designed craft whatever the banks are soft or the channel is liable to shift.

Mile by mile the channel is secured against flooding - and the engineers hope there won't be any more dangerous and costly breakthroughs when Ole Man River is safely bedded down.