

PERSONALS

LAST WEEK

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davis and daughter, Patricia and Frank Davis of Canton were guests Sunday of their grandmother, Mrs. Dixie Palmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Ricks of Akron, O., Mr. and Mrs. Wade Ricks and children, Frank, Richard and Billy of Forth Worth, Texas, and Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Wilson of Hayesville spent the Christmas holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Don Ramsey.

Mr. and Mrs. Garden Stewart of Knoxville, Tenn., spent the Christmas holidays with Mrs. Stewart's sisters, Miss Mattie Voyles and Mrs. Pearle Hunsucker.

Miss Mary T. Slayton of Washington, D. C., is visiting her mother, Mrs. Mae Slayton.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Hyde had as guests during the holidays, Mrs. Hyde's mother and grandfather, Mrs. S. M. Benton and W. A. Savage of Cornelia, Ga. Mr. Hyde's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hyde, of Andrews and Mrs. C. W. Savage were guests at the Hyde's for Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Burgess and son, Doug, spent Christmas in Lenoir with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Burgess and Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Strother.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Grozier have returned to Corpus Christi,

Andrews Students Return To Colleges

Among the students who have left are Elizabeth Waldroup, Cincinnati College, Cincinnati, Ohio; Margie Hicks, Duke University, Durham; Anna Marie Butler, School of Nursing Mission Hospital, Asheville; Zeb Conley, Ned Stewart, and Gordon Butler, State College, Raleigh; Sue Hall, Betty Mulkey, J. V. Brooks, Charles Thomas and Kenneth Barker, Cullowhee; Margaret Marr, Cincinnati School of Nursing; Ann Bristol and Betty Heaton, Woman's College of the University of N. C., Greensboro; Carolyn DuPree, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Lillian West, Mars Hill College, Mars Hill.

Texas, after a visit with Mrs. Grozier's mother, Mrs. Mattie Taylor and brother, Frank Taylor.

Mr. and Mrs. George Powell and son, George Parker of Charlotte, and Mrs. Paul Schofield and children, Patricia and Paul Akin of Statesville, were holiday guests of Mrs. S. D. Akin and Miss Mary Akin.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Taylor have returned to Raleigh after having spent some time here with the former's mother and brother, Mrs. Mattie Taylor and Frank Taylor.

Dr. and Mrs. D. L. Wells and sons, Leon and David spent Christ-

Three More Questions Answered By TVA

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series dealing with the management of reservoir waters as it affects recreation. The questions were submitted by Lou Williams, president emeritus, Tennessee Conservation League.

QUESTION NO. 2—How does TVA manage lake levels for flood control?

ANSWER—Records going back many years show that all the major basinwide floods in the Tennessee Valley have occurred in the period from December to May. TVA bases its water control policy on that established history. Water

is regulated to provide the largest margin of flood control storage around the first of each year when the heavy rains are about to begin. Reservoirs then are at their lowest. Gradually they fill as the rains come and heavy runoff occurs. Levels are highest in summer and early fall when the flood danger is least.

This gradual rise may be a fluctuating rise. The main-river reservoirs (except Kentucky), have a much smaller flood storage space than the tributary reservoirs. From the lowest water level to the highest may be as little as three feet and range up to ten feet.

Following a heavy rainstorm the water may rise to the top of the flood gates, but the level will be dropped down again soon to safeguard against another storm. This process may take place several times during the flood season. Behind tributary dams there is a much greater depth of flood storage space, ranging to 100 feet and sometimes more, but even here a heavy downpour can raise lake levels to such an extent that they, too, must be drawn down again to provide adequate flood storage.

From around the first of June until late summer or early autumn, reservoir waters are held at their top levels—provided, of course, that rainfall and runoff are sufficient. Then a gradual draw-down begins so the storage space will be ready for the new flood season January 1.

In short, TVA flood control runs an annual cycle—low reservoirs, during the major flood season, except when regulating floods; then filling the reservoirs as much as practicable by about May or June first; holding the lake levels as high as practicable in the summer; then drawing them down again in the fall.

QUESTION NO. 3—Isn't there some way TVA can manage water levels in its lakes so that a level conducive to fishing could be maintained on weed-ends?

ANSWER—Many fishermen assume that rising or stable water levels are "conductive to fishing." Such conditions do prevail more often than not, during the winter

and spring when high rainfall is causing reservoirs to rise. Except during high flows, however, it is not possible to operate the reservoirs so as to have the water levels of all of the lakes rising or even stable at a given time. This is apparent from the simple fact that if TVA were to reduce the discharge at one dam solely for the purpose of stabilizing or causing the lake upstream to rise, that operation itself would cause the lake next downstream, below the dam, to fall. But stability of lake levels for fishing cannot be a matter of first consideration to TVA. Power demands, which use water and reduce lake levels, and malaria control, which requires fluctuating levels, each has higher importance. It follows that it is seldom possible to have all reservoirs stable or rising during week-ends.

QUESTION NO. 4—How does recreation fit into the pattern of TVA's water management practices?

ANSWER—During most of the year, the levels that are best for TVA's primary programs are also good for recreation. Rising waters in the early spring normally bring lake levels to a point satisfactory for fishing. At the height of the recreation season in the summer and early fall, the water is kept as high as the season's rainfall and primary operating purposes will permit. The lowest levels come during the winter when recreation needs are at a minimum.

This cycle, it should be pointed out again, is dependent on adequate rainfall. Abnormally low rainfall during three successive summers, 1952-1954, has prevented TVA from filling its reservoirs to higher levels and keeping them there during the summer. But TVA is as unhappy about this as the fishermen.

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DR. THOMAS FRANCIS, JR.
DIRECTOR, POLIOVIRUS VACCINE EVALUATION CENTER—UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR

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