

## Rush Work To Restore Traffic Across Roanoke River Fill

### Tobacco Market Ready For Opening Tuesday

#### Strong Corps Of Buyers To Be On Sales This Year

#### Redrying Plant Making Ready For Seasonal Operations Latter Part of Week

The Williamston Tobacco Market is ready for opening the season next Tuesday, local warehousemen stating today that all arrangements for its operation had been perfected. All four warehouses will be operated and a strong bid will be made for the crop by the local market. Every inducement humanly possible for a warehouseman and a community to offer will be advanced this season and even though the crop has been reduced possibly more than fifty per cent, the market operators feel certain that the percentage of sales will exceed that figure.

"Tobacco Town" is already taking on a renewed life, and by the latter part of the week the golden leaf is slated to start moving to the warehouses for the early sales a week from today.

The large redrying plant of the W. I. Skinner Tobacco Company is being tuned up for a busy season, and preliminary operations will likely get underway there the latter part of this week.

Able assistants and employees have been assigned to every post in the marketing business, and farmers will find Williamston an advantageous and profitable place to market the current crop.

The suspension of traffic over the river fill is expected to have some effect on sales during the first three weeks of the season, but reports from several Bertie farmers state that they can be expected on the local market when the sales get underway.

An unusually strong corps of buyers has been assigned to the market this season, and although the crop is short, the warehousemen and others are looking forward to a successful season.

Mr. Dale Harper, who made many friends among farmers and townspeople during several seasons on the local market, is returning for the American after a short stay on another market. He is succeeding Tom Tisdale.

Mr. Ed Fulghum is succeeding Jack Lovelace for the Imperial. Mr. Fulghum, a member of a family of able tobaccoists, bought on the Wilson and Tarboro markets during the past several years.

Mr. Bill (Jack) Frost is returning for the Reynolds Company. Mr. Jack Buster will continue to buy for Liggett-Myers. Mr. and Mrs. Buster arrived last week-end and are at home in a Simpson apartment on Smithwick Street.

The J. P. Taylor Company is returning Mr. Norwood Thomas to the local market as its head buyer. Mr. Arthur Beale is expected back for the Washington Tobacco Company.

Entering the market for the first time here, the W. M. Scales Tobacco Company will be represented by Mr. Bruce Roebuck. Mr. Hugh Edmonds is expected to return for the Export Company.

Mr. Iverson-Skinner will be the principal buyer for the W. I. Skinner Tobacco Company. Mr. J. E. King will possibly share the duties.

### Flood Victims Are Moving Back Home

Driven suddenly from their homes by flood waters a week ago, numbers of local colored families are moving back to their homes in the eastern section of the town. The closing of the emergency Red Cross station in the colored school house is expected by tomorrow or Thursday, according to the best reports that could be gained today.

The sanitary division of the county health department went into action early yesterday with the fire-fighting apparatus, scrub brooms and soap. Charlie Leonard, sanitarian, points out that a good job was done and that most of the houses were made ready for occupancy by early this morning. Special WPA forces were assigned to the task, houses were scoured inside and out, yards were limed and fresh dirt was placed in low places. A heavy rain late yesterday afternoon aided the clean-up forces.

The riverside is fast regaining a normal atmosphere although the river is nearly four feet over its banks.

#### Last Half Holiday

Merchants and employees and other business workers will enjoy their last half holiday of the summer tomorrow afternoon.

### Expecting Federal Help In Repairing Roanoke River Fill

Through the vision of Representative Lindsay Warren North Carolina will immediately receive a large allotment of Federal Aid funds to replace destroyed Federal Aid highways and bridges destroyed by the floods in both Eastern and Western North Carolina.

Six years ago Congress passed the bill introduced by Mr. Warren to create an emergency disaster fund to replace destroyed Federal Aid roads and bridges. Except for this act there would be no chance of Federal Aid funds as the allocations are made annually. Mr. Warren has been in close touch with Thomas H. MacDonald, chief of the Bureau of Roads, who assured him that he has instructed the State Highway Commission to make up their estimates and that they would receive immediate attention in Washington. There is a balance of 8 million dollars in the disaster fund at the present time.

State Highway authorities are said to be conferring with federal road officials this week.

### Highly Respected Citizen Died at His Home in Everetts

#### Funeral Services Conducted Monday Afternoon For George Holliday

George H. Holliday, highly respected Everetts citizen and a Christian gentleman, died at his home last Saturday following a long period of declining health. Malaria developed into hemorrhagic fever and his condition was considered critical several days before his death.

The son of the late H. W. and Mary J. Holliday, he was born August 9, 1886, in the Cross Roads section where he spent his early life. He married Miss Josephine Britton of Beaufort County in February, 1888, and later located in Robersonville, moving in 1914 to Everetts where he made his home until his death. Following the death of his first wife he married Mrs. Annie Askew Riddick, of Jamesville, in 1932.

Mr. Holliday was a charter member of the Everetts Christian Church and helped construct the building. A builder by trade, he worked during off hours to make the pews which he contributed without cost to the church. He spent his life making an honest living and serving his Creator and the church. Humble in his walk through life, he valued the true ideals that go to make a Christian character. When his health began to fail him in his advanced years and he was forced to retire from active construction work, he served the Everetts school as janitor. In all his work and assignments he was faithful, and during his last years he seemed to enjoy his work in serving youth and looking after their welfare. He was an accommodating neighbor, friendly in his dealings with his fellowman and a friend to everyone.

Besides his widow he is survived by one brother, J. D. Holliday, of Hamilton, and two sisters, Miss Tena Holliday, of Hamilton, and Mrs. Susan Everett, of Norfolk.

Funeral services were conducted in the Everetts Christian Church yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock by his pastor, Rev. J. M. Perry, assisted by Rev. S. J. Starnes, Methodist minister, of Williamston. Interment was in the family plot in the Everetts Cemetery.

### Tobacco Growers Plagued by The Elements During Season

Year by year the production of tobacco is bringing added worries and trouble to farmers, but the current season has been crowded with troubles. First it was a cold spring. Then the blue mold struck. Transplantings were delayed. Dry weather followed and the crop was off to a late start. Heavy rains fell after the long dry spell. Winds have been numerous, and the varmints and farmers have raced with the worms holding the advantages in some cases.

Floods were next in line and quite a few farmers lost acres of tobacco. High waters actually put the fire out of several tobacco barn furnaces. But the latest handicap was reported a

### RUNNING FROM FLOOD WATERS



Waiting until it was almost too late, owners started running their stock out of the lowlands in this section more than a week ago. Pictured above are a few cattle being driven up the town's east main street. One large herd of cattle moved through the main street early Tuesday morning. Hundreds of hogs were brought from the low-lying farms by boat after the high waters had blocked roads and covered large farming areas.

### Late Estimates Show Smaller Flood Damage

#### WATER FALLING

Time is gradually taming the wild Roanoke River, Bridgekeeper Hugh Spruill stating at noon today that the stream had fallen to the 13.4 foot level, or seven feet below the crest reached at four o'clock last Thursday morning. A foot drop was recorded in the stream from yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock up until noon today.

The stream is still three and one-half feet over its banks, Mr. Spruill stating that a normal level could be expected within the next three or four days.

### Funeral Services Held At Oak City For Mrs. Johnson

#### Daughter of the Late Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Moye Died In Durham Hospital

Funeral services were held at the home in Oak City last Friday afternoon for Mrs. Clara Moye Johnson who died in a Durham hospital the Monday before.

In ill health for several months, Mrs. Johnson entered the hospital week before last and was said to have died while a major operation was in progress. News of her death did not reach the family until the following day. Mr. Johnson was in Canada curing tobacco and was unable to return home in time for the funeral which was delayed several days.

The daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Moye, Mrs. Johnson was born in this county about 38 years ago. In early womanhood she was married to Mr. Joshua M. Johnson and made her home in Oak City. She was a loyal member of the Baptist church there for a long number of years. She was held in high esteem in her community, and was a good neighbor who found time to aid others. In the home she was a devoted wife and an understanding mother.

Three children, Mrs. Harry Daniel, Gilbert Johnson and Geraldine Johnson, all of Oak City, survive. Rev. J. M. Perry, Robersonville, minister, conducted the last rites. Interment was in the Oak City cemetery.

### Loss Will Hardly Exceed \$120,000.00 In Martin County

#### Nearly Three-Fourths of the Damage Centered On Crop Lands

Preliminary estimates advanced in connection with the flood damage in this area were declared too high today following an official survey of industrial plants, homes and farm lands in the path of the worst flood in history in Martin County. At first estimated in excess of \$200,000, the flood damage was greatly lessened when officials of the Standard Fertilizer Company completed a careful survey of their large plant at the edge of the river.

The loss, according to the latest available estimates is summarized as follows:

- Standard Fertilizer Company, \$25,000.
- Goldman Package Manufacturing Company, \$6,000.
- Wicomico Lumber Company, \$3,000.
- Saunders and Cox Lumber Company, \$5,000.
- Sinclair Oil Company, \$100.
- Standard Oil Company, \$100.
- Harrison Oil Company, \$75.

No estimate on the damage done to the Puroil Company plant was immediately available, but it will hardly exceed \$50.

Norfolk, Baltimore and Carolina boat line, wharf, \$1,000.

Carstarphen's Wood Yard, \$50.

Homes and furniture in the eastern section of the town, \$2,000.

Farm crops, homes, furniture and livestock on fifty-four farms, \$78,000.

In an official statement released late last night, Mr. C. G. Crockett, manager of the Standard Fertilizer Company, stated that a careful survey revealed that not as much fertilizer material washed away as it was first thought, that a small dam constructed round the walls inside the plant controlled the flow of the water in and out of the plant and tended to check the movement of the loose fertilizer materials. Very little damage was done to the building itself, it was stated. It was unofficially estimated that the plant damage would approximate \$100,000 or more.

Machinery damage was the main loss item in the package manufacturing plant, but workmen are rapidly cleaning up the machines and making ready for a full operating schedule not later than Thursday morning of this week.

Lumber and logs on the Saunders and Cox mill yard did not float away in any great amounts or numbers as many expected. However, entire racks of lumber moved off the yard and down the stream.

Farmers apparently were the heavy losers, but the loss there was borne by about fifty operators. A fairly accurate survey conducted by Messrs. Tom Swain and J. C. Eubanks of the Farm Security Administration shows that 54 farms were inundated by the waters, that 1,726 acres of fine crops were virtually ruined between Conoho and the mouth of Gardner's Creek. Mr. Eubanks estimated that there were 106

(Continued on page six)

### RECOVERING



After a long period of inactivity, Mr. James E. King is able to be up and at work for short intervals daily in the W. I. Skinner Tobacco Company offices here. Mr. King is co-owner-operator of the company.

### War Tempo Moves To A High Pitch

Retaliatory bombings of London and Berlin featured the war over the week-end, reports stating that considerable damage has been done to both of the world-famed capitals. A six-hour attack took place on London last night, but no estimate of the damage could be had. England successfully bombed Berlin Sunday night for several hours, and it is apparent that the lid is now off in the second phase of the attack on England.

Italy says war with Egypt is imminent, but the Wops have lightened the tension on Greece. Russia is said to be considering far-reaching negotiations with England, and the United States is pushing its defense plans, indicating that the war tempo is rapidly reaching a new high pitch.

The conscription bill is scheduled

(Continued on page six)

### Outlook for Peanut Crop Is Highlighted by Two Factors

Two bright spots appeared on the horizon during the past few days for the current peanut crop. While one is based on the adversity of quite a few farmers, the other is closely connected with the federal government's plan to aid agriculture.

The bright spots were highlighted in a government report, just released. One of the factors, according to the report, concerns the extent to which the growing crop has been damaged by the recent continuous heavy rains and the flood water of the rivers. While nothing definite is known regarding the extent of the damage, it is certain that thousands of acres are under water and that the growing crop has been seriously affected. The best estimates of which we have heard, made by well informed leaders in the industry, range from 15 to 25 per cent. This is expected to have an appreciable effect upon the price of peanuts. At present, however, farmers' stock is barely steady and purchases earlier in the week often were made on a slightly lower price level.

The other important item is the

announcement on August 20 by the Surplus Marketing Administration of the Department of Agriculture of the schedule of prices for use in connection with the program to divert surplus 1940 farmers' stock peanuts to the manufacture of peanut. The program will in general follow that of the two preceding years. It authorizes regional associations of peanut growers to pay definite prices to growers for the various types of farmers' stock peanuts grown in 1940. These prices are the same as in last year's program except that the price of South Western Spanish has been slightly advanced. U. S. No. 3 class A peanuts of the Virginia type, which is about the equivalent of good shelling stock, is priced at 65.00 per ton, and U. S. No. 1 class A or Jumbos at 70.00 per ton, with U. S. No. 2 class A or bunch peanuts, 67.00 per ton. It is understood that in connection with recommendations of the National Peanut Council, Farmers Cooperative Associations will this year attempt to market peanuts that are free of dirt, trash, stones, etc., that was in last year's crop.

(Continued on page six)

### Survey Shows Damage To Fill Not As Great As Officials Expected

#### Marketing Cards Are Delivered To Tobacco Farmer

The distribution of tobacco marketing cards to Martin County farmers is being advanced on a large scale at the present time preparatory to the opening of the markets next Tuesday. Hundreds of the white cards, carrying the right for the unlimited sale of poundage where compliance requirements were met, have already been distributed in this county principally in Bear Grass, Goose Nest and Cross Roads Townships.

Farmers throughout the county are being notified to call for the marketing cards and distribution almost in its entirety is expected by the latter part of the week.

A reliable report coming from the office of the county agent states that not more than six red cards will be in use in the county this season, the approximately 1,500 other tobacco farmers complying with the control program and gaining the right to sell all their poundages.

### Seven Are Rescued From Flood Water Over the Week-end

#### Patrolman Scarborough Said To Have Taken Two Baths On Successive Days

The victims offer a sneaking smile when Conine Creek is mentioned now, but it was a serious situation for Charles Sessoms, Donald Andrews, Lock Smallwood, Dewey Hayman, Johnny Scarborough, Bonzell Lewis and Charles Pope when they were dumped into the on-rushing waters at the creek last week-end.

Smallwood, Hayman and Scarborough turned over between the creek and Bertie highlands last Saturday afternoon. Tossed against brush and trees, the men were painfully but not seriously battered while they desperately clung to trees for nearly half an hour. It was Scarborough's Tarzan call that attracted Andrews and Sessoms who were working on damaged telephone lines. Going to the men, Sessoms and Andrews were in the act of rescuing Smallwood when their boat was caught and sunk in the strong current. Hugh Spruill and Joe Roberson happened along about five minutes later and they effected the rescue.

Sunday afternoon while working on broken telephone lines, Bonzell Lewis, of Beaufort, and Charles Pope, of Godwin, telephone company employees, were thrown into the muddy waters when a telephone pole fell on their boat and sank it. Tossing about in the turbulent waters just as if they were wood chips, the two men finally reached still water and made it to the highway where they were marooned. The hours passed and when the two men

(Continued on page six)

### Mile Of Cement Is Broken; 2,000 Feet Fill Undermined

#### No Estimate of Damage Offered; Date of Reopening Road Not Yet Known

#### NIGHT-DAY SHIFTS

#### Plans for Permanent Repairs Are To Be Studied By Commission

Highway officials and forces from a wide area started early yesterday morning repairing the Roanoke River fill which was badly battered and damaged by a history-making flood that is now rapidly disappearing after reaching a crest of 20.4 feet at this point early last Thursday morning. While plans are being formulated for permanent repairs, the highway forces are slated to work night and day restoring traffic. Divisional Highway Engineer J. C. Gardner said yesterday while on an inspection trip to the battered causeway.

Explaining that the damage was bad, Mr. Gardner added that the loss is not as great as he and his engineers first expected. According to an official survey made by Engineer George Mack, approximately one mile of the concrete on the four-mile project was wrecked, and an additional 2,000 feet of the surface undermined by the high waters that poured over the road from last Tuesday until late Sunday.

No section of the fill has been washed away in its entirety, according to Engineer Mack, who said that in some places as much as five feet of the fill were washed away. However, on an average not more than two to three feet of dirt were washed from the fill, leaving the foundation in fairly good shape. The turbulent stream, coming down in record time, tore through the fill in possibly 25 places, the center of the damage apparently falling about one mile east of the river bridge where the causeway had settled to a low point and where the millions of tons of water lapped and battered the sand and washed away honeysuckle vines and undergrowth. Large blocks of concrete were cracked and twisted by the angry current, but the hard surface was not carried from the fill.

With the exception of one or two places, a pedestrian could walk from the river to the Conine Creek bridge without getting his feet wet today.

Just off from one low spot where one could wade through easily on the fill, the water was seven feet deep on the side. Early yesterday morning when highway forces started the repair work, trucks moved on the fill unhampered for more than a third of a mile. A small break, 1,800 feet from the end of the concrete bridge, stopped the trucks there but passenger cars moved over it for possibly an additional quarter of a mile. Several bad breaks, some of them about 75 yards across, were found there. The road was intact then for a few yards and other bad breaks could be seen as one continued toward Conine Creek bridge. The damage on the other side of the creek bridge was not considered as extensive as that on the west side between the two bridges.

Engineer Gardner would not suggest any possible date for reopening the route, but he did say that every effort would be made to have traffic moving over the fill as soon as possible.

Bridgeman Snell, who will be closely associated with the repair

(Continued on page six)

### Husband Is Facing Charge Of Cruelty

Wheeler Rice, 60-year-old colored man, who last week-end finished serving a thirty-day road sentence for being drunk and disorderly on local streets, is back in the county jail awaiting another appearance before his honor, Judge H. O. Peel, in the county recorder's court. Rice is now facing a charge of cruelty.

It is alleged in the warrant that Rice almost starved his wife, Nora Rice, to death, that he abused her, and threatened the lives of neighbors who dared to slip her food during a long period when her food was too weak to help herself.

Rice was returned to the county jail when he was unable to raise bond in the sum of \$500.