

Ravaging Floods Cause Dam To Burst Sweeping Two To Death In Hiawassee

TVA PETITION FOR LAND HERE IS PUBLISHED

Supreme Court Defers Action On TVA Case For Another Week

TVA PETITION
While locally TVA officials proceeded legally to condemn 996.7 acres of land in the basin of the Hiawassee river in Cherokee county, the Supreme Court at Washington Monday deferred any ruling concerning the TVA's right to sell surplus power to municipalities for "at least another week".

Although the two are supposed to have no effect on each other they have been looked upon with prime importance to those interested in the building of the Fowler's Bend dam 18 miles below here.

In the condemnation proceedings being published in this issue of the Scout the United States of America in relation and for the use of the Tennessee Valley Authority, named the Southern States Power company; the Mountain Land company; W. T. Rowland, W. T. Rowland, Jr., and John A. Campbell as trustees in the dissolution of the Mountain Land company; the Cherokee Land and Development company; Julius C. Martin, Julius C. Martin, II, and W. V. N. Powleson as Trustees in dissolution of Cherokee Land and Development company; John G. and Amy L. Matthews; the Standard Trust Company of New York; Garafilia VanDeventer, James VanDeventer, Henrietta VanDeventer, Hugh F. VanDeventer and Louise C. VanDeventer as defendants in the suit.

Gives Particulars of Land
The advertisement sets out in full the exact location and amounts of land under condemnation, practically all of which is located along the Hiawassee river basin between Murphy and the dam site.

The petition was filed at Shelby on January 29 and is signed by Judge E. Y. Webb.

Of more interest nationally however was the high courts deferred action.

The ruling has been expected for nearly a month and half while usually the justices hand down a decision in something like three weeks.

It was said that nearly 200 persons were present at the high tribunal to hear their decision on the TVA and that they showed signs of disappointment when the matter was put off for another indefinite period.

In acting on the Authority's right to sell surplus power, the Supreme Court is arguing on a prized New Deal institution and the decision may have monumental consequences if it finds the TVA has no right to sell their surplus power.

Since the decision has nothing to do with flood control and martial preparedness, it is expected to have but little if any effect here even if it is adverse as the Hiawassee dam is not contemplated as a power unit and is being built primarily for flood control purposes, the Hiawassee being the second largest tributary flowing into the Tennessee river.

TVA Makes Report
Monday the Tennessee Valley Authority reported to congress its efforts to dispose of surplus power generated at the gigantic development "have been only partially successful, due to strenuous opposition by many interests."

The agency's report covered operations for the fiscal year ended June 30.

Echoing some of the arguments already made for the agency, the report contended:

"Existing privately-owned utilities have been given every consideration consistent with the authority's paramount public obligations. No dupli (Continued on page three)

GREGORY G. GROUNDHOG SEES NO SHADOW, KNOWS NO FEAR—GOODY

Mr. Gregory G. Groundhog, the old weather prophet who has carried on since 1680, who has caused lots of happiness and many disappointments, and who probably never told the truth in his life, duped this great American country Sunday by poking his snout out of the ground again, and, seeing no sun there, let it be officially known that winter would be over in just six more weeks.

However Gregory, no matter what his past perances might have been, seems to have gotten off to a fairly good start.

Where we were, he had to burrow through about six inches of snow to get scared by a sun that wasn't shining.

But it really warmed up the next day and began raining with all fury bringing about one of the most disastrous floods this section has ever

known.

Whether or not Gregory hit it on the barrel head this time is a matter of speculation. Although the sun wasn't shing here, it might have been over across the mountain; which means we are due for nice, balmy weather while the boys who reside on the other side of the hill are in for some more bad weather.

Where the lowly groundhog ever got his start is more than most people have ever been able to find out. But folks all over the universe count on him to figure out the weather.

He is supposed to come out from hibernation the second day of every February. If he sees his shadow, the little skunk, he will crawl back in his hole for six more weeks of bad weather. If he sees no sun, he smiles, calls it a day and goes out to hunt something to eat.

Miss Hall Clerk At Dickey Hotel Here

Miss Margaret Hall, who resigned as a teacher in the Murphy High school Tuesday afternoon has accepted a position with the Dickey Hotel as clerk. Miss Hall has had experience in the hotel business having been connected with a hotel in Kinston, N. C.

MRS. MAUNEY TO HEAD NEW SOCIAL FIELD WORK HERE

Mrs. George Mauney has been appointed to direct the new division of field social work in Cherokee county and is daily making assignments in this capacity at her office in the court house in Murphy.

The Western North Carolina district of the state work is being supervised by Miss Victoria Bell of Hickory, who is expected here any day to outline in detail the work to be done in Cherokee County.

Due to recent liquidation of the ERA, a large fund was earmarked to integrate relief activities with the department of public welfare in the 100 counties of North Carolina, and Miss Anna Cassatt, of Raleigh, was put at the head of the division.

The enlarged county units will be responsible for certification of relief clients of the WPA, CCC, resettlement and other federal agencies, and those clients eligible to receive surplus commodities.

Reappointments and more particular the distribution of commodities in this county, however, will only be made to the most needy cases and those that could hardly do without them, Mrs. Mauney said.

Local Boy Learning To Pilot Airplane

Rae Moore, son of E. C. Moore, now a member of the Atlanta Air club, is anxious to have anyone interested in learning to fly at a nominal cost to get in touch with him.

Along with a group of Atlanta students, Mr. Moore has joined in purchasing a neat little plane and instructions are given once a week.

The most of the complete course, including regular payments on the plane, is quite small, Rae says, and Pilot Scarboro who landed his plane near here last fall, is the instructor.

Rae took his first lesson Sunday. When the pilot got him up 1500 feet he asked Rae if he had ever driven a plane before. At the negative nod Scarboro said, "you got her, buddy. Do with her what you like."

Mr. Moore is one of this section's most enthusiastic pilots and is interested in having a plane of his own if it is ever placed in this vicinity. Anyone interested is asked to get in touch with him.

MANY PRESENT AT PRESIDENT'S BALL THURSDAY NIGHT

Despite cold, rainy weather more than 100 couples, representing every community in this section, attended the President's birthday ball at the Regal hotel here last Thursday night.

The dance was under the direction of Walter Mauney and music was furnished by John Davidson and his Casanova orchestra.

Eighteen dollars was cleared at the dance and will be divided between the Young Woman's club and national headquarters for the cure and prevention of infantile paralysis.

NEWS PICK-UPS

The writer once had the good fortune to see a water tank catch on fire and partially burn down—and figured it would be the queerest thing he would ever see. But how about Ed Moore's wrecker being towed in the other day?

The WPA workers couldn't get at their projects the other day so they were put to cleaning snow off the streets. They did a good hard days work. The fruits of their labor showed up admirably. Then the rain came along and finished the job, free gratis for nothin' as the darkies used to say, and got credit for it.

Everyone has his own particular sense of humor. A person will laugh at one thing that another thinks is silly, etc. But we wonder if there ever was anyone who didn't get a laugh; and a big one at that, at seeing someone else slip on the ice and fall down. One unfortunate young lady the other day was passing in front of a group of men. She was purely conscious of the act and was doing a good job of it until zingo. Her feet flew up over her head. She kicked furiously for a moment, and then whom. Every part of her must have hit first. Her embarrassment for the moment couldn't have been any worse than ours. But we had to go around the corner and burst loose in a good half hour laugh, until some body caught us in back of the ear with a snow ball.

Most of the boys that used to peddle punchboards have now taken up punching of another sort to idle their time away. This time it's the noble art of fisticuffs and some of them aren't so good. But one fellow the other day said he probably threw up the best guard in town when he squared off. "You can't", he says dancing away twirling his balled-up fists, "even throw a bucket of water through it."

HARVE ELKINS BETTER

Mr. H. G. Elkins, his many friends will be glad to know, is still improving at his home here and attendants think he will soon be able to be out again.

Highways, Railroads Flooded Halting Traffic, Homes Are Washed Away Into Rivers

BODIES FOUND WEDNESDAY MORNING

The Hiawassee river, calm once more, gave up its third body of the week Wednesday afternoon when the body of Blaine Moore, 22, of Murphy, was found four miles below where the stream had cast his body during the flood and left it.

Coroner S. C. Heighway was notified immediately. Moore is said to have jumped in the river Sunday night.

The bodies of Dewey Johnson, 28, and his mother, Mrs. Blaylock Johnson, 58, who were drowned when a torrent of water from the bursting Midway dam demolished their house early Tuesday morning, were found in drifts in the field below the house when the flood waters of the Hiawassee had receded Wednesday morning.

Early morning searchers found Dewey's body hung up in the first catch of driftwood and Mrs. Johnson's in the second drift.

They were taken to the funeral parlor of Peyton G. Ivie. Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at 2:00 at the Hampton Memorial church.

Funeral arrangements for Blaine Moore had not been announced Wednesday night.

125 EMPLOYED IN COUNTY'S SEWING ROOMS

Payroll Amounts to More Than \$2000 A Week, Superintendent Says

The Cherokee county sewing room project, employing 125 women throughout the county, has had a total payroll of \$5,700.96 up to February 1, Miss Pearl V. Parker, supervisor, announced this week.

The sewing room project began in Cherokee on Nov. 13.

Materials consisting of 3340 yards of government commodities and 409 yards of ERA goods are being used in the six sewing rooms throughout the county. Items furnished to the project room from the district office at Asheville contain 30,765 yards of high grade cloth and 359 dozen spools of thread, Miss Parker said.

From Nov. 13 to Jan. 1, 2484 garments were made and delivered to the county board of commissioners, sponsors of the project, for distribution to the needy of Cherokee county. During the past month 1790 garments were finished, she reported.

"The sewing room project is beneficial to the people in Cherokee county in various ways. A payroll of more than \$2,000 a month for 125 women who without this project would probably be unable to secure employment, the improvement in sewing among the workers, the social security enjoyed by having our own paychecks semi-monthly, and the thousands of garments that are made and distributed in Cherokee county are but a few of them," Miss Parker declared.

Thieves Enter Murphy Supply Company Here

Thieves entered the Murphy Supply company here late Saturday night and escaped with clothing and other articles the value of which could not be accurately determined, Mr. Noah Lovingood, the manager, announced.

The culprits entered through a rear window, after the store had been closed, he said.

MRS. SAVAGE IMPROVING

Mrs. W. A. Savage, of the Regal hotel, is greatly improved after having suffered several weeks with a broken ankle received some time in a fall.

A New York housewife sent a loaf of bread back to the store because it was not sliced, although she needed it immediately for supper.

Ravaging floods that caused Midway lake dam to burst early Tuesday morning washed two bodies into the Hiawassee river making its toll three lives for the week.

Mrs. Blaylock Johnson, 58, and her son, Dewey, 28, disappeared when a torrent of water demolished their house and Mr. Johnson, another son, Lawrence, and 16-year-old, Bazel Hampton, Mrs. Johnson's niece, dragged themselves from the wreckage.

The Hiawassee, like every other stream in the county, had jumped its banks as the result of heavy rains that washed this section's heaviest snowfall into the rivers.

The river had backed up to the Johnson home at midnight Monday when the 6-year-old mud and concrete dam gave away.

Lawrence, the surviving son, said he was first awakened about three o'clock when the house was shaking violently. He met his father and saw Dewey, the former Cherokee county deputy sheriff, going toward his mother's room when the house went to pieces.

The boy and his father were washed into a fence 50 yards in back of the house and held fast to it until the torrent had spent itself and could wade out of the water.

Three Survive

The Hampton girl was at a loss to know what had happened. She received an injury over the right eye and was first found wandering along the road that joins the house.

Wednesday the river was fast receding and the wreckage of the house was being salvaged for the missing bodies. It is believed they might have floated down into one of the fields that was covered completely by turbulent waters from the lake.

Dewey's car was found washed in to a clump of trees about 100 yards in back of the house and some think it is possible that the bodies might have been washed into the rushing waters. The river bed is 200 yards behind the location of the home.

A creek ran from the dam past the Johnson home and it was a quarter of a mile up this stream that the dam burst loose. It carried tons of ice and large boulders with it ruining everything in its wake.

It is believed the terrific weight of the ice and the floods proved too much for the strength of the dam.

Houses and Highways Flooded

While occupants of several other houses along the Hiawassee and Valley rivers were forced to vacate their one home, that of Jasper Queen, just above the highway on Valley river was washed away. It belonged to E. C. Moore.

As the waters surged against all bridges setting a record for height highways and railroads were washed out and all traffic had to suspend operation Tuesday.

The Hiawassee river claimed another (Continued on page three)