

TVA'S CHAIRMAN EXPLAINS PLANS REGARDING DAMS

Both Douglas, Fontana Are Necessary Says Letter To Savage

David E. Lillienthal, chairman of the TVA has written C. W. Savage, of Murphy a letter regarding the Douglas and Fontana Dam projects, as follows:

"Dear Mr. Savage:—The other evening, when I had the pleasure of being in Murphy, you made some mention of the pending proposal for appropriations to build additions to the TVA power supply including the Fontana Dam in North Carolina and a dam at the Douglas site on the French Broad River near Dandridge, Tennessee. There has been a lot of misapprehension as to the FACTS in respect to this matter, and the purpose of this letter is to bring you up to date concerning it.

"One of the Asheville papers has severely criticized the TVA for recommending the Douglas Dam, the point being that, by recommending a proposal of what they call 'dubious value', we have endangered authorization of the Fontana Dam.

"This shows a lack of knowledge of the fact that the Douglas Dam, from the defense point of view which is all that matters these days of emergency, far from being of 'dubious value', is the best project in the United States because of the speed and economy with which the power can be secured. It is for that reason that it was approved by the Federal Power Commission, the Office of Production Management, the Director of the Bureau of the Budget and the President of the United States as well as the T. V. A.

"You will be doing me a favor and yourself and your neighbors a service if you will take the time to read the enclosed letter from the Office of Production Management which carefully analyzes this situation. The fact that there has been opposition by a minority of people in the reservoir affected does not make the project one of 'dubious value', especially when the great majority of the people in that reservoir feel otherwise, and when the national defense is involved.

"I may say that I have discussed this matter in some detail with Congressman Weaver and he has been exceedingly helpful in the whole situation.

"It was very pleasant to be in Murphy and to see you and Mrs. Savage again.

"Sincerely, David E. Lillienthal, Chairman."

The letter from the OPM which Chairman Lillienthal enclosed with his letter is too long to print in full. A summary follows:

"The office of Production Management today urged prompt Congressional approval of Douglas Dam on the French Broad River

"In a letter to Representative Clarence Cannon, of Missouri, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, W. L. Batt, Director of the OPM Division of Materials, said that 'there is no other source from which 100,000 kilowatts can be obtained within the time limit.'

"Mr. Batt said that the OPM conclusions were reached after a re-examination of the whole subject and an exploration of all the alternative projects presented as substitutes for the Douglas Dam.

"Construction of other projects in the same budget estimate is also recommended. These include Fontana Dam on the Little Tennessee and installation of additional units at Tennessee River dams. All are TVA projects."

A visiting official of the TVA, in Murphy last week, forecast the recommendation of the President and the OPM, and predicted that work on Fontana would start early in the coming year.

Woman's Club To Stage 4 Days Cooking School Beginning December 2

A cooking school sponsored by the Woman's Club will be held in the club room at the Library on December 2, 3, 4 and 5 beginning each afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

The school will be conducted by Miss Grace Williams who is connected with the J. Allen Smith Co. in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Several local merchants have cooperated by giving a free ticket to the school with the purchase of \$3.00 worth of groceries which includes any size of White Lily Flour.

A cook book will be given to every woman who attends. Prizes will also be awarded.

Big New Talc Mine Is Promised Soon For Factory Town

Purchase of 14 acres of land in the factory town district, and the proposed opening, in the near future, of a talc mine has just been made public by H. S. Predmore who returned to Murphy a few months ago after an absence of many years. Mr. Predmore says his plant will be located near the site of the old furniture factory.

"I have all my machinery ready, and am only waiting for electric power to start operations," Mr. Predmore told the Scout. "I have had my application in for power, since last Spring, but so far I haven't been able to get any action. Unless something is done pretty soon, I plan putting in Diesel engines."

Mr. Predmore believes he has located a rich deposit of talc, which will not be flooded. He claims many years of experience in prospecting and mining, and says he was one of the original developers of the talc mine at Kinsey, which was taken over and closed by the Government after it had been flooded by the TVA.

With his associates, the mining man has purchased the old clubhouse on the hill overlooking the one-time furniture factory, and plans to make Murphy his permanent home.

Prefabricated Houses Now Promised By TVA Within Next 2 Weeks

The Scout has been informed by a high TVA official in Knoxville that the first of the new houses to be erected at Bealtown are scheduled to arrive in Murphy on or about Dec. 15. Prefabricated, and requiring only to be joined together, it is said that the houses can be made ready for occupancy at the rate of about four a day.

These are the same houses that were expected here more than a month ago. They are being constructed in sections, at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, and delivery is said to have been held up by inability to get plumbing and electrical fixtures. This scarcity is now reported to have been met.

Original plans were to bring 100 houses here. Whether this number has been changed could not be learned, the TVA official telling the Scout that "as many will be brought as are needed to relieve the shortage."

Final Reports Sought From Red Cross Aides

The annual Red Cross drive comes to a close this week, and Mrs. Catharine Stewart, Field Worker for this area will be in Murphy Tuesday to get a full report on work done.

Mrs. C. W. Savage, General Chairman of the drive, has requested that all workers turn in their collections to her not later than Saturday.

It is believed that this year's drive will set a record for good results.

DEATH PENALTY POSSIBLE FOR 3 IN OWENBY CASE

Trio Held Without Bond After Shooting And Robbing Aging Man

Charged with first degree burglary after nightfall, which carries the death penalty, and with assault with a dangerous weapon, Homer Cheatham, of the Wehuty section, and Bert and T. J. Beasley, two escaped convicts from Georgia, were held for court without ball by Magistrate D. M. Reese, at a hearing last Saturday.

The three are accused of robbing 63 year old Allen Owenby of more than \$20 and a rifle after he had been left for dead on the front porch of his lonely cabin in the Liberty section. Owenby, struck in the head with a blast from a single-barrelled shot-gun, lost one eye, and the sight of his other eye has been so seriously impaired that he sees only with extreme difficulty.

Cheatham also is charged with stealing the shotgun with which the aging man was shot, and with stealing an automobile in which the three fled to Tennessee after the alleged robbery and assault. Bert Beasley has admitted doing the shooting.

The stolen car was drowned out in fording a creek just across the Tennessee line, and was abandoned there after the windshield and the tires had been shot to pieces by one of the trio, who became enraged at being stalled.

Cheatham, who denied all the charges, was convicted largely by the testimony of Sam Voyles whom he expected to use as his own witness. Cheatham referred to Voyles to prove that he never entered the Owenby cabin. Voyles testified, however, that Cheatham went in twice: first to get liquor, and a second time after the victim had been shot. When he came out the second time, Voyles said, Cheatham had the money which Owenby charged had been stolen from him.

Owenby said the men took \$6.75 from his pockets, as he lay bleeding on the porch floor; took \$14 from the kitchen, and finally took a 22 rifle.

Voyles testified that he and a young woman accompanied Cheatham and the Beasley brothers to Owenby's house, where they bought two pints of liquor, drinking one on the premises. They started to leave without having, he said, and when Owenby came to the door and asked for money, Beasley lifted the gun

(Continued on back page)

WARNINGS GIVEN TO ELEVEN MORE BY DRAFT BOARD

Four From Andrews On List As Being Tardy In Making Returns

Warnings were sounded to eleven young men of Cherokee County by the Draft Board, this week, as a result of failure to return questionnaires. Four of the eleven tardy ones are from Andrews.

In spurring the warnings Capt. Wayne Walker, Secretary of the County Draft Board, again called attention to the fact that failure to return a questionnaire makes the draftee liable to criminal prosecution.

"Most of the cases of tardiness are due to carelessness, and not from any desire to evade service", Capt. Walker said. "Thus far the county has had only one slacker. That man was one of the first to volunteer. Later he withdrew his enlistment, and when, eventually, his number

Welfare Department Seeks Your "Discards" For Use On Christmas

Have you ever stopped to think what Christmas would be like without a few "extras"? You probably will agree that it would be just like any other day.

The Welfare Department is anxious to help keep this Christmas from being just another day, so is appealing to the public for help.

There are always toys that children have discarded for one reason or another, which, with a little repair work done by N. Y. A., would bring some youngster a great deal of pleasure.

Why wait another day to see if you have anything which could be used?

Winter coats and clothing of all types are also needed.

If you cannot deliver the articles to the Welfare Department, call this agency and arrangements will be made for someone to come to your home.

Claude Dillard Held In Shotgun Attack On Edgar Henson

Claude Dillard, of Letitia, is in the County Jail under \$500 bond charged with shooting Edgar Henson, of the same section at the home of a neighbor last Sunday afternoon. The shooting is said to have followed an argument over an alleged debt of about \$4 which Dillard claimed was owed him by Henson.

The shooting is said to have been done with a shotgun. Although the blast is said to have been fired at close range, Dillard's aim was poor, and only a portion of the discharge took effect. Henson was only slightly wounded.

Dillard was arrested by Sheriff Carl Townson and State Highway Patrolman Smith, after a warrant had been sworn out by Henson. He did not resist arrest and when brought before Magistrate Reese, he asked for a continuance so he could seek legal advice. He was remanded to jail under \$500 bond, pending a hearing set for this coming Sunday.

Henson told the Sheriff that he was visiting with a neighbor when Dillard came to the house, demanded immediate payment from Henson, and finally used a shotgun. Henson charges that Dillard was drinking.

Grads Of Murphy High Gather And Organize Alumni Association

A new organization was born on Thursday, Nov. 20 when graduates of the Murphy High School met and formed an Alumni Association. Meetings will be held at least once a year, and probably will be marked by a banquet.

The new Association was promoted largely by Coach Pitzer and Principal K. C. Wright who sent letters to several hundred graduates, inviting them to gather in the high school auditorium. A large number responded.

The first meeting was presided over by Coach Pitzer, and was devoted largely to organization. Oscar Davis, now employed in Ohio, was elected president; Kenneth Davis (no relation) was named First Vice President and Gwendolyn Ramsey was chosen Second Vice President. Azalee Price was elected Secretary.

Former Pupil Honors Memory Of Prof. White

Mrs. Nora C. White has been advised recently that Margaret B. Evans has made a contribution to the Nancy Brown Peace Carillon, Belle Isle, Detroit, Michigan, in memory of Edwin Grey White whose name will be recorded in the Carillon.

Mrs. Evans was a former pupil of Prof. White.

CLAIM OF VALUE OF OLIVINE BEES DECLARED "BUNK"

Marble Deposits Called A Far Better Source Of Magnesium Ore

Mr. H. S. Predmore, metallurgist who plans opening a tale mine in the Factory-town section as soon as he can get enough electric power, came to the Scout office Wednesday to deny the TVA claim that possible riches lie in this section's deposits of Olivine.

He declared the statement that Olivine could be made to yield the magnesium needed in the manufacture of certain kinds of aluminum to be "bunk". He said the process of extraction would be too expensive, and the yield too small to be practical. He charged that the entire "scheme" was born in the minds of promoters who expected to "clean up" and then leave this section "holding the bag".

It is not necessary to go after Olivine to get magnesium, Predmore declared, because there is an abundant source of supply to be found in the marble deposits of the County.

"There are thousands of tons of waste marble in plain sight which can be bought for a song" he said. "There are millions of tons more lying close underground. That marble will yield from 32 to 34 per cent magnesium, while Olivine will yield, at best only 18 per cent.

"Furthermore, magnesium gotten from Marble is practically pure. That gotten from Olivine is full of impurities, which must be gotten out at still more expense. And magnesium must be 100 per cent pure, for aluminum making, or it is absolutely useless."

Cherokee County is especially fitted for magnesium industry, Mr. Predmore says, because of the location of the copper mines in nearby Tennessee. The acid which is a by-product of the mining, he said, is exactly what is needed to extract magnesium from the marble.

Vast quantities of electric power would be needed for such an industry, Predmore declared, adding that he did not believe an industry would be practical in this section until all the new dams, including Fontana, have been completed, "and then, only if they will guarantee the release of sufficient power to operate the plant".

Mr. Predmore brought the Scout a letter he wrote, on Nov. 25, to Mr. A. D. MacKay, of New York, whom he described as "one of the leading metallurgists of the world". The letter follows:

"Dear Mac:—The Asheville papers have been running a series of articles about Olivine as a source of Magnesium Metal. This is all bunk. You know as well as I that Olivine is not only a very refractory mineral, but is full of impurities which make it costly to work and clean up; to say nothing of the small amount of magnesium it contains.

"The marble deposits of Western N. C. are a much better source of Magnesium, as they are a Magnesium limestone. There are thousands of tons of waste marble at the quarries which can be had for a song.

"Why do you not get some of your chemical or metallurgical friends to take this matter up, with a view to saving the Government from getting into such a racket as this? It looks as if promoters had gotten hold of some of these 'doughboy' engineers or chemists, and hoodwinked them into believing that a thing of this kind was possible, and thus get the U. S. (Uncle Sucker) to finance the thing and buy up these worthless properties, without ever caring if it is possible to produce a pound of finished Magnesium.

As you know, Magnesium is a highly technical proposition, and must be of extreme purity to be of any use whatever. Trying to make

(Continued on back page)