

THE END OF THE FERRY

Bridge Carries Traffic

Eaton's Ferry Is Abandoned

A Warren County ferry that may have been in operation for more than 200 years was this week abandoned by the North Carolina Highway Commission.

Warren County highway forces on Monday and Tuesday dismantled the approaches to Eaton's Ferry and tore down the long cable that guided boats across the Roanoke River for generations.

Traffic is being carried across the Roanoke a short distance above the ferry site on a new bridge. Although the highway leading to the bridge has not yet been completed, traffic has been using the bridge for several days as workers put the finishing touches on the hardsurface road leading from Judkins Township to Roanoke Township by way of the new bridge.

When Eaton's Ferry—named for the Eaton family of Roanoke Township—was first established is not known, but William Eaton, I, founder of the family in Warren County, had settled in Roanoke Township prior to 1746, when he was elected a Justice of Edgecombe County, of which Warren was then a part. He had

previously been granted 1700 acres of land lying along both sides of the Roanoke River, and it is presumed that he used the present ferry site.

Before the advent of the gas engine, many ferries were propelled by the force of streams, pushing against boats, held by cables, with assistance in the propulsion being given by men with poles pushing along the bottom of the streams. This was the way the Eaton Ferry was operated for many years.

Eaton's Ferry, on the highway from Littleton and Vaughan to Lawrenceville, Va., was for many years a toll ferry operated by private enterprise, but was taken over by the State Highway Commission some 25 or more years ago and maintained by the highway until its abandonment this week.

A landmark for years, the Eaton Ferry approaches and the long dirt road leading to them will within a few weeks be covered by the waters of Gaston Lake and will be only a memory to thousands of citizens who have used this mode of crossing the Roanoke. Only (See FERRY, page 10)

Highway workers dismantle Ferry Approaches

Speeders Find Way To County Court

All but three of the 13 cases in Recorder's Court last Friday dealt with violations of the motor vehicle laws.

Erwin Lynch was found guilty of an assault on a female and sentenced to the roads for 12 months. He gave notice of appeal to Superior Court. Appearance bond was set at \$500.

Henry Powell was found guilty on a larceny charge. Due to the defendant's age, prayer for judgment was continued for two years upon condition that the defendant remain of good behavior for two years and pay the court costs.

In the third case not involving violations of the motor vehicle laws, the state took a nol pros with leave. In this case Roy Lee Bobbitt was charged with non-support.

In other cases the state took a nol pros with leave in the case of James Thomas Currin charged with operating a motor vehicle with an expired operator's license.

Thomas Edward Minute was fined \$10 and costs when he

was found guilty of speeding. Doris Garrison Davis, found guilty of speeding 70 miles in a 55 mile zone, was fined \$15 and taxed with court costs.

Modocai Shearin was found guilty with driving without glasses and with driving on the wrong side of the road. He was ordered to pay court costs.

James Carlos Harris, in court on a speeding charge, was found guilty of exceeding safe, but not stated speed, and was taxed with court costs.

Arthur Evans was fined \$25 and taxed with court costs. He was found guilty of reckless driving.

Thomas Raymond Dezurick was found guilty on a speeding charge and fined \$10.00 and taxed with court costs.

The state took a nol pros with leave in the case of Randolph Bullock, charged with speeding.

Earley Richardson was ordered to pay court costs when he was found guilty on a speeding charge.

Town Hires Engineers For Sewage Plant Survey

The Town of Warrenton has signed a contract with an engineering firm to make a survey of and recommendations for a sewage disposal plant here.

Employed by the town on Wednesday afternoon was the engineering firm of Boney and Newcome of Raleigh. The contract was signed by Mayor W. A. Miles, Jr., and Town Clerk J. Ed Rooker.

Employment of the Raleigh firm was authorized by unanimous vote of the Board of Town Commissioners at their regular meeting on Monday night. Following the appearance of Boney and a discussion by the commissioners, the Mayor and Town Clerk were instructed to sign a contract with Boney and Newcome.

The Raleigh firm was selected after two other engineering representatives had appeared before the board at previous meetings.

Mayor Miles said Thursday afternoon that the reason for the early employment of the engineer was due to an effort

that the town would make to participate in an accelerated program of the Federal Government for distressed areas under which the government would participate 50 per cent in the cost of the program instead of one-third.

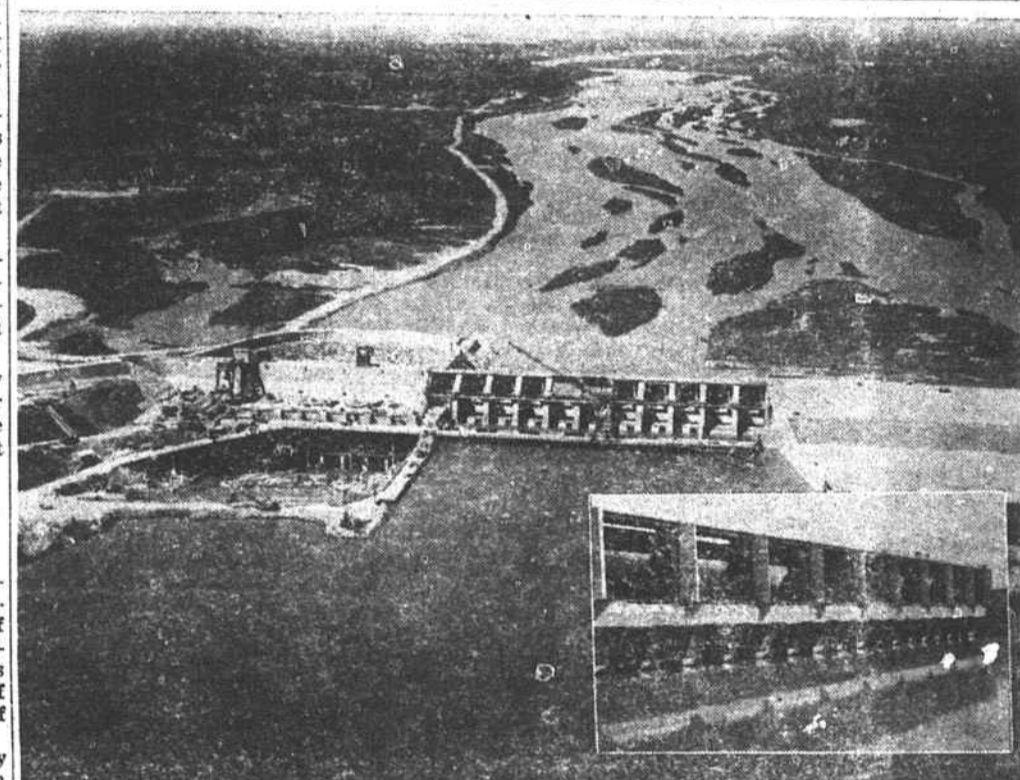
He said that to participate in this program, Warrenton would have to make its application before July, 1963. Before this may be done, a sur-

vey must be made to determine the type of disposal unit and an estimated cost of the project.

Mayor Miles said that Harold R. Skillman, superintendent of the Water Company, had been in on all the discussions with the Water Committee who made the recommendation for the employment of an engineer now.

In other matters during the

hour and a half session, the commissioners authorized the expenditure of \$100 from non-tax sources for an advt. in the Warren County edition of the State Magazine, and authorized the Town Clerk to write a letter to Albert Coates, retired director of the North Carolina Institute of Government, thanking him for his service to the State and founder and director of the Institute.



NEW ROANOKE RIVER DAM—Here is an aerial view of Virginia Electric and Power Company's new Gaston Dam on the Roanoke River near Littleton. A portion of the 20,300-acre reservoir area is shown in the back-

ground. Gates of the Dam (inset) will be closed this week and the reservoir will begin filling. The new lake to be formed will be 34 miles long with more than 350 miles of shoreline.

Gaston Dam Gates To Be Closed Over Weekend

Sluice gates in the Gaston Dam will be closed this weekend and a 34-mile long reservoir covering parts of three counties in North Carolina and

two in Virginia will begin to fill.

Announcement that the gates would be closed this weekend was made Tuesday by the Richmond, Va., office of the Virginia Electric and Power Company.

The 20,300-acre lake is being created as a part of Veeco's new \$46,500,000 hydroelectric station now nearing completion on the Roanoke River some eight miles upstream from Roanoke Rapids.

Project engineers say that beginning at 8 a. m. Sunday releases of water from the John H. Kerr dam near Clarksville, Va., will be substantially above average for a period of two to three days, during

which the level of the reservoir will rise rapidly. After the first several days the level of the water will increase gradually and from one to two months will be required for the reservoir to fill to its estimated capacity of 448,000 acre feet.

Unlike other hydroelectric developments in the Roanoke River basin where seasonal variations in reservoir level, excluding flood control storage, may be as much as 53 feet, the Gaston reservoir level will vary less than one foot at the dam under normal operating conditions. This will make it an ideal recreational facility for fishing and boating and (See DAM, page 10)

New School Not To Be Located At Hawkins Site

The consolidated Negro elementary school to be built with funds to be obtained from a recently passed bond issue will not be located at the John R. Hawkins School.

J. Rodger Peeler, Superintendent of Schools, told the Board of Education, Meeting here Monday night, that the Survey Team with the Division of Schoolhouse Planning, refused to endorse the Hawkins site at their meeting here. The campus is already too crowded, the team ruled.

Peeler said that while here the team visited several other sites, but made no recommendations. They are expected to return the middle of next week for further investigation.

Among the sites proposed at the September meeting of the Board of Education was that of the John R. Hawkins School, principally because of a saving in costs. At that meeting the question was raised if enough additional land could be obtained for the proposed school.

Consensus of the Board Monday night was that the new building should be erected in the southern part of the county not far from the present Coley Springs school, but no definite site has yet been recommended.

Supt. Peeler told the Board members that he had engaged the services of Orrin Smith, architect, to serve in this capacity for the building of additional rooms at Northside

Warehouses To Close For Five-Day Holiday

A week-long sales holiday beginning Monday, October 15 has been set for all flue-cured tobacco markets.

The sales committee of the Bright Belt Warehouse Association announced the holiday last Friday at the request of L. T. Weeks, general manager of the Flue-Cured Stabilization Corp., which receives all tobacco placed under the government's price support schedule.

Markets will close as usual Friday after sales, but will not reopen until October 22.

Weeks reported that the cop has been swamped with leaf, and lacks personnel and facilities to keep up with the flow of tobacco from the warehouse floors.

For the first four days of last week, Weeks said, stabilization took more than 21 per cent of all flue-cured tobacco sold.

For the season through last Friday a total of 119 million pounds or 100.7 per cent of sales had gone under govern-

ment price supports. Last year the corporation took in only 70 million pounds for the whole selling season.

Season High Hit Monday Volume of sales was reported heavy on most markets on Monday throughout the Old Belt. Average prices were mostly steady to a little higher than last Friday's quotations. Increases were only \$1 in most instances with a few grades up \$2 and \$3.



Workers with the Highway Department this week removed the pillar which held one end of the cable stretching across the Roanoke River for generations. (Staff Photos)

NEW EATON'S FERRY BRIDGE now carries traffic across the