

THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER 28 TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1965 VOLUME XVII

Twenty-Foot Difference in Neuse River Level from Year Ago



This exposure of Neuse River bridges is relatively rare, and it shows about 20 feet more of the bridge than was visible just over a year ago, when the worst flooding of the river in recent years did millions of dollars of damage. The river stood at 3.51 feet when this picture was taken Friday. Last October it reached 23 feet. Development of flood control projects approved in the recent session of congress may soon eliminate this costly hazard in Neuse River valley as similar projects already have in the Roanoke River valley.

Thirteen months ago Neuse River inflicted millions of dollars in damage to those owning property within reach of its 23-foot flood waters. Now it is at one of its lowest stages in many years after a long dry spell throughout its basin.

Detailed records have been kept of the river's behavior since 1930, and previous records are known, but they are of a less precise nature.

Since detailed records have been kept last October's flood was the most severe, but in 1919 the all-time known high of 25-feet was registered.

The lowest recorded flow of the river was when the river fell to 1.29 feet and that occurred on September 26, 1932, during the dark days of the depression when even catfish were having a hard time to find enough water to keep alive.

For those a trifle mixed up on exactly the meaning of the river level at Kinston, or any other given point on a river, the designation of zero feet is that point at which flow will halt at that point on the river.

The river gauge at Kinston is actually 10.90 feet above mean sea level, which means in another sense that if a tide 11 feet above normal were to last long enough it would be felt in Kinston, but this would only be noticeable if the river had been in an extremely low stage when such a tremendous tidal wave hit. With the river at any appreciable level of flow it would take a mountainous tidal wave to reach this far inland.

But the tides and winds in lower Neuse River and Pamlico Sound do have an appreciable bearing on how fast or how slowly high waters move out of the Kinston area when serious flooding takes place.

When the river hit its recorded low in 1932 the rate of flow

was just 124 cubic feet per second. And although that sounds relatively small that still amounts to 80,137,728 gallons per day.

The computed rate of flow when the river hit 22.44 feet on September 27, 1945 was 25,900 cubic feet per second, or 16,738,444,800 gallons per day.

The average flow of the river over a 33-year period has been 25,900 cubic feet per second, or 1,877,420,160 gallons per day.

The wide variation in the flow of Neuse River is not only a problem to those who may find use for its water, but it is also a problem for those concerned with public health of the river basin.

The flow of sewage into the river is very nearly the same, whether the river is high or low, and obviously at times when the river is in very low state the percentage of filth is correspondingly higher than at normal or flood stages of the river.

In studies made of Neuse River by the State Stream Sanitation Commission it was found that at a point 1.1 miles below the last sewage outfall from Kinston the coliform bacteria count per hundred million parts ranged from 210,000 when the river was flowing at 950 cubic feet per second and 600,000 when the river was flowing at 660 cubic feet per second.

Burned to Death

Jesse W. "Dave" Williams of 801 Waters St., Kinston, died on way to Duke Hospital Tuesday night from burns he suffered when he apparently fell and broke a bottle of kerosene being used as a torch and his clothes became ignited. No one was in the home with him at the time the accident took place but Lt. Leslie Gay said the appearance indicated that those were the circumstances which led to Williams' death.

Although the stream sanitation commission findings were based on just four samplings June 14, 19, 25, 28 in 1957) the long-range samplings would likely following the same pattern.

Continued on page 8

Another Condemnation Suit Filed in Jones County by Carolina Power Co.

This week the Carolina Power and Light Company filed another condemnation suit in Jones County for land it is taking for an additional right of way across property of Harvey Enterprises, Inc. of Kinston.

The company claims need for an additional 90-foot strip of land, 3,926 feet in length across the Kinston corporation's land in the Wyse Fork section.

Eugene Hood of Wyse Fork, against whom a condemnation suit was filed last week has counter-claimed and is asking \$5,000 compensation for more than a mile of right of way in Jones and Lenoir counties in addition to the "fair market value of the actual land being taken."

Hood tried, unsuccessfully to persuade the Raleigh utility to

move the right of way to avoid destruction of a building lot on which he had planned to build a home, but his requests for conferences with CP&L engineers have been ignored, and under the present state law the utility has the right to take the right of way exactly where it wishes and the landowner has no recourse whatsoever.

The landowner may only contest the price and not the location in court actions.

Lending agencies will not lend money for home construction within 300 feet of 110,000 volt lines such as CP&L has at present and no yardstick has yet been agreed upon as to minimum distances away from the 300,000-volt lines now to be built.

Sheriff Yates Injured Saturday Night In Accident in Edge of Pollocksville

Sheriff Brown Yates is recuperating from multiple painful but not serious injuries suffered at about 8:20 Saturday night in a freakish accident just

west of Pollocksville.

Yates had just turned off US 17 onto NC 58, driving toward Trenton, when a fish truck from Wilmington stalled out, broadside on the highway. Lights from an approaching car blinded Yates so that he could not see the stalled fish truck, and his car struck the side of the truck.

Yates suffered cuts about the face and head, bruises and a severe blow in the chest from his steering wheel.

Edward Jackson Morgan of Wilmington, driver of the truck, suffered a broken leg in the crash. Morgan was charged with failing to display warning lights. Both are recuperating satisfactorily in Craven County Hospital.

Another on Saturday

Saturday afternoon five year-old Steven Ward of Pollocksville suffered minor bruises when he ran into the path of a vehicle driven by Samuel Roberts of New Bern. This accident was called unavoidable insofar as the driver was concerned.

Ex-Tax Evaluator Gets Suspended Term for Stealing

In Recorder's Court recently Dewey "Buck" Crawford of Rockingham, who helped evaluate taxable property in Jones County earlier this year, was fined \$25, ordered to pay \$200 to Gilbert Scott for dogs he had stolen as conditions for suspension of a 60-day prison term.

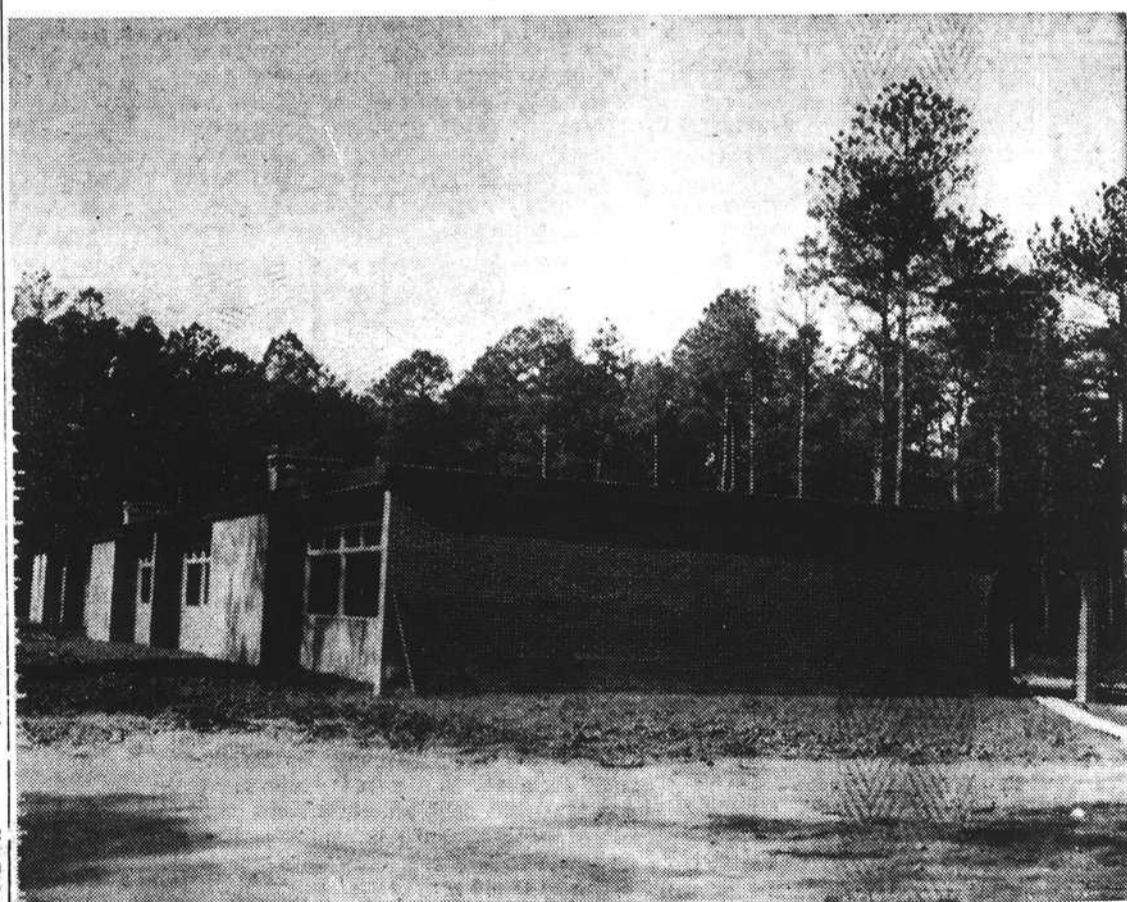
Donald Ray Shivar of Trenton route 2 was ordered to pay \$40 per month into the court for support of his children.

Chess Roberts of Pollocksville was fined \$25 for being drunk and disorderly and whipping a woman.

Neva Ray Whitfield and Robert Whitfield

Continued on Page 8

Arendell Parrott Academy Buildings Ready for Occupancy



This is one of two 6-unit classrooms of the Arendell Parrott Academy that are to be occupied after the Thanksgiving Holidays. Lenoir County's first private school in many years has been operating in Sunday School classrooms of the First Pentecostal Holiness Church, and in a private home during the time construction of these units was underway. The two units are open for public inspection during the school day and Headmaster Ray Wooten invites visitors to see the spacious rooms and services designed into the school by Architect Bob Ferguson. Fred Gardner was general contractor for the units. One innovation sure to be welcome by teachers and students is air-conditioning to make more pleasant classes in early September and late May. Mid-term applications for enrollment may be made at the Academy offices at 109 East Gordon Street, or by calling Wooten's office at Jackson 7-4250.