



# Tennessee Valley Public Power Association NEWS

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No. 11

## Bowaters Making Progress In Valley

### WILEY LYNN BOWERS, 7, DIES AFTER OPERATION

Wiley Lynn Bowers, seven-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Wiley Bowers, Chattanooga, died on November 6, of complications following a tonsillectomy.

Mr. Bowers is executive secretary of the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association. Wiley Lynn has attended many of the Association's meetings with Mr. and Mrs. Bowers, and was well-known by most of the power distributors.

She was a student in the second grade at Bright's School, a member of the Sunday School and of Cherub I Choir of the Red Bank Baptist Church, and a member of the Introductory Music Class at the Cadek Conservatory of Music.

The Association, through its president, E. H. Wright, extends its most heartfelt sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Bowers.

### SEN. SPARKMAN SPEAKS AT D. P. BANQUET



Sen. John J. Sparkman (D., Ala.)

Speaking before one of the largest crowds ever to attend an annual open meeting of the Distribution Practices Section, Senator John J. Sparkman (D., Ala.) sounded a note of some optimism along with quite a bit of pessimism with regard to the future power supply of TVA.

The Senator expressed a hope that TVA would be allowed to continue to grow and expand within its area to meet the growing needs of the people of the Valley, as well as the defense needs and the industrial needs.

The pessimism voiced by Senator Sparkman included the possible appointment of a new board member to the TVA board to replace Dr. Curtis whose term will expire on May 18, 1957. Along with this, and the attitude of the Republican administration to

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### EMPLOYMENT, PURCHASES BOOST TO ECONOMY

Since their completion in the summer of 1954, the giant pulp and newsprint mills of Bowaters Southern Paper Corporation at Calhoun, Tenn., have been moving progressively forward. Production has increased, a gigantic expansion program has been undertaken, wood purchases have almost doubled, and employment has gone over the 1,000 mark.

Originally designed to produce 130,000 tons of newsprint (the paper newspapers are printed on) and 50,000 tons of chemical or kraft pulp per year, the mills exceeded these figures barely three months after start up and this year are expected to produce more than 200,000 tons of newsprint and 55,000 tons of chemical pulp.

Newsprint from Bowaters' mills supplies 168 publishers in 125 cities in 18 southern states. Chemical pulp is exported to other Bowaters' mills where it is converted into newsprint and other paper products.

The big news in 1955 from the Hiwassee River company was the start of its huge expansion program. In progress now about 18 months, the \$30,000,000 program is expected to be completed late this year. The focal point of the project is the addition of a third newsprint machine. When this machine and other equipment go into operation, annual newsprint production by Bowaters' mills will jump to over 300,000 tons. Included in expansion plans for the future is a \$4,000,000 fibreboard mill, to be constructed on the Calhoun site. This mill will produce hardboard and insulating board from local hardwoods. Capacity of the proposed mill will be 120,000,000 square feet of fibreboard per year. Consideration is also being given to the installation of a fourth paper machine.

Electrical demand of the mills is presently 50,000 KW. Approximately half of this is

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### TVA RESIDENTIAL CUST. USES DOUBLE NAT'L. AVG.

TVA recently announced that the average residential power consumer in the Tennessee Valley region used 5,812 kilowatt-hours during the 1956 fiscal year, an increase of 572 kwh over the 1955 fiscal year, and more than double the national average of 2,879 kwh.

The average rate per kilowatt-hour in the Valley region was slightly more than 1.16 cents, compared with the national average of 2.62 cents per kwh.

In the TVA power service area the average annual residential bill for the 5,812 kwh used was \$67.42. The average annual bill in the nation for 2,879 kwh was \$75.43.

## TENNESSEE VALLEY PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION NEWS

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Electric Power Board Bldg.  
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J. WILEY BOWERS, Executive Secretary • Phone AM 6-5045



## THIS IS ROUGH SLEDDING?

### EDITORIAL FROM NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN

*Through the years the private utilities have carried out an insidious advertising campaign trying to show that public power is running them out of business, but one of the most interesting reports this writer has had the privilege to read appeared in a recent issue of Business Week magazine. We think the following editorial from the Nashville Tennessean shows these utilities in their proper prospective. We quote:*

#### CHAMPION SAD SACKS

No segment of the entire American business economy cultivates the underdog role with one tenth the persistency of the private power companies.

Whatever their motivations may be, they long have done a clever job telling the American people of their troubles. Sufferings under adversity such as government-subsidized competition, punitive taxation, and over-zealous rates regulating bodies constitute their monotonous, often whining, stock in trade.

Few of us have managed to escape hearing or reading this melancholy story over and over again in recent years

For that reason an article in a recent issue of Business Week magazine may prove interesting reading for any who need to be convinced that the private power companies are the nation's champion professional sad sacks.

It starts off with the disclosure that thousands of investors, disturbed by an uneasy stock market, are buying private power shares for safety and assured yields.

Then it tells why.

Last year net earnings of the private power utilities rose to \$1.5 billions, twice what they were in 1946. Per share dividends rose almost as sharply. Gross revenues climbed more than \$3.8 billions.

On top of that, earnings records show that in depression, in recession, in boom times and just ordinary times, the private power dividends never fall too far below the top.

Also, the article added, when other types of business are having rough sledding, the private power companies save heavily on operating costs, but regulatory bodies rarely cut their rates.

From this record it would appear that four leaf clovers seem to play a much more important role in the financial life of these companies than woes of any kind. Instead of being harassed, they have been nurtured on one of the few soft cushions of the American enterprise system, and they deserve sympathy like a multi-millionaire caught panhandling.

## PRIVATE UTILITIES' ADS MISLEADING

In recent months the private utilities have been advertising in papers throughout the United States just how much each state has paid in taxes to finance the TVA. They fail to state in these ads, however, that this money is merely a loan to the people in the Valley and that under the law TVA is required to pay back its investment in power within forty years from the date of the placing of the unit on the line.

#### PAMPHLET PREPARED

A pamphlet is being prepared which will give a breakdown by states, on an income basis, the amount of money chargeable to the 48 states for the investment of TVA, which is to be paid back. Also, the amount of tax-free money the utilities have gotten through the rapid tax amortization program will be broken down on a per capita basis by states. These figures are very interesting and we have the actual information to back them up. Each distributor and anyone so desiring will receive a copy of this pamphlet when it is completed.

## NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES' STEERING COMMITTEE MEETS

The Steering Committee of the National Water Resources Committee, of which former Governor Sid McMath of Arkansas is chairman, held a meeting in Little Rock, Ark., on October 26, for the purpose of going over a preliminary draft of legislation to be introduced to Congress to circumvent the proposed rate increase that is being sponsored by Fred G. Aandahl of the Department of the Interior.

Just prior to the meeting of the Steering Committee, Mr. Aandahl issued a report of the studies being made by the Department of the Interior and he said that he was happy to announce that the municipalities and rural electric cooperatives buying power from the Southwestern Power Administration will have to pay about 6.97 mills per kwh, rather than the 7.1 mills previously estimated.

The Department of the Interior has not given any figures on why the rate change is necessary, which is just a beginning by the Department of the Interior to raise the rates of all the federally-owned power systems. The irony of the proposed rate change is that the rate increase will apply only to the municipalities and cooperatives and not to the private utilities and large companies purchasing power from SPA.

The Steering Committee, even after Mr. Aandahl issued his report, is determined to go ahead with its proposed legislation, and the bill, which will be sponsored by Congressman Trimble, will be distributed in the very near future. The Committee is asking all public power groups to back it in its fight to prevent the rate increase in the SPA.

## VISITOR RECORD HIGH AT FONTANA DAM

An estimated 1,450,000 visits were made to TVA dams and steam plants during August, TVA recently reported. Fontana Dam was the No. 1 attraction with an estimated 306,000 visits; Kentucky Dam ran second with 265,000; Norris Dam was third with 166,600.

Others: Chickamauga Dam, 130,000; Fort Loudoun Dam, 77,900; Guntersville Dam, 62,500; Pickwick Landing Dam, 62,500; Douglas Dam, 57,200; Cherokee Dam, 50,000; Watts Bar Dam, 48,700; South Holston Dam, 48,500; Watauga Dam, 33,800; Boone Dam, 29,800; Fort Patrick Henry Dam, 29,200; Wilson Dam, 22,000; Kingston Steam Plant, 18,200; Wheeler Dam, 10,800; Hales Bar Dam, 10,500; Hiwassee Dam, 7,500; John Sevier Steam Plant, 3,400; Gallatin Steam Plant, 2,700; Widows Creek Steam Plant, 2,700; Johnsonville Steam Plant, 2,600; Colbert Steam Plant, 1,200; Shawnee Steam Plant, 800.

**POWER BUSINESS IS PUBLIC BUSINESS**

## NO LOST-TIME ACCIDENT



Frank Wilson, Alabama representative of Employer's Mutual Insurance Co. presents the 500,000 man hour gold bar to Kenneth Sharrott, Ira Puckett and J. D. Weinman, who accepted the award for the employees of Joe Wheeler Electric Membership Corp., Hartselle, Ala. The Co-op recently completed 500,000 consecutive man-hours without a lost-time accident.

## JOE WHEELER EMC HAS HALF MILLION MAN-HOURS WITH NO LOST-TIME ACCIDENT

The Joe Wheeler Electric Membership Corp., with offices at Hartselle and Moulton, Ala., recently completed a string of 500,000 consecutive man-hours without a lost-time accident. Kenneth Sharrott, engineer, is in direct charge of the safety program at the co-op.

At a banquet celebrating the occasion, Floyd F. Anderson, manager, congratulated the Board of Trustees and employees on this achievement, and thanked the Alabama Safety and Job Training personnel for their valuable assistance in helping the co-op reach this goal.

Many congratulatory telegrams and letters were read at the banquet, including messages from David A. Hamil, REA administrator; Congressman Bob Jones; Dr. Raymond Paty, TVA director; Jack Shehee, REA safety instructor, Washington, D. C.; Larry Meyer of Employers' Mutual Insurance Co.; and the executive secretary of TVPPA.

Frank Wilson, representative of Employers' Mutual, presented the gold 500,000 bar to Kenneth Sharrott, Ira (Buddy) Puckett, and J. D. Weinman, who accepted for the employees.

Ben E. (Rabbit) Harris, columnist and retired Alabama Safety and Job Training official, presented a silver loving cup on behalf of the Safety and Job Training group.

The cup represents one year without a lost-time accident.

The 500,000 man-hour record was begun back in 1952, and the co-op has, at the present time, 45 employees. Of over a thousand REA borrowers in the country, the Joe Wheeler EMC is only the eighth to have reached the half million hour total.

The president of the co-op is J. W. Counts of Mt. Hope, Ala.

## TENN. LABOR COUNCIL PUBLISHES BOOKLET

The Tennessee State Labor Council, AFL-CIO has just published a very interesting booklet entitled, "Labor and TVA." This booklet covers the working conditions in the TVA area, particularly with regard to TVA itself and the benefits that TVA has brought, not only to labor, but to all the people in the Valley and to the United States as a whole.

Anyone wishing to receive a copy of this booklet should write to Stanton E. Smith, President, Tennessee State Labor Council, 939 Church Street, Nashville, Tenn.

## POWER BUSINESS IS PUBLIC BUSINESS

## Bowaters Making Progress In Valley

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now being supplied by a TVA substation located on the plantsite while the other half is being generated by Bowaters' own power installation. Original power house equipment included two 10,000 KW GE turbo-generators, two gas-fired power boilers, one bark boiler, and one chemical recovery boiler. All the boilers were made by Combustion.

When the paper machine, grinders, and other equipment go into operation, electrical demand will increase to approximately 80,000 KW. About 10,000 KW of additional power needs will be supplied by TVA while the balance of 30,000 KW will be furnished by a new Westinghouse turbine-generator. Increased steam demand has been met with the installation of a third gas-fired power boiler. Made by Babcock and Wilcox, the new boiler is rated at 350,000 pounds of steam per hour at 850 psi. Installation of the turbine-generator has been delayed pending delivery.

The economic impact of Bowaters on the Bradley County-McMinn County area has been terrific. Bowaters' employees are presently earning about \$7,000,000 per year and a similar amount is being spent annually by the company in wood purchases, resulting in a substantial boost to the economy of the area. Counting employees, wood suppliers, and businessmen furnishing goods and services to the company and its employees, more than 6,000 people benefit directly because of the plant. An example of the standard of living enjoyed by Bowaters' employees is seen in Charleston-Calhoun. In less than three years, more than 120 new homes have been constructed in these small towns alone. This trend in home buying and home construction is repeated in other towns where Bowaters' employees live.

## Questionable Accident; Comments Welcomed

In the July Accident Report on page 3 there was a report of an accident to a lineman who was climbing a pole used jointly by the power distributor and the telephone company. The pole had metal steps on it which caused the lineman to stick one of his gaffs in his leg. The distributor is anxious to have suggestions as to the proper climbing procedure in cases where climbing hooks and steps are involved when the steps would not extend to the working area of the lineman. Please send any suggestions you might have to the executive secretary so that this type of accident can be prevented in the future.

## ECIC ELECTS OFFICERS

At its regular meeting on October 2, 1956, the Electric Consumers Information Committee elected the following officers to serve for the 1957 fiscal year: Clyde Ellis, chairman; Alex Radin, vice-chairman; and John Edelman, secretary-treasurer. The members of the executive committee elected are: Wally Campbell, Angus McDonald, George Brooks, Leo Goodman, and J. Wiley Bowers. One other member is to be elected from the Northwest area.

This committee has been very effective during the past few years and all organizations should continue to support it.

## REHEARING ASKED IN HELLS CANYON CASE

Even though a three-judge panel of the U. S. Court of Appeals handed down a decision upholding the granting of a license to Idaho Power Co. to build three low dams on the Hells Canyon reach of the Snake River, the National Hells Canyon Association, through its attorney, Mrs. Evelyn Cooper, has announced that a petition for rehearing by the full Court of Appeals is being prepared and will be submitted to the Court in the very near future.

## TVA FURNISHES TREES TO SOIL BANK PROGRAM

At the request of the U. S. Forest Service, TVA has entered into a four-year reimbursable contract to produce forest tree seedlings for the national Soil Bank program. The agreement calls for 15 million southern pine seedlings to be available in the 1957-58 season.

TVA has reopened its Muscle Shoals (Ala.) nursery and will produce 14 million of the seedlings there. The balance will be produced at its Clinton (Tenn.) nursery.

## SEN. SPARKMAN SPEAKS

(Continued from Page 1)

the TVA, Sparkman said the progress and service of the Authority could be hindered. "If we stand shoulder to shoulder giving and demanding our best efforts to carry out the original purposes of TVA and do not let ourselves be stopped or intimidated by little minds or the greedy . . . we will see our area continue to grow and the people of the Valley to progress in the manner to which they are entitled," Sparkman said.

"I don't think it is a secret to anyone living in the TVA area that the present administration is unfriendly to TVA. Not one thiú dime has been provided for purposes of installing new generator capacity during the last four years of Republican administration," he said.

"It is my prediction that if they can get



Shown above are the outgoing and incoming officers of the Utilization Section. From left to right are Lesley Moore, 4-County EPA, Columbus, Miss., vice-chairman for the 1956-57 term; Bill Williams, Jackson, Tenn., Electric Dept., chairman for 1956-57; Evelyn Herron, Electric Power Board of Chattanooga, Tenn., secretary-treasurer for 1956-57; Charles R. Minton, Decatur, Ala., Electric Dept., outgoing chairman; and Elizabeth Kendall, Southwest Tennessee EMC, Brownsville, Tenn., outgoing secretary-treasurer.

## BILL WILLIAMS NEW UTILIZATION CHAIRMAN

Bill Williams, utilization representative for the Jackson, Tenn., Electric Dept., is the new chairman of TVPPA's Utilization Section. He was elected at the Section's annual meeting at Kenlake Hotel, which was

by with it they won't appropriate a dime for it during the next four years." He accused the administration of "trying to strangle, trying to starve it (TVA) to death."

Commenting further on the attitude of the Eisenhower administration, he quoted the amount of appropriations recommended by the Bureau of the Budget and the amount appropriated by the Congress. The figure included in the budget recommended by the Truman administration was \$336,270,000. Each year under the Eisenhower administration the budget has been cut until the appropriation for the fiscal year 1956-57 was a mere \$5,357,000.

Senator Sparkman's speech was the highlight of one of the best programs ever presented to any meeting held by the Association.

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NOTE: A complete list of the manufacturers representatives and wholesale distributors that participated in the meeting will be listed in the December issue of the *News*.

held September 27-28. He will serve for one year. Charles Minton of the Decatur, Ala., Electric Dept., was the Section's chairman last year.

Other officers elected at this year's meeting were Les Moore, 4-County Electric Power Ass'n., Columbus, Miss., vice-chairman; and Evelyn Herron, Electric Power Board of Chattanooga, Tenn., secretary.

One hundred and forty-eight members and guests registered at the meeting, which stressed the heat pump and the electronic range. The first morning's program featured a discussion on "Application and Operation of the Heat Pump" by M. S. Angier and Foster Massey of Westinghouse. Immediately after lunch, Paul F. O'Neill of the General Electric Co. spoke on "Promotion of the Heat Pump." The remainder of the first day's program consisted of four open forums on adequate wiring, Christmas lighting, water systems and irrigation, and technical aspects of the heat pump. Each forum was led by a Utilization Section member.

On Friday morning, Harry Coyle of the Tappan Stove Co. demonstrated and discussed the new electronic range. He was assisted by Marie Smith of the Electric Power Board of Chattanooga. The election of officers closed the meeting.