



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

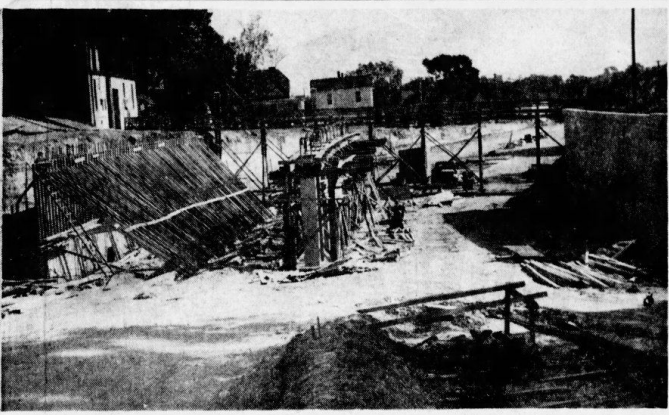
FINAL

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Charlotte, North Carolina, Friday, October 8, 1954

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4 Dead, 9 Missing In New Mexico Flood



THIS BIG HOLE IN THE GROUND is where "Christmas Tree Corner" (E. Morehead-South Blvd.-Independence Blvd.) has taken on some aspects of a cavern. The view looks into

Independence Blvd. from South Blvd. and is the beginning of the Independence Blvd. underpass. E. Morehead St. will form a "roof" when work is done.

Plenty Of Water On Hand

By HARRY SHUFORD
Charlotte News Staff Writer

City Water Dept., Supt. W. M. Franklin today termed the recent practice of watering down football fields for local high schools a "public service."

Charlotteans, with an eye on the present long-drawn drought with the thought of possible water rationing in mind, have called attention to seeing equipment from the Fire Dept. being used to spray the fields.

Mr. Franklin today re-assured the public that "We have plenty of water on hand now, and there isn't

any shortage in sight for Charlotte. "And so there's plenty of it," he said. "We don't feel that the football boys should have to play in the mud if they don't have to. If there were any question as to whether we could spare the water, then of course we wouldn't allow it."

He added that as long as the city stays a jump ahead of the water, so we are certain there isn't any shortage. "We've got some problems," he said, "but we're meeting them as they come."

He added another thing about watering down the football fields; the fire department supervises the job, so we are certain there isn't any shortage. "We've got some problems," he said, "but we're meeting them as they come."

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Boats, Horses Being Used In Search

High Water Sweeps
Pecos River Valley

ROSSELL, N. M. (AP)—Search crews in boats and on horseback today slog through the mud and debris of the most devastating flood in years in the rich irrigated Pecos Valley, seeking traces of nine missing persons.

The savage waters, pouring off the eastern slopes of the Sacramento Mountains, also left four known dead. It hit, to some degrees, half a dozen communities and an untold number of farms and ranches.

One of the missing is Frank Thomas, general manager of the New Mexico Transportation Co., which operates in New Mexico and West Texas. One of the dead is James McCutcheon, nephew of the owner of the firm.

They were swept away yesterday as they attempted to aid overland buses.

Known Dead

The other known dead are Willie Salo, 68, and Manuel Hernandez, 65, and Ben Toliver, 9-year-old boy from Salina, Texas.

Still missing are Mrs. Minnie Juarez and her three children, 11-year-old Eva, 5-year-old Tony and 3-year-old Helen, all in the same house with Salo and Hernandez; and three Mexican national farm workers, Francisco Morales Fernandez, Manuel Valdez Rodriguez, and Nicholas Costa Ortega. Except for McCutcheon and Thomas all the dead and missing were in the Hagerman area south of here.

A sheriff's posse is probing the Berendo River area northwest of here for traces of Thomas and the pickup. More than 150 men have joined the Hagerman search.

Both were launched as waters continued to recede and further danger from the flood appeared over.

The damage cannot yet be estimated, but it will run in the millions.

Prolonged heavy rains sent the water tumbling into the Pecos Valley, bringing swollen rivers, creeks and arroyos bubbling into parts of Roswell, Carlsbad, Dexter, Hagerman, Artesia and Lake Arthur.

By nightfall last night, the flood threat had eased considerably and the streams of muddy water began to subside. But fresh rains in the mountainous area to the west of here were reported late last night and officials continued a close watch.

Severed communications, washed out highways and bridges, broken rail lines and livestock missing remained today for the cleanup.

The normally placid, and in recent days dry, Rio Grande crested at 22 feet at its peak yesterday afternoon, pouring into the west end of Roswell up to seven feet in depth. An estimated 200 families were forced to leave their homes.

To the south, in the Dexter, Hagerman and Lake Arthur areas, it picked up momentum from waters pouring off the watershed into tributary streams and arroyos, but confined its damage mostly to the agricultural areas.

A section of the General States' dates: "It shall be the duty of the attorney general the solicitor general and the several judicial districts and all prosecuting attorneys of courts inferior to the Superior Court, to

State law makes it a felony for any person to sell or buy a vote in Graham County today in violation of the state's election laws.

County Democrats denied yesterday that there was any ballot box stuffing in Graham County today in violation of the state's election laws.

Democratic chairman of the county board of elections, denied the Democrats had bought any votes.

Eire told newsmen in Gastonia yesterday that ballots were sold for as high as \$85 each.

Alty Geo. Harry McMillan or district solicitor, said in Silva he denied the SBI into the case after reading Eire's statements. Thad D. Bryson Jr. of Bryson City, the district solicitor, said in Silva he was "disturbed by the disclosure," promising to make a personal check.

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Ike And Nixon Discuss Campaign Plans. (AP Wirephoto).

Republican Appeal

President On Air Tonight

By MARVIN L. ARROWSMITH

THE DENVER White House is in a tough battle, making a single effort of the campaign to

"straight from the shoulder" na-keep the Democrats from recapitulating television appeal to turning control of Congress for the American voters tonight to keep next two years.

Republicans in the congressional drivers' seat.

The party's high command, privately concerned about the outcome of the November elections, is hoping the President's speech will provide "a tremendous shot in

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Senate Group's Housing Probe Nearing Close

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Banking Committee closes out a series of hearings in its housing probe today but Chairman Capehart (R-Ind.) said anyone who feels injured by the testimony so far will still get a chance to appear.

Capehart told reporters this specially includes Rep. Preston (D-Ga.), who earlier in the week accused the Indian "of indulging in character assassination and... in politics on the eve of an election."

The committee yesterday unfolded testimony that Preston was an unlisted stockholder in a Federal Housing Administration (FHA) insured apartment project at Savannah, Ga.

Capehart himself testified that the House member, now running for a fifth term, made almost \$90,000 out of the deal. He said he might never have brought the case into the open had not Preston made his blurt in a Georgia speech.

Preston himself acknowledged he made a profit, but said it was entirely legitimate transaction.