

Beiman on business—

Factories may settle in rural

BY IRVING BEIMAN
News business editor



BEIMAN

Alabama's industry seekers have a new problem on their hands as a result of efforts to impose stricter clean air standards over the country, as well as efforts to regulate water pollution.

The Insider's Newsletter, a weekly report to keep business people informed, says in its Feb. 20 issue:

"The imposition of stricter clean air standards throughout the U.S. will become a significant factor in determining the location of new industrial plants.

"Increasing numbers of new factories are likely to bypass metropolitan areas (where extensive anti-pollution equipment would be required) in favor of outlying suburbs or rural areas where the air is still relatively clean."

When the Newsletter makes its piercing observation: The states and localities which are most aggressively seeking new industry are taking advantage of the situation by refusing to impose any pollution controls."

THE JOHNSON Administration is trying to achieve nationwide controls for air

and water pollution, and is expected to offer strong tax incentives to industry to install anti-pollution devices.

Industrial development people in Alabama in general feel that water pollution controls are essential, to assure the future growth and development of the state along its rivers and streams.

They also feel that this position in no way stymies or diminishes Alabama's efforts to attract new industry or to assist existing industry to expand.

The only question about water pollution controls at the present is establishing the exact criteria or standards that must be met, and this is being worked out. The Ala-

bama Water Improvement Commission is going to submit its recommendations for these standards to the federal government later in the year.

As for air pollution, industry seekers concede that new industry may be more inclined to look for rural areas where the problem is not so acute as in urban areas.

Holiday Inn opens

A NEW 72-UNIT Holiday Inn, with a spectacular 800-foot lake frontage opened at Pell City-Riverside, just 35 miles east of Birmingham, this week. The new facility represents an investment of more than \$1 million.

South Motel Properties Co., Inc., an Alabama corporation, owns and will operate the inn under a franchise agreement with Holiday Inns of America, Inc.

President of the Alabama corporation is Mack Hamby Jr., and secretary-treasurer is John A. Jenkins, both of Birmingham.

The new inn is on Interstate Highway 20, the Birmingham-Atlanta highway, and also is calculated to serve the rapidly developing resort area of Lake Logan Martin.

It has meeting and banquet facilities for 300 people, including a gourmet restaurant under management of William Russell.

Manager of the inn is Amon Jones. Jones said executive suites, deluxe double rooms, and single rooms will be available, with parking for 150 automobiles.

Temporary financing for the new facility was furnished by Birmingham Trust National Bank, and the permanent financing was made by Birmingham Federal Savings and Loan Association, of which Curtis DeArman is president.

THE NEW INN has a swimming pool, air-conditioning, wall-to-wall carpeting, color TV in every room, king-size beds, baby cribs, available baby sitters, valet and laundry service, phone in every room, 24-hour switchboard, free dog kennels and a no-charge policy for children under 12 in the same room with their parents.

It also has a private beach on Lake Logan Martin, and offers usual attraction for those interested in water sports and luxury living in an outdoor and recreational atmosphere, said Manager Jones.

Lake Will Spread

But the town will retain the same riverside location which gave it its name, though it might be more accurately referred to in coming years as Lakeside. Unlike the river, which has been pretty well behaved at this point, the new lake will spread through various sections of the town's new location, giving miles of waterfront throughout the city limits.

The town is already well along in its plans for the change. As soon as he assumed the office of mayor, Coleman, who has extensive property holdings in the area, launched a long-range plan for civic betterment.

Among the first moves was a resolution from the new city council requiring a tax on all businesses and utilities operating in Riverside, and the employment of a full-time police officer to maintain law and order.

Though the business license fees are modest, running about 20 per cent of those charged by neighboring Pell City, they do produce a steady revenue, Mayor Coleman said.

Arrests by the new police chief, Tollie A. Lockridge, have been comparatively few, Coleman said, but they produce a small amount of income.

Rumors Are Denied

Coleman indignantly denied rumors that the new police officer had been making wholesale arrests, and opened city books to show that fines had been both few and modest.

Although the Riverside police jurisdiction area runs for almost five miles along busy Highway 78, Coleman said only the statewide speed limits of 60 miles-per-hour during the day and 50 miles-per-hour at night were being enforced.

Within the city proper, which lies to the north of Highway 78, the plainly-posted limit is 30 miles-per-hour, and this is strictly enforced, Coleman continued.

"Before we put Chief Lockridge to work, people would come through here at 65 and 70, right through the downtown area, and we had a very high accident record," the mayor explained. "We are going to put a stop to this kind of driving, but that is all. If a man is driving safely and sanely, he has nothing to fear from Riverside police."

Coleman added that Chief Lockridge is a veteran law enforcement officer, with over 16 years experience.

The mayor also pointed out that most of the arrests shown in the city books were for violations of the prohibition law and other non-traffic offenses.

Car Is Marked

The police car operated by the Riverside officer is plainly marked, but Mayor Coleman said a new rooftop siren and red light would be installed as soon as it can be obtained, to further identify the vehicle to passing motorists.

Funds derived from fines, along with those from privilege licenses and money received from the Alabama Power Company in payment for the flooded city lands and streets, would be used to build the new town, including a city water supply, and a filtration and sewage plant.

Coleman, who operates an extensive dairy and poultry business as well as other business interests, will continue operation, partly in the old location which his family has held for four generations, and partly in the new section. He also plans to construct a new 200-unit motel near the new interstate highway which will pass through the southern edge of the city.

Sportsmen are already building fishing lodges along the banks of the lake-to-be, and many others are anticipated.

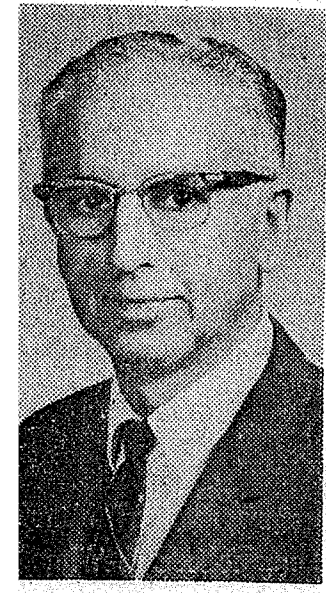
"The new lake has tremendous possibilities, and we are going to utilize them fully," the Mayor said.

In addition to Mayor Coleman, the city officers include council Members E. R. Bukacek, O. C. Caldwell, James Buckner, Earl Smith and H. A. Scisson. Mrs. Margaret Weekley is recently named city recorder.

St Clair news - August
Jan 5, 1967

Opening In February

New Holiday Inn Will Employ 40



AMON JONES
... Innkeeper

A 72-unit Holiday Inn located on old Highway 78 near the Riverside exit of Interstate 20, is nearing completion and tentatively scheduled for opening sometime in February.

According to W. Amon Jones, who will serve as inkeeper (general manager), the new Holiday Inn will employ a staff of from 34 to 40 employees. Mr. Jones and his wife, Mrs. Velma Jones, who will also work in the office, are now taking applications for various jobs that will be open (see ad on Want Ad page of this issue for full details).

The Alabama corporation of South Motels Properties Co., Inc., will operate the inn under a franchise agreement with Holiday Inns of America, Inc., Memphis, Tenn.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been associated with the Holiday Inn system since 1959, in Montgomery, Anniston, and Oxford. They recently underwent a three-week refresher course in Innkeeping at a seminar in Memphis.

The Pell City Inn is located in the popular Logan Martin Lake resort area, offering boating, swimming, fishing, skiing and other water sports. William W. Bond, Jr., and Associates, Memphis, are the architects for the new inn, which is being built on a four acre plot.

Facilities to be offered include meeting and banquet accommodations for 125 persons, a

restaurant which will seat 94, and a coffee shop.

Holiday Inn features will include a swimming pool, air-conditioning, wall-to-wall carpeting, color television in every room, king-size double beds, baby cribs, availability of baby sitters, valet and laundry service, phone in every room, 24-hour switchboard, free dog kennels, and a no-charge policy for children under 12 in the same room as their parents, (except for rollaway beds at \$2.00 each).

Additional services will include free advance reservations through the Holidex computer system especially designed for Holiday Inns.

The first Holiday Inn was built in Memphis in 1952 by Kemmons Wilson. Within the next year, he built three additional inns and joined forces with Wallace E. Johnson, already a well-known home builder, to form Holiday Inns of America, Inc. Their goal was a national system of Holiday Inns, offering consistent accommodations at reasonable prices.

Today there are more than 790 Holiday Inns in 48 states, Canada, Puerto Rico, and the Bahamas, with 25 inns open in Alabama.

HISTORY OF RIVERSIDE

W. A. Coleman came to Riverside when the Indians were there. He settled on a little hill one half mile southeast of what is now known as the Coleman Cemetery. Along the Coosa River, the Colemans have been living in the same house for three generations. Their living there has been for 106 years. The house was all made by hand. Wooden pegs were used instead of nails.

When W. A. Coleman first came to Riverside, he brought a Negro man and his wife. Mr. W. A. Coleman taught his children to respect the Negro and call the working for him Aunt and Uncle. Mr. Coleman was the only one in Riverside to have slaves. He freed 48 Negroes after the Civil War. Some of the slaves were buried in the Coleman Cemetery. The poor people of those days couldn't afford caskets to be buried in so they were buried in wooden boxes.

Mr. W. A. Coleman buried silverware that was made out of silver dollars when the Yankees raided Riverside.

Mr. W. A. Coleman had a corn mill and flour mill. He fed the widows and the orphans free.

Riverside, at one time was a little town until a storm came many years ago. There are about ten of the old houses still standing in Riverside.

In 1882 Crowder and Smith had a saw mill on the river, south of the railroad, and J. R. Coleman had one on the north side.

The first railroad in Riverside was the Georgia Pacific. It was later bought through bankruptcy court. After the bankruptcy it was then taken over by the Southern and it is still operated today.

69 families in Riverside to get water, thanks to \$200,000 grant

By Cindy Warner
Home staff writer

About 69 homes are scheduled to receive water now that the town of Riverside has received word that it has been awarded a \$200,000 Community Development Block Grant.

Frank Riddle, superintendent of utilities, said Riverside has been trying to acquire the grant for more than

a year.

The grant will be used to provide water to 30 homes in the River Ranch community and 37 homes in the Sprayberry community, Riddle said.

Riddle said what finally secured the grant was the recent testing of the wells in those areas that showed that more than 70 percent were contaminated.

"They were contaminated with

coliform and fecal coliform, which is the waste of warm blooded animals," Riddle explained.

The wells were also contaminated with sulfur and other minerals, but those areas are not included on the tests, he added.

Mayor Bob Donaldson added that the water project is not only helping

See Riverside, Page 12

Daily Home 1-6-94

Riverside

From Page 1

to get water to these two areas, but it will help provide extra revenue for the town for future expansion projects.

"This water project will help get everyone inside the town limits access to water," he said.

Riverside is also facing about \$15,000 in environmental testing fees and revenue the water system will bring in will help lower costs for all the customers, Riddle added.

Town officials are also optimistic

that several areas will be developed now that water is being provided.

"One man we know of owns about 900 acres in River Ranch and he has said he will develop it into residential subdivision once we get water to that area," Riddle said.

Donaldson said the town of Riverside will be putting in extra money to the grant in order to purchase an emergency generator that will keep the system operational.

Riddle said construction on the project should begin in about six to

eight weeks and then it will take another six weeks to complete construction.

"We have to run the system across Broken Arrow Creek and it is very important that we be able to do that while the water level is still down on the lake," Donaldson added.

The two men and Commissioner Paul Manning will be traveling to Montgomery today for the grant presentation ceremony. Governor Jim Folsom will present the grant at 1:30 at the state Capitol.

River Bridge Will Be Raised

Plans Being Made By Highway Department

The highway bridge over the Coosa River at River-side will definitely be raised, not destroyed.

This is the official word in an announcement by highway officials this week.

Blue Barber, assistant director of the highway department said in a letter this week "We have checked with our Bridge Bureau and they tell me the project of raising the bridge on old highway 78 in St. Clair county will be undertaken soon".

First plans of the highway department on completion of the new bridge over the river connecting the new Interstate highway, was that the old bridge, known as the Bankhead bridge, would be destroyed.

However a delegation from Talladega and St. Clair county visited Governor Wallace and

Highway Director Herman Nelson when this became known and protested strongly against destruction of the bridge. Since Logan Martin Dam had not been completed at the time. The governor and the highway director agreed with a suggestion that the bridge be left alone for then since the dam was not completed and high water had not begin to interfere with river traffic.

But now that the dam has been completed and water is backed up under the bridge so that no boat bigger than an ordinary canoe can go under the bridge, a decision had to be made.

In addition destroying the bridge would be a great inconvenience to a large number of people who live on both banks of the river when they had business across the river. To cross the river from either side those residents living close to the river would have to go back to the exits before going forward toward their destination.

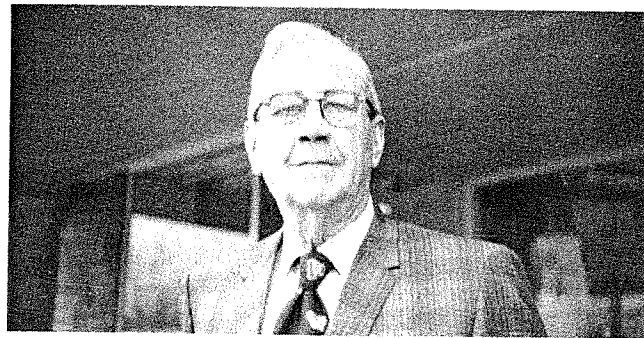
Mr. Barber said the bridge department was going ahead with plans for raising the bridge. Plans for approaches of about 500 feet on each end of the bridge also must be made.

He would not estimate the time when the plans would be completed, but said it would be in the near future. When all plans are complete he said bids for this project would be called for and actual work started.

At Clair News - Ocala - May 12, 1966

Lathrop-Hatten Was Large Turn-of-Century Lumber Manufacturer

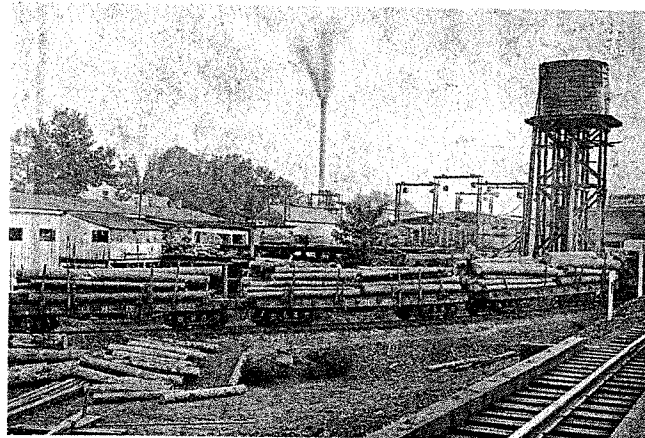
At a site many years submerged under the waters of Logan Martin Dam stood a large and bustling lumber firm known as Lathrop-Hatten Lumber Company. The town was Riverside and the Lathrop-Hatten mill



Mr. Leonard D. Housel, Sr.

stood on the banks of the Coosa River in St. Clair County.

Mr. Leonard D. Housel of Gordo, Alabama, passed



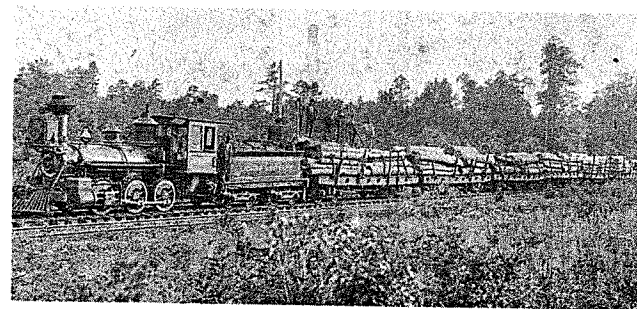
The Coosa River was just to the right of the millsite.

this information on to us along with the pictures of the subject firm taken about 1905. Mr. Housel relates that his late father, A. N. Housel, was a young farmer in Nebraska and lost a crop, then decided to go south and wound up working for Lathrop-Hatten.



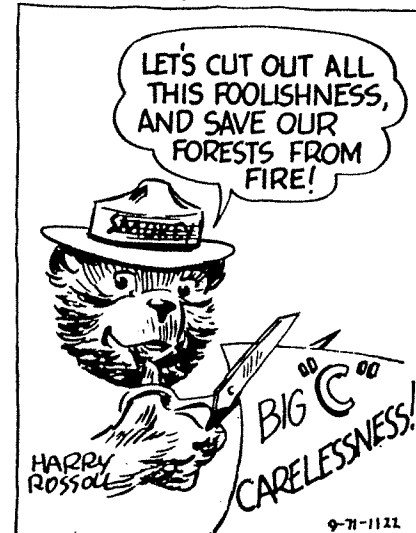
Oxen and horses did the skidding. Mr. Lathrop stands on the right in suit.

AFA member, Mrs. Irvine Porter of Birmingham whose husband is in charge of the F. H. Lathrop estate, is the late Mr. Lathrop's granddaughter.




Railroad buffs will love this scene. Lathrop-Hatten Railway transported the logs to the mill and also the lumber to the Southern Railway line.

Smokey Says:



Don't YOU be careless!

Alabama Forest Products




SMITH'S SHELL SERVICE

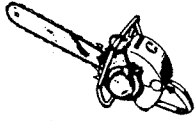
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Damage at Anniston.

Anniston.—In a telephone conversation with the Lathrop-Hatton Lumber company it was stated that the Coosa river at Riverside is higher than it has been in 12 years, having risen 18 feet within two hours and was still rising. The stream has overflowed the banks at Riverside and if it continues to rise the town will be flooded. Farm lands have been damaged by thousands of dollars, it is said, and several head of cattle have been seen floating down the stream. The plant of the Lathrop-Hatton Lumber company has been compelled to close down on account of the storm damage. Their logging road has been destroyed and their property otherwise threatened, as has that of the Coosa Brick Manufacturing company. In this city many people in Ward 5 moved out of their homes on account of the high water, which is almost in the Oxanna hotel, while two stores at Oxanna were inundated. The water was two feet deep at Fourth and Noble streets the wheels of box cars on the Southern sidetracks being half-submerged in the water, and a number of the operatives at the cordage plant had to be carried out by teams from livery stables. The Kelly Machine plant had to shut down. Choocolocco creek at Dearmonville is reported to be a mile wide, flooding the surrounding country.

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Danger at Gadsden.

court grand jury without bond. The woman waived a hearing. Other cases set for yesterday in county court were continued until next Friday by agreement.

RIVERSIDE BRICK WORKS.

The Riverside Brick company has been incorporated with \$44,000 capital.

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<p>Moore 3 Sts. Annis- Streets. E e Glass</p>	<p>and W. H. Thompson, president and treasurer: T. C. Thompson, vice-president, and B. A. Thompson, secretary, all of Birmingham, Ala. The company has purchased large body of clay land, plant and equipment of the Coosa Brick & Manufacturing company on the Coosa river in Talladega county. The plant will be remodeled and operated, with capacity from 40,000 to 60,000 bricks per day.</p> <hr/> <p>M R V</p>
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Take No Substitute.

**BIG BRICK
FACTORY**

**Getting Ready For Oper-
ation At River
Side.**


Mr. R. G. Thompson, of River-
side, who was in the city on Satur-
day, informs The Hot Blast of the
organization of the Coosa Brick
company, at Riverside, which has
purchased valuable property on the
east bank of the Coosa river and is
putting in an extensive brick plant
with a capacity of 100,000 per day.
The company has a working force
of 100 men.

Riverside already has the largest
lumber plant in this section of Ala-
bama and this brick plant will add
greatly to the thrift and industry of
the town.

The making of brick will com-
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	To Riverside Brick Co: s w q, fraction D, fractional section 26, also fractional section 27, also 15 acres in the n w cor- ner of fractional section 35, bounded on the north by said section line, from a point 15 feet east from the ravine and running west to the Coosa river, thence down the meanderings of the same to the mouth of said ravine across the mouth of where it empties into said river 15 feet more or less, thence north of east to point of beginning, being known as the Lion Farm, and situated in Twp 16, range 4 east. Taxes, costs and charges, \$48.02.	T 188 ga Sto cor
	To Rome Oil Mill Co: Seed house	

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the city to provide temporary housing. A disaster survey team was brought in to view the damage as the full estimatio of the

meeting that their insurance covered only half of the damages done to county property during the tornado. After eight bids were opened, C.D. Wilson & Sons of Ash-

Sylacauga policeman arrested at restaraunt in Riverside

A 23-year-old Sylacauga policeman was arrested early Christmas morning and charged with drunk and disorderly conduct after an incident in a Riverside restaurant. Police said Harold Ray Roach was released on bond from St. Clair County jail after being arrested around 2 a.m. Christmas morning. Further details on the arrest were unavailable.



Bicentennial Approaches

With January 1, 1976 only a few days away, the celebration of the 200th birthday of the United States is getting closer and closer. 1976 will be an historic one for the nation, marking the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of

Independence. And the Ashville Courthouse, like many other sites in St. Clair County, is very much a part of that history. (NEWS Photo By Louis Muro)

INSIDE TH

...1975 has been a very Clair County. See photo c news events on Pages 2 &

...Jim Allen is named agriculture.

...For anything you n Classified Ads on Page 6

Jim Case as NEWS

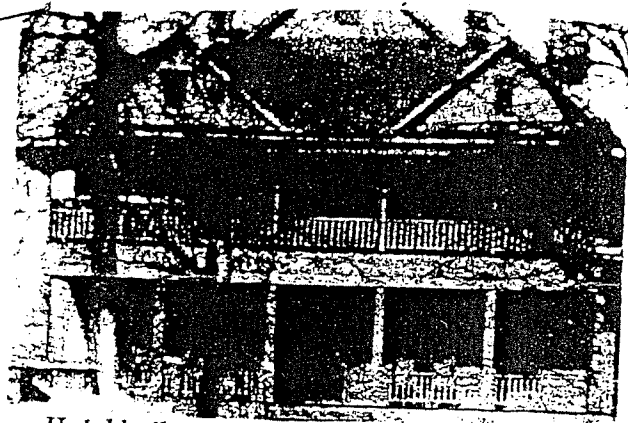
A Decatur native has been named as general manager of the ST. CLAIR NEWS-AEGIS, according to an announcement by NEWS-AEGIS Publisher Robert Bryan.

Jim Case, 39, a native of Decatur and a veteran in the newspaper business, was named yesterday as general manager of the St. Clair County newspaper.

"I am pleased to announce the addition of Jim (Case) to our staff in Pell City. With his varied experience in the newspaper field, I feel he'll be an important addition in our efforts to expand and improve the newspaper and offer our readers and advertisers the best service possible," Bryan said, in making the announcement.

Case has been in the newspaper profession since 1961 and he has a varied background in the field.

Case began his career in 1961 with the Decatur Daily. From there he joined the Pulaski Citizen in Pulaski, Tenn., where he held the position of advertising manager.



Hotel built in 1902 by Hardy & G. P. Cornett

*The Pell City Centennial
Hardy Cornett
A Pioneer Citizen*

BY:GEORGE WILLIAMS

Hundreds of interesting stories could be written about the early beginnings of Pell City, but none could be more fascinating than were the actual characters who comprised this City's earliest population.

Hardy Cornett was the epitome of the adventurous entrepreneur of the late eighteenth century who dared to lead this nation into the nineteenth century. Solomon D. Kilgore was a "man for all seasons" who combined his many talents to become a farmer, merchant, politician, school teacher, railroad agent, bank director, cotton broker, church and civic leader and ultimately, an elder statesman of local history. Sumter Cogswell was very fortunate, indeed, to have had the able assistance, sheer determination and abundant resourcefulness of individuals such as those two in helping to assure the success of his new city.

Hardy's family moved from Harris County, Georgia in 1862 to settle on the Jim Coleman plantation at Riverside. He was only thirteen at the time, but in later life could vividly recall the difficult years of reconstruction after the Civil War. Almost seventy five years later he would recall the war years, Carpet Baggers, hard times, and especially would he remember the lack of food that was so prevalent. He stated that he was "raised" on buttermilk and cornbread and always

knew when Sunday came because that was the only day of the week when the family had biscuits for breakfast.

It was fortunate for many St. Clair residents, in that day and time, that wild game was plentiful during those difficult years. The food supply of man families depended upon the marksmanship of the hunter. During the family's first winter in Riverside, Hardy killed enough wild duck and geese to enable his mother to make and fill a large feather bed and two pillows. An abundant deer population also enabled him to kill two large bucks on one morning's hunt. His uncle was hired by Jim Coleman to protect his wheat crop from the geese. He not only paid him for his marksmanship, but also furnished a horse, gun and an ample supply of shotgun shells to accomplish the task. It can be assumed that everyone in Riverside ate wild geese during the winter of 1862.

Hardy's family moved to Seddon, after having lived at Riverside for a number of years, and his

*Hardy killed enough wild
duck and geese to enable
his mother to make and
fill a large feather bed and
two pillows.*

father operated a water powdered cotton gin that had been constructed on Fishing Creek. The family ginned an estimated two hundred bales of cotton per season, and his father's financial prospects were vastly improved, but the unexpected happened. The authorities decided that the impounded water behind the dam was the cause of an outbreak of chills and fever and required that it be destroyed. Ironically, the old mill and dam site have long been covered by the backwaters of a much larger dam. Today, even though the dam and mill cannot be located, the foundation of the old Seddon Baptist Church that was nearby can be seen on the bottom of Fishing Creek slough during the low water level of winter pool.

Hardy's father then purchased the land now



Riverside's Industry

The community of Riverside as well as St. Clair County has a tremendous amount of money generated from the Coosa River and Logan Martin

and Neely Henry lakes. Above is pictured a portion of Logan Martin near Riverside with U. S. 78 towards the center of the photo.

Councilman, former councilman indicted

By **Cindy Warner**
Home staff writer

An acting Riverside Town Council member and one former council member turned themselves in to local authorities after being indicted by a St. Clair County grand jury on ethics violations.

Michael P. Allen, 46, of 107 Paradise Isle, Riverside, and Edward L. Lawrence, 47, of 21 Coves Point Drive, Riverside, were arrested

Wednesday on indictments handed down last week.

St. Clair County District Attorney Van Davis said the two men have been charged with using their offices for personal gain.

Allen, who is currently serving as the councilman for District 1, is charged with one count, while Lawrence is charged with two.

Davis said the indictments stem from an investigation by the Alabama Ethics Commission.

"The Ethics Commission found that there was probable cause that the ethics law had been violated," he said.

Davis declined to discuss the specifics of the case before trial, but he did say that the case involved the purchase of some automobiles.

The charge is a felony, and the case will be prosecuted by the St. Clair District Attorney's office.

If convicted, the charge carries a possible jail term of up to 10 years,

but no less than two years and a fine of up to \$10,000, but no less than \$2,001.

A spokesman for the League of Municipalities said Allen's seat on the council is not in jeopardy at this point.

"If he is convicted, his seat will be vacated, and the mayor and the council will have to appoint someone to fill the position," the spokesman said.

Allen and Lawrence are free on \$2,500 bond each.

Daily Home 12-16-93

Town fights time, state, to save bridge

BY R. E. (BUSTER) HOGAN
News correspondent

RIVERSIDE, April 17—Angry residents of Riverside and Northwest Talladega County are fighting Highway Department plans to dismantle the old U. S. 78 bridge over the Coosa River here.

They don't have much time. The bridge will be torn down after a section of new Interstate Highway 20 is opened to traffic in late summer or early fall.

The Highway Department says that once the new east-west route is in use, the old 78 bridge will be unnecessary. An interchange east of the river will provide access and exit for local traffic, officials say.

LOUDEST complaints have come from residents and officials of Riverside, on the St. Clair County side of the stream, and Lincoln in North Talladega County.

They feel they paid for the bridge in the 1930s when it was constructed as a toll bridge and they paid 50 cents

a trip to drive across in their cars and \$1 in their trucks.

And they feel that the Highway Department is renegeing on an alleged promise that local bridges or roads would not be affected by construction of the interstate route or building of the Logan Martin Dam, which will raise the river level here.

Mayor Bill Coleman of Riverside disclosed Thursday that citizens of his city and Northwest Talladega County have retained Atty. John H. Martin Jr. of Pell City to see what can be done legally to save the bridge.

"THE PEOPLE OF Riverside and Northwest Talladega County feel they have been robbed," he said grimly.

For many years, the bridge has been Riverside's exit to the east and Lincoln's gateway to the west and Birmingham.

Coleman said that if the bridge is dismantled and Interstate 20 is blocked for any reason, this gateway will slam shut.

And, he said, cave-ins already have occurred on the interstate near Riverside.

"Removing this bridge as we were promised it would NOT be, will cause several hundred residents to have to travel six miles to cross the river when now they can cross it in 635 feet," he asserted.

"I UNDERSTAND the old bridge would have been gone but cave-ins on the Talladega County side forced them to stop traffic over the new Interstate 20 bridge about a quarter-mile below the old one.

"The south end a few hundred feet from the river has caved in and the pavement has collapsed. Who knows when it will happen again, and what will the people do then?"

"So far the cave-ins are the only thing that has saved our bridge."

Coleman said Gov. George Wallace promised a Riverside delegation he would do everything in his power to save the

bridge, "but so far nothing has been done about the bridge except a contract has been let to a private contractor to dismantle it."

At Montgomery, the Highway Department said former Highway Director Sam Engelhardt approved dismantling the bridge Dec. 12, 1962. The department said it would not be economically feasible to raise the old Highway 78 bridge to a height above the future level of the Coosa.

WHILE COLEMAN and other Riverside residents believe Alabama Power Co. paid the department to raise the bridge, a state official said the utility was to pay the department to remove the bridge.

"It looks to me like it is foolish to tear it down," argued Mayor Kennedy Watson of Lincoln, on old Highway 78 about 15 miles east of Riverside. "That's the way I feel about it. The way the new highway has given way—and who knows it won't continue to do so—we would be left

high and dry without a way to get out (to the west). "The old Riverside bridge is just good insurance for this community."

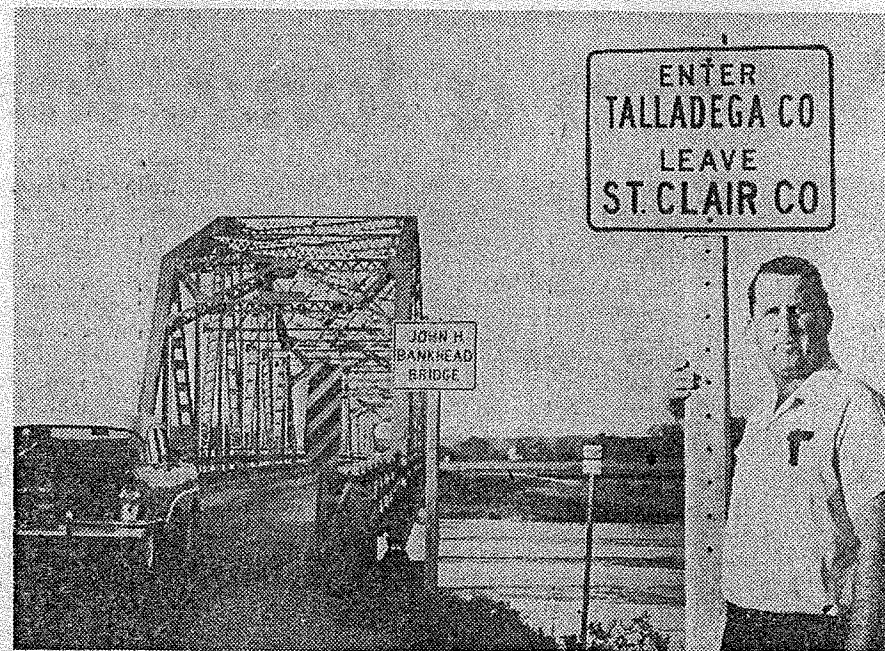
John Ellis, Lincoln civic leader, said, "I very definitely think they should reappraise it now in view of conditions on the new highway. I think the people who live in this community and are served by this road and bridge in question are entitled to an outlet, regardless of who pays for it."

"WE'VE BEEN promised everything but got nothing," grumbled Travis McCaig, Lincoln motel operator.

Talladega County Commissioner Howard Bussey, in whose district the bridge is located, pointed out that old U. S. 78 is a federal highway.

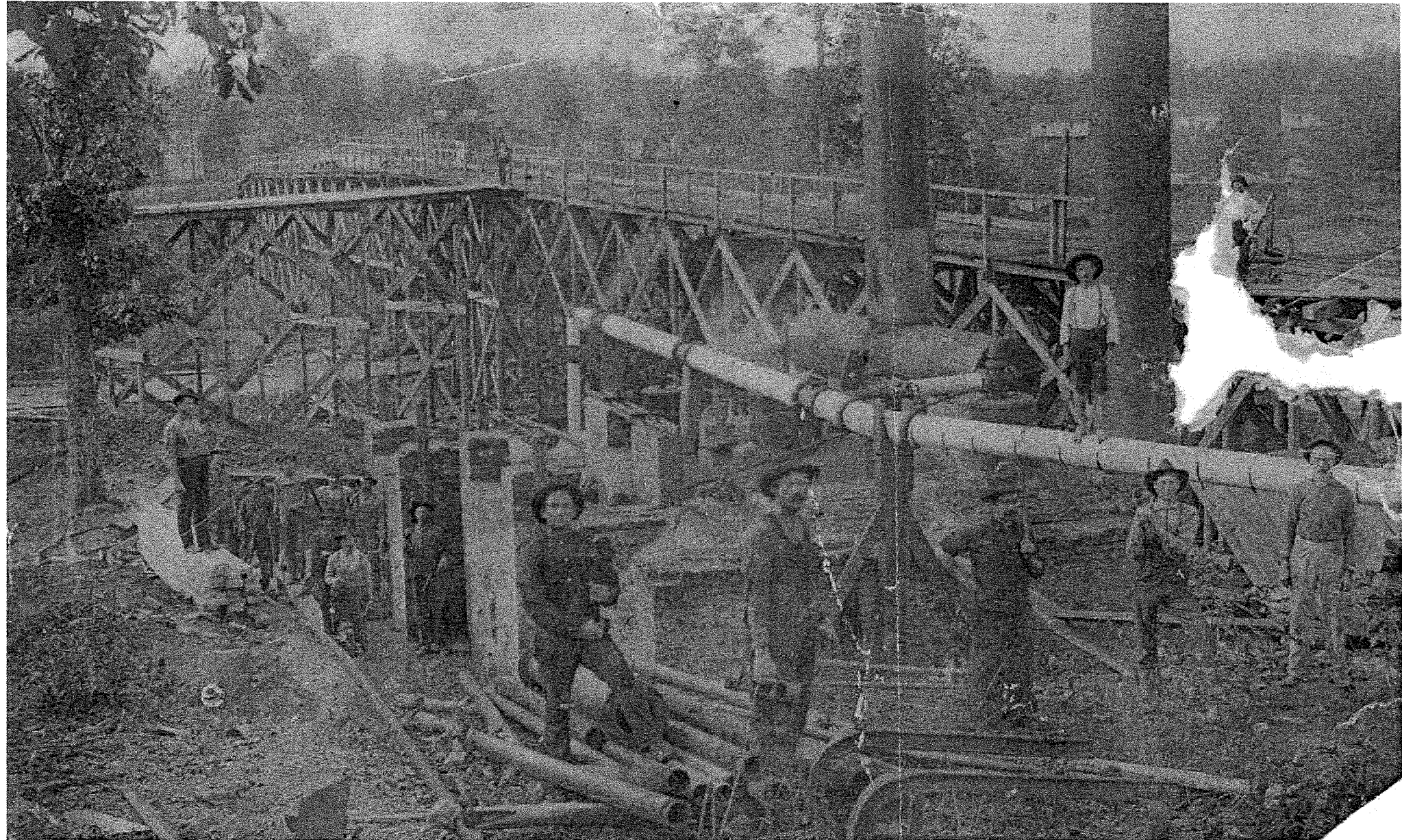
"They never did consult us only to tell us they were going to tear it down," he said. "I as county commissioner have no jurisdiction over the bridge in question."

"The state and federal governments are not just going to listen to me or to the other



MAYOR W. A. COLEMAN AT JOHN H. BANKHEAD BRIDGE
... Area residents feel they paid for the structure

county commissioners. They decided, and do it. The people just tell us what they have ple themselves might get raise up."



Riverside waits for the

BY R. E. "BUSTER" HOGAN, News staff writer
RIVERSIDE, March 28—Riverside "ain't going to be what it used to be."

It's going to be born all over again into an entirely new kind of community, a recreation center with a 16,000-acre lake, with a four-mile shoreline, and a canal and folks coming from hither and yon to fish and boat.

Founded in 1883, this small St. Clair County town has always been a milling and egg-producing town.

Creation of the Logan Martin Dam on the Coosa River is going to change all that. Backwaters from the dam will create the lake at Riverside's front door, and a canal will run through the town.

In the words of Mrs. William Coleman, wife of the mayor, Riverside "is going to be a little Venice."

With Mt. Cheha nearby, it

will be one of the scenic spots of Alabama, declares Charles Kelley, director of the state fish and game division. The dam area, he said, is one of the finest he has seen. He predicted that in three years anyone going to fish in the lake that doesn't catch a mess of fish "will be just too lazy to bait a hook."

FROM ITS PRESENT 300 population, Riverside is expected to grow to 5,000 in five years. Through Interstate 20, it will be brought within 26 miles of Birmingham. It will

be the only town on the Clover Leaf between Birmingham and Atlanta. In addition to this, it will be on a major east-west route.

"It doesn't take a star-gazer to tell what's ahead for us if we only take advantage of it," observed Mayor Coleman.

The tourist and recreation potentials, he pointed out, are left only to the imagination. Research has proved, he added, that recreation seekers in Alabama and elsewhere are strongly orientated to water recreation activities.

"We are working overtime the economic impact of this great 16,000 acre lake, created by the Alabama Power Company's Logan Martin Dam on the Coosa River," Mayor Coleman said.

AS THE RIVER runs now, the Logan Martin dam site is 30 miles from Riverside but when the water goes into the lake the distance will be cut in half.

E. O. Hussey, manager of the Talladega office of the Alabama Power Co., said spillways are expected to be ready by May 1, providing there are no weather setbacks. Then the will become a realty and be filled.

When everything is ready, one of three 45,000 kilowatt generators will start turning and generate current. The other two are expected to follow later on.

The main part of the town and the railroad that passes through it has had to be raised 14.2 feet to allow for the influx of water.

Coleman, who is still dazed

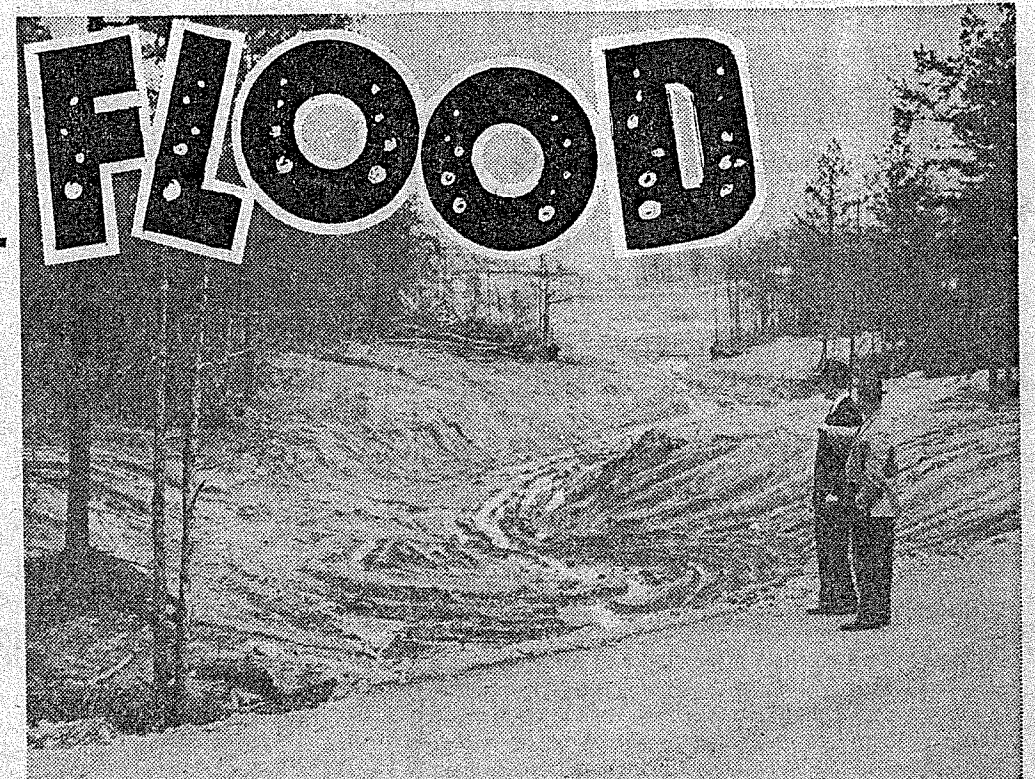
about what is happening to his once quiet little town, points out there will be five mariners with necessary slips, a golf course nearby, shopping center and a big motel at the Clover Leaf.

COLEMAN IS AN ENGINEER for the Southern Railroad, operates the Riverside Milling Co., the town's mainstay industry. He is also vice president of the Anniston Credit Corp.

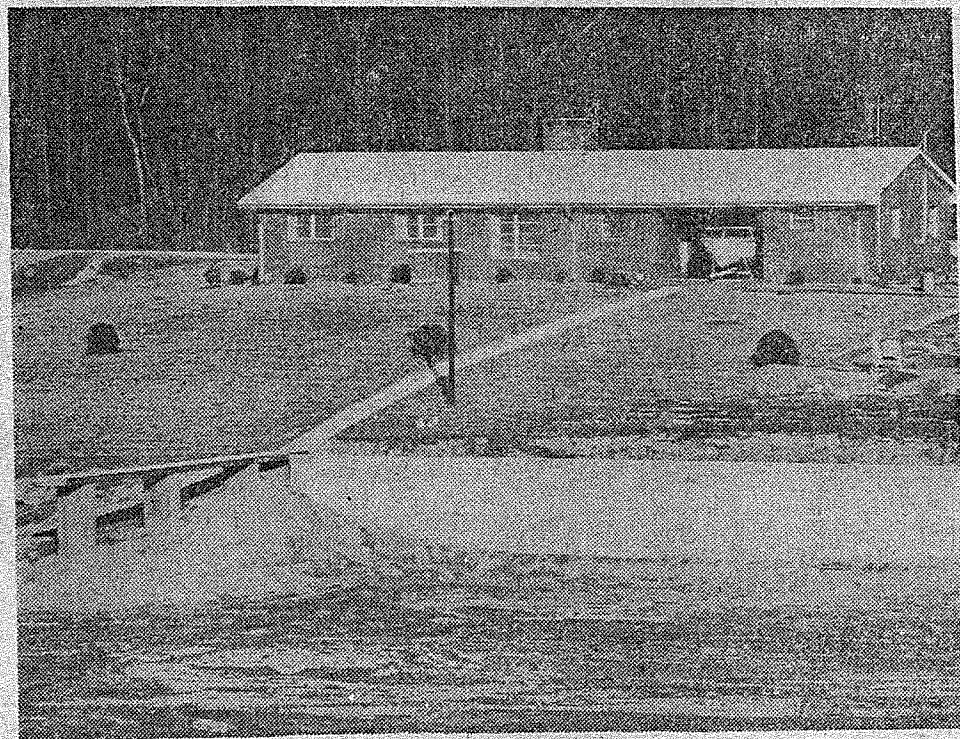
Looking over a map of the development, Mayor Coleman looked up at his wife and declared, "Honey, I just don't know what to do next."

"My," Mrs. Coleman exclaimed, "you're the most enthusiastic man in the country."

Among Birmingham visitors to the development was Norman T. Cooper, a salesman.



BOAT LANDING FOR CHURCH TO BE HERE
... Coleman and Cooper inspect part of canal site



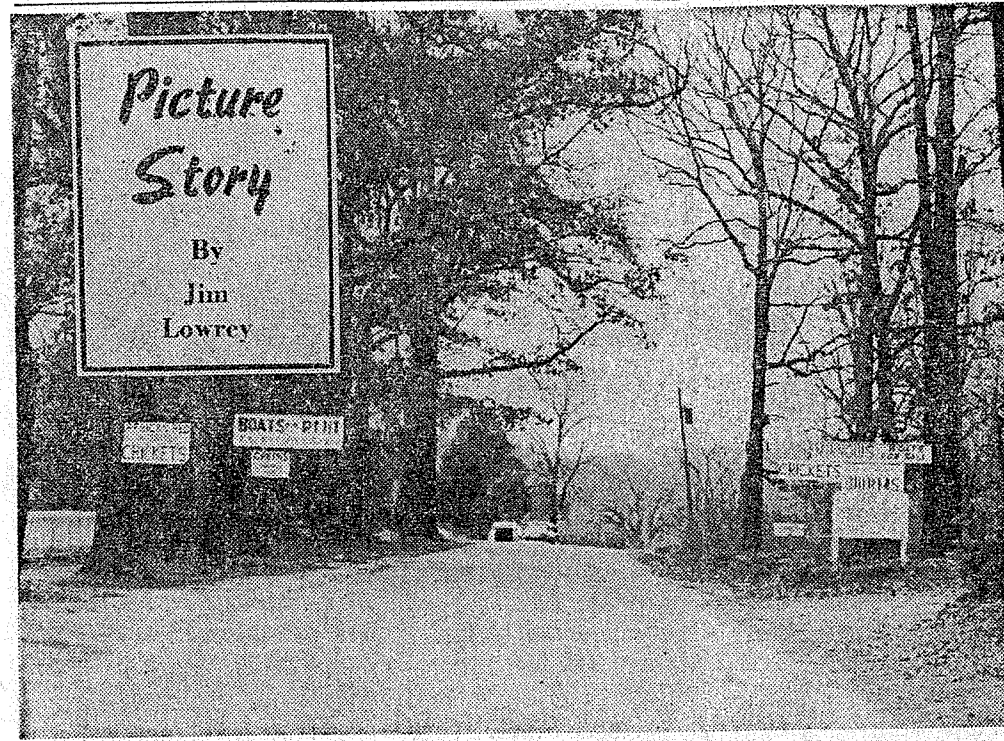
READY FOR OLD MAN RIVER
... City Councilman Earl Smith has boat dock ready



MAYOR AND WIFE WORK ON PLANS
... Mrs. Coleman is city clerk without pay



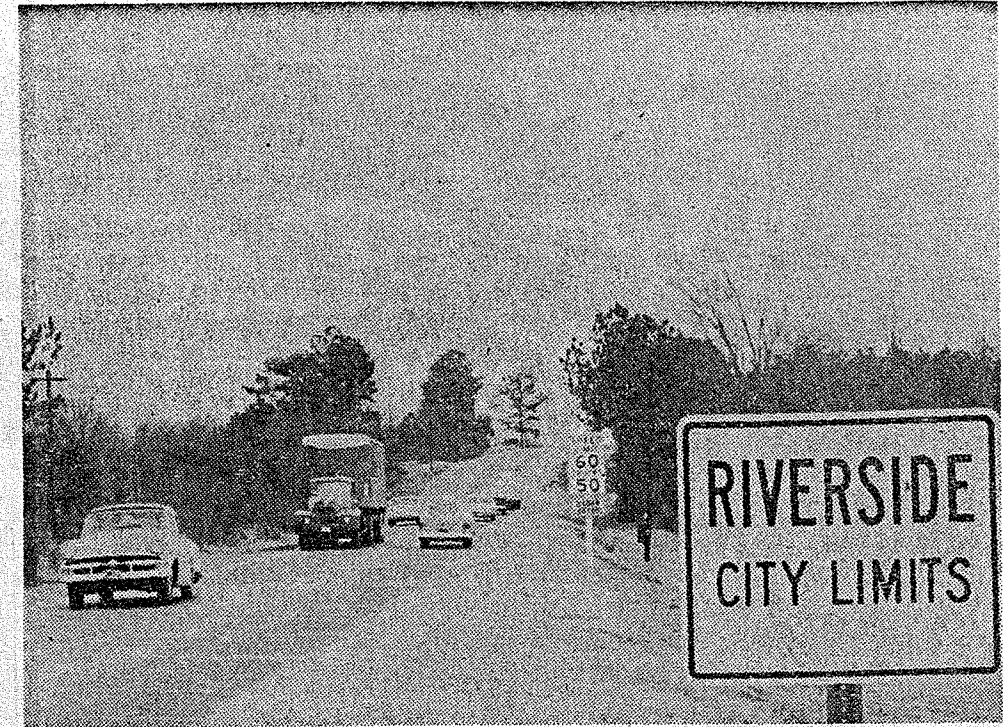
NEW \$55,000 RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
... Norman T. Cooper, left, and Mayor Coleman. Canal will be across street



FISHING CENTER—The renting of boats and selling of fish bait has been a going industry in the little town of Riverside, on the west bank of the Coosa River, for many years, as these signs indicate.



STATELY HOMES—This is one of several stately old homes in Riverside which will be closed by flooding when a new dam is completed on the Coosa River.



CITY LIMITS—The city limits of the Town of Riverside extend for a distance of almost two miles along Highway 78, but only the 60-mile daytime speed limit posted in the background is being enforced.



RAILWAY STATION—This tiny railroad station will also fall victim of the new lake soon to form on the present site of Riverside. The railway here will be raised several feet.

Town To Be Mecca

Dam Seen Aid To Riverside

THE little town of Riverside, just across the Coosa River in St. Clair County, will be a mecca for area sportsmen when the new Logan Martin Dam is completed at the mouth of Kelley Creek.

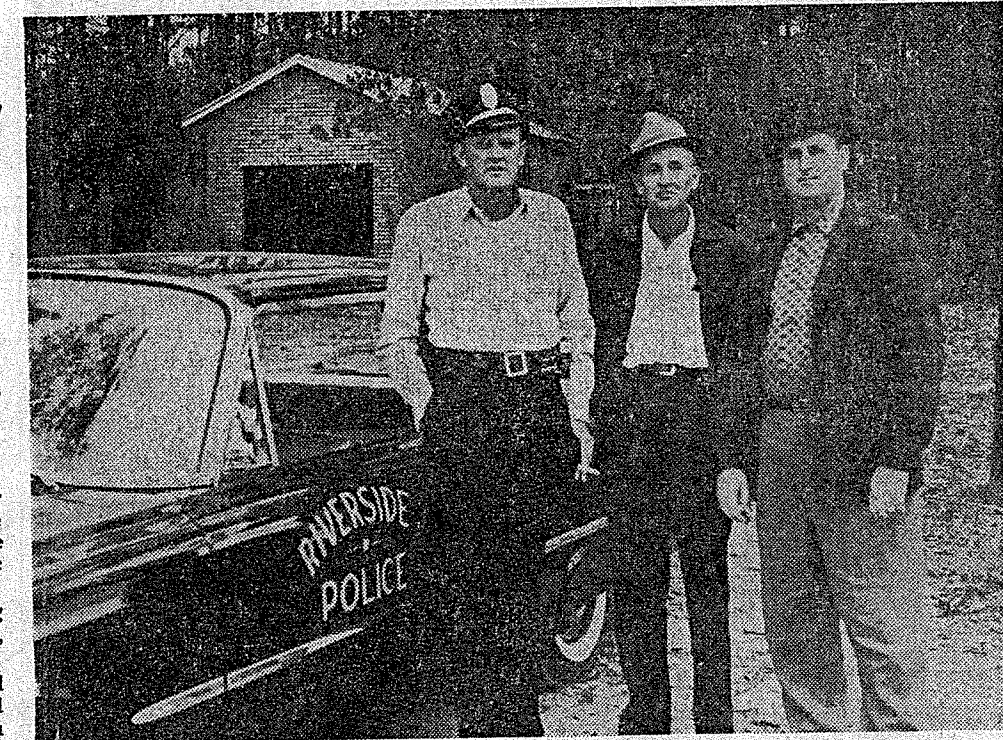
This is the opinion of the town's mayor, W. A. Coleman, who took office following his election Nov. 8.

But having fishermen around won't be anything new for Riverside. The town was incorporated on the banks of the Coosa in 1886, and has long been a favorite launching site for anglers who wished to try their luck along the historic stream.

Riverside residents, many of whom have been selling tackle and renting boats to area fishermen for generations, will be operating from a different location, however.

The 25-square-mile lake created by the new dam will flood much of the present site, and many of the homes and business houses will be moved to an area almost a mile north of the present location, Mayor Coleman said.

Flooding waters will cause the destruction of many lovely homes, most of which are surrounded by stately oak trees along the river bank.



POLICE CAR—Standing alongside the Town of Riverside's new police car are, from left Chief of Police Tollie A. Lockridge, City Councilman H. A. Scisson and Mayor W. A. Coleman.

St. Clair Co - Riverside