**Where State's Latest Lake Is Being Born**

**$200,000 Dam Approved By Paris Council**

**Augusta Plans Fishing Derby at Taylor Bay**

**Mt. Magazine's Dams Finished; Lake Started: Democrat 7-11-57**

**Clear Spring Water Being Impounded in State's New Park**

**Big Lake Club Will Sell Timber.**

**Notables See Start of Big Lake Project**

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**Lake Bennett to Be Opened To Fishermen for a Week**

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**Fishing Opens at Lake Bailey on Petit Jean Mountain**

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**$600,000 For Lake Project At Cass**

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**Big Lake Club Will Sell Timber.**

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**Notables See Start of Big Lake Project**

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Man-Made Lakes in Arkansas

Artificial Lakes and Reservoirs in the Ozark and Ouachita Mountain Ranges Compensate for Lack of Natural Lakes in These Areas.

By Geneva R. Light.

Substitutes for lakes which nature failed to supply in the Ozarks and Ouachitas are being built through combined efforts of the federal government and state, county and city groups in mountainous regions of Arkansas.

Some quirk of nature denied this state the natural lakes that many other hilly areas possess. But the need of lakes in the Ozachitas and Ozarks is being rapidly supplied by the construction of dams on streams and in spring-fed areas to create beautiful and useful bodies of water.

A major number of these lake developments has been made possible by public appropriation. Under proposal now are plans for many other dam-created lakes, some of them important factors in a flood control program that is often overlooked because of the general public's enthusiasm in recreational advantages supplied by the lakes.

With the recent completion and dedication of Lake Weldoning, near Fayetteville, there was added to the scenic Ozark region one of its most pretentious beauty spots. Lake Weldoning is a part of the 18,000-acre Northwest Arkansas Land Use Project of the government's Land Utilization Division. It is located south of Fayetteville and on Richland Springs on Highway 16, and is formed by a dam 7,000 feet long and 45 feet high.

The lake covers an area of 100 acres, and is fed by a continuous flow from numerous springs. Its still, clear waters have an average 20 feet in depth, and supply a capacity content of 500,000,000 gallons. It has a shore line of 12 miles.

Already two truckloads of large-mouth bass, rainbow, perch and catfish have been placed in the lake for potential fishing, and other fish will be planted. Several hundred fish harbours have been constructed in various places of the lake to aid propagation and fish growth. Project managers plan to open the lake to fishing in about two years. Wildlife has already taken possession of the new lake and its surrounding territory as a home. Ducks can be seen each day paddling on the water or waddling along the edge scouting for a meal.

Adding to its natural charm are the unique native stone buildings which border the L-shaped lake's edges. A large sandy beach several hundred feet long has been built along the west side. Immediately in front of the lake, built in the center of a sloping green velvet lawn, is a modern bathhouse, which is equipped with a dining tower with springboards. On the bank has been stationed a stone tower for the life guard.

Picnic areas with complete facilities lead down to the beach, and on the south side of the lake, on forest-clad ridges rising from the placid lake waters, have been built eight rustic cottages of native stone and hewn logs, which will be rented to the public.

The cool spring water is extremely invigorating, and there can be seen at any time crowds enjoying swimming and other recreational pleasures offered by Lake Weldoning, which takes its name from the early name of the location, "Weldoning Gap."

Smaller and less developed, but no less attractive is Cold Spring lake, tucked away at the foot of two mountain ridges, a part of another Northwest Arkansas Land Use development, Cold Spring lake takes its name from the mass of bubbling springs that feed it. It is located about 20 miles north of Van Buren, and is created by a small natural stone dam which stretches across the northern end of the lake. A small picnic area has been developed, which probably is but a meager beginning of recreational development on this particular project. The lake itself covers only three acres of land, but its quiet, peaceful, scenic surroundings increase its charm and recreational value.

Lake Francies is 3.5 miles southwest of Siloam Springs, and is created by a dam across the Illinois river. Only a portion of this lake is in Arkansas, however, and the dam itself is an Oklahoma development. The lake, which covers about 1,000 acres and is widely known for its excellent fishing. Game fish, bass, catfish, and flatfish are abundant, and picnics areas are reported daily the year.

Wild game is found in quantity in and around the lake. Summer homes dot the mountain sides near the lake, and rooms in the large, modern hotel in the Lake Frances park are reserved months ahead.

Ozark Colony lake, near Siloam Springs, is formed by a dam across Butler Creek. It is equipped with boat launching facilities, and has an excellent swimming pool.

Lake Crescent, a small lake near Eureka Springs, is formed by a dam "across Spring river. This lake, fed by mountain springs, is a picturesque body of blue spring water, and it offers splendid opportunities for water sports.

Lake Loversos, another Eureka Springs lake which is well known is, created by a dam formed across Spring river, and is the oldest resort lake in the entire Ozark region. It is located about two miles from Eureka Springs and is owned by a colony of owner-owners. It is filled with fish, but due to its small size, fishing is restricted. Many who rent cottages or stay at the lodges, enjoy the splendid swimming facilities of this lake. A section of the lake, 50 by 100 feet, has been built up, roped in, and floored with granitoid to make an excellent swimming pool. There are also boating facilities.

Clear Creek Water project of the PWA created beautiful Lake Fort Smith, 26 miles from Fort Smith, and 1.5 miles from Mountainburg. The plan for Lake Fort Smith was first conceived in order to maintain a satisfactory water supply for the city from which it takes its name. The lake is formed by a dam 2,000 feet long and 95 feet high, built across Clear Creek. The lake covers an area of 650 acres, and its storage content is 4,500,000,000 gallons.

The spillway is a scenic feature of this huge lake. It is built at the west end of the dam, and is 240 feet long,

Below lies a curved concrete weir 400 feet long over which the flood waters will pour in long curves for 200 feet wide. Many mountain springs feed the sources of Clear creek, and the reservoir is consistently filled to capacity, so that the spillway is seldom without a waterfall.

A new road, part of this project, has been built from the entrance gateway on U. S. Highway 71, across the Warloop creek bridge, up the mountain-side and down to the dam. Native stone hewn during spillway excavation forms railings on each side as the road crosses over the spillway bridge and up the mountain-side to re-enter the highway. Looking north from the dam there may be seen the translucent waters of the lake, winding to the foot of forest-clad hillsides. Looking south, there is the lake's playground, a big cement area surrounding a swimming pool, and the five lakes constructed for fish hatcheries.

The swimming pool is 200 feet long and 100 feet wide. It provides cold, clear running water, and is extensively used. The walls of the pool are of rubble masonry, plastered on the inside, and the floor is of concrete. A stone bathroom provides excellent showers.

The fish hatchery covers an area of 45 acres. Its one large pool holds 1,000,000 fish, and small ones are stocked with breeders and small fish, and the fish raised will be used to stock Lake Fort Smith. In several thousand fish already have been deposited in the lake, but fishing in the lake will not be allowed at the same time. Fishing is permissible, however, below the spillway, and anglers agree that many of the lake's fish are washed down the spillway with the swift waters.

A Boy Scout camp has been established, and seven native stone cottages have been built on the hillside above the spillway. The lake affords drainage for a large area, and Fort Smith and Van Buren a supply of soft, pure water. Dotted along the mountain-side above the lake are the summer homes and cabins where hundreds of families spend the summer.

The National Forest has been active in developing and maintaining lakes in forest areas. The Gummer Pool in Stone county is created by a small dam, approximately 60 feet, across the North Sylvania creek. The lake lies in a narrow, high grade of jaggied rock formation, and is one of the lesser-known show spots in the mountains. At the upper end of the one-acre lake is a small waterfall.

North Sylvania creek is perhaps the clearest stream of any in the Ozark country. Even in heavy rains it is unlikely that this lake will ever become cloudy, because of its limestone formations and narrow gorge boundary.

Climb Sylvania of the CCC is located at this spot, and the boys have planted approximately 1,000 smallmouth bass, together with other fish and frogs in this lake. They are placed there, for propagation and fishing is prohibited.

A small island at the upper end of this ideal location developed by a picnic area, but the area is open for recreational privileges to the CCC campers only at this time. The lake averages a depth of approximately 30 feet.

Blanchard Springs lake, also in Stone county, is in the process of development. When completed it will be one of the outstanding recreational developments in the Ozark National forests. It is created by a dam across Mill creek, and will cover four acres. The lake area is within a very narrow gorge, practically inaccessible until one-way road and bridge to the cave and lake were built.

The water gushes from the mountainside through a couple which in reality is the channel of an underground spring.
Lake Wallace Destroyed By Cloudburst

Lake Wallace was completely destroyed by a severe cloud burst on April 4, 1959. The lake, located in Lamb County, Texas, was one of the largest artificial lakes in the state. The lake was created by a dam that was built in the late 1950s to provide water for irrigation and recreation. However, on April 4, 1959, a severe thunderstorm passed over the area, causing a cloud burst that destroyed the lake and damaged surrounding areas. The storm caused flash floods and mudslides, leading to the evacuation of thousands of people. The lake was never restored, and the area remains a popular destination for hiking and nature enthusiasts. Today, the site of Lake Wallace is a reminder of the power of nature and the importance of preparing for severe weather events.
By Vivian Williams Utley

11-6-38 Gazette

Crowley's lake is in Crowley's Ridge State Park. It marks the location of the first settlement on Crowley's Ridge, in northeastern Arkansas. According to information furnished by B. D. Davies, director of state parks, Benjamin Crowley was a soldier in the War of 1812, and, like many other officers, he was offered a land grant in the Louisiana Purchase as a reward for his services. He accepted, and with his large family, servants and slaves, moved westward. When he arrived, in 1829, he found that the New Madrid earthquake of 1811-12 had sunk his land and he moved to the western edge of the elevation now known as Crowley's Ridge, in Greene county.

Here he located near a spring (the one that now feeds the lake pictured in the print), where he and his men developed a large plantation. Other pioneers settled there and it became the first thriving settlement in that part of the state.

The plantation passed for a time out of the Crowley family, but in 1869 it was bought by a son of the original pioneer, Capt. Benjamin H. Crowley, who commanded a company of cavalry during the War Between the States.

He was taken prisoner and while confined for 15 months, studied law. He became one of the best lawyers of his time, and represented Greene county in the legislature of the state.

The plantation stayed in the possession of the Crowley family until 1944. It was acquired by the State Parks Commission for a recreational tract. It is now known as Crowley's Ridge State Park.

Many improvements have been made by a company of CCC enrollees. The park has five miles of roads and foot trails. Great care has been used to preserve groups of trees. Log guard rails confine vehicles to substantial roads. The natural beauty of the place has been preserved and the spring that was barely guarded by Benjamin Crowley is now preserved.

Fort Smith Farm Gets Contract For Park Dam.

Paris, Nov. 14--The E. K. Evans Construction Company of Fort Smith, with a low bid of $261,877.41, has won the contract for building the new water dam and making improvements in the distribution system. The seven bids were submitted to the City Council.

The work will be started immediately upon approval of the contract by the city council and the state office of the PWA at Fort Worth, Tex. The job is expected to be completed in about 60 days. The 300 will cost $200,000. $60,000 of which will be paid in cash by the PWA.

From the dam across Short Mountain creek will be 300 feet long and 160 feet wide. It will have a 1,150-foot concrete spillway 65 feet deep with the south side of the dam. This dam will replace a smaller one built in 1937. Included in the contract is a new distribution system equipped with 200-gallon-per-minute pumps.

By Vivian Williams Utley

ARKANSAS BEAUTY SPOTS IN BLOCK PRINT

ARLIS: BEAUTY SPOTS IN BLOCK PRINT

By Vivian Williams Utley

The print today is one of Hill's lake on the Galloway pike. The lake derives its name from one of the early owners, Mr. Hill, who settled that section before the War Between the States. The lakes are stocked with fish and are used for the use of the plantation owners and their tenants. Cypress knees and trees of immense size grow around the banks; their fringes hanging over the water make beautiful sights in the bright sunlight. The glimmer of the water and the reflections of the cypress trees make it the prettiest place between Little Rock and Memphis.

George C. Brammer, state geologist, says: "Concerning the Galloway lakes to which you refer: A Little Rock quadrangle which was surveyed in 1899, shows the distribution of the so-called "ox-bow" or "horseshoe" lakes immediately south and southeast of Little Rock.

"It is an entirely normal assumption that these lakes were formed by the meandering of the Arkansas river and that such lakes are now forming in the area where we are located. The ring of lakes and swamps of eastern Arkansas are the remnants of these ancient streams."

The lake is literally dotted with these horsehoe lakes, swamps and bayous. They vary in width from .66 of a mile to nearly three to slightly more than four miles in length.

Hill's lake is on the Mark Blanton plantation. According to Mr. Blanton, no mention is made in the description of the land, which indicates that when it was first settled the fact that they were shifting and marked. Benjamin Crowley's grave is marked by a large stone monument, but this is not the original one, but the one that was moved by the pioneers of Greene county.

The park, with all its beauty, stands as a monument to the memory of Benjamin Crowley, first settler on that peculiar geological formation known as Crowley's Ridge.

By Vivian Williams Utley

Temporary Dam to Be Built At Lake Wallum.

Gazette 12-29-38

A temporary dam to replace the one which washed out following heavy rains will be built to impound the water of Lake Wallum, near Dumas. Mr. Graves, owner of the state Game and Fish Commission, said:

"The lake, built several years ago by the old Christy-Davis Company, has been stockpiled with fish and has developed into a popular fishing place in southeastern Arkansas. Mr. Graves considers the lake to be an excellent place for bass, barbel, and whitefish, which are found in the lake."

The temporary dam will be built this summer with a permanent dam. Mr. Graves said he will be built to impound the water of Lake Wallum.

Corn and cotton are raised on the land surrounding the lake, much of which is barely above flood stage of the Arkansas river.

A careful examination of the map will be to show the flat land down the east bank of the Arkansas river which is densely dotted with horsehoe lakes, swamps and bayous. They vary in width from .66 of a mile to nearly three to slightly more than four miles in length.

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$120,000 LAKE

Special to the Gazette

February 3—A photograph shows 60-acre Lake Atalanta in Dismal Forest, near the town of network for the lake. The construction will include a 400-foot concrete spillway that will be completed in 1960. The lake will be used for fishing, boating, and swimming, and will provide a recreational area for the surrounding community. The lake is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Temporal Dam Completed At Lake Wallis, Missouri

4-18-59

Special to the Gazette

Temporal Dam completed at Lake Wallis, Missouri. The dam was constructed to prevent flooding on the Arkansas River. It is a concrete dam with a height of 50 feet and a length of 400 feet. The dam is located adjacent to the town of Lee’s Summit, Missouri. The reservoir created by the dam will provide water for irrigation, municipal, and industrial uses. The dam is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Shady Lake To Be Dedicated July 21

Special to the Gazette

July 21—Shady Lake, one of the most extensive developed projects of the National Forest Service, in the Mena recreational area of the Ouachita Forest, south of here, will be dedicated Friday, July 21. Ranger V. R. Taylor, in charge of the Mena district, announced. Activities will begin at 9 a.m. with the dedication ceremonies. Following this will be the opening of the hunting season. The reservoir created by the dam is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Rogers Board Named to Regulate Lake Atalanta

Special to the Gazette

The Rogers Board of Commissioners has appointed a committee to regulate activities at Lake Atalanta. The committee consists of three members: J. R. Brown, W. H. Winstead, and W. E. Wilson. They will be responsible for enforcing regulations and ensuring the protection of the lake. The committee will meet on the first Tuesday of each month to discuss any issues related to the lake.

Lake Atalanta, Near Rogers, To Be Dedicated Tuesday

Special to the Gazette

February 3—The dedication of Lake Atalanta, located near Rogers, will take place on Tuesday, March 17. The dedication ceremony will include speeches and a dedication of the lake. The lake is a man-made lake created by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. It is located in the Dismal Forest area and will provide water for irrigation, municipal, and industrial uses.

Lake Wallington Recreational Project to Be Continued

Special to the Gazette

February 3—The Lake Wallington recreational project, which was approved by the state's congressional delegation, will continue despite a lawsuit filed by private citizens. The project is expected to provide water for irrigation, municipal, and industrial uses in the area. The lawsuit was filed by citizens who claimed that the project would damage their property values.

Excavation Work Started For Dam in Osuachita Forest

Special to the Gazette

February 3—Excavation work started today for the dam which will be built in the Osuachita National Forest. The dam will be 50 feet high and will have a capacity of 10,000,000 cubic feet of water. The dam will be used for irrigation, municipal, and industrial uses in the area. The work is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Another Claim Made to Lake Atalanta Property

Special to the Gazette

February 3—Another claim was made to the Lake Atalanta property by W. R. Feller, who filed a claim for the lake on the basis of the original survey. Feller is the owner of a nearby farm and has been using the lake for fishing and swimming. The claim is expected to be challenged by the state, which owns the property.

STATE OFFERED LAKE CLOSE TO EUREKA SPRINGS

8-1-26

Special to the Gazette

August 1—The state has offered to sell the 40-acre lake near Eureka Springs to the public for $120,000. The lake is located in the Ozark National Forest and is considered one of the finest recreational lakes in the state. The offer is expected to be accepted by the public, and the lake will be used for fishing, boating, and swimming.

New Recreational Area Proposed

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