which were entirely wooden, from Mauch Chunk to Easton were destroyed. The limitations of space forbid the description of the individual floods.

The tables show that the floods of the Lehigh and Delaware rivers do not always occur at the same time. This is due to the fact that occasionally the conditions causing the high water are not the same in the two drainage areas.

At this time of writing (February 1938) plans have been formulated for a system of flood control along the Lehigh River between Laurys and Easton. A detailed topographic survey has been made of this portion of the Lehigh River channel and flood plain between these points, under the supervision of the U. S. Engineer Office of the War Department.

Evolution of the Drainage System

The development of the present drainage system of Northampton County is linked up naturally with the evolution of the streams of the entire eastern portion of the United States. (Fig. 29) A full discussion leads one far afield and obviously does not properly constitute a part of this volume. It is highly theoretical in the main and probably always will be.

There is little disagreement among geologists regarding the existence of northwestward flowing streams during the Paleozoic era, by which sediments from the ancient continents were carried into the great interior sea. Following the Appalachian revolution the drainage direction was reversed. The Atlantic Coastal Plain is composed of the materials removed from the uplifted and folded regions lying to the northwest and west.

The present drainage system is believed to date from the uplift following Schooley peneplanation, or, according to Barrell and Johnson, from the elevation following the deposition of Coastal Plain sediments on top of the Schooley peneplain. Most geologists agree that the major streams following this uplift flowed to the southeast. The existing major streams of eastern Pennsylvania now have a general southeasterly course but in certain portions of their courses turn sharply to the northeast or southwest, parallel to the structures of the hard rock ridges of the folded mountains. These abrupt changes in course indicate plainly that there have been adjustments in the original streams. Much speculation as to what has been their history has resulted. Davis (1859), Walter (1895), Williams (1902), Johnson (1931), Ver Steeg (1930) and Itter (1936) (see Bibliography) are the principal writers on this problem. Most of them believe that the southeasterly-flowing portions of the existing streams are original