

ABANDONED INDIAN VILLAGE ·· HIGHLANDS HAMMOCK STATE PARK · FLORIDA

# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE REGION ONE RICHMOND VIRGINIA

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THIS MONTH	
OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES OF HISTORICAL CONSERVATION By RONALD F. LEE	
ACADIANS FIND PEACE IN LOUISIANA BY WILTON P. LEDET	••••• PAGE 9
LEADERSHIP IN ORGANIZED CAMPS By Stanley M. Hawkins	••••• PAGE 15
MUSEUMS FOR STATE PARKS By HERBERT EVISON	••••• PAGE 19
NATURE TRAILS UNDER THE SEA By H. S. LADD	PAGE 21
PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS	
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES	
THE CCC	
	1320 - I

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR • NATIONAL PARK SERVICE • REGION ONE ~ RICHMOND, VIRGINIA



# OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES OF HISTORICAL CONSERVATION

By Ronald F. Lee, Supervisor of Historic Sites, Washington.

/Editor's Note: The article below is the first of a series of studies dealing with the activities of the Service's Branch of Historic Sites. A second article, by Malcolm Gardner, Acting Superintendent of the Natchez Trace Parkway Project, will describe the program planned for conserving and interpreting that famous route; and a third, by Roy Edgar Appleman, Regional Supervisor of Historic Sites, will discuss the more important southern areas which are under consideration for national ownership and preservation. All three papers were presented last November before the Southern Historical Association, meeting in New Orleans. The materials have been modified slightly to adapt them to general reading./

Renewed interest in the conservation of historic sites in New Orleans and Louisiana during the last two years makes discussion of this subject particularly appropriate now. Last spring the Louisiana Legislature appropriated \$300,000 to save portions of the battlefield of New Orleans threatened by approaching industrialization, including the old Rod-. riguez Canal, bulwark of Jackson's defense, and the land fronting on it where General Pakenham fell in defeat. United to the smaller monument area presented to the national government in 1907, the complete battlefield will be preserved permanently as a national historical park.

Another recent Louisiana Legislature, equally alert to historical values, established a Commission to study means for preserving the <u>Vieux</u> <u>Carré</u>, whose architecture and history are one of the great cultural heritages of our country. As the federal bureau for historic sites conservation, the National Park Service was invited to cooperate in that study, and welcomed the opportunity to discuss these and similar public conservation problems with scholars in Southern history.

There are many signs that professional interest in site problems is growing on the part of those who represent the great disciplines of history, archeology and architecture. This New Orleans meeting is evidence that the preservation and study of American historic sites invites the careful attention of the professional historian. The American Institute of Architects has organized throughout the nation architectural committees on the preservation of historic buildings. The American Museum Association has sponsored important studies of the historic house as a new type of museum. Through the efforts of these groups and of others, such as the Society of American Archeology, sites like the Vieux Carre and all similar historical and architectural monuments throughout the nation are becoming recognized as rare documents of our national past. As such, they possess an importance which makes their preservation from idle destruction and their scientific study a common professional concern. Encouragement of these activities and formulation of a community of articulate professional sentiment on this subject are important objectives of the national program for preservation of historic sites.

Conservation of our forests, soil, wildlife and other resources long has claimed the attention of the American people. We are recognizing now that the conservation of our historical and archeological treasures is at least as important. Recent nation-wide surveys reveal that prehistoric sites are fast yielding to mercenary exploitation or the farmer's plow, that our characteristic American architecture is fast disappearing, often unrecorded. General statistics are not available but examples illustrate the processes that are at work. The great prehistoric mounds at Etowah, Georgia, which rank as one of the major archeological sites in the Southeastern United States, both in size and known depth of cultural deposits, are under cultivation as a plantation, and the artifacts uncovered are being sold to tourists. With the aid of a steam shovel, quarrying operations are fast cutting into the Wilderness Rcad at Cumberland Gap. The foundations of Fort Frederica, on St. Simons Island, Georgia, built by Oglethorpe in 1736 as an important feature of his colonial establishment, are fast yielding to the erosion of tidal waters. The William Rhett House in Charleston, South Carolina, one of the city's earliest surviving colonial residences and historically significant as the birthplace of Wade Hampton, is being used as a cheap boarding house and will not long survive the present treatment.

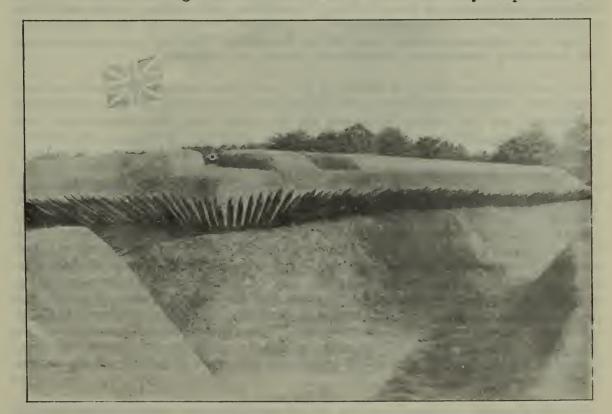
These examples could be multiplied indefinitely. Our oldest and finest cities have found it necessary to take steps to save their historic and civic character from premature disintegration. Zoning laws to protect the old quarter of Charleston, preservation studies in St. Augustine, parallel developments in Annapolis, all greatly stimulated by the spectacular achievements at Williamsburg, are a sign of the times.

Events like these are opening a new conservation field for the application of scientific methods, including those of documentary research. Men with historical training are being employed by the federal, state and municipal governments and by societies and institutions to apply their technical knowledge and methods to conservation and public presentation of historic sites. The degree to which this movement will develop depends to a considerable extent upon the effective coordination of professional historical interest with the work of conservation organizations.

It is interesting to note that the role of government, whether national state or local, in the conservation of historic sites has expanded greatly in the last few years. This is not to imply that governmental activities should or could supplant the excellent semi-public endeavors of historical societies, patriotic agencies and conservation organizations. Such groups as the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, the Society for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, and the Ladies Hermitage Association, have pioneered in the field of historic sites conservation. The government has learned from them and its efforts must supplement theirs in a broadly coordinated program. In the struggle for preservation of historic sites the government, however, possesses an instrument which in time may become increasingly significant. That the power of eminent domain properly may be exercised in order to bring land into public ownership has been recognized by the courts, both state and federal In ruling on the application of this power in connection with the establishment of Gettysburg National Military Park, the Supreme Court of the United States said in part:

"Upon the question whether the proposed use of this land is a public one, we think there can be no well-founded doubt. . The Battle of Gettysburg was one of the great battles of the world. . The importance of the issues involved in the contest of which this great battle was a part cannot be over-estimated. . . Can it be that the government is without power to preserve the land, and properly mark out the various sites upon which this struggle took place? Can it not erect the monuments provided for by these acts of Congress, or even take possession of the field of battle in the name and for the benefit of all the citizens of the country for the present and for the future? Such a use seems necessarily, not only a public use, but one so closely connected with the welfare of the Republic itself as to be within the powers granted to Congress by the Constitution for the purpose of protecting and preserving the whole country."

Conservation of historic and archeologic sites has been the subject of federal legislation for almost half a century. Beginning in the 1890's with major battlefields of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, federal protection was extended as early as 1906 to numerous archeologic sites, particularly cliff dwellings and pueblos in the Southwest, and later to such important historic sites as Jamestown Island and the birthplaces of Washington and Lincoln. By 1933 almost 80 areas had come into the possession of the national government, but these had been acquired and developed under the varying policies of three departments and several bureaus. In 1933 the federal government proceeded to set its own house in order by grouping all of these areas together for administration by the Department of the Interior through the National Park Service. A very important ad-



RESTORED REDOUBT NO. 9 AT YORKTOWN. TAKEN BY THE FRENCH, OCTOBER 14, 1781

ditional step was taken when the Historic Sites Act was passed in 1935 That act declares it to be "a national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings and objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States." It confers upon the Secretary of the Interior broad powers for the survey of historic and archeologic sites throughout the United States, and for the development in cooperation with states, municipalities, associations and even individuals, of a national program for their conservation.

In its work under the above legislation, the National Park Service has been guided by an Advisory Board of authorities eminent in the fields of history, archeology, architecture and human geography. Among these are several, including Dr. Herbert E. Bolton, Dr. Waldo G. Leland, Dr. Fiske Kimball and Dr. Clark Wissler. Invaluable benefits have been derived also from the advice and assistance of the Smithsonian Institution, the National Archives, the Library of Congress and the staffs of many university departments of history and archeology. Through a constant interchange of ideas with these groups the National Park Service has developed a body of policies governing the survey, development and operation of historic sites which constitute the underlying basis for its program.

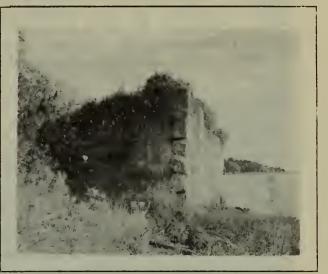
One important objective of the newer federal policies has been the integration of the varied types of historic sites which were brought together for the first time in 1933 into a program based on a scientific approach. An important step in this direction has been the reclassification of established areas for purposes of study and interpretation into historically related groups. New areas considered for acquisition by the federal government, or cooperative protection into states, municipalities or associations, are being grouped similarly. Inevitably the resulting categories present somewhat arbitrary features, but they have proved useful in making possible an orderly conservation program.

To cite an example: A study of historic and archeologic sites associated with Spanish exploration and settlement now is in progress. In this category Forts Marion and Matanzas at St. Augustine, Florida, already are preserved as national monuments. Other important surviving structures such as the massive El Morro at San Juan in Puerto Rico, and La Forteleza, the government house in San Juan, also are federal property, but in administrative use by other government bureaus. De Soto's route is being studied by a special federal commission with the object of preserving and marking sites along its course. Coronado's route is being studied by a special state commission but in cooperation with the federal government. Many of the sites which these and other early Spanish explorers visited are in private ownership, although an occasional one, such as Pecos in New Mexico, is owned by the state. The object here is to develop on a scientific basis a coordinated program for the preservation of sites representing this phase of our national history. Similar programs will be developed as our facilities permit for other categories of sites such as those representing English exploration and colonization, French exploration and colonization, and other great periods in our history such as the Revolutionary era.

Among areas in these various programs which are receiving the active

6

attention of the National Park Service in the South, the following may particularly mentioned. Jamesbe town Island already has been acquired and there the archeologist's trowel is uncovering the foundations of homes, utensils, implements and hardware of our 17th century ancestors. It is hoped that Roanoke Island, North Carolina, site of Raleigh's ill-fated colony, will be added soon, and Fort Frederica may be saved and made a national monument in collaboration with public-spirited citizens of Georgia. Exploratory studies looking toward possible cooperative preservation work on English colonial sites in Charleston and Annapolis also have been begun.



FORT FREDERICA, GEORGIA

The Revolutionary battlefields of Yorktown, Kings Mountain and Guilford Courthouse are major historical areas under federal administration in the South. The coastal fortifications which were constructed by authority of Congress following the War of 1812 and which remain as some of the most impressive physical monuments of our history also are being preserved. Fort Pulaski, in Georgia, and Fort Jefferson, in the Dry Tortugas off Key West, are national monuments. Other similar areas of somewhat less importance in our national history are being repaired and developed for public use in cooperation with the states in which they are located. Fort Clinch, in Florida, Fort Morgan, in Alabama, Fort Macon, in North Carolina, and Fort Pike, in Louisiana, all have received the cooperative assistance of the federal government through the National Park Service. Westward expansion is represented by the recently acquired Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, by a current study of Cumberland Gap as a possible national historical park and by the Pioneer National Monument Project which aims toward the preservation of Boonesborough and related sites through federal and state cooperation. The Natchez Trace Parkway Project falls in a general way into the same historical category. The Civil War battlefields from Manassas to Appomattox, including major reservations at Fredericksburg, Chattanooga, Shiloh and Vicksburg, long established and highly developed, are part of the general program. Important though the national battlefield reservations are, the National Park Service is not concerned primarily with military areas, but conceives its responsibility to be the cooperative study and preservation of historic sites representing all phases of our history, political, economic and social. The national program of historical conservation is encouraging the adoption of new state legislation and the establishment of divisions in state conservation, departments for the preservation and presentation of historic sites. Virginia may be said to have pioneered in this field, and among other Southern states, Georgia, Florida and Louisiana have many achievements to their credit.

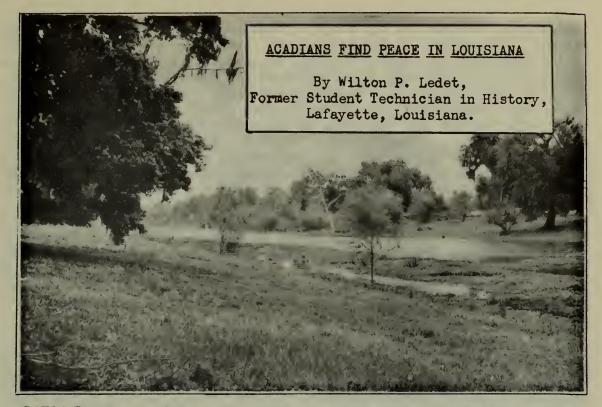
Important examples of cooperation in research are afforded by the study of preservation problems in St. Augustine by the Carnegie Institution in cooperation with local authorities. Very recently the Smithsonian Institution has undertaken, in cooperation with the National Park Service, a study of the site of the Chickasaw Village of Ackia, in northern Mississippi. The TVA has cooperated with the University of Alabama in the excavation of archeologic sites soon to be inundated by waters impounded by TVA dams. All of these activities, national, state and local, reflect the increasing importance of government in the conservation of historic sites. In all of this work the assistance provided by funds from the CCC, WPA, and FWA programs has been indispensable.

This participation of government in a broad movement for the development of parks and monuments may be interpreted as a response to new social conditions. During recent years the great and continuing increase in leisure time has become a mass phenomenon of far-reaching importance. The constant movement of our people around the country over newer and better roads, in newer and better automobiles, is a significant and related phase of contemporary social history. It has been well said that the world is on wheels. Families, school classes, outdoor groups, labor groups on educational weekend trips, conventions (even of professional people in their off-time) are on the move. These people want and need to see in their travel more than sign boards and commercial resorts. They are seeking cultural satisfaction and enjoyment of the American scene -- natural and historic. We are dealing here with one aspect of the problem of adult education.

During the last 12 months, seven and one-half million people visited historic sites and memorials under the administration of the federal government. How many additional millions visited the properties of states and local organizations, it is impossible to say. Wherever they went these people were met with interpretations of American history in leaflets, historical markers, historical museums and through the oral presentations of guides and lecturers. It is of vital social importance that our national history be interpreted to the traveling millions correctly, according to the best standards of modern American historical scholarship. The difficulty of a vital yet historically accurate interpretation is evident when one considers that these visitors include groups as unrelated as patriotic societies and organized labor. But historic sites do not and cannot interpret themselves. The assistance of guides, literature, museums and markers is essential. In the provision of such interpretative facilities the National Park Service is endeavoring to employ the best professional historical opinion available and the best modern technical methods of presentation through visual exhibits.

Where factors so numerous are involved --- scientific, governmental, and social --- it is apparent that a successful solution to the problem of historic sites conservation can be achieved only through cooperative endeavors. The national program for the planned conservation of the historic and archeologic treasures of the country cannot be the work of any one organization. The historic sites act and its corollaries undoubtedly confer broad powers on the federal government, but these powers can be implemented effectively only through public and professional support. The confidence, aid and sympathy of the influential, learned and scientific societies concerned with history and archeology, with architecture and art, provide an indispensable stimulus to any federal program, and constitute the first assurance of its growth and the best guarantee of protection for its standards.

8



BAYOU TECHE, IN LONGFELLOW-EVANGELINE STATE PARK, ST. MARTINVILLE, LA.

/Editor's Note: This article, one of the few studies ever made of the customs of those Acadian exiles who settled in Louisiana during the latter part of the 18th century, is based on researches carried out by Mr. Ledet while he was a National Park Service student technician in history assigned to Longfellow-Evangeline State Park, St. Martinville. That recreational area, a picturesque preserve on the banks of historic Bayou Teche, has been developed by Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees, supervised jointly by the National Park Service and the Louisiana State Parks Commission, as a rural shrine memorializing the early Acadians in general as well as Gabriel and Evangeline, the semi-fictitious personages of Longfellow's famed poem which bears the heroine's name./

The Acadians' deportation from their native land off the eastern coast of Canada began in 1755 and continued for seven years. Acadia, formerly a French possession, was declared English territory in 1713 by the Treaty of Utrecht. From the first it was apparent that the French Catholics of Nova Scotia would not accept the state religion of the English and time did not efface the differences. Acadian evacuation was suggested and finally became compulsory. Whether the expulsion was merited is a matter of opinion.

The ships carrying the unfortunate Acadians did not all sail for the same destination. No definite place of settlement had been designated for them. The British vessels sailed along the Atlantic seaboard, spreading most of those French peasants from Maine to Louisiana. Others finally were landed in Martinique, in England and in France. When some of the

exiles were debarked on the shore of Massachusetts they were taxed immediately. The people of New York showed even more inhospitality, for in that colony they were nearly starved. Connecticut at first accepted them only to break its principles of tolerance and force the miserable travelers away from the colony. Quaker Pennsylvania allowed them to land only after large numbers had died on the crowded ships, and even then the Acadians were denied the practice of their religion. Virginia refused to let them disembark. After a year on board the English vessels in the Virginia harbors, and eight years in imprisonment in England, they were sent to France. Georgia was a bit more humane than Virginia. She allowed them to land but forced them away from the coast into the wilderness, perhaps to serve as a bulwark against the Indians. One state, however, did accept the Acadians with open arms. That was Maryland. Settled principally by Catholics, the state served as a place of refuge for Acadians forced out of neighboring states. There they were given land, tools, and provisions upon which to live until crops could be produced. A look through the old record books in St. Martin's courthouse, St. Martinville, Louisiana, reveals that marriages between Marylanders and Acadians were numerous.

Unwanted in all the English colonies save one, the wanderers naturally turned southward toward the French settlements in Louisiana. There a kindred people lived, a people who would sympathize with and help them. Pirogues and rafts were launched in the many rivers leading to the Miss-issippi. Many of the travelers had to cover the distance through the wilderness on foot. Once at the Mississippi it was comparatively easy to float down its murky yellow currents to New Orleans. Before the year 1765 was out many additional Acadians, besides the original 650 who had reached the city, arrived at New Orleans. During the next decade the influx continued. How many settled in Louisiana has not been determined. Precise figures are not available but most historians agree that by 1804 the total had reached approximately 4,000.

Spain had been in possession of Louisiana since 1763 but French officials still presided over the territory. Through their influence and the persistence of the population at large, funds were raised by subscription and before long the Acadians were settled in homes and on soil of their own. But these grants were not made close to New Orleans. The citizens and officers of New Orleans feared such a large aggregation of the exiles and decided to give them homes and land away from the city. Properties were surveyed for them in the Teche region, the name Teche being that of a bayou in southwestern Louisiana. They were given adjoining tracts in order that they might assist each other. Most of the sites were granted along streams of potential navigation.

The section first settled by the Acadians was then known as the Attakapas region, the name of a powerful Indian tribe which formerly held the land. The region comprised territory now included in the parishes of St. Martin, St. Mary, Iberia, Lafayette, Vermilion, Acadia and St. Landry. In 1765 the French government had established the Poste des Attakapas on the bank of the Teche where St. Martinville now stands. At the time of the arrival of the Acadians the <u>poste</u> was described as "a small hamlet having two or three houses, one store and a small wooden church, situated on Bayou Teche." (1).

Like typical frontiersmen the Acadians had to depend on their farms, on their axes, on their traps and on their guns for everything needed. A wife was regarded as a helper. She assisted her husband with the work and bore him many children, for children also meant helping hands. A few essentials, farm implements, traps, guns and salt were not obtainable in the wilderness. These had to be bought with produce or pelts. The land upon which the Acadians settled was fertile virgin soil, but it had to be cleared and that operation required much labor. Once cleared, it grew crops in great abundance. At first, Irish potatoes, indigo and garden

vegetables were the principal products but before long sugar-cane, rice and cotton were being cultivated. Today rice is the most important crop in Southwest Louisiana.

In early days water furnished the principal means of transportation. On the many bayous found in the Teche region floated the rafts, canoes and pirogues of the Acadians, loaded with produce and pelts. The currents seldom were strong enough to carry heavy loads at any reasonable rate of speed. Hence long oars had to be resorted to. Sometimes the water carrier was pulled

by oxen walking along the banks of the stream. Land transportation was less practicable. The heavy ox cart, often called a beef cart, was the freight conveyance. Made entirely of wood, the vehicle was somewhat cumbersome. Heavy pieces of timber were hewn by hand and then put together by means of tenons and mortises, while wooden pegs and strips of raw hide also were used to hold the parts properly. Large wooden wheels on a heavy wooden axle, greased with tallow, made the cart capable of carrying loads of considerable weight. For traveling, a lighter carriage, the <u>calèche</u>, was used. This light cart, made of wood, was for speed and comfort, and raw hide tugs supported the seat, permitting it to swing backward and forward.

The Acadians for the most part progressed very slowly at first. They cared but for a simple and peaceful life similar to that which they had led in Acadia. Its perpetuation was brought about not by the ignorance of the people, but rather can be attributed to the fact that they were isolated geographically from the established settlements of Louisiana of that time. The average Acadian of yesterday lived in a small one-room, low-slung house with the bare ground serving as a floor. The house had a cypress frame and walls made of a mixture of mud and moss. A chimney of the same mixture usually was erected at one end of the house. The openings serving as windows were closed at night by solid shutters. In time,



OLD ACADIAN HOME, NOW A MUSEUM Longfellow-Evangeline State Park

Voorhies, Felix: <u>Acadian Reminiscences</u> Opelousas, La., Jacobs News Sompany, 1907.-

the man, if industrious, laid a floor of rough-hewn cypress planks on wooden blocks. The floor was low and no steps were needed. As the family grew, partitions were installed. In none of his work did the Acadian use nails, but bored holes and employed wooden pegs.

A cypress table, a half-dozen chairs with cow hide seats, a fourposter bed or two, a large <u>armoire</u>, or ambry, all home-made, along with pictures of saints on the walls, were the only articles of furniture in the house. When the home was still a one-room building the bed or beds and <u>armoire</u> were at one end and the table and chairs at a short distance from the open fire place. The cauldron hanging over a blazing fire was about the only cooking utensil until additional pots and pans were bought with the passing of time. The open fire place furnished the home with warmth and light besides being the place where all the cooking was done. Sweet potatoes usually were cooked in the hot ashes. The home was always very clean, the furniture in order. After the floor had been added the housewife kept it clean by using crushed brick on it. All dirt was removed with it and the golden yellow color of the floor showed that the wife or daughter had spent an unpleasant hour or two on her knees a-scrubbing. Since the early Acadians did not use brick in building they had to borrow some from a more wealthy neighbor.

A small fruit orchard, a large pasture for the stock, and a pig pen were back of the house. Flower gardens were not numerous because by the time an Acadian maid became interested in planting flowers she became a bride and had to turn to the more serious and useful tasks of life. As soon as the first cotton crop was grown a hand-made loom appeared in the home, a cumbersome device made by the man of wood and pegs. It became the duty of the wife to card, spin and weave the cotton which had been picked. Nankeen cotton, introduced into Louisiana from China, was made into a brownish cottonade, and other colors were derived from dyes obtained from indigo grown on the farm and from oak bark. Sometimes the women wove enough blankets to trade for something else needed in the household. Each child, on getting married, received one as a wedding present.

Husband and wife got up at dawn. Probably the man built a fire in the fire place and then went to harness his team. With a crude plow bought at the <u>poste</u> (later St. Martinville) he broke the soil. After an hour or so of labor he returned to the house to eat a coarse breakfast consisting of corn bread, coffee and meat. By that time the children were up and, after partaking of the coarse food, joined the parents in the field.

Although an Acadian girl usually married in her early 'teens, she knew all the household duties and obligations of motherhood before accepting a proposal to wed. On the other hand, the young man usually was launched in business by the time he walked up the aisle of the little Catholic church to be married. Marriage was not the outcome of a whirlwind courtship although long drawn-out love affairs were not common. The boy generally met the girl at the dance hall and devoted much of his attention to her. If in time he began to walk from the church steps to the buggy with her on Sunday the affair was getting serious. When he began calling, usually on Sunday evenings, it was a matter of only a few months before rumors of a wedding-to-be were set afloat by the local gossips (for those ubiquitous persons were found even among the Acadians). Before long the youth made a special call on Thursday night and asked the father for the daughter's hand. It took no time or hesitation on the part of the father to give his answer. He long before had looked into the affairs of the youth, had seen him grow up, knew his parents. The answer would be yes because if the youth were not acceptable he would have been headed off at the beginning.

After three public announcements from the church rostrum the wedding took place. To every bride her wedding was, of course, a red letter day, and it was a gala affair for all. As many as 70 or 80 buggies formed the procession to the church. The ceremony ended, the bride and bridegroom rode in the first buggy, the fathers of the couple rode in the second and a mad scramble ensued to determine who would have the distinction of driving the third, for that was a place of honor. Friends and relatives gathered from miles around for the feast that followed. The merriment was topped with a wedding dance.

The Acadian ball, which usually took place on Saturday or Sunday night, was the outstanding form of recreation. At nightfall people assembled from outlying sections, coming on horseback, in buggies and in pirogues. The large, open dance hall, in addition to providing ample space for dancing, contained an extra room called the <u>parc-à-petits</u>, where the babies slept while the mothers looked on approvingly at the dancers. Music was furnished by the accordion, the fiddle with steel strings, the steel guitar and the steel triangle. The common dances were the one-step,



IN LONGFELLOW-EVANGELINE STATE PARK, LOUISIANA

the old jigs and reels, the square dance, the <u>polka</u> <u>du</u> <u>salon</u>, mazurka, the jilliling, the varieties and the lancers.

Education failed for a long time to meet with the approval of the Acadians. It was customary for the children to learn the trade of their father --- farming; to get married at an early age, and to settle down as near as possible to the old homestead. Schools did not make their appearance in the Acadian country before 1875.

The favorite Acadian dish was, and is to this day, gumbo. This is nothing more than soup to which has been added sassafras leaf. The dish is usually eaten with rice. The Acadians resemble the Chinese in their method of cooking rice. It is not properly prepared unless every grain retains its identity. The jambalaya, a dish consisting of rice, bits of beef, pork, game, oysters, shrimp, crabs, cow-peas, chicken or turkey, also has been a favorite dish since the earliest days.

The average Acadian was very superstitious. When he saw lighting, he made the sign of the cross. To appease the fury of the storm he burned palms or blessed candles and sprinkled holy water over the household. If he became ill he sought out a <u>traiteur</u> who, because he was endowed by God with certain powers, was able to cure him by prayer and sign of the cross. The first milk had to be thrown over the cow's back to assure that she would be a good milker. A single woman had to be careful not to step on a cat's tail unless she wanted to be married before the year was out.

Today the Acadians of Louisiana, although they still retain a few unique characteristics, are fast becoming more and more like their more fortunate fellow men who had settled in and about New Orleans. School buses penetrate all sections to take their children to the class room, and good highways have brought the remotest regions in contact with modern civilization. Mining is growing in importance there, but what is contributing more to the disintegration of Acadian simplicity is the advent of the oil business which is industrializing many of the pastorally picturesque spots where, some 175 years ago, primitive pirogues were tied up at the banks of black-water bayous and the harassed wanderers from old Acadia found peace at last.

## DEDICATION HELD ON C. & O. CANAL

For the first time in 16 years, a scow passed through Lock No. 1 of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal when that area was rededicated with special ceremonies held recently. One of the old canal scows was towed from the basin along the edge of Rock Creek into the lock, which was filled with water, permitting the vessel to pass into the pool above. Considerable repairs had been carried out at the lock under a PWA project supervised by the Service. Features of the ceremony included the presence of two veteran lock tenders, one of whom had spent 75 years on the waterway. Another participant was "Mutt," a venerable mule who celebrated her 38th birthday by towing a scow upon which the United States Army Band played patriotic airs.

#### LEADERSHIP IN ORGANIZED CAMPS

By Stanley M. Hawkins, Associate Recreational Specialist, Richmond, Virginia.

Again the mid-way mark between summer camping seasons has been passed and camping agencies are laying their plans for the 1939 program. Region One of the National Park Service will have about 45 organized camps ready for use by June and some 45 organizations will provide leader ship for the hundreds of children who will occupy these model outdoor centers. Many of the agencies which used the camps in past seasons will return; others will take advantage of them for the first time. Yet, whether the agency is new or old in the use of Recreational Demonstration Area camps, many members of the camp staff will be unacquainted with the areas. Each year in most groups there are new individuals and new personalities on the counselor staff, and therein is presented a problem for the camp director. The new members must be introduced, worked into the camp picture and made familiar with the objective, tradition and program of the sponsoring organization.

That knowledge, upon which the success of the entire summer camp depends, can not be passed on adequately to a new staff in the main offices of the agency in the city. It can be imparted best if the new-comers are taken for a few days, or better yet for an entire week, before camp opens, to the environment in which they must work during the summer. Many agencies have carried forward pre-camp training for years and have found it to be of great value. Yet many groups, particularly new ones, feel they cannot afford it. This, on the face of it, appears unsound for business reasons if for no others. Much time and effort go into planning for the campers. Adults want a program that will help to prepare the child better to meet the problems of life, but the youngster himself goes to camp for fun and a new adventure. The staff must be prepared therefore to disguise the first and utilize the second so that both are satisfied.

When new agencies are urged to hold pre-camp training courses for their counselors their first question is how they can do it alone, who will lead the course, or how three or four nationally known leaders can be induced to speak at their courses. Obviously there are not enough to go around. Anyone of the right kind would be good enough, perhaps, to sound the keynote and start the course in motion. But this difficulty, in any case, should not bar the way to a pre-camp session with the counselors.

First, each agency that expects to operate a good camp must have an experienced camp director. He must be on the job (or available for consultation) far enough in advance to help select the staff and make plans for camp. With the help of the officials of the organization he also can plan and lead the training course. He <u>must</u> lead the course if he is to

lead the staff all summer. But where is he to get assistance in many specialized subjects?

After the principal objectives of the camp have been determined, the community may be surveyed for specialized leadership. Many men and women will be found who, either by profession or hobby, can be useful in presenting the fundamentals of specialized program material. Such leaders are busy people and may not have thought of their knowledge in terms of a camping program, but when it is shown how they can serve and how many times their hour-or-so spent at a course will be multiplied during the summer they will give their time gladly. Then the camp director, having interviewed the staff members, knows of their several abilities and can use the more experienced of them as leaders to pass on to the other counselors those things which have proved helpful in an organized program for children.

It may be supposed that this is aiming at a staff of specialists. That is not the case. It is simply that a staff having a broad knowledge of many specialized subjects and, in addition, an insight into the nature of the child camper, is more competent to carry on when events do not move according to plan. The presence of specialists on individual subjects tends to favor a condition whereby the campers must be separated from their unit leaders several times, and possibly for extended periods, during the daily routine.

In a unit-type program the campers are separated into groups (units) of like abilities, both mental and physical. Their unit leaders should be chosen on the basis of good character, training, and ability to lead a particular age group. They are expected not only to provide programs, but also to set a good example in friendship, cooperation, sportsmanship, and manhood or womanhood. Thus is provided the best tool in character and citizenship training. With that in mind the undesirability of changing leaders several times a day becomes apparent. In short, the objective is not to produce specialists among the campers but rather to open new gateways to life through the use of those fine implements already cited: fun and adventure.

Obviously it is not possible to outline here a training course which would meet all problems of each camping agency expecting to use a camp on one of the 22 Federal Recreational Demonstration Areas this summer, but the following may be suggestive:

Training, it is believed, is fundamental to the success of any enterprise involving the concerted action of any large number of individuals. It involves at least two factors: the creation within the individuals of the ability and the inclination to work together for the achievement of the desired objectives. Ability, in this sense, is not innate but acquired, and is dependent on 1) knowledge, and, 2) skill. The problem of training is therefore, in some manner, to bring about in the members of a group engaged in an enterprise the possession of the knowledge, the skill, the enthusiasm, the attitude or spirit, necessary to make that enterprise a success. The objectives in the camping enterprise should be determined carefully and the training course planned to be specific, rather than general, as a program broad enough to suit all the needs cannot be specific enough to be of great benefit to any. Isolate the problems with respect to the program, and with the best staff that can be obtained, "go to it". The training course should be held at camp so the counselors will become familiar with the physical facilities and natural resources of the area and, incidentally, build up their own physique.

The camp director should lead the course, and the counselors should live as the campers will live during the summer and follow the same camp routine that will be expected of the children. They will see and improve many of the rough spots before the campers arrive and will have a smooth-running organization the first day of camp.

The course outline probably will look about like this:

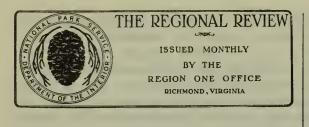
# I. Knowledge:

- 1. Aims and objective of Camp .
- Health and safety.
  (Sanitation in Camp and on hikes).
- 3. Physical make-up and mental ability of age-groups expected.
- 4. Principles of the Programs, Why we use: Swimming, games, crafts, songs, stories, campfire programs, - physical and mental activities.
- 5. Fundamentals of leadership.

# II. <u>Skills</u>:

- 1. Camp routine and living.
- 2. Waterfront programs and Safety.
- 3. Campcraft-pioneering, cooking, over-night hikes, camp improvement.
- 4. Handicraft
- 5. Games
- 6. Singing and storytelling.
- 7. Campfire programs, etc.





Vol. II March, 1939 No. 3

# ALL GONE

The Review announces regretfully its inability to comply with further requests for copies of any issues of its Volume I (1938) with the exception of Nos. 4 and 6 (October and December). Several dozen asking for back numbers letters have been received this month but it has been necessary to respond negatively to most of them. Copies of the first three issues were exhausted many weeks ago and there have been so many demands for Vol. II, No. 1 (January, 1939), that it likewise no longer is available. Many university and public libraries are desirous of completing their files of our modest organ and The Review seizes this occasion to urge all readers who may have no interest in preserving back numbers to retransmit them so that they may be made accessible to others.

# FLORAL NOTE

Everyone knows how the pale fires of our faith in humanity may be rekindled and flame brightly anew on those rare occasions when the mail brings in a letter which 1) has no postage due; 2) requests nothing, and 3) conveys an unsolicited kind word. Such was the singularly agreeable experience of <u>The Review</u> this month when Harry Clemons, University of Virginia Librarian, commented:

"The arrival of the February 1939 number of <u>The Regional Review</u> moves us to reiterate our appreciation of this publication and our gratitude for the inclusion of this library on the regular mailing list. The articles and the notes are alike interesting and useful for reference."

# GOODNESS GRACIOUS!

It was pointed out long ago that streams of water received generous recognition when the various Recreational Demonstration Areas of the Region were named. There are a run. a brook, and seven creeks. The latter, which certain good colleagues maintain steadfastly and to will the bitter end are cricks and not creeks at all, includes that arch heels-snapper-backer, Hard Labor, which, despite the suggestion of travail and suffering, is a gentle land where children play and timid wild flowers grow. Considering those circumstances of nomenclature, it appears to be more than idly disome of the demurer verting that young ladies who camped last summer at Crabtree Creek habitually referred to that fine bucolic area as "Cobb's Creek." Can it be that we have overlooked a sociological bet in ignoring Crab Orchard or Quad- . ruplicate Roses Recreational Demonstration Area?

# REDECORATION HINT

It was reported on this page two numbers ago that Superintendent Kahler, of Fort Marion National Monument, Florida, is receiving a liberal education concerning that twoand-a-half-century-old Spanish outpost by reading the comments which visitors are invited to set down as they register. The Review now wants to add a postscript before dropping the whole matter. It is about the comment to end all comments, contributed recently by a good lady who made a careful inspection of the venerable coquina fortifications, the oldest built by white men in the United States, and advised their harrassed guardians:

"The fort seems to be a little too old-fashioned and out of date." ----H.R.A.

# MUSEUMS FOR STATE PARKS

By Herbert Evison, Associate Regional Director.

A recent memorandum to field officers of the National Park Service sets forth in brief, concise form the policy of the Service governing the "Scope of Museum Exhibits in National Parks and Monuments." While that policy is enforceable by the Service only on those areas under its administration, the philosophy underlying it is one which can and should be applied equally well to nonfederal areas of similar character. That statement is made thus positively because failure to adopt some such policy not only will weaken the effectiveness of the park museum for its primary purpose but also is certain to involve any park administrator in an attempt to provide something impossible of even reasonably satisfactory accomplishment. The memorandum reads, in part:

"1. The story told in the park museum shall feature the story of the park or portions thereof. Usually the background of this account exceeds the park boundaries. In these instances related material usually will be included in the exhibits to create a satisfactory introduction, to clarify the park story, or to summarize the results of events or processes represented in the park. In all such cases, however, the chief emphasis shall be on the central motive of the park and all related material shall be treated in a subordinate manner.

"2. The space allotted to various aspects of the park's storyhistory, prehistory, geology, biology — shall be proportional to the relative importance of the subjects in the park. An index to these interests usually will be found in the justification for the establishment of the area. An attempt should be made to show the inter-relation of these various subjects so that the museum will present a unified story.

"3. An interpretative program cannot be justified solely on the number of visitors to a park, on the intrinsic value of the collection, or on the general interest of the subject matter. The justification must be found principally in the fact that an interpretation of park features is necessary."

To me, the most significant paragraph and the one which sets forth a principle most frequently overlooked in state park museum projects, is the first. Chiefly because, in many instances, no particular thought has been given to the philosophy of the undertaking, there has been a tendency simply to consider the park as a handy place to put a museum --- any kind of museum. Established to feature and interpret the story of the park in which it is located, a museum may attain, even in an area of mediocre quality, something very close to perfection. Established without definition of its purpose and without a determination to limit its exhibits to such a purpose, any park museum is almost certain to become a catch-all for every curio in the neighborhood which no longer is wanted by its owner or which may be considered the means of gaining some credit for generosity.

I believe it fair to state that, in the case of a majority of state park museums, they are established and their exhibits gathered together without any policy for them at all. In consequence, a prairie state museum contains Malay krises, German war helmets, and an Eskimo parka; a western New York museum, in a park possessing extraordinary geological and biological interest, and with an unusual Indian background, permits hundreds of exhibits unrelated either to those features or to one another.

A few weeks ago I visited, and was astonished by, the Audubon Memorial State Park museum in Kentucky. Within a comparatively short time an extensive and valuable collection of Audubonia has been assembled there, in a locality where Audubon lived and carried on his studies of the birds. But I was unfavorably impressed by two features. One was the failure of the museum to do what I should suppose Audubon would have wished it to do --- add to the visitor's knowledge and understanding of the park itself, which is lovely in many respects and a real haven for birds. The other was the tendency to devote valuable space to historical and sentimental exhibits unrelated either to Audubon or to the park which bears his name.

Representing near perfection in character and purpose is the museum now nearing completion at Mound State Monument, Moundville, Alabama. Its central section will tell the story, in properly arranged exhibits from the area itself, of the civilization that once flourished there; the two wings will provide shelter and protection for two exposed groups of burials, with the skeletons, trinkets and artifacts left where they were found in the course of the most meticulously careful digging. There will be no extraneous matter, nothing to divert the mind of the visitor from the extraordinary and fascinating story that is peculiar to the immediate area.

I am no museum expert. What I have written is simply the expression of the viewpoint of a layman who perceives the usefulness of sound museum policy and modern museum method, in which the National Park Service has established an enviable record; and who hopes that state and other park administrators ultimately will recognize a museum program for the useful park instrument that it can be.

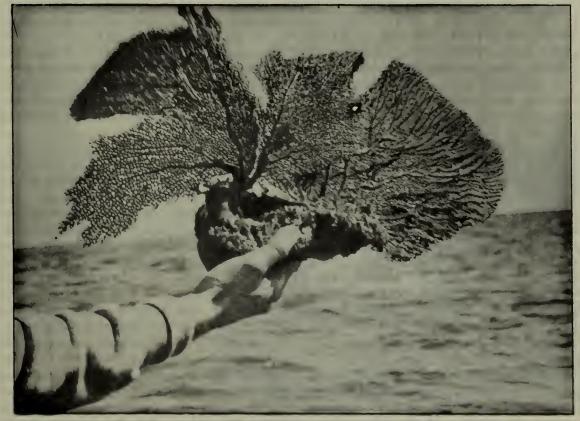


# NATURE TRAILS UNDER THE SEA

By H. S. Ladd, Regional Geologist, Richmond with photographs By Earl A. Trager, Chief, Naturalist Division, Washington.

Nature trails have become more and more in recent years a subject for study and planning by recreational technicians who seek to provide, for both professional hiker and casual stroller, the most direct contact possible with the eye-filling phenomena of the out-of-doors.

A good trail appears to wander carelessly through the woods and the visitor who follows it often is amazed at the ever-changing succession of objects of biologic and geologic interest past which he thus is led. Inclusion of most of these features is due to careful planning, but some of them --- such as unusual plants --- have been moved up a little perhaps so that they may be seen clearly from the trail. Various items are labeled or explained briefly by small lettered tags and he who walks slowly will find much to arrest him. He will learn the names of plants, see rock outcrops and learn how soil is formed, and he may even come upon fourfooted animals in cages or a hawk moving freely except for a leather thong around its leg. Such is the conventional nature trail.



TYPICAL SEA FAN (GORGONIA FLABELLUM) FROM REEF OFF KEY LARGO, FLORIDA

It is our purpose now to describe a somewhat less conventional trail, an unmarked path on the sea floor instead of on the land, a trail where careful planning is not necessary, where everything is new and strange, where tags and labels are not present, much as the visitor may need them. We are not old hands at walking on the sea floor for we have tried it only once. The experiences, therefore, are those that the reader would have should he allow someone to place a "Divinhood" over his head and man the pumps.

One of our jobs during a recent trip to Florida was to examine the coral reef area included within the boundaries proposed for Everglades National Park. We wished to determine whether it duplicated other reef areas already owned by the federal government in the Marquesas and Dry Tortugas. The area in question lies off Key Largo, 30-odd miles south of Miami. Through the courtesy of Captain C. C. von Paulson, of the United States Coast Guard, we were able to obtain an excellent general view from the air and on the next day we set out in a launch to make a closer inspection. We were equipped with a glass-bottomed bucket and with diving helmets lent by the Coast Guard and the University of Miami. Professor E. M. Miller of the University and two of his students, all of them familiar with the reefs of the area, accompained us. When we reached Turtle Reef, near the center of the proposed Everglades reef area, we used the glass-bottomed bucket to select a rich looking site, anchored in 12 to 15 feet of water, and prepared to go overside.

Clad in a bathing suit and tennis shoes, the diver climbs over the side of the launch and descends several rungs on a heavy chain ladder until his shoulders are level with the rail of the boat. The attendant lowers the helmet over the diver's head and, as he does this, the diver passes his right arm through a loop in the rubber air hose. The diver adjusts the helmet with its lead weights on his bare shoulders and descends another rung or two on the ladder. As the margin of the helmet approaches the water the attendant starts the pump and a stream of air pours into the helmet. The air keeps the water level down to the diver's chin as he continues his descent of the ladder.

The diver's first feeling as he "goes under" is one of mild surprise when he notes that the air stream does keep the water surface around his chin --- just as the instructor said it would. It is reassuring, too, to note that there is ample air to breathe. The diver's attention next is called to his legs which, on the flexible ladder, show a disturbing tendency to assume a horizontal attitude in front of him. Recalling the rope ladders of gymnasium days, he lets his arms take some of the weight off his feet and the ladder straightens downward. He now realizes that the bright sunlight is gone and that he has entered a new world wherein everything is greenish; even the squat hull of the launch rocking above him is tinged with green. His feet touch bottom and his body sways slightly as he releases his hold on the ladder. He stands on a smooth patch of white sand, but irregular, hummocky areas almost isolate it from similar patches some distance away. Rising from these irregular areas and scattered widely over the sands are brightly colored sea fans a foot or more high, and waving plume-like forms that he knows are animals in spite of their plant-like appearance. He has an urge to touch these things just to see how they feel. Catching the hand of his instructor,



BACK FROM A SUBMARINE HIKE

who has preceded him to the sea floor, he starts to walk toward the nearest clump. He discovers that, unaccountably, it is difficult to maintain his course. Some unseen force is gently carrying him off to the left. Despite his efforts he continues leftward in a graceful drift --- a type of motion experienced previously only in dreams or when slightly intoxicated. The instructor tightens the grip on his hand and there comes the realization that he is being influenced by surface currents. He decides he must learn to walk just as a child does and concentrates on putting one foot out past the other with slow deliberation.

His attention is distracted by a school of angel fish swimming directly toward him. At a distance of about 10 feet they turn to his right and, following directly behind, is a vividly colored queen angel fish. He releases the instructor's hand to watch. The school disappears and he suddenly realizes that he can see little or nothing. The windows in the helmet have been rendered opaque by a film of moisture from his breath. He considers tilting the helmet, a means of clearing the glass previously suggested by the instructor, but he decides on a simpler method. Gulping a mouthful of sea water he squirts it, first on one pane and then on the other. The windows clear miraculously and vision returns. This feat brings great confidence and, without assistance, he begins to plod toward the nearest clump of fans Remembering that he must not bend over, he squats and feels of the surprisingly stiff and somewhat rough surface of a fan. Nearby is a waving

purple plume, beyond it a massive hemispherical head of coral -- another -- and another. Near them are drab sponges and other forms whose branches reach upward -- like hands fastened to the sea floor. Brightly colored fishes hover near the corals. their fins swaying gently, their mouths and gills opening. Completely at home now, the diver is amazed at the variety of growth that meets his eye. He begins to explore with firmer steps. He carefully avoids the long spines



REEF FISH AT MARINE STUDIOS, FLORIDA

of a sea urchin that project — slender and sharp — from a crevice beneath an old coral block. He comes upon the instructor busily engaged in prying up a small coral head with the blade of a hatchet. The head is loosened and dropped into a wire basket that has been lowered from above. So he wanders in a submarine garden where living plants and animals grow on shells, rocks and coral sand. Finally, at a sign from the instructor, he heads for the ladder and begins to climb upward into a brighter but somewhat less interesting world.

The sea floor upon which we walked is part of a shelf that fringes the keys on the seaward side. This shelf has been described as a submerged coral reef and it is probable that reef corals played an important part in its formation. Today, however, the role of the corals is relatively unimportant. Heads of reef corals - some of which are several feet in diameter -- occur on the surface of the shelf but they are widely scattered. They are somewhat more numerous near the seaward edge than elsewhere but even in this area they cover but a small part of the surface and add but little to the sediments that are accumulating. Flourishing coral reefs, such as that shown on the opposite page, are wave-resisting structures whose seaward margins bear a more or less distinct rim ("Lithothamnion Ridge") that is literally covered with a growth of corals and calcareous algae. In reefs of this type the corals add bulk and the algae bind the heads together. The shelf that we examined is not bordered by a rim of this kind. The important organisms at Key Largo are the gorgonians - the sea fans, sea whips and sea feathers. Those pink, yellow, brown, and purple near-relatives of the stony reef corals are sometimes called the "flexible corals". In our opinion they make a far more beautiful sight than do the true corals of the open-sea reefs. In many areas the true coral reefs are laid bare at low tide. One may walk with crunching steps over acres and acres of living corals. On exposed reefs, however, the retreating tide leaves everything limp and contracted. Except in tide pools the coral polyps and anemones become slimy masses of formless jelly; the fish are gone, the mollusks hidden under stones. When one walks under a diving helmet all the organisms are expanded and waving. The submerged reef is superior to the exposed reef just as the latter is superior to a collection of dried specimens in a museum.

Reefs of all kinds are structures of great interest to biologists and geologists. The biologist is concerned primarily with the living organisms that veneer the surface of the reef, the geologist in the contributions that each type makes to the reef mass. The geologist is interested also in the organisms for it is his task to identify the fossils found in ancient elevated reefs and to try to determine how such reefs were formed. It seems clear that at Key Largo at present the gorgonians are adding more to the reef than are the true corals. Such is certainly the case in the Dry Tortugas where it has been estimated that the tiny stony spicules from the tissues of the living gorgonians average at least 5.28 tons to the acre. (1). The author who made this estmate stated that in many parts of the Dry Tortugas at depths of 15 to 30 feet the reefs were covered with a shrub-like growth three feet or more in height, compared almost entirely of gorgonians.

Since returning from Florida we have described our submarine jaunt to a number of friends. Almost without exception they have expressed some amazement at what they considered our daring. "Suppose", said several, "you had met a shark or a barracuda?" "Suppose," said another, "your hose had become twisted -- or something happened to the man at the pump." One even asked if we were not



TRUE CORAL REEF IN FIJI Exposed at Low Tide

worried about contracting a case of "the bends!" We hasten modestly to deny the accusation that we are brave men and to insist that the hazards of crossing the street in peaceful Richmond are at least as great as the dangers of walking among the gorgonians. So far as we know, neither shark nor barracuda has ever stolen a meal from beneath a "Divinhood."

To attempt to deny the theoretical possibility would be useless but let us consider some facts. One of us has witnessed the attack of a barracuda and, at the risk of frightening the more timid, we shall describe the experience. It is well known that the big fish lurk near passages through the reefs. In the South Seas when a launch or cutter enters a lagoon with a fisherman on board he almost invariably puts out a line in the hope of a strike. On the occasion that we are telling about the fisherman hooked a four-foot shark which proceeded to put up a strenuous fight. Suddenly, at the end of a magnificent surge, he leaped clear of the water and thereafter all fight departed. He was hauled aboard the launch and the reason became clearly evident. In spite of the toughness of his rasping hide, he had been neatly -- and completely -- disemboweled by a barracuda. The teeth marks were truly impressive. This event occurred at the entrance to the lagoon of Fulanga, a small horseshoe-shaped island in eastern Fiji. The central lagoon of this elevated atoll is several miles in diameter and is entirely safe for bathing. Ladd swam in it nearly every day for three weeks and his native friends there have been doing the same thing all their lives. They swim all over the lagoon yet no one has ever been attacked by shark or barracuda.

As to the other objections: (1) if anything goes wrong with the hose the pump or the pumper one can easily duck out from under the helmet and head for. the surface. The helmets are easy to handle for they are not heavy in the water. (2) There is no danger from pressure as no one attempts to use a helmet below a depth of 30 feet. If a slight effect on the eardrum is noticed in ascending or descending one can obtain instant relief by waggling the jaws and swallowing. If the proposed Everglades Park becomes a reality, the coral reef will undoubtly prove one of its chief attractions. Many of its features can be seen clearly through a glass-bottomed bucket or a glass-bottomed boat but neither of these methods can compare with the diving helmet. Students of zoology at the University of Miami make numerous trips to the bottom as a part of their regular work. Nature trails of this kind would offer an added attraction at Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas. It is true that there are barracuda there — we caught a fine one during our visit! — but they will not bother divers in shallow water. As proof of this we should like to point out that the Carnegie Laboratory on Loggerhead Key first used diving hoods around Fort Jefferson more than 20 years ago. (2).

(2) Cary. op. cit. p. 352.

# LEGISLATION

Recent legislative developments in the present Congress, which are of particular interest to National Park Service employees of Region One, include new measures providing:

1. For establishment of a National monument on the site of Camp Merritt, New Jersey.

2. For establishment of Samuel Dale National Park, in Lauderdale County, eastern Mississippi.

3. For establishment of Chalmette National Historical Park through extension of the boundaries of the present Chalmette National Battlefield Site, on the left bank of the Mississippi River below New Orleans. Congressman Fernandez of Louisiana, who introduced the measure, gave notification that the state, which recently appropriated \$300,000 for land acquisition in the area, is proceeding with appraisals of the properties to be purchased.

4. For acquisition of additional lands for the national military parks, national historical parks, national battlefields and national battlefield sites administered by the Service.

5. For authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to acquire additional land for Antietam National Battlefield Site, Sharpsburg, Maryland.

6. For prohibiting sale, in any public building or park, of any article which purports to be a souvenir of such building or park unless the object is made of material produced or manufactured in the United States.

7. For amending the Blue Ridge Parkway Act of June 30, 1936 by: 1) authorizing extension of the width of the parkway beyond the 200-foot limit where it traverses federal lands or where topographic conditions require it, and, 2) authorizing issuance of revocable permits for rights-of-way across and upon parkway lands.

# C.C.C.

# FECHNER DESCRIBES NEED FOR PERMANENT CORPS

Robert Fechner, Director of the six-year-old Civilian Conservation corps, invited to present his views during Congressional committee hearings on legislative proposals which would make the CCC a permanent establishment of the government, reviewed briefly the major accomplishments of the organization, pointed out its continuing potentialities as a conservator of human and natural resources, and declared that its present aims constitute the foundations of a never-ceasing national program.

"I whole-heartedly advocate permanency for the Corps," he said, "because I am confident that there are a number of vital considerations which make this a wise action on the part of Congress. These considerations tend to group themselves around two major factors:

"The first of these is the great need for employment and training on the part of a very large number of young men in this country. Broadly, this may be referred to as the conservation of human resources. The second major reason why permanency is advocated is the continuing need for productive and regenerative work on the forests, agricultural lands, streams, parks and other areas throughout the nation. This may broadly be termed the conservation of natural resources. I wish to emphasize strongly that both of these needs seem almost certain to continue over an extended period of years. . . I believe it is now time for the federal government to take immediate steps which will assure a permanent program designed to conserve national resources of incalculable value. Such a program, organized on a permanent basis, will permit orderly, economic, long-term planning and administration. . . This work is vital because it is so basic. If these natural resources are not protected and conserved there can be no hope for a future, sound economic life in this country. These basic natural resources are the foundation upon which our whole economic structure is reared. There is enough work to be done in connection with these resources to employ the services of a Corps as large as the present Civilian Conservation Corps for at least 20 years and at the expiration of that time there will continue to be the need for a relatively large group of men to carry on with a similar, never-ceasing program. . .

"The present act which this bill /under discussion/ proposes to continue as it is now operated provides largely for the employment of young men between the ages of 17 and 23. The total male population in this age group, computed from Census estimates of April 1, 1935, amounts to approximately 8,102,000. From these same figures it may be estimated that each year sees approximately 1,212,000 boys attain their 17th birthday. All of us wish that it could be reported that everyone of these boys was either attending school or was able to step into a job which would permit him to become self-sustaining and perhaps contribute to the support of others. All of us know that such a condition does not obtain. There has been---and appears likely to continue to be----a vicious circle for the young man seeking employment. The employer is forced to tell the young man he can't have a job because of lack of experience and the boy can't get experience unless he has a job. The Civilian Conservation Corps has broken and can continue to break this vicious circle."

# PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

#### GEORGIA RECREATION REPORT ISSUED

<u>Report on Outdoor Recreation in Georgia</u>, a 57-page multilithed book containing 18 plates, was issued in February by the Georgia State Planning Board and the Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with the National Park Service and with the assistance of the Works Progress Administration. It was prepared as a part of the Park, Parkway and Recreational-Area Study.

Designed for lay readers, the report gives in concise form an analysis of findings to date and projects a tentative state recreational area plan. As a basis for the plan there is included a brief discussion of those facts concerning the state and its people which influence directly the recreational planning. The study lists and describes existing natural and primitive types of recreational areas and makes certain preliminary recommendations for the expansion of the state park system. The proposals are considered worthy of thoughtful consideration by those charged with responsibility for the state park program since the state is taken into a new field of endeavor made necessary by economic and social conditions in those regions whose population is predominantly rural and rural non-farm.

#### HISTORICAL REVIEW OF LAND DEVELOPMENT

To accompany the 1938 edition of the official map of the United states, the General Land Office of the Department of the Interior has prepared Land of the Free, a 19-page booklet which presents a brief history of land development throughout 150 years in America. From 1785, when the rectangular system of survey was adopted officially by Congress, through the period of western expansion and up to the present, when the public domain areas consist of 404,132,800 acres in continental UnitedStates and 346,172,242 in Alaska, the territorial extensions are traced briefly for the layman. The functions of the General Land Office also are described.

The 1938 issue of the official map, a chart prepared biennially as an up-to-date representation of the national territory, is seven feet long and five feet high. It was reproduced from more than 20 large copper plates upon which details were transferred backward by hand engraving from key charts

# CORNELL ARBORETUM AIMS DESCRIBED

The Cornellian Council Bulletin, in its January-February issue, describes briefly the development work which is being carried forward at the Cornell Arboretum through cooperation of the Service and the University. Principal objectives of the development, says The Bulletin, are: 1) a botanic garden for scientific study; 2) outdoor sanctuaries and laboratories for all natural sciences of the university, and, 3) a great parklike area where plants may be arranged to show their value for human use.

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# FIRE RECORD BEST IN 10 YEARS; NEW SCHOOLS PLANNED

National parks and monuments established during 1938 the best fire protection and suppression record in a decade with the total acreage damaged throughout the entire system limited to only 1,279, according to the annual report issued this month. Although the total of 416 fires is higher than the 10-year average, improved detection and combat methods checked the damage early and held the burned acreage at a low figure. The average fire in 1929 burned over 315 acres before it could be arrested, but the average last year damaged only three acres.

A total of 577 acres of timber, brush and grass lands was burned in the 14 reporting national parks, parkways and monuments of Region One. There were 199 fires, all of them man-caused, with 79 listed as incendiary and 64 as due to smokers. Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees of the Region contributed 1,960 man-days to fire suppression. Fire prevention education is proving publicly effective, the annual report points out, citing the record of one fire caused by a careless camper or smoker for each 86,121 visitors in 1938 as compared with a 10-year average of one fire for each 50,520 visitors.

In those encouraging circumstances, forestry personnel and other CCC camp staff members will assemble within the next few days for two fire schools arranged by the Service in New England. First of them will be held March 29-31 at Beach Pond Recreational Demonstration Area, Nooseneck, Rhode Island. The last regularly scheduled school will take place April 4-6 at Bear Brook Recreational Demonstration Area, Suncook, New Hampshire. Schools already have been held this year at Shenandoah National Park, Virginia; Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky, and Cheraw Recreational Demonstration Area, South Carolina.

LANDS TRANSFERRED AT APPOMATTOX

Approximately 964 acres of land situated within the area of the proposed Appomattox National Historical Monument have been transferred to the Department of the Interior from the Department of Agriculture through a recent executive order from the White House. The property had been acquired by the Farm Security Administration (formerly the Resettlement Administration) as a part of the Surrender Grounds Forest Project. It adjoins the one-acre Appomattox National Battlefield Site created in 1930.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP ORGANIZED CAMPS

A gigantic construction program which ultimately may provide for development of 5,700 organized camps bearing a similarity to those initiated by the Service on Recreational Demonstration Areas has been revealed by a request received from Great Britain for information on camp planning. Already authorized is the construction of 50 camps but it is estimated that nearly one-half billion dollars will be required to provide for the total number of recreational centers needed in England. The camps are designed primarily to afford safe refuges for children in time of war emergencies but they also will provide rural vacations for young people during peace time.

#### CAMP LIFE AN AMERICAN TRADITION, SAYS ROOSEVELT

"I have always been a believer in the discipline and training afforded by camp life," said President Roosevelt in a recent address broadcast to the Boy Scouts of America. "Life in the open constitutes an ideal recreation, while at the same time it encourages initiative, resourcefulness and self-confidence. . .

"Camp life is an American institution. It is a way of life. A generation trained in the art of camping will receive experience which I believe will give them exceptional equipment with which to cope with some of the most vexatious problems of life in the years to come."

# TWO NEW STATE PARKS SOUGHT IN MARYLAND

Acquisition of two more state park areas in southern Maryland and on the Eastern Shore was recommended this month by the Planning and Forestry Committee of the Maryland Outdoor Life Federation. The group also proposed the purchase of 50,000 acres of forest land at a cost of \$150,000, as well as the acquisition of 100,000 acres of potential forest in the triangular area between Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis, described as "now largely given over to scrub pine or abandoned farm land." The triangle should be traversed by a parkway, the committee recommended, and provided with bathing beaches and other recreational areas. Streams in the area would be improved by soil erosion control practices and by woodland rehabilitation.

# FREDERICKSBURG MUSEUM GETS NEW MATERIALS

Two valuable new acquisitions for the museum have been announced by Branch Spalding, Superintendent of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. Correspondence, books, purchase orders, expense accounts and other original papers of Paymaster Ware, of the Mobile station of the Conféderate States Navy, have been given to the museum by the National Bank of Fredericksburg. The City Council meanwhile has placed on loan a collection of nearly 200 old rifles, muskets, swords and pistols of the period of the War between the States. The materials were purchased by the city authorities for \$900.

The park superintendent announced also that the last meeting of the series of monthly gatherings of the staffs of the Virginia military parks will be held in April at Petersburg. The group met this month at the Cold Harbor battlefield, was conducted on a tour by Floyd Taylor, representative-in-charge, and heard papers by Assistant Research Technician Steere and Mr. Taylor at a conference in the Garthright House.

# THE CONTRIBUTORS

HERBERT EVISON, as executive secretary of the National Conference on State Parks, already had inspected, before creation of the CCC, the planning and operation of more than 150 state parks and was familiar with virtually all major national areas. Born in Tarrytown, New York, he lived throughout most of his boyhood in various sections of the Adirondacks. He received his secondary education at Holderness School, Plymouth, New Hampshire, and was awarded his baccalaureate at Trinity College of Connecticut. He was for a dozen years in the magazine and newspaper field in the West where he served also as executive secretary of Washington State's Natural Parks Association. Called into the Service when the national emergency conservation program was launched, he became Regional Officer of Region One during the redistricting of 1936 and, since 1937, has continued his duties as Associate Regional Director. He is a director of the National Conference on State Parks.

STANLEY M. HAWKINS: See The Review, Vol. I, No. 4, inside back cover.

HARRY STEPHEN LADD: See The Review, Vol. II, No. 1, inside back cover.

WILTON PAUL LEDET, born 24 years ago in Louisiana, was assigned in 1937, as a student technician in history, to researches concerned with the migration of the Acadians with particular reference to the Bayou Teche region in which is situated Longfellow-Evangeline State Park. The report of his studies attracted wide attention in newspapers after it had been abstracted for press use. He is a graduate of Tulane University.

RONALD F. LEE, a native of North Dakota, is a Horatio Algerian study in bootstrap ascension. He entered the Service in 1933 as a CCC foreman (history) at Shiloh National Military Park, Tennessee, but was called to Washington the next year to assist in the national historical program made necessary through federal activities in the cooperative development of state, county and metropolitan parks. He served in various capacities in the Branch of History and, last year, became Supervisor of Historic Sites in charge of the entire historical program of the Service. He holds degrees from Chicago and the University of Minnesota.



