For 70 years the Governor's Palace at Williamsburg stood as the symbol of royal authority in colonial Virginia. Begun in 1705 under an appropriation by the House of Burgesses and completed in 1720, it served as the official residence of a succession of brilliant British governors: Alexander Spotswood, Hugh Drysdale, William Gooch, Robert Dinwiddie, Francis Fauquier, Norborne Berkeley, and John Murray, the Earl of Dunmore. During the Revolution the Palace became the executive mansion of the first two governors of the Virginia Commonwealth, Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson. It was destroyed by fire in December, 1781.

The rebuilding of the palace with its gardens and outbuildings, undertaken in 1930 by Colonial Williamsburg, Incorporated, has been called one of the most extensive single colonial restorations performed in this country. Essentially English "Georgian" in design the palace undoubtedly influenced the architecture of many of the great houses which were erected on the more prosperous Virginia plantations in the middle of the 18th century. Likewise the life and manners of the palace made a lasting imprint on Virginia culture.

The successful reconstruction of this important colonial estate has been made possible through the wealth of material pertaining to it which has survived. The new palace rests on the foundations of the original building, which were discovered in excavating the site. As a guide to the accurate restoration there were extant a copperplate engraving, from the Bodleian Library, at Oxford, England, which showed the principal front of the building as it appeared between 1732 and 1747, a floor plan drawn by Thomas Jefferson in 1779, and the so-called Frenchman's Map of 1782, which showed the arrangement of the main buildings. In addition there were other maps, extensive inventories of three colonial governors, the Journals of the House of Burgesses, and other colonial records.

The cover is reproduced from a pen and ink drawing by William A. Youngblood who was formerly connected with the Regional Office of the National Park Service.
THE REGIONAL REVIEW
MARCH-APRIL 1941 VOL. V1-NOS. 3&4
FRED T. JOHNSTON, ACTING REGIONAL DIRECTOR
Charles Elliott, Editor

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THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
· NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ·
REGION ONE — RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
NEW
FRONTIERS
and
OLD

by

HERBERT EIVISON
Perhaps it will surprise you, --- but I don't look upon my assignment as one of telling you where in the National Park System you may fish or swim or ski or camp or carry on any of those other activities so frequently grouped under the heading of outdoor recreation. I wish first to get over an idea of what is, I believe, properly meant by recreation in the National parks and monuments, and to indicate some, but by no means all, the means and methods by which it may be enjoyed.

When the Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872, the act which set it aside declared that it was "dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasuring ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," and the implication was there that the people were those not only of that day but of future generations. When the National Park Service organic act was passed 44 years later, it declared that the purpose with respect to national parks, monuments, and reservations, was "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." I do not believe we are wrong in stating that this constitutes one purpose, not two purposes, and that the object of the act was to provide that these resources be preserved for human enjoyment, now and in the future.

Now certainly the kinds of enjoyment which must be provided must be dominantly those kinds that depend for their fullest realization upon that process of preservation, --whether it be of a great wilderness such as the Olympic area, or an historic house like that in which the terms of surrender of Cornwallis' Army were agreed upon, or a structure left behind by the prehistoric inhabitants of this country of ours, such as the Great Cliff Palace at Mesa Verde. That, I believe, marks the essential distinguishing characteristic of the properties administered by the National Park Service and described generally in the phrase National Park System, -- that their highest use is for those types of recreation and enjoyment which minister to the needs of the human mind and the human spirit, and that other kinds of recreation shall be provided only to the extent that they do not in any material way impair the capacity of these areas to provide that kind of use.

Even within that highly restrictive limit, of course, these magnificent properties possess a capacity for providing a great variety of recreational experience. I think that we would all agree, probably, that if we did nothing for the people but provide means for them to see the scenery of the national parks and monuments, with some of it available to view by automobile, and with much more of it visible only to those who are willing to use shank's mare or the back of a horse, the National Park Service still would be supplying a public service of great importance, and making a large contribution to the enjoyment of the people.

Editor's note: This dramatic story of our National Parks is from Mr. Evison's recent address before the American Museum of Natural History in New York.
The educational program of the Service does not—and it is not intended to—provide an education in natural history, geology, archeology, history or any other specialized field of study, even though the areas themselves may be and are used extensively in connection with university and other educational processes. Its purpose is to quicken the imagination, to enlarge the vision, to augment the inspiration of those who come to the parks so that their experience may be more deeply satisfying.

We have,mitted the tion of tivities, those acussed,are recreation-acter. With intention to permit it can be out im- the capaci-areas to higher kinds tional ex- that can nowhere else factorily.

Thus of our vis-in to see learn, but picnic, or to walk the climb the fish, to
canoe or row a boat along a stream or lake, to ski across the dazzling white snow-covered slopes, to exercise skill as photographers or painters, and to visit the remotenesses that are particularly rare and precious to men and women sensitive to the allure of the wild and unspoiled places which are among the greatest gifts of the supreme creative force. These certainly are physical activities wholly in keeping with the character of these places.

I have no doubt that, if we were to take a census we should find that about every person has visited some park or monument in the National Park System. There are few who do not find inspiration in our national parks. Have you been to Dinosaur, where the paleontologists have been uncovering priceless remains of ancient life forms, in those fearful
canyons of Lodore and the Yampa which come together at Pat's Hole? Have you tested your lungs and your legs and your sureness of foot in order to view the fantastic rock-carving vagaries of wind and running water in the Arches, up in eastern Utah, or at Natural Bridge, farther south; or at Rainbow Bridge, down near the Arizona line? Have you mistreated the good leather sole of your shoes on the lava of Idaho's monument, the Craters of the Moon, or on the Devil's Golf course in Death Valley? Have you, in the midst of your observation of the desert and the bleak ranges which rim this monument, seen the panamint daisy or the paint brush growing at your feet, and got a new concept of the many-sidedness of this area of terrible repute for heat and thirst? Perhaps you have wandered through rooms which still bear the colored decorations placed there a thousand years ago by the early peoples of the Mesa Verde - The "Green Mountain"; but have you dropped into Frijoles Canyon at Bandelier, in New Mexico; to view what is left of an aboriginal apartment house or clambered into one of those chambers carved out of the canyon wall by the little men of long ago; or viewed, from beside Threatening Rock, before it crashed, the circles of Pueblo Bonito; or the cliff dwellings up on the sheer sandstone wall of the Canyon de Chelly; or Montezuma's Castle? Have you stood on the brink of Bryce Canyon when the sun was dropping low in the west and watched its light, reflected from the red westward surfaces of a thousand pinnacles, impart the ruddy glow of incandescence to surfaces unreached by the direct rays of the sun? Have you, on foot, or on a mule which at every switchback thrusts its head out over the appalling abyss with a fearful and exasperating bravado, dropped down the Bright Angel Trail from the North Rim of the Grand Canyon to where Roaring Spring gushes forth from the canyon wall, and down beyond it to the Colorado and the suspension bridge that offers the only crossing of the river within the park. These are recreational experiences that call for exercise of one's physical powers, but that provide also a mental and emotional stimulus of which the memory is likely to be a lasting one.

Many of the mysteries of creation will doubtless remain mysteries for all of us, since we are still but gropers in the dark. Yet the lively mind and the spirit attuned to nature is constantly inquiring or may be stimulated into inquiry. We want to know what happened, and why and how and where. The answer does not always lie in what we see or hear or feel or smell or taste, but is the result of patient study and research. Gradually, over the past two decades, our own forces and agencies from outside the Service have been doing this research. Within the Service, by museums such as that at Norris Geyser Basin or the one now being built at Ocmulgee National Monument in Georgia, to explain those long-disappeared people who built their great mounds through the Southeast; by signs along the roads and trails; by guided trips in automobiles, or on horseback or on foot, or even by boat, as is so pleasantly done in Acadia; by publications, by lectures and motion pictures, -- by all these means, there has been constant effort and, we believe, constantly improving effort, to get across the story these areas of ours and yours so magnificently illustrate. Our museums are adjuncts of the areas themselves; they limit themselves to as simple and lucid methods as possible to add to understanding and appreciation of the areas in
which they are situated; they are intended to be taken with the park and to heighten the visitor's enjoyment of it.

There was a day when, with the first heavy snow, the great national parks of the west closed their gates except to a venturesome few. Today Rainier and Yosemite and Crater Lake and many others are open twelve months a year, and snow is merely a welcome sight to those for whom winter is the happiest and liveliest outdoors time of the whole year. There and then blooms a spirit of fellowship, of camaraderie that is one of the finest things the areas produce, as men and women ski over the snowfields, skate on frozen lakes, or gather round the cheerful fires of an evening. Never are the forests more serene, never the parks more glittering and brilliant.

I have tried to picture for you some of the kinds of enjoyment—whether it be by the sight of the high peaks, the virgin forest of the Pacific Northwest, the desert of the Joshua Tree or Organ Pipe Cactus, or the winter snows; by active play or by the quiet drinking-in of beauty—some of the thrills that are a part of the recreational experience in these matchless possessions. Use of the parks should stimulate us physically, they should—at least they can—make us wiser in our day and generation, and in this time of stress and trouble and worry, they can bring to the sensitive spirit a repose and a depth of satisfaction beyond all price.
SIGNIFICANCE OF ANTIETAM NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD SITE
Interpretative Statement: IV

This is the fourth of a series of interpretative statements which have been prepared by the Branch of Historic Sites designed to explain concisely the broader significance of those national areas which have been set aside because of their historical importance. Each statement is intended to keynote an essential individual theme which will serve both as a guide post for those who develop an area and as orientation for those who visit it.

General Alexander called the battle of Antietam "The bloodiest battle ever fought upon this continent," and John Codman Ropes wrote, "It is likely that more men were killed and wounded on the 17th of September than on any other single day in the whole war."

Tactically, Antietam was a drawn battle, but in the larger sense its result was decisively in favor of the Union. After it, Lee retreated, while McClellan advanced, into Virginia. This alone was enough to raise the morale of the North, when contrasted with the failures and defeats of the preceding summer. Its favorable issue gave President Lincoln, five days after the battle, the opportunity which he had been awaiting for months to issue the Emancipation Proclamation.

On the other hand, the Confederate Government was disappointed in its hopes that the presence of a Confederate Army in Maryland would arouse the people of that State to break from the Union and join the Confederates, and that a Confederate victory there would increase the large number of people in the North who were opposed to the war and enable them to force its termination.

More important than all, it deterred England and France from according to the Confederates the recognition which the governments of those countries had been contemplating ever since the beginning of the war. The diplomatic history of the period makes it evident that in the autumn of 1862 those two great powers were more inclined than at any other time
earlier or later, to pronounce the Confederacy an established nation. Three days before the battle of Antietam, the Prime Minister of England, Lord Palmerston, stated in a note: "It is evident that a great conflict is now taking place to the northwest of Washington and its issue must have a great effect on the state of affairs. If the Federalists sustain a great defeat, they may be at once ready for mediation, and the iron should be struck while it is hot. If on the other hand, they should have the best of it, we may wait a while and see."

Lee's failure to carry the war deeply or effectively into the northern states or even to maintain himself in Maryland, coupled with the almost simultaneous repulse of Bragg's invasion of Kentucky, which was turned back at the Battle of Perryville on October 8, 1862, caused Great Britain to "wait and see". No later occasion arose which seemed favorable to the British Government. Probably the greatest significance of Antietam in our national history, therefore, lies in the fact that if Lee had won that battle it very likely would have foreshadowed the final independence of the Confederacy. But when he turned back to Virginia, the most promising, if not the last, opportunity of foreign intervention vanished.

Prior to Lincoln's preliminary proclamation of September 23, 1862, which warned the South that on January 1, 1863, he would declare free all slaves in territory still resisting the Union, and the Emancipation Proclamation itself on New Year's Day, 1863, the avowed purpose of the war on the part of the Government was to preserve the Union. Henceforth, the purpose of the war broadened. It now had two purposes; to preserve the Union and to end slavery.

Thus, in its effect on the outcome of the conflict, in relation both to its foreign and internal consequences, the Battle of Antietam was unique and without parallel during the entire course of the war.
One of the most charming, popular and lovely ladies ever to cross the Atlantic to American shores was the Statue of Liberty. She made her debut on October 28, 1886. Since that time no other feminine attractions have caused American hearts to beat with so much emotion as have those of this goddess who stands with such fierce and possessive pride at the mouth of the New York harbour.

She grows more popular as the years go by. During the first four months of 1941, 61% more visitors rode out to the Statue of Liberty than for the same period of 1940. In April, 1941 for instance, approximately 33,000 persons went to see the view of Manhattan's skyline with the gray seas rolling at its feet. This was 275% of the total number of visitors who in April of last year climbed the gray granite steps of the National Monument to pay their tribute to Americanism.—Fanning Hearon.
For the past fifteen summers I have accompanied groups of high school boys on expeditions into all parts of the Rocky Mountains and into much of the desert country of the southwest. On these expeditions our primary purpose was to train the boys to use their vacations intelligently and to teach them the value of our national parks, national monuments, national forests, Indian reservations and other interesting parts of our public domain. We used these areas as laboratories. In them the boys made scientific field experiments under the leaders of our party.

On these treks we sought out the remote and generally unknown wilderness regions. Sometimes we pretended that we were the first white men to penetrate these wilds. In many spots the boys had an opportunity to compare the unspoiled land with country which had been "developed." We led a simple life, did our own cooking, gathered firewood, sagebrush or buffalo chips for fuel and slept under the stars almost every night. We were providing a pioneer experience for the boys in a frontier part of the nation.

Each year on these trips "back of beyond" our party has consisted of twenty carefully-selected boys and a staff of five men. These men were selected because of their ability to transfer their scientific and historic interests to the young members of the party. We used a caravan of station wagons and a truck to carry tents, camping equipment and commissary supplies from our permanent base camps to interesting objectives.
These expeditions are not sight-seeing trips. Each summer we confine our operations to a limited territory. We think it is better to learn everything about a small area than to have a smattering knowledge of a vast territory.

The expedition is a two months glorified nature study. It exemplifies the essential element of every nature walk, hike or excursion. It instills into the boys the spirit of adventure and exploration. A teacher or nature leader who breathes this spirit has achieved the first stage.

Each morning the boys set out from camp with bird glasses, plant presses, butterfly nets, geologists' hammers, snake bags and other such equipment. They are not allowed to carry firearms. They do not need firearms to identify, collect and study the geology, fauna and flora of the regions in which we camp.

The acquisition and identification of things is the second stage in our program. To stimulate this natural interest of boys, and to add incentives for them to learn, we carry commissions from the Childrens' Museum of Indianapolis and from The American Museum of Natural History in New York City. We have collected a great amount of exhibit material in a wide range of classifications, and taken still and motion pictures of what we could not truck home.

In the course of the first seven or eight expeditions we learned a great number of valuable and interesting facts. We learned that lizards can grow new tails and that cactus plants are storage tanks. At the same time we created favorable attitudes among the boys. They understood that when we found a dinosaur footprint on public domain it was best to leave it
for other people to discover, even though we knew somebody was liable to vandalize it before we got back again. We still looked on Indians and old prospectors as spectacles and museum specimens, but we began to notice the adaptations of other living forms to their environment. We began to notice altitude - and its effect on other living things besides ourselves. We began to see ecological relationships and life zones took on more and more meaning. This, I believe, represents the third stage.

Changes in our Nature Study program concided with historical changes affecting the land and the people of the Southwest. With our own eyes we have witnessed:

The extension of highway systems and the intrusion of "civilization" into rugged and remote country;

The withdrawal of the remaining public domain from entry;

The bumper wheat crops of 1928 and 1929 and within five years the dust storms;

The major development of the areas of scenic, historic, and scientific interest;

The implementation of the "multiple-use" principle in national forests with increased provision for recreation;

The disastrous forest fires in periods of excessively low humidity;

The widespread introduction of check dams, terracing, contour plowing, basin listing, and contour furrowing;

The planting of shelter belts and resodding of prairie;

The contraction of water reservoirs ranging in size from the catch basins on small farms to Boulder Dam;

The widespread programs for rodent and predator control;

The over-grazing of vast regions and the progressive deterioration of pasture;

The stubble of cornfields after grasshopper plagues;

The abandonment of farms and exodus of the people;

The ghost town in farm, lumbering, and mining regions.

These changes have profound significance, but as significant as they may be, I would not be justified in reciting them in this discourse unless they had altered our nature study program in a way which pointed toward progress.
A prospector's cabin near timber line at 11,900 feet

Long before the Pilgrims landed, Spanish expeditions used this camp site and carved their names and dates on Inscription Rock.
We first became dissatisfied with our dilettante ways when we camped on a deserted farm where only the top barbed wire of a five-strand fence was still to be seen above the tumble weed and aeolian sand. It began to dawn on us that the great plains presented problems of considerable more importance than the fact that prairie dogs, rattlesnakes and burrowing owls lived happily in the same hole. We found ourselves thinking and talking in terms of annual precipitation, surface waters, underground water table, wind velocity, soil types, native grasses, public land policy, speculation, ownership and tenure. Instead of working out such interesting but insignificant problems involving prairie dogs, rattlesnakes, and burrowing owls, we faced the more consequential problem of whether human beings—thrifty, industrious, God-fearing people—could live happily in the same country by raising wheat or cattle.

We began to understand some connection between a great many interesting but isolated facts, and the necessity for putting them together in order to obtain a true picture of Nature and man’s relation to Nature. We began to see things whole. This, I believe, represents the fourth stage. We could now fully comprehend Aldo Leopold’s statement, "Civilization is not... the enslavement of a stable and constant earth. It is a state of mutual interdependent cooperation between human animals other animals, plants, and the soils, which may be disrupted at any moment by the failure of any of them. Land despoliation has evicted nations, and can on occasion do it again. It thus becomes a matter of some importance, at least to ourselves, that our dominion, once gained, be self-perpetuating, rather than self-destructive."

This change of emphasis in our Nature study program from minor to major matters is reflected in our choice of camp sites, activities, relations with people, and in the collections which are worth trucking home. For instance there has been a marked decrease in the tonnage of petrified wood, fossil-bearing rock, and ore specimens. We have finally arrived at the stage where we are as interested in people as in things, and of relating them one with another. Since our attention is now focused on human problems growing out of lack of adjustment to environment and abuse of resources, we are increasingly aware of the programs, plans and methods of the Federal, State and local agencies set up to deal with these problems. We see the need for Nature leaders who can interpret the problems to the people so that they as citizens of a democracy may determine whether their taxes are being spent to the best advantage—or more important still, whether the long range view is being taken with regard to the use of our remaining resources—renewable and nonrenewable, human and material.

It does not require too great a stretch of the imagination to perceive that teachers can have equivalent experiences on similar expeditions. There are, in fact, at least two colleges offering summer trips into the same and other regions, and it will be interesting to watch the evolution of their projects in the light of our experience. There is a need for innumerable other expeditions of this sort to other parts of the country. No state lacks worthwhile educational objectives in the form of public parks, forests, and the recently established recreational demonstration projects. The great problem is to get people to use what they already have—and wisely.
Two Reasons Why

During the past few days we have asked a number of people to outline what they thought the objectives of the REGIONAL REVIEW should be. Although the answers were expressed in many different ways, the general opinion was that the two main objectives of the REVIEW were to keep the personnel in the Service informed on current topics and interesting developments, and to present to those outside the National Park Service a vivid picture of the importance of both National and State Parks and Shrines to the average American.

For this reason, the REGIONAL REVIEW is your magazine. If you have read this far, you are interested in the recreational, historic and the many other broad conservation interests tied in with our state and national parks.

Whether or not you are an official of the National Park Service, the editors wish to extend an invitation to you. We want you to make the REVIEW your medium of expression. Little items about the wildlife, unusual trees or flowers, some new light on an old accepted historic fact - these make your magazine more interesting and increase its value. At the same time such items help you to sell your state and your park to everyone who sees a copy of the REVIEW. And it goes into many offices between the oceans.

Pictures as important. Clear snapshots, showing unusual views, make the magazine colorful and attractive. An old Chinese proverb says "One picture is worth ten thousand words". We do know that one excellent photograph will help to increase interest in your particular subject or in your park.

We should like to see articles, too. If you have a good idea in your system, spill it on paper and send it in. We could sit down to this typewriter and pound out the entire magazine, but if we did, you would find it dull and uninteresting. To be alive and vital and forceful, the REGIONAL REVIEW must express the thoughts and ideas of many people.

So to make your magazine the outstanding success it deserves to be, blow the dust off your typewriter and dig your camera out of the corner. Look around you. Write down the most interesting fact you know about your park or about your particular line of work. If you can, make a picture to illustrate what you say. Make several pictures and you will not have to write so many words.

Send in your efforts and we'll return the compliment with a special REGIONAL REVIEW, which is interesting, readable and important to both you and the Service.

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By the
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Richmond, Virginia

Vol. VI March-April Nos. 3 & 4
FOREST FIRE WARNING

CLASSES OF FIRE DANGER

CLASS OF DAY

1. Low fire danger
   Precautions to be taken
   Be careful

2. Woods very dry
   Be careful

3. Fire will start easily

4. DANGER!
   Build no fires.
   Smokers use utmost caution

5. EXTREME DANGER!
   Forest tinder dry
   Do not smoke in woods.
   Build no fires.
   Use extreme caution

To-day fire danger is class 2

Report fires to
Park Headquarters:
Tel. Bar Harbor 300
"That fire burns is one of the first lessons of childhood." Acquired later is a knowledge of fire behavior, as through experience one observes that when it is dry and windy fires start more easily and spread more rapidly. Add to these weather and fuel conditions the factor of risk - presence or absence of an igniting agency - and you have the substance of what is meant by fire danger.

When it has not rained for two or three weeks, with little moisture in the air and perhaps a warm dry wind blowing, burning conditions in fields and woods react accordingly and become correspondingly dry. These conditions are plainly evident when dead leaves in the forest crackle with brittle sounds underfoot and field grasses swish and rustle against passing feet. Then it may be said the fire danger is high in locations where, due to one cause or another, fires are likely to flare up unexpectedly.

How dry is "high fire danger" and how much more severe is "very high" or "extremely high" fire danger? Does an individual estimate the degree of fire danger consistently on the same basis on different days? And does the term "high fire danger" convey the same meaning to one person as to another? Unfortunately the use of comparative adjectives is too indefinite and too subject to varying individual interpretation to express definite degrees of a condition such as fire danger. To appraise and rate fire danger accurately and on an absolute rather than on a relative basis is a problem which has now been solved successfully by the United States Forest Service through the work of several of its Forest Experiment Stations.

The basic system that has been developed is now in use throughout the country in national and state forests and parks and in other types of areas in public and private ownership. Briefly it consists of measuring those few weather and fuel conditions which substantially influence fire danger. These measurements are correlated in a slide-rule type of scale known as a Fire Danger Meter. The integrated result obtained from this meter is a simple number from 1 to 5, or to 6 to 7 in classifications used in some parts of the country. Fire Danger Class 1 means low or nonexistent fire danger. Fire Danger Class 5, 6, or 7, depending upon the classification in use, represents an extremely high degree of danger.
The mere knowledge of the class of fire danger will not of course prevent or put out fires. This reliable and definite knowledge is only as good as it is effectively applied to the specific problem of protecting an area against fire. For instance, good use is made of the information when the fire fighting organization is stepped up or reduced in accordance with the fluctuations in the readings. Fire lookout stations can be manned or left unattended as the danger conditions prescribe. Forests may be closed entirely to public use when the highest class of fire danger is reached, and in parks certain forms of use such as fishing, or habits such as smoking except in designated places may be prohibited. Debris burning and other work activities which may increase fire risk are ordinarily stopped while the high numbers are recorded.

On the premise that increased cooperation from park visitors in the matter of fire prevention is cultivated by informing them of current fire danger conditions various devices have been made and used to present the facts in an impressionable and understandable manner. Acadia National Park's answer is the Forest Fire Warning board pictured on page 16. This board indicates the fire danger class for the day, explains briefly what each of the 5 classes means, and prescribes the corresponding fire prevention precautions that should be observed. Posted in public camp grounds, picnic areas and at other points where people are most likely to see them, it has been observed that these boards arouse curiosity, and lead people to explore their meaning. Displayed in this manner, the boards frequently prompt questions above fire protection in the park and stimulate fire consciousness on the part of visitors and employees alike. If devices of this sort can provoke in the minds of those who observe them a stronger realization of the need for exercising greater care with fire they must be considered as effective forest fire prevention media. The board shown here has demonstrated its value in this respect at Acadia National Park.

Tobacco and matches discarded while burning and camp fires built in unsafe locations or left unextinguished, cause a third of all forest fires in the National Park System. PLEASE HELP US PROTECT YOUR PARKS * * Be sure your fire is out! If you discover a fire report it at once to a Ranger. (text quoted from National Park Service sticker placed on menus in all national park hotels and restaurants)
Arlington, Jany. 23rd. 1833

Mackay My Child

Your letter from Philadelphia arrived at Old Point (so aptly styled Comfort, secundum J. E. Johnston, while on the Indian Campaign) the day before I left there on my perigrinations in the interior. The which being concluded I have the honour to report from here, Lord Jack, picture me to yourself surrounded by my wife and child after an absence of a month, with so many accounts to settle with the one and to learn of the other. Then if you will place in the perspective, a host of these sweet young ladies. But stop. What am I speaking of and to whom? Aye, fear should certain re- or perhaps ant- Savannah, a which I have tion might the nerves iner. There- we will subject and you on your tation. I now perfect con- the future and its wor- tants since they are to yourcare. do you find nel my have you de- carry the City or the sea? Do Broughton from Cock- that I had and How does come on with fications? upon all the mother.
of a little girl, which sounds very funny to me. And it was my intention to have told her so myself, as well as to have assured her anew of what she must still be certain of. But business and travel prevented and now the story is too old a one to be the apology of an Epistle. Do remember me most kindly to her and say to the little one, that I have a young man entirely at her service. The modesty which he has inherited from his Father forbids him from entering in person, upon so delicate a subject, but he says, without her beauty and brightness his young days will be dark and dreary and that the Bower of roses which he has planted would be changed to a Hut of willows. When I first heard that you were in Philadelphia, it was my daily intention to have written to a small sister of mine and childe by name, to have frequented Taverns and Tap rooms till she found you and to have introduced you to Chestnut St. However this I neglected and for this I beg your pardon. And when I learned from your letter, what a solitary time you had passed, I consoled myself by thinking that so fashionable a lady in her dress and address could hardly be entertaining to so plain a Gentleman. Washington is allowed I believe by those better acquainted with it than I am, to be duller this winter than usual. There are a few parties but no one is decidedly the rage, nor considered a big Lion. Miss Fanny Kemble was the great attraction last week and drew to herself crowded houses and all hearts. She is a lady of great talent and surpasses any performer I ever saw. She is the niece of Mrs. Siddons and John Kemble and I should think not unworthy these brilliant connexions. On the stage she is beautiful. In the ball room, for she frequents both, (I am told) she is next door to homely. Her eye is bright and teeth good, but off the stage I could not recognize her as the same being I had so admired the previous night. She fell into ill odour the last day of her stay. It seems as is natural, that she is much prejudiced in favour of the English and in riding out with young Fulton (you recollect he was at W. P. and is now in the U. S. Civil Service) who associates much with little attaches &c. and whom she took for an Englishman and spoke so plainly that he was obliged to tell her, he was an American. The story goes that she then, whether as a consequence of their previous conversation I know not, offered him $2 for the hire of his horse, (which she was then riding). Of course he refused to be considered in the light of a livery keeper and on their return the tale took wind. She was anonymously informed that if she appeared that night, she would be hissed. She did appear and it was attempted to hiss her off (I am told) but failed. The next morning according to a previous arrangement she left for Phila. Her Father only reaches to mediocrity. Dick and Tom are stationed at Ft. Wash'n. 15 miles below. I have seen them both. Tom looks very well though has a cough and is very imprudent. Prentiss is stationed in Wash'n. in the Adjt. Gen'ls office. He is very fat and wrapped in his blue cloth cloak, lined with velvet, has all the size and importance of a member of Congress. We foraged the City together some three or four days, when Tom and Dick let go the willows for Ft. W. Berrian, Ewing, Guion, Hughes, Locke &c. are in W. The Misses Mason are flourishing as usual and desire to be remembered. I told Miss Nanie that you were coming to her wedding, which I believe is to happen, when that black Brother of mine, returns from sea, where he is going in the spring. Congress is doing nothing. They are hammering on the Tariff (Continued on page 28)
For untold centuries the barrier islands now included in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore have been moving landward. Not moving fast enough to measure with the naked eye, but with the tedious pace of a changing earth. Ocean waves roll sand and shell high upon the beach. The wind dries and picks up the fine sand and shell grains and blows them across to build up the leeward side of the islands.

Only the most hardy plants are able to survive on this strip of externally twisting and shifting sand, known locally as "the wash", and extending from Oregon Inlet, fifty miles down the edge of the ocean to Hatteras Point.

Thousands of tiny white families make their home in the sand.

On the highest elevations of the sand dunes are safe from nor-mal tides. To these elevations come the least terns, thousands of them, to lay their eggs and rear their young. From the middle of May to mid-July, the air is filled with white ghosts that swing from the sand dunes out over the ocean and back again, feeding on the almost limitless supply of crabs and tiny fish.

On the highest strip of the sand, above the reaching fingers of the waves, the eggs are laid and the downy young are hatched. The nest is an unrimmed hollow in the warm, dry sand and sea shell fragments, without lining or nesting material of any kind. Both the eggs and downy young are so similar to the mottled appearance of the high sand bank that human eyes must look closely to find them at all.
The least terns are ardent parents. Sometimes the mother bird will stand for long periods to protect her young from the blistering sun on the beach. When storms drive roaring waves across the sands of the nesting site, the parent birds will hover pathetically above their nests as long as the eggs or young survive.

On Hatteras the colonies are large and sometimes many hundreds of nests are separated from one another by only a few feet. Sometimes the nests are near those of the royal, caspian and common terns.

There are no highways down Hatteras. It is almost impossible to build highways where the earth shifts constantly beneath the layers of concrete or asphalt. But much of the land is privately owned and automobiles travel along the sand spit daily. When the tide is out and the beach is exposed, the automobiles travel on the hard wet sand. But there is also a sand road winding through the dunes, into the heart of the nesting areas used by the terns. (Continued on page 27).
WHY STUDY NATURE?
Man is God's most interesting creature on the earth. As are the leaves of a tree, no two men are exactly alike. Yet, all men are alike in that they are triune in nature, they think, they feel, and they do. Or we may say the trinity of Man's being refers to his "head, heart and hand". Unfortunately each of these three components of man's being may have its unpleasant side, since every virtue has its correlative vice. So the one who develops an hypertrophied scientific attitude has the vice of coldness and egoism, dogmatism, and "maniacal muck-raking for mere items of fact". Through excessive development of sentimentality, feeling may degenerate into maudlin sensibility and "emotional caterwauling"; while to be wholly practical and vocational is "to grub for edible roots" and see "no flowers upon the earth, no stars overhead".

So we face the question stated as the subject of this paper: Why should one study Nature?

Well, as Prof. Torrey has so admirably expressed it, "there is a whole series of answers to this question-one for each department of the triune man". We must remember, of course, this division of man into parts must be arbitrary, for in reality the perfect blending of all of these elements makes up man's life.

Plants alone constitute the most conspicuous element in the human environment. Yet how many men pause in their rapid rush of life to give thanks for the food, textile fibers, drugs, plant fats, aromatic oils, spices, sugars, flavoring extracts, woods, gums, lacquers, dye compounds and a thousand other products which make our existence upon the earth possible, to say nothing of the popular narcotic, nicotine, which makes life a little more enjoyable for millions of people. Indeed, there is scarcely a worthy work in the world which is not in some way concerned with plant products. To know plants as living creatures is to add joy to one's vocation of "grubbing for edible roots".

Our second answer must be to the "heart" as our first was to the "hand". Here we deal with the humanistic phase of Nature study --- the phase which deals specifically with human problems, and with the emotional aspect of man's being. Things of Nature always have had a strong human appeal. Out of the past come strange legends of the uses of plants in ceremonial magic; of traceless, subtle poisons. Classic and modern literatures enforce their points with specific reference to creatures of Nature, especially plants. And today, man trapped in the rush and tension prompted by twentieth century industrialism and borne down beneath the burden's of man's strife with man, he seeks an escape for his weary mind, burdened heart, and tattered nerves by looking more and more to nature as the best physician. Yet to one who is untrained in Nature's ways, who is unable to hold "communion with her visible forms", who is unfamiliar with birds, rocks, the earth upon which he walks, trees, flowers, insects, there can be small profit in a vacation spent in the country.
The third answer to our question—Why Study Nature? is given by the critical mind with its passion for order and symmetry. Where else could the methods of precision and intellectual honesty be taught better than by Nature herself? The average person is a careless and superficial observer, due largely to his indolence and lack of rigorous discipline. This discipline must start with voluntary attention to material things amenable to study by the use of the sense organs. Let him observe the physical features of the earth and of her manifold forms of living creatures, for out of such percepts grow the units from which concepts arise. Surely Nature study enters into the apprenticeship which the "God of Things as They Are" sets for each of His highest creatures, called Man.

And what, now is the point of these paragraphs? It is simply to point out again the very fact that our Federal and State Governments are conscious of the value of "communion with Nature." Why else would the large expenditure of funds have been made in the opening of State and National Parks that their finer mental and spiritual resources may be made available to you and me—taxpayers? A group of Virginia citizens also recognize the need and value of Nature Study on the part of our people, but they believe that intelligent Nature study demands intelligent, trained leadership. To this end, the Virginia Natural History Institute was organized.

The Virginia Natural History Institute offered its first course in Nature Leadership Training during the summer of 1940 at the Swift Creek Recreational Demonstration Area near Richmond. The Institute's second training course will be offered at the same area this summer from June 23 to August 2. The course is to be again under the able directorship of Reynold E. Carlson, Director of Nature Activities of the National Recreation Association. Mr. Carlson will be supported by a corps of instructors drawn from the National Park Service and Virginia Colleges and Universities and State Departments. The student body will be limited to twenty-five selected from those applicants who in the opinion of the Committee on Admission, are best qualified to take the work and those who are most likely to make the greatest use of the training.

Nature Study Group
South Carolina Parks Open

Following a special course of study under the supervision of recreational specialists, the State Park Superintendents will fling open the doors to South Carolina's Parks on June 1st of this year. There is every indication that this opening date will find a record attendance in the Palmetto State's beauty spots and recreational areas.

One of the lovely South Carolina State Parks is Edisto Beach. Located on Edisto Island, 20 miles southeast of Adams Run, this attractive semi-tropical park which bounds the broad Atlantic, covers 1,255 acres. For recreational, historical and scientific interests it is unsurpassed by any other of the state parks. Yesteryear it was the haunts of the great, hairy mastodon and of strange, three-toed horses. Today it is recognized as one of the natural masterpieces of the South Carolina Coast, and should be one of the most popular resorts during this summer.

--- R. A. Walker.

To travel this road, the local citizens lower the air pressure in their auto tires, so that the tread is flattened against the ground. This gives better traction and keeps the car from getting stuck. It does another thing, too. It increases the damage to the colonies of nesting terns.

Each year thousands of eggs and young birds are mashed under the wheels of automobiles which travel down the cape. There are no means of determining the exact annual mortality of birds from motorist travel. But it is high. The young birds tumble into the tire treads made in the sand. Sometimes, too, the eggs are crushed.

A plan should be evolved for the protection of the least tern on Cape Hatteras. With the number of automobiles down the cape increasing each year, some plan must eventually be worked out for the protection of the thousands of tiny white families that make their homes in the sand.
THE REGIONAL REVIEW

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ADDED

The old Mission San Jose de Aguayo at San Antonio, Texas, has been added to the National Historic Sites administered by the National Park Service. It is regarded as one of the three finest Spanish missions in North America.

San Jose Mission is the first National Historic Site to be designated outside Region One by Secretary Harold L. Ickes under the authority granted the Secretary of the Interior in the Act of Congress of August 21, 1935. The others are: Hopewell Village and Old Philadelphia Custom House in Pennsylvania; Federal Hall Memorial in New York City and Vanderbilt Mansion near Hyde Park, New York; Salem Maritime in Salem, Massachusetts; Fort Raleigh on Roanoke Island, North Carolina; and Jamestown Island and Manassas Battlefield in Virginia.

The original name of this new National Historic Site was Mission San Jose y San Miguel de Arguayo. It was established at the instigation of Father Antonio Margil by Captain Juan Valdez on February 23, 1720.

Lee Letter
Continued from
Page 21

and make no mention of promoting modest merit in the persons of you or I. Nullification receives no quarter. I hope you will not be ordered to the scene of action. If so point out Dr. Elliott to J. E. Johnston the Col. has some private directions concerning him. Do present me most warmly to your dear Mother, your Aunt, Miss Cooper, Miss K. The little Madam if there, Brothers &c. and say something handsome for me to Miss Mae A. and G. Remember me to all Mackay and write soon, till then believe me.

Yours, R. E. Lee.

P. S. I suppose you know that there is only a part of a Comp'y at Old P. with a full staff. J. E. Johnston is at Ft. Moultrie and if you pay his passage will come and see you. I shall remain here till 1st of March and then return to O. P.

To John Mackay Esq'r.
U. S. Artillery,
Savannah, Georgia.

NOTE: "J. R. K. M." — Lieutenant J. K. F. Mansfield who was in charge of construction at Fort Pulaski from 1831 to 1846.
We have received so many requests for literature on the national parks and monuments of the region that we are incorporating in this issue a complete list of our publications to date.

With the exception of those which are indicated as being for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, copies of all publications may be obtained from the Regional Office.

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<th>NAME OF AREA</th>
<th>NOW AVAILABLE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Abraham Lincoln National Park, Kentucky</td>
<td>16pp historical booklet*</td>
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*For sale by Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, at 10¢ a copy.
**For sale by Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, at 5¢ a copy.
***To be sold by Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, prices undetermined.

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IN MEMORIAM

ARNO B. CAMMERER

1883 - 1941