

Baldwin County History Files

Gulf Shores, Alabama Gulf State Park – CCC Camps

Miscellanea that may include periodical and newspaper abstracts, clippings, biographical sketches, reminiscences, personal profiles, local history, family histories, facsimile of documents, etc. pertaining to Baldwin County, Alabama.

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CCC Camps Civil Conservation Corps Gulf Shores State Park Gulf Shores, Alabama

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The Early Development of Gulf State Park

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Gulf State Park

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Posted: Tuesday, November 6, 2012 6:00 am | Updated: 9:14 am, Sat Nov 10, 2012.

By John Jackson | 0 comments



Posted on Nov 6, 2012
by People

Today Gulf Shores is host to a magnificent 6,000-acre park, complete with a modern campground, cabins, walking trails, fishing pier, and some of the most beautiful beachfront in the world.

The amenities offered at the campground, along with the fresh and saltwater fishing opportunities, make it a premier destination site for summer vacationers as well as winter snowbird guests.

This modern facility, which whisks visitors away to the natural beauty of the Gulf Coast, has not always been the preeminent site it is today. A little more than 75 years ago, the park was much smaller than it is today; yet it captured the imagination of a small group of local residents and representatives that saw its bright future.

In the summer of 1935, Baldwin County citizens and their public representatives were hastening to make grand plans for the gem in the rough that the park was at the time. Among the local leaders that sought to enhance the park were State Representative A.B. McPhaul and Dr. W.C. Holmes of Foley. At the state level, the state park bureau of the Alabama Commission of Forestry was called on to spearhead the project.

At that time the Gulf State Park contained roughly 1,000 acres. Leaders of the movement to enlarge the park hoped to increase the size of the site to at least three times the original acreage. The hopes of these people,

as expressed in a June 1935 Baldwin Times article, was that local land owners would donate property or that someone would provide the funds to purchase the property.

Later that summer, in July, it was announced that the State Park at Gulf Shores would be enlarged. The plan, according to the Alabama Highway Commission, was to immediately expand the site to 2,300 acres and eventually, to 4,000 acres.

According to reports at the time, the first addition to the park was purchased from the Mobile-Gulf Shores Land Company for a sum of \$14,000. The improvements to the site, such as roadways, were to be performed by the federal government after the state of Alabama purchased the property. The labor for the site was to come from the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC). The CCC was an initiative of the Franklin D. Roosevelt presidency that provided work relief for people during the height of the Great Depression. From 1933 to 1942, more than 2.5 million men participated in the program, which centered on providing natural resource conservation programs as it placed unemployed men in the work place.

Elaborate plans were part of the intended enhancements to the site. The construction included roads, tourist cottages, fishing piers into the Gulf and to provide access to the fresh water lake onsite. Other plans included a bird sanctuary and a wild game preserve, as well as the addition of several miles of paved roads leading to the Gulf and to Foley and beyond as a means of accommodating hoped-for tourists. At the time, it was estimated that the total expense contributed by the government toward the variety of improvements would reach one million dollars. It seems to have been worth every penny.

JUDGE AND SHERIFF GET MAJORITY

FOLEY CCC CAMP TO BE LOCATED ON GULF COAST

Development of State Park
Will Be Objective of
Forestry Men

"There will be a Civilian Conservation Corps camp moved into the state property on the Gulf 10 miles below Foley to develop the property as an Alabama state park just as soon as the army can establish living facilities for the 200 odd men and boys," says Fanning Hearon, State Park Emergency Conservation Work representative, with headquarters in Washington.

Mr. Hearon, one of the group of newspapermen assigned to promotion of Roosevelt Recovery and the New Deal, was in Foley yesterday on a tour of state park projects in the South. He had expected to find the camp at least moving in the 640-acre tract in Section 16 and when he could locate no trace, called State Commissioner of Forestry Page S. Bunker at Montgomery and Colonel Fuller, CCC district commander, at Fort Barroness, Fla.

Mr. Bunker said the project was waiting for the army and referred Mr. Hearon to Colonel Fuller, who said he had no definite information as to when the move could be made. Mr. Bunker seemed to think the camp now at Clichea State Park near Mound, in Cleburne county, would be brought to the Foley location. Col. Fuller said if this is true, it would be coming from without his district and any information would come from Fourth Corps Area headquarters in Atlanta.

However, there is to be an Alabama State Park developed on the Gulf below Foley; that much is certain. The 640-acre tract includes 300 acres of a 600-acre fresh water lake, alive with fish, and an eighth of a mile beach frontage. The ground is high and dry and slopes nicely to the sea. The project will, in all probability, include clearing of thickets, improvement of timber, cutting of trails and roads, and a thorough cleaning of the beach.

In many state parks, log cabins, lodges and shelters with water and waste disposal systems are being constructed. Whether the Gulf State Park project will call for such construction is not certain. Mr. Hearon says facts on this will be available from Washington in the near future. The development of this national wide system of state parks is being constructed by the State Park Emergency Conservation Work organization, under supervision of the National Park Service and in cooperation with the states. Actual labor is supplied by the Civilian Conservation Corps, which is housed, fed, clothed and hospitalized by the army. The work is directed by a supervisory personnel, the majority of which are appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. It is the custom to take as many of these men as possible from the region in which the park is to be located.

Development of this Gulf State Park, as it is to be called, will open up the vast beach country of Alabama and reveal to thousands of people a country they didn't know existed. When the work is finished the federal government moves out and leaves everything to the state. When properly operated these parks are self-sustaining through cabin, lodge and recreational privilege fees.

Engagement Predicted



LONDON... Well informed sources here predict that the engagement of Sweden's Princess Ingrid (above), to Crown Prince Frederick of Denmark, will soon be announced.

SATSUMAS NOW IN FULL BLOOM ON GULF COAST

Growers Are Happy Over
Prospect of An Early
Golden Harvest

By DAVID HOLT.

Satsumas are in full bloom all along the gulf coast producing section which includes southern areas in Mississippi, Alabama and west Florida.

A week ago only an occasional pearl-like bud was to be seen in most of the orchards but a few bright days brought a marvelous change. Suddenly the trees became white with buds and blossoms. Never before was there so large a bloom, giving promise of the largest crop, since 1923. It appears that the trees, denied their usual fruitfulness by late cold in 1933 are bent upon making up for lost time in 1934.

The air is filled with the perfume of orange blossoms which hangs heavy over the mature orchards and is carried by the breezes for miles to leeward of the larger plantings. Bees are working all day long to gather the matchless honey while their brief festival of satsuma blossoms continues.

Growers of large and small orchards are happy over the prospect of an early and golden harvest; for there is nothing that so enlivens this region as a good satsuma crop. Its stimulus is beyond all proportion to the monetary returns received or expected; for the satsuma grower "doth love his tree."

With Dr. O. F. E. Winberg of Silverhill, this writer has begun a systematic inspection of the orchards associated in cooperative marketing through the Gulf Coast Citrus Exchange, of which Dr. Winberg is the president. These growers, almost without exception, are giving their trees a fair chance to show what they can do when properly fertilized, cultivated and treated for the control of those pests which are the enemies of all citrus production, everywhere.

In the Winberg orchards, about two and one-half miles south of Loxley in Baldwin county, the greater number of the mature trees within the 70 acres of the "Owari" variety, which has proven to be admirably adapted to the Gulf Coast region. One block is of the Kawano variety, which ripens some three weeks earlier than (Continued on page 2, column 1.)

FIRST POTATOES MAY MOVE FROM BALDWIN MAY 7

Good Yield In Prospect As
2,200 Cars Estimated To
Be Shipped

Continuation of favorable weather will undoubtedly result in the first potatoes being shipped from Baldwin county by Monday, May 7th, as preparations are made for a large crop movement. Bliss Triumphs greatly predominate but there are also a few Cobbles.

Federal inspection will prevail throughout and a good yield of excellent quality is now in prospect, authorities generally holding that some 2,000 to 2,200 cars will roll.

CONTROL COMMITTEE VISITS LOUISIANA

Several members of the Produce Control Committee, including Ernest Corte, Louis Bertola, W. H. Burmeister and Paul Kaiser, with County Agent E. E. Hale and T. M. Farris, horticultural agent of the Louisville and Nashville railroad, attended the Louisiana potato tour last week.

The control committee is working hard to get Louisiana shippers to cooperate in regulating the movement of potatoes. Copies of the agreement adopted here were given Louisiana shippers and our plans explained to the shippers and growers. They heartily approved of the movement and assured the Baldwin county visitors that they would call a meeting to have this form of agreement adopted.

The Baldwin County Produce Control Committee are taking their duties seriously. Ernest Corte reports 100% sign-up among the shippers.

To encourage better handling of produce by the growers, the committee is working out plans to award prizes to the growers who deliver their produce to the platforms in best conditions. The rules and prizes will be published later. All civic organizations are invited to offer prizes.

The old method of using fertilizer bags for containers will be discarded and field crates used instead. Several shippers expressed willingness of advancing field crates to their customers in order to encourage better quality.

In the past it has been looked upon as more or less an honor to ship the first car of potatoes and to pay a price above the market as advertisement. But this year, however, it will be true. Shipment of green immature potatoes will be looked upon by both growers and shippers as injuring the market for Baldwin county produce and a penalty to every grower who ships later.

Quality and a controlled movement of potatoes will mean money and prosperity to all Baldwin county. Dirty, green, skinned potatoes rushed on the market will mean bankruptcy to many growers who have staked their homes on the crop. Which shall it be?

VISITORS DAY AT FARM IS PLANNED

The Gulf Coast Experiment Station workers are getting everything ready to receive a big crowd of farmers and others interested in farming on Saturday, May 5th.

The potato experiments will be at their best on this date. Dean M. J. Funchess of Auburn and the horticultural staff from the college will be on hand to show the people over the plots and give results to date. Otto Brown, superintendent, and Mr. Yates, assistant, are looking forward with much enthusiasm in making this a big day for our farmers.

The program will include tours from 9 a. m. until 11 a. m. After the tours are completed the crowd will gather for short talks by agricultural authorities. Sandwiches and drinks will be sold on the ground by the Fairhope. This gathering of farmers at the Gulf Coast Experiment Station on Saturday will mean more than merely visiting experimental plots. It will be a home-coming to many who worked so hard to have the station located

CANDIDATES PUT ELECTION COSTS ABOVE \$100,000

Economical Campaigns Are
Reported By 600 Who
Seek State Office

MONTGOMERY, May 2.—More than \$100,000 has been spent by candidates for nomination to state offices prior to yesterday's Democratic primary election, it was estimated following filing of pre-election expense accounts with the secretary of state.

The more than 600 candidates for state offices in the main have conducted fairly economical campaigns, the reports showed. Thousands of dollars additional were spent by the many county candidates in the state, and a large slice of revenue was received by the state Democratic executive committee in qualification fees.

None of the three candidates for governor had exceeded the \$10,000 expense limit set by law, according to their sworn reports. Former Gov. Bibb Graves had spent \$7,964.34 and received contributions of \$9,678; Judge Leon McCord reported expenditures of \$6,022.26 and receipts of \$2,609; and Frank Dixon expenditures of \$5,658.86 and receipts of \$3,272.25. The \$10,000 limit includes expenses in both primaries and the general election in November.

TRANSIENT ARMY TAKES OVER FORT

The first contingent of 20 men from the Transient Bureau office in Mobile occupied Fort Morgan on Monday to begin work of rehabilitating the former army post. Others will follow immediately.

Dr. L. M. Boyd, formerly of Foley but who has been in Montgomery for the past few months, has been designated as medical officer at Fort Morgan and was in Foley Monday before going to the fort.

Board Revenue, 2nd Dist.

	Barr	Hall	Lacy	Smith
Blacksher	11	3	10	3
Tensaw	11	8	5	7
Latham	8	6	2	7
Stockton	51	15	78	7
Deans	0	0	22	0
Bay Minette	127	156	57	83
Douglasville	84	91	47	48
Hurricane	18	2	9	3
Perdido	26	25	29	16
Lottie	3	4	14	0
Stapleton	22	26	21	7
Gateswood	16	6	19	3
Holmans	4	3	4	9
Daphne	26	48	30	36
Belforest	15	21	10	21
Loxley	19	90	38	21
Robertsdale	57	130	42	28
Silverhill	104	112	38	41
Point Clear	6	25	8	3
Barnwell	6	12	2	6
Summerdale	9	3	3	1
Marlow	0	20	2	0
Lillian	0	20	2	0
Seminole	17	93	5	7
Elberta	0	0	0	0
Josephine	58	101	68	61
Foley	18	22	16	16
Magnolia Spgs	12	29	6	9
Bon Secour	12	29	6	9
Absentees	33	21	19	12
Totals	873	1114	587	460

Magician To Be In Foley Friday

Bob Clark recognized as one of the best magicians in the United States, will appear at the Foley high school auditorium for two programs of high class entertainment on Friday at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and at 7:45 in the evening.

Clark says, "There are tricks in all trades, but my trade is all tricks." A full evening of modern magical mys-

Board Revenue, 4th Dist.

	Childress	McGrew	Mitchell	Sawyer
Blacksher	5	18	3	24
Tensaw	13	13	3	10
Latham	5	3	3	10
Stockton	21	64	6	57
Deans	0	0	0	26
Bay Minette	142	102	54	112
Douglasville	92	61	32	69
Hurricane	1	1	1	3
Perdido	37	11	11	32
Lottie	1	1	5	14
Stapleton	11	12	6	24
Gateswood	18	0	0	26
Holmans	6	1	0	13
Daphne	42	21	4	59
Belforest	8	8	27	24
Loxley	58	27	19	66
Robertsdale	65	26	46	111
Silverhill	18	8	24	92
Hairhope	38	66	18	180
Point Clear	7	0	3	32
Barnwell	1	4	14	4
Summerdale	30	25	28	10
Marlow	8	5	1	6
Lillian	1	15	3	3
Seminole	2	73	44	7
Elberta	0	0	0	0
Josephine	151	84	65	35
Foley	10	10	0	59
Magnolia Spgs	21	15	12	8
Bon Secour	21	15	12	8
Totals	827	726	440	1094

Representative

	Barchard	Hedge	McPhaul	Beebe
Blacksher	5	0	7	14
Tensaw	6	1	11	10
Latham	0	0	0	0
Stockton	24	30	67	49
Deans	0	0	0	0
Bay Minette	67	107	79	163
Douglasville	44	59	83	76
Hurricane	13	9	6	13
Perdido	27	11	41	12
Lottie	0	0	17	4
Stapleton	23	7	23	15
Gateswood	9	9	17	14
Holmans	2	0	15	15
Foley	11	0	20	4
Belforest	10	0	59	1
Loxley	30	8	100	38
Robertsdale	19	1	181	5
Silverhill	56	1	78	25
Fairhope	128	15	105	84
Point Clear	11	0	20	4
Barnwell	18	3	4	2
Summerdale	38	0	45	11
Marlow	9	0	11	1
Lillian	8	0	13	1
Seminole	0	0	0	0
Elberta	34	3	84	4
Josephine	194	13	91	33
Foley	15	0	6	11
Magnolia Spgs	29	0	52	1
Bon Secour	23	11	22	38
Absentees	23	11	22	38
Total	837	336	1334	654

Tax Collector

	Byrne	Garrett	Mason	Smith
Blacksher	3	8	13	13
Tensaw	2	3	8	15
Latham	1	0	6	11
Stockton	11	10	12	119
Deans	1	9	4	21
Bay Minette	128	99	30	168
Douglasville	71	51	26	121
Hurricane	19	7	0	5
Perdido	32	7	21	36
Lottie	0	2	7	12
Stapleton	13	15	3	30
Gateswood	9	10	18	10
Holmans	13	0	1	5
Daphne	23	34	39	49
Belforest	9	35	2	24
Loxley	53	30	33	62
Robertsdale	62	31	75	103
Silverhill	40	5	28	48
Fairhope	10	9	255	67
Point Clear	1	0	15	31
Barnwell	1	0	23	6
Summerdale	1	1	10	7
Marlow	1	0	0	22
Lillian	0	0	0	0
Seminole	2	12	8	104
Josephine	49	39	60	149
Foley	19	8	3	13
Magnolia Spgs	12	6	23	10
Bon Secour	12	6	23	10
Absentees	27	17	10	44
Totals	548	438	755	1360

BALDWIN TOTALS

GOVERNOR
Graves 1,385
Dixon 1,103
McCord 736

REPRESENTATIVE
McPhaul 1,334
Barchard 837
Beebe 654
Hedge 336

PROBATE JUDGE
Robertson 2,391
Chason 481
Hawkins 276

TAX COLLECTOR
Smith 1,360
Mason 755
Byrne 589
Garrett 438

TAX ASSESSOR
Stuart 974
Tunstall 893
Ertzinger 614
Volz 338
Vail 280
McGowan 93

SHERIFF
Wilkins 1,678
Hall 523
Barrow 514
Titus 494

CLERK, CIRCUIT COURT
Duck 954
Humphries 846
Hadley 495
McIntosh 428
Stone 330
Slaughter 118

COMMISSIONER, 4th Dist
Sawyer 1,094
Childress 826
McGrew 330
Mitchell 440

COMMISSIONER, 2nd Dist
Hall 1,114
Burns 873
Lacey 527
Smith 460

LEADERSHIP SCHOOL TO BE HELD TODAY

Miss Margaret Garrett, a former Home Demonstration Agent of Baldwin county who is now Extension Specialist in Food Preservation, will be in Bay Minette Thursday, May 3rd, to conduct a Leadership School. Home Demonstration Club leaders from 15 communities of the county are expected to be present at this training school.

Miss Lewis, home agent, will assist Miss Garrett in giving the two demonstrations of the day which will be on jelly making and judging canned products. These demonstrations will be repeated by the leaders to all of the club members of the county during May and June.

Plans are being made for community canning kitchens to be conducted in about 30 communities again this summer. These kitchens will be in cooperation with the rural rehabilitation programs and play a part in the work of the county extension agent.

The Senior class will be present at the play May 10th at 8 o'clock. The title of this play is "This Investment." Those in the play are Katie Callaway, Evelyn Sherk, Lillian Bitt, Blanche Thorneburg, Ethel Eick, Margherita Lewis, Carter, Lizzie Mae Underwood, Selma Coaker, Albert Hartung, Rudolf Doering and Allan Ma.

ROBERTSON AND WILKINS GET BIG VOTE; 3,000 CAS

Stuart, Jesse Smith, Du
McPhaul, Hall, Sawyer
Have Lead

Majorities sufficient for election the first primary were given to B. Robertson and "Red" Wilkins, candidates for probate judge and sheriff when Baldwin voters cast over 2,000 ballots Tuesday. Robertson was given a tremendous landslide, getting 2,391 votes, as against 481 for Chason and 276 for Hawkins. Wilkins majority was far from being as great as he received 1,678.

A run-off in the second primary June 12 will be necessary to determine other office holders.

Leaders and runners-up are as follows: Representative, McPhaul, Barchard, Tax Collector, Smith, Mason, Tax Assessor, Stuart, Tunstall, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Duck and Humphries, Commissioner, 4th Dist., Sawyer and Childress, Commissioner, 2nd Dist., Hall and Burns.

For governor, Graves carried the county with a total of 1,385, Dixon 1,103 and McCord 736. Through the state, as returns came in Wednesday, Graves had a substantial majority was far from being as great as he received 1,678.

GUARDSMEN TO GET PAY BOOST

MONTGOMERY, May 2.—Alabama's 2,550 National Guardsmen whose pay was substantially reduced last year now face the happy prospect of a 33 1/3 raise that will average \$76.000 annually.

Col. Hartley A. Moon, adjutant general, has been advised that Congress has adopted the 1934-35 appropriation bill carrying an increase of 36 to 48 for paid drills a year.

Under last year's cut, the aggregate salary of the Alabama National Guard was reduced from \$200,000 to \$120,000, and the increase in the new appropriation bill will bring the figure back up to \$200,000.

Alabama's National Guard has 2,550 and 2,625 enlisted men.

Senior Class Will Present Play May

The first play to be presented by the Senior class of the Foley school will be on May 10th at 8 o'clock. The title of this play is "This Investment." Those in the play are Katie Callaway, Evelyn Sherk, Lillian Bitt, Blanche Thorneburg, Ethel Eick, Margherita Lewis, Carter, Lizzie Mae Underwood, Selma Coaker, Albert Hartung, Rudolf Doering and Allan Ma.

This play is highly entertaining and should be seen by everyone. The Senior class will appreciate large attendance.

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DE

JANUARY SALES

DEARBORN, Mich., March 6.—Domestic retail deliveries of Ford V-8 cars and trucks for January totaled 75,678 units, an increase of 110% over deliveries for the same month of 1934, it was announced today at the home offices of the Ford Motor Company. This is the highest total for any January in the past five years. It also exceeds deliveries in the combined months of January and February of last year.

Deliveries in January this year were exceeded in only three months in 1934. They were April, May and June, which are usually considered the peak months of the spring selling season.

Retail deliveries of Ford V-8 trucks were higher than for any January since 1925.

The Ford company recently announced its January world production of V-8 cars and trucks totaled 105,230 units. Present production of Ford V-8 units is in excess of 5,000 daily.

Dance To Be Given At Gulf Park Camp

A new dance floor at the Gulf CCC camp, material for which was all purchased in Foley, will be initiated with one of the popular public dances given for the enlisted personnel, officers and friends this Saturday night, March 9th. Music will be furnished by the Dixie Melody Boys orchestra and the usual refreshments will be served.

MARKETS

FOLEY, March 6.—Eggs 15c doz. Beef 2 1/4-4c lb. Veal 3-5c. Hogs 5-8 1/2c (live weight). Hens, 10-12c. Fryers 16-18c. Butter 30c.

at the Masonic temple at 11 o'clock. Rev. George F. Johnson, pastor, will bring a special message on "Houses of Cedar."

A fellowship dinner will be served after the church service, to which all members and friends of the church are cordially invited. The service will close at noon promptly, so that those attending the service who have other plans for the dinner hour may have the opportunity to be out at twelve. Friends and members of the church who desire to stay for the fellowship dinner are asked to bring well-filled baskets, sufficient for their own families and guests they may invite.

The special music for this service will be as follows: A vocal solo by Mrs. Harry Waller, with violin obligato by Mrs. Wayne Lockwood; a violin solo by Mrs. Lockwood, and the choir will give a chorus number. The choir will meet with Mrs. E. F. Sanders on Thursday night of this week for rehearsal at 7:30 o'clock.



WASHINGTON... Mrs. Emily Newell Blair (above), is the new chairman of the Consumers Advisory Board of the NRA to succeed the late Mrs. Mary Harriman Ramsey.

advantage of Cooks.

For further cotton varieties county agent.

PROCH WHI OU

MONTGOMERY procedure to the 2,500 job has made a collar" class lined at a Governor, V sending the tration, and the chief ex sentative in ments.

Governor outset that jobs was no was the con ity for job fact that w the broad j has planned favor those a willingne the two mo now. These from the s collar" gro eligible for actual desti signed to p various stat paid an a each for th

The gove Henderson county relie the qualify eligibility will have cl up with the ments the

3-7-1935 The Outlook

RAVE birth Sunday, April 4, to twin sisters. They have been named "Lulu Bell" and "Susie Bell". A week previous a Holstein Guernsey cow gave birth to twins near Seattle, Wash.

FREE CLINIC AT SCHOOL FRIDAY FOR CHILDREN

P.-T. A. Sponsors Plan To Have Children Ready For School

A free clinic will be conducted at the Foley school auditorium on Friday, April 9th, at 1 p. m. for the thorough examination of children of pre-school age and those who are already enrolled in the lower grades. The purpose of the clinic, which is sponsored by the local Parent-Teacher Association, is to correct physical defects which interfere with children's studies prior to the re-opening of school next Fall.

Dr. Thompson, county health officer, will be assisted by local doctors and dentists.

It is the duty of parents to see that their children have an equal chance to make a success of life. Children handicapped by poor health, weak eyes, infected tonsils and various other prevalent ailments are not having a fair start.

Parents are urged to bring their children to this clinic for a complete check-up. They will be advised as to the true condition of a child's health, and told what to do towards getting that child into the very best physical perfection possible before the beginning of another school term.

This examination and accompanying advice is absolutely free. Tell your neighbors and friends about it so none will be missed.

2,000 VIEW CCC WORK AT GULF PARK SUNDAY

Over 500 Persons Fed At Fourth Anniversary Luncheon

Army officers, Department of Interior officials and enrollees of CCC Company 1425 at Gulf State Park south of Foley entertained in commendable fashion over 2,000 guests Sunday at the fourth anniversary party of the Civilian Conservation Corps and visitors were not only impressed but even the most skeptical had to admit that in thus training the nation's youth President Roosevelt had achieved an outstanding accomplishment.

Over 500 persons were fed at a 1 o'clock dinner, the most interesting part of which was a 225-pound birthday cake.

The 72-piece St. Stephen's school band of Pensacola furnished music for the event, while the Pensacola Naval Air Station and CCC camp baseball teams added to the attractions.

A company of CCC enrollees has been employed at the 3,500-acre state park, which includes three fresh water lakes and a mile and a half beach frontage on the Gulf of Mexico, for three years, during most of which time L. G. Hill, of Montgomery, has been project superintendent. Capt. W. D. Morrison is commanding officer. Cabons and boathouses have been built on the lakes for use of visitors, 3 miles of road have been constructed in the park, and twelve thousand trees have been planted.

Besides the actual work accomplished, time has been devoted to educational instruction which was portrayed by many fine exhibits showing work done by the youths themselves in journalism, citizenship, surveying, arts and craft, and numerous trades. R. J. Mitchell is educational adviser.

Dr. H. R. Halsey, of the corps area educational division, Atlanta, and Capt. Edgar King, representing the district commander at Fort Barrancas, were among those attending, as well as numerous prominent state, county and municipal officials. Neither Gov. Bibb Graves nor Gov. Fred P. Cone were able to attend.

All are better farmers than they were four years ago, due to their now working along a program planned months ahead and followed under his guidance and cooperation. In other words, these men are no longer liabilities but assets and their families have moved from marginal morass to substantial success.

Robertsdale Class To Present Play

The Senior III play, "The Importance of Being Ernest," to be presented Wednesday, April 14th, 8 p. m. at the Robertsdale High school, is a splendid comedy with the cast composed of Byron Linden and Ruth Gregorius of Silverhill, Quentin Strong of Elsanor, Helen Weekley of Loxley, William Rhodes, Robert Buck, John Bystricky, Ruth Harrell and Marvel Jordan of Robertsdale. This class has a large membership and quite a bit of interest in this class is being shown.

THOS. W. CROSBY DIES OF STROKE

Thomas W. Crosby, 76, prominent south Alabama naval stores operator, died suddenly at his home in Foley at 6:10 Thursday night, April 1. He had been in failing health for almost two years.

Locating at Foley first in 1903, Mr. Crosby later engaged in the turpentine business in Escambia county, moving to Atmore in 1907. He returned to Foley in 1920 and had since resided here. Mr. Crosby was born in Quitman, Miss., July 22, 1860.

Funeral services were held at the family residence at 10 a. m. Saturday. Interment in Pine Rest cemetery, Christensen in charge.

Pallbearers were Till Helton, Victor Gaar, S. W. Porter, L. W. Brannan, W. E. Cooney and Sidney Cameron.

The deceased is survived by his wife, Mary Crosby; three sons, Ollie Crosby of Silverhill; Martin Crosby and Marshall Crosby of Foley; one brother, P. W. Crosby of Stockton; a sister, Mrs. R. C. Bryars, also of Stockton, and six grandchildren.

REDUCES OPERATION RISK

BOSTON, Mass.—The use of a vaccine, known as amniotic fluid, has been found to reduce the operation risk of peritonitis 30%.

LUCKY STONE

PEIPING.—Jade has been prized as a lucky stone for centuries in China. It is generally greenish in color.

GUARISCO WINS HONOR STANDOUT CLUB GIRL

Aline Brantley Wins 4-H Trip To State Meet

Miss Aline Brantley of Belforest has been selected as winner of the Foods Preparation Contest in Baldwin county. Miss Brantley has been in club work for four years and has done exceedingly nice work. As president of the Fairhope 4-H Club, Aline led her club to victory in the Model Club Procedure contest on Rally Day, winning a gavel. With her partner, Mary C. Guarisco, she placed first in the Foods Preservation Judging Contest.

Miss Brantley composed the Baldwin County 4-H Club yell, which was adopted by the council. She served as cheer leader and acted as secretary of the council in 1935-36.

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CONFIDENCE

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4-8-937 The Dooker

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CLUBS AN. 5TH

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 9:30 a. m. The
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 Better Homes
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WOMEN TO IZIE UNIT

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This is one of the last pictures taken of the U. S. Gunboat Panay (pro: Pa-nigh) before she disappeared beneath the waters of the Yangtze bombed and machine-gunned by Japanese planes and land forces. In protesting directly to Nipponese Emperor Hirohito, the State Department stressed the fact that the Panay was flying United States colors (see arrow above) thus disproving earlier Japanese excuses that the attack was a case of "mistaken identity."

DENIES LIQUOR OR SALES TAX AID TO SCHOOL

Measures Not Passed As
 Aid To Education In
 Alabama

BIRMINGHAM, Dec. 29.—"The tax levied on the sale of alcoholic beverages is not a school tax and was not passed as such," J. M. Ward, public relations chairman for Jefferson county schools, declared as he sought to allay what he termed "public misapprehension" regarding school money derived from sale of alcoholic beverages and the 2% sales tax.
 He said that receipts from this tax are put into the state's general fund and that the amount schools will receive depends upon the proportion of the state's general fund derived from the receipts and then transferred to the Alabama special education trust fund.
 Sales tax revenue is used for three purposes, Mr. Ward explained.
 First, to reimburse the state for loss incurred by exempting home-steads up to \$2,000 of the 6½-mill ad valorem tax; second, about one-fourth to county boards of commissioners for health, public welfare and extension service, and third, three-fourths to education, providing the amount does not exceed the amount of money provided by the minimum program law of \$12,070,660.
 Tax authorities have explained that the law legalizing the sale of liquor provides for the bulk of the revenues to go to the state's general fund, out of which most of the expenses of the executive and judicial branches of the state are paid. Most of the school appropriations are paid out of various educational funds and supplied

CCC PAPER AT FOLEY WINS IN U. S. CONTEST

First Prize Given To Gulf
 Breeze As Best Camp
 Paper In 1937

"Gulf Breeze," monthly tabloid newspaper of the CCC camp at Gulf State Park, south of Foley, has been adjudged outstanding among the publications of all the camps in the nation and presented the 1937 certificate of award, it has been announced.
 The education department of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Washington, D. C., made the award. Howard W. Oxley was in charge of the contest.
 Published monthly by the boys of the camp, the paper recently inaugurated a new headline system which has brought inquiries and comment from some of the country's leading schools of journalism. Managing Editor L. F. Evans calls it his "rocket head," starting the body of the story in headline type instead of the regular method of summing up the story in the head.
 Judges based their consideration of the papers on form, editorials, camp news coverage and liveliness of treatment.
 Other members of the Foley CCC paper's staff are James D. Diamond, editor; R. J. Mitchell, business manager; "Red" Lloyd, reporter; Eddie Kahalley, sports. The publication is printed at the plant of The Onlooker.
 CULLMAN, BALDWIN
 PRODUCE MOST EGGS
 Cullman county produces more eggs than any other county in Alabama. The production in 1934, according to Federal census was

camp is finally disbe
 men, it is reported, w
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 The transients were
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 Foley.
 4-H CLUB I
 ANNIVER
 The Elberta 4-H Clu
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Geocache Description:

Congratulations to RVseekers for FTF.

In the early 1930's, the Federal Government bought land and it was combined with land was donated by the local landowners (700 acres by George C. Meyers alone) to create what would become Gulf State Park.

From 1933 until 1939, the Civilian Conservation Corps. (CCC) occupied what is now Gulf State Park. The CCC program was part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" and was designed to team two wasted resources, the young men and the land, in an effort to save both. The CCC was used to build national and state parks all over the US and gave many single, young men jobs to help them and their families to make it through the depression. They made a \$1.00 a day, 5 days a week. At the end of the month they were paid \$25. Most of it was sent home to their families. A CCC camp was constructed and consisted of a barracks, a sawmill, resident houses for management to live in, and a maid's quarters. Until the permanent structures were complete, the CCC "Boys" lived in large tents.





photo courtesy of Mr. Jewel Terrigen who was part of CCC Crew.

enlarged -



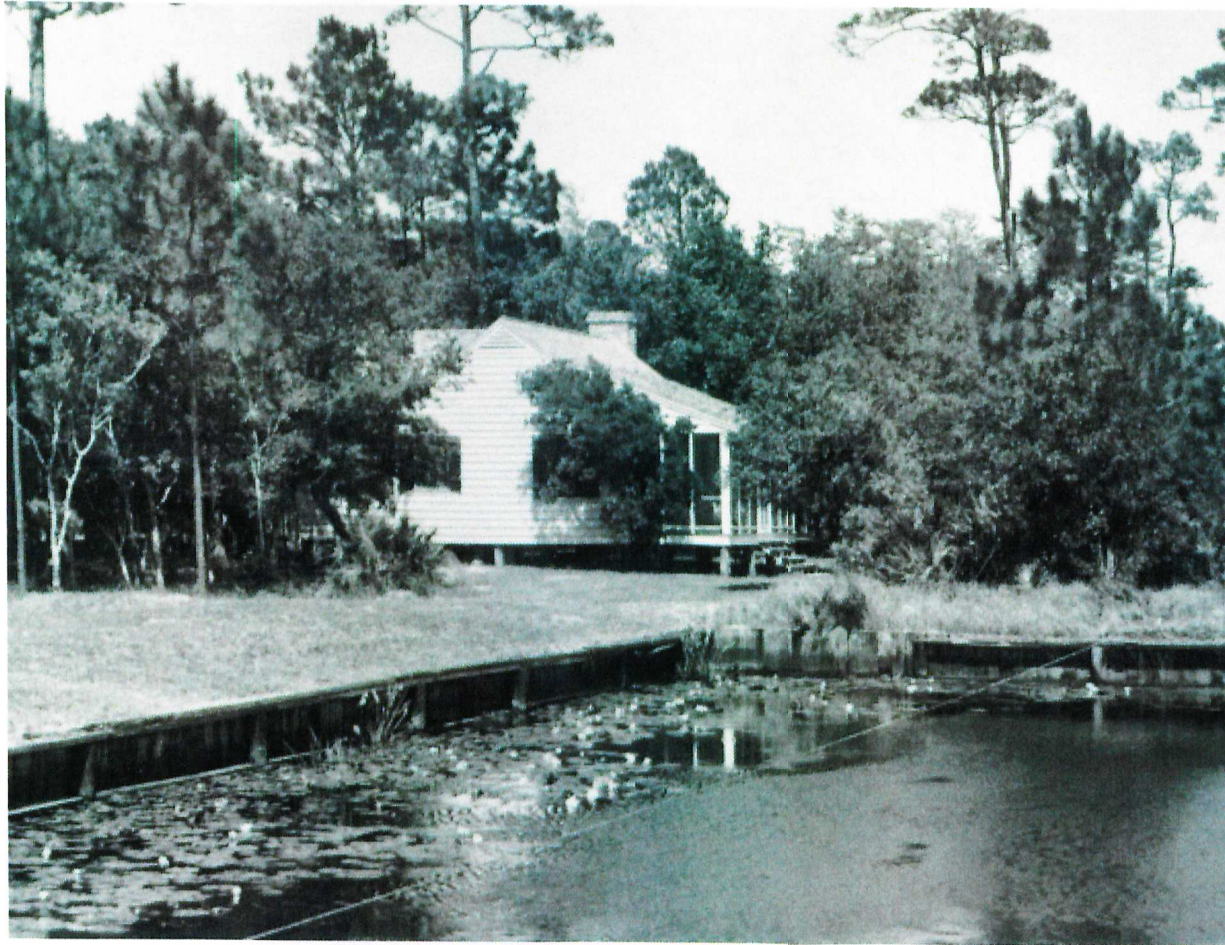
The crew that built the park. Photo courtesy of Mr. Jewel Jernigan, who was part of the CCC Crew.

During the time the CCC occupied the park, they built a beautiful casino (a concession stand and dance hall on the beach), a bunk house (near where the pier is now) for the life guards to live in during the summer time, cabins on Lake Shelby, residences, and a maid's house. The maid's house served as an overnight area where cabin visitor's maids could sleep. These maids cared for the children of cabin guests during the day, but were not allowed to spend the night in the cabins. Each of Alabama's State Parks had a maid's quarters.

The CCC built the original cabins along the north shore of Lake Shelby. They numbered them 1-16, but skipped the #13, and built a duplex (where our cabin #1 is now). Cabin #1 was on the north side of the cabin road and was the last one that would rent every time. People would say, "I want anything but #1." There nothing was in front of it, with plenty of space and access to the water, but people didn't want that one.



The crew that built the park. Photo courtesy of Mr. Jewel Jernigan, who was park of the CCC Crew.



This is one of the original, CCC built cabins on Lake Shelby. It may even be the one that left the "Relic" behind



CCC Built Cabin #1. Aren't those heart pine walls beautiful?

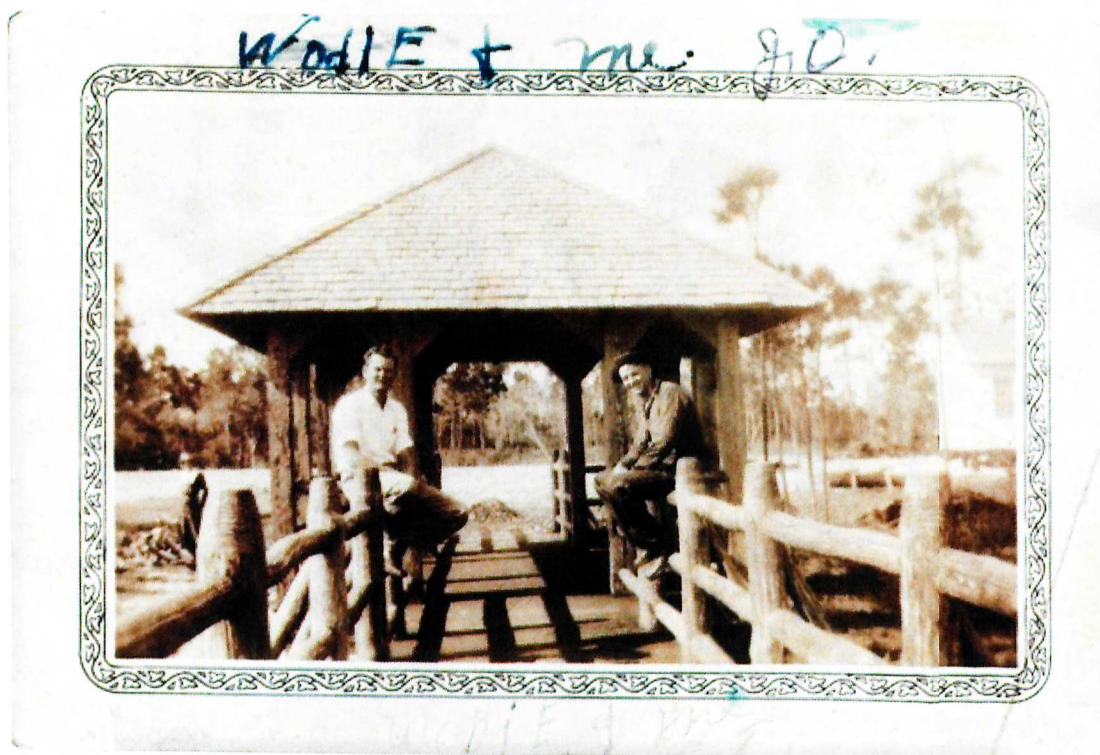
Whoever was in charge of the placement of the cabins had to have been a gambler. Cabin #3 and #7 and #11, lucky dice numbers, were built sideways. They faced to the east. There are ramifications of that decision to this day because those three cabins are slightly smaller than the others. When Frederick hit, FEMA gave Gulf State Park money to build them back, however they had to be built with the same square footage as the old ones. Therefore, three of our current cabins are smaller than the rest.



Over the years, Gulf State Park has undergone several major natural disasters. On September 12, 1979, Hurricane Fredrick hit the Gulf Coast with winds of 135mph. The park was covered by more than 3-5 feet of salt water. The bottom floors of the resort hotel were blown out, leaving the basic structure intact. The pier parking lot and large sections of the pier were destroyed. Most of the original cabins (built by the CCC) were washed away, and approximately 900 trees were lost at the golf course.



CCC Member, possibly J.O. Evans

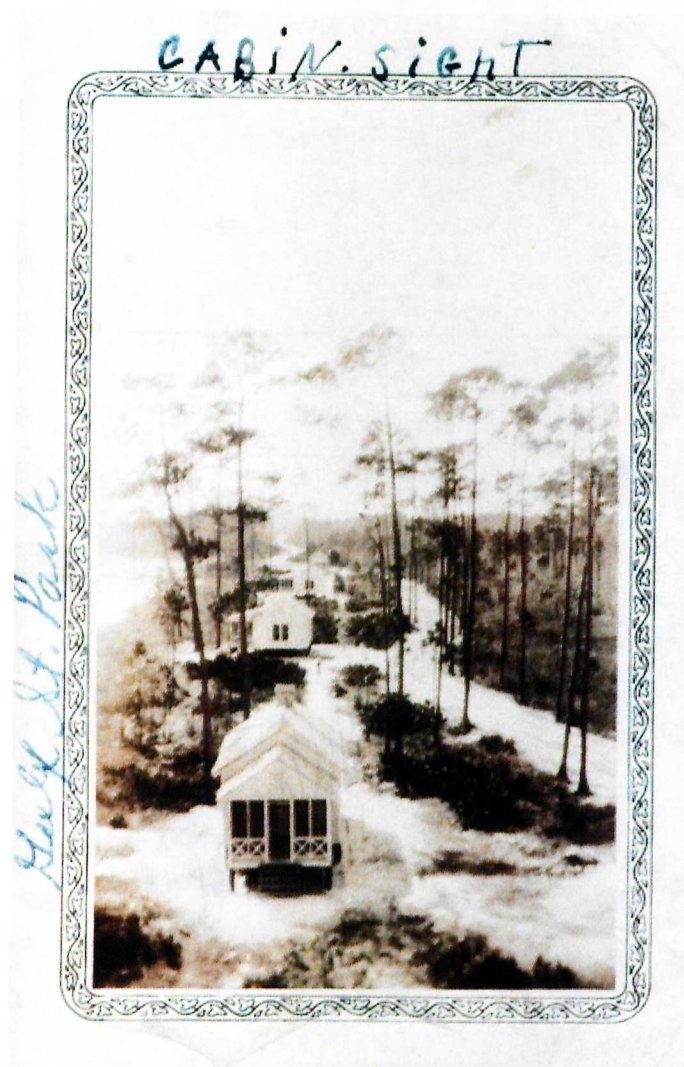


J.O. Evans and "Wade"

This cache is located at one of the few remaining "Relics" of that nearly forgotten time. It is located in a very scenic area of Gulf State Park, on the north side of Lake Shelby. I hope you have enjoyed this brief lesson on the history of Gulf State Park. The original cache was preloaded with some bubbles for the kids to trade for.

Last three CCC photos from J.O. Evans, a former Superintendent at DeSoto State Park. He was in the CCC at the Gulf and at DeSoto. Photos courtesy of Desoto State Park Superintendent Ken Thomas.

I hope you have enjoyed all the geocaches we have placed in Gulf State Park, along with the rest of your experience here. Please consider giving us some feedback [here](#). We would appreciate it if you would include something about your geocaching experience. We hope to show the bosses in Montgomery how many people geocache, in hopes that they will encourage other Parks to invest in it like we have, here at Gulf State Park. Thanks, Dothenumbers.



SMITHSONIAN MISCELLANEOUS COLLECTIONS
VOLUME 113 (WHOLE VOLUME)

ARCHEOLOGY OF THE FLORIDA
GULF COAST

(With 60 Plates)

BY
GORDON R. WILLEY

Bureau of American Ethnology
Smithsonian Institution

(Publication 3988)
CITY OF WASHINGTON

PUBLISHED BY THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

DECEMBER 29, 1949

WHOLE VOL. ARCHEOLOGY OF FLORIDA GULF COAST - WILLEY 89

GULF BREEZE, SANTA ROSA COUNTY (SA-8)

Description of the site. - On the south or Santa Rosa Sound side of the peninsula which separates Pensacola Bay from the sound there are a number of midden accumulations. Four of these middens, visited by the survey in the summer of 1940, are grouped together in the space of about 2.5 to 5 miles from the western end of the peninsula. One of these sites, about 4 miles from the end of the peninsula, has been designated as the Gulf Breeze site (map 2) after a little summer resort not far from the Pensacola Bay bridge. It is on the property held permanently as a United States Naval Reservation. In 1940 a temporary CCC side-camp, from Foley, Ala., was established near the spot.

[PDF] Transcript - National Archives and Records Administration

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National Archives and Records Administration
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red, and white – from Toulouse to Mobile, Alabama. These were the ... noticeable size along the entire Gulf coast. ... for the Civilian Conservation Corps to solve

Video Transcript for Archival Research Catalog (ARC) Identifier

Down Mobile Way - 1935

Narrator: If you'd have a peace of mind, a heart that cannot harden, go find the door that opens wide upon an azalea garden. Almost 200 years ago, Francois Ludgere Diard brought azaleas – pink, purplish-red, and white – from Toulouse to Mobile, Alabama. These were the first azaleas planted in this charming old southern coastal city. They had come from China, their native home, by way of southern France. From that moment, azaleas began to make Mobile distinctively beautiful. Who has not heard of her Azalea Trail, a drive beginning in the very heart of the city, which in late February or March leads thousands of visitors through a riot of color applied, as someone has said, by a giant's 10-mile brush? Past fine old homes, many of them reflecting in their architecture the history of the city, since its founding by the French in 1711 under five flags: French, English, Spanish, Confederate, and United States. The frozen lace of the French is perhaps most distinctive.

Modern Mobile is proud of the state-owned dock system, built at an original cost of 10 million dollars, through which passes practically all of Alabama's foreign commerce. The port terminal railway, which connects all of the railway lines entering the city with the docks, is also owned by the state. A channel 30 miles long and 30 feet deep leads from the docks down through historic Mobile Bay, to the open Gulf of Mexico. A fair share of the South's export cotton crop goes through the port. Turpentine and other naval stores products from southern forests are also shipped. The United States consumes about 50 million bunches of bananas a year. Most of them come from Central America, notably Honduras. Their import is recorded by the United States Department of Commerce by customs districts. The New Orleans and Philadelphia districts lead the way, each with about 12 million bunches per year. The figure for the Mobile district in 1934 was approximately 2 million bunches.

Three state parks – Gulf near Foley, Cedar Creek at Citronelle, and Little River near Uriah and Atmore – will serve the Mobile area. Their principle draw will be from six counties – Mobile, Washington, Clark, Monroe, Escambia, and Baldwin – with a total population of a quarter million. Unusual features of Gulf State Park in Baldwin County are its location on the Gulf of Mexico and the presence of three large freshwater lakes within its boundaries. These lakes are said to be the only bodies of fresh water of noticeable size along the entire Gulf coast.

The coast country around Mobile is famed for its fishing. The Alabama Deep Sea Rodeo, held each year late in August, directs attention to the presence around the mouth of Mobile Bay of tarpon, the silver king of the sea, and other fighting members of the finny tribe which choose saltwater for their habitat. But rivers, coastal canals, and the occasional lakes are equally interesting to sportsmen because of their plentitude of freshwater fish. Park development at Gulf State has included the joining of the three lakes by artificial channels to provide one of the south's fine freshwater fishing spots. Scarcely more than a stone's throw from the lake, across dunes of snow-white sand, the surf of the Gulf of Mexico breaks on the shore land of the park. Bathing pavilions are to be erected here for park visitors.

The commonplace, but necessary, job of building vehicle trails in the parks presents varying problems for the Civilian Conservation Corps to solve. Rock and gravel, the usual road building materials, are scarce in the Gulf State area. Muck, washed into pits by frequent rains, is thrown up on the soil to bind its sandy looseness. Most structures in the park are on or near the lake shores. There are piers for fishing, boating, and swimming. Native timber, hand-hewn and expertly fitted by the Corps boys, is the material used. Piles on which the shore structures rest are jetted down, that is eased into close-fitting holes in the lake bottom made by washing out the sand with jets of water under pressure. This ancient fire engine once did human service on the streets of Pensacola, Florida not so many miles away, before

Video Transcript for Archival Research Catalog (ARC) Identifier

it was replaced by more modern equipment and turned its energies of steam to less exciting tasks than firefighting.

Alabama, with the aid of the Emergency Conservation Work Program, is building a wealth of health-giving recreation in this splendid park. Lazy days in the glorious sunshine of the South.

It's a shorter and easier haul out of Mobile, north and slightly west, to Cedar Creek State Park near Citronelle in Mobile County. Here are almost 700 acres in the heart of a district which once produced much of Alabama's income from lumber. The Corps' biggest job here is the construction of a lake for recreational purposes. A small but constant stream of clear water will fill it, and earthen breastworks will hold it. One of the principal park roads will cross the crest of the dam. Necessary building rock is split out of outcroppings near the park. This old Negro is a park attraction. He comes from a shack nearby to recite a remarkable eyewitness story of the capture of Fort Morgan near Mobile by the Union forces during the War Between the States.

Little River State Park is just a few miles from Atmore, the seat of an Alabama prison farm. Here is grown and packed a great deal of the food required by inmates of the state's other penal institutions. Federal help in the building of state parks is extended after states have acquired land on which suitable parks can be developed. In Alabama, considerable park land has been turned back to the state, through gift or purchase at a nominal sum, by large lumber companies which once operated in the state. The 2,120 acres in Little River State Park were so acquired. A well-organized fire prevention system protects not only the state park property, but many thousands of acres of privately owned land nearby.

Here also there will be a dam for recreational purposes. Careful examination of soil conditions is made to ensure permanency of construction. Overnight cabins and other park structures will be clustered about the water area. And something has to be done about mosquitoes. Conservation Corps enrollees here are Negro boys who have become good carpenters, as these buildings testify.

In Alabama, as in many other sections of the United States, there's come quick indication of the popularity of the state park movement, which has been given its greatest emphasis by the Civilian Conservation Corps. It takes years to build a park, and long before Little River was completed it was being used by folks from many miles around.

Yes, it just had to happen: the discovery of the biggest feet in the Civilian Conservation Corps. And this covers a lot of territory, for up to August 1, 1936, 1,556,295 men had been enrolled. The size? Well, they're fifteens, which you get a better idea by comparison. The Quartermaster's Department of the United States Army had to supply them on special order. And still this happy son of the sun-tanned south sure can pick'em up and lay'em down!



THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS IN ALABAMA, 1933-1942

Robert Pasquill Jr.

A Great and Lasting Good



luncheon clubs to assist in the educational program and to find employment for the enrollees. Future plans included more visual education, more field trips, and more detailed instruction for illiterates.

A "Narrative Report" dated January 31, 1936, reported that six cabins were completed, lacking only the plumbing fixtures. The roadwork in the park had been delayed by the worst rain and flooding in the past ten years. Alabama Governor Bibb Graves had taken occupancy of a vacation cottage within a half mile of the park and was showing great interest in the work. A barbeque in his honor, organized by his friends, was attended by 300 people in the park.

A "Narrative Report" for March 1936 recorded that Gulf State Park had expanded from 640 to approximately 1,500 acres. The park had half a mile of beach along the Gulf of Mexico, and eight miles of shoreline along lakes. Road construction was making the park accessible, except in areas designated for wildlife protection. Construction was proceeding on 12 cabins. A photograph in a "Narrative Report" for April 1936 showed a dugout canoe that had been found outside of the park. The canoe, made of heart cypress, was turned over to the State of Alabama.

The Union Banner, a weekly newspaper of Chilton County, reported on June 25, 1936, that the National Park Service had reported that a skeleton had been found near Foley. Archaeological excavations being conducted by Walter B. Jones of the Alabama Museum of Natural History had uncovered a flexed burial of a female "affirming the presences of aboriginal Indians on the Gulf Coast during the medieval period." Twenty enrollees for the CCC camp provided the labor. Dr. Jones thought this was the first burial excavated in the coastal area of Alabama by scientists.

The Onlooker reported on April 8, 1937, that Camp SP-6 had celebrated the fourth anniversary of the CCC with an open house on April 4. There had been 2,000 visitors to the park, and over 500 people ate a luncheon that featured a 225-pound birthday cake. The visitors were impressed with the work of the CCC enrollees, and "even the most skeptical had to admit that in training the nation's youth President Roosevelt had achieved an outstanding accomplishment." The enrollees had built cabins and bathhouses on the lake and nine miles of road and had planted 12,000 trees in the park.

On September 16, 1937, *The Onlooker* reported that the Foley Lions Club was helping enrollees find employment upon their honorable discharge. They had wired the international headquarters in Chicago asking that their local efforts be expanded nationwide. Company Commander Captain W. D. Morrison had taken personal responsibility for finding work for at least two

Native Aboriginal
Indians

X

enrollees. The editor of the camp newspaper, "Gulf Breeze," wired the national CCC newspaper, "Happy Days," asking for help. At the time, there were 90,000 enrollees nationwide who would reach their time limit for enlistment by September 30.

A Camp Inspection Report dated December 8, 1937, recorded 193 men under the command of navy Ensign Russell H. Dausman. The enrollees were from Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The work project under Mr. Hill consisted of construction of roads, overnight cabins, signs and markers, boats, boathouses, and a fence around the park and was expected to be completed by September 1, 1938.

On December 30, 1937, *The Onlooker* reported that Company 1425's camp newspaper, the "Gulf Breeze," had won first prize as the best CCC newspaper in the nation, as judged by the education department in Washington, D.C. The monthly newspaper had developed a new headline system that had brought inquiries from several of the country's leading schools of journalism. The staff of the "Gulf Breeze" consisted of James D. Diamond, editor; R. J. Mitchell, business manager; "Red" Llody, reporter; and Eddie Kahlley, sports editor. The paper was printed at the plant of *The Onlooker*.

The Onlooker reported on January 20, 1938, that the Department of the Interior was experimenting with planting giant redwood trees at Gulf State Park. Over 100 seedlings had been shipped from Fruiton, California, and planted in the park about a half-mile from the Gulf of Mexico. It was uncertain if the trees would survive the local soil and climate.

According to a Camp Inspection Report dated October 11, 1938, there were 194 men under the command of 1st Lt. Herbert O. Jones Jr. The work project, under the supervision of Lawrence G. Hill, would take place within Gulf State Park, now comprising 4,500 acres and would include construction of a combination building facing the Gulf of Mexico, drilling a well and installing a water and sewage disposal system, building and surfacing roads, moving and planting trees, and lake and pond improvement. CEA J. A. Dale's education report recorded that there were 16 teachers, including senior enrollees and WPA teachers. Fifteen enrollees had learned to read and write, 5 had finished the sixth grade, and 12 were taking high school courses. Thirty-two had received civilian jobs because of their vocational training.

On May 11, 1939, *The Onlooker* announced that Gulf State Park would open for the season on May 20. Fifteen cabins were available along the shores of Big Lake, providing "modest" accommodations for 100 overnight guests. Boats were available for guests. The casino or combination building built between the Gulf of Mexico and freshwater lakes contained an assembly room,


Henry T. Roberts
September 23, 2014 · Andalusia, AL

Does anyone remember the NYA camp on Hwy 31 south in Bay Minette? It was originally a CCC Camp then when FDR became President and established the NYA, it became an NYA Camp. My Father was the camp director and I spent early years there with him until WWII began and the NYA became moot as all the young boys went into service. Bay Minette became a city of growth and soon only some lonely pines marked the spot of many early childhood memories.
My, how time does fly!


Like · Share

Jeannie Bryars Brown likes this.


View 9 more comments



Dalton James Smith Cousin added the following in a later conversation: "The CCC camp was built on the site of the old Hand Airport. Edwin Hand and his brother had an airplane, a Stinson, that they kept there. I went down from Stockton in 1929 to see their airplane. Later the camp was built on the site."
October 15, 2014 at 9:30am · Like



Jean Clarkson My dad lived at a government youth camp in 1940 somewhere out that way. He met my mother during that time at a dance on a blind date. They married in 1942. He had very fond memories of the camp.
December 16, 2014 at 3:09pm · Like



Henry T. Roberts I am sure the camp was a help for so many young boys. I remember they had to fall out for reveille in the mornings as the flag was raised. It was a prelude to the armed services that most of them entered after De.7, 1941.
December 16, 2014 at 6:38pm · Like

CCC Camps BAH
Civil Conservation Corp is
Baldwin Co

COMPANY 1425

SP. 6

FOLEY, ALABAMA

FOLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY



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Donated by

H. Travis Parker, Jr.

to the
Alabama Collections
Foley Public Library

2010

RE: CCC Company 1425 Memory Book 1941

From "travis Parker" <bamatravis@comcast.net>
To <library@gulftel.com>
Date Mon, 27 Jul 2009 11:50:52 -0400

Ms. Bornholt,

You are most welcome.

Just an aside note. My roots are deep in Mobile where I was born and raised during the depression on Holcombe Avenue (then a dirt street with ditches) attended Woodcock Elementary School (many memories) and Murphy High School (many more memories of wonderful teachers). I have particular memories of my Mom and Dad who loved to dance and on many a Saturday would take me with them on a boat crossing Mobile Bay to Fairhope Wharf to dance the night away and many a return trip encountered rolling water and high winds making the trip even more memorable. Another memory is, while in the CCC at Foley, on a Saturday we would ride in a Company truck (Army type with two benches and stake sides) to Mobile for recreation. On a particular trip, just after I had successfully completed a Red Cross First Aid Course and had been awarded my certificate, we were returning to Camp from Mobile when a car with several future Naval Aviators returning to the Pensacola Naval Air Station (having a few too many) ran into our truck and overturned. After our driver stopped to see if any were hurt and some were. I administered the first aid knowledge I had recently acquired and later I received a personal letter from the Commandant of the Air Station expressing his appreciation for the aid rendered to his men. I still have that letter somewhere in my files and if I can locate it I will send it to you because it did have a connection with the CCC at Foley. I later joined the Navy and as a Combat Air Crewman flew missions in World War 11 and the Korean Conflict.

Enough of my "memory recall". Thanks for listening. I am now approaching 90 good and wonderful years and my memories are my most cherished possessions.

Travis Parker

DISTRICT "D"

Civilian Conservation Corps

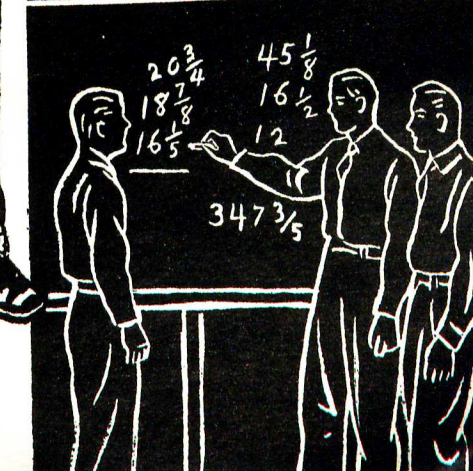
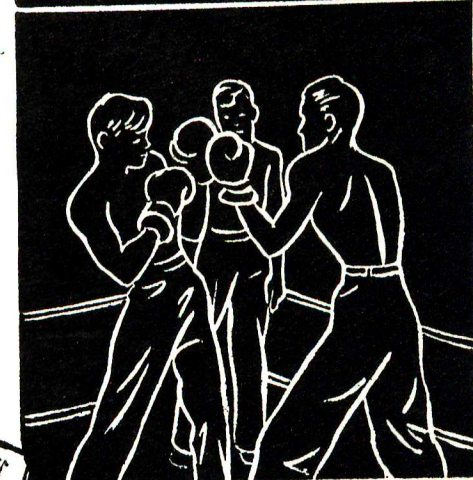
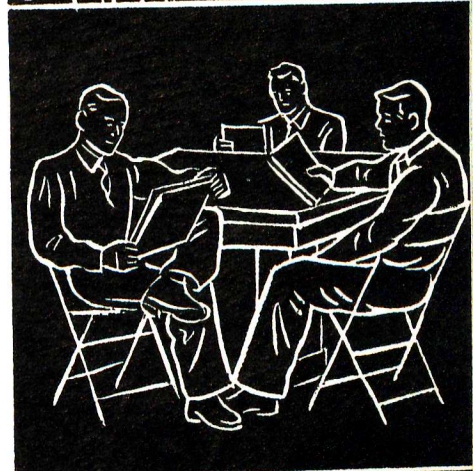
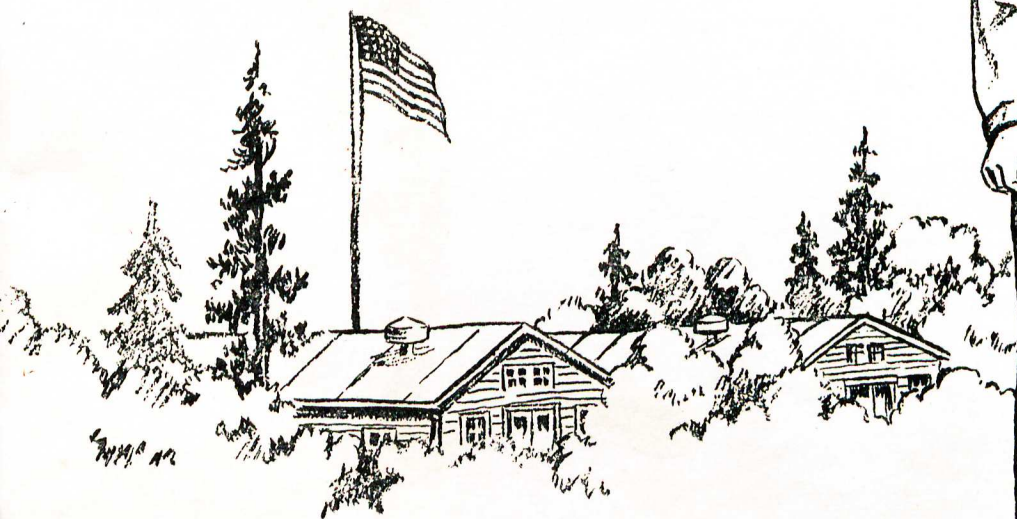
HEADQUARTERS
ANNISTON, ALABAMA

DEDICATION

This Memory Book is dedicated to the young men of the United States between the ages of 17 and 23 who are re-creating themselves and broadening their outlook on life, in the Civilian Conservation Corps. In these camps, as comrades, they live, eat, sleep and work together. They study, learn, engage in competitive sports and, in general, become better and more useful citizens.

Depicting a day in the life of an enrollee, this Memory Book, in future years, will recall memories of morning reveille, mess call, work call, hard but pleasant work in the fields, classes and study hours, retreat formation, recreation, sports and taps, the end of a perfect day.

That this Memory Book shall be a source of pleasure to these young men and to their loved ones and friends for many years to come is the sincere desire of the sponsors.





THIS COPY
OF THE
MEMORY BOOK
DISTRICT "D"
CIVILIAN CONSERVATION
CORPS

IS PRESENTED

To _____

By _____

1941



THIS CERTIFIES
THAT
Henry J. Parker, Jr.
IS A MEMBER OF THIS COMPANY
CIVILIAN CONSERVATION
CORPS

Date April 4, 1941

Charles Holland
Commanding Officer

CCC Co. No. 1425



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

When the Civilian Conservation Corps was established in April, 1933, it had a three-fold purpose: to furnish jobs for unemployed young men, to carry out a nation-wide conservation work program on our forests, parks and farm lands, and to give vocational training to young men sent to CCC camps. Enrollees for the Corps were chosen from families on relief and the Corps' primary objective was to furnish employment to idle youths who could not find a job.

In 1937 legislation was passed extending the life of the Corps. In this act emphasis was placed on the training of boys in the camps and on the conservation work. Boys chosen for the Corps were no longer taken solely from families on relief. Any boy who fulfilled the eligibility requirements for joining the CCC and who was "unemployed and in need of employment" was eligible.

Since last June the Corps has had a new objective—national defense. We are continuing as we have for the past seven and a half years to conserve and rebuild our natural resources. We are continuing to help about 500,000 boys a year find a job in the immediate present. But we are also stressing projects and training of value to the country and to the boys themselves in this time of national emergency. Young men who spend six months or a year in the CCC will be better equipped for jobs in industry or as soldiers in the armed forces if they are later called to active duty under the Selective Service Act.

Our job training program is being steadily expanded in fields deemed as most important to national defense. This includes operation and maintenance of trucks, tractors, bulldozers and other automotive equipment, radio operation and repair, telephone line construction, cooking and baking, road and bridge construction, surveying, use of explosives, and concrete construction.

Because of its expanded training program, the CCC today offers greater opportunity than ever before for a young man to fit himself for a position in life. All of the job training fits into private employment, and at the same time it has a specific usefulness in national defense.

Opportunities for vocational training in the CCC may be divided into the following six classifications:

1. Training received while at work, such as truck and tractor driving, blasting, road and bridge building.

2. Related training—given in camp class rooms after work hours such as radio, photography, theory of surveying, forestry, soil conservation work, public grounds development, etc.

3. Camp shops—here are taught such things as welding, woodworking, motor repair, etc.

4. Nearby schools—these offer various vocational training opportunities for CCC enrollees.

5. CCC Central Repair Shops—a limited number of enrollees who have shown special aptitudes are chosen for training in motor mechanics at these shops throughout the country where major repair and overhaul of all CCC motorized equipment—some 43,000 pieces—is done.

6. Specialized schools for cooks and bakers, radio operators and repair men, safety experts, and Red Cross first aid instructors.

Every CCC enrollee is now required to take the basic Red Cross first aid course. Radio schools have been set up in several sections of the country to provide operators for intercamp communications. Cooks and bakers schools are operated in every Army Corps Area, where enrollees are given special training and then assigned to camp kitchens as mess stewards and head cooks and bakers. Safety courses are held at regular intervals to instruct enrollees in safe methods of using tools and equipment and in performing their duties.

Equally important with the job training provided the enrollees has been the physical conditioning of the 2,500,000 young men who have served or are serving in the Corps. It is estimated that one out of every nine men who registered for selective service has received CCC camp experience. While learning work skills, these young men have improved their physical condition by vigorous outdoor work, good food, regular hours of eating, sleeping and recreation, regular medical and dental care and daily calisthenics, and exercises.

This all-around training which CCC enrollees of the past and present have received will stand America in good stead for any emergency that may develop. The lesson of Europe has been that the civil population suffers equally with the front-line troops in modern warfare. One all-important need in Europe as winter sets in is food. By the conservation efforts of the CCC we have built up a backlog of productive farmland and forests upon which to draw should the need arise. The CCC enrollee has learned how to farm land properly and how to handle timber, so we need not fear a shortage of men to carry on these vital operations in a crisis. We must have, both at the front and in behind-the-lines communities, trained crews to repair wrecked roads, bridges and buildings, to keep sanitary and utility systems in operation, to clean up wreckage, to administer first aid, and to perform all kinds of emergencies. CCC enrollees, by their resourcefulness and training, have cleaned up hurricane and tornado shattered areas, performed rescues in floods and fires, saved snowbound families, fliers, mountain climbers and lost children.

All in all, the CCC stands ready to do its considerable part in whatever crises America must face.

JAMES J. McENTEE.



HON. JAMES J. MCENTEE

Director, Civilian Conservation Corps



MAX S. MURRAY, COLONEL, U. S. ARMY

District Commander, District "D," CCC



★
EDWARD P. SCRUGGS

Executive
District "D," CCC



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FROM FARMS AND CITIES

From rural communities and cities, from farms and tenement houses, from the rank and file of young American manhood during the past eight years have come the enrollees of the Civilian Conservation Corps to further their physical, mental and moral development—to make themselves better and more useful citizens.

Although continuing its program of conserving and rebuilding natural resources, the CCC during the past few months has placed greater emphasis on those phases which contribute the most to national defense. No matter what it is, during all its existence, the CCC has been characterized by the enrollees upholding the tradition of young America doing a job and doing it well.

Approximately 500,000 boys a year have received the benefits of the CCC and have in turn contributed their share toward making a better and more beautiful America. Four times a year—in January, April, July and October—the call goes out for more CCC enrollees and from homes all over the country come young boys, who in a few months will return to these same homes as men—healthier, happier, and more useful citizens.

As the time nears for new enrollees to enter the camps, the State selecting agency designates a local organization, which varies in different localities, to select young men from the unemployed for enrollment. Any boy who is "unemployed and in need of employment" is eligible.

If a boy meets the requirements and passes the examination by an Army doctor, he is enrolled in the CCC by an Army procurement officer and officially becomes an enrollee, a young American taking his first step along a path of character-building, work, recreation, sports, study and general development.



From well-stocked supply rooms the new enrollee gets clothing and other necessities.

Assigned to a camp, the enrollee travels to his home for the next few months either by train under escort or by motor convoy conducted by an officer, according to the distance. Meeting other new enrollees and contact with the officer under whose guidance he makes the trip dispels any feeling of homesickness that the enrollee might have had at the thought of leaving home.

Already enjoying his new life, the enrollee arrives at his camp ready to pitch in, do his share and take full advantage of the opportunities offered him. No time is lost in making him feel that he is part of the camp and its personnel.

Met by the Camp Commander, the enrollee is assigned to a barracks, where he will spend 10 days under a working quarantine. He is issued clothing, shoes, bedding, and other necessities. After he bathes, dresses in camp clothes and puts away his equipment, he is vaccinated and inoculated as part of the CCC's health program.

With the other new enrollees, he listens to the Camp Commander tell what the enrollees are expected to do and what opportunities are offered to them. He hears the rules of camp life explained, receives instructions from the medical officer about his personal health, from the chaplain about religious services and welfare activities, and from the educational adviser about the educational program.

Following these talks the enrollee is well acquainted with the routine of the camp and when his 10 days under the working quarantine are completed, he is ready to take his place alongside the more experienced and older enrollees and to work and live and learn and play as part of a great organization designed to build true young Americans.



Clean, airy quarters like these are his camp home.

A DAY IN CAMP



Entraining for work in the field on one of the company's projects.

From reveille to retreat, from rising to retiring, the CCC enrollee is busy working, studying, playing or attending to his personal needs, and he has no idle moments for idle hands to become mischievous. It's a busy day he has and a most enjoyable and beneficial one.

At the sound of the bugler's clear notes at reveille, the enrollee slips out of bed and starts his day. A shower, with either hot or cold water, drives away that early morning drowsiness, and the enrollee assembles with the other fellows of the camp for the morning calisthenics, exercises that loosen up his muscles—and in time build bigger muscles.

While the enrollees are still assembled following the exercises, the morning announcements are made, and, then, before they are dismissed to clean up for breakfast, the enrollees "police" the camp, picking up paper, matches, etc., giving the area that clean and orderly appearance characteristic of CCC camps.

With an appetite whetted by the exercises and the policing of the camp, the enrollee returns to the barracks and prepares for the first meal of the day, which is served to him in the camp mess hall fresh from the kitchen stove. The food is plentiful and good, well prepared and healthy—nourishing food that sends a man to work happy and contented.

Following breakfast, the enrollee returns to his section of the barracks and "straightens house." Bunks are made, floors are swept, clothes are placed away and the barracks and all its contents are in perfect order.

Next on the enrollee's program for the day is "sick call." At this time, if the enrollee is feeling ill or thinks he needs medical care of any kind, he reports to the hospital, where the Camp Physician and his assistants are ready to aid the enrollee. If it is not a serious injury or illness and can be safely treated immediately, the enrollee is allowed to go to work, but if it is a serious injury or illness, the enrollee is put on the sick list and kept in the hospital or confined to the camp area.

Excepting the few men who might be in the hospital or assigned to camp duty, sick call is followed by a morning class in some subject for which the enrollee has registered. At the completion of this study period, assembly is again sounded and the enrollees answer to the roll call.

Joining his squad, the enrollee is now ready to leave for work in the field on one of the company's projects. He takes his place in the truck, sitting down on the benches along the inside of the truck. No standing is allowed, as a sudden stop or start might topple a standing enrollee and injure him. Another safety precaution.



Pool is a popular form of recreation.

tion followed is the spacing of the trucks as they travel along the road, each truck remaining a hundred yards from the one in front of it. Naturally, the trucks are not allowed to speed, and the drivers have all been instructed in safety measures.

Arriving in the project area, the trucks pull off the road and the enrollees unload. Each man is assigned to a certain job, according to his own abilities and the type of project being worked. Out in the fresh air and sun, the enrollee does an honest day's work. Following the noon-day meal and a few hours of work in the afternoon, the enrollee gathers up his tools and returns to camp in a truck.

Shedding his working clothes and taking another shower, the enrollee prepares for the evening's activities, which will begin with Retreat. At this formation, the flag is lowered while the enrollees stand at attention, in respectful silence to the Stars and Stripes. Following retreat, any necessary announcements are made and the enrollees' general appearance is checked before they move into the mess hall for the evening meal.

It is in the evening that the activities of the various enrollees differ most, for it is at this time that they have the most spare time to use as they see fit. After supper and before the evening classes, they call for their mail, write letters, read books or newspapers or entertain themselves in the recreation hall.

The variety of subjects taught at the evening classes holds an interest for everyone. From reading and writing to auto-mechanics, from simple arithmetic to



Enrollees relaxing in Camp Reading Room where they read from a plentiful supply of books and periodicals.



In specialized units like this excellent woodworking shop the enrollee becomes a skilled worker.

shorthand and typing, the subjects offered the enrollee afford him the opportunity of increasing his knowledge and preparing for a position when he leaves the CCC.

With the end of the class, the enrollee's work and study day ends, and he enters into the spirit of play around the camp. He has his choice of ping-pong, checkers, dominoes, billiards, or if he wants something a little more strenuous, he can put on the boxing gloves and mix it with someone his own weight. If he doesn't participate in any of these recreations, he can read in the library, listen to the radio, write letters home or to his friends.

This period also presents the enrollee with the opportunity of seeking the advice of the educational adviser, the company commander, the chaplain or one of the older men in charge of the camp. These men are always willing to spend some time with the enrollees, discussing their problems and advising them, especially when the day's work is done.

The enrollee has a busy day, but when a group of young men work, play and live together, no day would be quite complete unless there was a "bull-session" or two before "lights out." Even these informal group discussions, with everybody chirping in his little bit, do a great deal for developing the enrollee's personality. It is a fitting way in which to taper off a full day.

As the bugler sounds "Taps," the enrollee's day is ended and he sleeps the sleep of those who have done a hard day's work.

COME AND GET IT!

Quantity and quality three times a day!

That is the program followed in the CCC when it comes to feeding the enrollees. There is always plenty to eat, and it is nourishing, healthy, filling. The authorities realize that the proper kind of food in sufficient quantities is important to a growing young fellow, and they see to it that the enrollee is well fed.

A typical day's menu would read something like this: Breakfast—grapefruit, ham, eggs, hot biscuits, coffee and milk. Lunch—Roast pork and gravy, browned potatoes, slaw, bread, rice pudding with raisins, coffee with milk and sugar. Dinner—Fried fresh fish, mashed potatoes, green peas, lettuce, bread and butter, peach cobbler and milk. Naturally, from day to day, the menu changes but it always offers something appetizing to delight the palate of the enrollee.

The story of building a good, healthy menu, day in and day out, for 200 men in one camp is a story of untiring effort, close supervision, careful planning, sanitation and intelligent cooperation between all concerned—from the newest recruit to the district commander, from the K. P. to the chief chef.

Each camp is provided with a mess hall divided into the mess hall proper, kitchen and subsistence storeroom. Kitchens are provided with large ranges, sinks, hot water tanks, ice boxes, various labor-saving devices and pots and

pans. Everything in the mess hall is kept spotlessly clean and carefully sterilized.

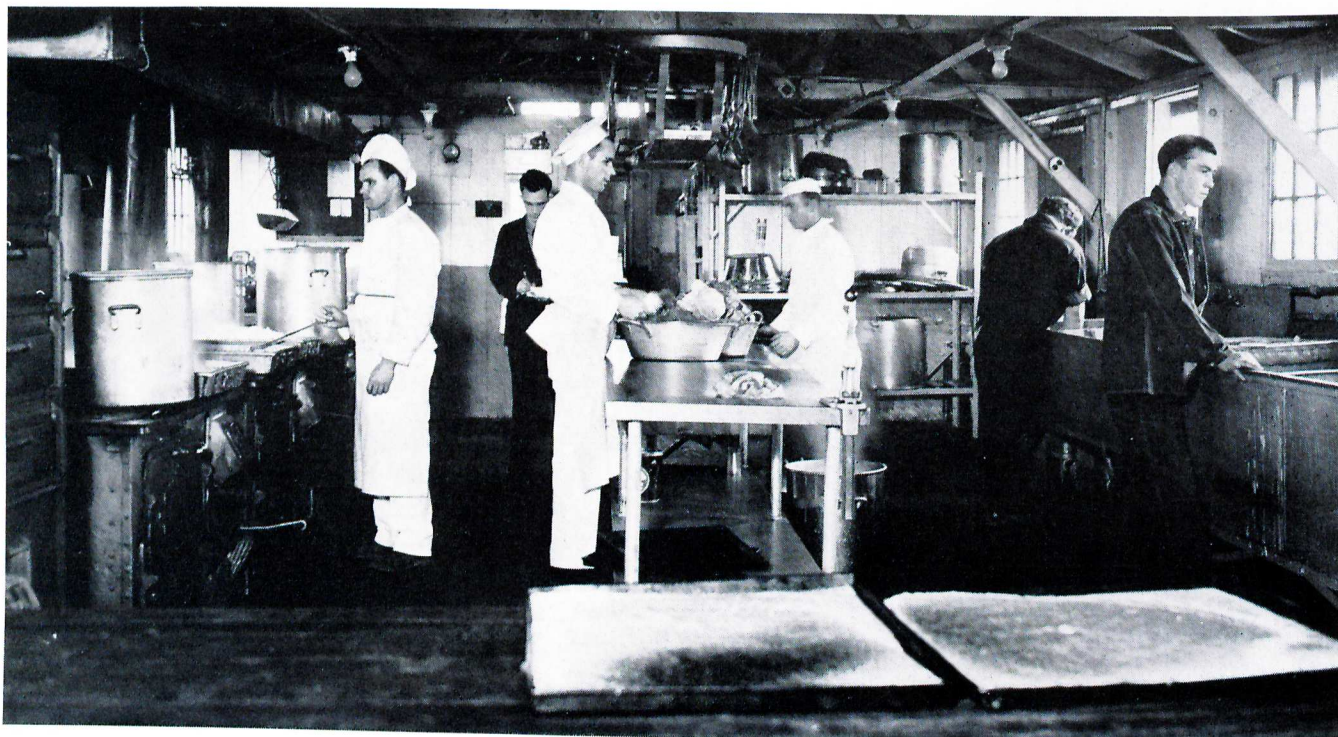
The mess personnel of each camp consists of a mess steward, four cooks and a baker, all supervised by the mess officer. All food handlers are examined once a week by the medical officer for any possible skin disease or venereal infections. In addition, every mess is inspected daily by the camp surgeon and the camp commander. District mess inspectors also go from camp to camp, making inspections and checking past menus for proper balance.

Wholesome food determines the efficiency of the enrollees, and every care is exercised to see that they get only the best. The imperishable part of the daily food ration is shipped to the companies once each month. Perishable items like potatoes, onions, milk, butter, bread, chickens, vegetables and beef, are purchased on invitations for bids from commercial contractors who supply the companies direct. All supplies used must meet rigid requirements, and are carefully inspected by government inspectors, officers of the Army Medical Corps, to see that these requirements are met.

The conduct and decorum in the mess halls before, during and after meals are exemplary. Enrollees file into the mess hall in double rows, take their places at a table and remain standing until a designated enrollee returns thanks or the company sings grace. During and after meals, no horse-play is allowed and none exists.



The big, well-lighted mess hall reflects service as well as good food.



Behind scenes, trained cooks prepare a CCC meal.

Enrollees may eat all they want and ask for more. As an officer once put it: "If there's no more food prepared and the enrollee still wants more, the mess personnel will cook it. No man is permitted to leave the table hungry for want of food." And no man does.

The routine and practical aspects of mess as affecting the enrollee involved in the handling of food have a high carry-over value after the enrollee leaves the CCC. About 50 per cent of the enrollee cooks secure outside jobs with hotels, cafes, restaurants and industrial concerns as chefs. Most of the men who serve on the mess personnel have received their training as members of the CCC.

Those enrollees who are interested in the work of cook-

ing and have sufficient educational background (at least high school training) and are willing to work are given the opportunity of becoming members of the mess personnel. If they show sufficient aptitude they are given special training in cooking, baking and meal planning.

After taking an intensive course in the theory and practical side of the art of baking and cooking, they are given certificates of proficiency which are being constantly used as recommendations for jobs. In the kitchen, as well as in the field, the CCC enrollee "learns to do by doing."

Because of what he has come to expect from the kitchen, the CCC enrollee at morning, noon and night expectantly and gladly answers the chef's call of "Come and Get It!"



Training in the kitchen, like the bakery work shown here, proves an asset in post-camp life, enrollees find.



Eating in the field.



CHARLES T. HOLLAND
Company Commander



WALLACE E. WHITE
Sub-District Auditor

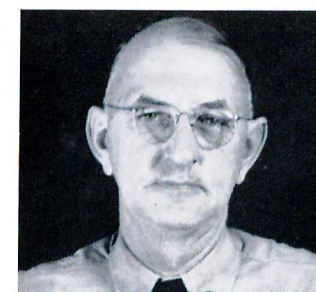


JULIUS A. DALE
Educational Adviser

COMPANY 1425 • CAMP SP-6

FOLEY, ALABAMA

LAWRENCE G. HILL
Project Superintendent



THOMAS R. HORNE
Foreman



HARRY I. McILWAIN
Sidecamp Foreman



CLARENCE L. JOHNSON
Foreman



HENLEY E. COTTINGHAM
WPA Teacher

FIRST ROW:

Booker, Lester H. Frisco City, Ala.
Brown, John R. Huxford, Ala.
Keefe, William H. Andalusia, Ala.
Nalls, John B. Atmore, Ala.
Risk, Thomas D. Lakeland, Fla.
Steele, Dwight L. Foley, Ala.
Ackerman, Harold T. Sims Chapel, Ala.

SECOND ROW:

Aebli, Robert M. Lixley, Ala.
Allen, Clyde Dyas, Ala.
Hahan, Daniel Y. Cantonment, Fla.
Hutto, Charles L. Atmore, Ala.
Laton, Cyrus, Jr. State Line, Miss.
Mayfield, James E. Elrod, Ala.
McGhee, Lindsey W. Nokomis, Ala.

THIRD ROW:

Morrer, Ralph D. McIntosh, Ala.
Morris, Son J. Wallace, Ala.
Tolbert, James W. McKenzie, Ala.
Aarons, James H. Jay, Fla.
Aldredge, Emmett C. Stepville, Ala.
Bartlett, Miles C. Lenox, Ala.
Beasley, James L. Summerdale, Ala.

FOURTH ROW:

Benefield, Hugh D. Midland City, Ala.
Borrauchs, Wiley W. Hawthorne, Ala.
Boyington, William D. Atmore, Ala.
Brooks, Junior L. Newton, Ala.
Bryan, Malcolm Alma, Ala.
Bryars, Hubert C. Dyas, Ala.
Bush, James A. Vinemont, Ala.

FIFTH ROW:

Butts, William E. Repton, Ala.
Byrd, Lorenza Frisco City, Ala.
Campbell, Leslie H. Flomaton, Ala.
Carmichael, John W. Flomaton, Ala.
Clark, James E. Prichard, Ala.
Cochran, Warren E. Whistler, Ala.
Cox, James P. Brewton, Ala.

SIXTH ROW:

Crane, Willie Millry, Ala.
Darby, Elbert J. Bayou la Batre, Ala.
Dees, George A. Atmore, Ala.
Dees, Sidney, Jr. Mobile, Ala.
Dewberry, Clell R. Jay, Fla.
Dumas, Ellis Allen, Ala.
Evans, Alvin Crichton, Ala.

SEVENTH ROW:

Faile, Willie G. Campbell, Ala.
Faircloth, Mack F. Summerdale, Ala.
Farley, Nolan T. Dora, Ala.
Foley, Wesley Josephine, Ala.
Forte, James W. Atmore, Ala.
Franklin, Mallon J. Montgomery, Ala.
Fuqua, Marion W. Brewton, Ala.

EIGHTH ROW:

Gartman, Eli E. Citronelle, Ala.
Gaskin, William Laurel Hill, Fla.
Gay, William R. Brewton, Ala.
Gentry, Gerald B. Stockton, Ala.
Giddins, Dave Atmore, Ala.
Gill, Elbert R. Atmore, Ala.
Givens, Houston O. State Line, Miss.

NINTH ROW:

Glover, Leonard Semmes, Ala.
Goodman, Elvin Thomasville, Ala.
Green, Arthur Dothan, Ala.
Green, Richard B. McCullough, Ala.
Grimes, Joe W. Chatom, Ala.
Grisnett, Albre E. Springhill, Ala.
Gunn, Willie F. Dora, Ala.

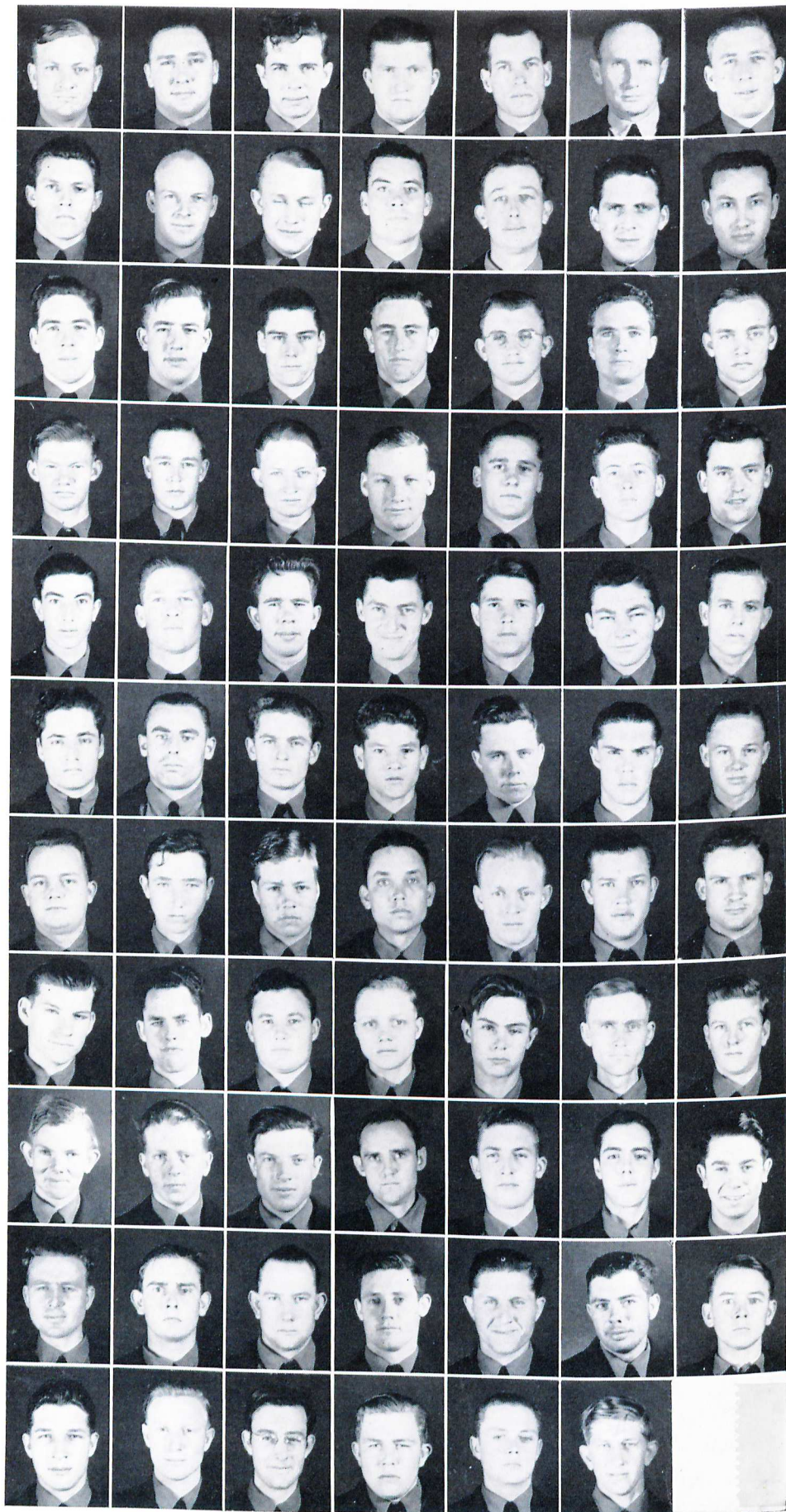
TENTH ROW:

Guy, Rayvon Coffeeville, Ala.
Hadley, Roll Perdido, Ala.
Hale, James A. Foley, Ala.
Hall, Lois C. Laurel Hills, Fla.
Hammar, Albert Millin, Ala.
Hanna, Jerome Quincy, Fla.
Hartley, Jessie C., Jr. State Line, Miss.

ELEVENTH ROW:

Harville, Lee R. Stockton, Ala.
Hendrix, Carney W. Megargel, Ala.
Henley, Charles J. Mobile, Ala.
Holston, Lucius D. Akron, Ala.
Huggins, John H. Tallahatta Springs, Ala.
Hyde, Leon D. Brewton, Ala.

ENROLLEES, COMPANY 1425



FIRST ROW:

Isher, Wilburn McCullough, Ala.
Jones, Frank, Jr. Brewton, Ala.
Jordan, Melvis Gordon, Ala.
Justice, Q. P. Chatom, Ala.
Kelley, Cecil Laurel Hill, Fla.
Knight, Johnnie M. Millry, Ala.
Lambert, Henry P. Frisco City, Ala.

SECOND ROW:

Landers, Tyree J. Selma, Ala.
Lassiter, Willie P. Summerdale, Ala.
Lathan, Arnett State Line, Miss.
Lipham, James T., Jr. Georgiana, Ala.
Luker, Hilary L. Atmore, Ala.
Magon, Ivan D. Loxley, Ala.
Marrow, Marvin M. Mobile, Ala.

THIRD ROW:

Mastin, James W. Hope Hull, Ala.
May, William T. Jay, Fla.
McCrory, Lucian M. Monroeville, Ala.
McDonald, Carlos F. Thomasville, Ala.
McGhee, Hurley Freemanville, Ala.
McGhee, Orvie Atmore, Ala.
McIntyre, Marvin D. Rabon, Ala.

FOURTH ROW:

McKnight, Eugene Clio, Ala.
McLain, Washington E. Georgiana, Ala.
Miller, James H. Millry, Fla.
Moore, Grady L. Hatley, Ala.
Mosley, Robert S. Millry, Ala.
Nalls, Tillman, Jr. Brewton, Ala.
Nichols, David H. Robertsdale, Ala.

FIFTH ROW:

Nichols, Joseph B. Malcolm, Ala.
Nowling, Hezlkah Milton, Fla.
Parker, Henry T., Jr. Mobile, Ala.
Pate, Samie L. Cordova, Ala.
Peacock, Willie F. Fairhope, Ala.
Pederson, Webster Citronelle, Ala.
Pierce, Lonnie R. Mobile, Ala.

SIXTH ROW:

Polk, Coy R. Jay, Fla.
Pruvis, Grace W. Atmore, Ala.
Rhode, Cleveland L. Moundville, Ala.
Robbins, Douglas T. Dozier, Ala.
Robinson, Chester L. Urich, Ala.
Rollin, Carl Headland, Ala.
Sawyer, Damon E. Headland, Ala.

SEVENTH ROW:

Seaggins, John H. St. Stephens, Ala.
Sellers, Howard, Jr. Coffeeville, Ala.
Stephens, Clarence E. Grove Hill, Ala.
Stevens, Clarence B. Wetumpka, Ala.
Stewart, John A. Mobile, Ala.
Still, Henry E. Brewton, Ala.
Stokes, Paul T. Brewton, Ala.

EIGHTH ROW:

Sullivan, Lonnie B. Bucatunna, Miss.
Sullivan, Latson P. Frisco City, Ala.
Swafford, Leslie W. Cordova, Ala.
Taylor, Woodrow Jensen, Fla.
Thicksten, Paul E. Thomasville, Ala.
Thompson, Jeff D. Robertsdale, Ala.
Thornton, Russel H. State Line, Miss.

NINTH ROW:

Troutman, Eugene Atmore, Ala.
Turner, Daniel W. Chatom, Ala.
Wakefield, Bruce N. Nauvoo, Ala.
Walker, Grady B. Thomasville, Ala.
Watson, James H. Jay, Fla.
Weaver, William P. Theodore, Ala.
West, Benjamin L. Grove Hill, Ala.

TENTH ROW:

White, Arthur Perdido, Ala.
White, Roy M. Flomaton, Ala.
Whitten, Lewis S. Brewton, Ala.
Wiggins, Howard L. Monroeville, Ala.
Wilite, Ralph H. Townley, Ala.
Williams, Thomas O. Bay Minette, Ala.

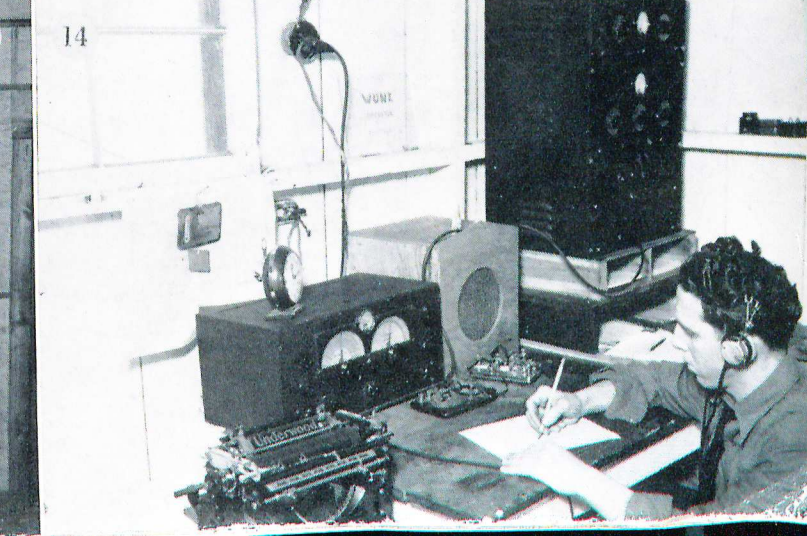
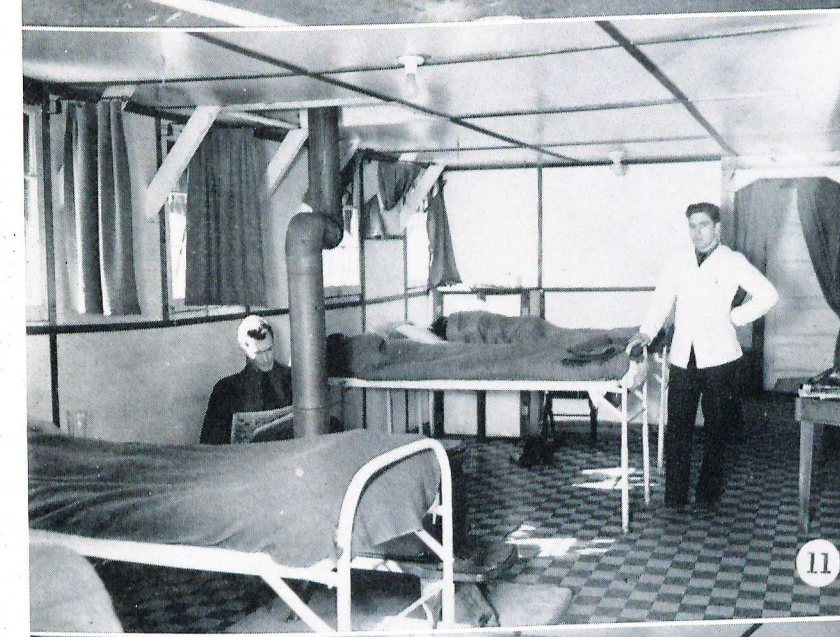
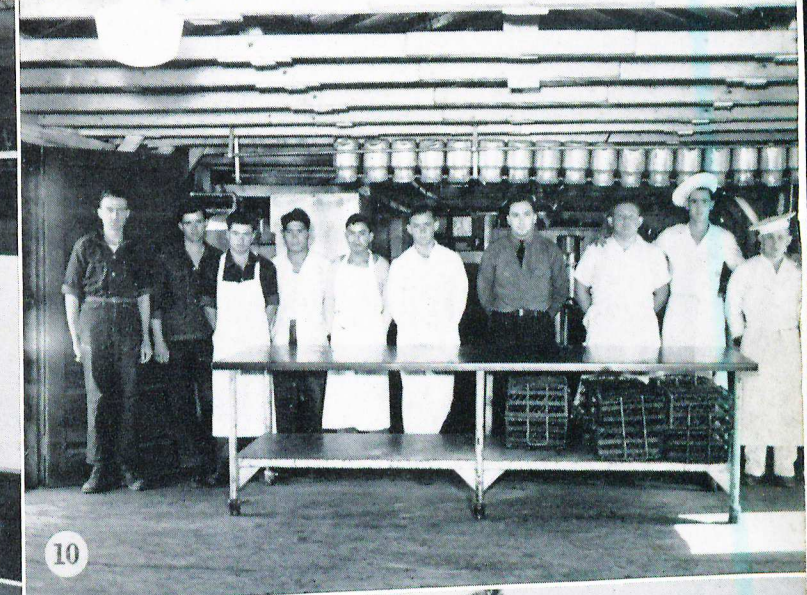
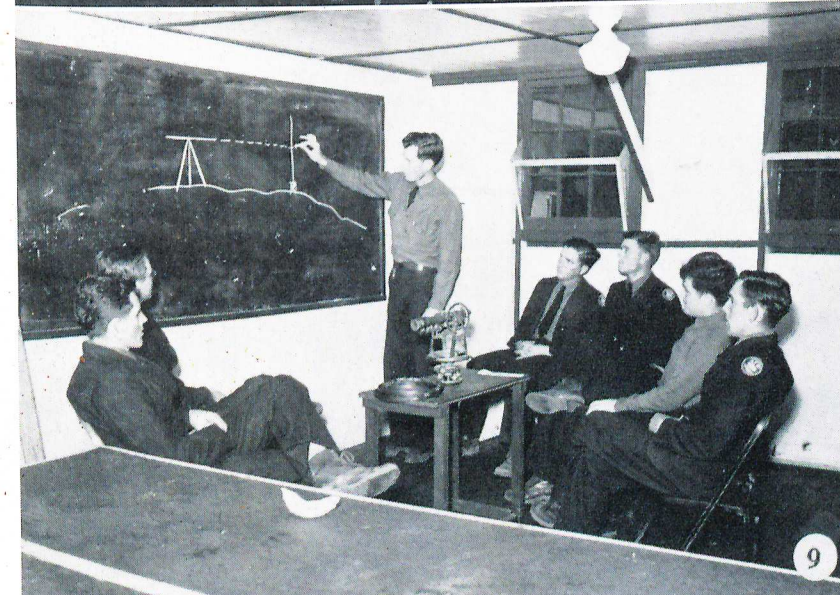
ENROLLEES, COMPANY 1425

COMPANY 1425

FOLEY, ALABAMA



1. Orderly Room.
2. Retreat Formation.
3. Mess Hall.
4. Interior View of Barracks.
5. Reading and Writing Class.
6. Woodworking Shop.
7. Truck Drivers.
8. Reading Room.
9. Surveying Class.
10. Kitchen with Cooks and K. P.'s.
11. Camp Hospital.
12. Camp Scene.
13. Canteen.
14. Radio Room.





1



2



3



4



5



6

COMPANY 1425

FOLEY, ALABAMA



1. Side Camp Group.
2. Poultry Class.
3. Typing Class.
4. Side Camp Mess Hall.
5. Educational Project Area.
6. Work Formation.

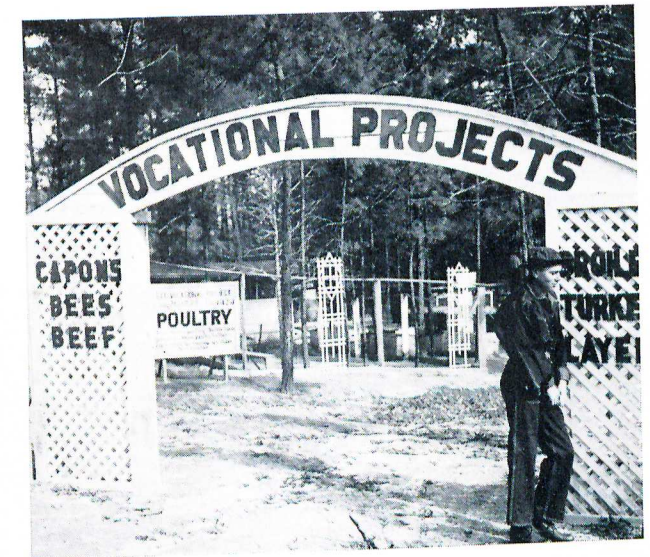
LEARNING TO DO BY DOING

The expression "learning to do by doing" is one that has characterized the educational opportunities in CCC camps since the first days of their organization, because not only the theory of any subject is taught but the practical application of the theory is a basic requirement of any CCC course.

Education is linked with the work program. On a project the enrollee is instructed in truck driving or perhaps bridge building. When he knocks off from work he gets related training in camp classrooms, instruction in radio, photography, surveying or like fields. In camp shops he becomes skilled in welding, motor repair or woodworking. If he chooses a specialized job—as a baker, radio operator, safety expert, etc.—he gets practical experience in "specialized schools." Then, there are always nearby schools offering various vocational training opportunities for CCC enrollees.

In some subject or trade, each enrollee can find his place and prepare himself for securing a position when he leaves the CCC.

The encouraging of leisure-time activities such as reading, hobbies, dramatics, music, arts and crafts and athletics is an important part of the educational pro-



Work with poultry projects gives the enrollee practical knowledge.

gram. They help round out the enrollee's skills and talents.

Although the enrollee does not learn enough the short time he is in the CCC to go out as a graduate forester or a graduate engineer or other such expert positions, he has enough practical job training and instruction to enable him to get his foot on the economic ladder.

The CCC prepares him for the future.



Training in the care and raising of animals, like the Swine Project these enrollees are on, is an outstanding point in the CCC educational program.



Special skills are made and cultivated in practical environments like this modern woodworking shop.

RELIGION IS NOT NEGLECTED

To be a well-rounded individual, it has long been recognized that one must develop not only his physical being and his mentality but also the spiritual side of his nature. Besides providing for the physical well being of the enrollee through food, rest, work and athletics, and his mental development through the educational program, the CCC does not neglect the spiritual and moral phases of the enrollee's character.

Participation in religious activities in CCC camps is a matter of voluntary and individual choice since the government does not seek to impose the claims of religion upon those who do not desire religion. Also, the services held in the camps are not used as a substitute for regular attendance at churches but rather to develop a permanent and lasting interest in religion and make of the enrollee a more morally and spiritually minded individual.

As the government has prepared a well-organized program of religious activities reaching into every camp and offering religious instruction and training to every enrollee, any man who so desires can practice his faith and return home with his faith unimpaired and his moral character strengthened.

The religious activities in the camp are supervised by a group of Chaplains headed by the District Chaplain. When an enrollee meets one of the chaplains, he finds him differing little from the preacher back home, for he is a minister called from a civilian pastorate to take up specialized work in the CCC.

Twice monthly the chaplains visit each CCC camp in their respective districts and conduct religious services of a non-sectarian nature. They are prohibited from preaching their own tenets of their particular denominations, although they may privately do so to enrollees of their own denomination.

Attendance is purely voluntary, yet proper persuasion is employed to induce the men to keep up at least as much interest in religious services as he shows when he is at home.

Religious exercises are conducted in the recreation hall, a sort of club room which is used at other times for games and pastimes. At the beginning of a religious service, the chaplain emphasizes the fact that while being used as a place of worship, this hall is just as sacred as a church.

The type of service varies with the chaplain and to fit the circumstances. Singing is usually a much enjoyed feature. The addresses by the chaplain are not usually sermons, but talks upon the practical application of right living and right thinking.

All religious activities for the entire personnel of the

camp are on a non-sectarian basis. The chaplain, regardless of the church to which he belongs, thinks of himself as pastor to all the men and tries to minister to them all impartially, regardless of the religious faith they profess. Catholics, Jews and Protestants, when they are in camp in sufficiently large numbers to justify it, are provided with separate services conducted by ministers of their own faith. Where the groups are too small for this, and there is objection to attending general services, transportation is provided to a nearby church of the enrollee's own faith.

Ministers from nearby churches, and the enrollees themselves, conduct services in the camps. The company commander and the chaplain invite preachers to visit the camps often. This provides additional religious instruction for the men, and it also establishes a bond between the camps and the churches.

Men from the camps go to the church services in the community, and in many cases, they are capable and efficient workers. Sometimes CCC enrollees become leaders in young people's societies in the nearby churches. Groups of enrollees have at times conducted the entire services in neighboring churches, providing the music, the speaker and the other features.

As stated above, the chaplain differs little from the pastor the enrollee is acquainted with at home. In the camp, he performs many of the ministries which the pastor does for the people of his community. Besides offering them spiritual guidance, he consoles them when they are heartsore, comforts them when they are sick and tries to aid them when troubled.

Besides his position as spiritual adviser and his services as a "friend in need," the District Chaplain, as well as his assistants, has other duties to perform and is used wherever and whenever his services are needed. The office of District Chaplain embraces the duties of the welfare officer, which consists of arranging all schedules for various sports, the assignment of libraries and radios placed in the various camps.

Because of the nature of their functions, the chaplains are in a position to do a great material and spiritual good for the enrollees through their influence on the boys in developing their intellectual and spiritual powers. Through the opportunity for moral training offered in the district religious and welfare program, so faithfully and ably guided by the chaplains, the CCC enrollee leaves the service with his religious beliefs unimpaired and his moral being strengthened.

In the CCC, religion is definitely not neglected.



Camp health insurance: a modern hospital ward.



Inoculation of new men is part of the CCC's extensive medical program.

HEALTH IS WEALTH

Although plans are made to take care of any injury or illness of an enrollee, prevention is the dominant purpose of the medical service of the CCC and is furthered by inoculations, daily inspection of food, milk supplies, regular examinations of food handlers, health talks on problems of sanitation and examination of menus and the checking of diet, which is supplemented by the work of mess inspectors and camp officers.

Before a boy is accepted as an enrollee, he must pass a thorough physical examination to show his fitness for doing the work required in the field. He is inoculated for typhoid and smallpox and may elect to take pneumonia serum as a preventative. To protect those who are already enrollees, the "rookie" is quarantined between one and two weeks to check his physical condition and to avoid spreading possible disease.

Each camp is provided with a dispensary containing from four to seven beds and provisions for first aid, minor injury and mild diseases. A camp surgeon is readily available as are two enrollees trained in first aid by the camp surgeon and the educational adviser. Any time that an enrollee develops a temperature of 100 degrees

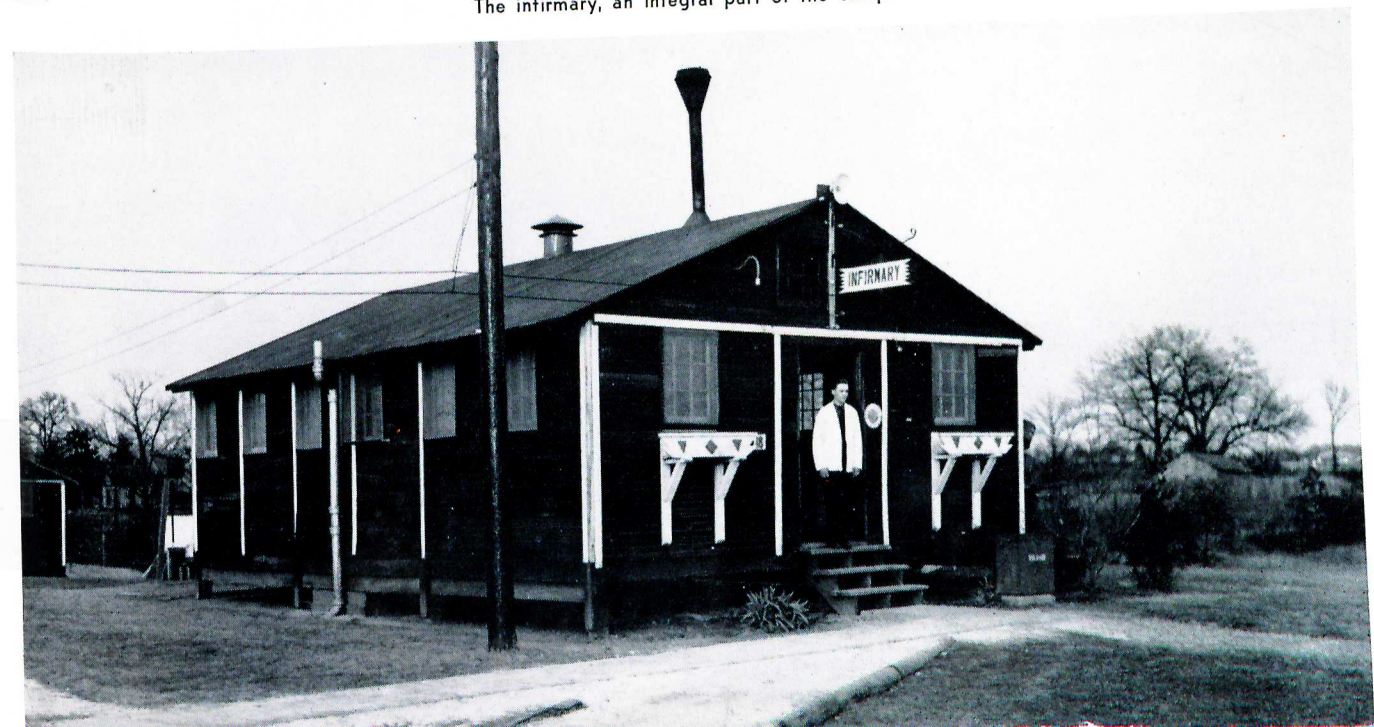
or over he is taken by ambulance to a government hospital or to a private institution if the government hospital is at too far a distance.

In case of emergencies of such a serious nature that they cannot be handled in camp, the enrollee is immediately taken to an emergency hospital designated for the purpose. If the case is not an emergency one, he is transferred to a government hospital.

An important part of the medical attention given the enrollee is that of dental care handled by the District Dentist and the Sub-District Dentists, who visit the various camps regularly and provide routine extractions, fillings, cleanings, etc. If a boy breaks his tooth or needs any dental care and the CCC dentist is not available, a civilian dentist is called in to do the work and the government pays for it.

With camp dispensaries, district dispensaries, government and private hospitals in which to be cared for by top-ranking physicians and dentists, and not having to pay for any medical care from a mere scratch to a major operation, the CCC enrollee is surely "health wealthy."

The infirmary, an integral part of the camp.



PARKS ARE IMPORTANT

Happily tackling hard work in the field so that others may play and enjoy themselves, the enrollees of the CCC Park Service camps are unselfishly devoting their time in the field to developing and reclaiming national, state and local parks. "Service to the public" is their motto, a guiding principle that they do not betray.

Living in these areas, they learn to love the open spaces, to appreciate the wonderful opportunities they offer for the general public to have happy and healthy hours in the safe and wholesome surroundings of these recreational centers.

Healthy young men who still thrill to their outdoor life and enjoy it to the fullest, these enrollees are ambitious to make these park areas such excellent recreational centers that they will attract the general public and furnish men, women and children with many pleasant hours of leisure time.

In order to accomplish their purpose, these enrollees are guided along a carefully studied plan of development for the park areas, with three main goals in mind: to make the areas beautiful, to make them healthy, to make them safe.

Many of the parks improved by the CCC were merely "parks in name" before enrollees began the work of clearing underbrush, making roads, building dams and clearing lakes. They have transformed parks from areas of wilderness and run-down appearance to some of the most beautiful parks in the country through erosion-control measures, tree pruning, tree planting, spraying, road building and maintenance, vista clearing, landscaping and grass planting and cutting.

Into these wonderlands of nature, made more beautiful and especially more usable by the labor of man, the enrollees have also introduced man-made recreational facilities and have made more accessible to the general public those recreational facilities offered by nature.

For those who enjoy the cool splash of water as they split the waves in a dive and for those who like to split the waves in two in a fast swimming stroke and for those who just like to wade or play around in the water, the enrollees have created many good "ole swimmin' holes." Lakes, ponds, creeks, all have been made more pleasant for swimming and more accessible for the general public.

For those who like to hike through the woods and to spend the night in the great outdoors, facilities have been made available through CCC labor. With the increasing popularity of horseback riding, trails for this purpose have been built by enrollees, who are ever willing to furnish what is in demand by the general public, the people they so willingly and faithfully serve.

Not only have the CCC enrollees provided these recreational facilities for the enjoyment of thousands, but they have established and are maintaining all necessary safety precautions possible. As trees are plentiful in these park areas, the enrollees are ever on the lookout and prepared to fight the red menace of the forest fire. Their conflicts with the forest fires in the past have proved their ability to handle such danger as bravely and successfully as more experienced fire-fighters.

Realizing that the only good forest fire is the one that does not happen, the CCC enrollees, besides combatting this menace once it has started, make every effort to prevent a forest fire. They guard against the careless actions



Enrollees busy at stone masonry work in a state park.

of some picnickers, campers, hikers, etc., and try to impart to them the lesson of conservation of our forests. In other words, they fight against the forest fire before it starts.

Besides recreational centers, some of the park camps are assigned to the care of historical and monumental parks, such as battlefields, birthplaces of famous people, etc. In this type of work, the enrollees become better informed on the history of their country as they learn the historical events that came to pass in these areas in years gone by.

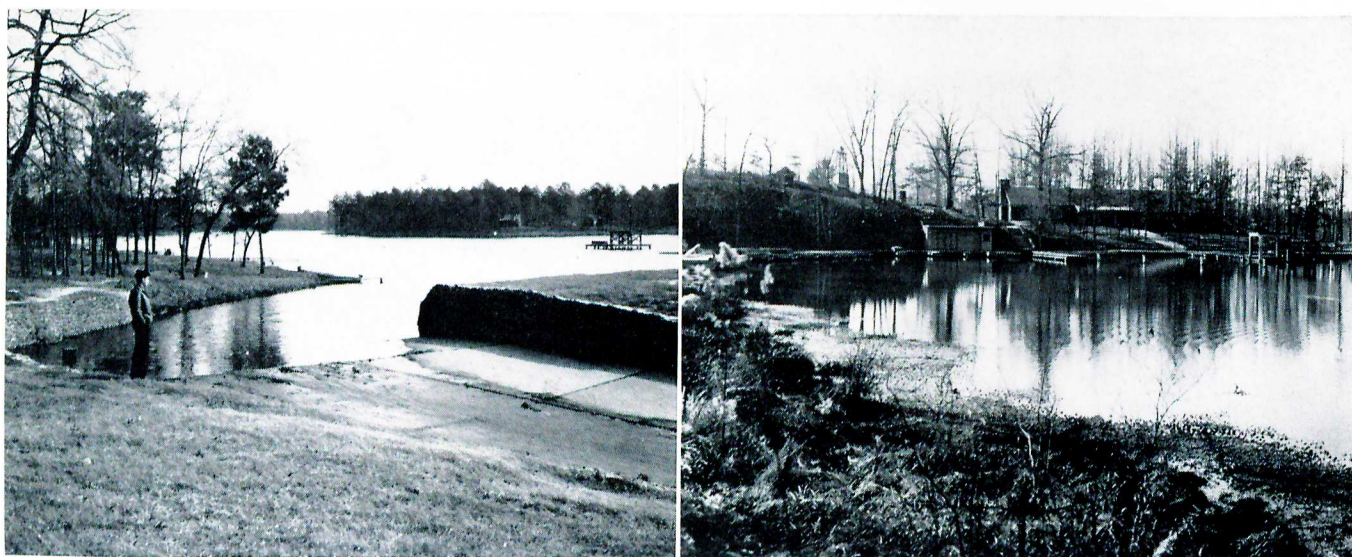
Besides beautifying these areas and maintaining the facilities, the enrollees act as guides. They have to learn what happened, when it happened, where it happened and who were the principal characters.

In two other ways, at least, the usefulness and value of

these enrollees as American citizens are developed. One way is through the educational system and the other is through their preparation for jobs when their enrollment in the CCC comes to an end.

During 1940, 95 per cent of the technical personnel of the Park Service participated in both on-the-job and off-the-job training of enrollees, involving approximately 170,000 instructor-hours and 1,600,000 enrollee-hours. The effectiveness of the training is evidenced by the fact that nearly 5,000 enrollees, most of whom had never been engaged in any particular line of work before entering the Corps, found a place for themselves in the industrial world. Such a record speaks for itself.

Guided with a spirit of service to the public, the Park Service enrollees work hard so that others may play.



Improving waterways, like the lake and diving pier and swim area above, requires the attention of many of the CCC Park Service men.



Constructing a park equipment building.



Tree planting is an important part of camp work.

FROM SEED PLANTING TO FIRE FIGHTING

From the Atlantic to the Pacific and from Canada to the Gulf, foresters and lumbermen, professionals who have made this their life's work, have unreservedly praised the CCC enrollees in the forestry camps for the fine service they are rendering in the preservation of our present forests and for the reforestation of cut-over timberlands.

It is a hardy group of young, healthy, enthusiastic Americans that comes riding out of the forestry camp each morning to care for the forest lands with which nature has endowed this country and to aid nature in reforesting those areas which man has stripped of living timber, leaving nothing but dead stumps.

In their efforts to give to America vast forests by conserving those we have and by planting millions of trees, the CCC enrollees are battling three main enemies that wage unrelentless war on our timberlands: the red menace of the forest fire, insects and disease. All three are deadly enemies, for they destroy timber and timber products, wildlife, recreational and scenic values, and the forests protecting our vital watersheds.

Most spectacular and most devastating of these three enemies is the forest fire, the raging inferno that sweeps from its path all living things and leaves nothing but charred wood and ashes. It has been against this danger that the Forestry Camp enrollees have done some of their most meritorious work.

The enrollees not only are trained to check fires and to put them out as speedily as possible after discovery, but they are also taught precautionary methods to prevent forest fires from starting in the first place. They really believe that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

As a first-rate fire-fighting force, the CCC provides what a less well-organized group would find impossible—large-scale instruction and training in forest-fire fighting. From the newest enrollee to the chief foreman, every member of the camp is instructed in methods of how to combat the red menace of the forest fire.

Ready, willing, able, these men are on call twenty-four hours a day for the purpose of protecting our forests. At the given signal, they form in their own groups, enter the work trucks and roll away to the scene of the fire, fully equipped and fully trained to turn back the destructive flames.

These are young men who rush out to do this perilous duty in the public interest, but they are not without knowledge of fire-fighting or without the necessary stamina and courage to do a good job. No enrollee is sent to the fire line until he has received instruction and training in fire-fighting and unless he is physically fit for such duty.

"Git thar fustest with the mostest men," General Nathan Bedford Forrest's rule of warfare, is the basic rule of successful forest fire fighting and it is closely followed by the CCC. Enrollees are used as lookouts during the fire season, having shown their dependability at this important post, and in areas of heavy recreational use, CCC men are detailed as special guards and patrolmen or as checkers at forest entrances.

Praised throughout the country by foresters and lumbermen as enthusiastic fire fighters, comparing favorably with older, more seasoned fire fighters, the CCC enrollees make up by their willingness, adaptability, availability and numbers what they lack in fire experience. Their youth and good physical condition enable them to strike hard during

the initial and vital stages of the fire, thus checking it and preventing a "flicker from becoming a flame."

CCC enrollees have proved their stamina and ability in all phases of fire fighting, from labor with grubhoe, ax and saw, in order to stop the spread of fire on the ground by removing possible fuel from its path, to the operation of pumps, bull-dozers and other tractor and heavy equipment used in building fire lines. In step with their policy of keeping up with the latest developments, enrollees have learned to operate short-wave radio sets, which are part of the technological advance of recent years in the fight against forest fires.

Not only has the CCC checked the progress of thousands of forest fires, but the presence of the enrollees has served as a symbol of prevention of the forest fires and the conservation of this blessing of Nature's. Besides the tangible contribution the enrollees have made to this cause, they have also spread the doctrine of conservation among millions of American families. They have imparted to picnickers, campers, hikers and forest users the guiding principles of how to care for our forests.

Most tangible of CCC accomplishments in the field of fire prevention, though, are the physical improvements and precautionary work completed by the Corps. Through construction of roads, trails, telephone lines and lookout towers, the CCC has vastly extended the range of efficient forest-fire detection, communication and transportation. Since time is the all-important and vital factor in fire-fighting, CCC work has been of great value in speeding communication between units of fire-fighting organizations and in enabling faster transportation of men, supplies and equipment.

As another step towards decreasing the destructiveness of the red menace of the forest fire, enrollees have covered thousands of acres of forest land on "fire hazard reduc-

tion"—actual removal and clearance of dead and down trees, slash and other highly inflammable material which, during the dry season, will burn like tinder. The Corps has constructed many miles of firebreaks—cleared strips through the woodlands designed to halt the spread of a fire or which can be used in back-firing. Many thousands of miles of firebreaks have been built by the CCC throughout the pine stands of the Southern States.

Fires are the red menace of the forests, the enemy of the trees, just as the CCC and its heroic young enrollees are the enemy of fires.

Less exciting, less dramatic but none the less serious, is the fight against the other two of the "Three Horsemen" of the forests—disease and insects. Guarding the forests against them is a task requiring patience and hard work and the CCC has joined successfully in the protection of the forests against these silent tree killers just as they have against the red menace of fire.

Another valuable, lasting contribution of the forestry camps is their reforestation of idle forest lands, productive soil which has been stripped of all trees. Since natural reproduction has often been blocked by fires and the absence of adequate "seed trees" to scatter seeds naturally, reforestation is not left to Nature, but it is artificially carried on by the actual planting of tree seedlings.

In handling this job, the CCC enrollees have once again proved themselves well adapted, and they have planted millions of trees throughout the nation, reclaiming from idleness thousands of acres of land and aiding Nature in making more beautiful this wonderful country of ours.

From seed planting to fire fighting, from wielding a hoe to driving a tractor, from studying mathematics to learning how to survey, the enrollees of the Forestry Camps act as a protective shield for our forests and are themselves becoming healthier, more useful citizens.

Making motor trails, practical for motor travel in any type of weather, is one of the enrollee's projects.



To protect the forests he helps improve, the enrollee builds precautions, like the fire-break project below.



PROTECTING THE NATION'S SOIL

While CCC enrollees to the tune of 78,400 men were busy in some 40 states of the Union planting trees in 1940, setting up contour ridges, and building terrace outlets and check dams to prevent valuable United States earth from being completely washed away, they were also getting in trim for the National Defense program.

All the time they were keeping gullies in their place, running neat contour lines for holding the soil down and bolstering stream banks, they were getting engineering and construction training and experience—the hard, thorough-going way. That's what CCC Director J. J. McEntee proudly points out.

And CCC has done its soil conservation work well. Dr. H. H. Bennett, Chief of the Soil Conservation Service, who ought to know, declares the vast amount of labor—"millions of acres of farm land have been turned from ultimate destruction by the forces of erosion and placed on the road to permanent agriculture"—accomplished by his service to be due "in no small measure . . . to the fine cooperation of the CCC and the strong and willing hands of its enrollees."

In 1940 came new soil conservation districts. That

meant a broader base for CCC activities along this line. The districts, formed voluntarily by groups of energetic farmers under new state legislation, opened a wealth of opportunities—to the enrollee, the farmer, the nation.

CCC enrollees, once on a soil conserving project, roll up their sleeves and follow the thing through, from beginning to end. Planting a hundred million trees, switching millions of rods of fence, constructing long miles of contour ridges, quarrying tons of limestone are familiar chores to the CCC soil conserver.

The enrollee knows the tree and shrub-planting job is important, because it "fixes" the soil, as he calls it. He knows that it also develops the farm wood lots, an incidental item sorely in need of attention.

He uproots endless lines of fences and relocates them in a more practical setting because that action will allow for contour cultivation.

Limestone, he quarries, to enable the production of better vegetation for erosion control. In arid sections of the country where a fierce wind eats away the soil and causes material damage to the land, he has helped to

Enrollees lifting kudzu, part of a soil conservation project.



Constructing a Terraced Outlet, one of the enrollee's ways of combatting erosion.



extend soil conservation measures to thousands of acres of eroding land.

As a rule the biggest part of CCC work in erosion-control camps has to do with the installation of soil and water conserving measures on farm and range lands. That's because it is there that a healthy, protected soil—the kind the enrollee helps to make—is vital.

On the other hand, there are a few camps given over almost entirely to specialized work, such as the construction of large dams and the protection of planting stock not otherwise available.

"The CCC has played an important part in the federal government's program to protect the nation's soil," as Director McEntee puts it. "Without the available man power of the CCC, the demonstration program would have gone forward much less rapidly. On camp work areas many thousands of farmers were shown that uncontrolled erosion was costly both in their everyday farming and in steadily decreasing crop yields, and that erosion could be checked effectively."

And while the CCC soil conservation worker goes about his daily routine, he is playing a double role in National Defense: he is conserving the soil and other natural resources, a job which, in itself, is an important component of the defense program, and he is being trained at every opportunity in skills needed in the defense program. In the course of his work, every enrollee develops one or more skills which make him potentially more adaptable to this program—the operation of tractors or trucks; the use and maintenance of tools and equipment, blacksmithing, mapping, streambank work, bridge construction and even blasting.

It's a big job.

Below, enrollees build a fence to help in contour cultivation and dig a channel, another check to soil erosion.



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Enjoyment and education is furnished by a comfortable reading room.



A camp orchestra tunes up for lighter moments in the enrollee's life.

S P O R T S A N D R E C R E A T I O N

Well heeded in the CCC camps is the wisdom of that old axiom—"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." When the day's work is completed and classes are over, the enrollee finds many forms of wholesome recreation around the camp, and on the week-ends and holidays, there is offered a more extensive program of outside sports.

Like everything else in the CCC, the recreation and sports program is carefully planned and arranged in order to give the enrollee the most he can derive from it. The District Chaplain, besides his other duties, is in charge of the program and arranges for the various camps in the district to participate in league contests. It is believed that a successful recreational program is second only to a good mess in fostering good morale and that inasmuch as athletics are of such vital importance in the lives of school, college and university students, then they should be equally important to the CCC youth.

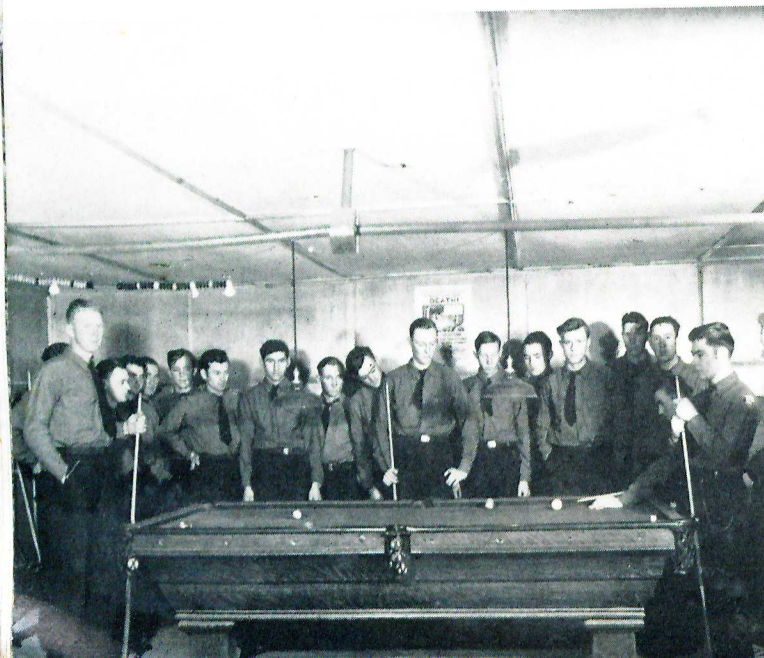
Outdoor and indoor competition is provided the year 'round in such competitive games as baseball, softball, volley ball, basketball, darts, horseshoes, ring tennis, tennis, roll ball, boxing, wrestling, pool, chess, checkers, dominoes and ping pong.

Each company commander is responsible for the organization, planning and direction of the program within his company as well as for fostering interest of the enrollees, which is directly proportional to the interest of the company officers, educational adviser and using service men.

The competitive program is based on a pyramidal formation beginning with inter-barracks competition and the offering of prizes as incentives for individual and team performances. Inter-camp competition is fostered with nearby camps. These teams and individual competitors are in turn pitted against other athletes in the sub-district. The survivors meet to determine district champions. Prizes and trophies are awarded the winning camps and athletes.

Believing that it is just as important for an individual to know how to use his leisure time as it is for him to know how to work, the authorities in charge of the recreation and sports program teach the enrollees how to play. With such a program instilling the spirit of the true sportsman in him, the CCC enrollee will never grow up to be a "dull boy."

The pool room is a favorite place of recreation.



Active sports are on the enrollee's schedule. Here the men get in some basketball practice.



Baldwin County History Files

City, Town and Communities

Miscellanea that may include periodical and newspaper abstracts, clippings, biographical sketches, reminiscences, personal profiles, local history, family histories, facsimile of documents, etc. pertaining to Baldwin County, Alabama.

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Baldwin County

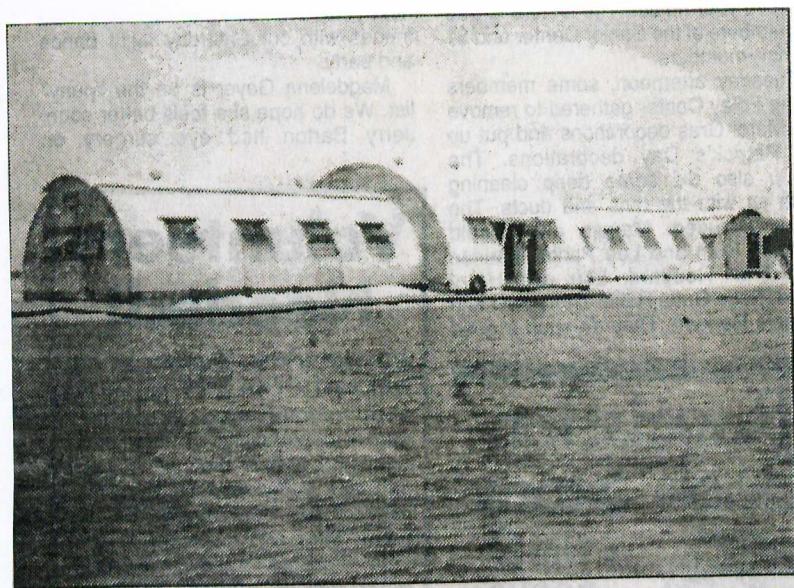
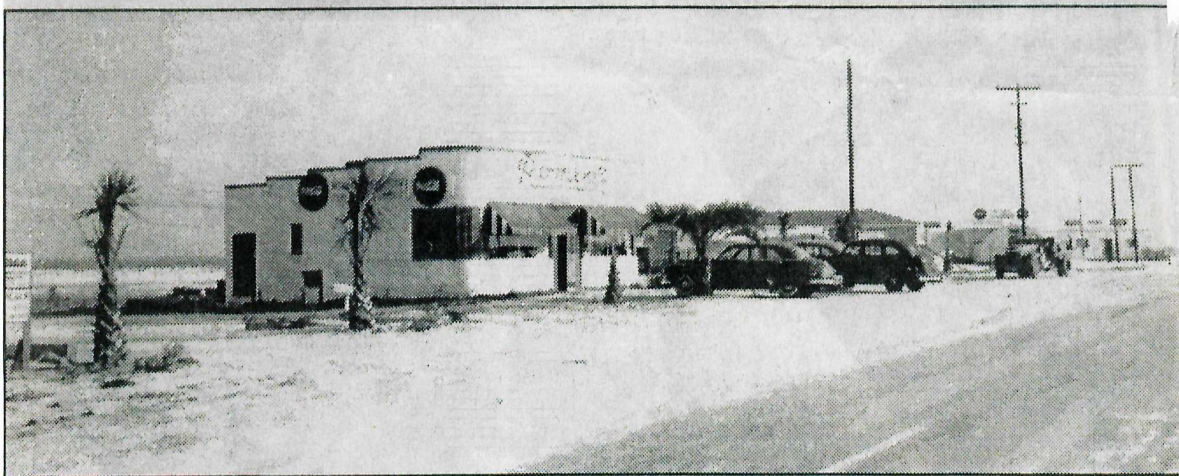
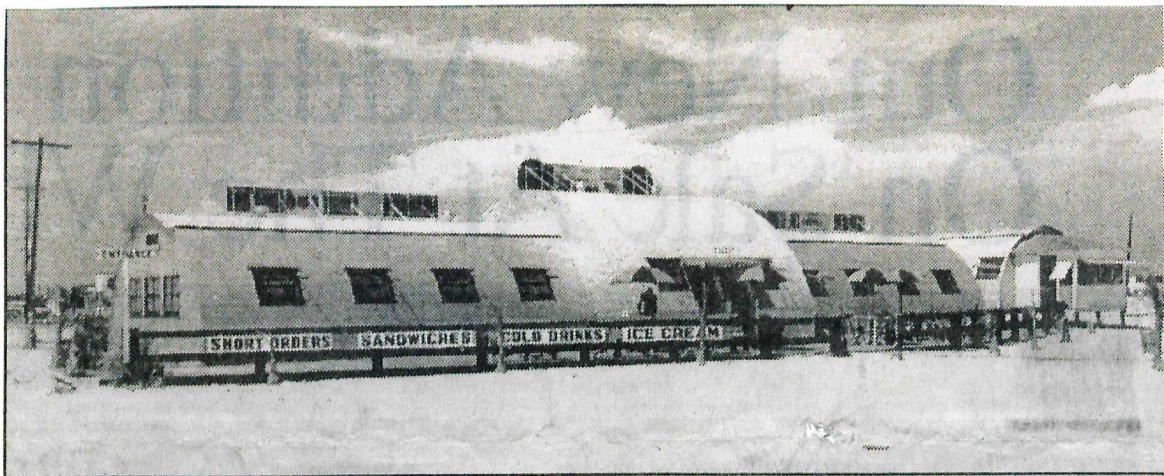
Towns – Gulf Shores, Alabama

The Little Casino and the Big Casino

The Big Casino was popular gathering place located in the Gulf State Park while the Little Casino, also a popular gathering place at intersection of Alabama 59 and 182 on the beach. Folks could enjoy beach, restaurant, dance floor.

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Views of the Little Casino from land (top left photo) and from the water (above). These pictures were taken in the mid-1950s. (Photo at left) A view of Romero's on Highway 59 from the mid 1950s. The City of Gulf Shores is trying to establish a City Museum to preserve the history of the area. Anyone wishing to donate artifacts for the new museum can contact Patsy Hollingsworth at 968-1172.



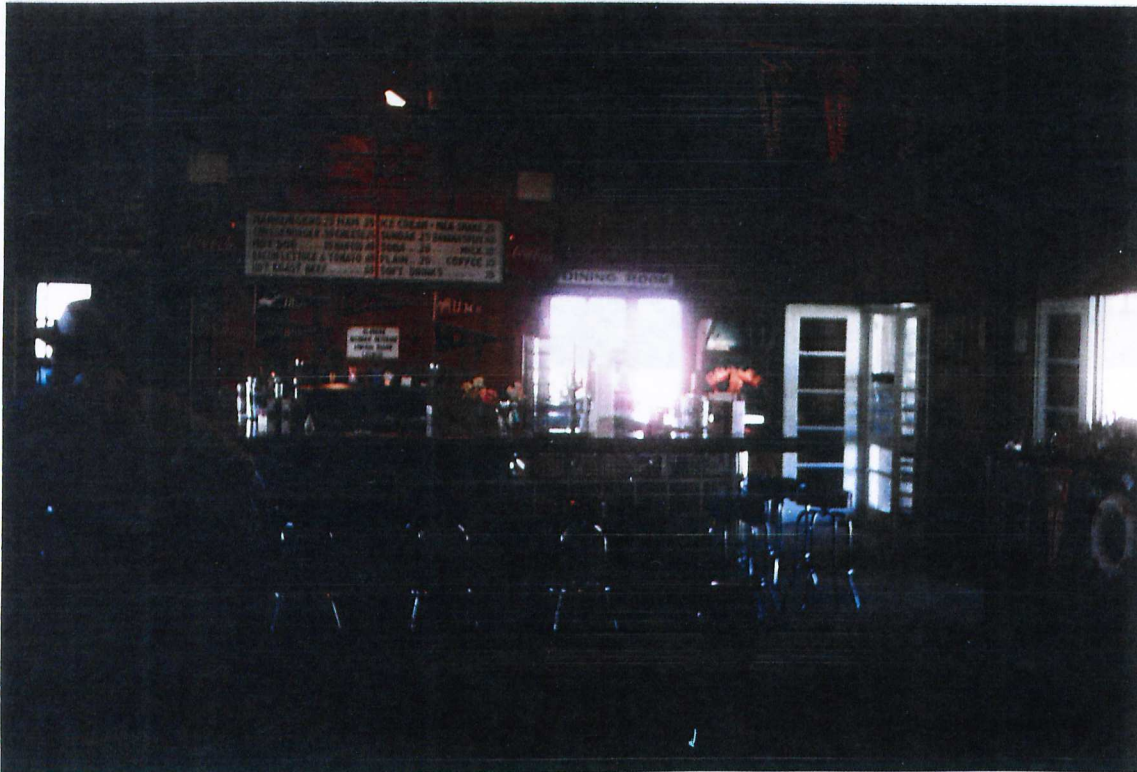
In this photo taken in the mid-1950s, James Golemon, left, and his wife, Floddie, tend to customers inside the Little Casino in Gulf Shores.



*Gulf Shores 1946
Cossino - Built by CCC
boys
Stanley Walker*

Photos courtesy of
Stanley and Dorothy Walker

Mr. Walker was a National Guard
Veteran of World War II, served as
an artillery Officer, was stationed nearby.
He and his wife spent time at the Casinos,
a popular spot for off-duty servicemen



Inside - Cossino



Hamburger 25

Ham 35

Cheeseburger 35

Cheese 25

Hot Dog 15

Ham + egg 45

Bacon, lettuce tomato 45

Hot Roast beef 60

Ice cream

Sundae 25

Soda 20

Plain 20

Milk shake 25

Banana split 40

Milk 10

Coffee 10

Soft drinks 10

near
Carins



Beach
cottage
1946
Built in
dunes
off the beach



Beach cottage
1946
Just west of
junction
H. 59 + Beach
Rd

March 12, 1995

Pleasure Island

He tells his own stories about

By SUSAN SOUTHWORTH
Correspondent

GULF SHORES — Jimmy Dowdell has known two of Alabama's best-known fiction writers, but he tells vivid, true stories of Pleasure Island's past.

Dowdell knew Fannie Flagg long before she was a TV star, movie star or author of such books as the Alabama-set "Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistlestop Cafe."

Ms. Flagg's parents owned the Beachcomber motel and restaurant located where Nolan's restaurant is now on East Beach Boulevard in Gulf Shores.

Dowdell grew up with Winston Groom, author of "Forrest Gump," the story of a south Alabama simpleton.

"Winston's mother was my school teacher," he said. "We've been family friends forever."

Dowdell was born in Mobile, but spent most of his growing-up years on Pleasure Island.

His boyhood remembrances depict a place far, far different than how the place is today.

"In those days you never knew when you would have electricity, so we kept plenty of candles and lanterns around to use," he said.

He also remembers sharing a telephone party line with seven other homes. "You had to recognize your personal ring and then pick up the receiver."

He picked blackberries at the garbage dump located about near where Gulf Shores City Hall is today.

He tells a story of intrigue and arson on the island in the 1950s.

The arsonist burned down the Gulf Shores Hotel that was on West Beach. It was a huge white building with an attached restaurant that also went up in flames.

The pilings of the hotel's pier can still be seen just beneath the water today, he said.

Then the fire bug burned down a casino that was at the present-day site of the Convention Center.

With only one policeman in town back then, the arsonist was never apprehended, Dowdell said.

"Just as fast as he came, he disappeared in about 1956, and no one ever learned who it was," he said.

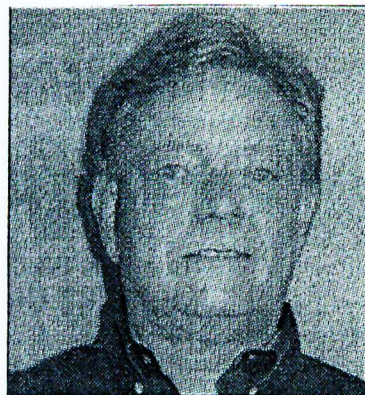
Asked about the history of the Pink Pony Pub, Dowdell said, "There was a motel built at the site of the current McDonald's on East Beach that was named the Seahorse Motel. It was owned by the Murnick family.

"When the little bar opened behind the motel, Bruce Murnick named it the Pink Pony Pub because he wanted a pony to go with his dad's Seahorse Motel."

With a boyhood filled with island memories, Dowdell decided to build a home in Gulf Shores in 1982.

"I decided I wanted to be in Gulf Shores all the time and came to work for Meyer Real Estate," Dowdell said. "It was like coming home because the business has been like my family since I was born."

Dowdell's cousins, Joe and Grace Had-dow, worked for George C. Meyer in Mobile beginning in the 1940s. When Meyer moved to Gulf Shores, he asked them to move with him, Dowdell said.



Dowdell

July 4, 1997

Baldwin Press Register

LITTLE CASINO

By MIKE HERNDON

Staff Reporter

GULF SHORES — James and Floddie Golemon saw a world of potential in Gulf Shores decades before most everyone else.

It was shortly after Golemon, an accountant, moved his family from Birmingham to Mobile that he and his wife discovered the largely barren beachfront that, some 50 years later, would stand as one of the premier family vacation destinations on the Gulf Coast.

"He noticed this wonderful piece of property at the foot of the highway," Golemon's daughter, Sue Whitaker, said of her father. "So he and my mother, who were always romantics, thought it would be nice to have some place to dance and eat and enjoy the water.

"So that's how they got the idea."

The idea was a gathering place at the intersection of Alabama 59 and 182 for people to go to enjoy the beach, with a restaurant, dance floor, lockers for beach-goers, maybe even some cabanas that people could rent daily.

There was practically nothing else around for miles. The Casino at the state park was a mile or two down the beach to the east and a hotel was about a mile down the other way.

But Golemon didn't mind that it was in the middle of nowhere. He purchased the property and three army-surplus quonset huts — those round-roofed, corrugated metal buildings used by the military in World War II — that he hooked together to provide enough room for his vision.

"He thought it would withstand the hurricanes," Mrs. Whitaker said of her father's choice of

structure. "And he probably got a good deal from the military after the war."

And in patriotic fashion befitting the former use of the huts, the Gulf Shores Casino was opened on July 4, 1947. Mrs. Whitaker, who was about 10 years old, and her cousins were in charge of selling soft drinks out of an ice box outside the building.

"We were selling the drinks for a quarter, which was really high in those days," she said. "They usually cost 10 cents, but people were more than happy to pay for them."

The name would later be changed to The Little Casino, in deference to the nickname given it by local young people to distinguish it from the other "Casino" down the beachfront at the state park.

Back in those days, Mrs. Whitaker said, a "casino" wasn't necessarily a place to gamble — but could refer to a dance hall. In this case, it was a dance hall and much more.

"It was kind of like an airplane with wings on each side," recalled the Golemon's son, Jim, who is now an insurance agent in Daphne. "On each of these wings they added a heavy, frame structure. The fuselage was the bath house. The west-side wing was the restaurant and the east side was the dance hall. I used to have to go in there and sweep the sand off that dance floor every day."

Soon, however, the Golemons would not just be sweeping sand, they would be shoveling it. First one hurricane, then another, hit Gulf Shores within the Little Casino's first two years of operation.

Living up to its owner's expectations, the military-style building withstood the storm, but the winds washed the building's slab away, covered its floor with sand, blew away the cabanas and knocked out a portion the front end of the structure.

"I thought he'd have a heart attack when he saw the damage," Mrs. Whitaker said of her father after the second storm.

But instead, Golemon did what numerous developers would later do after another big storm in 1979: He took the opportunity to expand, doubling the size of the dance floor and restaurant with additions to the front of the building.

The newly expanded building became a favorite spot for teenagers from throughout the region.

"The teen-agers just flocked down there; they'd come over from Mobile," Mrs. Whitaker said. "The boys would hitchhike over there and spend the whole weekend — and spend all their money. Daddy would let them have a little credit. Then they'd come back and pay their bill and run it up again."

But no one ever caused any trouble, she said. "I think everyone respected Mother and Daddy," she said. "They didn't try to cause trouble."

Teen-agers weren't the only ones to frequent the establishment, however, as Jim Golemon noted. Servicemen and tourists also enjoyed the beachside retreat, he said. One frequent visitor was

Vince Dooley, who later went on to become a legendary football coach at the University of Georgia, where he remains today as athletic director.

"A lot of people came down there," Jim Golemon said. "There was Barin Field — it was still active — and a lot of people came from Mobile. I've met people down there from all over the world. I can remember, when I was a teen-ager, meeting people from Europe.

"My dad probably sold more beer there than anybody in the area — maybe in the state."

But not to young people under 21, Mrs. Whitaker said, "and never on Sunday."

"He did obey the rules and he did insist on discipline," she said. "They always had a good, family environment. He and Mother were like chaperons. Especially Mother — she took an interest in the kids."

As the 1950s rolled around, the Little Casino juke box blared out the hits of Glenn Miller, Patty Page and Frankie Lane. And then about 1953, Bill Haley and his Comets swooped in with a snappy little

number called "Rock Around the Clock" and the music world — and the Little Casino — were never the same again.

"Once that started, it never stopped," Mrs. Whitaker reminisced. "The kids loved to jitterbug and I did, too. You could hear the music on the beach. It was just a real swinging place."

The family spent each of its summers in Gulf Shores, going back to Mobile in the fall and winter for school, until finally moving down full-time in 1952.

"They were pioneers," Mrs. Whitaker said of her parents. "They had to raise their family down there, too."

"It's not anything like it is now," her brother added. "Back in the early days, we could go on the beach during the winter and if you saw somebody, you wondered where they came from."

Another hurricane hit in the late 1950s, giving a still pre-adolescent Jim Golemon his turn with the shovel. But once again, the corrugated steel of the Little Casino held fast.

p91072

"I can remember shoveling sand and taking it out in wheelbarrows," Golemon said. "We had 500-some-odd wheelbarrows (of sand) after that storm."

The Golemons moved to Spanish Fort in 1957 and Golemon sold the business in the mid-'60s, "because he was getting up in years and was having heart trouble," she said.

The new owners then did what several hurricanes couldn't: They leveled the Little Casino building to make way for another business.

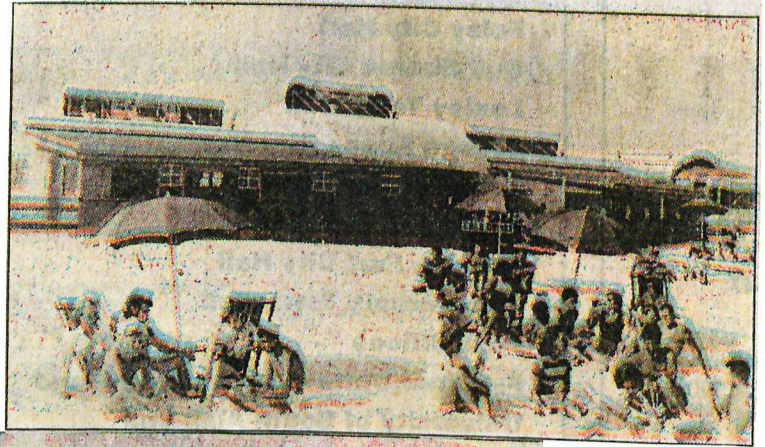
Mrs. Whitaker, whose husband made his career in the military, recently moved back to Baldwin County to live in her parents' old house in Spanish Fort after her mother passed away last December. She's taken her now-grown children and their children to the now-bustling city by the Gulf that was once ruled by her parents' little house of swing.

"There was nothing going on in the wintertime at all," she recalled. "If you just loved the nature, it was beautiful. I loved to go down there from Mobile."

Now, she said, "it's just gone from one extreme to another."



James and Floddie Golemon stand outside their business, the Little Casino, in Gulf Shores. Below, sunbathers gather behind the building in the 1950s.



Floddie Golemon pets the family dog, Laddy, outside the Little Casino.

► Spot drew visitors when there wasn't much to Gulf Shores

pg 292

NLOOKER

Y'S MOST WIDELY READ NEWSPAPER



7, Alabama, Thursday, January 18, 1962

SINGLE COPY TEN CENTS

Big fires destroy two buildings in Baldwin

Start rebuilding shipping shed of Cole D. Brown

The Cole D. Brown shipping shed, destroyed by fire Saturday morning will be rebuilt as quickly as possible.

"We expect to have a shed ready for grading potatoes by May 1," Cole D. Brown said Tuesday. "The new building will be more fire-proof, but will be about the same size and capacity, and we will turn out 15 to 20 carloads of potatoes a day during the shipping season."

"We were fortunate that our consumer packaging machinery was in Florida and elsewhere so was not destroyed," he continued.

Brown said they did not plan to replace the Hydrocooler this year, but felt fortunate that there was no loss of the pecan crop which had just been shipped. The shed handled over \$300,000 worth of pecans from Baldwin County growers, a 1,500,000 pounds.

Wynn Brothers shipping shed, Summerdale, destroyed by fire several weeks ago is being rebuilt and will be ready for the spring shipping season also.

The Cole D. Brown shed is one of the largest produce shipping sheds in Baldwin County. The shed burned to the ground Saturday morning from a fire started from an unknown cause.

Frie Chief Valton Long said the Foley Volunteer Fire Department received a call about 11:30 p.m. Friday night, and two Foley fire trucks and the Elberta Volunteer Fire Department fought the blaze for more than two hours before it was brought under control. Long said the firemen concentrated on keeping the fire from spreading to other buildings, but were not able to save the shipping shed and contents.

W. E. Brackin, manager of the Cole D. Brown Shed said the wooden structure had about 75 electric motors and other equipment including the Hydrocooler, and some



Navy Chaplain to speak to PTA on adolescence

"Adolescent Problems" will be the topic of Staff Chaplain John M. Weise, Captain CHC, USN, at the January meeting of the Foley PTA.

Captain Weise will base his talk on the PTA theme, "Adolescence, madness, milestone or mystery." The Chaplain is presently Staff Chaplain, Chief of Naval Air Training, at Pensacola Naval Air Station. He has served about the USS Sperry, USS Cleveland and USS Hornet, and at shore stations in Bethesda, Md., San Diego, Cal., El Toro, Cal. and Treasure Island, San Francisco, Cal.

He was graduated from Dickinson College with an AB Degree in 1925, and received his B.D. from Drew University in 1928. He served three parishes in the central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Church, until he was commissioned a Lt. USNR, Chaplain Corps in February 1942. He had served continuously on active duty with the Navy since that time.

Gulf State Park Big Casino burns Saturday night

The Big Casino in Gulf State Park was reduced to ashes Saturday night, and four nearby buildings were threatened by fire. One was slightly burned.

Volunteer Fire companies from Gulf Shores, Foley, Elberta, Summerdale and Robertsedale answered the call, but were unable to save the building. The loss was estimated at about \$50,000, of which about \$40,000 was covered by insurance according to S. Reese White, secretary of the state insurance fund. A safe and some records were saved, it was learned.

Police Chief Floyd Phillips of Gulf Shores said the fire was reported to him at 9:30 p.m., but was out of control before the fire companies arrived. They fought the blaze two hours and were able to keep the fire contained.

The casino was built in the 1930's and was state owned. It contained a dance pavilion, snack bar, shower facilities and concession stand with beach equipment. It was leased in 1961 to Roy Grimmett of Gulf Shores under a long term lease.

Grimmett was at Cullman when he was notified of the fire and came immediately to Gulf Shores. He said he would continue to operate the Alabama Point and boat concession.

The four buildings within 100 feet of the casino were two houses used as living quarters for the caretaker and his staff, a two car garage and a house used to service park trucks.

Chief Floyd Phillips, of the Gulf Shores Fire Department, Grimmett and the Gulf Shores Town Council all expressed their appreciation to the volunteer firemen who came from other areas to fight the fire.

Stockholders meeting

A meeting of the stockholders of the former...

neral services were held December 30 at the graveside in Coop Cemetery. Rev. Brown conducted services.

Mrs. Hays is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Raymond F. Buck, Summerdale and Mrs. John re, Loxley; two sons, Ralph and liam Hays, Loxley; two sisters, A. J. Ard, Pensacola and Mrs. sy Peterson, Pensacola; a brother, B. B. Gunn, Castleberry; 14 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Arrangements were by Higgins Mortuary.

Mrs. H. S. Neilsen dies in Nebraska

Mrs. H. S. Neilsen, a native of Iowa, and a former resident of Foley died at the home of her son in Nebraska, January 15 at age of 97.

Funeral services were held from the Funeral Home in St. Paul, Nebraska with interment in St. Paul cemetery.

Mrs. Neilsen is survived by one daughter, Mrs. V. C. Christensen of Omaha; two sons, T. C. Neilsen of Omaha, Nebraska and Dr. H. Neil of McCook, Nebraska.

Final rites held for Mrs. Mary E. Bishop

Mrs. Mary E. Bishop died at her home in Cleveland, Ohio, January 15.

Funeral services were held January 15 from the Chapel of Higgins Mortuary. Father Hay officiated. Burial was in Brookwood cemetery, Barnwell.

Mrs. Bishop is survived by her husband, George B. Bishop of Ohio.

Two year old child suffers severe burns

John Godwin, two year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Godwin was seriously scalded Thursday when he pulled a pot of boiling potatoes over on him.

for Robertsedale Garment Factory

Formation of a new operating company for the Robertsedale garment factory was revealed Tuesday at the Robertsedale Rotary Club meeting by James Utsey, vice-president of Coastal Industries, Inc., the new concern.

Utsey said Coastal Industries, Inc., includes his brother, Jerry Utsey, of Silas, Ala., president, David Wallace, of Mobile, secretary and treasurer. The three co-owners, Utsey said will begin operation immediately on finishing a contract with Clarice Sportswear Co., of New York City, and will enter into a new contract with the sportswear for future production.

Utsey said in his talk to the Rotarians that the closed corporation will increase the machines approximately 25 to bring the factory to a 65 machine plant, at an immediate cost of \$16,000.

Employment at the plant will taper off soon at 90 to 100 persons, Utsey said, and will ultimately employ 150, of which most will be local people. Utsey said six super-

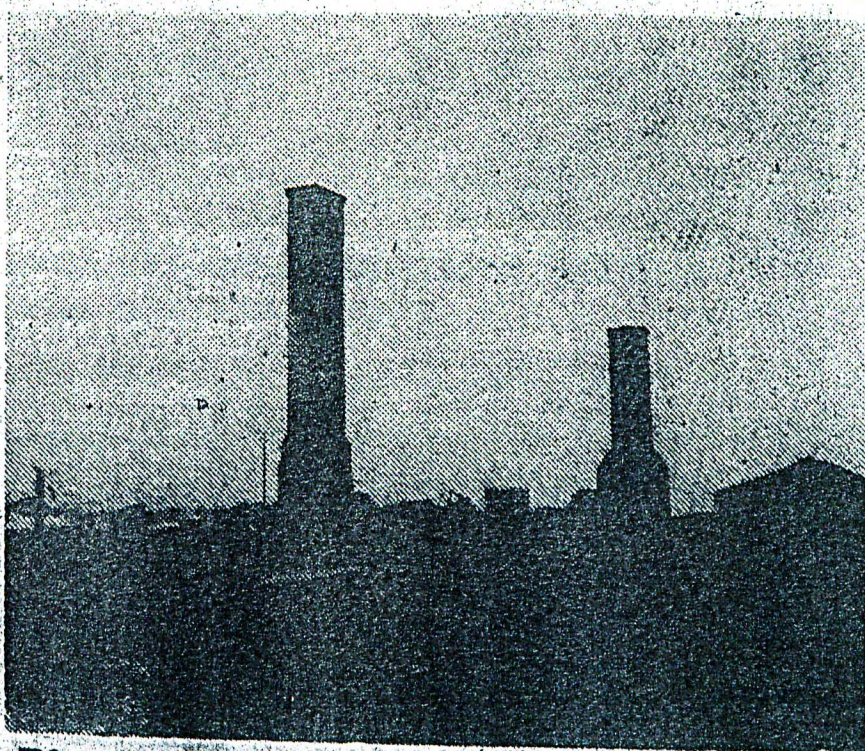
(Continued on Page 8)

Lelia Gullidge buried Sunday

Funeral services for Lelia L. Gullidge, 70, who died at her Robertsedale residence January 13, were held January 14 from the Robertsedale Baptist Church. Rev. Bill Murfin officiated. Burial was in Rock Cemetery.

Mrs. Lillie Price of Robertsedale is listed as the only survivor.

Higgins Mortuary was in charge of arrangements.



Big casino ...

Two chimneys standing stark against the sky above the Gulf of Mexico is all that remains of the Big Casino at Gulf State Park after the fire Saturday night. The Casino has been a gathering place for young people of three generations. It was built in the 1930's under the CCC program.

—Ford Pix

Property offered for sale by sealed bid to public

Properties, located in Baldwin County, Alabama, are being offered for sale to the public by sealed bid (subject to certain reservations and air rights).

The property offered is a portion of the Naval Auxiliary Air Station known as "Barin Field", and is located approximately two miles east of Foley, Alabama, on black-topped road off U. S. Highway No. 98.

The property has black-topped streets and roads, curbs, sidewalks and drainage from street to entrance of all major buildings and independent

Skippers buy "Little Casino" at Gulf Shores

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Skipper have purchased the "Little Casino" at Gulf Shores and the seven rental units included in the property and are now open for business.

Mrs. Skipper said by next season they plan to rebuild and will have a bathhouse, restaurant, arcade, and rental units.

The name has been changed to "Skippers."

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