



NEVIS HOUSE . . . Seated, Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Murray, Wausau, Wis.; Mr. and Mrs. Alfred R. Stitzelberger, New York; standing, Mrs. Dorothy Walker and her husband, Charles L. San Jose, Calif. While husbands attend Columbia university, the wives enjoy the colonial mansion at Irvington-on-the-Hudson.

VETS ARE LUCKY

Colonial Mansion Used by GI Couples at University

NEW YORK CITY.—Three couples from Midwestern and Western communities who planned to live in New York City while doing graduate study at Columbia university are beating the critical housing shortage by sharing an old colonial mansion on a country estate an hour's drive from the school.

And they readily admit they enjoy their leisurely country living much more than city dwelling "because it's so much like home."

The couples are Mr. and Mrs. Donald Murray of Wausau, Wis.; Mr. and Mrs. John McDonough of Seattle, Wash., and Green Bay, Wis., and Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Bremseth of Leeds, N. D.

They and 11 other married veterans and their wives live the part of country squires in Nevis, a 20-room mansion built in 1835 on an oak-studded 75-acre tract which gently slopes down to the Hudson river. The mansion, located at Irvington-on-Hudson, New York, was converted into single room apartments by Columbia university to help solve the student veteran's housing difficulty. The estate was acquired by the university from Mrs. T. Coleman Du Pont in 1935 and had been used as a botanical experiment station before its present tenants moved in.

Mrs. McDonough, the former Marie Mornard, who was brought up on her father's farm near Green Bay, summed up the attitude of the couples from west of the Mississippi.

"Country life is the life I'm used to and although I wanted to live in New York City while my husband was studying, I far prefer Nevis," she said. "Just to feel more at home, I'm raising vegetables on a small plot of land. It helps the shopping problem."

Caught Some Whoppers in Cumberland River

JAMESTOWN, KY. — When John S. Osborne, his wife and his twin brother went fishing near Lock 21 in the Cumberland river recently, they caught 11 fish weighing a total of more than 600 pounds.

They were sturgeons, John said, and it is only once in a blue moon that the condition of the river and the spawning period of these fish coincide so that they may be caught in such quantities. The trio used a single large hook on a drag line, and for the line they used a No. 14 electric light wire. It took four men to land one of these fish — one on top of the lock to throw the hook and snag the fish, one to hold the fisherman to keep the fish from dragging him off, and two down in the water to get the fish into a boat.

Once a Hobby, Rugs Now His Business

LARGO, FLA. — Several years ago S. M. Rife started making rugs from rags cut and torn by his wife. It was just a hobby which he enjoyed after his hours at the post office. He enjoyed working out new patterns so kept it up.

Today Mr. Rife is in the rug business. Church organizations and individuals began buying his product, and the demand grew steadily. Soon he purchased a loom, bought carpet warp and started in earnest to supply his customers. Recently he bought a house and has turned a shop in the rear into a utility house devoted to his former hobby, which is now a profitable business.

'Possum for Dinner

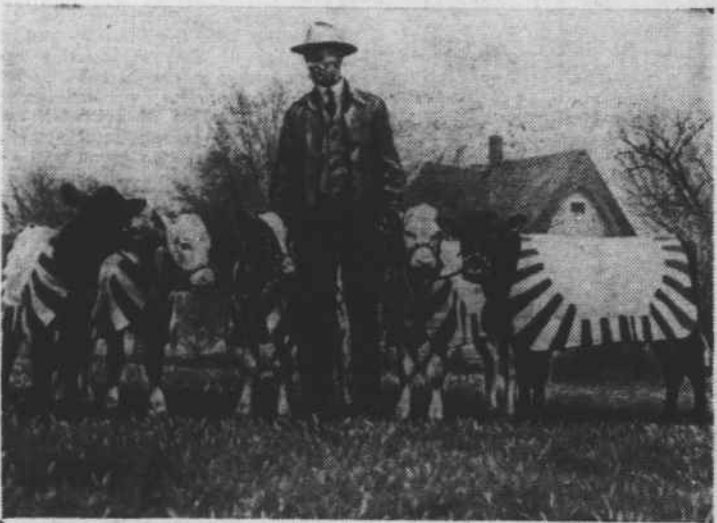
PASADENA, CALIF. — Sunday dinner walked into Carson G. Bell's back yard recently when an eight pound opossum came in to sample the grapevines.

Bell rounded up sweet potatoes and called in Van Williams, famed Negro chef, and invited his friends.

The opossum was presumably a descendant of some brought to California in 1900 by Tennesseans who wanted their favorite eating imported.



APPLAUSE FOR LEWIS . . . Regardless of how the rest of the nation may feel about John L. Lewis and the soft coal strike, he is still popular with his own forces. Photograph shows the coal czar, leader of United Mine workers, drawing applause as he arrives at a meeting of his 250-man policy committee, in Washington, D. C.



WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS QUINTOS . . . Above is Dr. L. J. Smith with the Fairbury (Neb.) Cornhusker quintos. They have been named after the Big Five. Left to right, England, Russia, China, United States and France. All but France are bulls. Although less than half the weight of average beef calves at birth, at 5½ months they are fully as big and as weighty as beef calves of the same age born singly. They will tour leading fairs this summer. Chamber of Commerce at Fairbury has built them a modern home. Wayne Photo.



CHINA'S FAMINE CORRIDOR . . . Chinese lad is shown carrying his starving mother from their Hunan farm into the village of Kung Ping, in the heart of Hunan's famine corridor. Hunan sustained greater losses of men and material than any other province. Estimates are that 577,000 persons were killed, 1,500,000 wounded, 945 buildings destroyed and 642 animals killed. Starvation is even worse today.



USO SERVING G.I.s IN BRAZIL . . . In Brazil, home of the coffee bean, G.I.s patronize the USO cafeteria for a cup of American java. It accompanies the steak smothered in eggs which is the most popular dish with servicemen at the Natal USO. The USO still carries on in almost every country and section on the globe where G.I.s may be found. Much of their work is now devoted to troops on foreign soil.



PIONEER TO TEACH . . . Dr. Lee De Forest, 73, known as the "father of broadcasting," has accepted the position of director of the veterans training program in Chicago television laboratories. He will have 2,200 veteran students. De Forest is a veteran of the Spanish-American war. He developed the three-element (audion) tube.



FOR OPA . . . Secretary of the Treasury Fred M. Vinson, as he appeared before the senate banking and currency committee, conducting hearings on bill to extend life of OPA. He urged that the office of price administration be retained for the common good.



GETS NEW PAL . . . Life was meaningless for six-year-old Johnny Conklin when his dog, Rex, was killed by an auto, but things brightened when he acquired a new pal, six-week-old Lady, given to him by a sympathetic reader who saw his picture in the paper.



MARINES IN DANGER . . . Says Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, to senate naval affairs committee at hearing on proposed merger of the armed services. He stated that the unification legislation will in all probability spell extinction for the marine corps.



PROSECUTES JAPS . . . Joseph B. Keenan, representing the United States, as chief prosecutor at Japanese war crimes trials, as he presented the 55-count indictment against the criminals to be tried.

In These United States

National Parks Ready For '46 Travel Rush

(By WNU Features)

America is hitting the vacation trail this spring and summer and the crowds in the national parks are expected to be the greatest in their history. Some of the parks are already open, and all of them will be operating at full schedule by June, says Newton B. Drury, director of the National Park Service.

Lodges and hotels which have been closed for three years are being reconditioned. New staffs are being recruited and trained for the summer season.

Few of the sightseeing busses used in the national parks were suitable for war use, so most of the fleets are still intact.

Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Canyon and Glacier national parks will have complete sightseeing services.

It is expected that enough manpower will be available to restore full service in the other parks of the system.

Some reconditioning work may take more than six months.

Staffs may not be as complete and skilled as they were before 1941, but the concessionaires stated their plans are being rushed and they have high hopes of giving good service by June.

More than \$500,000 for reconditioning the cabins, lodges and cafeterias in Grand Canyon, Bryce and Zion national parks and at Cedar Breaks national monument is being spent by the Union Pacific railroad, which operates the facilities in these parks.

The renovation program also includes purchase of 22 new 29-passenger busses and a fleet of 9-passenger sedans for charter service.

The prewar five-day all-expense tours through all the parks and

shorter tours in Zion, Bryce and Grand Canyon will be resumed.

Ranger crews maintained by the national park system during the war years for vital conservation work will have their ranks augmented to protect the parks' natural beauties and resources.

They'll also protect the crowds, who often take chances in the unfamiliar wilds.

An intensive road-building and road-improvement program is planned by the department of the interior, continuing through 1946 and 1947, to meet the influx of automobile tourists who will follow in the wake of new car production.

While the national parks are always free and open, the usual tourist facilities were suspended during the war. Park attendance dropped from a high of 21,050,426 visitors in 1941 to a new low of 6,908,749 in 1943.

That the 1946 total will surpass the attendance of 1941 is indicated by the rush of late fall and winter visitors which started immediately after V-J Day.

Shenandoah national park, in Virginia's Blue Ridge mountains, was virtually isolated during gas rationing, but on the Sunday following the surrender of Japan four cars a minute were checked in at the park.

Eastern Parks Offer Variety To The Tourist

The Shenandoah and Smoky mountains national parks offer an unsurpassed beauty treat to mid-westerners whose previous vacations have shown them the wonders of the Rockies.

Great Smoky mountains national park embraces 460,000 acres, of which 200,000 are still covered by primeval forests. The peaks and ridges of the range, rising above 6,000 feet, and almost always veiled in mist, are the starting point of some 600 miles of trout streams.

The north entrance to the park is 30 miles southeast of Knoxville, Tenn., making it easily accessible by all types of transportation. Busses make two round trips from Knoxville through the park daily. There are two camp grounds in the park, and hotel and tourist camp facilities are available in nearby cities and towns and at Knoxville and Asheville.

Blue Ridge national parkway, a 485-mile strip of parkland connecting the Great Smoky mountains and Shenandoah national parks, will eventually have a modern highway running its entire length. U. S. route 11 provides an almost direct connection between the two parks at present.

A more scenic approach to Shenandoah from north of Roanoke, Va., is along the completed portion of the parkway, which connects with Skyline drive running the entire length of the park along the crest of the Blue Ridge.

The Skyline drive is 107 miles long, with parking areas, picnic grounds and a camping area along its length. Visitors may enjoy the magnificent scenery of the Shenandoah valley's fertile farmlands on the west and the rolling hills of Piedmont plateau on the east.



HALF DOME . . . At Big Oak Flat entrance to Yosemite Valley.

Oregon Caves Are Opened

GRANTS PASS, ORE.—The Oregon caves recreational area near here, which were closed during the war years, will reopen late in May under the national park service. Harold B. Say has been appointed general manager of the resort.

The caverns were discovered in 1874 when Elijah Davidson, an early settler, shot at a bear. The wounded bear disappeared into a hole in the mountainside, and Davidson followed with a pitch torch to find a great underground world.

Before the war, increasing thousands each year were taking the 19-mile drive to the caves up through the timbered Siskiyou mountains from the Redwood highway.

The weird and beautiful underground chambers and the Swiss chalet lodge, in a canyon at the mouth of the caves, are expected to break all attendance records as the travel season opens for 1946.



ANGEL LANDING . . . Zion national park, rises 1,425 feet above the floor of the canyon. There is a foot trail to the top.

Seven Rocky Mountain Parks Are Open

The vacation possibilities offered by Glacier, Grand Teton, Mesa Verde, Yellowstone, Wind cave, Rocky mountain and Bryce Canyon national parks are almost limitless. All of them are in the Rocky mountain-plains area and cover approximately four million acres.

They range from the historic wonders of Mesa Verde, with their story of an ages-old Indian civilization; the geysers and waterfalls of

Yellowstone; the mountain trails and hidden lakes at Glacier; to the thrills of mountain climbing on Grand Teton's snowy peaks.

One of the most interesting of America's prehistoric sites and a major archeological preserve is Mesa Verde national park in southwestern Colorado.

Excavations on the mesa have revealed an amazing story of the pre-historic Indians.