

## Appearance Of Grounds At CCC Camp Improved

Almost Unbelievable Improvements Have Been Made In Physical Equipment And Appearance Grounds Since Establishment

PERSONNEL CHANGED  
BUT NOT THE SPIRIT

High Standard Set By First Outfit To Come In Has Been Constantly Observed By Others Who Came Here

Early October of 1933 and the present location of Camp Sapon was just a miniature wilderness of small pines, scrub oak undergrowth and a terrain littered profusely with old cans, bottles and hulls of automobiles. The site was far from pleasing.

Then, about the 10th of October Lieutenant J. R. Madden, now Captain Madden, of Fort Bragg, arrived from Hiawasee, Ga., with a group of 15 of his boys, the advance guard that was to pitch tents and make preparations for the arrival of the whole force to be transferred here from an abandoned camp in Western North Carolina.

Captain I. B. Bussell, representing the Richard Doshier estate and others, had rented the local site for the minimum legal consideration of \$1.00 per year. The location adjoined the Southport baseball park, on which the advance guard set up their own tents, administration tents and tents for the full force which was awaiting transportation.

At about the same time as the pitching of the first tents, lumber and building material began to be placed and a good sized force of carpenters and laborers commenced work on the first of the many substantial wooden structures that now grace the grounds.

The 19th of October was a rather memorable one. Early in the morning the little engine of the W. B. & S. Railroad went chugging to Navassa and there hooked on to two day coaches and baggage car that had been pulled in to that point over the Wilmington and Rutherford division of the Seaboard Air Line. The day coaches contained over a hundred of the boys who were to compose the personnel of Southport's CCC Camp. Many more boys came in the fleet of trucks belonging to the abandoned camp, these trucks also carry-

## Men Of Company 427, Civilian Conservation Corps, At Southport



**COMPANY**—The above picture of the men and officers of Camp Sapon was taken prior to October 1, when a number of old enrollees completed their term of enlistment. The present strength of the company is 165 men, with 60 more enrollees scheduled to report the latter part of next week.

ing various camp equipment.

By a coincidence the trucks and the three railroad cars arrived at the end of their several hundred mile journey at precisely the same minute. Some of the fleet of trucks got across the railroad tracks before the halted train stopped them. Others were halted on the south side of the track by the presence of the train. They had to remain there until the boys all disembarked, and the train was cut into to permit traffic over the road to the new camp.

It was just 5:30 o'clock, chow time, when the trucks and train arrived. The boys were naturally hungry and the advance guard at the camp had prepared for such a contingency.

Dad Marr, chief cook at the camp, from the day of the first arrivals until two months ago, had been in the advance guard. With his small, but willing force, he had a substantial meal for the hungry men and they lost no time in falling too. They slept that night in their tents, and early the next morning found them actively at work carrying on preparations for their permanent quarters.

**Fine Conduct Always**  
It can be said that the first group of 200 men who composed Camp Sapon represented good citizenship. There have been many changes, boys resigning to accept employment, others serving their period of enlistment and returning to their homes, their places being taken by new men. What could be said of the first personnel at the camp can be said of all the men who have followed after. Camp Sapon has always

been blessed with fine officers and a fine set of men and boys.

There is no recognizable difference between the residents of the camp and the younger citizens of the town. Southport regards the boys as good citizens of the town and the boys apparently regard Southport as their home.

Today very few of the original enrollment at the camp are still serving. W. C. Marr is now elevated to chief cook to succeed his father, Mess Sergeant Ivan Ludlum, and Junior Forester Archie Bullock are the only men who have been there the full four years. Many fine commanding officers and assistants have come, completed their full tour of duty and have been sent on to other work. In the same manner many fine boys and men have come and gone without any change in the fine spirit of friendship and good will between the camp and Southport.

**Camp Site Transformed**  
And the camp site that was an eyesore three years ago is now adorned with substantial buildings, with shade trees, grass and flowers; with improved driveways and all the appearances of a fine community. The buildings and the streets are lighted from the city power plant; water is furnished from the city mains, and sewerage is disposed of through the city system; sports, good order and good health abound.

But the transformation is not confined to the camp and site. The good that has been accomplished throughout Brunswick county by the workers is truly wonderful. Brunswick people were just beginning to get forest fire prevention minded. The work of Camp Sapon speeded up this feeling and increased its proportions. Today there is scarcely a citizen in Brunswick who does not regard it for what it is—a crime to let a forest fire get started in the woods of Brunswick county.

Where once there was barren and blackened wastes to be found on every hand, there are now thriving forests of young pines and other woods, all growing towards the stage where they will produce a yearly income for the owners. The value of the timber has come to be recognized and Camp Sapon has done much to bring about the transformation from the old idea that it did not matter if the woods burned over.

**A Model Camp**  
Sapon has been and is still rated as the model camp of the Fort Bragg District. No less a person than Congressman J. Bayard Clark recently wrote the Southport Civic Club that he would do everything in his power to see that Camp Sapon was kept at Southport as long as any camps were kept anywhere. The Congressman realized the great work that has been accomplished in Brunswick and was anxious for it to go forward without interruption. His opinion appears to be shared by other high officials

## Boys At Camp Like Basketball

For The Past Two Seasons Teams Coached By W. C. Marr Have Held Their Own Amid Stiffest Kind Of Competition

Using the Southport gym floor for home games because of the location being more convenient to spectators, the Sapon Braves, under Coach W. C. Marr, have come through each basketball season with a long string of victories and few defeats.

The past season closed with Sapon having lost only two games, one of these to the Southport Independents. The Southporters likewise lost one game to Sapon, and the season closed without the deciding game being played off. While they were strong basketball rivals, the best cooperation, and good will existed between the Southport and Sapon teams. Both closed their seasons with good grounds for claiming the championship for this part of the state, except against each other.

This season, it is said, Sapon will have to start out with an almost entirely new-up, inside dope is that the Braves will be there with the goods. It is sort of whispered around that Marr will put out a team as good or better than last season, and that fast playing may be expected. The team usually does its practice work on its own large recreation hall court.

"In what course will you graduate?"  
"Oh! in the course of time."

Motorist (to a man he just ran over): "Hey, look out back there!"  
Defeated Soul: "What's the matter, y'aint comin' back are you?"

and the outlook and hope is for the camp to remain at Southport for many months to come. Its good effects in Brunswick county have been almost unlimited.

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## THINNING PROJECT



**GOOD WORK**—No other project conducted in this county has shown more tangible results for good than the timber thinning demonstrations, five of which may be seen between Winnabow and Grissetown on U. S. Highway 17.

## Camp Shipping Pine Tree Seed

During Past Ten Days More Than Seven Hundred Bushels Of Pine Cones Have Been Sent To State Nursery

Last week a shipment of 406 bushels of longleaf pine cones was carried by truck to the state nursery at Clayton where the seed will be removed, and used for growing pine seedlings with which to carry forward the forestry program of North Carolina.

Another shipment of 125 bushels of longleaf pine cones and 306 bushels of loblolly pine cones has been gathered by enrollees of Camp Sapon, and now await shipment to Clayton.

This work has been done under Sam Hill, project superintendent of Camp 427, CCC.

## Jane Withers In Amuzu Attraction

Warning! It's "Angel's" day off, which means Trouble in the offing!

Whizzing headlong into the offing looking for Trouble is "Ginger" Jane Withers, harum-scarum half-pint of dynamite off on her rip-roaring rampage in "Angel's Holiday," coming Friday to the Amuzu Theatre.

Mischiefous Jane, little sweetiepie that she is, puts the "holer" into "holiday" when she routs the riot squad with its own tear gas and makes trouble as fast as she makes headlines when she turns detective.

## CCC Educational Plan Is To Camp Enrollees

Definite Aims Are Back Each Class Started Educational Program Organization

ALL INSTRUCTORS ARE VOLUNTEERS

Boys Are Given Opportunity To Develop Cultural Side As Well As To Develop Trade

BY D. C. HUNTER  
(Educational Advisor)

The educational program Camp Sapon is governed by a very unorthodox set of rules, subjects and activities are selected with the idea of preparing the enrollees for some definite trade or vocation; but the program is voluntary, and there are no tests or examinations required.

According to his educational level each enrollee may choose any subject or activity he desires. Classes in each subject meet each week for a period of from ten to fifteen weeks. Instructors include members of the forestry service, Camp Sapon, officers and educational advisors, and local citizens, all of whom voluntarily assist in the teaching.

The educational program is for its aims and objectives: for the elimination of illiteracy, for the elimination of ignorance, for the elimination of common school deficiencies, for the elimination of common school deficiencies, for the elimination of common school deficiencies.

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## Our Congratulations

TO

## Camp Sapon

Company 427, CCC

Southport, N. C.

The three years that this camp has existed at Southport has witnessed steady progress and improvement. The officers and personnel of the camp are among the best in the entire Civilian Conservation Corps.

We are proud to have you as our neighbors, and we wish you the best of luck in the months to come.

**Howard Bobbitt**

Company

Fruits and Produce

WILMINGTON, N. C.

## Congratulations . . .

To The

Best CCC Camp In This District

On Its

« Third Anniversary »

MEN AND BOYS OF CAMP SAPONA:

You have just cause to be proud of your record of service and achievement.

We recognize in you a tremendous power for good in the forestry program that is an important business in this Lower Cape Fear region.

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