

GOV'T FOREST IS BEAUTY SPOT

(Continued from Page One)

Tugalo, Tallulah, Rabun, Nacoochee and Burton. Lake Burton is the largest of these lakes, and has a sixty-five mile shore line. All of the lakes are ideal for camping, boating, fishing and swimming. Many summer homes and cottages are to be found on the shores of these beautiful waters. Here the visitors may stop and spend a few days or a season either in a cottage or at one of the many hotels which are designed for the accommodation of summer guests. From the inexpensive camp to the homes with beautifully landscaped lawns one may find the desirable location for the season visitor.

Considerable National Forest land surrounds these lakes and insures one of a permanent, pleasant view of wooded hills. In the near future it is planned to make cottage sites available to the public at a reasonable annual rate. A bathing beach is under construction by the Forest Service on Lake Rabun.

The Forest Service is developing, through the CCC camps, a series of roads to encircle these lakes and connect with the highways leading into Clayton, Ga. These roads will follow the shores of the lakes and also pass through areas of extensive woodlands. One of the roads has been graded to the Glassy Mountain Lookout which helps guard this region through the forest fire season.

Clayton Center at Lake Region

At Clayton, Ga., the center of the North Georgia lake region is reached. Hotels and tourists' homes accommodate over-night guests. Trails and bridle paths are available for travel across the forest land, these pathways following the streams and ridges and affording a delightful means of recreation. Trout streams are being cleaned and stocked with fish where they pass through the National Forest lands, and many visitors look forward to this opportunity to fish which is offered them each year.

Four miles east of Clayton is a well developed picnic ground with all modern conveniences for the comfort of the visitor. In this sequestered dell are rearing pools for the development of trout. Here the visitor may see the finny beauties which many seek in that elusive piscatorial sport.

Passing northward to the Georgia-North Carolina State line we intersect a highway which leads eastward into the mountains. A road leads from this highway to one of the most notable points in all Georgia, Rabun Bald, which has an elevation of 4,717 feet, the second highest mountain in Georgia. A well developed three-quarter mile trail leads to the fire observation tower on top of this bald. Many visitors make this climb each year to obtain the exhilarating view, for the states of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia appear to lie at one's feet. This vantage point affords an excellent view over the ridges to the Piedmont plain of South Carolina.

Golfers Paradise at Highlands

Returning to the road one arrives at the highest incorporated town east of the Rocky Mountains, Highlands, N. C. This summer resort attracts visitors from far away and the renowned Bobby Jones has contributed his part to recreation by designing and supervising the construction of a wonderful golf course for the pleasure of the dub and the expert. Tennis courts and a lake for swimming purposes have been added to make this spot a more active center. The surrounding countryside affords all manner of opportunity for the nature lover. Hard surfaced roads radiate from this stronghold of cool, caressing breezes that are so delightful during the sweltering months of the year. These roads follow swift, rushing streams that leap and plunge through rapids and over high waterfalls to end in billows of spray. Other places the roads wind along high ridges and on the edge of steep cliffs from which a birdseye view of the country may be obtained.

Leaving Highlands, N. C., by the southern route the road winds and zigzags back and forth down the steep sides of the Blue Ridge. At Satolah, Ga., we pass another fire tower which clings to the top of

a high rocky mountain. Passing through this corner of Georgia and into South Carolina we shall see what they have to offer to us. A Federal fish hatchery is being constructed and all streams within a radius of fifty miles will be stocked from this hatchery. Well graded gravel roads traverse the countryside and former inaccessible points may be easily reached.

The forest boundary is encountered on the last high point before one descends to the Piedmont plain. A magnificent view is offered the traveller at several points along the highways at this jumping off place where the mountains and the plain meet.

Let us return to Highlands from this point and see what the other routes offer us.

To the north, after a short drive, we encounter the dominion of the Pisgah National Forest which spreads in regal splendor over the surrounding country.

Falls in Western Forest

To the west lies the Nantahala National Forest proper. We descend from our high vantage point and follow one of the rushing streams which passes under the beetling brows of the overhanging mountains. Two ledges of rocks form falls along our route and send the stream cascading from the heights to the rocks below. Picnic grounds and observation points have been provided at each of these falls by the Forest Service so the visitor may more adequately enjoy the splendor that these natural phenomenon inspire.

Along this route we encounter the Van Hook Glade cradled in a towering forest of magnificent white pine trees. Here the camper may spend a few hours or an entire season. Many of our guests use

this spot as their headquarters and sally forth from here to the many other interesting points of this forest, always returning to this place of peace and relaxation. The Forest Service has provided complete facilities for the comfort of its guests. At another point the road passes under the famous Bridal Veil Falls.

Forest Headquarters at Franklin

Proceeding to the opposite terminus of our road we reach Franklin, N. C. This town houses the headquarters of the forest. In this town travellers will find accommodations for rest and care. The town nestles in a valley and is completely surrounded by the mountains of the Blue Ridge system. The main highway from Atlanta, Ga., to Asheville, N. C., passes through here. Access and egress is without difficulty to this land of the sky. One may rise early in the morning and find the clouds resting on the valley floor ready to rise like so many giant cotton puffs with the rising of the sun and the warming of the cool mountain air.

To travel westward from Franklin one must cross a high range of the Blue Ridge. Hard surface roads wind through the mountain fastness of this range. Unparalleled views are obtained at each turn in the road. The roads have been constructed through passes in the mountains at elevations of 4,000 feet. Forest Service roads penetrate to the many vantage points and sequestered dells and glades. Wayah Bald, the highest fire tower on this forest, may be reached directly by one of these roads. An elevation of 5,400 feet is obtained. This is the most popular vantage point in southwest North Carolina. Thousands of visitors each year

avail themselves of the opportunity to enjoy the spectacular view which this point provides.

Well established hard surface and gravel roads traverse the countryside west of the Blue Ridge. New roads are under construction by the CCC and all sections of this portion of our National Domain will be accessible to the nature lover.

Lake Santeelah Developed

Lake Santeelah, a beautiful body of water located in the northwest corner of the forest, is in for its share of improvement and development in the near future. Virgin forests extend along the shores of this lake, game abounds, and through sparkling clear water large trout deploy.

North of Franklin we enter the Balsam Mountains with elevations of over 6,000 feet. Balsam and spruce on the high ridges make this country a veritable fairy land. The new Sky Line Road which is to be developed and constructed by the National Park Service will traverse this range affording the visitor a new land to explore.

In concluding this article, let me ask what is more desirable than warm sunny days filled with pleasure and cool nights designed for complete relaxation and rest—nights which necessitate sleeping under warm covers.

This is Utopia.

Keep Cut Flowers Fresh and Pretty

Cut flowers can be kept for a considerable time when given the proper care, says Glenn O. Randall, associate professor of horticulture at State College.

Cut the flowers with a sharp

knife early in the morning or late in the afternoon, he advises. Then immerse the stems full length in cool water and place them in a cool place for an hour or more.

Keep flowers only in clean containers. Change the water at least once a day, more often in extremely hot weather.

When changing the water, cut off about an inch of the stems so as to provide a fresh surface through which the water may pass. Hold the stems under water while cutting off the end, as this keeps air from getting into the conducting tissue and blocking the flow of the water.

Remove the soft lower leaves from the stems, as they have a tendency to decay quickly. Keep the flowers in a cool place at night to preserve them longer.

Don't put aspirin, salt, quinine, potassium permanganate, or other chemicals in the water, for they do not help the flowers, contrary to popular belief, Randall points out.

However, an experiment at Cornell University has shown that keeping flowers in a copper vessel helps prolong their life. A small quantity of the copper dissolves in the water and hinders the growth of the bacteria which cause decay.

Do not handle the flowers roughly, as anything that tends to break or bruise the plants causes them to wither sooner, Randall adds.

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