

Cataloochee Forest Fire Record US Best

(Continued from page 1)

dex goes as high as 200." The reading of the condition of the forest is radioed three times daily to Gatlinburg, and from this information much of the weather forecasts are made.

The Cataloochee area has had more campers this fall than ever. Many folk felt that the campground would close with the end of the fishing season, but the campground is open 12 months of the year.

The Cataloochee campground is the only Park campground in the Park that is not bothered with bears in the summer. The campground is slated for expansion under the program of "Mission 66".

Ranger Hannah said that when the road from the Pigeon River Highway to the Cataloochee campground is built — about six miles — that the area will be another Cades Cove.

Many people who use the campground now come back season after season, because it affords so many natural advantages, although hard to reach over Highway 284.

Ranger Hannah says he meets a lot of the people who get onto NC 284 by missing the turnoff on US 73 to Gatlinburg just above

Cosby. They often say, "Where does this trail end?"

Ranger Hannah has a stock answer, "Just stay in the trail and you'll find the most beautiful section of the world known to man." And pleasing to Hannah is the fact that the number of out-of-state cars is steadily increasing.

The native of Cataloochee is a one-man Chamber of Commerce.

The ranger has very little trouble with violators in his area—the greatest violation is fishermen with excessive fish. It seems when they get to fishing for trout in Cataloochee they lose all count of their catches. Very few try to fish without a license.

Hannah believes the proposed road from Heintooga to Cataloochee Campground would be one of the best things that ever happened to develop the Eastern end of the Park — of course the construction of the Pigeon River Road comes in for the number one spot.

Ranger Hannah has investigated one plane crash in his area since 1943 — that was in the fall of 1955 when a doctor was flying a small craft over the Park to make colored pictures. The plane fell and the doctor was forced to walk out to his station, several miles distance and arrived just as spotted planes overhead found the wreckage.

During World War II a plane carrying four people is thought to have fallen in the same area. To date no trace has been found of the craft. Ranger Hannah has a feeling that the plane could have gone down in a hemlock grove, and literally disappeared from the earth, as it would be impossible to spot from the air, and the dense undergrowth makes it almost impossible to reach such areas from the ground.

"About the only hope of running into the wreckage would be when a party of rangers are out on blister rust control work, and just happen onto it in such a dense grove," Hannah explained.

The Cataloochee school is the only one in the Park, and this year has six students, with Mrs. Mary E. White the teacher. There are two churches in the area; Palmer's Chapel, and the Little Cataloochee church. The annual homecoming is held at Palmer's Chapel, and a memorial service at the other church. Last summer a pastor, a camper at the campground, held services at the church while he vacationed in the community.

Ranger Hannah believes he has the best place in the world to work, yet he is generous enough to want others to see and share the many things which are offered at Cataloochee. He thinks that about three other rangers will be required when the Pigeon River Road is opened and the new campground constructed.

South Pole Film To Be Shown To Two Clubs

Lions will see an interesting color film tonight, "Assignment, Bottom of the World". This film was made recently at the South Pole by Saul Pett, and is being made available to members of The Associated Press, which includes The Mountaineer.

Members of the Rotary Club will view the interesting film on Friday at one o'clock.

Famous inventor Alexander Graham Bell once designed a tetrahedral kite, the Cygnet, which carried a man to an altitude of 188 feet in 1907.



OFFICERS of the Future Teachers of America chapter at Fines Creek High School this term are Barbara Ferguson, vice president; Patricia Kirkpatrick, secretary; Margaret Rogers, president; Jean Rogers, treasurer, and Juanita Lowe, reporter. (Mountaineer Photo.)

Personals

Mrs. Carl Gillis and her children, Patty and Paul, have returned to their home in Clyde after visiting the former's brother-in-law and sister, Sgt. and Mrs. C. A. Reinert, at Cherry Point. They were accompanied by Mrs. Gillis' mother, Mrs. John Wilson of Canton.

Mr. and Mrs. Troy Leatherwood of Jonathan Creek are spending a vacation in Florida. They were accompanied by Mrs. Leatherwood's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Tweed of Asheville.

BETSY FISHER BREAKS ARM

Betsy Fisher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Fisher of Hazelwood, has been in the Haywood County Hospital since Tuesday when she suffered a broken arm in a fall at her home. According to reports she will return to her home today or tomorrow.

Time For Gripes

As a young officer, Lee found time for several gripes about Army life. Said he on Oct. 19, 1838, from Des Moines Rapids: "The manner in which the Army is considered and treated by the country and those whose business it is to nourish and take care of it, is enough to disgust everyone with the Service, and has the effect of driving every good soldier from it, and rendering those who remain discontented, careless and negligent."

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T. L. Francis Debates With Mars Hill Team

T. L. Francis is a member of the Mars Hill College debating team which left today to debate against a team at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. Francis is debating on the affirmative side of the question, "Resolved that the United States Should Discontinue Direct Foreign Economic Aid."

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Harley Francis and was graduated from Waynesville High School last spring.

Driver's License Office To Be Closed Monday

The driver's license office in the basement of the Courthouse will be closed this Monday in observance of Veterans Day, according to examiner Thomas Lentz. The office will reopen Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock.

Letters Shed Light On Lee

Gen. Robert Edward Lee's reputation as a brave soldier and keen military strategist during the turbulent Civil War is preserved in history.

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But behind the stiff and serious facade of the soldier lay the warm and witty soul of a man with a zest for life.

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ROBERT E. LEE
THIRTEEN AUTOGRAPH LETTERS
SIGNED TO JOHN MACKEY
1831-1846

LETTERS FROM LEE: Here are a few of the 13 hitherto unpublished letters written by Robert E. Lee as a young officer (1831-1846). Note how the letters were folded so the back became the envelope. Sealing wax kept them closed. The photo of Lee during this period shows him in the uniform of the U. S. Army.

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