

## WASHINGTON REPORT

Washington — Once again, controversy has flared over the collection of fees, or tolls, to travel over the Blue Ridge Parkway.

On several occasions, the National Park Service has tried to impose tolls on the Parkway.

The latest effort came a few weeks ago when notice was given by the Park Service that fees to travel on the Parkway would be collected beginning June 1, 1958.

I think it is too much to hope that Secretary of the Interior, Fred Seaton, who has jurisdiction over the Parkway, will voluntarily rescind the order to start tolls.

I think it will be necessary for Congress to take action to settle the matter. The last time the Park Service tried to impose tolls on the Parkway, the Administration failed to call the dogs off until the House Appropriation Committee directed it to stop the toll plans.

This year, the same appropriations bill has cleared the House. Perhaps Secretary Seaton thought he was being clever in waiting for the money bill to pass the House before he issued the order.

The bill, however, has not passed the Senate.

The whole business of collecting tolls on national parks and parkways has reached the point where Congress is going to have to work out some sort of program that makes sense.

Unless something is done, it means that all parks and parkways are at the mercy of administrators who want to show a good set of books on park operations rather than equal treatment.

It is true that the Park Service for some years has collected fees and tolls for using park and parkway facilities, but there is no uniform system and no pattern to the system.

Tolls and fees are collected, so the Park Service says, in order

### Conservation Reserve Deadline Is April 15th

The April 15 deadline for participation in the 1958 Conservation Reserve Program is drawing near.

H. D. Godfrey, administrative officer for the ASC state committee, reports that even though the sign-up has been going on for five months, farmers have only used about 22 per cent of this State's Conservation Reserve allocation.

New features in the 1958 Soil Bank Conservation Reserve offer many advantages to landowners who signed contracts under the program for 1958, Godfrey says. He says any farmer or landowner who has acreage that could be planted to shrubs or trees would be wise to check with his local ASC committee to find how these changes might affect him.

One change of interest to many landowners is more flexibility in the length of the contracts. Previously all tree and shrub plantings were under 10-year contracts only. Now, at the option of the

for those who use the facilities to help pay the freight, so to speak.

But the Park Service is being very unfair. In fact, there's nothing that makes sense about the proposal.

If they are looking for funds to help pay for operating the Park Service, then they ought to go where they can get them.

Not a whisper has been heard to collect tolls on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, which carries as much daily traffic as any highway on the East Coast and is operated by the Park Service. It was built to connect Washington and Baltimore and to provide a more scenic route than the unsightly U. S. 1 Route between these two cities.

If the Park Service wants to raise money, it could get more revenue from charging a nickel a car on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway than \$5 a year on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

There is another shining example of inconsistency in the argument that the Park Service is proposing tolls to help pay the cost of operation.

Millions of Americans have traveled over the beautiful highway from Washington to Mount Vernon. That highway is a national parkway. But there is no toll on it.

The main purpose of the road is to furnish a nice access to the home of George Washington. I think this is a good thing. I think it is proper.

But there is one thing we ought to remember:

Mount Vernon is not operated by a Federal agency. Why should the Park Service not collect a toll for the use of this road?

None of the toll business makes sense. It has been botched and muddled to the place where Congress will have to step in.

producer, five-year, and 10-year contracts are available for shelterbelt and wildlife habitat plantings. The 10-year requirement still applies to forest trees. Contracts provide for initial payments to help meet the expense of planting and additional yearly payments for keeping the land out of crop production.

The 1958 program also authorizes county ASC committees to grant higher non-diversion rates of payment when all the eligible land on a farm is planted to shrubs and trees, or when any of the land is planted to forest trees.

"With conservation as badly needed as it is in this state, farmers just can't afford to miss the opportunity to protect our farmland for the future and to receive payments while performing this service," Godfrey said.

**Almost Forgotten Man**  
Julius Roar is sorry because he has not made the Who's Who book of notable people.

"I've been busy all of my life trying to keep my name in the telephone directory," he said.

### Plymouth Speaker



DR. JUNICHI NAKAMURA

The annual Youth Rally of the Elizabeth City District of the Methodist Church will be held at the Plymouth Methodist Church on Saturday, March 29, at 10:00 A. M., with Dr. Junichi Nakamura of Japan as the featured speaker. The program will consist of an original skit by the MYF of Manteo, fellowship singing, MYF in action, election of district officers and message by Dr. Nakamura. All young people ages 12-23 are urged to attend. Younger boys and girls from the Children's Division are not eligible to attend. Each MYF'er is requested to bring a lunch, an offering and a smile. The meeting will close with 12:00 o'clock lunch.

Dr. Junichi Nakamura, Japanese student at Duke University, is registrar and professor of English at Kobe Jogakuin College, a well-known school for women in Japan. He lived in Hiroshima and graduated from Hiroshima University of Arts and Sciences. He has made an important contribution to Christian education and is one of the few members in Japan of the Layman's Movement for a Christian World. He served as interpreter for J. C. Penney, vice president of the movement, and for American novelist, William Faulkner, when they visited Japan. This is Mr. Nakamura's third visit to the United States for graduate work at Duke University.

### Reduced Tobacco Acreage In Prospect

As of March 1, North Carolina farmers indicated their intentions to plant 435,000 acres of flue-cured tobacco during 1958, a reduction of about two per cent from the 443,000 acres harvested in 1957, the N. C. Crop Reporting Service has announced.

Although State allotments remained practically the same as for last year, a smaller planted acreage is in prospect because of greater participation in the Soil Bank. If the pending bill appropriating more money for the Soil Bank is passed and approved, the acreage planted may be even less than indicated by March 1 intentions.

A 435,000 acreage would be the smallest since 1921 when 415,000 acres were harvested, and it would fall below the 1947-56 ten-year average acreage of 670,000 by 35 per cent. The reduction from the 1956 acreage of 579,000 would be about one-fourth.

### Early Spring Pruning Can Improve Quality

Early spring—just before the growing season—is the best time to prune young pines, says John Gray, head of extension forestry at N. C. State College.

Don't go on a wholesale pruning, however. Gray reminds that whether or not to prune depends upon the general condition of the forest and its trees.

And although pruning every pine in a young stand can result in a clean, park-like appearance, Gray says that from a dollar and cents standpoint, this doesn't pay. He advises concentrating on trees which will be left to grow to large size. This usually means selecting 100 to 125 straight, thrifty trees spaced about 15 to 20 feet apart each way for pruning. Favor these trees in thinning operations as time goes on.

If conditions warrant pruning, prune trees when they are fairly young—four to six inches in diameter—so that branches to be taken off will be no more than two inches thick. At this age cuts heal quickly and leave only small knots. Pruning cuts should be made close to the trunk because stubs take too long to heal and may let in rot or insects. All dead limbs can be pruned but not more than the lower third of the live crown should be pruned at one time. A second pruning a few years later may be necessary to get a clear, 16-foot log.

In forestry as in other businesses, high-quality products sell easiest and bring the highest prices. As Gray points out, "Pruning is a slow and tedious job, but in an otherwise well-managed forest, it helps produce the large, straight, clear logs that command top prices in timber sales."

County farm agents and local foresters are ready to advise small forest owners on forestry management practices.

### ESPECIALLY FOR PET OWNERS

Thorns, bits of metal, chicken scratches and miscellaneous abrasions account for a significant number of "Cat Scratch Disease" cases in man, medical authorities say. A fairly large percentage of cases had no known inoculations of infectious agents with or without cat contact.

Hair shedding and flakiness or extensive peeling of a dog's skin are good evidence of dietary deficiencies of fatty acids, veterinary authorities say.



**BUYS FARM BY THE GALLON**—Dodgeville, Wis., farmer Merle Drager, 41, left, signs a contract to buy a 310-acre farm from Prof. Henry Bakken, right, University of Wisconsin economist. Terms: 70,000 pounds of milk annually for 30 years, to pay for the farm. In center is Drager's wife, Gale. The Dragers have 10 children.

### KNOW YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY

P. E. Bettendorf, representative of the Social Security Administration, is in Edenton every Thursday at the North Carolina Employment Security Commission in Citizens Bank Building.

When disaster strikes, we like to think that society is ready to help. When a man is crippled by disease, we believe that someone will see that his family has food and clothing, and that the rent is paid. But when his immediate day-to-day needs are met, what then? Will there be anyone to advise him how to protect his investment in social security for the sake of future payments? Or will he be like Paul Johnson?

Paul is 32, married, and has three children. Until five years ago, he was strong and healthy, never sick a day in his life. The Johnsons were paying on a new ranch-type house in the suburbs and Paul was earning high wages as a foreman in a factory making airplane parts. During his spare time he made improvements on the house, built a garage, fixed up the lawn, and planted shrubbery and flowers. As soon as they completed one project there always seemed to be something else to start planning on.

Suddenly all this was changed. Paul was brought home from work one day after having collapsed at the factory. He hasn't been able to work since. To meet expenses, the Johnsons had to sell their house and automobile. They moved into a small upstairs apartment in a house owned by Paul's mother, and Paul's

worked 10 years under social security before his disability, he will draw no old-age benefits. In case of his death, the payment of his survivors would be either reduced or lost entirely.

What should Paul do? He should telephone or write the social security office near him. That office is listed in the telephone book under U. S. Government, Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare. He can also get the address from his post office.

Protection against disability was written into the social security law as recently as 1954. The deadline of June 30, 1958 is important to those who have been disabled more than one year. Filing application by that date will mean the worker's account may be frozen as of the time he became disabled, even if that was as much as 16 years ago. If a disabled person believes he can meet the earnings requirement—five years' work under social security in the ten year period before he became disabled, and a year and a half in the last three years of that time—he should file his application without further delay.

Because disabled persons have often lost ability to protect their own interests, it is particularly important that relatives and friends help them. Full informa-

tion as well as free booklets are available for the asking at any social security office.

### JOINS HONOR SOCIETY

In a most impressive chapel service recently held at Chowan College, 14 new members were officially inducted into the Iota Delta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

Among the candidates was the Rev. Frank Fortesque of Tyner, Methodist pastor of the Chowan Charge.

Membership in Phi Theta Kappa, the junior college equivalent of Phi Beta Kappa in the senior college, is the highest honor a junior college student can win. It is awarded for high academic achievement, outstanding citizenship on the campus, and moral excellence.

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