Recommended Peak In Smokies Be Named In Honor Of Weaver

LOCATION OF PROPOSED MOUNT WEAVER IN GREAT SMOKIES PARK



The proposed Mount Weaver, in the Great Smoky Mountains National park, is shown in this infra-red photograph made from Frye mountain near Bryson City by Cline's studio ttanooga, Tenn. The peak is about 5,300 feet high and is about one mile southwest of Newfound gap on the North Carolina-Tennessee state line. "Mount Weaver" is entirely within the Carolina. The photo also shows a number of the outstanding peaks in the Great Smokies, including Clingmy-. Dome, 6,642 feet above sea level, loftiest summit in the park.

PETITIONS BEING SIGNED BY MANY W. N. C. CITIZENS

Seeking Recognition Of Congressman's Work For Park

BRYSON CITY, May 28.—The North Carolina place-came com-mittee for the Great Smoky Mounttains National park has recommended that a peak in the national park be named in bonor of Zebulon Weaver, of Asheville, member of congress from the 11th district and long active in behalf of the park movement,

Following approval of the proposal by the place-name committee, petitions were prepared and addressed to the executive secretary. U. S. Mississippi river to preserve for com-lington, D. C. These petitions are now grandeur of the primeval forests. A being signed by many supporters of the movement to honor the Tar Heel congressman.

Text Of Petition

The petitions set forth:

"We, the undersigned, respectfully petition and request that a mountain be officially designated 'Mt. Weaver'; this mountain being a hitherto unnamed peak, approximately 5,300 feet elevation, shown on east half of top ographic map of Great Smoky Mountains National park about 1-4 mile S. E. of Luftee gap, about I mile W. of Newfound gap on main top of Thomas ridge, approximate long. 83 deg., 26 min., 15 sec., lat., 35 deg., 36 min., 20 sec., lying entirely within North Carolina.

This action is requested to honor the long, persistent and successful efforts of Hon. Zebulon Weaver, M. C. forts of Hon. zemuon in aiding the establishment of the maiding the establishment National National park, beginning with his introduction in congress of the enabling act approved February 21, 1925, and continning to the present time.

"Realizing that it is not the policy of your board to name geographical features for living persons, unless adopted by local usage' we aver that the above described mountain is now and will always hereafter be-known to us as 'Mt. Weaver'."

peak selected, while not outstanding as to actual height in the park, is easy of access to hikers on the Thomas Ridge trail and is visible from the Newfound gap lookout as well as the Skyline drive to Clingman's dome.

In launching the movement to honor Congressman Weaver, his friends pointed out that, because of his unassuming disposition and modesty, few people are aware of his long list of major accomplishments in two decades of service in the national congress. They pointed out that Mr. Weaver generously gives all credit for securing the national park to the many other friends of and workers for the movement.

During the latter part of 1923 Congressman Weaver was invited to dinner by then Secretary of the Interior Work, who told him it was highly de-



Congressman Zebulon Weaver

similar movement, years before, had been undertaken by Charles A. Webb, of Asheville, the late Dr. Chase P. Ambler, of Asheville, and others. That earlier movement, although not successful in obtaining a national park, did yeoman service toward the establishment of national forests. aiding in the campaign that led to the passage of the Weeks law in 1911.

Worked For Park

Mr. Weaver, at his luncheon engagement with Secretary Work, told gagement with Secretary Work and Secretary Work Carolina, and about \$3, Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee. He went to work in a quiet, but effective manner, As soon as the movement was made public, it aroused a storm of protest from lumbermen, and the congressman's political life was threatened.

However Mr. Weaver, armed with a mass of geographical, a mass of geographical, geological, and botanical data and persuasive argument prepared by his friend, the late Horace Kephart, of Bryson City, author of "Our Southern Highlanders", "stormed" committee meetings area of equal size in the United States Level 1988 and 1988 area of equal size in the United geological, in the capital. As one friend of the States. Local people were given prefcongressman expressed it: "He ate, slept, and dreamed 'National Park' in the mountains of North Carolina camped here, returning to their farand Tennessee until the committees off homes to spread the word of the had gone over all the proposed sites, natural beauties of this section. enabling act was approved February 21, 1925."

The enabling act authorized the federal government to accept donations of land within the prescribed area and the department of the interior to administer the national park when 427,000 acres should have been deeded to the government.

Then followed years of intensive effort by the many friends of the park to raise funds, the largest single donation being \$5,000,000 from the Laura Spelman Rockefeller founda-

Mr. Weaver continued his efforts, securing passage of further necessary bills in congress and an appropriation of \$1,550,000 when private funds became exhausted. He enlisted the interest of President Roosevelt, that resulted in a personal inspection tour by the president and his official sirable that one or more national party, and changed casual interest to parks should be located east of the enthusiastic support by the president.

Most recently, Mr. Weaver secured authorization for a final appropriation of more than \$740,000 that will be used to complete the purchase of all necessary land and make possible the formal opening of the park in legislative measures that come to this June, 1939, as recently announced by committee. Arno B. Cammerer, of Washington. director of the National Park ser-

Secured Appropriations

In urging the naming of a peak in the Smokies for Mr. Weaver, his friends said his initiative and vigorour efforts have secured continuous extensions of appropriations for for-est areas in Western North Carolina and establishment of the Appalachian Forest Experient station, Asheville, that serves the southeastern

Mr. Weaver advocated and helped to establish the now permanent Veteran's Administration bospital at Oteen that, with additions and improvements from time to time, is now regarded as one of the finest and most extensive institutions of this kind in the United States.

He helped pass legis ation providing for the policy of construction of federal buildings from year to year. under which every eligible town in Western North Carolina will soon have a building.

His efforts helped secure sums of money for building of federal roads such as the Nefound Gap

to Clingman's Dome,. Skyline drive. He worked vigorously to secure the ern North Carolina, and about \$3,-500,000 for further actual construction work. Further he has secured approval from Secretary Ickes for alothent from present funds to construct a portion of this highway west of Asheville and along Pisgah ledge. Through his efforts there was es-

tablished on Kephart Prong of Oconaluftee river a trout hatchery

area of equal size in the United erence, but thousands of boys from all over the nation were also en-

\$5,000,000 Appropriated

He worked to bring to North Carolina one of the great dams of the Tennessee Valley authority. This dam is being built on Hiwassee river in Cherokee county. At the present session of congress he helped secure an additional appropriation of more than \$5,000,000 without which work on the dam would have been stopped indefinitely. Because of his influence, more local people are employed than is customary on Federal flood control dams, only necessary skilled construction workers having been imported from other states.

He has interested himself many times in securing useful and adequate projects such as municipal improve ments; construction of schools and longer school terms; hundreds of miles of farm-to-market roads and such other projects as have met the requirements of the federal govern-

Mr. Weaver, through service and ong experience, has risen to second ranking member of the important the deep affection in which he is judiciary committee of the house. He held. His quiet, even-tempered dishas helped to handle the complicated

Mr. Weaver's friends further said that his work in congress has not been limited purely to material gressman Weaver that his name and things. "He has been a representate works be forever perpetuated in the tive of all the people. Veterans of naming of Mount Weaver in the al wars and their families have long felt the results of his continued assistance. Western North Carolinians, down to the very poorest, are his friends and he considers each of them a member of his large and growing family. No plea is unheard -no request left ungranted if within the power of a congressman to secure. While a strong and loyal party man, he realizes members of other political parties are human beings and is ever ready to assist anyone from his district.

"Politics being the strange game that it is-and human nature being the queer thing that it is-the people are sometimes prone to forget the great good he has accomplished and to blame him for things far beyond his jurisdiction of control. One constitutent remarked heatedly, 'My hogs wouldn't have died from cholera if Zeb Weaver had passed a law agin it!" One anxious mother who hadn't heard for 17 years from her son wrote her story to 'Uncle Zeb'. Within a very few months he was traced to the U. S. army in the Philippine Islands. He hadn't written because it made him so home-

he just couldn't stand it! Hurdreds of similar instances pay tribute to position and love for his family endear him further to all who know

"For these and many other reasons his friends everywhere wish for Connaming of Mount Weaver in the Great Smoky Mountains National

(Paid advertisement)

Tennessee Valley Is Described In Book

The Tennessee Valley region is profusely described through pictures text and maps in a book entitled "The Scenic Resources of the Tennessee Valley" which has recently been pub-lished by the TVA. It was prepared by the department of Regional Plan-ning Studies.

A description of the planned Hisee lake to be formed around Murphy by the construction of the TVA's \$22,000,000 Hiwassee dam and adjoining scenic resources are describ-ed in detal in the book.

The "descriptive and pictorial inventory" contains six chapters, each describing a different section of the Tennessee Valley.

Railroad thieves did a comparative-ly poor business last year, their loot amounting to only about \$532,000. This averaged only 1.3 cents for each ten because it made him so home-sick to get a letter from home that smallest robbery loss on record.



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