President's Approval Given, but Arkansas Lacks Enabling Act.

Crowley’s Ridge State Park Development Reaching Stage When Addition of Land Appears Imperative

The artificial lake created by the CCC in Crowley’s Ridge State Park under supervision of the National Park Service is shown here. In the background is the CCC camp.

By M. C. BLACKMAN, Chief Correspondent of the Gazette.

A new state park is opening for business in Arkansas, with the completion of the project by the Civilian Conservation Corps. This park, named Crowley’s Ridge State Park, has been under the supervision of the Civilian Conservation Corps and is part of a larger project aimed at the development of recreational areas in the state.

The park consists of 138 acres of land on the historic ridge, which is the birthplace of the Arkansas River. The land is rich in natural beauty and provides a perfect location for outdoor activities.

Much Accomplished in Providing Playground.

Under the direction of Supt. W. W. Huger, head of the Park Service personnel, the park has been developed with a focus on providing a recreational playground. The park has been designed to accommodate a variety of activities, including picnicking, hiking, and fishing.

The park is open to the public, and visitors can enjoy the natural beauty of the area. The park also offers a variety of amenities, including restrooms, picnic areas, and parking facilities.

Bathhouse of Stone From Old Futrell Home Place.

Bathhouses are an essential part of any park, and Crowley’s Ridge State Park is no exception. The bathhouse at the park is made of stone and is reminiscent of the old Futrell Home Place, which was a prominent landmark in the area.

The bathhouse is designed to provide a comfortable and relaxing environment for visitors, with hot springs flowing through it. The water is treated to ensure that it is safe for use, and visitors can enjoy a soak in the hot springs.

The park is open year-round, and visitors can enjoy the natural beauty of the area throughout the seasons. In the fall, the leaves change colors, and in the winter, the landscape is covered in snow. The park is a great destination for outdoor enthusiasts, and visitors can enjoy a variety of activities, including hiking, picnicking, and fishing.

The park is located in the heart of the Ozarks, and visitors can enjoy the natural beauty of the area. The park is a great place to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life and reconnect with nature.

Memorial to Memory Of Benjamin H. Crowley.

Benjamin H. Crowley was a prominent figure in the early history of the park, and a memorial to his memory is located within the park. The memorial is a great place to pay tribute to his contributions to the park and the community.

Crowley’s Ridge State Park is a great destination for outdoor enthusiasts, and visitors can enjoy a variety of activities, including hiking, picnicking, and fishing. The park is open year-round, and visitors can enjoy the natural beauty of the area throughout the seasons.

To learn more about the park and its history, visitors can visit the park’s website or contact the park’s staff. The park is open daily, and admission is charged.

NO NEW NATIONAL PARKS FOR STATE

The submarginal land areas in Arkansas have long been considered suitable for recreational purposes, but the park has never been established due to a lack of support.

Washington, Jan. 5 (AP) - The National Park Service and the submarginal land owners of the Relief Administration both denied today reports that the national parks were to be established in Arkansas, one in the north and the other in the northeast.

The Park Service said that submarginal land areas located south of the ridge were unsuitable for recreational purposes, but the owners of the land were not convinced.

Several submarginal land areas have been acquired by the state, and several areas are under consideration by the state for the establishment of state parks.

The submarginal land areas are located in the northeastern part of the state, and the state is considering the establishment of state parks in these areas.
PARKS AS SITES OF BUILDINGS OPPOSED

Civic Association Secretary, Here to Form Chapter, Explains Objectives.

The American Civic Association is opposed to use of public parks for building sites, Miss Harlean James of Washington, national executive secretary, said here yesterday.

Miss James met at the Woman's City Club with a group interested in city and state planning, and it was announced that an Arkansas chapter of the association will be formed under chairmanship of Dr. George C. Brinker, state geologist.

"The organization has always had as its main purpose the preservation of native beauty and the conservation of nature, and aesthetic resources," Miss James said.

"Ever since its organization the association has advocated that sites more dedicated to park use should not be used as sites for public buildings, except when these are directly connected with such use. Our idea has been a constant time and again to prevent the creation of buildings around Central park, New York City. It has been said that all the projects for buildings in this area have been accepted, the park would be covered with two layers of buildings.

"The only safe policy is to preserve that park in such open spaces dedicated to outdoor recreation.

"The American Civic Association has interested itself particularly in the planning of state capital sites. When the people of a state spend a large amount of money to construct a beautiful and worthy capital, this building deserves the protection of ample grounds under state ownership and definite control of heights of buildings on adjoining property."

FORMED 50 YEARS AGO

Miss James discussed the organization, formed 50 years ago at St. Louis by merger of the American Park and Outdoor Arts Association, and the American League for Civic Improvement.

George B. Rose and Mrs. John P. Weidmann of Little Rock, Miss W. G. Lake of Hot Springs and Mrs. W. E. Foss of Texarkana are the only Arkansas members, Mr. Rose, a member of the national board, has been a member of the association since 1914.

Miss James came to Little Rock yesterday evening after having spoken to the Fayetteville branch of the American Association of University Women in Fayetteville Monday night.

To attend a conference on planning at the University of Illinois.

PETIT JEAN AND MT. NEBO EXAMPLES OF WHAT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DESIRES TO DO FOR ARKANSAS, PROVIDED STATE GIVES CO-OPERATION

By M. C. BLACKMAN

March 16, 1935. The United States government is practically buying Arkansas for the recreation and conservation of the state park commission and it is not unreasonable to predict that, once its beauty and recreational advantages are known in the public, it will attract hundreds of thousands of vacationers annually.

If the CCC fifth period is authorized, Mr. McColm has no doubt that a second camp would be established on Petit Jean to carry on the work started under the government's sub-marginal land program.

"There are about 17,000 acres on the mountain where the government has a right to work on the mountain," he said.

Lt. Col. James Pogue, officer in charge of the survey party, who accompanied the survey party, said the mountain has an area of about 6 miles by 4 miles.

"It is a mountain of rocky peaks, with a few trees here and there," he said.

The survey party also visited the Sipsey Mountains in Alabama.

"The Sipsey Mountains," he said, "are a part of the Appalachian range, and are covered with a forest of hard pines and hardwoods."
Mt. Nebo Higher
Than Petit Jean.

Petit Jean. Mt. Nebo, the highest elevation, has a peak that is 500 feet higher than the southernmost peak of the river valley and surrounding mountains. (Weather permitting.)

The highest mountain in this area has had its peak lowered by daily erosion, and the surrounding mountains have been modified by the weather over a long period of time. The mountain's peak is marked by a cairn built by a group of tourists, indicating the summit.

Many other improvements have been made to Petit Jean under the supervision of the National Park Service. These improvements include a trail network, a series of waterfalls, and a visitor center.

The development of Nebo is seriously hindered by the fact that the area is not accessible to the public, which has led to a lack of tourism and economic growth.

The community is working with the National Park Service to improve access to the area, which is expected to lead to an increase in tourism and economic development.

Two Parks Added to State System

CCC Work Probably at Arkansas Post and Lawrence County Area.

The state Park Commission is considering adding two parks to the state system, both of which will likely be developed with CCC labor under the direction of the director of the department of public works.

For future development, the commission appointed a committee to consider additional proposed areas and select the most promising ones for future development.

The chairman of the commission and the secretary were authorized to enter into negotiations with the commissioner of the department of public works and the director of the state Planning Board in drafting legislation to enable the public to participate in the development of the parks.

The commission accepted an offer of 60 acres of land from the National Park Service for the development of two parks.

Areas Recommended For Acquisition.

For permanent development as a part of the Park Commission's long-range park program, the state Planning Board has recommended the acquisition of the following areas:


2. Clear Creek, on Highway 71, near Hot Springs, in Franklin county, on the summit of Queroy mountain.

3. Mount Magazine, the highest mountain in Arkansas, and the second highest between the Alleghenies and the Rockies, five miles north of Hot Springs on Highway 16.

4. Pine Springs, on Highway 7 in the Ozark National Forest, Pope county, comprising 12,950 acres.

5. Long Creek, eight miles east of Pine Ridge, on Highway 10 in the Maury county.


7. Ozone Creek, on the St. Francis River, between Year and Putnam, in Cross county.

8. Lake Chisholm, near Lake Village.

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In be consideration of these proposed sites, the Park Commission probably will follow the further suggestions of the Planning Board, that:

"The selection of such sites for future state parks would be greatly facilitated if the Land Use Study and future distribution of population estimates are expanded. Especially in this area, it is to be hoped that certain areas economically favorable for recreational purposes may be identified located to serve centers of population and possess sufficient attractiveness to make them highly desirable for state parks."

The report adds:

"It is suggested that an effort be made to acquire some of all the areas by donation, as is often done in some states in the nation. Such acquisition would be most advantageous, as state funds for park operation are as limited that they should be devoted entirely to development at this time, rather than to the acquisition of property."

Suggestion Which Probably Will Be Followed.

A guide to the acquisition of a well-planned policy for the acquisition and development of permanent state parks, and a study of the condition of the state park system is suggested, together with a recommendation of the commission has copies of the second planning report submitted to Governor Full for by the state Planning Board. The report adds:

"The commission recommends that the state Planning Board study the condition of the state park system and submit a report to the General Assembly on the future development of the state park system."

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The state Planning Board, at a meeting at the governor's reception room yesterday, approved a report of a committee named several weeks ago to visit proposed state park areas. The board recommended sites suitable for parks and recreational centers of the type proposed by the state Centennial Commission.

The Centennial Commission had in previous years and sites and all approved by the Planning Board committee the commission’s list of suitable sites.

The Citizens Committee of the Centennial Commission, headed by County Judge James J. M. Smith, will be in charge of making applications for land from the federal government for the development of the proposed recreational centers and for the removal of obstructions to the plans.

The sites approved are:

- Mount Magazine, Logan county, approved on condition that the federal government purchase land on the banks of the river for flood purposes.
- Conowingo Dam, Howesville, Washington county, approved on condition that the state provide the necessary utilities and improve the property.
- Beaver River, Carroll county, approved on condition that the state provide the necessary utilities and improve the property.
- Queen Mountain, Newton county, approved on condition that the state provide the necessary utilities and improve the property.
- Ford’s Bridge, Mississippi county, approved on condition that the state provide the necessary utilities and improve the property.
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Recognizing the value to be derived from hard surface roads through increased tourist travel, Arkansas is engaged in a series of roadside improvement projects that are expected to net big returns.

Following the trend in several sections a few years ago to highway beautification, the United States Bureau of Public Roads in 1934 set aside a minimum of one per cent of the funds allotted for use along these lines.

Arkansas is one of the 13 states that have been authorized by the Federal bureau and with the assistance of various women’s clubs and civic clubs, much progress has been made in the state toward improving highway beauty.

Last year Arkansas was allotted $40,000 for roadside improvement and this year $35,000 was set aside. These funds were placed at the disposal of L. A. Henry, landscape engineer of the state highway department.

More than 275 miles of roadside in the state already have been improved and numerous other projects are either under consideration or ready to be launched.

While most of the projects emphasize stretches of highways that extend entirely across the state and are used by many through travelers there has been no neglect of purely local projects.

Much of the improving has been done along the highways of Arkansas, which stretch from New York to San Diego, Calif. This route enters Arkansas on the east at West Memphis, crosses that city and Little Rock, then on to Hot Springs and Arkansas and leaves the state at Texarkana. The highway measures 10 miles and it is estimated that 2,000 persons use the road through Arkansas daily.

On this highway the work of roadside beautification, estimating a total of 25 miles have been completed. Four of these, east of Pocahontas, between Hot Springs, north of Texarkana, and north of Arkadelphia, were completed with FHA funds. The other five, east of Little Rock, west of Little Rock, east of Benton, east of Hot Springs, and south of Hope, have been completed at the expense of Christian and FHA labor.

The project west of Little Rock on United States Highway 9, the Missouri-St. Louis pike, has been designated as the Arkansas Memorial Highway. The Little Rock Section of the Highway Club and the Benton Federation and Hot Springs club women have worked with Mr. Henry on it. In the past two years, with the assistance of FHA labor, Mr. Henry has supervised the foundation work for the beautification projects by cutting the shoulders to grade, setting and sodding the back slopes to prevent erosion and shaping the landscape.

With the assistance of the club women in having old signs removed, old junk yards and other unsightly areas cleaned up and in encouraging home owners to improve their grounds, this stretch of road is becoming one of the most beautiful in the state.

Work is now underway east of Little Rock on United States Highway 9, which lies between the picturesque Alexander plantations. Parchman pecan tree plantations, black mulberry and cotton plantations border the highway. Mr. C. N. Alexander formed one of the prettiest avenues in the state. The sloping grades of this stretch have been sodded with broad shoulders, and the rock walls which hold turn-out roads to the fields have been terraced to the attractiveness of the project.

Another splendid bit of development was done south of Little Rock on United States Highway 9 on the approach to Lake Hamilton. Mr. Henry supervised the construction of projecting cutes at the end of the road and created stone benches for the convenience of tourists who wish to stop and rest a few minutes and enjoy the view and the breezes that continually blow off the lake.

Nine miles of United States Highway 71 north of Lake Hamilton are one of the finest roads in the state.

One of the most striking contrasts in the state’s roadside beautification program was finished, making a

A beautiful stretch of road two miles east of Forrest City. Below is a small pretty parkette.

Arkansas might profit by obtaining some of this travel. A recent survey, Mr. Henry says, revealed that 96 per cent of the recreational activities of American people consists of travel on our highways.

Turning to a discussion of the future of the roadside development program, Mr. Henry says that when the possibilities for economic advantage which lie in the roadside development program are more widely known, it is likely that Arkansas will be one of the first states to undertake and complete a far-reaching plan.

"Much more can be done toward beautifying Arkansas roads through intelligently applying the principles of conservation and natural beauty than through planting," he says.

"And one of the best features about roadside development is that it not only pays dividends now, but will continue to pay them, and as the years roll on, each dividend will be a little bit bigger than the previous one."

PORTABLE MEDICINE CHEST

A traveling "community chest," which can move right in and take charge of the situation in any sick room in the community, is the latest project of the Union Home Demonstration Club, Beaver county. The chest is supplied with equipment necessary for the sick room, and is to be loaned to any family in the community who needs it. Mrs. I. P. Rogers is chairman of this community project, and has charge of the chest, taking inventory each time the chest is loaned out so that no article will be lost. The club financed the project by selling chances on a quilt, pieced and quilted by the club members, realizing $180 from the venture, according to Miss Madge Pulk, home demonstration agent of Beaver county.

One of the projects to be undertaken in the state under the original federal allotment was on United States Highway No. 67, between McAlmont and Jacksonville. Here, too, women’s clubs cooperate in improving the beauty of the drive. A row of elms a mile long was planted on the west side of the road and on the east side a row of magnolias. Although these trees are small now, and not so noticeable, in a few years they will develop to the stage that they will form one of the prettiest highway avenues in the state.

Unlike the Arkansas Memorial highway west of Little Rock, the McAlmont road was a raw piece of road from a planning viewpoint. Using FHA labor, Mr. Henry began by having the shoulders shaped, and extending the shaping to include the side ditches and back slopes. Since the drainage is heavy, rock walls were constructed at various levels across the ditches to check the water and control erosion.

"Preventing erosion is an important part of roadside development, Mr. Henry points out. "In rock cuts some "suites" is obtained by planting Virginia creeper and English ivy, which form a pretty mass of green. On dirt slopes, the native holly, box and the kudzu vine, one of the rankest growing vines in the state, are used."

Formerly engineers cleared everything from the highway in construction, sacrificing majestic trees if their main roots were cut while shaping drainage ditches. On the McAlmont road several beautiful old trees were preserved by building rock walls around their roots to hold enough soil to enable them to grow.

The Bayou Meto church cemetery is a splendid example of the roadside beautification that is possible. The roadside had become covered with weeds and the old retaining wall had crumbled. Under the supervision of Mr. Henry the roadside was reshaped, a new wall of native rock constructed. Members of the church cleared out the entire cemetery of weeds and improved the lots, making the drive by this cemetery picturesque.

One of the greatest handicaps in the development program, Mr. Henry says, is the large number of huge signboards along the road. Many of them, he says, are on private property leased by the billboard owners and can not be disturbed, but he pointed out that the Highway Department recently issued an order banning the placing of signs along the right-of-way.

"Roadside development, when planned and executed by men trained in highway and landscape engineering, results in traffic safety, enhancement of property values, the advertisement of the state to the touring public and a saving to the taxpayers in reduced roadway maintenance costs," Mr. Henry says. "And there is no doubt about it conserving private property and natural beauty."

When one considers, he says, that over $4,000,000,000 is spent every year on recreational travel in America, it is not difficult to understand just how much beautification, in the form of city beautification, can be had in the countryside.
SAYS STATE PARKS COULD BE BIG ASSET DURING CRISIS

By C. B. BLACKMAN,
(Member of the State Park Commission)

The state of Arkansas is about 100 years old and, of its 38 counties, it is the only state that doesn’t have a park system. The state, however, has numerous state parks, most of which are located in the natural beauty of the Ozarks.

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Says State Parks Could Be Big Asset During Crisis

By C. B. BLACKMAN

(C STATE PARK COMMISSION)

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Planning Board Favors Development of Seven New State Parks

Present, Proposed State Park Areas

17,700-Acre Project Near City Favored

Proposed Applegate Area Would Be Located Near Highway No. 10.

Work Is Reviewed

Development of Other Areas in Recent Years

Cited in Report.

Arkansas’ park development program should include sites for several new parks which would increase the present park area of less than 10,000 acres to more than 30,000 acres, it is announced in the annual report being prepared by the State Planning Board.

The largest of the proposed parks is one of 11,000 acres. The site is designated as an applegate project. It is estimated the land could be purchased for about $33,000, and should the site be acquired for park purposes, it is proposed that 276 acres be set aside for recreational buildings, cabins and other park facilities in provided, and dams constructed to create several lakes within the area. This site was selected because of its scenic and geographic value.

Arkansas now has seven parks covering 8,176 acres and with improvements, which have been made since 1932 at $613,610, the planning board report shows.

Mount Nebo, with 1,374 acres is the largest of the existing parks; the property is valued at $121,000. Petit Jean, with 1,035 acres is valued at $58,900; Devil’s Den, 2,170 acres, is worth $104,000; Arkanstar, 2,500 acres, is valued at $158,000; Lake Catherine, 2,800 acres, sold for $25,000; Lake Ouachita, 51,332 acres, $24,000, and Poverty Point, 13,500 acres, $30,000.

The Lake Catherine park is recommended as the next of the park areas to be developed and it was disclosed that efforts are being made to have a CCC unit assigned to develop this area which has five miles of shore line on Lake Catherine.

The park site is located in Garland county.

Proposes Other Parks.

In addition to the proposed Applegate game area, the planning board advocates establishment of a park area of not less than 3,000 acres on Mount Magazine, 400 acres on Lake Maurepas, 1,000 acres to be known as Inwood in Lawrence county; Ouachita river near Camden; and Pea Ridge to include 400 acres in Benton county.

This map, prepared by the State Planning Board, shows location of present and proposed state park areas.

In addition to park improvements, the board advocates construction of scenic drives and roads into the parks from the principal highways. The legislative session will give consideration to needed legislation.

The commission is also working to clear the area of many acres of land, which might be developed as a park area.

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WILL BUILD UP OZARKS REGION FOR RECREATION

Washington, April 11 (AP).—The National Resources Board today recommended that recreational development be given first consideration in a long-range program of natural resources development in Missouri and Arkansas.

The board also urged states to study the utilization of power and water resources in the region.

A number of communities in the area are already making use of water and power for recreation purposes.

The water system at Fayetteville,Arkansas, with 1,000,000 population, is said to be one of the most important in the country.

The small financial resources of the rural communities have permitted the development of such projects as the construction of dams and the utilization of the power thus generated for the benefit of the people.

These projects have been made possible by the cooperation of local authorities and the federal government, which has provided grants-in-aid to the states.

The development of these projects is expected to continue, and the benefits derived from them will be of great value to the people of the Ozarks region.
STATE PARKS

Prior to the inauguration of the Emergency Conservation Works program in 1933, there had been no state park development in Arkansas. Small tracts of land, however, had been donated to the State Park Commission on Petit Jean Mountain in 1928, and Mt. Nebo in 1928. These original areas have been augmented from time to time by donations, purchases, and by tax forfeited lands.

In 1933, the State Park Board acquired additional park areas. Devil's Den was in Washington County was established upon tax forfeited lands and Crowley's Ridge in Greene county was purchased by the State Park Commission. Lake Catherine Park area, with its shoreline of approximately five miles, was acquired by the state through private donation. Two small areas, Arkansas Post and Donaghey Park, were acquired through the aforesaid private donations. These areas now comprise a total of 11,040 acres, as may be seen by the following:

**State Parks in Arkansas**

- Devil's Den, acres 2290, established 1935; value $233,064.84.
- Mt. Nebo, acres 3,274; established 1935; value $214,306.64.
- Crowley's Ridge, acres 310; established 1935; value $200,000.
- Lake Catherine, acres 2,500; established 1935; value $15,000.
- Arkansas Post, acres 61.65; established 1935; value $5,000.
- Donaghey Park, acres 29; established 1935; value $400.
- Total acres 11,040; value $806,064.

The Emergency Conservation Works program, carried out by the CCC and instituted in 1935, marked the beginning of state park development in Arkansas. Aside from the parks which are being developed under the direction of the CCC, there are also several proposed state park sites.

**Existing State Parks**

A description of the location, area, facilities, and attractions of each of the seven existing state parks is given, as compiled from information prepared by the Arkansas Park Service in collaboration with the State Park Commission.

**Petit Jean State Park**

Petit Jean Park is located west of Morrilton in Conway county and was established in 1933. It originally embraced an area of 116 acres which was acquired by purchase at a cost of $2,000. Later, another portion of the park has been added to bring the total acreage to 116 acres. The park is located in the scenic Petit Jean Mountains and contains beautiful streams and small lakes. The park includes picnic facilities, a swimming pool, and a nature trail. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission has established a wildlife management area in the park.

**Lake Catherine State Park**

Lake Catherine State Park is located in Hot Spring county and contains 2,500 acres of land. The lake, which is one of the largest natural bodies of water in Arkansas, was created by the construction of a dam across the Catherine River. The park includes picnicking facilities, a swimming beach, and a nature trail. The lake is a popular destination for fishing, boating, and water sports.

**Donaghey State Park**

Donaghey State Park is located in Independence county and contains 29 acres of land. The park is situated on the bluffs overlooking the Donaghey River and offers scenic views of the surrounding countryside. The park includes picnic facilities and a nature trail. The park is a popular destination for hiking and birdwatching.

The State Park Commission is making a determined effort to secure assistance from the Emergency Conservation Works in developing new state parks. Approval from the National Park Service has made probable the location of a CCC camp on this site. The development planned by the National Park Service consists primarily of archaeological research and historical restoration of the Deonte fort.

**Donaghey State Park**

Donaghey State Park is in the extreme southern part of the state, five miles south of Strong in Polk county. This park, which was established through private donations in 1935, contains 2,500 acres of land. The park includes a beautiful view of the Donaghey River and contains picnic facilities.

**Proposed State Parks**

Several new state parks, which have attractive scenic features, significant historical sites, or areas which have served large concentrations of population, are being considered by the State Park Commission for future development. The proposed state park projects include new sites which possess one or all of those requisites selected by the State Park Commission for immediate consideration.

APPLEGATE. The Applegate proposal is based on 22 miles of Little Rock State highway 10. The area consists of 379 acres, with a road width of 60 feet. The road, which is cut-over timber land owned by individuals and lumber companies, has proposed state highway facilities, including the construction of recreational buildings, docks, and other park facilities.

** MT. MAGNAISE. The Mt. Magna proposal is based on 132 acres of land, with a road width of 60 feet. The area consists of 379 acres, with a road width of 60 feet. The road, which is cut-over timber land owned by individuals and lumber companies, has proposed state highway facilities, including the construction of recreational buildings, docks, and other park facilities.**

The Applegate area was selected as a proposed park because of its scenic value, its proximity to Little Rock, and its adaptability to park use. This area probably could be purchased for about $50,000. The Magna proposal is based on 132 acres of land, with a road width of 50 feet. The area consists of 379 acres, with a road width of 50 feet. The road, which is cut-over timber land owned by individuals and lumber companies, has proposed state highway facilities, including the construction of recreational buildings, docks, and other park facilities.
CHICOT. In the proposed Chicot park located in Chicot County near the town of Lake Village, development would chiefly involve lake front improvement. Lake Chicot, in the proposed area, is the largest natural lake in Arkansas. The development would include: the construction of a beach, bath house, cabins, trails, picnic grounds, and other park facilities. A minimum of 400 acres, including the entire shoreline of Lake Chicot, is suggested as the size of the area to be acquired.

IMBODEN. The proposed Imboden park is situated on highway 63, between Imboden and Fuvaitan, in Lawrence County. Proposed development includes the construction of cabins, bath houses, recreational lakes, and other park facilities. The proposed area, which includes between 400 and 1,000 acres, was selected principally for its scenic beauty. The land is mountainous and is watered by a beautiful stream and several springs.

OUACHITA. The proposed site for the Ouachita State Park is on the Ouachita River, near Camden, in Ouachita County. This area was selected for a park because of its scenic and recreational values, especially those of fishing and bathing. Proposed development includes the construction of cabins, bath houses, trails, a beach and other park facilities.

PEA RIDGE. The Pea Ridge park area is situated 10 miles northeast of Bentonville in Benton County. This property is now owned by several individuals, and the area contemplated as a minimum acquisition includes 400 acres. The Pea Ridge area was selected because of its historical interest as it embraces part of the battlefield of Pea Ridge, on which a notable Civil War engagement took place. The terrain is rolling upland, well-timbered, and lends itself admirably to park development. Possibilities for a lake and other recreational facilities are good.

SCENIC DRIVES AND PARK-WAY ROUTES. In the establishment of a state park system, it is important to provide adequate means of access to and from the parks, preferably by a system of landscaped, continuous routes connecting all the state park areas.

Much can be achieved in this respect through proper roadside improvement, particularly in rugged areas of the state. This becomes a matter of preserving the present natural scenic beauty of the highways and preventing their despoliation by the use of billboards and by the erection of hideous structures along the routes.

It is recognized that the present law of the State Park Commission is inadequate in many respects, since the commission is considering new legislation. The Planning Board's legislative committee will study, this legislation as part of its program of works.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Prior to the inauguration of the Emergency Conservation Works program in 1933, neither of the two state parks then existing had been developed. There are now seven state parks aggregating 11,000 acres, five of which have been extensively developed by the CCC. Six additional areas have been proposed for future state parks. Of the undeveloped areas, Lake Catherine Park is the largest and most suitable for immediate development. Recommendations based on the facts are that:

1. Provision be made for proper maintenance and gradual development of existing state parks.

2. The selection of locations for new state parks be related to the land use study, feature distribution of population, and scenic qualities.

3. Proper coordination be effected in the provision of recreational facilities in all parks and forests of the state.
Smoke Pouring From Crevasses Comes From Burning Peat Deposits.

Waves of gray, pungent-colored smoke which have been curling from holes and crevasses in the ground for several days in the Dark Hollow neighborhood about a mile and a half northeast of North Little Rock, near the Thirteenth Street pine, have been caused by fire in what is believed to be an extensive peat bed, officials of the state Geological Department said last night.

Attention to the burning area was brought to the Gazette when a young couple came into the office Wednesday night, carrying a large dinker, hot to the touch, and reported the "earth was on fire in the street. A reporter visited the place and found smoke issuing from several spots over an area of about 50 square feet.

Two men visited the spot yesterday, several pails of water and sticks, with which they had tried to extinguish the fire, being required to complete the mystery. A representative of the Geological Department spent considerable time in the neighborhood and termed this statement, in effect:

Several years ago the land now known as Dark Hollow was an extensive swamp, which has since been drained by large ditches. The burning spot lies near such a ditch. Ordinarily peat, which is the lowest form of coal which will burn readily, will not burn until it has been cored. It is used extensively in Ireland for fuel. Last summer's drought so completely dried the soil that the peat, about ten feet beneath the surface in this case, will burn. About a month ago, hunters set fire to weeds on the island to "burn out" rabbits. This fire evidently caught an overgrowth of peat, and burned its way underground. It will continue to burn until it has reached a point at least three feet below the surface of the land. The "explosion" that it caused was heard for a mile.

Geologists said they believed the peat bed is under an area of the Dark Hollow neighborhood, and that such a find north of the state is unusual. This is one of the first instances, they said, in which a large bed of peat has been found in Arkansas, although probably much of the fuel lies under the lowland swamp in the state.

Peat is a low form of coal, but with proper care and by use of known methods, the geologist said, it can be prepared and used for fuel. However, it is not entirely satisfactory, it was said, and is of little value.

Because peat does not burn ordinarily underground, this deposit is of unusual interest, the geologist said, particularly as the rains last week and failed to extinguish the smoldering fire.