

Former Newspaper Man Named Chief Of State Parks

Montgomery, Ala., July 21 — Conservation Department Director William C. Younger appointed Brig. Gen. Jack Parsons, Alabama's Assistant Adjutant General for two years, as Chief of Alabama's State Parks, effective Aug. 1.

Younger stated that Parsons, a 30-year-old native of Dothan, Ala., was selected for the job from the number one position on the State Personnel Department eligible list established by competitive examination.

The Conservation Department enthusiastically endorsed Parsons for the park's appointment as a man who has displayed the leadership ability and the enthusiasm needed "to lead Alabama's State Parks System into a sound development and management program needed to insure future public outdoor recreation in Alabama."

Parsons accepted the appointment "as a challenge," and stated that he believed that excellent natural attractions in Alabama's parks could be developed to provide needed facilities and stimulate full public utilization.

Gov. John Patterson has stated throughout his administration he will favor development of the parks in recreation areas, especially nature trails and tent camping areas which will increase use of the parks by youth of the state.

He worked with the Dothan Eagle prior to military service as a news reporter from May 1938 to November 1946, then later became the Dothan Eagle news editor from November 1945 to June 1948.

As a civilian employee he worked with the Veterans Administration as a representative from June 1946 to June 1947 and Research Officer from June 1947 to February 1948; and for the U. S. Air Force as Public Information Officer at Maxwell Air Force Base from June 1948 to April 1954 in addition to eight months of public relations work for the ROTC program.

He worked about one year as a criminal investigator for the Alabama Department of Public Safety from February 1948 to June 1949.

Parsons, a veteran newspaperman and public relations council for state and federal government agencies, lives at 14½ Arlington Road, Montgomery. He is married to the former Cumi Kelly of Midland City, Ala. They have one son, Arthur Jack Parsons, who is a student in pre-veterinary medicine at Auburn.

The new Parks Chief is a lay reader in the Episcopal Church of the Ascension; member, American Society for Public Administration, Southeastern Chapter, Montgomery; Air Force Association; President, Montgomery Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, American Legion; Veterans of Foreign Wars, National Graft Association and Sigma Delta Kappa Fraternity.

Gives Report On Life and Questions In Holland

A first persons illustrated report on life and customs in Holland was given Sheffield Rotary Club members last week by Dr. Walter Brown, T.V.A. research chemist.

Dr. Brown's observations ranged from the difficulties of housing as a deterrent to marriage-bound couples to the excellence of the Dutch food.

The little country is so densely populated, he said, that housing is at a premium. Couples sometimes have to wait seven years for a plot in which to set up housekeeping. In the United States was as densely populated as Holland, Dr. Brown said, it would have all the people in the world.

Dutch living conditions, he said, are generally good and the country is distinctive for its almost complete absence of a poor class. And the Dutch, he said, live the longest of anybody in the world.

Eating, he described as a delight and said that the average Fullbright scholar in Holland gained 15 pounds during a nine month stay there.

Dutch banks, he told his Rotary audience, provide a daily statement of their accounts to each depositor.

Placement Officers To Visit Shoals Aug. 6

Placement officers from nine southern universities and colleges will visit TVA facilities in the Chattanooga-Wilson Dam, and Knoxville areas August 5-7. TVA employment officers each year visit campuses to recruit interested seniors. The placement officers assist students in these contacts and serve as liaisons between the students and the visiting employment officers.

The placement officers will spend their first day in Chattanooga, where they will confer with officials in the Office of Power, see the power dispatching board, network analyzer, computing center, and other TVA installations. On the following day they will visit Muscle Shoals, Alabama, for an inspection of the chemical laboratories, the new Wilson Dam lock under construction, and the malaria research laboratories. The final day will be spent in the Knoxville area where they will visit the TVA hydraulic laboratory in Norris, the Norris Dam, and the Kingston Steam Plant.

The group includes: Greg Hughes, Clemson College; Joe Guthridge, Georgia Institute of Technology; Prof. Everett Easley University of Kentucky; Maurice Mayberry, University of Florida; Robert Leshe, Mississippi State University; William Simpson, North Carolina State College; Howard Lumsden, University of Tennessee; Dr. William Cato, Virginia Polytechnic Institute; and Miss Dorothy Winton, Vanderbilt University.

Never Too Young Or Old For Social Security Card

Are you less than a year old or more than the proverbial three score and ten? "If your work is covered by social security, it will make no difference anyway," says Mrs. Mary King Temple, manager of the Sheffield District Office of the Social Security Administration.

Many people believe that workers under age 21 and over 65 are not covered by social security cards. "If your need is covered by the law, your wages or self-employment income must be reported for social security purposes. Your social security number must be shown on this report.

And, regardless of your age, you're never too young or too old to be covered by social security or to have a social security number," Mrs. Temple says.

Farmers Home Administration Report On Loans

Colbert county families borrowed more than \$314,010.00 in loans from the Farmers Home Administration during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1959, according to a report last week by James V. Byram, the agency's county supervisor.

During the year borrowers returned to the U. S. Treasury \$163,913.00 of which \$15,381.09 was interest.

Loans made by the Farmers Home Administration are increasing in size according to Mr. Byram. For example, ten years ago FHA operating loans in Colbert County averaged \$830.00 while this past year the same type of loan averaged \$1905.00 per borrower.

Farmers Home Administration borrowers during the past year used \$150,510.00 in operating loans to pay for feed, seed, tractor fuel and other items needed to carry out their regular farm operations. And to buy live stock and machinery needed to put their farming programs on a sounder basis.

In addition to money borrowed for farm operating expenses, Colbert County Farmers Home Administration families borrowed \$163,500.00 for real estate investments. Some borrowers used real estate loans to improve farms, enlarge farms of inadequate size, or refinance farm debt.

Others built modernized farm houses and essential farm buildings, carried out better soil conservation practices, improved irrigation and developed irrigation and farmstead water supply systems.

Wearing shoes in bad repair, walking in very high heels or in stockinged or lightly-slippered feet on slippery floors can cause a bad fall.

EDITORIAL GRIST

A "LITTLE INFLATION"

As usual, the mid-year economic forecasts have been pouring forth. And most of them have certain things in common. For one thing, the professional seers, with hardly an exception, except booming business in most lines of enterprise — and, with it, higher wages.

They also expect, again with hardly an exception, of "moderate" rise in the general price level — something like two or three per cent over a year's time. This is what is known as "creeping" inflation, as opposed to the "galloping" kind in which the buying power of a currency can be virtually destroyed overnight. And many people seem to think that a "little inflation" isn't really a bad thing, and may even be good. After all, two or three per cent a year doesn't sound like much.

However, over a comparatively short period of time that two or three per cent could cut the dollar's value in half again — precisely as it already has been cut in half in the past 20 years. And, ultimately, we would have a ten cent dollar, or a five cent dollar, or a one cent dollar.

The federal commission headed by Vice President Nixon has pinpointed the danger of inflation, warned us what it could do, and made a strong stand for, among other things, a balanced budget and a gradual reduction in the national debt. Herein lies the only hope for saving what is left of the dollar's worth.

REACHING INTO THE PAST

Life magazine recently ran a lavishly illustrated article on the boom in the antique business. Apparently the dealers have never seen anything like it before. The problem is to find enough supply to meet the surging demand. All manner of old wares are eagerly bought, from knickknacks that go for a few dollars to great rarities valued for into the thousands.

Also in later years, the book publishers have found an extraordinarily large audience for works of history. Books dealing with some historical periods — notably the Civil War — have appeared in torrents and have been enthusiastically received. Many have become runaway best sellers.

It is not hard to understand the reasons for this reaching back into the past. For one thing, we live in a disordered, violent, unpredictable world. The past provides a measure of assurance. And the past does much more than that. It is the source of a nation's strength and principle. In yesterday, we may find the guides to tomorrow. The character of those who live in it large measure molded by those long dead — by their deeds, their thoughts, their arts and crafts, their victories and defeats. The past is pride, and it is hope for the future too.

NO EXCEPTION

The success of powerful labor organizations in tying up basic industries to enforce higher and higher demands, is booming automation. The result is a constant drop in available jobs. Any product or service can price itself out of the market and labor will find it is no exception to the rule as lower cost imports cut deeper and deeper into domestic production. Boycotts and strikes won't build payrolls or force consumers to buy.

A CPA AT YOUR ELBOW

Continuing inflation over a long period of years may bring the day when a dollar bill is worth no more than 2 or 3 cents, says Louis H. Penney of San Francisco, president of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Wage increases soon will push prices beyond the ability of many people to pay, Penney adds, pointing out that "in the past 29 years productivity has risen 100 per cent while wages have gone up 260 per cent." He blames the situation on the monopoly power of labor unions to force wages higher and higher, and continued government deficit spending.

As to the tax laws, he says "Every time they set out to simplify the tax laws they make them more complex. An ordinary businessman can't live without an attorney and a CPA at his elbow."

THE TRUTH WILL OUT

Southerners have been saying for a long time that in the South and within the system of race separation, the Negro race has made greater advances than anywhere else at any time in history. Yet zealots and would-be reformers have been poisoning the mind of the nation with propaganda depicting the South as a land of hate and bigotry.

What of the fact that most of the serious racial tension in this country today is not in the South, but in the non-South? Currently the most serious racial difficulties seem to be arising in New York, from whence flows a veritable flood of anti-South hate propaganda. For a long time they have been saying we are evil and vicious and that our system is wrong.

But Harlem is all New York's. In the capital of the anti-South propagandists stands the arid, hidden ghetto that is Harlem. There is nothing like it in the South. While the NAACP celebrated its 50th anniversary in convention assembled in New York last week, Harlem erupted in riot and disorder. Harriman, Rockefeller, et al. regaled the NAACP with half-baked criticism of the Southern system.

As Editor Hammer Cobbs of The Greensboro Watchman ably observes, someday the North will be sending emissaries down South to see how we have done so well in handling the most serious racial problem with which any people anywhere at any time have had to deal.

WHAT'S THE USE

Sometimes you wonder why the State Legislature bothers to set up special study commissions. More often than not, the lawmakers ignore the work of such groups. The most recent example of this was the tremendous effort of the State Education Study Commission to find an answer to the state's school financing needs.

Members devoted thousands of hours, voluntarily to give the Legislature a thorough-going report. It took them over a year. But the legislature has so far ignored the recommendations, and the House sales tax bill, now before the Senate, bears no relationship to the work of the commission. —Tuscaloosa Graphic.

Two Colbert Teachers Attending Summer Institute

UNIVERSITY, Ala., — Two teachers from Colbert County are among the 57 attending part two of the University of Alabama's Summer Institute for High School Teachers of Science and Mathematics.

This session, which began July 20, is being held primarily for junior high school teachers. The institute closes August 21.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

As Recorded in the Files of The Colbert County Reporter

The cotton textile strike in Florence continues, mills to remain closed indefinitely. Funeral services for Jesse Aycock, injured in an automobile crash, are held from the residence; he was a member of the Colbert Post American Legion 31 and the son of the late Dr. D. F. Aycock. pall bearers being Sam R. Leggett, Harold F. Sargent, John B. Sockwell, Will Webb, John W. Reid, Chas. E. Carmichael, Dr. Chas. Thigpen, County N. P. Tompkins. The two county high schools at Cherokee and Leighton to open for fall term, according to the announcement by Supt. Robert Hudson. A delegation of Colbert County citizens call upon Gov. B. H. Miller asking that last link in Lee Highway be paved, among the delegates were Probate Judge N. P. Tompkins, Raymond Sherrill, Paul Coburn, and Mayor Weaver of Cherokee. Allotments applications now being taken from cotton farmers under the Bankhead act. Preliminary work on Pickwick dam to start immediately. Charges of murder placed against William L. Boyer and residents for the alleged killing of Frank Pickins, 81. Miss Anne Conner, director of emergency relief administration, resigns to accept a position in Nashville. Miss Martha Sue Driver return from a visit to Corinth. Arthur Shaw returns from Huntsville. George Lenhart returns from Montgomery. John M. Owen, of Ensley, named assistant county farm agent. Dr. Chas. Thigpen and C. E. Carmichael attend American Legion convention in Birmingham. Mrs. D. Trotter Jones of Montgomery, guest of her sister, Mrs. Chas. Thigpen. Mrs. Sam Leggett returns from a visit to relatives in Bowling Green, Ky. Mrs. James Christopher of Cleo, Ala., guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Underwood. Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Reed and Miss Carolyn Reed attend Chicago fair. Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Delony, Jr., and family visit relatives in Cornersville, Tenn. Miss Annette Bunn of Lorena, Texas, visiting Mrs. Sam Hall. Mr. and Mrs. Lowrey Hall of Montgomery, recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hall. Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Booth, Mrs. Dent Carr, Sara Frances Cloud and Sara Jane Finley visit in Memphis. Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Williams, Misses Betty and Wesley Williams and Louis Cloud of Ensley, visit the Chicago fair.

Hawk Training Is Doubled At Missile School

HUNTSVILLE, ALA. — The number of students in training on the new Hawk anti-aircraft weapon system at the Army Ordnance Guided Missile School will rise from 400 to about 800 in the near future. Col. Charles W. Effler, commandant, announced.

The sharp rise is due to increased emphasis being placed on the new weapon by the army as the Marine Corps as well as several nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, he said. The Hawk is designed to shoot down low-flying aircraft and is effective at treetop level.

The Missile School started the nation's first classes in the Hawk system last February in a new \$2,100,000 academic building and training shop specially constructed for instruction in the complex missile system. The first class included two Canadian Army Officers and 10 U. S. enlisted specialists. Courses extend from eight to ten months.

Hawk training is now being conducted on the two shifts a day, Col. Effler said, involving more than 104 classroom and laboratory sessions per day. A corps of 83 instructors who had spent more than a year and a half preparing their lectures and programs inaugurated the first classes last week. They are to be joined by two Canadian Air Officers who are members of the first graduating class.

The Hawk gets its name from the "Homing All the Way Killer" mechanism that gives it great kill capability to intercept and destroy supersonic aircraft at low levels. It complements the Army Nike air defense missiles now deployed throughout the world to protect against the highest-flying aircraft.

The Hawk is 17 feet long and 14 inches in diameter and is a thin, graceful weapon designed and developed under the direction of the Army Rocket and Guided Missile Agency. It uses a solid fuel engine developed by the Aerojet General Corporation. The missile is being mass-produced by Raytheon Manufacturing Corporation. Northrop Aircraft Company is a major subcontractor.

The missile is highly mobile and can be transported by truck, tracked vehicles, and aircraft.

The Missile School instructs in six other missiles: Corporal, Redstone, Jupiter, Nike-Ajax, Nike-Hercules and Lacerose.

Trade Paper Praises Lurline Cook

Lurline Cook, city clerk of Tuscumbia, is not only a fine city official but an enthusiastic worker and an avid fan of Miss Helen Keller, the noted blind lady. She is all enthused over a new collection of Helen Keller items presented recently to the Ivy Green Shrine in Tuscumbia. That's the Shrine's birthplace which has been turned into a shrine and opened to the public. The items were presented by Mrs. Doris Sausser, field representative for the American Foundation for the Blind. They include braille writers used to teach Miss Keller. Another includes a new item to teach blind students. Other items include a silver coffee and tea set presented Miss Keller by the Pakistan Deaf and Dumb Society, a statuette of Miss Keller and a braille clock used by her. Mayor E. J. Henninger and Miss Cook worked harder than any two people we've ever known to make the Helen Keller Shrine possible a few years back and they are always proud when the collection of interesting items in it increases. —Alabama Municipal Journal.

More Polio Cases Reported

Montgomery — Seven cases of polio reported during the week ending July 24 brought this year's total to 53. The State Health Department said that seven cases had occurred during the same period last year.

Of the 1959 cases, 51 are paralytic polio and two are non-paralytic polio. Nine victims were Salk vaccine. Eight of these had one injection. The case who had three injections of vaccine has facial paralysis. This condition, however, is clearing rapidly.

Shoals Schools To Share In Tax

The Colbert County Board of Education has agreed to allow Muscle Shoals School District to share in the county's half-cent gross receipts tax revenue.

A figure of 5 per cent was agreed upon by the two boards.

Under the setup the county will continue to get 70 per cent of total county-wide revenue. Sheffield and Tuscumbia 25 per cent and Muscle Shoals City 5 per cent.

Mrs. Gladys Durham, chairman of the Colbert County board, announced the agreement. Gross receipts income has been picking up from year to year due to increased business within the county and the additional income from the tax this year.

Alcohol Commission Publishing Newspaper

The Alabama Commission on Alcoholism has begun publishing a quarterly periodical as a part of its public information effort to inform the public about alcoholism.

The 36-page periodical, called "The Alabama Challenge," is mailed as a public service to professional and lay people. The first issue was published in March and mailed to over 7,000 persons. "Our task of informing the tens of thousands of Alabama about alcoholism is a long one," stated the commission. "We need the need for a publication such as this," stated Nimrod T. Frazer, Administrator of the Commission. He said that public response to the first issue had definitely established this need.

It is mailed, free of charge, to doctors, social workers, public health workers, judicial officials, and other interested professional and lay people.