

the State Board of Conservation and Development recommended a ten-year program to cost about \$7,500,000 for acquisition of a system of state parks and forests. Request was made for an appropriation of \$730,000 for such work in the coming fiscal year.

New Jersey has been backward compared with many other states, in the acquisition of such lands. The board states that "the unrestricted use of even the wilderness areas for outdoor recreation is rapidly passing."

For the money asked, it was estimated that 124,500 acres could be acquired for new state forests and parks, 765 acres for seashore parks and 216,167 acres for additions to existing parks and forests.

Within the area north of Trenton it was recommended that four new state forests and parks be established, one of which would comprise 5,000 acres between Rocky Hill and Monmouth Junction. Two of the others would be in Hunterdon County, where the purchase of a wooded area of 2,500 acres just west of Whitehouse and 10,000 acres between West Portal and the Delaware River was suggested. The fourth would embrace 5,000 acres in Bergen and Passaic Counties.

Existing state parks and forests in the same area would be expanded under the board's plan. Holdings on the Kittatinny Mountains in Sussex and Warren Counties would be increased from 21,000 to 60,000 acres, and the Jeny Jump Mountain Forest, which consists of 323 acres with approximately 1,000 more under contract for purchase, would be extended to a minimum of 8,000 acres. To the 519 acres of the Swartswood State Park 200 would be added and 100 acres acquired to round out the holdings at Lake Hopatcong. The Hacklebarney State Forest in Morris County would be increased from 123 to 1,200 acres.

The Voorhees State Park, near High Bridge, would be expanded under the plan to 750 acres. The Washington Crossing Park would also be extended.

Establishment of five seashore parks was recommended by the board. These would include 30 acres of beach, just north of Seaside Heights, 100 acres south of Seaside Park, 35 acres in the vicinity of Barnegat Inlet, where the state now owns the land on which the historic Barnegat Light is located; 500 acres to be known as Harvey Cedars Park, which would be below Barnegat, and 100 acres extending from the sea to the bay below Beach Haven.

In the area below Trenton and South Amboy three new parks and forests would be developed and the areas of existing reservations would be extended.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

SCIENCE SERVICE reports that authorization for sufficient funds to allow this country to participate in the Second Polar Year in 1932-33 and in the International Geological Congress in 1932, failed to pass

the House in the closing hours of the session because of objections to consideration on the part of certain members.

A program for soil erosion work and technical study of conservation of rainfall for the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering passed the Senate, but failed of passage in the House.

The oleomargarin law was amended so as to put all yellow colored margarins under the ten cent per pound tax previously applied only to those margarins artificially colored. The new regulations are to be applied because of the recent development of natural colored palm oil margarin.

The maternity and infancy aid act passed both Senate and House, but with such differences that the conference report, though accepted by the House, did not come to a vote in the Senate. The House added to the Senate bill's authorization of such work by the U. S. Children's Bureau, an amendment providing for the setting up of county rural health units to be administered by the U. S. Public Health Service.

The Bureau of Plant Industry and the U. S. Forest Service were provided by this congress with a large fund for fighting white pine blister rust in western forests. The total amount in various bills ran well over \$700,000. In the national forests alone there are five billion feet of merchantable white pine timber worth \$25,000,000, in addition to one million acres of young white pine worth about \$180 per acre. On privately owned lands there is also an immense acreage which would be a great loss if infected with the rapidly spreading blister rust. Currant and gooseberry bushes spread the disease. The Bureau of Plant Industry will cooperate with states and individual timber owners in the work of eradication this year.

The Bureau of Mines was authorized to establish a Mining Experiment Station at College Park, Maryland. A bill authorizing the collection of crime statistics passed both houses and was signed by the President.

Isle Royale in Lake Superior was made a national park, but the Everglades National Park bill failed to get through the House, though it passed the Senate.

A memorial in Washington to the late Stephen T. Mather, former head of the U. S. National Park Service, was authorized. The Stephen T. Mather Appreciation Committee has long had in mind several methods of preserving to the nation's memory the work of the father of the national park system. The memorial in Washington is only one of these. Another plan is to erect in each of the 23 national parks and 33 national monuments a bronze plaque decorated with a bas relief bust of Mather, an epitome to his work, and a sentence or two from his writings about national parks.