

YOUR National Parks



"COME OUT TO AMERICA'S PLAYGROUND!"

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

MADE any plans yet for your summer vacation? If you haven't, how about deciding to spend it in one of the public playgrounds, state or national, which are at your service? President Coolidge has set the example for his fellow-Americans by selecting one of them, Custer state park in South Dakota, as the site of his, and the state game lodge, a handsome three-story, 30-room structure of Swiss chalet style, nestled in a beautiful valley, surrounded by mountain crags and with a cheerful little trout stream murmuring along at its foot will be the summer White House.

Of course, not all of us can have the exclusive use of such an attractive place as this. But how about deciding to spend your vacation in some one of the 19 national parks which Uncle Sam maintains for you and to which he has already issued his annual invitation for you to pay a visit? The invitation comes to you over the signature of Stephen P. Mather, director of the National Park service. But they are not Mr. Mather's parks. Nor are they Uncle Sam's parks. They are YOUR national parks. Uncle Sam and Mr. Mather are just the custodians who have charge of them and whose business it is to see to it that your enjoyment of your own property may be had to the fullest extent if you will make the most of the opportunity.

Is it hiking, mountain-climbing or camping that you want? Is it fishing or camera-hunting (hunting with guns, of course, is out of the question, but if your weapon is a camera and your ammunition a roll of film you will hurt neither the animals nor another hunter nor yourself) that you most desire? Or is it scenery, glimpses of magnificent distances, of snow-capped mountain peaks, of volcanoes, of glaciers, of all the other natural wonders and beauties in a virgin wilderness that your heart longs for? If it is any of these you can easily satisfy your desires. Over on the right you will see a page from a national park service pamphlet which will give you "The National Park at a Glance." Look at it and you can see where to go to get those things you wish for.

But you do not have to limit your choice to the attractions of the 19 national parks. In addition to them there are 82 national monuments which offer equally inviting glimpses of natural wonders and natural beauties. They are the following:

Devils Tower, Wyo.; Montezuma Castle, Ariz.; Petrified Forest, Ariz.; El Morro, N. M.; Chaco Canyon, N. M.; Muir Woods, Calif.; Natural Bridge, Utah; Lewis and Clark Cavern, Mont.; Tumacacori, Ariz.; Shoshone Cavern, Wyo.; Grand Quivira, N. M.; Kaituma, Glacier Bay and Sitka, Alaska; Rainbow Bridge, Utah; Pinnacles, Calif.; Colorado, Colo.; Papago Saguaro, Ariz.; Capitol Mountain, N. M.; Dinosaur, Utah; Verendrye, N. D.; Casa Grande, Ariz.; Scott's Bluff, Neb.; Yucca House, Colo.; Fossil Cycad, S. D.; Carlsbad (limestone) Cave, N. M.; Aztec Ruin, N. M.; Hovenweep, Utah-Colo.; Pipe Springs, Ariz.; Craters of the Moon, Idaho; and Wupatki, Ariz.

If you enjoy visiting historic places there are also seven national military and other parks and nine other national monuments under the jurisdiction of the secretary of war. The parks are: Chickamauga and Chattanooga, Ga. and Tenn.; Shiloh, Tenn.;

THE NATIONAL PARKS AT A GLANCE.

[Number, 19; total area, 11,372 square miles.]

National parks in order of creation.	Location.	Area in square miles.	Distinctive characteristics.
Hot Springs..... 1832	Middle Arkansas.....	14	46 hot springs possessing curative properties—Many hotels and boarding houses—20 bathhouses under public control.
Yellowstone..... 1872	Northwestern Wyoming.....	3,348	More geysers than in all rest of world together—Boiling springs—Mud volcanoes—Fossil forests—Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, remarkable for gorgeous coloring—Large lakes—Many large streams and waterfalls—Vast wilderness, greatest wild bird and animal preserve in world—Exceptional trout fishing.
Sequoia..... 1890	Middle eastern California.....	252	The Big Tree National Park—Several hundred sequoia trees over 100 feet in diameter, some 25 to 30 feet in diameter—Towering mountain ranges—Startling precipices—Mile-long cave of delicate beauty.
Yosemite..... 1890	Middle eastern California.....	1,128	Valley of world-famed beauty—Lofty cliffs—Romanic waterfalls—Many waterfalls of extraordinary height—3 groves of big trees—High Sierra—Waterfall falls—Good trout fishing.
General Grant..... 1890	Middle eastern California.....	4	Created to preserve the celebrated General Grant Tree, 35 feet in diameter—6 miles from Sequoia National Park.
Mount Rainier..... 1899	West central Washington.....	824	Largest accessible single peak glacier system—29 glaciers, some of large size—48 square miles of glacier, 50 to 500 feet thick—Wonderful subalpine wild flower fields.
Crater Lake..... 1902	Southwestern Oregon.....	240	Lake of extraordinary blue in crater of extinct volcano—Slide 1,000 feet high—Interesting lava formations—Fine fishing.
Wind Cave..... 1903	South Dakota.....	17	Cavern having many miles of galleries and numerous chambers containing peculiar formations.
Flint..... 1904	Southern Oklahoma.....	13	Many sulphur and other springs possessing medicinal value.
Sully Hill..... 1904	North Dakota.....	14	Small park with woods, streams, and a lake—Is an important wild animal preserve.
Montezuma..... 1906	Southwestern Colorado.....	77	Most notable and best preserved prehistoric cliff dwellings in United States, if not in the world.
Glacier..... 1910	Northwestern Montana.....	1,534	Rugged mountain region of unsurpassed Alpine character—200 glaciated lakes of romantic beauty—40 small glaciers—Precipitous thousands of feet deep—Almost sensational scenery of marked individuality—Fine trout fishing.
Rocky Mountain..... 1915	North middle Colorado.....	267	Heart of the Rockies—Snowy range, peaks 11,000 to 14,285 feet altitude—Remarkable records of glacial period.
Hawaii..... 1916	Hawaii.....	186	Three separate areas—Kilauea and Mauna Loa on Hawaii, Haleakala on Maui.
Lassen Volcanic..... 1916	Northern California.....	124	Only active volcano in United States proper—Lassen Peak, 10,467 feet—Cinder Cone 6,879 feet—Hot Springs—Mud geysers.
Mount McKinley..... 1917	South central Alaska.....	3,645	Highest mountain in North America—Rises higher above surrounding country than any other mountain in the world.
Grand Canyon..... 1919	North central Arizona.....	663	The greatest example of erosion and the most sublime spectacle in the world.
Lafayette..... 1919	Maine coast.....	8	The group of granite mountains upon Mount Desert Island.
Zion..... 1919	Southwestern Utah.....	120	Magnificent gorge (Zion Canyon), depth from 800 to 2,000 feet, with precipitous walls—Of great beauty and scenic interest.

Gettysburg, Pa.; Vicksburg, Miss.; Antietam Battlefield, Md.; Lincoln's Birthplace, Ky.; and Guilford Court House, N. C. The monuments are: Big Hole Battlefield, Mont.; Cabrillo, Calif.; Mound City group, Ohio; Fort Wood, N. Y. (site of the Statue of Liberty); Castle Pinckney, S. C.; Fort Pulaski, Ga.; Fort Marion, Fla.; Fort Matanzas, Fla.; and Meriwether Lewis, Tenn.

And if you still want some place to go for recreation there are something like 600 state parks in 43 states with an area of 7,000,000 acres, conserving scenery, wild life, historical and scientific sites. At least that is the report which came from the delegates to the seventh national conference on state parks at a recent meeting at Bear Mountain, Palisades Inter-State park in New York. So it would seem that with this grand total of more than 850 public playgrounds, America will not find it difficult to satisfy its longing for an occasional excursion into the life of the great outdoors. Judging from the records of last year, they are taking full advantage of the opportunity. More than 2,300,000 visitors, the greatest number yet on record, registered at the 19 national parks and the 32 national monuments in 1926. The fees paid by them enticed

and 1,500,000 of these sheets are used each year. Six hundred thousand pounds of dextrine and 30,000 pounds of glucose are annually consumed in the process. Each year about 1,000,000 pounds of ink are used in the printing of the various issues.

Fresh Water in Oceans
There are several places in the different oceans of the world where fresh water may be found. One of the best know of these places is beyond the coast of Miami, Fla. The

cause of this fresh water in the midst of the salt ocean is a spring fed by a subterranean river.

Malay Peninsula
The whole of the Malay peninsula, from the southern boundary of Siam to the Strait of Singapore, is known as the Straits Settlements. It includes Singapore, Penang, Malacca, Labuan, Cocos Island and Christmas Island. The settlements have an entire area of about 1,000 square miles. They form a British crown colony.

What's the Answer?

Questions—No. 3

- 1—Of what good is slang to a language?
- 2—Who said, "Germany can be beaten. Germany must be beaten, Germany will be beaten!"?
- 3—Who first translated "The Arabian Nights" from the Arabic?
- 4—What is the name of the largest lake in Florida?
- 5—What jazz specialist, thoroughly versed in the theory and ethics of music, defends jazz and believes that out of it will grow a new and esthetic form of expression?
- 6—When were the Olympic games instituted?
- 7—What is digestion?
- 8—What is specific gravity?
- 9—Jefferson Davis was secretary of war in what President's cabinet?
- 10—What state having full woman's suffrage was first admitted to the Union?
- 11—Which state raises the most wheat?
- 12—What Englishman said: "America has a natural base for the greatest continuous empire ever established by man"?
- 13—What book is a perpetual best seller?
- 14—Which continent has the greatest extremes of topography?
- 15—For what great English tragedian did Bulwer Lytton write "Richieu" and most of his other dramas, and for whom Robert Browning attempted unsuccessfully to write?
- 16—How many times did Ty Cobb win the batting championship of the American league?
- 17—What is an escalator?
- 18—Who invented the incandescent electric lamp?
- 19—For what King of France was Louisiana named?
- 20—What secretary of war later became President?

Answers—No. 2

- 1—43-68.
- 2—Michigan and Northwestern tied.
- 3—An earthquake is a shaking of part of the earth's crust due to natural subterranean causes.
- 4—A dynamo converts mechanical energy into electrical energy, while a motor converts electrical energy into mechanical energy.
- 5—1630.
- 6—Pontiac.
- 7—Mozart.
- 8—Plateau of Tibet.
- 9—Laurence Sterne.
- 10—Colonel Stanton, of Pershing's staff.
- 11—Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.
- 12—Cincinnati.
- 13—Kremer of Pittsburgh.
- 14—A plate attached to a revolving shaft in such a way that the centers of the plate and shaft do not coincide.
- 15—George Eastman.
- 16—De Soto.
- 17—Pablo Alto, San Antonio and Resaca de la Palma in the Mexican war.
- 18—The Fifteenth and Sixteenth centuries.
- 19—Asia.
- 20—Henry Clay.

Statement Put Issue Squarely Up to Teddy

"Have any of you children had a birthday the last week?" Mrs. Morrow, the Sunday school teacher, asked. Three of her pupils raised their hands.

"Well, Charles and Betty and Jimmie, you may come forward and put your birthday pennies in the birthday box."

The three marched proudly to the front and dropped in their pennies. As each child dropped the pennies Mrs. Morrow counted so all could hear. Five for Charles, six for Betty and—

"Why, Jimmie, you're more than three years old!" Mrs. Morrow exclaimed. Jimmie had dropped in three pennies and started back to his seat.

"Yes," Jimmie agreed readily. "I'm six."

"But you only dropped in three pennies," protested the teacher.

"Yes, but I'm twins," Jimmie explained. "Teddy couldn't come to Sunday school this morning, but it was half his birthday, and he'll have to put in the other three cents."—Kansas City Star.

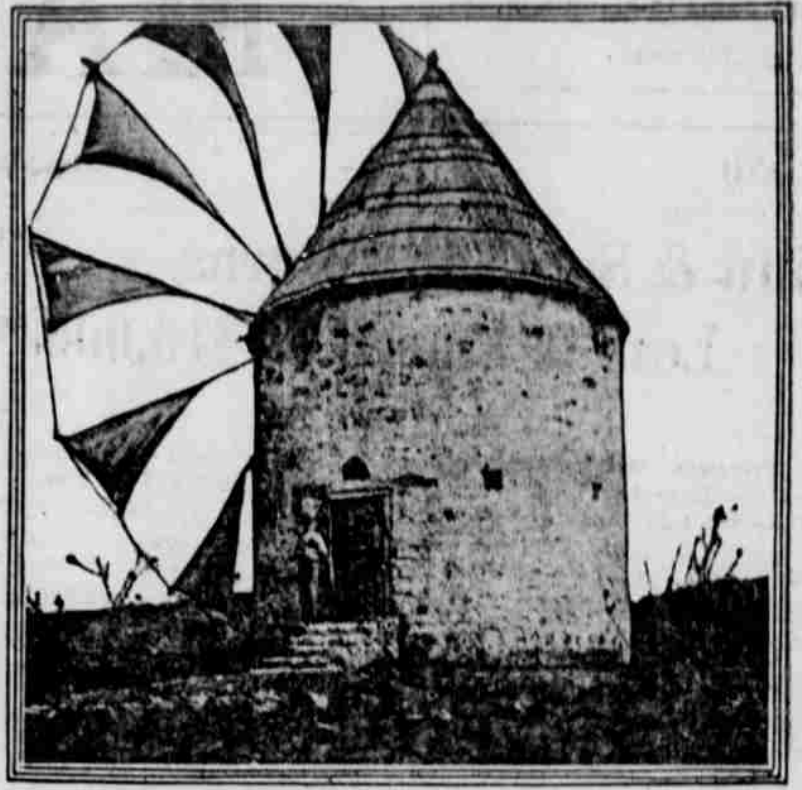
Never Quite Forgotten

I don't recollect or ever doing anything that I was just a little ashamed of but what sum one was sure to remember it and every once in a while put me in mind of it—Josh Billings.

Esquimos Eat Bird Raw

The Greenland auk or dove-kie is a greatly relished food among the Eskimos, who eat the bird raw, biting through the clean feathers into the firm meat of the breast. A hungry Eskimo, it is said, will eat as many as 100 little auks at one sitting. This would be more than could be crowded into four frying pans. The little auks live mainly on shrimp, and their meat is said to be very palatable. They lay their eggs among the rocks, to protect them from enemies.

Sea of Marmora



Windmill on Shore of Sea of Marmora.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

THE Sea of Marmora—or the Propontis, if one wishes to be classical—and its shores, have probably been the scene of more stirring events in history than any body of water of similar size. It is little more than 100 miles long and some forty miles across at its broadest point. Thus it is about the same size as Lake Champlain. The Marmora is a sort of vestibule between the outer and inner doors of the Black sea—the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus.

The Marmora and the Black seas are no more than twenty miles apart at their nearest point, but it is astonishing what a difference in aspect twenty miles may make. The Marmora has much of the softness of air, vividness of color, and beauty of scenery that we associate with the Aegean and Ionian seas. Thence the narrow silt of the Bosphorus, however, and you pass into an entirely different world—sterner, barer, rockier, colder. It is partly perhaps that the Black sea is very much larger.

While its two historic gateways—the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus—are strategically the most important features of the Marmora, that picturesque little sea has a character of its own, and one not to be caught from the deck of a Mediterranean liner or from the windows of the Orient express.

Such impressions as the passing tourist takes away are chiefly of the flat and treeless Thracian shore. The long-er Asiatic coast, however, is much more indented, and rises on the southeast to the white peak of the Bithynian Olympus. A high, green headland divides the eastern end of the Marmora into the two romantic gulfs of Nicomedia and Moudania. The south shore again is broken by the mountainous peninsula of Cyzicus.

Off its windy western corner lies a group of islands, of which the largest is the one that gives the Marmora its name—a mass of marble ten miles long, famous from antiquity for its quarries. Another considerable island is the long, white sandspit of Kalolimnos, just outside the Gulf of Moudania; but best known are the Princes Isles, a little archipelago of rock and pine that is a favorite summer resort of Constantinople.

Cities on Its Shores.

In any other part of the world this inland sea would long ago have become a place of sojourn for yachtsmen and summerers, so happily is it treated by sun and wind, so amply provided with bays, capes, islands, mountains, forests, and all other accidents of nature that make glad the heart of the amateur explorer. As it is, the Marmora remains strangely wild for a sea that has known so much of life; yet its shores are by no means uninhabited and between them lies many an unhusked sail.

The focus of this quaint navigation is, of course, Constantinople, standing high and pinnacled on either side of the crooked blue crack that opens into the Black sea.

The busiest town in the Marmora after Constantinople is Panderma, on the south shore, joined to Smyrna by a railway that taps one of the most fertile districts of Asia Minor. In its vicinity exists one of the few borax mines in the world. Another little railway climbs through the olive yards of the Gulf of Moudania to Brusa, on the lower slopes of Mount Olympus. This delightful town, the first capital of the Turks and their most picturesque city, is the Hamburg of the Levant, enjoying a renown of many centuries for its hot mineral springs. It is also the center of an ancient silk industry, first introduced from China in the Sixth century by Emperor Justinian. Its cocoons are considered to rank in quality above those of northern Italy and are much exported to this country and to France.

Another ancient watering place of the Marmora is Yalova, in the wooded hills above the Gulf of Nicomedia, whose baths were visited of old by Emperor Constantine, and there are many less frequented hot springs in this region.

More numerous than the settlements of today, however, are the ruins of yesterday. Every harbor, every headland, has some fragment of ancient masonry, and the workmen in

the vineyards are constantly turning up coins, pieces of broken pottery, bits of sculptured marble, that have come down from who knows when or where. About no body of water in the world, of equal size, have stood so many stately cities.

Question of the Straits Centuries Old.

The true question of the straits arose as early as the Fifth century, B. C., when Alcibiades of Athens counseled the people of Chrysopolis, the modern Scutari, at the southeastern extremity of the Bosphorus, to take toll of passing ships. Yet another aspect of the question of the straits had already risen earlier in the century, when the Persian expeditions against Scythia and Greece crossed the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles. What success they had we know, and how a counter-invasion under Alexander crossed the Dardanelles in 344 B. C., crushing the Persians at the battle of the Granicus.

It was in the period following the death of Alexander, when the kingdoms of Bithynia, Pergamos and Pontus flourished in northern Asia Minor, that the cities of the Marmora began to take on their greatest importance.

Chief among them was Cyzicus, on the southeastern side of the peninsula of that name. Founded earlier than Rome or Byzantium, possessed at different times by Athens and Sparta, by the Persians and Alexander, by the king of Pergamos and the republic of Rome, Cyzicus was long celebrated as one of the most splendid cities of the ancient world. Its gold staters were the standard of their time.

With the rise of Byzantium, however, its glory passed away. Goths and earthquake ravaged it; Constantine and the Turks found it an inexhaustible quarry for the public buildings of Constantinople. Today there is almost no trace of its marble among the vines and olive trees of the peninsula.

Nicomedia and Nicaea, in Bithynia, were also accounted no mean cities in their day. Indeed, Nicomedia, bequeathed to Rome with the rest of his kingdom by Nicomedes III, in 74 B. C., became for a moment, under Emperor Diocletian, the capital of the world. As for Nicaea, it has three times been a capital.

Nicaea, now Inik, is not in all strictness a city of the Marmora, but the lake on which it lies is geologically a continuation of the Gulf of Moudania. A place of importance long after the Bithynian period, it is chiefly remembered today for the two councils of the church which took place there in 325 and 787.

Brusa, Too, Is Celebrated.

A third Bithynian city, which we have already mentioned—Brusa—has more than one title to celebrity, not least among which is that its foundation was ascribed to the advice of no less a personage than Hannibal. At any rate, the great Carthaginian fled after the Punic wars to the court of King Prusias of Bithynia and committed suicide there, in 183 B. C., to escape falling into the hands of the Romans. Legend has placed his grave on the north shore of the Gulf of Nicomedia.

Space fails to make even the barest catalogue of the cities of the Marmora that have enjoyed historical renown. Mention might be made of Rodosto, to which Bulgarian raiders came in 813, in 1206, and in 1912, and where the Hungarian royal exile, Francis II Rakoczy, lived for 18 years and died in 1735.

More eastward still lies Silyvri, the Athenian colony of Selymoria, which Emperor Anastasius I made the terminus of the great wall he built across Thrace from sea to sea—precursor of the modern lines of Chatalja. Then there is Chalcedon, now an Asiatic suburb of Constantinople, founded a few years earlier than Byzantium by colonists from Megara and renowned for the magnificence of its public buildings, for the councils of the early church, which took place there, and for the memorable steges it sustained against Macedonians, Persians and Saracens.

The history of the greatest city of them all, Constantinople, has for nearly 2,000 years been largely the history of the little sea that lies before it. It was founded, a little later than Rome, by seamen from Megara.

For Postage Stamps

Postage stamps that Uncle Sam must produce every year call for an enormous amount of material. The weight of the paper used in a single stamp is so slight that only most sensitive scales will register it. But during a period of 12 months 2,000,000 pounds of paper are used for stamps by the bureau of engraving and printing. This paper is made into sheets about the size of a newspaper page,