

WASHINGTON'S DITCH . . . Great Dismal swamp canal, first surveyed by George Washington, here goes through the forbidding swamp which has piqued the curiosity of men for generations.

Army To Restore Canal Through Famous Swamp

By WNU Features

Oldest man-made waterway in the United States again will carry pleasure and business traffic through one of the most fascinating areas in the world with restoration of the Great Dismal swamp canal, often referred to as "George Washington's ditch," to its standard nine-foot channel depth. Work will be done under direction of army engineers.

The canal, connecting the Elizabeth river in Virginia with Albemarle sound in North Carolina, is in use today but lack of engineering attention in recent years has prevented full use of its facilities.

The nickname, "George Washington's ditch," stems from the fact that Washington himself surveyed the canal in 1763 and later invested in a company which proposed to drain the Great Dismal in an ambitious land development scheme.

The canal, dug by slave labor, was not navigable, however, until 1822.

Drainage Cuts Area

The canal originally cut through one of the most famous swamps in the world—one which has piqued the curiosity of men ever since they first came to its green edge and were repelled by its desolate defenses. But now drainage has shrunk the area from 2,200 to 750 miles and the canal itself leads through considerable cultivated land.

The canal is fed by the "feeder ditch," a straight canal which brings water from gloomy Lake Drummond in the very heart of the swamp. Navigable for small boats, the feeder ditch is the usual entry for explorers and curiosity seekers.

George Moore, the poet, was among literary lights who have been fascinated by the Great Dismal. He visited the lake in 1804 and while there wrote his "Lady of the Dismal Swamp."

Probably the first white man to penetrate the swamp was William Byrd, who named it. In his Dividing Line History, Byrd relates that his party often could progress at the rate of only one mile a day. He adds that he "liked no part of it."

Subsequent expeditions have revealed the swamp rich in flora and fauna. Owned mostly by lumbering interests, the swamp has yielded large harvests of gum, cypress and other timber. It now is proposed to preserve it as a national forest.

Deer and bear still abound in some portions although not in as large numbers as previously. At one time a hunter killed 30 bears in a single year. Birds which nest on the ground are scarce but Lake Drummond and tributaries are considered good fishing waters. Copperhead snakes also are prevalent and are reported to have fallen into boats from overhanging boughs.

Juniper water flowing out of Lake Drummond is a deep red and is considered by most "swampers" to have tonic values. At one time it was taken aboard ships for drinking water, since it reputedly would not grow stale. In fact, one enterprising man bottled it in Baltimore for sale as a health-giving beverage.

Curiously, Lake Drummond occupies a depression which is on a ridge higher than the rest of the swamp. For this reason it is considered likely that the swamp could be reclaimed entirely but a proposal to do this several years ago brought protests from nearby farmers, who claimed the swamp had a beneficial effect on local weather.

Rajah Returned from 'Dead' Wins Domain
LONDON—Claim of a "dead" rajah to a vast Indian domain that had been contested in Indian courts for a quarter of a century was upheld by the privy council, highest judicial authority in the British empire.

Victor in the protracted legal battle was Ramendra Narayan Roy, second son of the rajah of Bhowal, who claimed he was revived by a rainstorm and rescued from a funeral pyre in 1909.



Farm Topics

Three Diseases Take High Toll of Turkeys Heaviest Loss Occurs During Growing Period

Nearly a third of all turkeys hatched are lost during the growing period. This statement is based on findings of Utah Agricultural college survey.

Of considerable importance to a control program is the fact that the three diseases known to be the greatest killers of turkeys—paratyphoid infection, pullorum disease and infectious sinusitis, which may be transmitted through the egg from parent to the offspring—cause 51 per cent of the brooder loss.

If a grower starts with a healthy, vigorous poult, the job of keeping the bird healthy is relatively simple. Thus the first problem for a pro-



Birth of poult at Timmerman farm, Jefferson county, N. Y. Photo shows baby turkey off to a good start.

pective turkey producer is to buy poults from hatcheries that have a reputation for producing healthy poults. As it may be impossible for a single grower to know the poult source, cooperative effort may be helpful in investigating the breeder and hatcher.

Proper housing and proper use of brooding equipment are essential to health of the poults. Basis of sanitary procedures is to prevent healthy individuals from coming in contact with the infectious agents of disease. All weak-looking poults should be kept separate from the healthy fowls and strict sanitary practices must be maintained during the brooding period.

Early Spraying Advised For Black Cherry Aphid

Sprays applied before the buds break, say insect specialists, are more consistent in controlling the black cherry aphid than sprays made after the buds are open.

Feeding of the black cherry aphid, if present in large numbers, affects the size and flavor of the fruit. Also, a secretion known as "honeydew" produces a sticky and unattractive appearance of the fruit, especially if it is to be sold as fresh fruit. Development of a sooty fungus in the honeydew may contribute further to the unsightly appearance of the cherries. Sweet cherries are more commonly infested than sour cherries.

Neglected Farm Forest Termed Valuable Asset

The farm woodland is paying off. That long neglected group of trees that stands on the back "forty" and which once was eyed with a resentful attitude because it occupied land that could far better be devoted to grazing, now becomes a definite and valuable asset.

It is one that can be quickly converted into cash. To the owner has come the realization that the farm will produce something more than grain, root crops, pasture or dairy products. Trees also are a crop, and a paying crop, even on the poorer types of soil where intensive agriculture is an impossibility.

Modern Stock Barn



War-born quonsets have been adapted to many farm uses. Above photo shows how a Brighton, Mich., farmer utilized a quonset. Note the improved window arrangements.

Prompt Action Required To Relieve Cattle Bloat

Removal of the gases from the rumen is the primary object in treatment of bloat in cattle. If bloating has just started, the animal should be forcibly exercised and the distended abdomen massaged or kneaded with the clenched fist to bring about belching of the gases from the stomach. A wooden gag can be placed in, and across, the mouth of the bloated animal.

Immunity From Law Listed As English King's Privilege

If the king of England chose to shoot one of his ministers, he could not even be brought to trial, since no court lawfully may sit in judgment on the monarch. Although modern day kings probably would not resort to such tactics, immunity from the law is among the wide privileges enjoyed by a reigning monarch of Britain, a study of the statutes reveals.

His majesty can, if he so desires, refuse to sign any bill submitted by any minister, even though it has been passed by both houses of parliament.

Throws Seals Away
In his flight to France, King James II threw the great and privy seals into the Thames, thus suspending the government of England because the seal is required to stamp legality on orders.

Among his major privileges, King George VI has power to put an end to participation in wars; he can sell all his country's warships; put all fighting men out of uniform, and disband every male and female unit of the armed forces.

Apart from these tremendous powers, he has several smaller, everyday privileges. For example, he can send his letters without stamps and claim priority for his telegrams. He can drive about with no number plate on his car and ignore police regulations regarding traffic.

Cannot Rent House
Offsetting the fact that the king has the power to requisition any property is the fact that he cannot rent a subject's house, as

to do so would be considered a fall from majestic grace.

One privilege accorded nearly all citizens of the United States is denied England's king in that he cannot record a vote at an election.

Oddly enough, the king cannot ignore the playing of the national anthem. His value as a king is considered to be an impersonal thing, but as an individual he shows his respect for the state like other individuals.

In return for this assortment of privileges, the king receives an income of 410,000 pounds (approximately \$1,640,000) a year. Out of this, however, he must pay 13,200 pounds for charity, 134,000 pounds for household salaries and 132,000 pounds for running expenses of the household.

"Off We Go" AVIATION NOTES

DEMONSTRATE AIR MIGHT

Designed as all-embracing public demonstrations of America's air might, two National Aircraft Shows will be staged annually, commencing at Cleveland in November, under auspices of the aircraft industry in conjunction with military and naval services, air lines, recognized aviation organizations and foreign manufacturers. West coast edition of the show will be presented in Los Angeles next April.

It is common knowledge that aircraft have all but eliminated the land-gear symbols of time and space and the mountain-ocean-desert definition of security behind geographical barriers. Air-borne action of war years has demonstrated the destructive and somewhat negative side of aviation.

Purpose of National Aircraft Shows is to demonstrate in peace years the positive force of aviation and to interpret those forces in constructive dramatizations portraying air commerce and air industry at peace as a means to air power in time of war.

EYES BY PLANE

For the first time in history of the eye bank, a pair of eyes removed from a patient who died in a Shreveport, La., hospital were flown to New York for use by the Eye Bank for Sight Restoration, Inc. The eyes, offered by an unidentified donor prior to his death to restore the sight of a blind person, were used in two "cornea-graft" operations at a New York hospital.

LOYAL TO HOME TOWN

A Kansas boy who drifted into the glamorous aviation business 20 years ago has returned to his home town, bringing a new industrial plant into the community with him. Harry M. McKay claims two home towns, having been born in Arkansas City, Kans., and being raised in nearby Winfield. Now, as general manager of personal plans division of Fairchild Engine and Airplane corporation, he was charged with finding permanent quarters for his division. What did he select as best spot in the U. S. for an aircraft plant? Strother Field, site of a former army plant, which is between Arkansas City and Winfield.



NEW TRANSPORT . . . Propellers whirling, the huge new four-engine transport produced at Montreal for the Canadian government starts down the runway on its test flight. It is developed from the famous wartime Douglas transport.

NEW 'DRONE' PLANE FIRM

Actor Reginald Denny, who helped develop drone target planes for the army and navy during the war, has incorporated a new company to adapt radio control of aircraft to civilian uses. Landing of planes by remote control from an airport tower without help of the pilot is one of the main principles of the new plan. This would enable blind landing of passenger planes in thick weather.

Religious Names Lead to Trouble In Latin America

Ludicrous misunderstandings frequently have arisen as a result of the practice of Latin-Americans of giving their children religious names in honor of Christian saints and martyrs.

Maria is a popular favorite for girls while Jose and Jesus (pronounced Heh-SOOS) are favored for boys. To foreigners, however, these mortal Jesuses can cause serious grief since the Spanish pronunciation suggests to the American ear neither the correct spelling nor meaning.

A South American rancher in Mexico who was entertaining a U. S. friend was called away unexpectedly overnight. He left a note for his sleeping guest explaining his absence and ending, "If you need anything while I am away, ask Jesus." The guest left in a huff at what he considered an inhospitable joke. Jesus, of course, was the host's mozo, or houseboy.

Another yanqui, wholly ignorant of Spanish, had a Mexican friend whom he knew as "Don Haysoos." After accepting an invitation to visit his friend's sugar plantation, he was non-plussed to get a note reading: "Be ready. I come for you tomorrow morning. Jesus."

Army Man's Plight In Housing Problem Brings New Orders

CHAMPAIGN, Ill.—Even the traditionally hard-boiled army takes cognizance of the dire plight of its men affected by the nationwide housing shortage.

Capt. Addison W. McLintock, who was assigned to University of Illinois in 1920 when the Reserve Officers Training Corps was activated here, recently decided his location might be permanent and bought a house. A few days later the army ordered him transferred overseas.

Publicity given his plight resulted in the army rescinding his orders, for six months at least. The army officer was elated—but not so were the dozens of people who had been trying to rent or buy the McLintock house.

Last Wild Buffalo On Oregon Ranges Killed by Horsemen

ASHWOOD, Ore.—Although the deer and the antelope still play in Oregon, the wild buffalo no longer will roam this great western state.

The last wild buffalo in central Oregon was killed recently by members of the Sisters Rodeo association at request of Roland Gridley, rancher, who reported the old animal had been damaging ranch property. The animal was shot from horseback by George Wakefield and Vernon Peck, who used 30-30 rifles.

The buffalo was brought into Oregon 15 years ago after original species had been exterminated.

Gets Divorce after Explaining 'Cruelty'

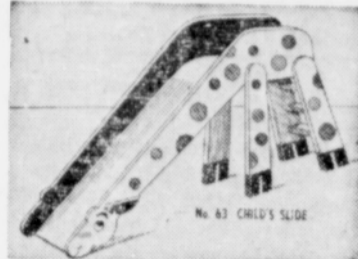
PHOENIX, Ariz.—Hearing a divorce action on a charge of physical cruelty, Judge Dudley W. Windes asked the plaintiff for details.

"Five times she hit me on the head with an ax," the man replied. "If that keeps up someone is going to get hurt."

The man was granted a decree.

Easily Built Children's Giraffe's Neck Slide

Do you feel tired, jittery, in need of a vacation? If the news on the front page starts to get you down, it's time to relax. You'll be agreeably surprised to see how far away from the worries of the world you can get by working with wood. Sawing wood and then putting the pieces together has tremendous therapeutic values. It's a grand way to keep yourself completely occupied while accomplishing something worth while.



Building this slide from the pattern isn't at all difficult. All you do is cut each part according to the pattern. Then fasten each piece together exactly in position indicated on the printed paper pattern. No special tools or skill are required. The pattern specifies materials to buy and where to use each piece. All lumber is stock size and readily obtainable at lumber yards everywhere.

Send 50 cents for Slide Pattern No. 63 to Easi-Build Pattern Company, Dept. W, Pleasantville, N. Y.



Harsh Laxatives are NOT necessary for most people

The juice of a lemon in a glass of water, when taken first thing on arising, is all that most people need to insure prompt, normal elimination.

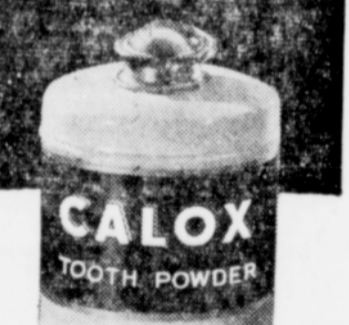
No more harsh laxatives that irritate the digestive tract and impair nutrition! Lemon in water is good for you!

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Read the Ads

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May Warn of Disordered Kidney Action

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