

To Prof. Gilbert

ESTABLISHMENT OF EVERGLADES
NATIONAL PARK

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HEARINGS
BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON THE PUBLIC LANDS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTY-FIRST CONGRESS

THIRD SESSION

ON

H. R. 12381

TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK IN THE
STATE OF FLORIDA, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1931

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A bill, H. R. 1281
Report of the Secretary
Statement of—
Hon. Ruth Bryan
Mr. Horace A. Allen
Hon. Dennis U. P.
Mr. Casper W. Ho
Dr. H. C. Bumpus
Dr. T. Gilbert Pau
Solicitor, New Y
Mr. Harlan P. Kel
Park Commission
Dr. John K. Stea
Mr. Cameron, as
Dr. Howard A. Kel
Dr. Paul Berthel, e
Mr. Julian Langner
Mr. Ernest F. Che
glades Park Assn
Statement showing un
Letter from George D. B
Hon.

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ESTABLISHED

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A BILL To provide for the

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Sec. 1. The Secretary
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Sec. 2. The administration
shall be exercised under
National Park Service, as
(16 Stat. 353), entitled
other purposes," as amended
June 16, 1906, known as
this park.

The committee will
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is a rather extended
has not yet been returned
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I will read a brief
date of December 11

This will reply to your
entitled "A bill to provide

ESTABLISHMENT OF EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1930

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE PUBLIC LANDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10 o'clock a. m., Hon. Don B. Colton (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order. The committee has met this morning to consider H. R. 12381, introduced by Mrs. Owen. The bill is short, and I will read it:

A BILL To provide for the establishment of the Everglades National Park in the State of Florida, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when title to lands within the area hereinafter referred to shall have been vested in the United States, there shall be, and there is hereby, established, dedicated, and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, the tract of land in the Everglades of Dade, Monroe, and Collier Counties of the State of Florida, being approximately two thousand square miles, as may be recommended as a national park by the Secretary of the Interior and within boundaries to be fixed by him pursuant to the provisions of the act of March 1, 1929 (45 Stat., pt. 1, p. 1443), which area, or any part or parts thereof as may be accepted on behalf of the United States in accordance with the provisions hereof, shall be known as the Tropic Everglades National Park: *Provided,* That the United States shall not purchase by appropriation of public moneys any land within the aforesaid area, but such lands shall be secured by the United States only by public or private donation.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion and upon submission of evidence of title satisfactory to him, to accept on behalf of the United States, title to the lands referred to in the previous section hereof as may be deemed by him necessary or desirable for national-park purposes.

SEC. 3. The administration, protection, and development of the aforesaid park shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service, subject to the provisions of the act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), entitled "An act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes," as amended: *Provided,* That the provisions of the act approved June 10, 1920, known as the Federal water power act, shall not apply to this park.

The committee will recall that a report was submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Interior in response to an act passed by Congress last year. This report was submitted on December 3. It is a rather extended report, and it has been sent to the printer and has not yet been returned, but I asked Mr. Albright to bring a copy of it, and we will have reference to it here this morning.

I will read a brief letter from the Secretary of the Interior under date of December 11, addressed to the chairman of the committee:

This will reply to your letter of May 20 last, inclosing copy of H. R. 12381, entitled "A bill to provide for the establishment of the Everglades National

Park in the State of Florida, and for other purposes," with request for report thereon.

The purpose of this bill is to provide for the establishment as a national park of an area in the Everglades region of Florida, which is directed to be investigated and reported on by the Secretary of the Interior by the act of March 1, 1929. Pursuant to that act, an inspection and detailed examination of the area was made last February on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, by officials of the national park service, assisted by several eminent park experts, acting as collaborators, and the area found to measure up to the standards set for national parks. Full details of the inspection and the recommendations made pursuant thereto have been covered in my report to Congress submitted on December 3, 1930, as directed by the act of March 1, 1929.

That is the one that is still in the hands of the printer.

The form of legislation proposed by H. R. 12381 has been carefully examined and is found to be similar to legislation heretofore enacted with respect to other eastern areas proposed as national parks and authorized by Congress for such establishment, and is substantially satisfactory. The following amendment, however, would correct an inconsistency between the title and the body of the bill, and is submitted for your consideration:

On page 2, line 5, delete the word "Tropic." The title of the bill is: "To provide for the establishment of the Everglades National Park," whereas the designation "Tropic Everglades National Park" is given in the bill. The word "Tropic" appears to be unnecessary and undesirable and it is therefore recommended that it be eliminated from the authorized name of this proposed park.

In conclusion I have to recommend that H. R. 12381, if amended as indicated above, be given favorable consideration by your committee.

Very truly yours,

RAY LYMAN WILBUR, *Secretary.*

Now, this bill has been introduced by Congressman Owen. Mrs. Owen, we will be glad to have you take charge of the hearing in the presentation of your case here this morning.

STATEMENT OF HON. RUTH BRYAN OWEN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Mrs. OWEN. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, in presenting to you the evidence in support of this measure, I will explain the procedure I would like to follow. We have here with us many members of our Florida delegation. We have also the president of the Tropic Everglades National Park Association, from Florida, but I am going in this hearing to avoid permitting our own State to speak. I feel that there might be some suspicion of personal interest in the matter if Florida spoke on behalf of a Florida area; therefore, I would like first of all to be able to acknowledge the fine enthusiasm and the tireless efforts of the president of the Tropic Everglades National Park Association, and I would like, without asking him to speak, to present to you personally Mr. Ernest Coe, of Coconut Grove. Mr. Coe, will you allow me to present you to the committee? (Mr. Coe arose.) This is Mr. Coe, of Coconut Grove. Mr. Coe has for years worked tirelessly in the interest of this park.

Mr. LEAVITT. I think, Mrs. Owen, if I might interpose, I would like to hear from the president of this organization.

Mrs. OWEN. At the close of the presentation by the scientists, Florida will ask to be heard.

The CHAIRMAN. I believe we have the Florida Senators here this morning?

Mrs. OWEN. We have
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and Congressman Yon
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Mrs. OWEN. We have here our Florida delegation, Senator Duncan U. Fletcher and Senator Trammell, and Congressman Drane and Congressman Yon, who is a member of this committee.

Senator FLETCHER. Mr. Chairman, if the committee would like to give us the time, we will all be very glad to be heard. I happen to know that we are all very anxious to have this National Park established.

Mr. YON. I think we will be glad to hear from the other members of the delegation. All Florida people are interested in this matter.

Mrs. OWEN. My idea was that we shall speak last, if permitted to.

The CHAIRMAN. That will be quite as satisfactory.

Mrs. OWEN. And the scientists who have been good enough to come from Boston and New York and the national services, if they be permitted to speak first, and then allow Florida merely to acquiesce. Now, if that general plan may be followed, I want to first ask for the statement of the director of the National Park Service, Mr. Horace Albright, to lay the foundation for our hearing.

Mr. PALMER. It seems to me we at least ought to hear from your Senators and from you.

Mrs. OWEN. May we come last, please?

The CHAIRMAN. We will be glad to hear Mr. Albright now.

STATEMENT OF HORACE M. ALBRIGHT, DIRECTOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I do not know, Mr. Chairman, that there is any reason for my taking up very much time of the committee, in view of the report that we have available.

On March 1, 1929, Congress passed an act directing that the Secretary of the Interior cause a study to be made of the Everglades region and report to Congress. That report provided:

That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby directed to investigate and report to Congress on the desirability and practicability of establishing a national park, to be known as the Tropic Everglades National Park, in the Everglades of Dade, Monroe, and Collier Counties of the State of Florida, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States, and to preserve said area in its natural state, including in his report full information as to the ownership, value, estimated cost to acquire, and character of lands involved, and his opinion as to whether such areas measure up to national park standards; that any appropriations for the National Park Service shall be available for the accessory expenses of such investigation.

While that act was passed March 1, 1929, it was February, 1930, before we were able to assemble the group of men to go down there with me and study the project.

The men who accompanied me were Mr. E. K. Burlew, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary, representing the Secretary of the Interior, Dr. H. C. Bumpus, member of the Educational Committee of the National Park Service, an outside advisory committee, and he is now chairman of that committee; Doctor Bumpus has been associated with us for a great many years in our educational work, our museum activities and that sort of thing. He represented the American Association of Museums and the Rockefeller Foundation in developing museums in Yosemite, Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, and other points in the West, and visited practically all of the national parks. Mr. Harlan P. Kelsey is a member of the Southern

Appalachian Park Commission, which selected the Great Smokies and the Mammoth Cave and Shenandoah Parks. He has been nearly all of the national parks, is a landscape expert and conservationist. Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson was a member of the committee, is president of the National Association of Audubon Societies, and has been identified with wild life, conservation, and legislation of that nature for many years. Superintendent Roger W. Toll of Yellowstone National Park, who is our general field investigator, was a member of the party. Mr. A. B. Cammerer, associate director, was my chief aid in the Everglades study, in addition to these men, we had Dr. David Fairchild, who has been in charge of the Bureau of Foreign Plant Exportation of the Department of Agriculture for a great many years. Many of you perhaps know him. He lived in Chevy Chase for many years and had a very beautiful place there. He is well known in Washington.

We took along some laymen, so to speak—that is, men who were not looking into any particular phase of the Everglades, but who just went down to see whether it would interest park people—men who spend their vacations in the parks, and so forth. We wanted to see whether they would find this area of park caliber. One of those men was Mr. Casper Hodgson, of New York, who travels around among the parks a great deal. He is a book publisher, head of the World Book Co. He can not be here to-day, although he sent a statement. And Dr. W. A. Clark, a physician, of California, whose hobby is natural-color photography, who spends his summers traveling among the national parks. So we had on this committee officers of the National Park Service, Mr. Cammerer, associate director, Superintendent Toll, of Yellowstone, and myself; we had Doctor Bumpus, who looked at the advantages of the Everglades from the educational standpoint, from the standpoint of scientific research, the necessity for preserving an area of that kind in the interest of science; we had Mr. Kelsey, who viewed the area from the standpoint of the landscape features.

I might say, also, that Mr. Kelsey is a fisherman, and he looked a little into the possibilities of fishing down there. I am sorry to admit, though, that he never caught any fish, but one day a fish jumped into our boat. It is true, however, that in the Shark River region of that park is the best tarpon fishing in Florida.

Mr. HARE. Mr. Chairman, are you going to allow any of these fish stories to go into the record? [Laughter.]

The CHAIRMAN. We may have to have an explanation later.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Doctor Pearson is the best-known man in the world on conservation of bird life. I say "in the world" because he attends all the international conferences on bird protection. Then Doctor Fairchild, without question, is the best-posted man on tropical plants—I won't say the best-posted man, but one of the best-posted men on tropical plants.

We studied the area first by using a dirigible which we got at Miami. We flew around over the area, flew low, low enough to identify different types of trees, and also were able to identify many species of birds which we found in great numbers. We got a general perspective of the area from the air. Then we went by boat around Cape Sable and up the Shark River as far as we could get

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with a big boat; then we got into a launch and went still farther up and finally wound up in rowboats at the head of the streams.

Then we crossed the Tamiami Trail from Miami to the village of Everglade on the west coast, the Gulf coast of Florida, in order to see that other side and also to get an impression of its accessibility. In the time that we had—and we gave ample time, I think, to get all of the features of the area in mind—we covered a lot of country.

We found the section absolutely distinctive. There is certainly nothing else like it in the United States. That is one point in its favor as a national park. It has a unique topography. It is true it is quite flat. There are no mountains there. The landscape is of water and plant life. We found the most extraordinary display of bird life there, and yet we could very easily see that it was something that was very precious and subject to exploitation by meat hunters. We actually came in contact with men engaged in poaching on those rare birds.

We studied the rare plants, and we also got information in regard to the status of the reptilian and animal life. The manatee, the great animal that exists nowhere else in the United States but in that section, an animal that looks a little like a hippopotamus, yet it is not that species at all, a great animal that dwells in the waters of Florida and is almost extinct—we had to go to the zoo in Miami to see one—we did not find any in our travels.

The alligator is being rapidly exterminated. Contrary to general public opinion the alligator is not a dangerous animal, but is a very interesting animal. The crocodile is almost extinct. He is a dangerous animal, but there are so few of them that it will not in any way jeopardize the use of the area by the public.

There are reptiles there, snakes, the water moccasin in the streams and the rattlesnake on the drier sections, but apparently not nearly as numerous as in other sections of the South. We only saw one small snake in all our trips. We saw no alligators or crocodiles, unfortunately, although we looked very hard for them, showing that so far as the animal life and the reptiles are concerned, the area has been pretty well stripped.

The CHAIRMAN. Would it ever be practical to visit the area or to build roads into the area, or will the visits be by water?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I was coming to that, Mr. Chairman. Of course, that was one of the important factors that we park men concentrated on. The area should be treated from two standpoints. From the standpoint of the general public, opportunity should be given to all to see Cape Sable, the southernmost point of Florida, not counting the Keys, a point 50 miles south of the southernmost point of Texas. It is truly in the tropics. That Cape Sable area is one of the most beautiful things that I have seen anywhere. It is a long sweeping beach. It has three outstanding points, and it is covered with coconut groves. That section can be made accessible by roads, in fact has been accessible at one time by a road.

Mr. YON. Mr. Chairman, does this proposed park area take in the Royal Palms State Park down there?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes; it does.

Mr. YON. Well, there is a road that goes through from Miami down that far and then down to the cape.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Unfortunately, it is out of commission. The big storm of a couple of years ago put that road out of commission, but it can be restored so that you can go right through this park to Cape Sable, and facilities for accommodating the public can be established at Cape Sable and they can see it in their own car. They can get a very good idea of the Everglades by going through this Royal Palm State Park, thence on to Cape Sable; then by crossing the Tamiami Trail to the Everglades, and with the further development over there you will be able to cross the Everglades in two different directions and gain access to the south coast and the Gulf coast.

Mr. SMITH of Idaho. What is the proportion of the proposed area lying north of the Tamiami Trail?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Only a small part. I should say probably one-fifth. There are two or three big bird rookeries north of the trail that ought to be preserved. Besides, the Tamiami Trail itself ought to be protected from nondescript structures and billboards.

Mr. SMITH of Idaho. The object of this legislation is more to preserve the animal and bird life there than to make it an attraction for tourists, is it not?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. It is not a game-preserve project in that sense. I think it is logical, although it does not sound so, to compare it to Yellowstone National Park. I take Yellowstone because it is full of wonders. People do not think of Yellowstone Park as a particularly beautiful thing, although those of us who know it best do think of its beauties more than its wonders, but people go to Yellowstone to see Old Faithful Geyser and those other wonderful manifestations of subterranean disturbance. That is what attracts most people. Now, in the same way they would go to the Everglades. It is a strange land, full of strange plants. The landscape is strange. The coconut-grove lined beaches are strange. There is an atmosphere of mystery and strangeness about the whole thing that attracts the attention of all who see the Everglades and will attract the multitude as much as a park like Yellowstone. We have been reading about the Everglades from the earliest days of geography study. The Everglades, like the big trees and the geysers, are in everybody's mind, and we should be given an opportunity to see them.

Mr. SMITH. In view of the difficulty of constructing roads there, the tourist travel, I presume, will be largely by airplane, will it not?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. That is the most interesting part of it, Mr. Smith. There is no difficulty about building roads through it. It is the easiest place that I have ever seen to build roads.

Mr. SMITH. Does not that section overflow a great deal of the time? Does not the Tamiami Trail overflow?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No; not the Tamiami Trail. You can easily build a road above the flow line any time.

Mr. SMITH. How about that road from Lake Okeechobee to the coast, the eastern coast? Does not that overflow?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I do not know whether that road is overflowed or not.

Mr. DRANE. No; it does not.

Mr. SMITH. The water gets up very high on it. I have been across it half a dozen times when you could look way out in the lake and see the tops of the telegraph poles sticking up. I understand the

land below the lake is
east of the lake.

Mr. FOX. Well, Mr.
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Mr. SMITH (interpo-
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land below the lake is much more likely to overflow than the land east of the lake.

Mr. YON. Well, Mr. Smith, the Tamiami Trail runs from Miami to Fort Myers, south of the lake. There is not another section of such road construction as that in the country. I was out on it a little over two years ago, during its construction. It has a 30-foot top surface, and it was constructed by putting two dredges in there, one to dredge out and throw the muck aside for the right of way down to bedrock—

Mr. SMITH (interposing). Yes; I am familiar with that. I have been over that section of the country. What I wanted to know is whether or not these roads would be overflowed part of the year.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I do not think so, Mr. Smith. I don't believe they ever get overflowed.

Mr. SMITH. South of the lake?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I do not think so.

Mr. YON. During extremely heavy rainfalls, stormy periods like we have had in the past, in the last three or four years, there is lots of water in the Everglades.

Mr. SMITH. I know as much about Florida perhaps as some of the people who live there, probably more, because I have been interested for 25 years in investments down there, and have gone down at different times and looked over the country from St. Petersburg down and up and across, and I was under the impression that the land below this Okeechobee Lake was very low and swampy, and that it would be difficult to build a road there at all.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. They build them with steam shovels, Mr. Smith. It is a very simple process. They go along with a steam shovel and build a road and canal at the same time, so it becomes accessible for automobiles and boats at the same time.

Mr. SMITH. I know. It cost me a lot of money to learn what I know about Florida, so excuse me for asking questions and making comments.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Well, I got my information without it costing me any money, but I was down there at the time of the year, I should think, when you could get a pretty good idea of the accessibility at the time most people would be there. There may be a period of the year when it might be kind of bad traveling there.

Mr. ARENTZ. Mr. Albright, you speak about the ease of building roads, but what is the expense of building roads with dredges?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. It is not an expensive process compared with building the way we have to build them in the mountains.

Mr. ARENTZ. In the mountains?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I can not give you the exact mileage or the exact amount per mile, but I think you could build roads easily down in that country for \$15,000 or \$20,000 a mile, which would be a very cheap road nowadays.

Mr. ARENTZ. Is there any engineer in the crowd here who can tell us anything about the cost of those roads, building them with a dredge?

The CHAIRMAN. We can take that up later.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. We can put that in the record, Mr. Chairman. We can wire down there to the State Highway Commission and get the cost of the Tamiami Trail.

Mr. YON. A former engineer for the State Roads Department was talking to me about that road on Saturday when he was in my office, passing through Washington, and the Tamiami Trail, which is an expensive road, one of the Federal-aid State roads, cost about \$53,000 a mile.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. \$53,000 a mile, paved and all completed. That is a cheap road the way roads generally cost. It is built wide, up to the very highest standards. As a matter of fact, most of the Everglade road system, so far as mileage is concerned, has already been built, Mr. Chairman. Another road, not a new road, but one that we would have to do much work on, is the Cape Sable road, leading to the other point that ought to be opened up. Of course, the real way to see the Everglades is to see the bird rookeries and the other extremely interesting things from the standpoint of animal life by water, taking boats and going around Cape Sable and up these rivers and bays, and there can be developed boating there on a big scale and a cheap scale. There is no reason why the trip should be prohibitive to the man of small means. A little volume of business there would enable people with boats to carry people very cheaply. And it is a thrilling way to see the area. So that from the standpoint of accessibility there is nothing to worry about. There is quite a section there, a very large section in fact that ought not to be made accessible by roads, because if you do you will destroy the very thing you have set out to preserve, which is these great bird rookeries. There is no place in the country where you will see such conditions of bird life as you will in the Everglades, particularly in these sections tributary to Great White Water Bay, Alligator Lake, and other areas. Here there are the various species of egret heron and ibis, the man-of-war bird, the roseate spoonbill, and there are probably some flamingos left. Probably two-thirds of this park should be kept as a wilderness accessible only by boat and on foot.

Mr. ARENTZ. I think that at least the chairman of this committee ought to see this area before the committee votes on it. I would like to see the chairman go down there and look at it and then come back and tell us what he has seen, or at least several of the committee, because I do not think it is the proper thing for a committee with a gesture to pass on an important matter like this without at least one member of the committee seeing it. I think the chairman ought to go down there and look at it.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I hope he can do that.

Mr. SMITH. Well, you remember the committee that visited Oklahoma and made an inspection there, and that interfered very materially with the efforts of the delegation to get what they wanted down there. So I do not know whether these people would be willing to have us see it or not.

Mr. ARENTZ. Well, it works both ways, either for or against, and if it works against it would be to the interest of the Federal Government that we do not do it; if it appeared that it would be a good thing for the Government, then common sense would dictate that we should have it.

Mrs. OWEN. I believe it was in the interest of having exactly that sort of inspection that the committee of which Mr. Albright is speaking was sent down there by the National Government, a com-

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mittee that was, as he said, selected from all over the country to represent a great many different viewpoints. Now, we welcome just as many trips of inspection as possible. That trip that he is describing comprised scientists in a great many different fields of interest, but I think that no action would be more agreeable to the people of Florida than to welcome the entire committee, chairman and all, as long as they feel it is possible for them to stay.

The CHAIRMAN. I think I might stay indefinitely.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I think I urged the chairman to come down with us if he could when we started last spring.

Mr. EVANS. Have you any figures on the estimated initial cost of the park establishment?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No; we have not, Mr. Evans. That is an impossible thing to get at this stage of the game. You can not get figures from owners of property about to go into a national park unless you are sure it is going in. It will be worth one price if it is going in and another price if it is not. The land is not expensive. I do not see how there can be very much value in practically all of that land. I may be doing the owners an injustice, but I could not see any way in the world for them to use this land in this particular section. It is different from Lake Okeechobee and other sections that can be drained. This is the very end of Florida. There is no way to drain it. From the standpoint of topography it is going to stay in its present condition, in my judgment, for a long time and probably forever.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, that is not the problem with which the Federal Government is concerned now, because the bill expressly provides that it must be turned over to the Government without any expense.

Mr. YON. Mrs. Owen, have not certain landed interests down there agreed to donate this land for this project?

Mrs. OWEN. There is a certain amount of it owned by the State, and a certain amount by private interests, which, I think, could be obtained by donation. But at any rate that is the State's problem. The Federal Government is not concerned with the problem of acquiring the land.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Following the policy of the committee and of Congress, which we of course feel is our strongest supporting policy, we never recommend to Congress, and Congress never would accept our recommendation if we did, that land be purchased for national parks. That would start a movement that would be very difficult to stop, and would cost untold sums of money. I do not think that that policy ought to apply to rounding out existing parks. I feel that the requirements that we have now, that we should solicit private contributions to clear up land problems in existing parks is a rather hard policy to carry out, but it is the policy that we have followed in getting these eastern parks—Acadia, which we already have, Great Smoky, 160,000 acres of which we have; the Shenandoah, which is now being acquired, and Mammoth Cave, which is now being acquired—all being presented to the Government with not a cent of cost concerned in the acquisition, except such expenses as were involved in going down and laying out the lines. Now, that is all the expense there should be to the Government in getting this park. It should be only the expense of actually marking the line or

designating the line, so that the purchasing can go on. That is all we ought to do, and we ought not to accept any obligation of any kind until the land is in our hands. It is true that every year that goes by, the values are being lost there. As Doctor Pearson will tell you, the National Association of Audubon Societies has been trying to protect these big rookeries. Practically the only protection that is going on in that country now is being done by that association. And the animal and bird life is actually being exterminated. You take, for instance, the wild turkey. There are some wild turkeys in there at the present time. There are deer, bear, puma, and other native animals, all of which are being gradually wiped out.

Mr. ARENTZ. May I ask, Mr. Albright, the relative elevations above sea level of the land surrounding this area?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. The area is very low. There would not be a place in the area 50 feet high.

Mr. HOOPER. What is the area?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. About 1,300,000 acres that we have suggested, of which about 300,000 acres, or a little more, belong to the State of Florida, and which will be tendered to the Federal Government.

Mr. ARENTZ. What about the rest of it?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. The rest of it is in private ownership.

Mr. SMITH. The Government gave this land to Florida, and now Florida is going to give it back to the Government? Is that the idea?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. It would amount to that. The Federal Government gave it to Florida.

Mr. SMITH. The Federal Government gave all the swamp land in the State to Florida on condition that they reclaim it, and this would simply be a matter of reconveying it to the Federal Government.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I think that is the sum total of it. I think the Federal Government expected Florida to take care of the Seminole Indians.

Mr. SMITH. As a matter of fact, it now comes back to what I suggested, that it is more to preserve bird life and animal life, which I am very heartily in favor of, than it is to expect that it would be a place for people to visit, excepting by airplane, and these roads that are there now.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No; I think there would be a great many visitors.

Mr. SMITH. I do not think the Federal Government would ever expend \$50,000 a mile to build a road into that section.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Well, I do not think there would be very much road building to do. I think this road that used to go to Cape Sable should be rehabilitated and modernized, and there might possibly be the necessity for a road down from Everglades down the other coast a little way, but I do not know just how many miles of road there would be involved, but I do not suppose there would be another 50 miles of road to be built. The Tamiami Trail is about 50 miles long. I suppose if there was 50 miles more, including rehabilitation of the Cape Sable Road, that would be all the road building there would be.

Mr. SMITH. Is there a road on the west side?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir; nor below Everglade.

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The CHAIRMAN. I am especially interested in that point. We can create a bird refuge and protect that bird and animal life in a much different and yet effective way, but I am getting a rather different impression from your presentation, that it is a place which is unique, inspirational and educational, such as we are trying to establish as a standard for parks. Now, it seems to me that your case is presenting that thought.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I am trying very hard, Mr. Chairman, to do that. I realize that I do not make a very good job of it, but I am trying to convey the idea that this is one of the most interesting, unusual, spectacular, inspirational places in America. I am trying to convey that impression wholly aside from its value as a wild life preserve. If it were a wild life preserve we would not be interested in it. We would say right away, simply turn it over to the Biological Survey.

Mr. ARENTZ. What is there spectacular about it?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Well, its strangeness. For instance, the plant life alone. Have you ever seen a Mangrove forest? That is spectacular. The roots start out of the tree 10 or 15 feet up in the air and spread out in all directions. Instead of starting down underground, they start way up in the air. These great rookeries, aside from the fact that there are birds in the rookeries, there is nothing more spectacular and thrilling than to see those tens of thousands of enormous birds in the trees. You can see them for a mile before you get to them, just as far as your eyes can reach, trees laden with great birds. There is a distinction there between just preserving birds and animals, and the thrill that you get and the inspiration and the education you get out of going and seeing them.

Mr. ARENTZ. Have you any films, moving-picture films, of this area?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. You have struck an awfully sore spot on that, Mr. Arentz. We took some films but they were not any good. We did not understand the light. We can get some, but the films we endeavored to take did not work out very well. We have got lots of still pictures here.

The CHAIRMAN. It seems to me, Mr. Albright, that that is a distinction that should be made right there. This ought to be accessible. People ought to be allowed to go and visit it. I appreciate that you will have to preserve your bird life and that there may be some places where people will not go, but in the main if you make a park of this it must be primarily a place for people to go.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. There is no reason why they should not go. There is a large area there in the center of it—you will see it on the map there, the central portion—where it would only be accessible by boat. The great central body of the area ought to be in the nature of a wilderness preserve. People will only go in there because they want to see something unusual or because they just feel that they will be getting out in the wilderness, just as they do in the western mountains. But there is no reason in the world why every essential feature of the Everglades, the Palms, the Royal Palm State Park, which has those wonderful Royal Palms, the Cape Sable beaches with their coconut groves, one or two of these greater rookeries, like the one at Alligator Bay, would be very close to this road coming down to Cape Sable; there is no reason why all of that

should not be accessible to the multitude, yet have a large enough area in the center of it, in the heart of it, that would be kept intact, be protected for breeding grounds, nesting grounds, and in a wilderness condition.

The CHAIRMAN. If you are as familiar with bird life as you are with animal life, it is the experience in the western parks that the creation of these parks does not in any way interfere with the animal life. They soon get accustomed to people being around, if there is no shooting or killing going on.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. That would be eliminated there, as it is in other parks. You take in Yellowstone Park, we all know that you can not get within a quarter of mile of a Canadian goose—"Honker," as we call them out there—outside of the park, but in Yellowstone Park it is an actual fact that you have to honk your horn to get them out of the road in the fall as they are moving back through there. They know that that country is a preserve. It has never been hunted. I do not know these birds in Florida well enough to know whether they will become a little more accustomed to the public, and yet we took our boats right up to the great rookery on Alligator Bay, and got all the still pictures that we wanted. We got right up to the nests of the young, and I think it is just a question of gathering the right kind of protectors there to take care of those rookeries so that people can see them. Visitors ought not to have to see them all. There is no more reason for showing every rookery than there is for opening up every geyser section in Yellowstone.

Mr. PALMER. Do you not think we have got adequate laws in force to properly protect and preserve bird and animal life, Federal and State, already, without going to the expense of the Government assuming a lot of other obligations?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I do not think so, Mr. Palmer. There is no protection being given in Florida to-day, except such as is being given by this outside association, with privately subscribed funds. The trouble with State protection in many places, particularly in the case where you have got rare birds on your hands, is this: Most of the State money that comes for protecting birds comes for fishing and hunting licenses and from sportsmen.

Mr. PALMER. You have game wardens in there now protecting them, have you not?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir.

Mr. PALMER. Under the laws of Florida do you not have game wardens?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir; there are no State game wardens down there. They have not taken over the care of these birds.

Mr. NOLAN. Would not everything that you desire to do in that respect be accomplished by establishing a refuge instead of a national park?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir. The difference between a game-bird refuge and a national park in a case like this is that the National Park Service, assuming that the area is of such distinctiveness and uniqueness as to warrant it being considered at all from a national standpoint, is charged with making these places accessible and taking care of them in such a way as to give people an opportunity to enjoy

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them, to set up an educational service so that they will get something out of their visits, whereas a wild-life preserve is set aside for the protection and propagation of wild life only.

Mr. NOLAN. What will this cost the Government after we have designated it?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. We have not been able to get any definite figures on how many rangers it will take to do it. It is more a matter of protection than anything else. We have not had a chance to study the shore line enough to know how many rangers we would have to have, or how many boats we would have to have. But I can say this, from what study we have made of it, that this park will not be an expensive park to operate. It will not be as expensive as many of our other parks that are naturally more accessible.

Mr. SMITH of Idaho. Would you expect to charge admission to this park?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. That would depend, I think, just as our policies in the West do, it would depend upon how much investment we have to make in roads. Our admission charges, as you know, are based upon the Federal Government's investment in roads. We do not actually charge admission to the park on a per capita basis, but we charge an automobile fee, which theoretically goes to the upkeep of the roads, and the bulk of our revenue comes from that source.

Mr. SMITH. You could not, of course, make a charge for traveling across the peninsula on the Tamiami Trail.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. We could not do that, because that is a State road, and second, because it is part of the commercial system of the State. We would be levying a toll on commercial traffic.

Mr. NOLAN. That road, you say, is now a commercial highway used by the public?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Where you cross from one end of Florida to the other.

Mr. NOLAN. Why should the Government come in and take it over and reconstruct that road? Why does not the State do that?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. We are not going to do that, Mr. Nolan. We are talking about other roads.

Mr. NOLAN. I thought you were talking about the part that the Government would use.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. There is another road branching off of that and going down to Cape Sable; that would be strictly a park road.

Mr. ARENTZ. What is the present status of the Olympic Peninsula, that extreme northwest area up there, that wilderness?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. The Olympic Peninsula in the State of Washington?

Mr. ARENTZ. Yes.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. The Olympic Peninsula, aside from along the shore line, is in a national forest, and there is a national monument on top of that, set aside by President Roosevelt to insure the protection of that special species of elk that roams that wilderness. The Forest Service has put another sort of reservation there which they have developed themselves, administratively, called a "primitive area."

Mr. ARENTZ. Do you think that this area that we are speaking of here, discussing to-day, should be about of the same nature?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I think a large section of it should be, most of it, in fact.

Mr. ARENTZ. And it costs very little to administer the Olympic Peninsula. It is in fine hands up there, not as splendid, possibly, as the Park Service, but at the same time in good hands. They are building trails; they have a French chalet up there. The only way one can get into this great country is with a pack outfit, here in Florida one could use canoes or boats, I imagine, at least along the shore and up these rivers, then the back country could remain a wilderness area, as is contemplated. You could by boat see all the different varieties of luxuriant growth, both of the trees and of the perennials and annuals, and the bird life around the fringes of the gulf and up the rivers, because the rivers go up quite a distance. I have often thought that this area, before this discussion came up, should be of the same nature as the Olympic area. That is the most wonderful, the most beautiful area, in my mind, in the United States. This in its way is too.

Mr. ARENTZ. Then why not leave it intact, this area, in the same way that you have up there, without the cost of the national park administrative expense, because, regardless of the way you feel about it, you are going to have some one follow you, you are going to have pressure brought to develop this and develop that in this area, and the first thing you know we will have not only the expense of directing it, but large appropriations will be asked for.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. So far as Olympic Peninsula is concerned, we all have to follow public demands to a certain extent, but we have these primitive areas in the national parks very much larger than the Olympic. We have the whole northern half of Glacier National Park in a primitive area. We have a policy against building roads north of the Tuolumne River in Yosemite, keeping that a primitive area. We have been developing these primitive areas for years. Nearly 80 per cent of Yellowstone Park is an unopened wilderness.

Mr. ARENTZ. Here you have water and land along the gulf, and going up these streams and on the northern and eastern edge of this fringe of this vast area you have a duplication running clear over to the Atlantic coast; you have the same type of country running clear over to the capital of the State, clear up to the lake, a duplication of the same scenery, the same verdure, the same kind of palms.

Mr. YON. No, there is a change. There is something to interest the visitor down there from one point to another. You have never been down there, have you?

Mr. ARENTZ. No, I never have.

Mr. YON. Now, the Park Service deems this of park value and different from anything in the West.

Senator FLETCHER. Mr. Chairman, may I suggest this for just a moment? The suggestion has been made here that the committee go down there and look over this area. We have endeavored to lay the foundation for all this and present here the information, and save you that trouble. Congress passed an act approved in March, 1929, authorizing the Park Service of the Interior Department to make this study and investigation and determine according to their own judgment whether it would measure up to national park standards or not. Now, that preliminary work has all been done, as Mr. Albright has so well stated in his report on that subject, and

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they say it does measure up to national-park standards, and they want it as a national park. If, however, the committee wants to go down there, or it will go, facilities can be arranged to have them go, and they can go over there in airplanes, or boats, or by road, or any other way that they want, if they would like to do that; but we have tried to save you that by having the experts of the Government, bringing in all the other experts on the subject, to do it for you, and they have passed judgment on it. I do not know whether you could find out any more facts than they have given you if you went there and spent a year.

Now, with reference to the suggestion that some picture films might be shown and exhibits made to the committee so that they can see the pictures right before them, Mr. Coe is prepared to do that for you. If you will just give him time, name where you will and when you will, he will give you a lecture on the subject and he will show these films and these pictures on the screen and give you the whole thing, any time you say. He can give it here in the House Office Building. He will be prepared to do that for you, so that you can get everything pictorially that has been suggested that you might need right here at any time you want it. I want to mention that so that the committee will understand that they can see this whole picture if they desire to see it, at any time they want to.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator, after Mr. Albright finishes his statement, we will be very glad to have you make a statement.

Senator FLETCHER. Thank you. I just wanted to make that suggestion. I am willing to leave the whole matter in the hands of Mrs. Owen. I can not improve on what she will have to say about it. I wanted to clear it all up, that is all, let you know that you can have this picture if you want it, at any time.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Mr. Chairman, you can understand my position in discussing a national-park project before the committee, or anywhere else. We can not any of us say that a national park should be created and then tied up so that people can not use it. Our impulse on seeing this area was to take the view that Mr. Arentz has expressed, that there should not be any more of it opened by roads than is absolutely necessary. He has suggested the policy of protection that we ourselves have had in mind all the time. Now, this map will show you, if you can see it, what the situation is down there. This black line running from Miami to Everglade is the Tamiami Trail. It is already constructed. The only other road you can see that could possibly be needed in there would be a road most of which has already been built and which has once been accessible, clear through to Cape Sable. That is this point here [indicating]. Now, there might possibly be a minor road development out of Everglades, or possibly an extension of this along the Cape Sable Beach a ways. But this vast area that you see in the middle here, between the Cape Sable Road and the Tamiami Trail would be a wilderness area, and the cost for protection would only be patrolling through the ten thousand islands and in the Great White Water Bay and other places where these great rookeries are located.

Mr. SMITH of Idaho. Where is this Cape Sable Road that you speak of?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. It runs diagonally from Miami down to the point down there [indicating].

Mr. SMITH. That is the road, part of which was overflowed and washed out?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Well, it was wiped out by this storm, the cyclone that hit there and wiped it out. It is right here [indicating].

Mr. SMITH. What portion of it overflowed?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Somewhere right in here [indicating].

Mr. SWING. Mr. Albright, you referred to the cost of protecting that area you designated as the wilderness. Protecting from what?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Protecting from the poachers on these great birds.

Mr. SWING. It is a bird refuge?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes; a refuge for birds, alligators, crocodiles, bear, puma, and other animals.

Mr. SWING. Is the alligator supply in danger of being exterminated?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Absolutely, yes, sir. The alligators are a rare reptile down there in that country now.

Mr. SWING. The Senator referred to taking the committee by airplane over this park. Is that the method that is to be used by tourists in seeing it, or how are they to see it?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, they can see it by boat, Mr. Swing, largely by boat. But you can also see much of it by the road.

Mr. SWING. What kind of established water way channels are there through that section of the country?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Splendid. That was my first statement, when I first started. I told about our going up these rivers in boats and the possibilities there for getting any kind of boat trip that one would want.

Mr. SWING. I am sorry I was not here. During the wet season it is most all under water, is it not?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir; there are hummocks all through the area that are above the floods and are dry.

Mr. SWING. And the water courses are established and marked?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes, very distinctly established. The Shark River, for instance, is an enormous body of water stretching way back through the Everglades.

Mr. SMITH. At what time were you there?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I was there in February, Mr. Smith.

Mr. SWING. That is not the rainy season?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir. But I can not see why this area would not be just as accessible as any other park.

Mr. SWING. Do you think it would be possible for large numbers of people to visit it in boats?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes, sir.

Mr. SWING. What kind of boats?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Any kind of boats.

Mr. SWING. What kind of boats are in there now?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Right now, of course, they are mainly fishing boats and house boats. There has been no need up to the present time for large fleets of boats.

Mr. SWING. Do you anticipate the building of ferries or some kind of pleasure boats that will carry people on tours of inspection?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes, sir.

Mr. SWING. Your idea
that you would license
pleasure trips?
Mr. ALBRIGHT. I do not
a concession basis. I
have plenty of boats.
Mr. SWING. You are
sure that the new char-
"National Park" will
going there now?
Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes.
Mr. SWING. Then, if
have always been told
Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes,
impression—I hope
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Mr. SWING. That
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The CHAIRMAN
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are trying to estab-
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and feel that they w
Mr. ALBRIGHT. The
game-preserve propo-

Mr. SWING. Your idea would be, as head of the Park Service, that you would license concessions for the operation of boats for pleasure trips?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I do not think it would be necessary to have it on a concession basis. I think the whole area down there is going to have plenty of boats.

Mr. SWING. You say there are none at present. Do you anticipate that the mere changing of the name from "Everglades" to "National Park" will result in more people going there than are going there now?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes, sir.

Mr. SWING. Then, there is something in a name, although we have always been told that there was not?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes, sir; I think it is going to give the people the impression—I hope it will—that once it is made a national park they can be assured there will be facilities there for them.

Mr. SWING. That is what I am trying to get from you. The information was that the committee would have to go over it in airplanes. Of course, that is not practicable for an ordinary tourist who drives down to Florida in his Ford. When he gets there he can not hire an airplane. Now, what I was trying to find out from you was what the department proposes to do if we make this a national park, which would make it accessible to the ordinary tourist who tours California and Florida principally in his Ford? How is he going to see the wonders of nature which you have found there and which you think are of national park standard?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. He is going to see it in the Ford by crossing the Tamiami Trail, which is already built from Miami to Everglades, and by the rehabilitation and modernizing of a road that used to be between Miami and Cape Sable he will be able to cut across the Everglades in another direction; he will be able to see this in his own car.

Mr. SWING. Is the scenery on that road different from the scenery on the Tamiami Trail?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes; very materially different. Then he will be able to go around to Cape Sable and up these streams in boats, and he will be able to get into the heart of the area in boats, as well as crossing what might be called the heart of it up above here [indicating]. Then furthermore, he can fly over it and out of Miami. There is a great deal of flying done down there both by airplane and Zeppelin.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the point I was trying to bring out a while ago, Mr. Albright, whether there is anything inconsistent with the idea of a game refuge or preserve and a national park to which people could be invited without any question to go and see, and would be assured that the trip would be worth while. I understand we are trying to establish a standard and if the Government puts the name "park" on an area, we are glad to have people go there. We are not afraid to have them go there to see whatever there is to see, and feel that they will come away in the main satisfied.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. That is our view exactly. If this was merely a game-preserve proposition, Mr. Chairman, we would have come back

and proposed to Congress that this be handled by the Biological Survey.

The CHAIRMAN. That is my understanding, that that only comes incidentally.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I do not see how they can handle it as a game preserve. In the first place, I do not know how they could acquire it as a game preserve, but if it was simply a game preserve, we would lose interest in it aside from our general interest in all conservation plans.

The CHAIRMAN. And you think it is entirely practicable to establish a system of transportation—I am not saying what kind—by which the tourist who goes there could see an area that will be up to park standard?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Mr. Chairman, this park if established can be open to the public just as any other park is. I mean by that, that the essential features, the things that make it distinctive, the things that make it of national importance, can be opened to the gaze of everybody, just the same as the distinctive features of any other national park. But I want to apply there the same policy that we apply in every other national park, and that is that we do not open up any more than is necessary for our people to see and enjoy, and that we do not open up areas which if flooded with people would destroy the thing we have set out to save. In other words, we would open up the essential thing, like Old Faithful Geyser in Yellowstone. We have that accessible to everybody. We have it even lighted up at night so that people that get in late can get a view of it. But we do not open up, have never opened up, the Great Shoshone Geyser Basin; we have never opened up the Heartlake Geyser Basin, two geyser basins in Yellowstone that are very extensive and wonderful that nobody knows anything about, because there are already four geyser basins open, and nobody would go to the other two if you did open them. There is no demand for them. Nobody is interested in them. Consequently, you can take people through these Everglades, and they will see all the distinctive features, the fine forests, all the various species of palms, the coconut groves, the beaches, one or two of these great bird rookeries and the other areas containing unique forests, unique plant life, and let them see all of the distinctive unique things, the high lights of the area, and you will give them just as much in that section as you will in practically all of the other parks.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, just one other line. As I understand, you have not yet reached any estimate as to the probable cost of the establishment and maintenance of this park if we should create it?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. The cost of establishing the park, Mr. Chairman, will fall on the State or private individuals, and that will run from a million dollars up, depending upon what they are going to hold that land at. It seems to me that that whole area ought to be bought for not over a dollar an acre, with the possible exception of some land over near the east coast, in the vicinity of Key Largo, which is suggested for inclusion in the park because of the great Marine Gardens there that lie just off the coast, and other interesting things right on the coast. A million dollars to a million and a half ought to acquire this park, and that is what the outside cost should be. It would be very much cheaper than the Great Smokies.

STATEMENT OF

The CHAIRMAN. I did not understand that that is a people to see it. You have that the Government should

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, that. There are plenty have never in our national do not worry about that.

The CHAIRMAN. There building program.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, the CHAIRMAN. Was

much of that?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, little. I can not give dollars at the outside

roads and trails need any early need be

matter of protection would take 10 or 15

explore all of these but we do know the

people who push foreign population in violation of law

of Key West.

Mr. SERRA. R. planes? Who has

Mr. ALBRIGHT. source of income, Pearson!

Doctor PRANSON.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I than I can. But the birds, principally

Mr. SERRA. Does Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes

Mr. SERRA. And presented!

Mr. ALBRIGHT. The CHAIRMAN.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. It tion, but there is no

Mr. YON. If they Mr. SERRA. The

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Some of game depart

protected and the animals, in the inter

consideration as a ing places, and so for this area down here

The CHAIRMAN. I did not have in mind the acquiring of land. I understand that that is a problem for the State. I had more in mind the possible establishment of a park there with facilities for people to see it. You have mentioned roads. Would it be your idea that the Government should invest in boats or anything of that kind?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir; the Government would not have to do that. There are plenty of people engaging in that business. We have never in our national parks gone into any kind of business. We do not worry about that.

The CHAIRMAN. There would have to be quite an extensive road-building program.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Would it be your idea that there would be very much of that?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir; I think the road building would be very little. I can not give any estimate of it, but I should think a million dollars at the outside and over a period of years would cover the roads and trails needed down in that country. There would not be any early need for that development. It would become merely a matter of protection with rangers. Now, I do not know whether it would take 10 or 15 rangers. We have not had an opportunity to explore all of those streams to see to what extent protection is needed, but we do know that it is going to take several rangers, because the people who poach there furnish birds to the Cuban population, the foreign population at Key West. Most of their sales of birds are in violation of law right down there at Key West and in the vicinity of Key West.

Mr. SMITH. Right on that point, where do they sell these birds or plumes? Who buys them?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. The birds of plumage—plumes are no longer a source of income, particularly. It is not that so much, is it, Doctor Pearson?

Doctor PEARSON. There is some.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Doctor Pearson can tell the bird story much better than I can. But they sell the breasts of these birds, the meat of the birds, principally the breasts, to the population at Key West.

Mr. SMITH. Does that violate any State law?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes, sir; it violates the State law.

Mr. SMITH. And the people buy the food and they are not prosecuted?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It is a form of bootlegging?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. It think possibly now and then there is a prosecution, but there is no protection.

Mr. YON. If they get caught, usually.

Mr. SMITH. The State law is not enforced, then?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir. In Florida, like many other States—the income of game departments is from sportsmen and the areas that are protected and the attention is given to protecting game birds and animals, in the interest of sport. Sanctuary is usually taken into consideration as a matter of saving the breeding grounds or resting places, and so forth, for birds that are important in sport. Now, this area down here is, up to the present time, without protection,

adequate protection, largely I suppose because the sportsmen's money is needed elsewhere.

Mr. SWING. The consensus of opinion then seems to be, both by the Federal officers interested in this and the local people, that if this law protecting this game life was a Federal law rather than a State law, it would be more generally observed and better enforced. If that is so, of course it is just the opposite of the argument that is being advanced now with reference to prohibition, where the contention is that if they would only make it a State law instead of a Federal law, it would be much more highly respected.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Well, one of the essential things down there to be preserved is the bird life. It is marvelous. I can not possibly describe it, because I have not the words or the power to picture to you the wonderful display of great birds, enormous birds, most of them, great wood ibis, man of war birds, the roseate spoonbill, enormous birds and very rare birds, and they are among the things that will be of deep interest in this area.

Mr. SWING. Does local public opinion sanction the killing of these birds at the present time?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Enlightened public opinion down there does not, but nobody knows anything about this country; it is a wild, unknown country almost, even locally, as the northwest territory in Canada or the Yukon country. It is a country that nobody goes into at the present time except a few travelers who charter boats and go up there in winter, and even they, unless they flew over it, could not give any idea of the extent of it. You have got to do as we did, you have got to take an area from three standpoints if you are going to get the full conception of the size of it and the inaccessibility of it, the remoteness of it; you have got to fly over it, you have got to go into the very ends of these streams in boats, and you have got to cover the Tamiami Trail by road to get a real picture of it.

Mr. HARE. What is the difference in the scenic beauty of this section of Florida and that of California?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Well, there is no comparison at all between them from the standpoint of scenery. It is totally different scenery. This area is a relative flat country. Its interest topographically lies in the plant life and the waterways.

Mr. YON. There is no section like this anywhere else in the world, from your observation, especially in the United States, is there?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I certainly say that, Mr. Yon. I have never seen anything like it, and never dreamed that there was anything like it.

Mr. ARENTZ. Not only will the flora but the fauna will be protected in the Great Smokies and in the Shenandoah under the provisions of the enactment creating those two great areas?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Yes, sir; and when you have got an area that is unique from the standpoint of flora and the standpoint of fauna and the standpoint of geological formation, you have got a range of interest, a range of features that can not be protected in any other reservation but national park or national monument. A national monument could be established here on the ground that it is of scientific interest. The national monument act of June 8, 1906, says

that the President may establish a national monument to preserve historic features, or objects of historic interest, or scientific interest. The Chairman. That is what we want to get your idea of a national monument. It all lies in this: If we have even any part of the area, as I understand it, of a national park, of establishing a national monument, inspirational in these other things. I know if you could see it, instance, from the air. Mr. ALBRIGHT. No. The Chairman. Well, besides the element area! Mr. ALBRIGHT. A Mr. HOWE. P. swamp. Is it a flat country? or does it have the flat country? Mr. ALBRIGHT. healthy section. year we who are go. I think in of the heat and popular then. Mr. HOWE. Is Mr. ALBRIGHT. Mr. SMITH. As have mosquitoes for Mr. ALBRIGHT. Mr. SMITH. And out of the Everglades. Mr. ALBRIGHT. I quotes there at times the year, but I would not, any more to winter proposition when the people will The Chairman. No. Mr. ALBRIGHT. I said. I think you get things anyway. Mr. YON. Before you say about the expense if set aside as a park or other area of some Mr. ALBRIGHT. The would be Mount McKin-

that the President may either take public land or donated land and establish a national monument, provided it has scientific features, historic features, or contains historic landmarks.

The CHAIRMAN. That is just the point I was trying to make. I wanted to get your idea of the distinction between this area and a national monument area or a game preserve. It seems to me that it all lies in this: If we want to preserve the game life and bird life, or even any part of the area for that purpose, that is one thing; that becomes, as I understand it, the primary object while the establishment of a national park would be incidental, but the main purpose of establishing a national park is to provide an area unique, educational, inspirational in its aspects, at the same time taking care of all these other things. For instance, I was particularly anxious to know if you could see the same sight down here in a trip, for instance, from Miami to St. Petersburg?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, it is something unique and distinctive, besides the element of preservation of the flora and fauna of the area?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Absolutely.

Mr. HOOPER. People generally think of the Everglades as a big swamp. Is it a healthy region down there, that is, comparatively, or does it have the ills that go with a swamp country, a low-lying flat country?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I have never heard of that, that it was an unhealthy section. I think it is a section where at certain times of the year we who are not accustomed to that country would not want to go. I think in the middle of the summer it would be so on account of the heat and the insects. I do not think it would be particularly popular then.

Mr. HOOPER. Is there any malaria down there?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir.

Mr. SMITH. As I understand it, it is fresh water. You do not have mosquitoes from fresh water.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. It is all fresh water.

Mr. SMITH. And the water is fresh, really good to drink, right out of the Everglades.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I would not want to say that there are not mosquitoes there at times. There are a great many at some periods of the year, but I would not want to develop this as a summer proposition, any more than I would want to develop Glacier Park as a winter proposition. It is going to be used at the time of the year when the people will be going down there anyway.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, we have interrupted you a good deal.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. I do not know that I have anything further to add. I think you get more out of me by the committee asking questions anyway.

Mr. YON. Before you go any further, Mr. Albright, we were talking about the expense just now. Do you not believe that this area, if set aside as a park, would be more cheaply administered than any other area of similar size that we have in parks now?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. The only park that we could compare this with would be Mount McKinley Park in Alaska, which is very similar

to this from the standpoint of the section of the area that has to be protected. Mount McKinley Park in Alaska was before this committee in 1917. It does not cost much money to protect it. We have a few rangers there. There is one road lying along the northern boundary and a railroad running along the eastern boundary. By coming in on the railroad and then taking this road along the northern boundary, you can get all of Mount McKinley that is set aside for a preserve. You get views of the caribou, of the great white sheep, of the great mountain range, and you get a cross section of the forests. But on this 2,600 square miles in that park there would not be any more than three or four hundred square miles that will be accessible—I mean in the sense that it is actually used by the public in numbers.

Mr. SMITH. How much does it cost to administer Mount McKinley Park?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. The appropriation for 1931 is \$46,700 and for 1932 will be \$31,100.

Mr. SMITH. Do many people go there?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Not many yet, only a thousand or so a year. But this area is the same way. A patrol along those water fronts of enough men to establish at strategic points like Cape Sable an adequate protection service is all that is going to be needed in the way of administration. We have not had the time to make an accurate estimate of it, but I can say to the committee that this is not going to be an expensive park, even to maintain or to protect, compared to other great preserves that we have.

Mr. YON. Mr. Albright, there is one more question I want to ask you. This would be really the only accessible winter-time national park, you might say, to many thousands of people who go south in the winter? This would be accessible to them when they could not go to Yellowstone Park and other parks, would it not?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. That is true, but, of course, the Grand Canyon is accessible and Yosemite and Sequoia and some of the other parks are accessible in winter but this would be a totally different thing; it would not be even comparable to them because they do have snow and they lie at high altitudes, although they are accessible.

Mr. PALMER. What percentage of this is marshy, or is it sandy or hard formation?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. It would be difficult to say definitely, Mr. Palmer, but more than half of it is marshy.

Mr. PALMER. And there is no malaria to speak of?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. No, sir; no malaria. It is all fresh water. The fresh water is flowing in and around all these places. But there are innumerable other features there. For instance, I just brought along some of these tree snail shells that are found there. And there are rare orchids and every kind of plant and inset life that you can imagine in the field of rare, interesting, strange things down there. I have never seen such a place where at every turn you find something new and strange.

I think a good way to look at any park project is to go into a library and go to the section of travel or the section of natural history, and size up the books that have been written and find out whether or not it is a distinctive area, a unique area. Now, you

ESTABLISHMENT
 to this any natural history
 section on the Everglades.
 had and read—Somerset
 Snell, who is here, has
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 Cooper Hodgson, pres

go into any natural history library and you will find an enormous section on the Everglades. Here is a book that some members have had and read—Simpson's "In the Lower Florida Wilds." Mr. Small, who is here, has written 15 or 20 publications himself on the Everglades. The libraries tell us that this is a distinctive area.

Then you go into the colleges and find out what the scientific men think about it, and they will say that it is one of the most outstanding things in America from the standpoint of scientific interest.

Then finally you just take the layman, who does not care anything about the scientific side of it, who is just going out to get a thrill, and ask him how he thinks it sizes up from the inspirational standpoint, and he will say that it is one of the big things. We tested that out last year, talking to tourists who had been down there. For instance, we found in the Everglades the general manager of the Glacier Park Hotel Co. He lives in Glacier Park all summer, but he spent a couple of weeks down there on a boat, and he can not stop talking about it. Yet his whole life has been spent in the mountains, in a totally different environment. I do not know what more I could say than that. I would be glad to answer any more questions that you have.

The CHAIRMAN. I think you have covered the ground very well.

Mr. SMITH. Joe Jefferson, the actor, used to go down there and spent a great deal of time on his house boat. I have seen his boat down there.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, Mr. Albright, is that all?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Unless the committee has some more questions.

Mrs. OWEN. There seems to be an interest on the part of the committee to make a distinction between the preservation of bird and animal life, and the establishment of national park standards. Now, in answer to the question as to whether the Everglades territory measured up to national park standards, we have a group of scientists here to present one after another to speak of the various features, and before they speak I want to read a brief statement from David Fairchild, who has been referred to by Mr. Albright as one of the most distinguished naturalists with a knowledge of plant life in the country, and he touches on the answer to the very question that was put. He says:

How can anyone object to the establishment of a great wild-life park where swimming and flying inhabitants will inspire millions of American children and give them a glimpse of the fascination of the tropics, which circumstances may never permit them to see elsewhere.

That is the inspirational, educational feature.

It will soon be within the reach of week-end excursionists from the crowded centers of American life, and will startle them out of the ruts which an exclusive association with the human animal produces on the mind of man. It will be peculiarly a mid-winter park, the only one so far in the northern hemisphere warm enough to play in in the winter, where those too old or those too young to brave rigorous American winters can experience the thrill of the tropics.

That refers to the inspirational value. Doctor Fairchild was a member of the group that viewed the park with the scientists sent by the United States Government.

Then I wish to just quote briefly from the communication from Casper Hodgson, president of the American Book Corporation, who

was also judging the educational value, and he quotes from a letter which he wrote immediately on his return from the inspection trip:

I have just gotten back from the Florida trip and I will say to you in passing that what I saw there comes nearer to wilderness area than anything I have struck in a national park. It was inspirational to a high degree. It is not so geological but very elemental and primitive and certainly more biological than anything I have struck. No human touch in it at all. Some 20 to 40 miles of that kind of thing is hard to find any more. It will soon be spoiled, however, unless we take it, and I am for taking it. It will be doing something constructive to get behind this. It conforms more to national park standards than anything I have seen east of the Mississippi. I believe those in the party were pretty much of a mind about it.

That refers to the educational and the inspirational effect of the park.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce as the next witness Dr. Herman C. Bumpus, of Boston, a member of the corporation of Brown University, who can speak on the educational value of this area, and has come from Boston for the purpose of doing so.

Mr. SWING. Mr. Chairman, before Mrs. Owen leaves the floor, may I ask her two questions regarding her bill?

Mrs. OWEN. Yes.

Mr. SWING. Mrs. Owen, on the first line of your bill—perhaps you explained this before I came in—it begins:

That when title to lands within the area hereinafter referred to shall have been vested in the United States, there shall be, and there is hereby, established, dedicated and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people—

and so forth. Does that mean that when the title to all the land within this area has been turned over to the United States, or do you anticipate that the Government will be projected into the park business there, when only a part of the land has been vested in the United States?

Mrs. OWEN. This contemplates the turning over to the Government of the entire area, but Mr. Harlan Kelsey was just a moment ago discussing with me the advisability of permitting the Government to take over a part before the whole area was acquired.

Mr. SWING. What does your language permit? Does it permit the Government to proceed without waiting to get title to all the land, or is the acquisition of the title to all the land made a condition precedent?

Mrs. OWEN. It is, in the terminology of the bill.

Mr. SWING. It is what?

Mrs. OWEN. Made a condition.

Mr. SWING. That the title to all the land in the area—

Mrs. OWEN (interposing). Shall be in the United States, yes.

Mr. SWING. I wanted to get that clear in my own mind.

Now, at the conclusion of your bill it says that the provisions of the Federal water power act shall not apply. What does that mean?

Mrs. OWEN. That phrase was put in at the suggestion of the National Park Service.

Mr. SWING. What does it mean?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Mr. Swing, it is a standard clause that is being put into all park bills. It does not mean anything in this bill because there is no possibility of developing any water power down there. That is a clause that is put in because under the act of 1920, all

INDUSTRY OF
national parks are open to
use as every other piece of
that class in our new park
development.
The Chairman. It provides
as no great privilege.
Mr. ALBRIGHT. It is a
Commission.
Mr. YES. There would
Mr. ALBRIGHT. May I
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national parks are open to the development of water power, the same as every other piece of public land. We have been putting that clause in our new park bills to close them to water power development.

The CHAIRMAN. It provides that the Federal Power Commission can not grant privileges in this park?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. It removes it from the control of the Power Commission.

Mr. YON. There would not be any power development there.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. May I read a statement by Mr. Caspar W. Hodgson, who could not be here to-day, but who was a very valuable member of our group which inspected the Everglades last spring.

STATEMENT OF CASPAR W. HODGSON IN RE TROPIC EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
PROPOSITION DECEMBER 14, 1930

I visited this region in February, 1930, as an unofficial member of the commission representing the Department of the Interior which investigated it. I am chairman of the national parks committee of the conservation committee of the Camp Fire Club of America and chairman of the executive committee of the National Parks Association. The Camp Fire Club indorsed the Everglades region as a national park proposition, but the National Parks Association has taken no formal action upon the matter. I wish to make it clear that everything I have said or done in favor of this proposition has been said or done by me personally and not as representing any association.

Before seeing this region I was unconvinced of its national park caliber, but after spending days penetrating it by air, land, and water, I, as well as others of the same party, conceded that it was up to national park standards, though very different in type and character from any other national park.

The only thing in the nature of a written report by me was embodied in a letter to Robert Sterling Yard, executive secretary of the National Parks Association, and to the National Park Service, dated February 18, 1930, from which I quote as follows:

"I have just gotten back from the Florida trip, and I will say to you in passing that I saw what comes nearer to a wilderness area than anything I have yet struck in a national park. It was inspirational in a high degree. It was not so geological, but very elemental and primitive and certainly more biological than anything I have yet struck anywhere. No human touch in it at all. Some 20 by 40 miles of that kind of thing is hard to find any more. It will soon be spoiled, however, unless we take it and I am for taking it. It will be doing something constructive to get behind this. It conforms more to national park standards than anything I have seen east of the Mississippi. I believe those in the party were pretty much of one mind about it.

"Some who have opposed this as a park proposition didn't see what we saw. You can't see this thing from any road. You have to go into it by air or water. It is an air and water proposition and unlike anything we have in a national park. Of its type, it is the best thing we have under the American flag unless you go to the Philippines and even there you can't get anything devoid, as this is, of human tracks. I am a mountain man and so were most of the others of the party, but the mountain men fell hardest. Don't let anyone tell you it isn't inspirational and educational.

"I am against these things below standard which aren't of national interest, but we must go in for getting while the getting is good the things that are up to standard. It is a darned sight harder to get what we want to have than to kill off what we don't want, as witness the once fair Yellowstone thoroughfare country and the Yosemite Minaret country."

Since writing the above letter, I have consistently stood in letters and statements for the national park caliber of the wilderness part of this so-called Everglade region. All recommendations I have made personally for the establishment of the area as a national park have been based upon the consideration that the wilderness character of the region would be preserved and perpetuated.

I therefore favor and earnestly urge the passage of Mrs. Owen's bill, H. R. 12381, with the clear provisions

(1) That the exact boundaries of the area shall be left to experts of the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior;

(2) That the administration, protection, and development of the park shall rest wholly with the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior, and that recreational development shall not be prescribed in any bill or otherwise as a condition precedent to national park establishment.

The Federal Government should be left free to hold the tropic Everglades national park up to national park standards, along with all other national parks, and thus protect posterity and the people against themselves. My greatest fear is that recreational development and use of such a national park may destroy the very wilderness we are trying to save and pass on down time unspoiled. I have faith that the National Park Service unhampered would give all the access by air, water, and certain roads that is necessary for the inspirational, educational, and certain recreational purposes, drawing the line at tourist and commercial activities which would destroy natural wilderness characteristics.

(Signed) CASPAR W. HODGSON.

STATEMENT OF DR. H. C. BUMPUS, BROWN UNIVERSITY, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Mr. BUMPUS. As I look around and note the wall decorations in this room—beautiful pictures of national-park scenery—I realize that I am speaking to a committee that has sympathy with the out-of-doors and has exercised a good deal of discretion in making its selection of areas appropriate for national-park purposes. Although I have been introduced as a scientist, I want to say that my interest in the Everglades is not an interest that is actuated because I happen to belong to a group of scientists. My interest is aroused because of the perfectly stunning things that are in the national parks and because these things were seen by nearly 3,000,000 people during the past year. I desire that these exhibits of nature be rendered intelligible to the visiting public; that people do not visit the parks in vain; and that they come away from the parks better educated and thus better citizens.

There is in the minds of those who are looking upon the national parks as important sources of popular education—and largely adult education—the desire that the entire range of natural history, so far as it can be presented in the United States, shall be covered by a discreet selection of appropriate areas. We have, for example, the natural conditions—

Mr. SWING (interposing). Will you repeat that last sentence, please? I think that is important. You said you desired that the complete range be covered; range of what?

Mr. BUMPUS. Of the wide range of natural history, so far as it can be presented by the physical conditions of our country. We do not feel that the national parks should be selected solely because they are supreme examples of one phase of natural history, such as geology, but for all phases. May I proceed on that basis?

Mr. SWING. Yes.

Mr. BUMPUS. You have, for example, the action of ice splendidly shown in Glacier National Park, Mount McKinley, Yosemite, and Rocky Mountain Park. There is a particular type of instruction that can be given in these places that is superior to anything that can be obtained in any university. A week or two spent in Glacier National Park or in the Rocky Mountain National Park is better than a whole term in geology. The visitor is practically living in the glacial period when he goes into Glacier National Park. These parks have extraordinary instructional value. I might go on along this line, but I see the time is late, so I will pass on.

Continuing the subject of geology, there is the action of heat, as shown in Hawaii Crater Lake and Lassen; the action of rushing water at the Grand Canyon; of percolating water at Karlsbad and wave action in its process of gnawing away at the edges of the continent at Acadia, the only national park that impinges upon the ocean. We may be startled at the presence of fossilized marine life at the Grand Canyon, but we do not now possess—with the single exception of Acadia—a single park where we can see and study the marine life of to-day.

Mr. SWING. But, Doctor, you are developing a very interesting thought. I have been laboring under the impression heretofore that the yardstick for the committee to use in selecting the national park was that of a showman; that it was the spectacular that we were to consider. Now you are giving us a new thought, and a very interesting one, that a piece of ground which has educational value, scientific value, rises to the height of national-park value under certain circumstances. Do I get your idea?

Mr. BUMPUS. I think you have it all right.

Mr. SWING. Do you have back of you anybody that is impressed with the idea that those qualities are to be taken into consideration as the yardstick, or is that only your own view?

Mr. BUMPUS. I am sure that the principle I am advancing is the principle that educators throughout the United States would indorse.

Mr. SWING. And some of these park associations back you on that too?

Mr. BUMPUS. Yes, sir.

Mr. SWING. Thank you. I am glad to get that point of view.

Mr. BUMPUS. Now, you have spoken about national parks being spectacular. Why is the jacket of a novel spectacular? Why is the cover of a magazine made brilliant? To attract attention. It is because the sights in the parks are spectacular and attract attention that educators perceive that there is an opportunity to be of service. The director of the national parks has mentioned Old Faithful. When the people are there, they are "geyser-minded." You can not talk about Old Faithful at the rim of Grand Canyon, and you can not talk about the Grand Canyon at Old Faithful. While people are in either of these places, they want to know what there is back of the spectacle, and there is where the story should be told. The American Association of Museums working with the service has secured funds to get these stories across at that the time and place where they will do the most good.

I am not claiming that it is our purpose to educate—a more or less offensive word—the people that go into the national parks. I do claim that when visitors want substantial information concerning the behavior of nature they are entitled to receive it, and, furthermore, when a large, undeveloped area like the Everglades, possessing physical characters unrepresented in other parks and having great educational value, is available for inclusion in a system, ones duty becomes clear, and the more so since the national-park system will be forever incomplete if this tropical area is not acquired.

I want to emphasize three questions: Has this place educational value? Is it worth preserving in its present condition? And in the third place, will it be used? These are three fundamental questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, Doctor, I think you have touched right at the vital point. In the first place, that the two may be preserved to the country; to preserve the first two and combine them with the third is the function of the national park.

Mr. BUMPUS. That is just the point. The Everglades might be preserved in some way, but not used for educational purposes. The declared purpose of the National Park Service is conservation, recreation, and education. That is where the National Park Service stands alone among governmental agencies. The Florida area has great educational possibilities.

Now, I am coming to my second point: Is it worth preserving? One reason why I feel it is worth preserving is because hard-headed business men have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in making imitations, for exhibition purposes, of what there is in this area and the contiguous waters. I ran over the figures roughly before this meeting, and I think that the American Museum of Natural History has expended at least \$200,000 in its endeavor to give to the people of New York and the Nation at large some idea of what nature profusely exhibits in the southern part of Florida and the surrounding waters of ocean. Museums have sent their men into this rich area, they have made their collections, it has taken literally years to reproduce in our various cities what Florida exhibits as originals. If this area should cost \$5,000,000 the interest on the investment would be \$250,000. Institutions for educational and for inspirational purposes are spending, have spent, in reproducing what is already here practically the equivalent of the interest on this amount of money.

Furthermore, why is it that organizations, also composed of hard-headed business men—the trustees of the Zoological Gardens in the Bronx and the trustees of other similar institutions—are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars, some of which is being used in this very territory, in order that the animals and plants that are in this delightful country may be brought back to their municipalities? Why are large sums being spent on the aquariums in Chicago, San Francisco, and New York; and the tropical marine fauna and flora has no educational value?

All of this at the present moment is in your hands to preserve for posterity—not as dead museum exhibits, not in cages, not in glass tanks, but in a natural environment, as nature intended.

The third point, Will it be used? The position is strategic. We have highways running within relatively easy motor distance from St. Louis, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Buffalo, New York, and Boston. In the winter season the general trend of travel is toward the South. There is the "jacket of the novel"—the Everglades. There is no question in my mind whatever that if this thing is set apart as a national park it will become the most popular park at a relatively early date.

I agree thoroughly with what Mr. Albright has said in regard to cost. It is a park that will be relatively inexpensive, so far as its maintenance is concerned, and also very inexpensive so far as its protection is concerned. Two rangers going back and forth in airplanes can cover the whole place so far as poaching is concerned, because poachers go in on boats; they can not get out except by following the rivers, at the mouths of which they may be apprehended.

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At the outset the cost of roads will be relatively trivial. I think there are only about 2 miles of reconstruction to make passable the present road to Cape Sable. Road construction in Florida is not expensive.

There is a strip of shore line when one stands at Cape Sable and looks toward the east—20 miles undisturbed and of exquisite beauty. One turns around and looks to the west from the same place and, extending for an equal distance, is a view that has all the charm of the Pacific Islands—perfectly stunning coconut palms standing there undisturbed, and hardly a sign of the presence of human beings.

I picked up as I came down on the train this morning a copy of the New York Times, and there was an appeal being made in an editorial for the setting apart of a larger portion of the shore along the Jersey coast and the shores of Long Island. This appeal was made in order that the people of the large cities in the north might have the privilege of enjoying the shore and to the end that it should not be preempted and staked off by private owners. There is no place along our entire Atlantic coast line that compares in beauty with the tract that runs to the east and west from Cape Sable, and you must not fail to register that as the permanent property of the United States for the benefit and enjoyment of the people. Although I am interested in some of the large areas in Florida farther north, the place of supreme importance is the shore line and the outlying keys, but we must have the hinterland in order to see that all is properly protected. It is worth every dollar it may cost the State and every dollar consumed in its maintenance.

The CHAIRMAN. Doctor, you have made a very interesting statement. To-morrow is the regular meeting day of the committee, and there are one or two small bills that members are extremely anxious for us to take action upon, and if it is agreeable to the members of the committee and to you, Mrs. Owen, the committee can meet at 10 o'clock and then your hearing will be resumed at 10.30.

Mrs. OWEN. Mr. Chairman, we have here scientists who have come from Boston and New York, several of them, who have made a long trip for the express purpose of appearing before you. Would it be agreeable or possible to reconvene the meeting this afternoon and let these gentlemen appear?

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, I will be governed by the wishes of the majority of the committee. We could probably get permission from the House to meet this afternoon.

Mrs. OWEN. Would it be agreeable to the committee to continue for half an hour?

The CHAIRMAN. So far as I am concerned; yes.

Mr. SWING. Are you coming back to-morrow, Mr. Albright? I want to ask some questions about jurisdiction. Have you discussed jurisdiction in the record? Is there any statement regarding what the jurisdiction of the Federal Government will be over this land? Will it be merely a land owner or will it be there in its sovereign capacity? The bill does not definitely provide for that.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Florida will have to pass a bill deeding jurisdiction to it. We will have to accept that.

Mr. SWING. I am wondering whether the bill ought not to contain a proviso to take care of that. As it is now, we move in there as

a mere property owner of the land. For instance, a large part of this is water; what about the jurisdiction over the entire subject matter? It would take an act of the State Legislature, and there ought to be some language in the bill covering that.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. All of the other States ceded jurisdiction as soon as the park was created.

Mr. SWING. But you are here testifying in favor of the bill, which contains no such provision, and I wanted to know whether you favored the bill as it is or whether you were going to offer an amendment?

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Normally, we would present a bill to this committee accepting jurisdiction after the State has ceded it, and as the State tenders the land to us they will cede jurisdiction to us, and then we will have to get another bill through.

Mr. SWING. You have got a proviso that the park is established now, though.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Then when we enter as proprietors—

Mr. SWING (interposing). And you haven't any jurisdiction.

Mr. ALBRIGHT. Not exclusive jurisdiction. That is the same situation we have at Grand Canyon. Arizona has never ceded exclusive jurisdiction of the Grand Canyon.

Mr. SWING. I will suggest that you prepare for the use of the committee a proper amendment which will cover the matter of jurisdiction.

The CHAIRMAN. Just a moment before we adjourn. It has been suggested that for the purpose of hearing some of these gentlemen who are anxious to get away, we meet this evening. Is there objection to that? Well, if we find that any considerable number can come, we will hold a meeting this afternoon; otherwise we will resume at 10.30 to-morrow morning.

(Whereupon, at 12 o'clock noon the committee adjourned until 10.30 o'clock a. m. Tuesday, December 16, 1930.)

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ESTABLISHMENT OF EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1930

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE PUBLIC LANDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10.30 o'clock a. m., Hon. Don B. Colton (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order. We will resume the hearing on H. R. 12381. Mrs. Owen, who is your first witness?

Mrs. OWEN. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I would like to introduce as my first witness Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson, president of the National Association of Audubon Societies, and chairman or a director of numerous other organizations, the names of which I would like to have him give you in the beginning of his statement. Doctor Pearson, of New York.

STATEMENT OF T. GILBERT PEARSON, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AUDUBON SOCIETIES, NEW YORK CITY

Mr. PEARSON. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I am T. Gilbert Pearson, president of the National Association of Audubon Societies, for the Protection of Wild Birds and Animals. I am here representing that organization. I am also the chairman, I might mention, of the National Committee on Wild Life Legislation, representing the Audubon Association, American Forestry Association, Isaac Walton League of America, the American Game Protective Association, and the two associations composed of the various State game commissioners.

Mr. SMITH of Idaho. These are all voluntary organizations, are they not, Doctor?

Mr. PEARSON. Yes.

Mr. SMITH. And they have no connection whatever with the Government?

Mr. PEARSON. None whatever. My only connection with the Government officially, I presume, is that I am a member of President Hoover's Yellowstone Park Boundary Commission, and a member of the advisory board to the Secretary of Agriculture on Federal regulations under the migratory bird treaty act.

Mr. SMITH. And the organizations that you represent are kept up by voluntary contributions of the members who are interested in these particular subjects?

Mr. PEARSON. Yes. With the exception of the two associations composed of the State game commissioners.

Mr. SMITH. How long have you been specializing in work of this character?

Mr. PEARSON. You mean national parks?

Mr. SMITH. In work such as the Audobon Society is doing?

Mr. PEARSON. I have devoted my entire time to it since 1902. I became greatly interested in ornithology when I was 11 years old.

Mr. SMITH. That has practically been your life work?

Mr. PEARSON. Yes. The Audobon Association was incorporated early in 1905. I was one of the founders and have worked with it ever since. One of the first men the Audobon Society employed to guard the egret and ibis rookeries was stationed near Cape Sable, Fla. He was shot dead by men who were gathering plumes for the New York millinery trade, and his tombstone is at East Cape in one of the palm groves referred to yesterday.

Mr. SMITH. When was that?

Mr. PEARSON. As I recall now, it was in the summer of 1905.

Mr. SMITH. Since that time the Federal Government has passed some legislation that affects the marketing of the plumes, has it not? Tell us about that.

Mr. PEARSON. In 1913 I was here in Washington with others working to get a provision included in the tariff act making it illegal to bring plumage of birds into this country. The Audubon law, so called, the protection of nongame birds we had worked through most of the State legislatures, including Florida. This law is in general operation to-day. It makes it illegal to kill most nongame birds. It defines what are game birds and lists a few species that the legislatures declined to include in the protected group.

Mr. SMITH. That is the Florida law?

Mr. PEARSON. They have the Audubon law there, although it has been modified some. That law made it illegal to kill birds of this character. We got Monroe County, Fla., to make our man a county game warden under a local law and that fact appears on his monument.

I was referring to the provision in the tariff act of 1913 which makes it illegal to bring feathers into this country. This was done because dealers in egret feathers claimed that their goods were imported, chiefly from Venezuela, and that feathers of American birds were not being used.

Mr. SMITH. Was that law passed with a view to protecting the American birds?

Mr. PEARSON. Yes.

Mr. SMITH. I mean protecting the trade, rather, in American birds?

Mr. PEARSON. No. It was intended to prohibit the trade in the feathers of American birds.

Mr. SMITH. To prevent foreign plumage from coming here in competition with American plumage?

Mr. PEARSON. The idea was this: American birds were being killed for their plumage and it was indistinguishable from the plumage of birds brought from foreign countries, so the law was to protect our own birds. We did not ask Congress to pass a law simply to protect the birds of Venezuela. Three years before this law was enacted the Audubon Association, after a heavy campaign, secured a law in New York State making it illegal to sell feathers of pro-

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ected birds native of New York State or feathers of any bird that belongs to a family of birds protected in New York State. The attorneys appearing in opposition stated that there was \$16,000,000 invested in the feather trade of New York at that time, and we had quite a fight. The association carried that fight through a number of other State legislatures. Then we came to Congress with this national legislation prohibiting importation. When the tariff was revised in the next tariff act, we and our associates got a provision in there to make it illegal to sell any of these feathers unless the party desiring to sell them could prove that they were brought into this country before the former tariff act had gone into operation.

Briefly that is the law on the feather trade.

Mr. SMITH. That is quite a monument to your initiative, determination, and enthusiasm. I think you are to be complimented for what you have accomplished.

Mr. PEARSON. Thank you, Mr. Smith. That is one of the lines on which our organization has been very active.

In the early years of our work many States were virtually doing nothing to enforce the bird and game laws, so we became very active in attempting to establish State game commissions, such as function to-day in every State except Mississippi. One of the Rip Van Winkle States in wild life protection was Florida. Some of us were working—I worked in Tallahassee personally at two sessions of the State legislature to get a bill through to establish a State warden system. The first time we succeeded, and the governor appointed a young man named Jones of Jacksonville as State game warden. You might be interested in some of the details of the enterprise. His office was soon abolished for political reasons. We got another bill through and Governor Catts refused to sign it because he could not name the man that was to be the State game warden. At last a game commission law was again enacted and the governor appointed a man named Royal, who operated for a few years. The State now has a man as game commissioner named Woodward. He is a very capable official but says it is absolutely impossible, with the means at his disposal, to protect adequately the wild life in south Florida.

The Audubon Association purchased an island containing a large rookery in Orange Lake, Alachua County, Fla., and we have guarded it for many years. We have protected other bird colonies in the State, trying as best we can to help preserve the marvelous wild-bird life of that State.

Two or three times we have placed wardens in the Everglades region but never found the results satisfactory because of our limited force. We found also men pretending to be Audubon wardens who would "watch" colonies of egrets and then shoot out the rookeries when they became "ripe." "Ripe" is a plume-hunter's term and means that the breeding season has advanced to a point when the eggs have hatched and the old birds will then not desert the region when the shooting begins. As the young grow up the "aigrette" plumes of their parents become frayed and are shed. The old birds are killed and the young are left in the nest to die of starvation. This sort of thing has been going on in Florida and our southern States generally for a long time. It has gone on in the west, not only with egrets, which are not so numerous there, but with grebes and

other water birds. I could point out to you details of the experiences we have had in trying to stop grebe killing in the Pacific Coast States.

When the question of creating an Everglades national park came up a year ago last May, I went down to this region. I worked among my friends trying to get some money to put special men here to guard the birds, to see whether it was possible to protect them and give a demonstration of what the region would contain in the line of water birds that would be of great interest to the general public. At an expense of about \$5,000 we put eight men in the Everglade region for four months this last spring. The United States has only one warden for Florida. The State is able to do but little for its water birds. The Biological Survey at our request deputized as United States wardens all of our eight men, and their men took charge of them to distribute them about over the Glades where the birds breed. If the birds left any rookeries for any reason the wardens followed them to their breeding swamp. So the birds during the past season were given fair protection. Two of these men guarding the colonies near the Tamiami Trail patrolled it a good deal. There is much shooting along that trail. It should be patrolled by park rangers, if there should be a park created and it should be included.

My childhood conception of the Everglades—and I think this is a common belief—was that it is a vast swamp, with long moss waving and with Seminole Indians, crocodiles, and venemous snakes everywhere. We had some maps about here yesterday—I have a small one in my hand that perhaps will be sufficient.

Mr. YON. There is one in this hearing, Doctor Pearson.

Mr. PEARSON. Yes; thank you, it is on page 10. All through the eastern and central parts of this proposed area of the park one finds a flat country which we may call a marsh. Little islands of trees are scattered about. In most of the region the limestone rock, perhaps of coral origin, comes almost to the surface. There is very little overburden of soil down at the south. About here is Royal Palm Hammock, which is not marked on this map. I presume it would be at the eastern line of the park. Just beyond there to the westward a man attempted at one time to establish an orange grove—I think he blasted out some of the rock here and there for holes for his trees. But the undertaking was a failure. There are a few small farms where vegetables are grown. With these exceptions, I know of virtually no agriculture or horticultural activity carried on in this territory. In mentioning these things I have this in mind: Through the years economic pressure has been brought to bear, and, as the population increases, more economic pressure is going to be brought to bear upon the integrity of our national parks. That is perfectly natural. I think there will never be any great call for this area. I can not imagine any way that the soil could be used to make anything out of the soil.

As one approaches the western coast the type of country changes. There are innumerable keys where a mangrove seed, like a cigar, floats along and grounds and sends up a little bush, and a little key is begun. These little islands or keys unite in time, many of them, but there are 10,000 of them along there—probably 20,000. I think they belong to the United States Government. They are absolutely

ESTABLISHMENT OF EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

unsurveyed land. everywhere, where because there are brown pelicans, the among these islands from the inland side. The mangrove in forests sometimes look into these trees, with these ing over one another at all, but just this head. The scenes run by campers at those mangrove there is a little crabs to run around.

As you go up forms of trees and swamps bordering crossing the Tamiami stand that with a take people from the Thousand Islands River to see the pleasure, as a new Service authorized birds, white ibis, w. snowy egret. Along the Shark River.

Mr. SERRA. What part of the peninsula?

Mr. PEARSON. I say roughly, following the west side along the river for many years of ing the river for formed, tell me the to this coast to come to go up the Shark down, and take the legging of birds.

Mr. SERRA. I

Mr. PEARSON. I fished here so long American women States law prohibit effect the customs from women's hats occurred to them goods and to their of the seized negroes imposed upon by

unsurveyed land. Among these mangrove keys there are waterways everywhere, where one may travel in boats by being a little careful, because there are little oyster bars here and there. Here you find brown pelicans, ibises, egrets, and many other striking birds. Back among these islands you will find the mouths of rivers that come from the inland, and following up those you see mangroves on each side. The mangrove grows as a bush generally, but here it grows in forests something like 80 feet high. You part the bushes and look into those mangrove forests with those great black bolls of trees, with these marvelous roots like vast lianas or anacondas leaping over one another, great regions where you can not see the mud at all, but just this vast mass of roots, and a canopy of leaves overhead. The scenes are weird in the extreme. It will never be overrun by campers at least, owing to the difficulty of getting through those mangrove forests. And down below these roots in many cases there is a little water, just enough water for racoon oysters and crabs to run around.

As you go upstream the mangroves pass and you come to other forms of trees and bushes. There are a few stands of cypress, little swamps bordering the rivers. One of these rivers runs from up here crossing the Tamiami Trail. I have not been down it, but I understand that with a little dredging arrangements could be made to take people from the trail down the river, wander through the Ten Thousand Islands, and go up the Chatham, Harney, or Shark Rivers to see the wonderful rookeries. Last February I had the pleasure, as a member of the investigating committee of the Park Service authorized by act of Congress of showing at least 15,000 birds, white ibis, wood ibis, the glossy ibis, the little blue heron, the snowy egret, American egret, breeding, inhabiting bushes and trees along the Shark River.

Mr. SMITH. What part of the peninsula would that be? What part of the peninsula are you referring to?

Mr. PEARSON. That is on the west side. In this little map I would say roughly, following the coast, a third of the distance up on the west side along the proposed park area. Reports have reached me for many years of men going in these rivers in house boats and shooting the ibises for food. Local people, who evidently are well informed, tell me that it is customary for Cuban fishermen who come to this coast to catch mackerel and then at the close of the season to go up the Shark River, shoot birds by thousands, salt their bodies down, and take them to Habana. Also, there is supposed some bootlegging of birds' bodies into Key West.

Mr. SMITH. That is for food purposes?

Mr. PEARSON. That is for food. The feather traffic which flourished here so long we thought had virtually been killed, because American women quit buying feathers in Paris. When our United States law prohibiting importation of aigrettes first went into effect the customs authorities in New York began to seize aigrettes from women's hats, they seized at least four great chests full. It occurred to them to in time get an ornithologist to examine these goods and to their amazement he reported that a large percentage of the seized aigrettes were merely imitations. The ladies had been imposed upon by the French milliners. Word was sent out to all

these women that a mistake had been made, that they had bought imitations and that they could come and get them. But I understand no one applied.

Mr. SMITH. You mean that imitations could be manufactured?

Mr. PEARSON. Manufactured imitations. Of course, there were many real aigrettes in the lot. American women quit buying feathers when they found they could not get them past our customs officials. This almost entirely destroyed the egret plume trade in Paris, which was the emporium of the world in the millinery feather business. When I was in Florida a year ago, in May, I was surprised to hear that the killing of egrets had broken out again. There has always been some of this going on, and the local hunters take their feathers into Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Fort Pierce over on the west side, to Fort Myers and sell them to tourists. The plumes are taken with a strip of the skin off the back of the bird and the long feathers numbering usually 52 to 50 sprays, are much desired. They constitute the only commodity I know of in the millinery trade that often brings twice its weight in gold. A hunter gets as much as \$10 or \$25 or more for feathers of a single bird. I learned they are of late killing these egrets and shipping the feathers to Habana and from there to Europe.

I was over in Paris in May of this year and going to the government records looked into the subject of the importation of feathers into France, and I found that paradise and aigrette importations has tremendously increased in the last few years. There is not very many of them on display in Paris. Why are they wanting them? Two years ago when I presided at the world conference on bird protection at Geneva, Switzerland, representatives from some of the European countries came with the statement that they had been approached by their governments and asked to do nothing in the way of passing resolutions that would tend to discourage the feather trade, as the milliners were working to bring them into fashion again. In other words, they appear to be laying their plans to develop a great millinery trade again, and our birds down here in this Everglades section are being killed and their feathers are evidently finding their way to Paris as in days of yore.

Mr. SMITH. There is no law prohibiting the exportation of the aigrettes, is there?

Mr. PEARSON. Yes; in that it is illegal to kill the birds or have their feathers in possession for purposes of sale.

Perhaps I have said enough about the bird life, except to say that in the Royal Palm Hammock, Mr. Arthur H. Howell, of the National Museum of Washington, a Government man here, identified 127 species of birds. There are various rare birds breeding in the Everglades. The Everglade kite, the swallow-tailed kite, and the limpkin are examples. The roseate spoonbill, once found in Florida by hundreds of thousands, is very rare to-day. I doubt if there are 500 of them left in the State. Some of them breed down at a colony the Audubon Association is guarding near Cape Sable, and I had the privilege of showing the investigating committee of the Park Service some of them in Alligator Lake.

I have here a few pictures if you care to glance at them, taken at some of our rookeries. These show some of the great birds that are of extreme interest to the people of the country. These showing the

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wood ibis on the trees are taken at Alligator Rookery [presenting pictures].

Mr. SMITH. Is there any considerable number of birds in the northern part of the proposed park area?

Mr. PEARSON. Yes; along the Tamiami Trail they occur in great numbers and we have guarded two colonies near this highway the past year and another one farther north at Fish Eating Creek, entirely outside of the boundary of the proposed park. And there are some even farther north. Egrets breed as far north as North Carolina in very small numbers. The rarest heron in the United States is the great white heron, which is as large as the great blue heron, the big blue crane, as it is often called. In the United States it is confined to the southern end of Florida. We saw two of them on this trip inside this territory on the park as planned.

Mr. SMITH. Doctor, what has become of the bluebird that used to be so numerous all over the country?

Mr. PEARSON. Well, in North Carolina where I was living at the time they went out in great numbers, around 1896, there was a general report over the country that they left because the Republicans combining with the Populists got into power that year. [Laughter.] But we do know that there was a very heavy freeze about that time and many of them died in consequence.

Mr. SMITH. In Ohio when I was a boy we used to have great numbers of bluebirds; now we do not see any of them.

Mr. YON. Is that a blue jay?

Mr. PEARSON. No; the bluebird is smaller than a jay—blue, with a reddish breast.

Mr. SMITH. Have they been obliterated from that section of the country?

Mr. PEARSON. Not entirely, they are fairly common in many places. There is the question of nesting places, and people have cut down the trees—they used to make their nests a great deal in old woodpecker holes in trees, and there are not so many nesting places now. Then the English sparrow has taken their homes a great deal, and the starling spreading over the country also has usurped their nesting places.

Yesterday some one suggested here, why not make the area we are discussing a game preserve it has such a marvelous exhibition of wild life? How would you get possession of the property? I have asked people connected with the Everglades Tropical Park Association who have brought this matter to public attention, and they said it would be absolutely impossible, in their opinion, to get anybody interested in providing money to buy that land to give to the Government as a game preserve or as a national monument. The word "national park" has a magical effect on the minds of many people, and it is, of course, quite natural that people down here are interested in having people come to their State. That is one reason that every new national-park proposition is so greatly encouraged by many of the people of the State where it is to be situated. They think it will bring people to the country.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the reason, Doctor, that we are jealously guarding the national park word, because we want it to carry that meaning.

Mr. PEARSON. Yes. I have had the pleasure of looking into some of these proposed national parks for the Park Service, and this is the only one that I know of that I am particularly interested in, that I feel is up to park standard. Probably I have talked about long enough here, but I want to refer to a little circular.

A few years ago the Campfire Club of America, an organization of four or five hundred explorers, big-game hunters, and naturalists in New York, appointed a committee to collect the public sentiment about what should constitute national-park standards. There are five of us on the committee. We worked on it a good deal, prepared a little prospectus which we sent around to a great many people to get their ideas. People who visit and study national parks especially were approached by our chairman, Mr. Casper Hodgson. We published our findings in a preliminary circular. Later a second pamphlet was issued and that was sent to a great many more people to get their ideas of national-park standards. I have copies here of our third revised edition. This is entitled "National Park Standards—A Declaration of Policy." This has been submitted to about 100 of the more prominent out-door organizations of America. Nearly all indorsed it, and no organization has disapproved it.

This is, of course, wholly an unofficial publication, it is merely the combined points of view of men who, represent the people of the country, are interested in national parks and in preserving correct standards.

The CHAIRMAN. I suggest that you indicate—it will be all right to read it, but I suggest that you also indicate what you thing ought to go into the record, and we will let it go right into the record.

Mr. PEARSON. Yes. I will ask that the part that I mark here, which is the larger part of one page, be included in the record.

(The matter referred to follows:)

I. DEFINITION

National parks are spacious land areas essentially in their primeval condition and so outstandingly superior in quality and beauty to average examples of their several types as to demand their preservation intact and in their entirety for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of all the people for all time.

It follows:

1. That park areas must be of national interest to warrant their commitment to national care.
2. That the area of each park must be a logical unit, embracing all territory required for effective administration and for rounding out the life zones of its flora and fauna.
3. That each park area shall be a sanctuary for the scientific care, study, and preservation of all wild plant and animal life within its limits, to the end that no species shall become extinct.
4. That wilderness features within any park shall be kept absolutely unmodified.
5. That with respect to any unique geological formations or historic or prehistoric remains within its confines each park shall be regarded as an outdoor museum, the preservation of whose treasures is a sacred trust.
6. That the existence of the parks is justified and insured by the educational and spiritual benefits to be derived from contact with pristine wilderness.
7. That parks must be kept free from contact with industrial use, and that sanctuary, scientific, and primitive values must always take precedence over recreational or other values.

When the National Parks Service Investigation Committee was in south Florida last February, after we had been over this territory,

ESTABLISHMENT OF EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

We sit together one opinion of every man guides park area no descriptions. The other part of the U and animal life. interested people stone, when people to waste, what would go out lack of the real enthusiasm and them standing on. They stood there for turned around, and long-created them most. Up in that fact that what sleep, the Golden willows, and the Those were the thing of the Everglades to the people that go the possibilities for were talking yesterday rebuild this one to C go around White W country, that is the its western end. C days' trip, with a at the Cape Sable be

The interminable through all this vast them all. The people are the Seminole In 50 Seminole left in wander through the they trap fur-bearing In short, they earn them go out and w north of this area, more delightful on a camping trip canoe, wearing their silent smoking Indian

Mr. SARRIS. Doctor this a park, to protect it available for tourists

Mr. PEARSON. What Mr. SARRIS. That lation is urged.

Mr. PEARSON. I think There is a chance he tion of wild life which anywhere else. The

we sat together one night and went over these in detail. It was the opinion of every member of the committee that the proposed Everglades park area measures up 100 per cent to every one of these descriptions. The country is something absolutely different from any other part of the Union. It contains extremely interesting vegetable and animal life. I have noticed in the large parks of the West how interested people are in wild life. I have noticed that in the Yellowstone, when people see the geysers, they talk about the steam going to waste, what wonderful spectacles they are; and after supper they go out back of the hotels when the bears come out, and then it is that real enthusiasm and excitement begins. I saw two ladies and a gentleman standing on the brink of the Grand Canyon at El Tovar. They stood there for 10 or 15 minutes making remarks, and then they turned around, and spent nearly half an hour following a pair of long-created jays in the trees nearby. It is the wild life that attracts them most. Up in McKinley Park in Alaska I was impressed with that fact that what chiefly interested tourists were the wild mountain sheep, the Golden Eagles soaring over the hills, the moose in the willows, and the red fox across the Savage River from the camp. Those were the things that excited them most. And so the wild life of the Everglades will be a great educational and inspirational uplift to the people that go there. They can travel by boat, and I can see the possibilities for joy and happiness for the use of such craft. You were talking yesterday about roads; my idea of a road would be to rebuild this one to Cape Sable, as Mr. Albright said. Then it should go around White Water Bay and cross the western edge of the prairie country, that is the marshy area, and join the Tamiami Trail toward its western end. One could go through the area in a wonderful two days' trip, with a stopping place down here among these palm groves at the Cape Sable beaches.

The interminable waterways and the creeks that wander back through all this vast western part of the Glades there—no man knows them all. The people who know them best, acquainted with them, are the Seminole Indians. Last year I was advised that there were 551 Seminoles left in south Florida. They dress picturesquely; they wander through the Glades; they shoot the big wood ibis for food; they trap fur-bearing animals and shoot alligators for their hides. In short, they earn a living in about any way they can. A few of them go out and work for the whites. They are mostly living up north of this area, but some of them camp through here. What more delightful outing could a man and his wife have than to take a camping trip with a couple of Seminoles in their long dugout canoe, wearing their picturesque costumes? Trusty guides are these silent smoking Indians who know the country so well.

Mr. SMITH. Doctor, which is the more important reason to make this a park, to protect the wild life, especially the birds, or to make it available for tourists?

Mr. PEARSON. Which is the most important?

Mr. SMITH. Those are the two outstanding reasons why the legislation is urged.

Mr. PEARSON. I think they are both important and inseparable. There is a chance here to show to the people of America an exhibition of wild life which they have extremely little opportunity to see anywhere else. The region is being raided to some extent by the

charcoal burners, men go there and cut the mangrove forests to burn charcoal. You see, the people that fish and trap through the Florida Keys often have difficulty in finding places where they can land and build a fire, so they have a charcoal bucket, with a perforated platform of cement about half way to the bottom. They put charcoal in there and burn it, and with that heat they make their coffee and cook. They carry these buckets right in their boats, and so as a class those people are known as charcoal burners, and there is also quite a traffic in charcoal in the Bahamas and Cuba. Men are cutting down these magnificent mangrove forests to make charcoal. That is the chief raid on the vegetation of the area, so far as I have observed.

Mr. SMITH. It is not contemplated, as I understand, to provide any revenue for the upkeep of this park, as you do in the Yellowstone Park, for instance?

Mr. PEARSON. That is, I believe, an administrative matter for the Park Service to determine.

Mr. SMITH. It would be rather difficult to have a plan of that kind on account of these public highways through there. There would be no place to take the toll.

Mr. PEARSON. There would be excellent places to collect toll—there would be so few places motors could enter.

Mr. SMITH. That is a public highway. You could not charge people traveling on the Tamiami Trail or the Cape Sable road. Those are public highways.

Mr. PEARSON. Well, I am not informed that it is a public highway.

Mr. SMITH. Oh, yes; it is.

Mr. PEARSON. Would it be a public road if inside the park area?

Mr. SMITH. Yes; it is a public highway.

Mr. PEARSON. But is not that a State highway?

The CHAIRMAN. The State will probably transfer exclusive jurisdiction.

Mr. YON. There is no doubt that if the park is created as proposed, the highway rights pertaining to county roads and State roads wholly within the area, particularly as it pertains to this Royal Palm State Park road and the Cape Sable road, would go with the jurisdiction of the park.

Mr. SMITH. Are you speaking seriously now, Mr. Yon?

Mr. YON. Yes; quite seriously.

Mr. SMITH. That would not be probable, because the people of Florida who paid the taxes to build this road may care nothing about the park, and if they wanted to drive from Miami over to St. Petersburg, they would not stand for the toll.

Mr. YON. We were not talking about that, but I believe that could be arranged with the Park Service, that when they leave the highway going to the interior of the park, there would be a provision made—arrangements made—for toll there.

Mr. SMITH. But there is no road down into the interior of the park.

Mr. PEARSON. I imagine that the State would be glad to give up the road to the Government if the Government would keep it up.

Mr. SMITH. I do not think any member of the legislature, outside of that particular county, would have the courage to undertake to

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close up a State road and deprive the people traveling through the country of the opportunity to travel there as they could elsewhere without toll.

The CHAIRMAN. Mrs. Owen, it might be well in this connection to give some serious thought to the suggestion made yesterday by Mr. Swing, that you amend the bill by providing that it shall become effective when the State of Florida has ceded jurisdiction. There may be some objection to that that I do not know of, but it would no doubt expedite the administrative features if it becomes a park, because that is done in all of the other parks.

Mrs. OWEN. Well, personally I see no objection to that amendment, and I will be very glad to consult with the National Park Service about it.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, you indicated yesterday that you wanted some other gentlemen here to speak.

Mrs. OWEN. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Doctor, we appreciate your statement very much.

Mr. ARENTZ. I would like to ask the doctor a question. Doctor Pearson, in speaking of the policing of this area, you spoke about a member of the Audubon Society, or at least some one appointed by that society, as having been killed, shot in pursuit of his duty in protecting the wild life of this area. How many men, and under what supervision or what jurisdiction, are now guarding the wild life of this area?

Mr. PEARSON. There were eight men employed the past spring by the National Association of Audubon Societies, paid from money raised among our members and my friends.

Mr. ARENTZ. What authority do they have, State or national?

Mr. PEARSON. They are national wardens. I do not recall whether we had them appointed by the State also. We do in some cases.

Mr. ARENTZ. They are under the Biological Survey?

Mr. PEARSON. Yes.

Mr. ARENTZ. And what further assistance in the guarding of wild life could be had if this became a national park? How extensive would it be?

Mr. PEARSON. It would be then under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, and the ranger force would take the place of these wardens. We are doing this voluntary work because we are interested in bird protection. Of course, we hope that the Park Service will take it over. We are doing what we can to help save the wild life of the area. We stopped this year the enormous killing of birds that are taken for food to Havana.

Mr. ARENTZ. How did you stop that?

Mr. PEARSON. We stopped it at this great rookery where they come in. We hired two men and they camped right beside the river near the rookery. You will find quite an article about this work in the Saturday Evening Post of June 14 of this year.

Mr. ARENTZ. Do you receive the cooperation of the other governmental authorities, the Treasury Department, Department of Justice, Coast Guard, and so forth, prohibition-enforcement officers, in helping to guard this area?

Mr. PEARSON. No; we have no connection with those other Government agencies in Florida.

Mr. ARENTZ. We are merely adding one more governmental authority in there. We now have a force to pursue prohibition violators, a force to stop the bringing in of foreign goods free of duty, the Coast Guard, the numerous other governmental activities, and then we would have park policemen?

Mr. PEARSON. As I understand it, the park authorities would take over most of these various duties. For instance, this last summer at Gardner, at the north entrance of the Yellowstone Park, a woman was arrested for bringing liquor into the park. She was arrested by a ranger, and they had the trial recently in Cheyenne. The Government Park Service looked after that. The Biological Survey would not be enforcing laws in here any more than they do in Glacier Park for the protection of birds. The Park Service does that as part of its work. In other words, there would apparently be required a less number of Government bureaus functioning in there than at the present time, if the Park Service takes it over.

Mr. ARENTZ. Do you not think that this area is as outstanding as the Big Smoky or Shenandoah?

Mr. PEARSON. Absolutely.

Mr. ARENTZ. Then, under the provisions of legislation passed out by this committee and passed by Congress, large donations were made and accepted by the Federal Government, and here you have two great areas that are going to be fully protected, not only as to game but as to the cutting of timber and fire hazards, and the building of roads and trails and everything else that you could imagine that you want down here in this area, and that is one of the things that is not quite understood by myself with regard to the reasons for making this a national park, when you have all these other conditions surrounding the two areas that I have mentioned.

Mr. PEARSON. You would make it a national park for the same reason that you would make any other area a national park. I have been in and have done more or less work in a great many of the national parks—at least three-fourths of them—and the Everglades is as unique and outstanding an area as that of any national park we have to-day.

Mr. ARENTZ. We spoke about land not being donated in this area unless it was made a national park, and yet in these other two outstanding areas, in fact in many areas in the United States, we have donations. I do not think that is a logical argument.

Mr. YON. Mr. Arentz, for this proposed park area, it is proposed as is stated in the provisions in the bill that the land shall be donated and tendered to the United States Government for park purposes.

Mr. ARENTZ. What I am getting at, Mr. Yon, is this: That the land in the Big Smokies, the land in the Shenandoah, was donated and accepted, not because they were national parks, but because they were forest areas, and areas that were needed not only to protect the timber but to make recreational areas.

Mr. YON. For park purposes, with formations altogether different from this.

The CHAIRMAN. They were not adopted until they became national parks.

Mr. YON. And this first
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Mr. YON. And this first donation and the first recognition of the Great Smoky Park was just last spring, when there was, I think, 154,000 acres that had been procured and deeded to the Government, and it was opened as a national park, with not near all of the area that is expected to go in as a park area; and then in this we propose that all of the land be procured and then turned over to the Government for park purposes.

Mrs. OWEN. I believe, if I understand your question, Congressman Arentz, you wish to know why this particular place should be designated a national park comparable to Yellowstone, rather than merely a protected area?

Mr. ARENTZ. Yes.

Mrs. OWEN. I propose that these scientists shall show why that is. I would just call to your attention that Yellowstone was selected as a national park because it had specific advantages of an inspirational and educational quality that entitle it to be called a national park. Now, the testimony of these scientists will present the argument for the claim that this area is comparable to Yellowstone rather than to those protected areas; that in educational and inspirational value it can give that the other areas can not.

Mr. ARENTZ. But the statement was made here the other day that it was not because of the beauty of Yellowstone National Park—because the statement was made that there are many areas equally beautiful—but it is because of these things that you speak of. In my mind there is not a more beautiful place in the world than Yellowstone National Park, if there was not a geyser or was not a hot spring or anything else there, except the natural mountain valleys and parks that are in Yellowstone.

Mrs. OWEN. And exactly the same could be said of this area. It has natural beauty, and then it has educational features that we are trying to bring out by the evidence that we are introducing.

Mr. PALMER. Your principal reason for asking the Government to take this area is for the protection of bird and animal life? Is that it?

Mr. PEARSON. That is my chief interest.

Mr. PALMER. Have you ever called the attention of the legislature of Florida to the necessity of enacting proper game laws and having game wardens to protect it?

Mr. PEARSON. Why, I have affirmed that publicly in several campaigns there.

Mr. PALMER. Do you not think it could be secured through that method?

Mr. PEARSON. Well, we have failed after 20 years of effort.

Mrs. OWEN. Might I just add this in answer on behalf of Florida? It is not solely to protect the birds and animal life that this proposition has been brought to the attention of the public, but it is to make that protected area available to the entire United States.

Mr. PEARSON. I said that was my chief interest, but I am interested in other matters in connection with the national parks, for example being a member of President Hoover's present Yellowstone Park Boundary Commission, which has nothing to do with birds.

Mrs. OWEN. That is the exclusive interest of a naturalist, but is not the only reason behind this entire proposition.

Mr. PALMER. I understand you have a park there now in this area; a State park?

Mr. PEARSON. Yes.

Mr. PALMER. And you have no laws, no game laws to protect the animal life there?

Mrs. OWEN. Yes; inside that park, but that is a comparatively small place.

Mr. YON. That is only about 640 acres.

Mrs. OWEN. In comparison to the area under discussion this park is a small area. It has been cared for and protected by the Federation of Women's Clubs.

Mr. PEARSON. Just a charming little island in the Glades.

Mrs. OWEN. Might I introduce as my next witness Mr. Harlan P. Kelsey, who, as you will see by your report, was one of the committee to visit Florida last spring, a conservationist and landscape architect in Boston?

The CHAIRMAN. We will be very glad to hear Mr. Kelsey.

STATEMENT OF HARLAN P. KELSEY, MEMBER OF THE SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN NATIONAL PARK COMMISSION, SALEM, MASS.

Mr. KELSEY. Mr. Chairman, I am also a member of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, which, as you know, selected the three areas which are soon, we hope, to become national parks, the Shenandoah, the Great Smokies, and the great cave area in Kentucky.

Mr. SMITH. Where is your home?

Mr. KELSEY. My home is in Salem, Mass. I am fairly well acquainted with Florida. I have been going there since I was 12 years of age, and I have been fishing in that region for about the same length of time.

Mr. SMITH. In this particular section?

Mr. KELSEY. Most of it in sight of this section, at Long Key, my favorite place. Of course, I would not begin to go into the fishing end of it, because I am afraid, with your permission, I would be here for two or three days telling fish stories and every one a true story. (Laughter.) Suffice it to say it is the fisherman's paradise.

I am particularly interested in the flora of the region. I shall try and avoid repeating what has already been said—and, besides, there is a real botanist, Doctor Small, who is to follow me, who can give you the details much better than I can. Not only have I visited a great many of the great national parks of this country in a rather critical way, but on request of the National Park Service I have also examined a number of areas in different parts of the country which have been proposed as future national parks.

I was fortunate enough to be asked to go on this trip last winter, and as you know, we took the trip first by blimp over the area, and then by houseboat from Lower Maticumbe Key, going around Cape Sable and up Shark and Harney Rivers. I have given a number of talks since on the subject, and while I never have been specially a bird man, I have simply gone wild in my descriptions of the marvelous sights I saw of the bird life there. It is something that will surely attract and delight the ordinary visitor in a most unusual way; it is literally astounding.

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After I had thus been able to see this area in greater detail, I came to the conclusion that it splendidly fulfills national park standards. The features are of national interest. The area proposed embrace adequate territory, though I should like to see it even larger. There is a great area lying to the northward that could well be added without detriment to the State of Florida, and really of great advantage to the park itself. It constitutes a very marvelous sanctuary for wild plant, animal, and bird life. Wonderful wilderness features exist there which can not be found in any other place in the United States.

The recreational possibilities, such as boating, fishing and camping are very much greater I believe than have been described by others who have preceded me. The great coast line and the innumerable islands and bays offer opportunities for untold thousands of visitors, not only in the winter, but in the summer. I am used to Florida in all seasons, and with the eastern trade winds that always blow in the afternoon; in summer it is quite as comfortable as many northern resorts. Great numbers of people actually go down there for summer vacations, especially from the South, like North Carolina, my old State, so there is no reason to believe it will not be a summer as well as a winter resort. Therefore, I would like to suggest the great possibilities as a year-round recreational park as well as a zoological and biological park.

Again, there is no other area in this country devoted to a national park like this one. It is totally different in land, water, climate, plant, and animal features, as well as recreational features. It is very remarkable as being the only land in America that is "in the making." Dr. Charles Torrey Simpson, who has written so much about southern Florida, has described it as the only land in this country which is emerging from the ocean. Everywhere else there is a breaking down, a washing away of our continent; here there was once emergence, then submergence, and now emergence again.

This slowly rising sea bottom together with the "hammocks" which dot its surface are as the years go by making soil and land over the Everglades, while the shore line is creeping seaward by means of great mangrove forests, so that here we see the remarkable spectacle of a land actually in the making, of a continent in the making.

There are many unique features in the flora. We find a great many things here which grow nowhere else in the world, as well as many strange plants brought by wind and tide from foreign climes yet are found nowhere else in the United States. We have the magnificent, stately royal palm, the most glorious probably of all tropical trees, and many other rare palms and palmettos. There are strange cacti that grow 12, 15, or 20 feet high. Some of them clamber up large trees almost like vines. David Fairchild has said that the finest groves of mangrove trees in the world are found in this area. Doctor Fairchild for many years was chief United States agricultural explorer, has traveled in every country of the world seeking plant material, and speaks with authority. I have not personally seen them, but in a description of the central or jungle part of the area Professor Simpson tells of ferns with fronds 20 and 25 feet

long. There are other strange ferns which clamber up the trunks of trees. There are orchids of brilliant hues.

I would like to mention particularly the marine gardens which have hardly been referred to here, yet constitute one of the most glorious spectacles in the world to see. From glass-bottomed boats we gaze on a fairyland of painted shells and delicate corals as well as marine algae of marvelous forms and beauty, all the homes of myriads of tropical fish, large and small, of extraordinary shapes and exquisite rainbow colorings. Again on the mainland grows the famous *Zamia floridiana* from which the Seminole Indians extract a starchy flour.

The *Tillandsia* is another strange plant of the Epiphyte group that is, a plant growing on another plant. There is the extraordinary strangling fig, which starts from a little seed perhaps 20 or 50 or 60 feet high in the top of a tree, as the mistletoe does. It sends down long tendrils to the ground, followed by other tendrils that finally come together and coalesce and envelope the host tree, which may be 5 or 6 feet in diameter, finally strangling the mother tree, while it becomes itself a great forest tree. Truly an amazing sight, and a marvelous manifestation of nature. Again there is the gumbolimbo, with its beautiful papery-red bark, and glorious live oak with its wonderful mantle of so-called Spanish moss hanging in festoons yards long and making a most splendid spectacle, a majestic tree with 200-foot spread. Then there are the evergreen red-berried hollies, and a host of other rare trees and flowers that it is impossible to describe, within our limits of time so the only way is to go down for yourselves and see them.

I want to plead for immediate action. Last winter I went to Florida over the Seaboard Airline which takes the inward route. We crossed the Florida State line just as it was getting dusk, and all the way down the State to Miami we were never out of sight of at least one forest fire. Often we saw five or six. The whole landscape was lit up and thus Florida's heritage of plant life and soil was being burned away by thoughtlessness and greed.

The CHAIRMAN. Would forest fires spread in this area?

Mr. KELSEY. They would, absolutely.

The CHAIRMAN. I still revert to the thought of there being so much water in there.

Mr. KELSEY. That is what I am coming to. It is the fires in the dry season that is fast wrecking this area. These fires are started sometimes possibly by lightning, but ordinarily by hunters so that they can get in there and hunt to better advantage. Also by others who want to pasture their cattle. It means the eventual ruination of Florida's soil, not only in the Everglades but all over the State and for that matter, to an extent all over the United States. Charles Torrey Simpson has described so well these fires, that if you will allow me, I will quote a few lines from his book, *In Lower Florida Wilds*. He says:

For months the fire slowly ate its way through the peatlike soil, and as it crept along its ruinous way the grand old giants of the hammock type crumpled and fell, a tragedy in every fall. Every vestige of the soil was consumed, and to-day the charred ruin glares in the sun as a silent and pathetic protest against useless waste and folly.

The only thing that is going to save that area is early action by some authority that will take it over and protect it against these terrible fires. Many of the hammocks have been entirely destroyed. Many of the plants which were priceless because they grew only there, have been lost forever to science.

Mr. NOLAN. Is the State of Florida doing anything to protect this area?

Mr. KELSEY. I made many inquiries and I could not find that it is doing anything whatsoever. Of course, we know that the forest fire is a menace all over this country; and that the remedy comes about through the slow process of education, followed by adequate legislation which is enforced; yet it seems to me that Florida to-day is more than most sections from fire.

Mr. YON. Mr. Chairman, I would state, in answer to Mr. Nolan's question, that Florida like the rest of the country is suffering from forest fires, especially in an area that is subjected to annual burning of the woods, as we call it. Of course, about four years ago our State legislature authorized the organization of the Forestry Service, and there are many areas of privately owned lands that have been covered under the provisions of this law, but there are so many millions of acres of wild land in Florida that it is going to be almost an impossible matter to take it all in. I would say this for the defense of Florida, because we, of course, have a large area and sparse population in a great many parts of our State, and as the doctor has said, it is a matter of impossibility to protect it all, and those persons who own millions or hundreds of thousands of acres of land in one ownership, they are not particularly appreciative of its real value and have not gone to the trouble of protecting their lands.

Mr. KELSEY. Of course, the sad thing about it is that the accumulated soil and humus of untold thousands of years is swept off by these fires in two or three years. Many of the hammocks, which are really the making of the land, these spots of green verdure, little plant-growth islands in this vast Everglades section, are absolutely obliterated. From the airplane we looked down and saw where these fires had swept over the landscapes, with dead sticks instead of trees pointing heavenward in mute protest against man's negligence. That is one reason why I hope that action will be taken soon. Fortunately, if nature has a nucleus and is properly protected, it will restore itself in an amazingly short time in some respects. But it would take hundreds, if not thousands, of years to restore the humus which has been burned off, yet in other respects it is marvelous the way nature restores itself. Not only is the marvelous plant life rapidly being destroyed but the animal and bird life as well. The wonderful shells which Doctor Simpson says are the most beautiful land shells in the world, these, too, are being burned up, together with a rare and interesting insect population.

In closing may I suggest that possibly the time has come for a complete survey of our national domain, to the end that every area of national-park caliber should become a national park at once, or at least preserved and protected before it is too late and their natural features be spoiled. It seems certain that even so we would have all too few parks to meet the demand of future generations or even

of the immediate future. We need large areas of typical prairie, of deserts as such, of beaches, a typical primeval forest area, where the axe and saw are never heard for commercial gain and where tumbling brooks are not exploited to make so many units of electricity, nor black-water streams, as we call them in the south, turned into festering sewers. Never has this country so needed the rest and recreation cure as now, and the need will ever increase with our rapidly multiplying population. Our national parks will meet this need, I believe, better than any other known agency.

I shall not speak further about the bird life, but would like to leave with you an interesting pamphlet containing a very fine colored plate of the marvelous roseate spoonbill mentioned by Doctor Pearson. It is quite a nice book to read anyway. [Presenting a pamphlet to the committee.]

The CHAIRMAN. We appreciate this very much, Mr. Kelsey, and we appreciate your statement.

Mrs. OWEN. Mr. Chairman, in introducing the next witness, may I answer the Congressman's question?

The object that we have in view is not protection by the Federal Government for territory which our State should protect. We desire to present the testimony of those experts appointed by the United States Government to investigate the availability of this territory as a national park. These experts are unanimously of the opinion that this has educational, recreational and inspirational value that entitled it to be preserved for the people of the United States.

Mr. NOLAN. I understand that, Mrs. Owen. The reason I asked the question was that Mr. Kelsey had called attention to the fact that much of this territory has been destroyed by fire, and I was wondering if the State of Florida was doing anything to protect it.

Mrs. OWEN. We have an excellent service in Florida, which is trying to cope with the problem that is too big, on account of the vast wilderness nature of so much of our territory and the fact that we have land that will burn. You see, that is the curse, as you might call it, of that peat soil. It will burn. You can cut it up and dry it and use it for fuel.

Mr. NOLAN. Yes, I know what the problem of peat soil is. We have lots of it in our State.

Mrs. OWEN. May I introduce as our next witness Dr. John K. Small, head curator of the New York Botanical Garden.

STATEMENT OF JOHN K. SMALL, HEAD CURATOR NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Mr. SMALL. Mr. Chairman and members, I am with the New York Botanical Garden, but more or less of a free lance, and have spent part of 30 years exploring all parts of Florida. I have traveled from 3,000 to 13,000 miles a year through the State by motor car for the last 30 years, and I know pretty nearly every square yard of the territory. Of course, my interest has been botanical chiefly, and to come to this southern end of Florida I might say that it is a naturally made botanical garden, partly destroyed now, but it is not too late to save it and restore it, or let it be restored by itself.

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I might say that in remarks made so far the water birds have been emphasized, but not the land birds. Now, we have a great majority of the land birds of the United States in that area at one time of the year or another. We also have 50 per cent of all the trees growing naturally within the United States, growing naturally in Florida. Most of these are berry-bearing trees which furnish food for birds, that is, land birds, and if anybody has studied them they will find that the land birds congregate there in migrating from, say, South America to the north and back every year.

I might just make a few remarks on the botanical aspect of this question. As I said, in Florida alone we have 50 per cent or 367 different kinds of trees growing naturally—that is, 50 per cent of all those natural to the United States. We have over 50 per cent, or eight different kinds of palms, of the 15 native palms in the continental United States growing in this area.

We have over two dozen epiphytic orchids growing in this area, that is, orchids that grow on trees, and many of them of horticultural value, in such values that carloads—I do not mean automobile, but freight-car loads—have been taken out for northern markets within the last 10 years. We have orchids there that produce flower stems 15 feet long with from 500 to 1,000 flowers on those stems. We have found orchids there which have taken four men to carry out of the jungle—a single plant, perhaps 500 years old.

The CHAIRMAN. Are they transplanted into the North, or destroyed?

Mr. SMALL. They are put into greenhouses.

Mr. SWING. Doctor, you were one of those that were carrying out these orchids?

Mr. SMALL. I carried out enough for botanical specimens only, as much as I could carry in my hand. I may have carried a good deal out in the 30 years I have visited this area, perhaps twice a year for 30 years.

Mr. SMITH. Were you on a pleasure trip?

Mr. SMALL. No; I do not know what that means.

Mr. SMITH. You are representing the New York Botanical Gardens?

Mr. SMALL. Largely. As I say, I am a free lance as far as Florida goes. Of course, we have all the collections that we need from Florida, in fact all the collections made in Florida in the last century up in New York—I mean in the museum. We have 18 species of what are called "air plants" in Florida, that is, plants that look like pineapple plants—that are related to pineapples. They grow up in the trees. Every one of those is native in this area. And everything else is in proportion, everything concentrated in this area, and it is a shame that it has been destroyed so far as it has; but, as I say, it is not too late, and time will bring it all back, everything, as not one thing has been absolutely destroyed.

Now, if there are any questions I would be glad to answer them.

Mr. SMITH. Some difference of opinion arose yesterday in regard to whether or not this section of Florida was inundated every year.

Mr. SMALL. Of course, the Everglades is one of the most misunderstood areas in the world. People think that it is an immense

jungle. The Everglades is a prairie, submerged half of the year and more or less dry the other half. In the rainy season, which is the summer, it is more or less submerged, so much so that the old Spaniards thought it was a lake. In the winter season, which is the dry season, there is more or less of the land out of water.

Mr. SMITH. In view of the fact that it is submerged a portion of the year, would it be practical to build roads into that section any more than what are there now?

Mr. SMALL. It is the easiest thing in the world. A road down there 30 years ago that could be traveled cost \$200 a mile. The material is right there. All you have to do is to turn it up.

Mr. SMITH. But the roads would be inundated?

Mr. SMALL. No; never unless during a hurricane, when the water is high in the glades.

Mr. SMITH. Do you have to raise them?

Mr. SMALL. You raise them a foot above the high-water mark and they are not inundated.

Mr. ENGLEBRIGHT. What is the difference between the high-water mark of the rainy season and the low-water mark of the dry season—the difference in elevation?

Mr. SMALL. I would say it averages between 3 and 4 feet. And speaking of the Tamiami Trail, it was said yesterday that it cost \$53,000 a mile.

There need be no worry about the high cost of road building in southern Florida, for all the material, except the oil for the surface, is right at hand. In the case of the Tamiami Trail within southern Florida, the route, the grades, and the surfaces were changed several times. Thus several payments on construction were necessitated instead of one payment.

Mr. SMITH. Is that a State road or a Federal-aid road?

Mr. SMALL. It was a State road. I do not know what it is now.

Mr. YON. It is one of the Federal system.

Mr. SMALL. It is a good road now, after three attempts. It is a fine road through the proposed park area.

Mr. SMITH. Have you ever been around Lake Okeechobee during the high-water season?

Mr. SMALL. Not during the storm season, no.

Mr. SMITH. You know that 25 years ago the State undertook to drain the glades south of Lake Okeechobee?

Mr. SMALL. Yes.

Mr. SMITH. Have you ever been over that section.

Mr. SMALL. I spent three weeks up there just before that project started, and have visited the region nearly every year since then.

Mr. SMITH. I think about \$30,000,000 have been spent in trying to do it.

Mr. SMALL. Yes.

Mr. SMITH. And the landowners, most of them northern people, were assessed so much per acre to pay for the drainage, and there is more water there now than there was 25 years ago.

Mr. SMALL. Fortunately, yes. I know everything about that. I have lived with it.

Mr. SMITH. What I am interested in is this section with reference to the construction of the roads.

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Mr. SMALL. You can not destroy them (the roads). They are solid rock. There is no soil there.

Mr. SMITH. Even if they should be inundated?

Mr. SMALL. That would not hurt them. You can not destroy solid rock. This is limestone, and when you patch it together it is almost the same as concrete.

Mr. YON. Let me ask just one question there. You have been going there for 30 years. Does not the area immediately east and south and a little southwest of Okeechobee City, around the lake, become submerged more than this down in this area of the park? The big submergence is right around the lake, is it not?

Mr. SMALL. The big submergence is when the high winds blow the water out of the lake over the land, yes. Now, the whole of the Everglades and the big cypress swamp from four miles north of the head of Lake Okeechobee should have been made a national park years ago, because there is nothing like it in the world, and it would not have cost anything, and you can not drain Okeechobee; you can not drain the Everglades. It is one of the biggest springs in the world. Water that falls, probably up in Georgia, goes down into the ground and hits the rock-strata, which slope slightly west and south, and runs down underground and comes out in the Everglades, and you could not drain it if you tried. The more they tried to drain it, the higher the water got.

Mr. SMITH. That was my idea of it.

The CHAIRMAN. Your idea is that if roads are constructed of the native material, inundation would not destroy it?

Mr. SMALL. Of course not. That has been tried out for years. And another thing, I have lived in the Everglades for a month at a time, and I have been in the southern part of the Everglades when there was no rain in sight, and right around our camp the water sometimes would come up a foot. That rain may have fallen 200 miles north and come down underground. So the principal thing that the Everglades and big cypress swamp are fit for a national park.

Mr. PALMER. In fact, all that section of Florida is underlaid with a limestone formation covered with bog and mud and a little growth?

Mr. SMALL. Yes; as far as the Everglades are concerned.

Mr. PALMER. That is about the size of it?

Mr. SMALL. But Florida has the most interesting plant growth in the United States. And yesterday somebody mentioned the matter of the healthfulness or unhealthfulness of the region. I have been in the Everglades; I have lived there in wet clothes, had my wet clothes on and my wet boots on for two weeks at a time; I have wakened up in the night with my teeth chattering, night after night. And you can't take cold if you try to. The disease germs common to man are not there to infect one.

It is true the Everglades proper, being a wet prairie, have little variety in vegetation, but the numerous included hammock islands (elevated areas) and the higher lands around the Everglades support dense hardwood forests (hammock), where the interesting trees and the many air plants (orchids, wild pines, cacti, and ferns) already referred to occur. The proposed area is thus partly divided between Everglades and hammock (forests).

Although the proposed park area is without the technical boundaries of the Tropics, most of the plants are tropical types. They are the same species that occur in the West Indies. This fact prompted the idea of including the word "Tropic" in the name of the proposed park.

In addition, prominent in the proposed park area there are the mangroves, with their fresh-water and brackish lakes, and Indian mounds and kitchenmiddens (aboriginal shell-mounds) all lending a variety of habitats for a very varied flora.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Chairman, I wish to ask Mr. Cammerer a question. The CHAIRMAN. Very well.

Mr. SMITH. What parks in your chain of parks do you charge admission to enter the park?

Mr. CAMMERER. Well, there are—

Mr. SMITH (interposing). In other words, what parks are self-sustaining?

Mr. CAMMERER. The parks where admission is charged—that is, in the way of road-license fees—are the ones where the largest road building occurs. You have Yellowstone and Yosemite, Crater Lake, Glacier has a small fee; Mount Rainier, Grand Canyon, I think, is \$1 now. I think down in Zion we charge 50 cents. Maybe it is \$1 now. I am not quite clear.

Mr. SMITH. You have gradually reduced the fee as you get the road system completed? You used to charge \$7.50 for Yellowstone Park, for automobiles?

Mr. CAMMERER. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH. And that is reduced now to \$3 because of the fact that the road system has been completed?

Mr. CAMMERER. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH. In your consideration of this legislation to establish this park, is it contemplated to raise some of the money that will be applied to building these roads in the parks by an entrance fee?

Mr. CAMMERER. That has not been done, Mr. Smith. There are various questions entering into these eastern parks that are questions of policy which would be discussed with your committee and the Appropriations Committee on that basis. The Yellowstone fee was reduced from \$7.50 to \$3, and corresponding reductions made in other parks, the basis being that the United States was not going to charge for these parks in the long run, but to make them self-sustaining, and the possibility has even been discussed of making merely a nominal charge at such a time that the road building has been finished; and it will be simply a Government maintenance proposition in order to maintain the police control, a dollar, say, at Yellowstone and the other parks.

Now, you take these eastern parks, gentlemen; you will see that these eastern parks, the western parks having been carved out of the public domain, there has been no charge for acquisition to the Government or anybody else; but these eastern parks are all built up by private donation. North Carolina and Tennessee have gotten together nearly \$10,000,000 for the Great Smokies. The Mammoth Cave has \$2,300,000 for the Mammoth Cave area, which is considered more than sufficient to get it. Mammoth Cave has just been bought at \$700,000 cash. The Shenandoah has something like two and a

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half million, with the campaign not finished. They will probably get all they need for the land that is necessary. They have a very peculiar system in Virginia of finding out the value of the land there. The question arises whether in these eastern parks, the fact that it is using an area of 650 to 700 square miles in the Smokies, given to the Government—whether there should be any charge made. Now, in the Rocky Mountain parks, Mr. Smith, we have never charged a dollar admission.

Mr. SMITH. The reason I asked that question is because I think the difficulty that you will encounter in getting this legislation through is the cost, and I thought if a fee were charged to build the road it probably would be easier to get legislation through.

Mrs. OWEN. I believe it was brought out yesterday that it would be the least expensive road construction of any park.

Mr. SMITH. I know that is true, but, also, it might cost a million dollars to build the roads.

Mr. CAMMERER. That has never been discussed, to my knowledge, in any of these eastern parks, simply because of the statement I made, that they were donated to the United States, and the fact that the policy has been one of gradual reduction of license fees, as you see in the license fees in national parks, and if anything should be done in the eastern parks in the way of a road license fee, in view of the fact that we are taking them over just like you would take over a piece of woodland property to develop your own estate, you do not know just exactly, until the landscape people and the engineers get in there, what you want to do in the way of roads; you want to protect the wilderness area as much as possible, and it is just a question of having merely a nominal charge made to maintain your police jurisdiction, say, 50 cents or \$1 per car. Personally, I believe it would be the thing to do in view of the fact that the States alone without help from other States are putting these parks across.

Mr. SWING. How did the Government acquire Yosemite?

Mr. CAMMERER. Yosemite was Federal land, I think, Mr. Swing.

Mr. ENGLEBRIGHT. It was ceded from the State of California, was it not?

Mr. SWING. That is what I am trying to bring out. The State of California deeded it to the United States Government free, did it not?

Mr. CAMMERER. I think there was no charge for it, yes, sir. I do not know how much Forest Service land, or Government land, if any, there was in it.

Mr. SWING. What admission are you charging at the present time?

Mr. CAMMERER. I do not remember.

Mr. ENGLEBRIGHT. \$2.50.

Mr. SWING. Do you know what that produces in revenue?

Mr. CAMMERER. No, but I could put that in the record.

Mr. SWING. It runs into a very large sum, does it not?

Mr. CAMMERER. It runs into a considerable sum.

Mr. SWING. And nine out of ten people that go to Yosemite are California citizens, are they not?

Mr. CAMMERER. I do not know what the proportion is. A great many of them are California citizens, especially in the winter time, when they like to see it.

Mr. SWING. I wish you would put in what the revenue was last year from the Yosemite Park.

Mr. CAMMERER. I will be glad to insert that in the record.

Statement showing amount of revenues received from national parks, automobile entrance fee, amount received from auto fees and the percentage that auto fees bear to total revenues for the 1930 fiscal year

Park	Total revenues, fiscal year 1930	Automobiles, fiscal year 1930		
		Entrance fees	Amount received	Percentage
Crater Lake National Park	\$38,023.70	\$1.00	\$37,623.00	0.989
General Grant National Park	3,868.28	.50	3,599.50	.93
Glacier National Park	22,146.16	1.00	10,506.00	.474
Grand Canyon National Park	55,684.46	1.00	33,988.00	.61
Grand Teton National Park	70.00			
Hawaii National Park	1,532.52			
Hot Springs National Park	47,931.33			
Lassen Volcanic National Park	3,089.55			
Mesa Verde National Park	4,870.62	1.00	4,644.00	.953
Mount Rainier National Park	41,530.31	1.00	35,526.00	.855
Mount McKinley National Park	213.18			
Rocky Mountain National Park	4,471.24			
Sequoia National Park	33,934.54	1.00	20,998.00	.618
Wind Cave National Park	16,715.01			
Yellowstone National Park	317,238.17	3.00	192,218.00	.605
Yosemite National Park	289,355.45	2.00	162,784.00	.58
Zion National Park	7,724.01	1.00	7,521.00	.973
Protection National Monuments	100.00			
Carlsbad Caverns National Park	136,241.78			
National Park Service	.25			

The CHAIRMAN. I will just say that the time is drawing near when we will have to close, and Mrs. Owen says she has one other witness from out of town whom she is very anxious to put on.

Mr. ARENTZ. May I ask just a question, please, Mr. Chairman?

There was some talk a few moments ago about this road that ran from Miami to Tampa. Undoubtedly the park director will arrange for some point of divergence there from that main road leading to the center of the activities of the park, it may be 20 miles below that road, so that the traffic may be free and unencumbered and unharrassed along that main road, but the minute you start off into the main park development, 20 or 30 miles down, where all the activities will center, then the charge will be made there.

Mrs. OWEN. That can be arranged very easily.

With the permission of the committee, I would like to introduce as the next witness Dr. Howard Kelly, of Baltimore, a lover of nature and a naturalist.

The CHAIRMAN. We will be glad to hear Doctor Kelly. Give your name and address for the record, please.

STATEMENT OF DR. HOWARD A. KELLY, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, BALTIMORE, MD.

Doctor KELLY. My name is Howard A. Kelly. I have been a professor of gynecological surgery in the Johns Hopkins University since 1889, and latterly emeritus, one of the four who inaugurated the medical work of the Johns Hopkins University in that year.

Everything, gentlemen, with reference to this important question has been discussed so satisfactorily and so logically that I refrain

from going once more over the beaten tracks and begin to talk of a few things not as yet particularized. I must ask you graciously to reconstruct my *disjecta membra* into a more or less connected and correlated whole.

Imprimis, I am heartily in favor of the sequestration of the area under consideration as a national park, including a large part of south Florida.

Lake Okeechobee, just north of the Everglades, has been referred to as somewhat exceptional in the value of its surrounding lands. I have, alas, spent about \$20,000 down there in the Diston Island tract, without any return but outlay, an area anybody can have who will pay the confiscatory taxes. To show the character of the soil, somebody threw down a cigarette stump on my land or a lighted match to drive out a rabbit out of the bush and set up a fire which ran through the brush and burned up over 10 acres right down to the shining white sand. I had never seen the very earth itself burn up so before; the damage is irreparable. One must not think of the swamps of lower Florida as we think of them in the North, because when you walk in the swamp (and I have waded for miles), you are often on a good solid bed of sand instead of in the mud.

One of the strongest arguments for the support of our sequestration proposition is the indictment brought by Dr. J. K. Small in his dreadful, distressing little book, which exhibits some of the hundreds of areas in southern Florida utterly beyond recovery and forever ruined by vandal fires. The pictures are in pairs, before and after. I leave this instructive but harrowing book with the committee.

Further, Mr. Chairman, I feel strongly that we greatly need for the people of our country just such an inspirational area as this lower Florida area offers. Many of our poor people, brought up in the cities with few recreational resources but theaters and movies literally stew in their own bodily and mental juices until they lose all capacity to appreciate the invigorating beauties of nature. And when on rare occasions they do trip abroad in our country, the sense of real beauty is so atrophied that they find no rejuvenation. Nor in our cities can they discover any in the starry heavens. They look up and see Venus and Jupiter and the crescent moon and feel no thrill, still less a call to get up in the early morning to gaze heavenward. [Laughter.] They miss the glories of those glorious argosies the ever-varying clouds. In fact, all genuine affection and appreciation of nature is atrophied, never to be recovered, and life is comparably poorer for the loss. The area under construction, for whose preservation we plead is admirably rich and varied, and well calculated to draw people to discover a new liking for Dame Nature, and that after a manner of its own not offered in any of our other parks. Again, the conservation of bird life there is vitally important. I have never felt a greater thrill than down there on the southern shores of Lake Okeechobee on seeing the vast numbers of big white herons flying to their rookeries in the evening sunlight, or, again, on seeing the strange wood ibis flying overhead, or, some years ago, on hearing the raucous rattle of the cranes indulging in their funny antics at their stamping grounds. And there are or were the sand hill crane, such beautiful intelligent citizens of the wilds, which have sometimes been

tamed as by my friend James M. Willson of Kissimmee, some 20 years ago. The animals of the area need conservation and the very fish of the ocean which come up into that curious big lake. There are snakes of south Florida which ought to be kept, Mr. Chairman; I refer to the fine king snakes which feed upon rattlesnakes whenever they find them, killing first by constriction and then by engulfing them. Right down there in that region I captured a fine large king snake some years ago, and this fellow I take out of a bag is a congener just like him, which I have kept in my library for some four years past. [Producing a king snake from a cloth sack.]

Mr. LEAVITT. You do not mean that is the way you keep it?

Doctor KELLY. No; I have a suitable case for it. I brought this [indicating a large snake in a bag held by the witness] to show you what a nice, big, kindly creature a king snake is.

Mr. NOLAN. Are they poisonous?

Doctor KELLY. No, indeed; I take no chances with poison snakes at home. Snakes like this often escape and run over the house [taking snake out of bag and laying it on committee table]; sometimes they are not caught for days. She [indicating snake] has never once opened her mouth to bite nor shown any resentment at captivity.

Mr. ENGLEBRIGHT. He has never bitten anyone?

Doctor KELLY. No; I was never but once bitten by a king, and the lesion of the bite was insignificant. I might here relate a story. I had two king snakes some months ago, one called scientifically *Lampropeltis floridana* and the other *Lampropeltis boylii* from Utah. I kept the two together, being generically first cousins, the smaller Florida one and the considerably larger one from Utah. And they did well and lived amicably for some weeks. One day, however, I came to the cage and found one suspiciously larger snake in the cage which I had X rayed and there [pointing to the radiograph on the table] is the explanation of it—a perfect picture of the sinuous and doubled-up longer enveloped in the smaller!

The CHAIRMAN. Florida had overcome and swallowed up Utah? [Laughter.]

Doctor KELLY. Yes; Florida had swallowed Utah.

Mr. SWING. What would he do [indicating snake] with the "side-winder" that we have in California?

Doctor KELLY. He would make short work of him, for he is immune to his poison.

Here [indicating conch shells] are some of the fine shells we get down there around the Cape Sable region. This [indicating a large conch] is a *Fasciolaria gigantea*, a thrilling specimen from Charles B. Lungren, of Ozone, Fla.

Mr. ENGLEBRIGHT. These are found along the coast in the area under consideration, are they?

Doctor KELLY. Yes. A vast number of fine species occur there. Cape Sable is one of the finest shell beaches anywhere.

Mr. SMITH. Is that [indicating a photograph] a snake such as he [indicating snake on table] swallows?

Doctor KELLY. Yes.

Mrs. OWEN. This southern area of Florida is 350 miles farther south than Cairo, Egypt. I mean that we are in the Tropics there.

Doctor KELLY. Now here is a little conch, the size of a child's fist, which occurs abundantly, called pugilator, the fighter, because he attacks and eats up the big conchs. These [indicating small conchs] are quite plentiful and very beautiful.

Mr. SWING. What is it that you say he does with the big conchs?

Doctor KELLY. He bores in and eats them.

Mr. ENGLEBRIGHT. How do you keep all your pet snakes in such condition; how do you keep them in such a slick condition of health?

Doctor KELLY. We give this one mice at present. Just a few days ago I put six white mice in his cage for him to eat. I can not mingle my other Florida snakes with him, as they would soon disappear. I recall an incident of some 25 years ago, when I went up to lecture on snakes at my alma mater, the University of Pennsylvania. I started with two snakes in a bag, as I recall it, a copperhead and a king snake. On arrival, there was but one, the king snake, and it queered my lecture. [Laughter.]

I want to show you another beautiful thing found in southern Florida, a clamlike creature called *Pisidium* [indicating some tiny clams in a bottle]. It takes a magnifying glass to see this full-grown clamlike shell which actually lives in the soil miles away from the ocean.

To make an interesting comparison, here [indicating] is a 1-valve adult snail called *Petrophysa*, from Zion Canyon, Utah, so small that it requires a lens to see it. Living on the algae on the ever wet perpendicular rocks it has developed a huge foot; it has evidently degenerated from a large form of ages ago when the small stream began to cut the rock through until the canyon was a couple of thousand of feet deep; it approximates the size of the other one [indicating].

Mr. ENGLEBRIGHT. How prolific are the large shells found in this area of Florida.

Doctor KELLY. There are not so many of the largest ones, as they are eaten up, but there are thousands of all kinds there, washed up in wave rows on the beach at Cape Sable.

A reference has been made to the tree snails of the Everglades. Suffer here a little digression while I address Mrs. Owen. We wish to thank you for bringing us here, Mrs. Owen, and I would like to recognize your interest by presenting you with this little collection of Florida's beautiful land snail, arranged in a small glass case for display. They are among the most beautiful in the world, not only in form and color but equally remarkable for their varieties of coloration. These latter differences are so well marked and localized that a skilled conchologist can distinguish at once those coming from Matecumbe, Key Largo, and from the various hammocks scattered on the mainland. You may recall in the life of Alfred Russell Wallace, the naturalist who lived and worked at the same time as Charles Darwin, that he found a variety of interesting land snails on the various Galapagos Islands, evidently offshoots from similar species found on the adjacent South American mainland. These among other things led Wallace to formulate for himself the theory of evolution. Now these shells at which we are looking, called *Liguus* (*Liguus*), found on the lower Florida trees, exhibit similar variations and are valued accordingly. The eminent local naturalist,

Charles Torrey Simpson, of Miami, has made an admirable Government report with a colored plate upon them, and has formed a vast and widely-known collection. It is interesting to recall in this connection that Dr. Thomas Barbour, the genial and erudite of herpetology at Harvard, paid \$2,000 for a collection made by Joe Farnum, and when Joe died about a year ago, he bought the rest of his large collection for the university.

Mr. SMITH. What chair do you occupy in the university?

Doctor KELLY. I am a surgeon.

Mr. SMITH. And you have found time to make these studies on the side?

Doctor KELLY. I was born with the taste of a naturalist, and I well recall a first interest in snakes when about 5 years old. From childhood, all through life, all my spare time has gone into one or another of the branches of what we formerly called natural history.

Mr. SMITH. You are an authority on a good many kinds of activities, are you not?

Doctor KELLY. No; I am only an amateur in everything but my own profession. I am content to do little more than maintain a living touch with many widely diverse subjects. But let me explain, that even an amateur favorably situated, can render some acceptable aid to the real workers in the various fields of nature. I have, for example, for some years collected widely the rich literature available on the fleshy fungi and their allies, having become deeply interested in mycology. My library finally contained some 12,000 titles on this subject, with some hundreds of paintings and other exceedingly valuable aids for students. Finding that they would be useful to a large body of workers under Professor Kauffman of the University of Michigan, I donated everything I had to his department. One of the pleasantest discoveries in life is that the joy of giving is far greater than that of acquisition and holding for one individual, personal use.

Mrs. OWEN would you care to take this little collection as a memento [indicating a box of small shells with a glass cover]?

Mrs. OWEN. Yes. I would treasure that very highly.

The CHAIRMAN. You can tell us the area that they came from?

Doctor KELLY. Any collector can indicate approximately the provenance but these have not been kept separate and are only representative of color phase.

Mrs. OWEN. We climb the trees and take these.

Mr. CAMMERER. These [indicating] are found on the trees.

Doctor KELLY. They are hermaphroditic, but they do not fertilize themselves. But how in Florida they progress from hammock to hammock, over distances vast to a snail nobody knows—unless it is that the birds are in part responsible.

Mr. SMITH. Is that the shell of a water mollusk that you have there, that large one?

Doctor KELLY. Yes.

Mr. SMITH. And these others are land mollusks?

Doctor KELLY. These [indicating] are the land mollusks' shells, yes. I have nothing to add, unless some member of the committee wishes to ask questions.

Mrs. OWEN. I can not tell you how I appreciate that casket of shells.

Doctor KELLY. Please do not mention it.

Mrs. OWEN. May I say that anyone who desires to see the royal palm in its full beauty can do so by opening the doors of my office, where I have a large painting of royal palms showing them just as they grow. I would like you to see this painting in my office. The only royal palms in the United States grow down in that area of southern Florida.

The CHAIRMAN. This is wonderfully interesting, Doctor Kelly. I am sure that we all appreciate it.

Doctor KELLY. Thank you.

Mrs. OWEN. Mr. Chairman, I have here also as a witness Dr. Paul Barsch, director of the National Museum. Are you ready to hear another witness?

The CHAIRMAN. If the committee so desires.

Mr. NOLAN. I move that the snake be left here as a part of the record. [Laughter.]

Mr. YON. And be turned over to the reporter. [Laughter.]

STATEMENT OF DR. PAUL BARTSCH, CURATOR AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM, WASHINGTON, D. C.

The CHAIRMAN. Unless there is objection, Mrs. Owen, we will hear your other witness now.

Please give your name and title.

Doctor BARTSCH. My name is Paul Bartsch. I am curator at the National Museum.

It has been my good fortune to visit Florida every year since 1912. Likewise has it been my good fortune to visit many parts of the globe.

There is not an island in the West Indian chain, from the Bahamas to Trinidad, upon which I have not had my pedal appendages, taking in all the Greater and Lesser Antilles and likewise those islands lying off the coast and Central America and South America. Likewise have I enjoyed the good fortune of having been in the Orient—all through the Philippines from one end to the other; China, Borneo, and Celebes; the Malay Peninsula, and so forth. I have seen the hanging gardens of the Sultan of Johore, said to be the eighth wonder of the world. I therefore feel that when I give expression to the sentence that I am going to pronounce in a moment it should carry some weight.

Nowhere in the world do you have such a wonderful region as the lower tip of Florida. It is a peculiar region, both from the standpoint of its geology and the floral and faunal aspect. I am sure that Doctor Small will pardon me when I say or merely allude to my first visit into the Coot Bay region from Flamingo City. You have there a stretch of water teeming with all the water fowl to which voice has been given here before—you have trees which are draped and covered with orchids, ferns, Bromeliads, and moss to such an extent that the hanging gardens of the Sultan of Johore fall into insignificance in comparison with them. There is no region in the

world that I have visited that could compare with this lower point of Florida in floral aspect.

There is a reason for that. Speaking geologically, the formations which we find there are a wonderful thing that nature has made; you have there a series of keys that stretch all the way down to your bird reserve at the Tortugas—isolated islands, which are more or less united in the Everglades region. And there, long ago, these islands formed the so-called hammocks. These hammocks, when the sea stood a little higher than it does now, in the ages gone by, received flotsam and jetsam—derelict elements brought by the waves from territory to the south. All the areas in the sweep of the Gulf stream have contributed to the flora that Florida possesses to-day. These keys have a flora and a fauna which can be carried on rafts or floating wood. There are those beautiful ligui, which, as Doctor Kelly has just shown, are very beautiful. We never knew where the red in their shell came from until a few years ago. While I was exploring Cuba I found them on one of the smaller islands, Turiganao [indicating], and that showed us where the ancestors of the red ones came from. That [indicating] shell has been carried across to the Florida keys, where you also have received other species of ligui, from the West Indies, and these various species have here bred together and they have become mixed up, and this has produced the various sub-species that are found there to-day. Most of them are isolated products, which have been derived in the same manner as the breeder of animals produces different kinds of fowl, some having the characteristics of Rhode Island reds, others Plymouth Rocks, or Leghorns, and so on. Nature has achieved that down in Florida unaided by man.

There are also other wonderful specimens down there, considered from an educational standpoint, which will be of value in dealing with problems in heredity. I have families on every one of the keys from Miami to the Tortugas—I do not mean real families, of course [laughter], but colonies of Cerions, land shells, and my problems of heredity and other problems in biology are very serious to me. It is a wonderful region down there for such experiments.

Speaking geologically again, as you go out to the continental shelf from the Everglades you pass 22 different faunal associations. The fresh-water fauna of the Everglades is entirely different from the fauna of the brackish water at the mouth of Miami River. In the Biscayne Bay region there are many canals which separate groups of animals or faunal associations. These are sometimes very limited in extent and are separated by such small stretches of water that a few strokes of your arms will carry you from one to the next region or group. If you were a geologist or a paleontologist and you found them in the rocks as fossils, you would be puzzled; and you might say, those two sets of fossils can not be synchronous, but must have lived here at different times. This region with the things that live here to-day constitute a very fine laboratory for the young geologist. The things he finds here will help him interpret fossils in the rocks even if he finds them on the mountain peaks far away from the sea. It would help him understand the history of ancient things and how they come into being by translating his knowledge of the things of to-day into the past. You can see geologic processes actually going on there to-day. It is the finest laboratory of the kind that I know.

During the Florida boom I had a constant dread that the things I had seen at Coot Bay and elsewhere on my visit there might be destroyed; that benighted individuals who believe that hammocks meant rich soil would select them for a home site and burn up the vegetative floral assemblages which it had taken nature thousands of years to produce, and which probably could never be duplicated. These individuals, not knowing the geologic history of these hammocks, frequently mistake these islands as the product of unusually fertile soil instead of something merely above the water. I must therefore say that Florida, so far as this projected park is concerned, was most fortunate when the boom broke, because if the boom had continued much longer there would have been no need for anybody to make this effort to preserve those things which are worth while for preservation; they would have been destroyed. The breaking of that boom has saved enough to give the Nation the right to the heritage that nature has produced for it there through countless centuries, and the generations to come will have an opportunity likewise to enjoy it. I feel that we have a real national duty for the preservation of this area.

You have seen here to-day beautiful shells of snails and other things. I picked up this morning the last report of the Geological Survey. This volume [showing the report] speaks of the giant wolves of the bygone days; the Florida saber-tooth tiger, whose skeleton you may find in the strata down there; the big ground sloth, recently found mixed up with relics of the earliest man relegated to the Pleistocene period, showing that they lived here during the glacial period when the ice sheets extended from the Arctic far to the south. These animal remains show us that it still left that climate in Florida so mild that those creatures could exist here. The 3-toed horse, which lived but yesterday, from the standpoint of the geologist; the rhinoceros—these pictures [indicating pictures being shown to members of committee] were made before the Volstead Act, so that they are perfectly sound. There are peccaries that you find in Mexico, and the llama that you find in the region to the south; then there are found the relics of the elephant and mastodon that lived there then, also. If you are interested in these things, this volume of the Geological Survey will give you more information about them [indicating].

The CHAIRMAN. Can you leave that volume with us, or tell us where we can get a copy?

Doctor BARTSCH. It is the Twentieth Annual Report of the Florida Geological Survey, published at Tallahassee, Fla.

Gentlemen, I believe that if you went into that region, as I have been going into it, there would not be the slightest doubt in your mind as to where duty points. It is not merely a matter of sentiment with me because, as far as sentiment goes, I have seen so much of the earth's surface that there would be no occasion for me to rave over any particular place. I have no holdings in Florida, neither real estate nor other investments, but I do feel that, whatever voice I may have with Congress—or if I have any weight at all—I want it to go to the preservation of this unique stretch which is so different from anything else that our park areas have to offer.

The CHAIRMAN. Did we get your official title?

Doctor BARTSCH. Curator at the National Museum.

Mr. ARENTZ. It remains for a little gypsum cave, close to the Nevada line, near the Boulder Dam or, at least, close to the shore line of Hoover Lake where the Hoover Dam is being built, to disclose the remains of a ground sloth, with even parts of the hide, with the fur on it, in juxtaposition with a feather-head arrow.

Doctor BARTSCH. Yes, sir.

Mr. ARENTZ. So that the ground sloth evidently did live in the same period with man—either in the preglacial period or the post-glacial period.

Doctor BARTSCH. Yes, sir; and that discovery is important in the same way that most of these things that we want to preserve would be.

Mr. ARENTZ. But this is the first time that we have found the ground sloth, or other animals that we thought had disappeared in tertiary times, actually lived in the period in which man reached his full stature.

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ESTABLISHMENT OF EVERGLADE NATIONAL PARK

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1930

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 7.50 o'clock p. m., Hon. Don B. Colton (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. I will say to the members of the committee who are here that we hope to conclude the hearings to-night on this bill (H. R. 12381) for the establishment of the Everglades National Park in the State of Florida; and Mr. Yon of Florida, a member of the committee, has suggested that he would like to have the committee hear Mr. Julian Langner.

We will be very glad if you will make a brief statement to the committee, Mr. Langner.

STATEMENT OF JULIAN LANGNER

Mr. LANGNER. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

I happened to be having dinner with Mr. Yon to-night, and mentioned the fact that I knew the particular characteristics of the section in which the proposed national park is located very well indeed, having seen it, probably, under every possible condition.

And I would like to say that, being interested in many phases of business, and understanding, or thinking that I understand, the value of some of these things, that that particular territory covered by this proposed national park would seem to me to contain a type of scenery and flora and fauna—animal and bird life—which, because of its proximity to the centers of population of the country, must necessarily be of tremendous interest and value to the people of this country. There is no question about that.

I have been over it, and I have been over the roads, particularly. They have a fine type of road that is suitable to that particular territory. And as I happened to be in Washington and had recently come from Florida, I would like to say that I really think there is nothing like the Everglades section of Florida anywhere else in this country. I have seen many of the other national parks in this country and have been over them practically from one end of the country to the other, in the course of my business; and I think I know something about them.

Mr. Yon. May I interrupt you a minute? You will remember, Mr. Chairman, that the question of the cost of roads has been brought up in our hearings here, and Mr. Langner, who is the executive secretary of the Gum Rosin and Turpentine Producers Market-

ing Association, happens to be here in Washington on some work in connection with that organization; and he has been in Florida for several years, and he has observed and considered the expense of road building that would be necessary to take care of the travel in this proposed Everglades National Park. And I want to ask him what he thinks the cost would be per mile of building roads for the accommodation of visitors in this territory.

Mr. LANGNER. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, some time ago it happened that the Federal land bank had occasion to make loans on certain property in the Everglades section; and included in the loans it happened that those particular farmers had built their own hard-surface roads; and I happened to be asked to go out and have a look at that particular piece of property; and we found that the cost of those roads, excellent roads, the same type of roads, I think, as those which now exist through the Royal Palm State Park—we found that the cost, under favorable conditions, was, on these particular lands, about \$3,000 per mile.

I do not know whether that agrees with any figures that the committee may have, but these actual roads have cost about \$3,000 a mile.

Of course, the rock down there comes from close to the surface; you get rock in some parts of that section that would be only 1 foot below the surface. I happened to know about that because I have seen and was rather interested at one time, about two years ago, in some proposed drainage plans for a part of that territory; and the plans showed that the rock in some cases was only 1 foot below the surface, and that it ran from 1 foot to 11 feet below the surface. Rock was very easily and readily obtainable right at the points where you would have to build those roads, if you ultimately decided to build them.

Mr. SMITH. Were those roads that you speak of built by a dredge?

Mr. LANGNER. I can not answer that very definitely; but my recollection is—I will tell you that there were ditches on either side of the road; but whether the material was taken out by dredging or by man work I can not see.

Mr. SMITH. This soil is rather soft underground, and hard on the surface?

Mr. LANGNER. Yes; it becomes hardened when it is exposed to the atmosphere.

Mr. YON. I would like to ask Mr. Langner a question as to his observations on his frequent visits down there. Something has led me to believe that he has not really been down in this particular area. Now, he has spoken about being down in Lake Okeechobee when the water was up on the telegraph poles. Now, Mr. Langner, I want to ask you this question for the record:

Have you been in this particular area of southern Florida south and west of Miami in every season of the year? And will you please state to the committee the conditions in the flood seasons and the dry seasons, and what difference there is, and how water levels are affected by the seasons.

Mr. LANGNER. I think, gentlemen, that I have been in this territory probably every month of the year. By that I mean in January, February, March, and every other month.

Mr. YON. Were you down in this territory in 1926?

Mr. LANGNER. No, sir; I was there in 1928. I was going to tell you the conditions in 1928, when Lake Okeechobee was flooded after the hurricane.

Mr. YON. That is the 1928 hurricane.

Mr. LANGNER. That is the 1928 hurricane, at the time a great many lives were lost in that district. We went down there, and we traveled down the road through Royal Palm Park, and, in fact, to the end of the present highway; and while there was water in the ditches, and while there was a little water in places along the road, there was no point—perhaps there may have been one point, I would say, rather—where the water actually came up to and over the road, but not more than an inch or half an inch of water. And I understand that the Tamiami Trail, the effect of the Tamiami Trail dikes which had been built—that it had the effect of keeping the water off the southern end of Florida which normally used to flow very heavily and seep at any time that Lake Okeechobee would overflow. And I understand from those farmers down there that, particularly since the Tamiami Trail was built, the water table has been reduced.

Mr. YON. You do not mean the farmers in the proposed park area, but the farmers in the Redlands district?

Mr. LANGNER. Yes, sir; and a little south of the Redlands district; north of Florida City; quite a lot of men from south of Florida City were discussing it, and they all said the water table had been materially reduced, and, in fact, right after the 1928 hurricane, when we happened to go down there at this particular time we are speaking of, on the so-called Madeira section, which some of you gentlemen know about, which is within 3 or 4 miles of the ocean itself—you could not see that there was any water even on the very lowest land there, and you could not actually see it, although, of course, we knew that the water was up; the water table was quite high.

The CHAIRMAN. You are speaking now of the area in the proposed national park?

Mr. YON. Or adjacent to it?

Mr. LANGNER. Yes. I think this particular area was in the Royal Palm Park area; and then this is the area actually in the territory itself.

Mr. SMITH. Have you been any distance along the Tamiami Trail?

Mr. LANGNER. Yes, sir.

Mr. YON. From Tampa to Miami?

Mr. LANGNER. Personally I have not traveled the entire distance.

Mr. YON. How far from Miami?

Mr. LANGNER. About 6 or 7 miles.

Mr. YON. You have not been to Everglades City?

Mr. LANGNER. No; I have not been to Everglades City.

Mr. YON. Or that far west?

Mr. LANGNER. No.

Mr. YON. Now, you do not want to force us to put Mrs. Langner on the stand, do you? We are depending on you to take care of that and give us the information.

Mr. LANGNER. Well, I am very glad to give you any information I have from personal observation, if it is of any value.

Mr. YON. Mr. Chairman, the reason I called Mr. Langner is that he happens to be in the city in connection with a cooperative organ-

ization that affects the whole southeast, and he and Mrs. Langner were having dinner with me this evening and I told them about this hearing. And I just wanted to get the observations of a practical business man like Mr. Langner before this committee and in the record.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee thanks you, Mr. Langner, for your statement.

Mr. LANGNER. I am glad to have given it.

STATEMENT OF ERNEST F. COE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT AND CHAIRMAN TROPIC EVERGLADES PARK ASSOCIATION, MIAMI, FLA.

The CHAIRMAN. Mrs. Owen, I suppose Mr. Coe is your next witness. Mr. Coe, I understand, is the chairman of the Tropic Everglades Park Association.

Mr. COE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you like to have the lights turned off?

Mr. COE. Yes; that will be necessary.

(The lights in the committee room were turned off.)

Mr. COE. Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee on the Public Lands of the House of Representatives, and guests, the pictures that I have to show this evening have been selected with a view of supplementing the expressions of opinion that have already been presented before you and with that in mind, without taking further time, we will proceed with the pictures and I will talk along as the pictures are shown.

The Everglades section is so different physically, and different in its various reactions on us as human beings; entirely different from any other part of our great United States and even the entire world, that it is difficult to get a real clear, comprehensive view of it without actually visiting the area. The next opportunity is by seeing pictures and learning from those who have been privileged to visit the region. Even now I feel that this is on my part an attempt to "paint the lily"; and I apologize from that angle.

Let us start with the National Park group of national park experts who were down there last February, carrying out the instructions of Senator Fletcher's bill calling for this survey. You will notice this picture [indicating picture] Mrs. Owen, Mr. Albright, Mr. Cammerer, and a number of those who spoke before this committee on Monday and Tuesday last. To the right is Mr. Harlan Kelsey. Back of him you will see Dr. Herman Bumpus, and then to the left is Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson, and there are others shown in the picture, and there were others of the party who do not appear in this picture.

(During the remainder of his address Mr. Coe exhibited a large number of lantern slide pictures, and his remarks were made with respect to them.)

NOTE.—Where (*) occurs in following report, it indicates that a new picture appeared on the scene.

Our first view is from the air, 4,000 feet up. This gives an opportunity to get a good idea of the general physical character of the Cape Sable area before actually visiting it by water and highway.

Later we came down to near the earth and from the airplane saw many things of extreme interest as we sailed along, including thousands of great birds, many deer, and so forth.

To orient this region and get it more clearly before us, let us take this map of the State of Florida (*) and really see just where this area is located. As you will note it is in the southern part of the Everglades country of southern Florida. Whether this region is flooded or not at seasons depends quite as much upon whether there is an onshore storm raging on the Gulf, as it does upon flood waters of the Everglades due to heavy rains. When the wind blows strongly and continuously for a number of hours toward this region from the upper Everglades around Lake Okechobee and flood conditions prevail in the lake region, it produces a wind tidal wave which will raise the water over a great area to the south and the first thing you know you get a local flood condition in the Cape Sable region. This flood condition does not last long, however, because this surplus drains right off into the Gulf of Mexico. These occasional floods on this particular region drain away quicker than in any other place that I can recall. This great Cape Sable region is not part of the Lake Okechobee Everglades problem in so far as drainage is concerned but comes as near to being an empire unto itself as any area of similar extent in our country, I believe.

This (*) map shows the national parks east of the Mississippi River already in existence or under official consideration. Here is Acadia National Park, in Maine; the Shenandoah, in Virginia; Great Smoky between Tennessee and North Carolina, and Momoth Cave over in Kentucky. These last three are in the making but as yet not officially in the National Park System. Down below, well to the south as you will see by this map is the proposed Tropic Everglades National Park.

Here (*) is the group of national parks included in the western national parks—Rocky Mountain, Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Glacier, Mount Rainier, Crater Lake, Lassen Volcanic, Sequoia, General Grant, Grand Canyon, Mesa Verde, Zion, and others and about twice as many national monuments.

You can see very plainly from this map that the only area in continental United States that tips well down toward the tropic circle is this area now under consideration in southern Florida, the location of the proposed Everglades National Park. It is truly a tropical region as judged by its characteristic features; its native plant and animal life; and its climate.

Here (*) is a detail map of the area now under consideration for this new national park. This map indicates the area which is reported on favorably by the Interior Department and the National Park Service to be included. You can see the line with the loop in it well up toward the top of this map. It extends from Miami westward and connects the east and west coasts and is known as the Tamiami trail. There to the left on the map is Everglade City. Further down on the map, well toward the left-hand base is indicated a long strip of beach along the Gulf. Those are the Cape Sable Beaches. It is regarding this area that Dr. Herman Bumpus and then Mr. Paul Bartsch so eloquently spoke the other day referring to the entrancing charm of these beaches. You will note just to the right of the Cape Sable Beaches is a section that is indicated as

part water and part land and extending for miles up the west coast to and beyond Everglade. In this region are literally hundreds of miles of water lanes. These do not show at all on this map, in fact much of the region has not been surveyed, either by the State or the United States Government until quite recently. This recent surveying having been done from the air. One can start from that green section as indicated on this map to the left, in boat or perhaps better, in canoe, and spend weeks and weeks going down through this labyrinth of waterways to Cape Sable. With a boat up to 4 feet draft one also can travel many miles through these inland waterways and find fascinating scenery at every turn and a wealth of wild animal life, fish, and birds in greatest abundance. By keeping this map now before us in our mind, which shows this area in a general way, the pictures to follow will have an added interest.

The part indicated on the map down below and toward the keys, to the right of the strip of green near Cape Sable is Florida Bay. In the Florida Bay there are thousands of wooded islands.

The dark red spot on the right hand on the map indicates the Royal Palm State Park, a beautiful hammock and now under the jurisdiction of the Florida State Womans Federation.

To the south of this park is the area which has been described to-night by Mr. Langner as the Maderia Hammock.

Those who have been down in that Madeira country region and have seen the many different kinds of lovely palms and the ferns and festooning vines of many sorts together with a great variety of tropic trees, will agree with Mr. Langner that not even the Amazon River country with all the wonders that it has, can we find a more typically tropical region than this.

I am certain that there is nothing in continental United States that can show that it in any way remotely approaches this region in tropical growth.

Let us look at the Cape Sable beaches (*).

On that reach of beaches extending in graceful curve for miles to the left we behold one of the most lovely tropic beaches in all the world. Here, washed up by the tides from the depths of the Gulf are beautiful shells in such abundance that the children of the present and future can gather them to their heart's content.

There are palms, coconut palms, many thousands of them and of great beauty forming an effective background for these miles of beaches. Dr. Charles Sergeant of the Arnold Arboretum, the authority on trees, in conversation with Dr. David Fairchild made the statement that in his opinion, the coconut palm was "perhaps the most beautiful of all trees."

Those of us who have had the privilege of walking on these beaches (*) will agree with Doctor Bumpus who describes them as "beyond compare."

These white beaches, with a background of lovely coconut palms (*) with the refreshing breezes coming in from the Gulf of Mexico, the shade of these fine coconut palm trees and the lovely tropic skies overhead, this truly gives one opportunity for one of the most wonderful experiences in all the world and typical of the Tropics in a preeminent degree.

I am supposed to be very practical and not given to expanding into the aesthetic side of the appeal of this region, but while we are

talking about this land from its many angles one finds himself prompted to attempt to reach into the deeper meaning of this region and the wonders of this tropic wonderland.

I venture the statement that each of you when privileged to visit this region will find yourself lifted from the realm of mere realities into a land of enchantment. You can not tell what this country is like or what it means to you unless you actually see it and not only see it but literally feel its charm. It is a country distinctly different from anything else in all our great country, if not in the entire world.

Again (*) we have more of these lovely coconut palms, not only beautiful to look upon but yielding abundantly a luscious nut.

It is not the defining of individual forms of life and physical condition that gets you and holds you here altogether; it is rather the spirit of the thing in the final equation that holds you. The appeal is to your heart and arouses in you a deep feeling of wonder and reverence.

In the afternoon (*) with the waning day the tropic colors begin to show and the beaches and all about take on another interest. Now, even more than before, you feel that you are surely within the Tropics. From this time of late afternoon until the sun actually sets there is this continually changing panorama (*) of scenic phases until you feel that you are in a heaven of color.

Now as the sun is setting (*) you feel the presence of the coconut palms about and the loveliness of it all.

Then when the moon is in the heavens, bathing the soft fleecy clouds with wonderful colors, reflecting in the Gulf waters and the air is balmy, it is like nothing else in all the world outside the Tropics. It is a realm of beauty bidding us to come and enjoy.

Morning comes (*). You get another view of the scene and bathed now in the colors of the new day.

Along here (*) and reaching down to the Flamingo beaches—known as Flamingo beaches because there were formerly thousands of flamingoes here—are effects along those water lines which are peculiarly peaceful and restful.

(*) A view of the beaches, not in the evening, but as morning comes along.

Now (*) is our opportunity of seeing the real effects of the morning in the Tropics.

(*) One of the many islands lying a little off of the Flamingo shores and where the colors are more vivid than anywhere outside the Tropics; here the green is greener in the morning light than at any other time of the day.

(*) We see here the birds which have been roosting for the night, far off on the islands in Florida Bay, flying to their feeding grounds which may be many miles away perhaps. At this time those who have made an early morning start possibly to pick up shells on the beaches to send home or to take as mementoes, may see the sky sometimes simply full of birds (*) of many sorts and kinds; some of them big ones, some of them little birds. (*) The man-of-war bird. One who has never seen a man-of-war bird on the wing has lost seeing a lovely sight. Nothing in the way of grace could be more completely personified than the man-of-war bird when in flight.

A nice example (*) of what is going on all along these beaches and making the first strip in the nature story that Doctor Bumpus brought out the other day so wonderfully; that this is a country, not wholly of the distant past of records, not a country altogether of fossils which show what had happened on beaches untold ages ago, but a country effulgent with life of to-day.

Before we start off on our morning trip, let us take a further walk along the beach (*). We see men (*) probably from Key West, who in the summer turtle season come to these Cape Sable beaches to gather sea turtles which come ashore at night to deposit eggs. The turtle hunter will turn a turtle over on its back and in this position the turtle is perfectly helpless. In the morning these turtle hunters return and get the turtle they have turned over the night before. When this area is protected as a national park, this practice will be stopped. The turtles will continue to increase as their nests will not be disturbed.

You and I will have the privilege of going down on these beaches moonlight nights in the turtle season and watch these strange and interesting animals come out of the water, dig holes in the beach sands, well up from the tides and there lay their eggs; 150 or 200 eggs per turtle, a generous number.

Instead of these eggs being collected by the tens of thousands to be sold, we will have many thousands of little turtles hatching out as a result of protecting them.

Perhaps one of the results of this protection would be felt in the food supply, as these sea turtles when young are a commercial article of food.

Along later in the morning and just before we start on our trip (*) we observe Mr. Fisherman, who has come ashore and is mending his fishing nets as he sits on the edge of his boat. This fisherman also may have had his eye on this pile of coconuts near by. Anyone who has had a chance to puncture a fresh coconut and drink coconut milk, knows well that he has had a draught fit for the gods.

These coconut-palm trees, tens of thousands of them, along these beaches, each produce from one to two hundred coconuts a year—that means a lot of coconuts in the sum total. Enough to give a lot of tourists a chance to enjoy a cup of coconut milk and coconuts to take home as a memento of a trip into a tropic land.

(*) Let us take one more glance along the beaches and into the lovely coconut palms before embarking for our trip up the Gulf.

As we start we will see where the struggle has been going through the ages between the tempest sea on the one hand the land (*) and its allies on the other. In this instance (*) the tempests and sea have scored and have undermined this great buttonwood tree. The palmetto palms are standing upright.

Those clouds (*) are very typical of the morning sky in this region.

(*) We are on our way sailing up the gulf. This bank of green miles inshore to the left is a forest of mangrove trees, some reaching at least 100 feet in height. The forest covers an area of over a 100 square miles and is one of the most unique and beautiful forests in all the world.

Sailing along up the coast (*) we come to where we turn to the right toward the mouth of Shark River. After you enter a little way into this region you can turn either to the right or to the left and you find alluring scenery in all directions.

Incidentally (*), you see in the background snow-capped mountains. Yes; there they are actually snow-capped mountains and in Florida. They are cloud mountains to be sure, but nevertheless they are snow-capped mountains. We are told that those clouds that linger high in the sky are made up of snow. When you hear us tell of the "snow-capped peaks" of Florida, you will know that we are still within the range of facts. By the way, oftentimes those snow-capped cloud mountains, or snow-capped cloud peaks, are entrancing and surpassing in their beauty and we are justly proud of them.

We turn now and see (*) a little rift in the water around a bend in the river. Suddenly we come upon a small boat with a fisherman in it. Just as we come in view up jumps a great big tarpon, possible of 125 pounds weight. The man suddenly jumps up in the boat. He may have come there to catch a tarpon from many miles away, even from a foreign country. This region is a famous tarpon region. We happen up on the scene just at a supreme moment (*). This fisherman knows no doubt that the tarpon is one of the gamest fish in all the world and now is his chance to test his brawn. It would be an interesting sight to watch this fisherman, but as it may be hours before he either catches this tarpon or before the tarpon gets away, we will be obliged to sail along.

Our boat swings around into a more quiet spot as we ascend the Shark River.

Here (*) we run upon a boat of fishermen. Much of this country, of some 2,000 square miles, is truly a fisherman's paradise. Fish for the tarpon, if you will, or in the more quiet waters for smaller fish, take your choice.

In this instance (*) the scene smacks of the Tropics and of the jungle land. There are hundreds of miles of shore line and waterways similar to this.

One can very easily get lost here in this labyrinth of waterways.

The Indians are about the only people who really know these waterways. They go about in their canoes knowing where to go in and how to get out again.

The average white man will very easily get lost here (*). There are very few even of the older settlers down in this country who dare go into this section (*).

These (*) are the giant mangrove trees. Mrs. Owen, no doubt, you recall that you with the national park party went into similar mangrove forest.

Mrs. OWEN. Yes; and it might be well to explain that those mangrove are visible at sea.

Mr. COE. There is probably no other forest in the world that equals this forest in interest in many respects (*).

There are equally wonderful forests in California and elsewhere, but their value and interest is of quite a different character, as compared with this mangrove forest.

Mr. YON. Mr. Coe, just before you move from there (*), are those entangling roots down in these swamps?

Mr. COE. Yes; the lower third of this picture shows entangling roots of this red mangrove.

Mr. YON. That is characteristic of this area of the mangrove.

Mr. COE. Some parts of this area (*) are composed of trees many of them measuring 100 feet high.

Dr. David Fairchild, who has traveled the world over, is enthusiastic about this mangrove forest and claims that there is probably no more wonderful forest of this tree in the world.

Florida people have the reputation of not always sticking strictly to the truth, or at least, of being ingenuous in their manner of expressions.

When we talk about the oysters "growing on trees," people say, "That is just another Florida story."

Here (*) are some oysters growing on trees. Sometimes photographs do exaggerate things, or possibly even give a wrong impression now and then, but there is no exaggeration here (*).

It shows low tide along one of these waterways, where the tide currents are right to encourage both the young shoots of the mangrove trees to grow down into the water and also making congenial conditions for those oysters to attach themselves and grow.

So oysters really do grow on trees in this Cape Sable region of Florida as elsewhere in southern waters.

This mangrove tree (*) has a way of sprouting its seeds when yet on the branch of the parent tree, making shoots that detach themselves and float away. If these floating shoots drift out into the bay, as they are quite likely to do, they may actually start a new island (*). The mangrove is one of the allies you may call it of the land in building its way into the gulf, by helping to form islands. Many of the Ten Thousand Islands of this region were started in this way.

Now about the Everglades.

Most of us grow up to have very wrong ideas of what the Everglades really are. The usual idea that the Everglades are one great big jungle of miasmatic swamps with snakes about and ready to bite us, alligators ready to eat us, and so on; just one dismal, tangled jungle. There may be such a place in the Everglades, but I am apt to find it.

There are really all sorts of Everglades. There is the jungle kind, and there are the kind that are more open (*).

Let us follow this Indian (*) poling his canoe out from the jungle into the open country. Let us but stand up in our boat (*) and we will find that we are looking out over a great prairie. This is one kind of Everglades.

Another kind of Everglades is this (*) where hammocks, which are wooded islands in the glades, are in the background, and the open country is in the foreground. Then again (*) we see these lovely palmettos forming great groves.

(*) Another type of Everglades, where the palm and cypress abound in jungles that no one possibly has ever penetrated. Such a jungle can be gone through very slowly but it is no easy matter, I can assure you.

(*) Another type of Everglades—I am just running these pictures through to show you that there are many types of Everglades, and all of the types are interesting in their own special way. This is a region of great variety. One type of Everglades (*) that presents a great pine forest.

Another type (*) showing beautiful mixed forests.

The road which you see (*) on the left side is a road along the top of a bank; there a ditch has been dug primarily for the purpose of drainage. I will say that the problem of roads in this district (*) is probably as easily and economically solved as in any part of the country.

Here (*) is another type of Everglades. You will find here bears and deer and wild turkeys.

If you compare this region (*) with the jungles in the Amazon, for instance, or elsewhere in the typical tropics you will find that jungle as complete (*) as any in the world. Those who know tell us that there is no place in the world where a more representative tropic jungle, with trees and ferns and all the flora and fauna of the tropics, can be found.

Let us approach one of those jungles (*).

We see more closely this sky-line (*) of Royal Palms. This Royal Palm (*) does not occur in a wild state elsewhere in the United States. While it is always beautiful, we see here (*) how beautifully it is here silhouetted against the sky as the sun is setting.

Let us penetrate this Royal Palm State park jungle. It is the only one of these hammock jungles where there is a road at the present time.

It is certainly a thrilling experience to penetrate such a jungle. There are hundreds of hammock islands similar to this in this great Cape Sable region.

One of the live-oak trees (*) no doubt of great age and surely of majestic size.

A big tree (*) with its roots growing down and well up on a host tree. These roots finally envelop the host tree and strangle it. This tree is known as the strangler or murder tree. In those jungles, when the sun comes filtering through from the canopy of foliage high above, you will have a scenic effect that occurs only in the Tropics.

The tree snails (*) or lignus here shown was referred to by Dr. Howard Kelly before your committee last Tuesday. They (*) travel on the back of the trees in these jungle forests. It is an interesting sight to see these snails graceful in form and of brilliant color, as one walks along the trails in these jungles. Dr. Charles Simpson writes in his book, *In Lower Florida Wilds*, that "One of the painful things in seeing this country being destroyed is to know that these wonderful tree snails are doomed to extinction."

We are now (*) down in the tidal water country. This is where many of the beautiful orchids grow in greatest variety. It is certainly a wonderland down here and formerly this region was literally full of orchids. The collector has about cleaned out many of the rarest of these orchids, selling them in the North. This (*) shows a

flower cluster of the *oncinium luridum*, one of these lovely orchids. The only reason that these lovely orchids are not entirely taken away is due to the fact that parts of the jungle region of the Everglades are so impenetrable that the collector has not as yet penetrated everywhere.

We, of course, can not hope to begin to see everything that is of interest in this country in a single evening. We could not do that if we were to take months.

Let us now take a look at some of the birds (*). (*) We have little baby birds. Again (*) we see both eggs and birds. In this instance (*) the man who took the photograph from which this slide was made intended to take a picture of three eggs in a nest but as he was about to press the button two of the eggs popped open and he had before him two little downy baby birds. A nest of white ibis (*). This interesting bird is abundant in this country even to-day though ruthlessly hunted. The "mama" white ibis and the "papa" (*) is seemingly about to fly off somewhere, presumably to get the necessary food to supply the family.

These birds do not continue on as little babies (*) but grow quite rapidly. While one baby bird is sleeping (*) the other baby in this nest is looking about to see what's doing in the outer world. First thing you know (*) these little birds are grown up and in the trees getting ready to be a part of the grown-up colony in the grown-up world.

Doctor Pearson referred the other morning to the great white heron found only in this section of the United States. It is one of the most stately and beautiful of all birds in this region.

The wood ibis (*) is certainly a strange appearing bird and quite magnificent in his own way.

Here (*) is Mr. Fisherman with a bird sitting on the stern of his row boat. This pelican may be saying, in a spirit of fair play, "Will you give me a fish?"

Those are the kind of experiences which give this country down here much of its tremendous human touch and interest.

The sandhill crane (*) is one of the large American birds which is fast disappearing. It is a handsome bird. Down in this wild section of country we see a land where native wild life, including the birds, can remain when this region becomes a national park. Without such a provision extermination of many kinds is not far off.

Mr. Linkin (*) is certainly a funny-appearing bird. American egret, one of the most beautiful and stately birds in the world, and here is its smaller cousin (*) the snowy egret.

Those pure white graceful birds have been nearly exterminated within the past years and became very scarce. They are now coming back already as the aigrette plumes for millinery purposes are not only prohibited for use by law, but now not in favor with women.

One of the much-hunted game birds (*) the "yellow leg."

The roseate spoonbill (*), a great showy bird which owes its continued existence in this region to the fact that it nests in the dense wood.

Dr. Frank M. Chapman (*), in referring to that wonderful bird, the flamingo, which has entirely disappeared from Florida, believes

that it will eventually return when this region, where the flamingo formerly congregated by the thousands, is under Federal protection.

Senator FLETCHER. Mr. Coe, I had a letter from a gentleman who lives down there, and he wrote me—this is his story and I do not know just how true it is—that the flamingo nests ordinarily outside the Everglades; but when they heard about the prospects of this proposed national park, they returned to the Everglades again. [Laughter.]

Mr. COE. Yes. Now that we have verified the oyster story, I am sure that all here will believe that story also.

Mr. Wild Turkey abounds with us down there in this country (*). We can well believe this region as a national park may eventually become the one place in the eastern part of our country where the wild turkey will continue to survive.

(*) A place where the wild turkey can continue to cluck with his proud spouse and brood of little chicks forever.

Mr. YON. How did you get that picture of that turkey in that way?

Mr. COE. One evening this Mr. Turkey was bathing along a woodland trail where turkeys were wont to go when he tripped on the string connected with a camera and there was a flash of light and that was the moment when proud Mr. Gobbler had his picture taken.

Many wonderful photographs of wild life are procured this way.

The Florida deer abound here. (*). This is a fine stag; and here (*) is a little herd walking along, making a charming picture. When it comes to the human appeal, is there anything like a little fawn (*)?

When it comes to bears down there, we have our bears and stories of experiences with them similar to Yellowstone. (*) Bear stories may be expected later on.

Mr. YON. That is not a Yellowstone Park picture, is it?

Mr. COE. Yes, I think so. But this (*) is not.

When northerners come down into this country, the Seminole Indian is expected to be part of the landscape.

Mr. YON. Is there any chance to stop the Seminoles from going to Miami?

Mr. COE. My experience is that the Seminole are driven to Miami; they are literally trapped down there. Give them a chance to continue to live their own way and they probably would keep away from Miami.

Here is a chance for the Seminole Indian to continue to live in this territory when it becomes a national park. To-day he is confronted with nothing but despair; but we can give him a "place in the sun," as a guide to take us through this strange region which he knows so well.

Mr. DRANE. Do you know how long ago that group picture was taken [indicating Indian picture]?

Mr. COE. No, but I do know that it is a recent picture.

The problem of the Seminole Indian's welfare will be solved by establishing this national park, in the opinion of many people who have given study to the subject. Where the Indian can camp (*)

we can also camp. If the Indian can live in that primitive country (*) we can also do it when we desire to get close to nature within the tropics.

This is one of the great features of a national park, the privilege of being out of doors with nature.

Let us, (*), with a Seminole guide, spend a few hours as he doles his dug-out canoe through the labyrinth of waterways that he and he only knows. He takes us through a country that is different from anything else in the world. We pass through regions dark under a jungle canopy and again into the open. At every turn new vistas and scenes present a country which has wonderful beauty and intense interest (*). It's been a trip brimming with strange scenes and unfamiliar sights. The assurance from our Seminole guide that we will soon be again with our party is welcome. We have seen enough for to-day but certain that the interests of this region can never be exhausted, that with every occasion to visit this region is borne the conviction that ever new fascinations will await our coming.

THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION,
Washington, D. C., December 18, 1930.

HON. DON B. COLTON,
Chairman Public Lands Committee,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR REPRESENTATIVE COLTON: During to-day's session of the board of directors of The American Forestry Association, attention was given to H. R. 12381, to provide for the establishment of the Tropic Everglades National Park in the State of Florida.

We understand that testimony was presented during the public hearings of your committee revealing the remarkable plant and animal life existing in the Cape Sable region of Florida. No doubt, also, emphasis was given to the surprisingly ephemeral character of much of this life and the danger that it will be lost unless adequately protected.

To this end The American Forestry Association passed the following resolution which we desire to have included in the published hearings of your committee.

The interest of The American Forestry Association in the proposed Tropic Everglades National Park lies primarily in the preservation of the unique plant and animal life of the region.

To this end the board of directors of The American Forestry Association favors the creation of a national reservation in the Florida Everglades under Federal protection.

The board of directors of The American Forestry Association recognizes that in this reservation more than in any other area ever discussed in the development of the national park system, the necessity of preserving inviolate the primitive conditions of the area is outstanding.

Therefore, The American Forestry Association's approval of the proposed Tropic Everglades National Park is contingent upon the restriction of the area to be included in the park to lands which come fully up to the standards of the great national parks, upon the preservation to the fullest possible degree of the wilderness character of the area, and upon placing the primary emphasis on national as distinguished from local considerations in acquisition of lands and in administration of the park.

Realizing the extent of the discussion given the Tropic Everglades National Park before your committee, it is perhaps undesirable to suggest their continuation, but should you desire an amplification of the opinions of this board, we will be glad to have them presented by a representative of this association.

Very sincerely yours,

GEORGE D. PRATT, *President.*

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The CHAIRMAN. This, I understand, concludes the hearing; and we will get the committee together at the earliest possible date when we can get a quorum.

Mr. YON. I do not know whether Mr. Green from Florida is here—one of my colleagues who is very much interested in this, and might desire to make a few observations before the hearing closes.

Mr. GREEN. Yes, I have heard the address and been present at the meetings. And I do not care to say anything unless the other members also speak.

Mr. Drane is also interested, because he is from a part of this territory.

Mr. DRANE. Yes, I have shown my interest by my attendance at this meeting. The case has been so well stated by others, and so well illustrated here, that I do not think I would care to say anything further.

Mr. YON. I see that Senator Fletcher of Florida is present. Have you anything that you wish to say, Senator Fletcher?

Senator FLETCHER. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen:

The committee has been so diligent, and so considerate, and it has heard so completely the merits of this whole matter, that I feel that anything I might say might tend to mar it.

The CHAIRMAN. I think I can say for the committee that we appreciate the very valuable presentation which has been made. I do not know when I have attended a more interesting hearing than we have had on this bill; and I am sure that the committee will consider it carefully within a very short time.

Mr. GREEN. I might add, Mr. Chairman, that we appreciate the courtesy of the committee, and we appreciate the remarks of the witnesses that Mrs. Owen and other members have presented to the committee, and we will afford the matter the best consideration.

The CHAIRMAN. I will try to call the committee together tomorrow, and arrange for a meeting upon this bill.

Mr. YON. Before the hearing is closed, Mr. Chairman, I want to express my appreciation for the presentation here this evening by Mr. Coe, not only as it has been instructive to the members

of the committee, but as it has given pleasure to others that have attended. Because it has presented to us something that we did not fully realize—neither myself nor some of the other members from Florida—because we had not gone to the trouble to go deep into this particular area.

But knowing that country as well as I do, I am very glad to have had this presentation by Mr. Coe of this splendid lecture. I also want to express my appreciation to my colleagues on the committee from other States, and also to those from other Southern States, and to Mr. Swing and Mr. Englebright—to all the members who were present as members of the committee listening to this fine presentation by Mr. Coe.

The CHAIRMAN. Unless there is something further, Mrs. Owen, that you wish to present, the committee will now stand adjourned. (Thereupon, at 8.45 o'clock p. m., the committee adjourned, subject to the call of the chairman.)

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