

The final day will find the Trail following pleasant tree-shaded and grassy lanes. At 4.34 m. from Webatuck Shelter the route becomes a delightful woods walk, ascending gradually up the west slope of Schaghticoke Mtn., using wide arched-over wood roads and trails until the top of the plateau-like summit is reached. From here it is 4.23 m. via the A.T. to U. S. Route 7 in Kent, Conn., where fair train service (New Haven R.R.) is available to New York and New England. Excellent accommodations are available at the Kent Inn, located in town.

**Taconic Parkway to Bear Mountain Inn**  
(24.96 m.)

For those who want to spend two days on The Appalachian Trail through forests with easy or downhill grades, this is a section to be investigated. It is easily reached by car via the Taconic Parkway from either New York, Albany, or New England to the Knapp Road exit. Mid-day arrivals should continue to the N. Y. Highway 301 exit where free parking is available at Canopus Lake, near the Trail west of the Parkway.

Little time passes after the start of the journey before the hiker finds himself going through mature woods. Reaching the summit of Shenandoah Mtn. (1.49 m.), an outstanding panoramic view is obtained. Continuing on wood roads and passing good outlooks, the Torrey Memorial Shelter is reached (3.52 m.). (This should be the first night's objective for those starting in the afternoon from Knapp Road.) The route continues on easy grades past some ponds. Then, through forests and rolling terrain, the steady ascent to Candlewood Hill is begun and the views from the summit reached at 4.59 m. N. Y. Highway 301. Delightfully ancient roads beneath stately trees are followed to Indian Lake Shelter (15.22 m. from Knapp Road), where a stop is made for the night.

Next day the Trail goes, for the most part, through pleasant woods. At 4.74 m. from Canopus Crossroads, views of Atone-ment Mtn. are had. Crossing U. S. Route 9, one starts the descent to the Hudson River valley. Enroute colonial iron mines are passed and, at 2.55 m. from U. S. Route 9, Hemlock Spring Shelter is reached. The descent to Bear Mountain Bridge brings many views. The Bear Mountain Inn is

across the bridge 0.64 m. farther by the Trail. Excellent service via Mohawk Coach to New York and Newburgh is available. (Across the Hudson River from Newburgh, at Beacon there is New York Central Railroad service to Albany and points west.)

The traveler should plan to spend some time at Bear Mountain. The Nature Trail and Museum, historic relics and various recreational facilities are but a few of the features. Complete hotel accommodations are available at the Inn.

**FOREST EXPERIMENT DEMON-  
STRATION AREA ON TRAIL**

**By James H. Patric**  
**Southeastern Forest Experiment Station**

A short distance north of the Georgia State Line hikers will cross a cutover area above the Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory. This is part of a 5,600-acre reservation maintained and staffed by the U. S. Forest Service to study water as a major forest product. Here, researchers are learning how vegetation, soil, and climate modify streamflow from forests. From Mooney Gap north to Big Spring, The Appalachian Trail follows just within the upper boundary of the Laboratory.

Recently, population has increased and so has leisure time and personal income. The need for and interest in recreation has increased accordingly; so has the need for timber and high quality water. To satisfy more needs of more people on the same amount of land, the U. S. Forest Service has adopted the policy of multiple use, a program for obtaining a variety of products and services from forest resources. There is much to be gained from a concrete example of land intensively managed to fulfill a variety of human needs.

A 360-acre watershed high on the main mountain ridge was chosen to demonstrate multiple use management. There are several good reasons for this choice. It is one of the most water-productive places in eastern North America. Rainfall at Mooney Gap averages 90 inches per year. Soils are deep and well covered with hardwood forest, giving rise to a dense stream network. Some good quality timber is found along the main streams but most of the

stands at high elevation are over-mature and of poor form. The vicinity gets heavy recreational use, mostly by hunters and fishermen seeking to capitalize on its proximity to the Standing Indian Game Management Area. Serious hikers follow The Appalachian Trail, but a good deal of family-type recreation occurs when local people drive up on Sunday afternoons for a picnic, the view, or a pleasant walk to Albert Mountain Fire Lookout. This very briefly outlines the resources of our demonstration area.

At Coweeta, we base our multiple use management on the fundamental premise that water is the key resource against which to measure success or failure of any attempt to balance and regulate total use of these well-watered mountains.

Some of the classic work in forest hydrology establishes that any reduction in forest cover increases streamflow, at least in the southern Appalachians. So we needed to clear almost 200 acres of low quality timber, particularly since clear cutting is often the best way to replace a low quality timber stand with better trees. By this means we will substantially increase streamflow, harvest much over-mature timber, and create better stands for the future.

In the cove, 100 acres of fast-growing yellow-poplar are under intensive management. Clear-cut land provides the forest edge and browse so important to game birds and mammals. Increased streamflow will, with channel improvement, provide a better habitat for native trout, particularly in late summer. Most of the 60 acres of steep, rocky forest land along The Appalachian Trail remains in the primitive state for the enjoyment of hikers and for wildlife shelter. Trail renovation, vistas, and improvement of springs complete our plans for recreational development.

Five miles of roads have been built to strict standards, providing dry-weather truck access to manage and protect the forest, while requiring minimum maintenance. Almost 3 miles of trails provide foot access to primitive areas as well as direct connections between key points along routes impassable to vehicles.

Hikers desiring to see more of this demonstration should look for the vista about one mile south of Albert Mountain.