

Act for 1941 provides \$25,000 towards the purchase of the Red Hill Estate, home of Patrick Henry.

In addition to the above, there are five previously authorized projects: Fort Frederica, Ga., Fort Stanwix, N. Y., Palm Canyon, Calif., Pioneer, Ky., Spanish War Memorial, Fla., in connection with which no important developments occurred.

PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO FEDERAL PARK SYSTEM

Rehoboth-Assateague National Seashore, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia.—H. R. 9718 introduced on May 9, 1940, would authorize establishment of a stretch of the Eastern Shore for national seashore purposes. Study of the merits of the area, in cooperation with interested local people, was carried on during the year.

Studies in connection with a number of other national seashore possibilities were continued. Included in these considerations were the Barnegat Inlet region of New Jersey, Anastasia Island, Fla., and Padre Island, Tex.

Tensas Swamp National Park, La.—Proposed by H. R. 9720 and S. 4047, introduced May 9, 1940. This area in Madison Parish is distinguished by its extensive stand of virgin timber of rare bottomland hardwoods type, none of which is found in any area of the national park system, and its unusual scenic and biological qualities.

Oregon Coast National Park, Oreg.—Proposed by S. 4064, introduced May 29, 1940. The area, in Curry County, embraces one of the most rugged and scenic portions of the Pacific coast, and is a practically unmodified area combining many outstanding geological and biological features.

Coronado International Monument, Ariz.—An act of July 17, 1939, authorized an expenditure of not to exceed \$10,000 for erection of a suitable monument at or near the point on the international boundary between the United States and Mexico where Coronado first entered what is now the United States. S. 4130, introduced on June 12, 1940, authorizes the President to establish by proclamation an area of approximately 2,960 acres as the Coronado International Monument. The Government of Mexico has been invited by the Department of State to participate in the commemoration of Coronado's expedition by establishing a companion park or monument of approximately the same shape and size on its side of the border.

Adirondack National Recreational Area, New York.—Proposed by S. 3840, introduced April 24, 1940. The bill provides that such an area shall be established when title to such lands within the region of the Adirondack Mountains as may be determined by the Secretary of the

Interior as necessary for this purpose shall have been vested in the United States.

Saint John Island National Recreational Area, Virgin Islands.—Proposed by H. R. 9621, introduced May 1, 1940. Saint John Island, one of the small islands terminating the Lesser Antilles, is distinguished by magnificent beaches, richly colorful forests, and luxuriant and diversified flowering forms. Establishment of this area would provide excellent recreational opportunities for the public, and the economic condition of the approximately 800 natives would be benefited by an increase in tourist trade.

Escalante, Southeastern Utah.—The proposal to establish this area as a unit of the national park system was given considerable impetus. It is proposed to handle the recreational resources of the area, together with the water control, grazing, mining, and other industrial interests therein, under one completely integrated program. This 1,280,000-acre area is practically all in Federal ownership.

Ship Island, Miss.—Located in the Gulf of Mexico, near Gulfport and Biloxi. National monument status is fully justified because of the area's historical significance. It was an important point in the first French settlement of Louisiana; was used as headquarters by British General Packingham prior to his descent on New Orleans in 1814-15, and was a Union navy yard for the Gulf blockading squadron during the War Between the States.

Manuelito, N. Mex.—This proposal for a national monument of approximately 30,000 acres would preserve a highly important link in Southwestern archeology. Its scientific importance has long been recognized by the Smithsonian Institution, National Park Service, and other organizations. During the year, New Mexico cooperated generously in the proposal by purchasing a number of private holdings within the area, and expects ultimately to turn them over to the Federal Government for monument purposes.

FOREST PROTECTION AND FIRE PREVENTION

Fire record.—The forest-fire record for the calendar year 1939 suffered in comparison with 1938 because of one bad fire in Yellowstone National Park. The total number of fires affecting the national parks and monuments was 555, of which 193, or 35 percent, were caused by lightning and 362, or 65 percent, by human agency.

The largest fire in 1939, and the largest that has occurred in Yellowstone since 1931, was the Astringent Creek fire which started from lightning on July 15. This fire burned an area of 1,561 acres, which was more than half the total burned area for the entire national park system for the year.