



Volume 1

M A R C H 1 9 6 0

Number 1

## LEVEL WALKER PROGRAM LAUNCHED; PLANS ANNOUNCED

### C A N A L   B I L L I N C H E S   F O R W A R D

At "press time" - March 28 - the Bill to establish the C & O Canal National Historical Park had cleared one more of the obstacles in its course.

On March 22, after several delays related in part to the Civil Rights maneuvering, the House Rules Committee cleared it for action on the House floor. Next step: debate and vote -- expected some time after April 1. If passed by the House, attention will turn to the Senate, where it must clear the Interior Committee, then be brought to the floor and passed. It is uncertain whether new hearings will have to be scheduled before the Senate committee.

(Continued on page 2)

### T H E   L E V E L   W A L K E R

Published as needed (perhaps quarterly)  
by

Level Walkers Committee,  
C & O Canal Association

Orville W. Crowder, Chairman  
Grant Conway, Co-chairman

ADDRESS: Box 7149, Baltimore 18, Md.

If some future historian wants a date for it, let's call it April 1st, 1960 - and no puns about April fools!

For April 1 sees the Level Walker program in action from Georgetown to Cumberland. When we started talking to people about it, we thought it would be hard to find 30 participants, each covering about 6 miles of Canal. Instead, we've kept chopping sections in half to meet the enthusiasm, and we start operation with 70 men along the line. Only a few sections exceed 3 miles.

Most of our readers know the plan and purpose by now, but let's re-state briefly:

Level Walkers are volunteers who are fond of the Potomac Valley and the Canal, and who are willing to "patrol" a section twice a year and report on its condition and its attractions. The condition-reports will have much value in this pre-Park period when detailed surveillance by the Park Service is obviously difficult. As the Park staff increases, attention can be turned more completely to what each section contains - in plant and animal life, in geologic interest, in historical association, and in many other fields.

(Continued next page)

LEVEL WALKER PROGRAM - continued

Since Level Walkers will not, in most cases, be accomplished naturalists, a corps of "Consultants" is being recruited. Some have already been enlisted; many others will be added as we go along. The Consultants are grouped in five categories:

- Botany
- Bird Life
- All other Animal Life
- Geology
- History

They are experts in their fields who are willing to answer questions from Level Walkers, and occasionally respond to requests to walk over the sections of adjoining Level Walkers and point out items of interest within the consultant's specialty.

The result of this collaboration should, in time, be a Nature reporting chain of considerable value, and a public participation in National Park activity that is unique.

Reports, on a simple form or by ordinary letter, will be submitted twice a year-- by June 30 and December 31. The information condensed from these will be passed along through the columns of "The Level Walker", along with news of all sorts about the Canal and activities which affect it.

Organizationally, the Level Walkers are a committee of the C&O Canal Association, though many of the participants are not directly members of the sponsoring organization.

The name "level walker" is an old Canal term for one who patrolled the towpath looking for trouble in the form of muskrat leaks and such, and who did a certain amount of maintenance work. Today's Level Walker gets out of the work entirely!

The National Capital Parks program of hikes includes a series along the towpath called Level-Walker trips, but there is no connection between these and the new patrolling organization.

Doubtless the future will bring a number of possibilities now unforeseen. But with only the presently planned activities, we predict for the Level Walkers a long and very useful existence.

## YOUTH HOSTEL CHAIN SEEN POSSIBILITY

As a result of proposals by the Level Walkers Committee, and spurred by an address before them by Justice Douglas, the Potomac Council of American Youth Hostels is surveying the Canal route for a possible chain of hostels.

Hostels are overnight accommodations consisting of separate bunkrooms for men and women (or we should say boys and girls, since youth has preference), cooking facilities, and other conveniences. Each hostel is under supervision of "house parents", usually owners of the property on which the hostel is established. AYH passes are required, but overnight charges are extremely low.

Such a chain, spaced at distances of a day's walk and located on property adjacent to the Canal Park, would add immeasurably to the utilization of the towpath.

First steps consist of acquainting the people of the Valley with the nature and value of Youth Hostels. The search for specific sites comes next -- then the task of building or converting existing structures.

Level Walkers will find it possible to help this project in many ways.

### CANAL BILL (continued from page 1)

So the three year Odyssey of the Park Bill continues. As most of us know, it passed the Senate once, then bogged down in the House Interior Committee. Last year a new Congress came in, and the Bill had to start all over. It survived a long series of hearings before the House Committee, where for a time things looked black indeed. It emerged with quite vigorous support of Chairman Aspinall and the Committee. Then it hit the recent log-jam in the Rules Committee. Chairman Smith threw a new curve when he voiced surprise that the Bill provided for acquisition of additional land (no news to anyone else for the last 3 years) and more weeks went by. Smith voted to send the Bill to the floor, but says he'll oppose it there.

For the next chapter, you'll have to watch your daily papers.



## CANAL NEWS &amp; NOTES ~

WORK AT DAM #3

Towpath hikers who haven't seen the section above Harpers Ferry for some time have a pleasant surprise in store. The Park Service, under direction of Superintendent Mac Dale and Engineer Charlie Blake, has completely restored the footway of the towpath in this area -- the worst damaged of the entire Canal. This is the section where it was formerly necessary to detour for a quarter mile along the rocky hillside of the berm.

Purpose of the work was to carry out a trial re-watering project. Late last summer it was possible to canoe from Lock 34 to the guard lock at Dam No. 3. It looked quite watertight to us. The work extends downstream to the notoriously flood damaged area opposite Harpers Ferry, where a heavy job of brush clearing revealed the complex stone work of Lock 33, and the ancient river lock where boats once entered the Canal from the Shenandoah.

HARPERS FERRY WEEK-END

Some 14 hiking clubs are joining in a mammoth hiking week-end at Harpers Ferry, April 8-10. This is the second year for what promises to be an annual affair. Last year a whopping 303 people turned out. Several Canal hikes are on this year's program. One goes up to Antietam Village, visiting an orebank and a quarry along the way. The Hancock and Williamsport Canal Clubs are participating.

C & O CANAL ASSOCIATION REUNION

The annual reunion of the "Justice Douglas" hike of 1954 is scheduled for the week-end of May 6-8. This year the hikers will camp out at the Cardinal Club, and hike to Cumberland the next day. If anyone does the entire distance, he'll be covering 22.2 miles, enough perhaps to satisfy even the sturdy limbs of Justice Douglas.

The route, interestingly, covers the extreme upper end of the towpath -- the portion skipped by the original Douglas hike. It includes the industrialized Cumberland section, where we

once feared the Park property might be abandoned as unsuitable. It now seems that the Park, as it should, will continue to the very end of the Canal, or what is left of the end since completion of the flood control works there.

WHO HAS WALKED IT ALL?

We'd like to compile a list of those who have walked all of the towpath. Have you? Drop us a line with a brief story of how you did it -- in what year, and over what period of time. We mean every inch of the towpath, now! That refers to the complete 184.5 miles from the intake lock in Cumberland to the tidal lock at Georgetown.

CANAL BIKE TRIPS

As far as we know, no one has ever bicycled the entire towpath. Several groups are interested in doing so, and are now straining at the leash -- we mean handle-bars -- waiting for weather that will permit it.

A group of 12 from St. Alban's School, Washington, led by Chaplain Craig Eder, tried it in March, found the towpath hopelessly snow-covered, and settled for a road-biking trip from Harpers Ferry to Washington, stopping overnight at the Seneca Youth Hostel.

The Youth Hostellers have two attempts in their plans. One is a strong man's special -- all the way in one continuous trip. The other is a series of three bike trips on separate week-ends, connecting so as to cover the whole Canal. They will take careful notes of towpath condition from a biker's viewpoint, and we'll pass the report along through the Level Walker.

CANAL LOSES A FRIEND

The March death of Senator Richard L. Neuberger was a sore loss to the Canal, as it was to conservation forces generally. Dick Neuberger was a regular hiker on the Canal Association reunion trips, unrolling his sleeping bag to join us under the stars, and adding depth and meaning to our towpath chats.

Copy deadline, next LEVEL WALKER: May 9.

DIRECTORY of  
LEVEL WALKERS

Mi. from  
Washington

- .0 GEORGETOWN TIDAL LOCK to  
OLD BOAT INCLINE  
Rear Adm Neill Phillips  
3053 P St., N.W., Wash-7  
North 7-7362
- 2.1 OLD BOAT INCLINE to LOCK NO. 5  
Beverly T. Thompson  
224 5th St., S.E., Wash-3  
Lincoln 3-1672
- 5.0 LOCK NO. 5 to CABIN JOHN CREEK  
Philip J. Stone  
3023 Macomb St., N.W., Wash-8  
Woodley 6-0506
- 7.5 CABIN JOHN CREEK to LOCK 14  
Hillyer G. Norment  
5612 5th St., N.W., Wash-11  
Randolph 3-1453
- 9.5 LOCK 14 to CROPLEY  
Robert E. Harrigan  
5113 Wehauken Rd., Wash-16  
Oliver 6-1165
- 12.3 CROPLEY to GREAT FALLS (LOCK 20)  
Robert A. McAra  
4113 4th St., N., Arl-1, Va.  
Jackson 2-4962
- 14.3 GREAT FALLS to SWAINS LOCK  
Dr. James W. Johnston, Jr.  
217 N. Wayne St., Arl.-1, Va.  
Jackson 7-8860
- 16.6 SWAINS LOCK to PENNYFIELD  
Jean A. d'Alpuget  
338 N. Geo. Mason Dr., Arl-3, Va.  
Jackson 7-5367
- 19.6 PENNYFIELD to SENECA AQUEDUCT  
Justice Wm. O. Douglas  
U.S. Supreme Court, Wash-25  
Executive 3-1640
- 22.8 SENECA AQUEDUCT to TENFOOT ISLD.  
Bruce Wald  
55 Galveston Pl., S.W., Wash-24  
Johnson 2-8564
- 25.3 TENFOOT ISLD to SYCAMORE LANDING  
Grant Conway  
6032 Broad St., Wash-16  
Oliver 2-6463
- 27.2 SYCAMORE LDG. to EDWARDS FERRY  
Capt. G. R. Keating, USN  
Nav Rec Sta BOQ 1-18, Wash-25
- 30.8 EDWARDS FERRY to FT. HARRISON ISLD.  
Constant Southworth  
4000 Cathedral Ave., Wash-16  
Spruce 3-3626
- 33.2 FT. HARRISON IS. to WHITES FERRY  
John E. Connor  
819 W. Glebe Rd., Alex., Va.  
Temple 6-8767
- 35.5 WHITES FERRY to LOCK 26  
Alburn J. Kennedy  
5862 Arl. Blvd., Arl-4, Va.  
Jackson 7-5259
- 39.4 LOCK 26 to MONOCACY AQUEDUCT  
Anson G. Courter  
3052 30th St. S.E., Wash-20  
Ludlow 1-0553
- 42.2 MONOCACY AQUEDUCT to NOLANDS FERRY  
Wm. W. Richardson  
153 S. Aberdeen St., Arl-4, Va.  
Jackson 8-2976
- 44.6 NOLANDS FERRY to POINT OF ROCKS  
George W. Kline  
106 W. 14th St., Frederick, Md.  
Monument 3-6788
- 48.2 POINT OF ROCKS to CATOCTIN AQUED.  
Gordon Fortney  
908 N. Cleveland St., Arl., Va.  
Jackson 8-2968
- 51.5 CATOCTIN AQ. to BRUNSWICK (LOCK 30)  
Herbert E. White  
Dickerson, Md.
- 55.0 BRUNSWICK to WEVERTON (LOCK 31)  
Bart Hague  
1908 Florida Ave., NW, Wash-9  
Adams 4-0489
- 58.0 WEVERTON to HARPERS FERRY (LOCK 33)  
Michael Nadel  
4427 N. Pershing Dr., Arl-3, Va.  
Jackson 5-6995
- 60.7 HARPERS FERRY to DAM NO. 3  
Orville W. Crowder  
Box 7149, Balto. 18, Md.
- 62.4 DAM NO. 3 to DARGAN QUARRY  
Sterling W. Edwards, Sr.  
Myersville, Md.  
Myersville 2861
- 65.1 DARGAN QUARRY to MTN LOCK (NO. 37)  
Arnold C. Mason  
3200 Lorcom Lane, Arl-7, Va.  
Jackson 2-3525
- 67.0 MOUNTAIN LOCK (NO. 37)

See next page



## LEVEL WALKERS - continued

- 67.0 MTN. LOCK to ANTIETAM AQUEDUCT  
Myron Glaser  
Wash. Daily News, Wash.-5  
DI 7-7777 (Res: OL 4-2222)
- 69.4 ANTIETAM AQUED. to SHEPHERDSTOWN  
Kenneth S. Rollins  
113 Valley Rd., Wash.-16  
OLiver 4-0513
- 72.8 SHEPHERDSTOWN to LOCK 39  
Charles O. Bracken  
708 Woodsdale Rd., Balto.-28  
Ridgeway 7-7803
- 74.0 LOCK 39 to SNYDERS LANDING  
Lawrence A. Bruns  
301 Gun Rd., Relay, Balto.-27  
Elkridge 115-J
- 76.7 SNYDERS LANDING to LOCK 40  
Henri Siegel  
5150 Edmondson Ave., Balto.-29  
Wilkins 5-0428
- 79.4 LOCK 40 to MARSH RUN CULVERT  
Roy E. Stoner  
910 Summit Av., Hagerstown, Md.
- 81.6 MARSH RUN CULVERT to DAM NO. 4  
A. Risley Ensor  
1514 Kingsway Rd., Balto.-18  
Tuxedo 9-7718
- 84.4 DAM NO. 4 to CHARLES MILL  
Jacob E. Berkson  
1012 Oak Hill Av., Hagerstown  
REgent 3-2022
- 88.1 CHARLES MILL to FOREMANS FERRY  
Victor P. Conrad  
Route 6, Hagerstown, Md.  
REgent 9-0479
- 91.0 FOREMANS FERRY to LOCK 43  
Donald S. Ebersole  
16 E. Frederick St., Wmspt., Md.  
Canal 3-8676
- 93.0 LOCK 43 to FALLING WATERS  
Charles G. Payne, Jr.  
12 N. Artizan St., Wmspt., Md.  
Canal 3-4015
- 94.4 FALLING WATERS to WILLIAMSPORT  
Walter W. Teach  
Williamsport, Md.
- 99.8 WILLIAMSPORT to PINESBURG STA.  
Melvin I. Kaplan  
117 Greenmount Av., Hagerstown  
REgent 3-8165
- 102.0 PINESBURG STATION
- 102.0 PINESBURG STA. to OLD R.R. BRIDGE  
Adam J. Harsh  
13 S. Conochg. St., Wmsport, Md.  
Canal 3-3546
- 105.0 OLD R.R. BRIDGE to DAM NO. 5  
Clarence S. Baker  
Big Spring, Md.  
Victor 2-2332
- 106.8 DAM NO. 5 to McCOYS FERRY  
George W. Wolfe  
Williamsport, Md.
- 110.4 McCOYS FERRY to FORT FREDERICK  
Charles R. Myers  
15 E. Fenton Ave., Wmsport., Md.  
Canal 3-5321
- 112.4 FORT FREDERICK to ERNSTVILLE  
George G. Snyder  
Main St., Clear Spring, Md.  
Victor 2-~~2123~~2237
- 114.5 ERNSTVILLE to LICKING CR. AQUED.  
Jesse L. Hull  
Main St., Clear Spring, Md.  
Victor 2-2193
- 116.0 LICKING CR. AQUEDUCT to MILLSTONE  
William L. Smith  
Boonsboro, Md.
- 118.9 MILLSTONE to DITCH RUN CULVERT  
John C. Frye  
Gapland, Md.  
General 2-8870
- 121.6 DITCH RUN CULVERT to HANCOCK  
Walter L. Keefer  
Route 1, Clear Spring, Md.  
REgent 9-3802
- 124.1 HANCOCK to ROUNDTOP MILL  
Rev. Ronald C. Albaugh  
St. Thomas Rectory, Hancock, Md.  
ORchard 8-6347
- 127.3 ROUNDTOP MILL to LOCK 53  
Charles A. McKinley  
Main St., Hancock, Md.  
ORchard 8-6288
- 130.0 LOCK 53 to DAM NO. 6  
Henry A. Munson  
Route 2, Hancock, Md.  
ORchard 8-6760
- 134.1 DAM NO. 6 to SIDELING HILL AQ.  
Frederick C. Vantz  
Pennsylvania Ave., Hancock, Md.  
ORchard 8-6217
- 136.6 SIDELING HILL CREEK AQUEDUCT

See next page

## LEVEL WALKERS - continued

- 136.6 SIDEL. HILL AQ. to LITTLE ORLEANS  
Ralph Donnelly  
Hancock, Md.  
Orchard 8-6700
- 140.9 LITTLE ORLEANS to LOCK 59  
James E. Ward  
12 N. Church St., Hancock, Md.  
Orchard 8-6156
- 146.6 LOCK 59 to LOCK 60  
William F. Wagner  
508 Boyd Ave., Cumberland, Md.  
Parkview 4-2167
- 149.7 LOCK 60 to GREEN RIDGE STATION  
Robert J. Taylor  
635 Balto. Ave., Cumberland, Md.  
Parkview 2-3459
- 151.2 GREEN RIDGE STATION to LOCK 61  
Russell McGaughey  
523 Pine Avenue  
Cumberland, Md.
- 153.1 LOCK 61 to LOCK 63-1/3  
Robert Dougherty  
10 Smith St., Cumberland, Md.  
Parkview 2-8419
- 154.5 LOCK 63-1/3 to PAW PAW (MD.-51)  
Sterling Edwards, Jr.  
State Teachers College  
Frostburg, Md.
- 156.3 PAW PAW to CULV. opp. LIT. CACAPON  
Hollis M. Seavey  
Radio WCUM, Cumberland, Md.  
Parkview 4-5400
- 159.7 OPP. LIT. CACAPON to TOWN CREEK  
Frederick J. Taylor  
Box 57  
Oldtown, Md.
- 162.3 TOWN CREEK AQUEDUCT to LOCK 68  
Charles E. Himes  
8 Miltenberger Pl., Cumb., Md.  
Parkview 4-9076
- 164.8 LOCK 68 to OLDTOWN (LOCK 71)  
Isaac T. Long  
Rt. 1, Box 205, Oldtown, Md.
- 167.0 OLDTOWN to KELLYS ROAD CULVERT  
Miles G. Thompson  
Thompson Buick Co., Cumb., Md.  
Parkview 2-8400
- 170.8 KELLYS ROAD CULVERT

- 170.8 KELLYS RD. CULV. to SPRING GAP  
Patrick I. Stakem  
Mgr. Algonquin Hotel  
Cumberland, Md.
- 173.4 SPRING GAP CULV. to NORTH BRANCH  
Lawrence W. Mallery, Sr.  
Box 52, Oldtown, Md.
- 175.6 NORTH BRANCH (LK 75) to PIPE LINE  
Kenneth P. McCarty  
Valentine's Motel  
Route 1, Ridgeley, W. Va.  
Redwood 8-8915
- 177.7 PIPE LINE to EVITTS CR. AQUEDUCT  
Dr. Rudolph Steinberger  
Cresaptown, Md.  
Parkview 2-6197
- 180.7 EVITTS CREEK AQ. to WILEY FORD  
William P. Price  
328 Cumb. St., Cumberland, Md.  
Parkview 2-4600 (eves)
- 182.6 WILEY FORD to CUMBERLAND  
Thomas P. Conlon, Jr.  
Algonquin Hotel Bldg.  
Cumberland, Md.  
Parkview 4-6776
- 184.5 CUMBERLAND (Intake Lock)

## NUMBER OF LEVEL WALKERS

Washington - Seneca . . . . .	9
Seneca - Harpers Ferry . . . . .	13
Harpers Ferry - Williamsport . . . . .	15
Williamsport - Hancock . . . . .	10
Hancock - Paw Paw . . . . .	12
Paw Paw - Cumberland . . . . .	11
Total . . . . .	70

## REPORTS

Level Walkers endeavor to cover their Canal sections twice a year, usually spring and fall.

Reports should be submitted June 30 and December 31. Use the standard report form if it is available; otherwise a letter will suffice. Address Chairman Orville W. Crowder, Box 7149, Baltimore 18, Md.



PRELIMINARY DIRECTORYo fC O N S U L T A N T S

"Consultants" are experts in one or more fields related to the interests of the Canal towpath and the surrounding area. They are people who have signified a willingness to make occasional trips with Level Walkers of contiguous sections - to locate things of interest within the consultant's specialty. They will also help thru correspondence, answering questions or making identifications.

This list is a preliminary one only. Additional names will be listed in the next "Level Walker".

-----  
B O T A N Y

Miss Lena Artz  
Waterlick, Va.

David Emery  
53 Linden Avenue  
Mercersburg, Penna.

Dr. Jas. W. Johnston, Jr. (FERNS)  
217 N. Wayne Street  
Arlington 8, Va.  
Jackson 7-8860

B I R D S

Orville W. Crowder  
Box 7149, Baltimore 18, Md.

Richard M. Douglass  
511 Talbot Street  
Cumberland, Md.

Clark Miller  
Inwood, W. Va.

Fred M. Packard  
Lee Forest, Fairfax, Va.  
CRescent 3-2709

Philip J. Stone  
3023 Macomb Street, N.W.  
Washington 8, D. C.  
W0odley 6-0506

Ray P. Teele  
3713 Jenifer St., NW, Wash.-16  
W0odley 6-1990

G E O L O G Y

Mrs. Isabella M. Coons  
Windsor Mill Rd., Box 282  
Baltimore 7, Md.  
Windsor 4-0273

William E. Davies  
125 W. Greenway Boulevard  
Falls Church, Va.  
JEfferson 2-1004

Arnold C. Mason  
3200 Lorcom Lane  
Arlington 7, Va.  
JAckson 2-3525

Dr. Francis J. Pettijohn  
Johns Hopkins University  
Baltimore 18, Md.

A N I M A L    L I F E  
(Other than birds)

Dr. Charles J. Stine, Jr. (R)  
6305 Belair Road  
Baltimore 6, Md.  
HAmilton 6-3540 (Res: VA 5-0770)

Franklin Thompson (M, R)  
1402 21st Street, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.  
(M) - Mammals  
(R) - Reptiles, Amphibians  
(I) - Insects

H I S T O R Y

Grant Conway (C, CW)  
6032 Broad St., Brookmont  
Washington 16, D. C.  
OLiver 2-6463

Orville W. Crowder (C)  
Box 7149, Baltimore 18, Md

John C. Frye (C)  
Gapland, Maryland  
GEneral 2-8870

Ralph Donnelly (CON)  
Hancock, Maryland  
ORchard 8-6700

(C) - Canal History  
(CW) - Civil War History  
(CON) - Canal Construction