

July 25, 1937.

Mr. John A. Blakemore,  
Abingdon, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Blakemore:

I have just received prints from my photographs taken on Mount Rogers and am sending you herewith one that shows Dr. Murray with our tent. In doing this I wish to thank you most sincerely for your friendly help in the arrangements for this excursion and to express to you and to Mrs. Blakemore my deep appreciation of your hospitality when I visited you at Emory. You have a truly delightful home.

My trip to Tennessee was interesting and successful. I remained three days with our party there and then returned for two days more on Apple Orchard Mountain near Lexington where I stayed at the camp of Captain Gus Welsh. The present time finds me here in Washington engaged as usual on many things that occupy us during the summer season. The elephant house at the Zoo is nearing completion and I suppose that before long we will be moving the animals into it.

When you come to Washington please be sure to let me know.

When I was with you I mentioned that I should like to write a letter to the gentleman on whose property we crossed in going up to Mount Rogers. He was kind enough to allow a road to be cleared. If you can give me his name and address without too much trouble this will be much appreciated. With my kindest regards to you and your family.

Sincerely yours,

**A. WETMORE**

Assistant Secretary.

July 3, 1937.

Dr. J. J. Murray,  
6 White Street,  
Lexington, Va.

Dear Dr. Murray:

The winter wren from Mt. Rogers proves to be the southern form as we anticipated. While identifying it I came across two other skins taken by Harvey Davis for Daniel many years ago. I understand that Davis made quite a collection but that most of Daniel's skins were destroyed by insects. In this particular accession there are included in addition to the winter wrens two yellow-bellied woodpeckers and a veery.

I enclose herewith a draft of a note on the winter wren. Check this over and edit it at your desire. I have not gone over it critically as yet. Please return to me when you have finished.

Sincerely yours,

**A. WETMORE**

Assistant Secretary.

lp

The Southern Winter Wren in Virginia.

Though the winter wren is recorded in the Fourth Edition of the A. O. U. Check-list as breeding south in the mountains to Georgia little has been published of its occurrence in summer in Virginia. Dr. W. C. Rives<sup>1/</sup> thought

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<sup>1/</sup>  
Auk, 1889, p. 52.

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that an unidentified song heard during the latter part of July, 1888 near the summit of White Top Mountain was possibly this species. He did not succeed in seeing the bird, however, so that the record remains uncertain. In his Catalogue of the Birds of the Virginias<sup>2/</sup> he writes of this species that "it is

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<sup>2/</sup>  
Proc. Newport Nat. Hist. Soc., Dec. VII, 1890, p. 89.

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probably to be found also in summer near the tops of the highest Virginia Mountains." Harold H. Bailey<sup>3/</sup> says "they breed in

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<sup>3/</sup>  
Birds of Virginia, 1913, p. 331.

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Giles, Grayson and Washington Counties; probably others in Alleghanian Range."

In our work on White Top Mountain in June, 1936 we made search for winter wrens without finding them, concluding finally that if present they were rare and local since the woods of this mountain on the whole are too dry to offer them an agreeable habitat. Further search for these birds was one of the objectives of our visit during the first days of June, 1937 to Mt. Rogers, adjacent to White Top in Grayson County, Virginia.

In our first search through the heavy woods over the summit of the mountain we failed to find winter wrens but on June 3 were more fortunate. Almost immediately on entering the woods we heard the low sweet-toned, somewhat uncertainly phrased notes of the song of this species coming from dense tangles of fallen trees overgrown with brambles where the birds kept entirely concealed though often only a few feet away from us. After a careful stalk of over an hour we collected one specimen<sup>a male</sup>. Search in the U. S. National Museum revealed two more specimens secured on the summit of Mt. Rogers by Harvey Davis on July 7, 1903 during work for John W. Daniel, Jr. and presented to the Museum by the latter. These were two females, one being adult and the other a bird in juvenal plumage recently from the nest.

On comparison of specimens it develops that the three skins from Mt. Rogers are the recently described southern wren, Nannus hiemalis pullus Burleigh<sup>1/</sup> this be-

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<sup>1/</sup> Nannus hiemalis pullus Burleigh, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, vol. 48, May 3, 1935, p. 61 (Mount Mitchell, 6500 feet, North Carolina).

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ing an extension of the known range of this race and its first definite report for the state of Virginia. It is of interest to record that the juvenile bird is duller and darker in color above and below than skins<sup>of similar age</sup> of the northern race Nannus hiemalis hiemalis from Rothesay, New Brunswick, xxxd St. Regis Lake in the Adirondacks and Plateau Mountain in the Catskills of New York.

Alexander Wetmore, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D.C.  
and J. J. Murray, Lexington, Virginia.

June 26, 1937.

Mr. H. W. Dorsey,  
Administrative Assistant to the Secretary,  
Smithsonian Institution.

Dear Mr. Dorsey:

I beg to submit herewith an expense account totaling \$35.68 covering my expenditures during a recent field trip into southwestern Virginia and northeastern Tennessee to collect material for the U. S. National Museum. I beg to ask that this be reimbursed to me from the allotment of \$1,000 for miscellaneous expenditures under the office of the Assistant Secretary.

Very truly yours,

**A. WETMORE**

Assistant Secretary.

lp

June 25, 1937.

May 29, 1937	Lv. Washington 4:00 p.m. Speedometer 4141 Dinner .....	\$ 1.15
" 30, "	Lodging (near Staunton, Va.) ..... Breakfast ..... 12 gals. gasoline, Waynesboro, Va. .... 6 gallons gasoline, Lexington, Va. .... Dinner (in Lexington, Va.) .....	1.00 .60 2.56 1.39 1.40
" 31, "	Lv. Lexington 6:00 a.m. 10 gallons gasoline (Marion, Va.) ..... Groceries for camp use ..... Arr. Mt. Rogers 3:00 p.m.	2.20 5.94
June 4, "	One-half expense of opening road up Mt. Rogers, and transportation for self and camp equipment from White Top to Mt. Rogers and return (one-half of total of \$10.00 paid by my companion Dr. Murray)..	5.00
" 5, "	Charge for bath in Marion ..... 12 gallons of gasoline, 1 quart oil ..... Lunch in Marion, Va. .... Lv. Marion 1:30 p.m. Arr. Shady Valley, Tenn. 3:30 p.m.	.50 2.99 .65
" 8, "	Lv. Shady Valley 8:00 a.m. 10 gallons gasoline (Marion, Va.) ..... 10 gallons gasoline (Natural Bridge, Va.)	2.20 2.10
" 10, "	Meals and lodging at Camp Kewanee, Apple Orchard Mountain, Va. from dinner June 8 to lunch June 10, inclusive, 2 days at \$3.00 ..... Lv. Apple Orchard Mountain 1:30 p.m. Arr. Washington, D.C. 9:30 p.m.	<u>6.00</u> \$ 35.68

I hereby certify that this account is correct as  
stated to the best of my information and belief.

Assistant Secretary.

1937  
May 29, 5/29 -  
lv. Washington 4<sup>00</sup> p.m.  
Spurmounter 4<sup>14</sup>!

Dinner 1.15  
30 ~~breakfast~~ lodging 1.50  
breakfast 60  
12 gal gas 2.56  
6 gal gas. 1.39  
~~to~~ Dinner (in Lexington, Va.) 1.40

31 lv. Lexington 6<sup>00</sup> a.m.  
10 gal gas. (Marion, Va.) 2.20  
groceries for camp use 5.94

June 4. ~~groceries~~ ~~grocery~~ ~~ret.~~ ~~Prognos~~ 3:40 p.m.  
One-half expense of  
opening road up Mt. Rogers,  
and transportation for self  
and camp equipment from  
White Top to Mt. Rogers  
& returns. (one-half of  
total of \$10 paid by  
my companion Dr. Murray) 5.00  
5. lv. Mt. Rogers 11:00 a.m.  
Charge for hotel room for  
bath in Marion .50



12 gals. gas. 1 qt. oil 2.99  
lunch (in Marion, Va.) .65

lv. Marion 1:30 p.m.

Arr. Shady Valley, Tenn 7:30 pm

June 8 lv. Shady Valley 6:00

~~10 gal gas~~ (Marion Va.) 2.20

10 gal gas (Natural Bridge Va.) 2:10

10 meals and lodging at

Camp Kewanaga, Apple

Orchard Mountain, Va;

from ~~Marion~~ June 8 to

lunch June 10 inclusive

2 days @ 3.00 6.00

~~10 gal gas~~

lv. Apple Orchard Mtn 1:30 p.m.

Arr. Washington, D.C. 9:30 p.m.

June 24, 1937.

Mr. A. F. McDaniel,  
R. F. D. No. 1,  
Troutdale, Va.

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

I have recently received prints of the photographs that I made on the trip to Mt. Rogers and send you copies herewith. Dr. Murray and I had a great time on the mountain and appreciate very much your help in getting us over and back so readily.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*A. WETMORE*

Assistant Secretary.

lp

May 28, 1937.

Abercrombie & Fitch Co.,  
Madison Ave. at 45th Street,  
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with your invoice of May 20, Folio  
No. C 62168, I beg to remit herewith check from the  
Smithsonian Institution for \$6.58 in payment in full.

With appreciation of your prompt attention, I am

Very truly yours,

*A. WETMORE*  
Assistant Secretary.

lp

May 25, 1937.

Mr. H. W. Dorsey,  
Administrative Assistant to the Secretary,  
Smithsonian Institution.

Dear Mr. Dorsey:

I am forwarding herewith a bill amounting to \$6.71 from Abercrombie & Fitch Co., 45th Street and Madison Ave., New York City covering camp equipment for my personal use in the field. I beg to ask that a check for this amount be drawn and charged against the allotment of \$1,000 for miscellaneous expenditures under the Office of the Assistant Secretary.

Please forward the check to me for transmittal that there may be no confusion regarding the charge.

Very truly yours,

A. WETMORE  
Assistant Secretary.

lp

May 24, 1937.

Mr. A. F. McDaniel,  
R.F.D. No. 1,  
Troutdale, Va.

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

Yours of May 21 reaches me this morning and I am delighted at the news that you give me regarding the camp site on Mt. Rogers. As I wrote you Dr. Murray and I expect to be with you about noon or shortly after on Monday, May 31, and will wish to go that afternoon to Mt. Rogers.

I note that the cost of fixing the road has been \$4.00 which I will pay you when we arrive. We will also wish to hire you to take us over in your truck and to come and get us when our work is finished.

Sincerely yours,  
A. W. WILMORE

Assistant Secretary.

lp

**ABERCROMBIE & FITCH Co.**  
*The Greatest SPORTING GOODS STORE in the World*  
 MADISON AVE. AT 45<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK  
 Telephone, VANDERBILT 3-2000



—Smithsonian Institution  
 Washington, D. C.  
 Att. Mr. A. Wetmore

AMOUNT  
**6.71**  
 MONTH  
 ENDING  
 .....  
 5/21/37

Terms: Net 30 days 2% Cash 10 days

KINDLY ATTACH COUPON TO YOUR CHECK.

ABERCROMBIE & FITCH Co., PAID \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK No. \_\_\_\_\_ BANK \_\_\_\_\_

DATE	FOLIO NO.	DESCRIPTION	CHARGES	CREDITS	LAST AMOUNT IN THIS COLUMN IS AMOUNT DUE
		BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			
May 20	062188	1 Waterproof Ditty Bag	.30		
		4 1-oz. Knorr's Gravy Powder @ .10 ea.	.40		
		1 Unbreakable Mirror	1.00		
		2 Telescoping steel Upright tent poles	3.50		
		1 Telescoping Steel ridge tent pole	2.25		
		Less 10%		.74	6.71
		"Certified Correct & Just"			

A. WELT MORE

MAY 24 1937

Frontdale Va.

R. F. D. No. 1. 5/21/37

Mr. C. Wetmore.  
Smithsonian Institution  
U.S. National Museum  
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Wetmore

In reply to your letter of yesterday,  
I was up at Mt. Rogers today  
found a beautiful camp site with water  
at the upper side of the field.  
I have also cleared the road of trees & stones  
as the forest service has not gone over it yet  
the cost will be \$4.00

and I will be ready to take your camping  
outfit over in the truck May 31.

You may leave your car at Whitetop  
if you wish. We will be living up there  
then.

Hoping to see you soon  
I remain

Yours truly

A. H. McDaniel

Rev. J. J. MURRAY, D. D., Pastor  
REV. ELLISON A. SMYTH, Assistant

A. P. WADE, Chairman Board of Deacons

W. P. IRWIN, Clerk of Session  
E. T. ROBINSON, Treasurer

LEXINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Lexington, Virginia

file  
A. WETMORE

MAY 21 1937

May 20, 1937

Dr. Alexander Wetmore  
United States National Museum  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

I am glad to hear about the plans for our trip to White Top. If there is anything that I can do or get in preparation for the trip, please let me know. Your preparations, however, seem to have taken care of everything. We shall expect you in our home for the night of the 30th, and would be delighted to have you earlier if you can arrange it.

Cordially yours,

*J. J. Murray*  
J. J. Murray

JJM:MW



May 18, 1937.

Mr. John A. Blakemore,  
Abingdon, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Blakemore:

Dr. Murray and I are now making our definite plans for a few days on Mt. Rogers. I have just written Mr. McDaniel that we would come to White Top shortly after noon on May 31, and hope that we can arrange to have him take us with our camp gear in his truck immediately over to Mt. Rogers so that we can establish camp that afternoon.

We are looking forward with keen anticipation to what we may find in the balsams on this other mountain following the interesting experience that we have had on White Top.

With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*A. WETMORE*

Assistant Secretary.

lp

May 18, 1937.

Dr. J. J. Murray,  
6 White Street,  
Lexington, Va.

Dear Dr. Murray:

The enclosed copy of a letter to McDaniel is self explanatory. I have also written to Mr. Blakemore.

I have the grub list worked out and am starting to get together the various other supplies that we may need. I told you that I would bring two air mattresses so that we will need to have only our bed rolls for bedding. I hope the wind does not blow us off the top of the mountain! I am bringing a small gasoline stove with a supply of gasoline for cooking and also a gasoline lamp for use at night. I assume that you will have a flashlight. I will have also the usual camp outfit that we have used before, with the addition of an ax and a small pick and shovel.

I am looking forward to seeing you the night of the 30th.

Sincerely yours,

*A. WETMORE*

Assistant Secretary.

lp

May 18, 1937.

Mr. A. F. McDaniel,  
R.F.D. No. 1,  
Troutdale, Va.

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

As I wrote you some time ago Dr. Murray and I have definite plans to come to your place on White Top Mountain between noon and two o'clock on Monday, May 31. We hope that you will be able to transfer our camp outfit to your truck and take us immediately over to Mt. Rogers so that we can establish camp that night. I shall wish to arrange to leave my car with you on White Top.

I shall appreciate hearing from you as to whether the road is passable so that we can get up to the big field on Rogers. We should also like to know if there is water up there at which we can camp. I shall bring a small tent with me.

You may make reply in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Very truly yours,

*A. WETMORE*

Assistant Secretary.

May 18, 1937.

Abercrombie and Fitch,  
45th and Madison Avenue,  
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

I beg to ask that you forward to me the following articles as described in your recent 1937 catalogue:

Page 22

1 waterproof ditty bag 7" x 10"

Page 40

4 oz. Knorr's gravy powder

Page 44

1 unbreakable mirror (steel)

Page 13

Telescoping steel tent poles for 8-1/2' x  
8-1/2' Baker tent purchased from you several years ago.

I wish to have two upright poles and one ridge pole. Your consideration of the proper size will be appreciated. For the ridge pole I assume that the 10 foot length will be necessary as from the description it appears that this is adjustable so that it can be made to fit the 8-1/2 foot tent. For the two upright poles I believe the 8-1/2 foot length will be desirable. The tent stretches 7' but with the longer poles I suppose that 6 or 8 inches can be buried in the ground and the remaining length adjusted by means of the set screws so as to support the tent properly. If I am wrong in my belief as indicated above please send me poles of the proper dimension.

I beg to ask that this material be shipped to me so as to reach Washington not later than May 27. Bill directly to me for payment by the Smithsonian Institution with the usual discount.

Very truly yours,

**A. WETMORE**

Assistant Secretary.

April 22, 1937.

Mr. John A. Blakemore,  
Abingdon, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Blakemore:

In reply to yours of April 20 I received a letter from McDaniel yesterday telling me that the Forest Supervisor had agreed to open the road up Mt. Rogers by the end of May and that if this were not done he would see to the matter himself.

You have been very kind in keeping this matter in mind.

Dr. Murray and I are looking forward with keen interest to this trip. He was here recently when we discussed the matter and I expect to see him in Richmond tomorrow at a meeting of the Virginia Society of Ornithology when we shall perfect our plans a little further.

It was most pleasant to see you here in Washington and my only regret is that we may not have done more for you. With my kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*A. WETMORE*

Assistant Secretary.

lp

April 21, 1937.

Mr. A. F. McDaniel,  
R.F.D. No. 1,  
Troutdale, Va.

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

Yours of April 15 came to me yesterday and I thank you for the information you give me regarding the road from the Elk Gardens to Mt. Rogers. Mr. Blakemore was here a short time ago and we had some talk about this matter.

I am pleased to learn that the Forest Service will arrange to make the road passable for trucks. If they do not I shall look to you to arrange this if the expense is not too great.

Dr. Murray and I are planning definitely to come on May 31. We expect to reach your place at White Top that afternoon. We plan to leave my car at White Top and wish to arrange with you to take us over in your truck to Mt. Rogers.

As one matter of importance can you tell me if there is a camping place at the big field on the summit of Mt. Rogers where we can get water?

Sincerely yours,

**A. WETMORE**

Assistant Secretary.

lp

A. WETMORE  
APR 22 1937

LAW OFFICES  
BUCHANAN AND BLAKEMORE  
ABINGDON, VIRGINIA

B. F. BUCHANAN 1927-1932  
J. A. BLAKEMORE

April 20, 1937.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,  
Asst. Secretary Smithsonian Institution,  
National Museum,  
Washington, D. C.

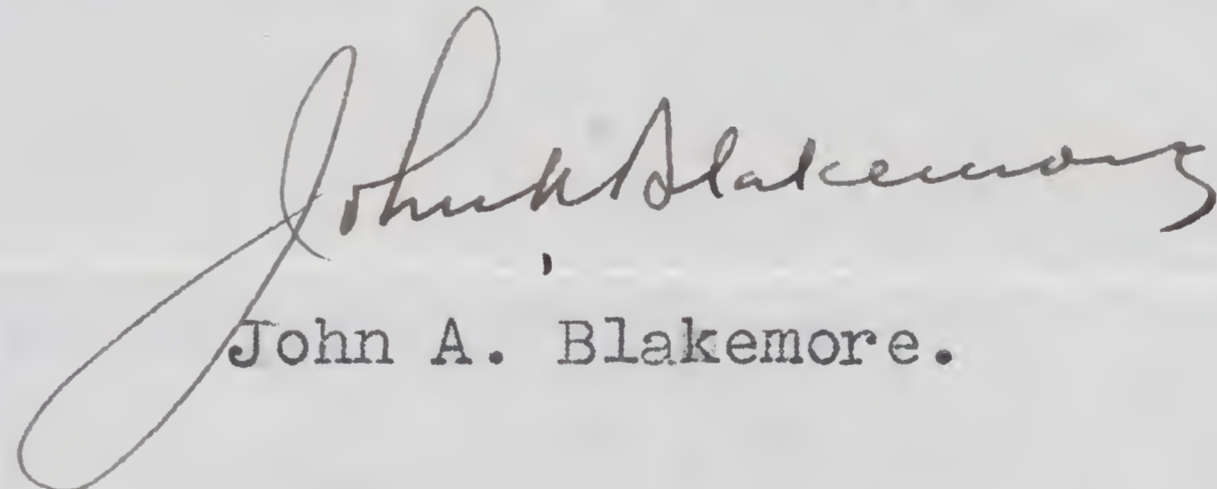
Dear Dr. Wetmore:-

During the last few days I was able to get up into the Konnarock country trout fishing and make arrangements with Mr. McDaniel, who had received a letter from you in early February to see that the way was passable to the Bald on Mt. Rogers. Mr. McDaniel told me that he would have everything arranged so that you could get there and have a comfortable place to camp. He will also look after you in every way that he can. I trust that when you are here I will be able to see you.

Mary, Margaret Wysor and I enjoyed very much being with you when in Washington, and particularly your kindness to us in showing us the Zoo.

With sincerest personal regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

  
John A. Blakemore.

A. WETMORE  
APR 20 1937

Troutdale, Va. 4/15/37

Dr. Alexander Wetmore.  
Asst. Sect. Smithsonian inst.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wetmore  
in reply to your letter of Feb 2nd. I am indeed  
sorry not to have answered earlier. But -  
owing to weather & road condition it was  
almost impossible to reach Mt Rogers earlier.  
However I have taken the matter up with - - -  
Mr. Stamps forest Supt. of this District -  
and he has informed me the road from Elk Garden  
to Mt Rogers will be passable for trucks  
by May 30th with no cost to you.  
However if they should fail to get to it by then  
I shall take some men up & open it up  
sufficient to get over, at the lowest possible cost,  
and in the meantime I will be ready  
to take you up in the truck May 31st  
if you still desire to make the trip at that date

Yours sincerely

Note. change in Address.

R. F. McDaniel  
Troutdale Va  
R.F.D. No. 1.



February 19, 1937.

Dr. J. J. Murray,  
6 White Street,  
Lexington, Va.

Dear Dr. Murray:

I am sorry indeed that you cannot be here Monday as I had been counting on a good visit with you but shall look forward to this some other time.

Mr. Blakemore, the owner of White Top Mountain was here last week and I had the pleasure of some time with him. He is so much interested in our proposal to explore Mt. Rogers for its birds that he has suggested that he may be able to arrange with the local authorities down that way to run one of their road scrapers up the road to the top of the mountain and back for us late next spring which should insure a passable track. He is also going to have McDaniels look into the matter of water supply in the high field and to clean out the spring if there is one there.

Let me know when you can come to Washington.

Sincerely yours,

**A. WETMORE**

Assistant Secretary.

lp

Lexington Presbyterian Church

Lexington, Virginia

J. J. MURRAY, PASTOR  
6 WHITE STREET

February 18, 1937.

A. WETMORE  
FEB 19 1937

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,  
Assistant Secretary,  
United States National Museum,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

A telegram has just come from Mr. Baker stating that the meeting of the Board set for next Tuesday has been cancelled on account of the lack of a quorum. It may be held in March, although I am not sure about that, as there is another regular meeting set for some time in April.

That means that I shall not be able to come by Washington for the visit with you to which I have been looking forward. I am awfully sorry, especially after you have been so kind as to set aside that time for me. It is a real disappointment. I hope that when this postponed meeting is held, or, if that is definitely given up, when the April meeting is held, I may be able to stop by and see you, and that it will not strike at a time when you are too busy.

I have a letter this morning from Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor saying that the National Geographic Society was sending me at your suggestion a copy of Shiras' book, "Hunting Wild Life With Camera and Flashlight." I know I shall enjoy it, and I greatly appreciate your doing this. It just adds another to your many kindnesses.

With every good wish and sincere regrets that I cannot see you on Monday, I am

Cordially yours,

J. J. Murray.  
J. J. Murray.

February 2, 1937.

Mr. A. F. McDaniel,  
Konnerock, Virginia.

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

Dr. J. J. Murray of Lexington, and I who you may remember were collecting birds on White Top the first week in June last year are planning early this summer to visit Mt. Rogers.

I spoke to you about this when we were there and you told me you thought that with one or two days work it would be possible to open the road from the Elk Gardens so that you could drive your truck up to the big bald on the summit of Mt. Rogers. Can you let me know what you think this would cost, as I should like to arrange this. We would expect to reach White Top some time Monday, May 31 and either that day or the next day arrange with you to take us with our camp equipment over to Mt. Rogers. I am assuming that there is water available higher up so that we could make a camp there. We would expect to stay four or five days and then arrange with you to come back and get us.

I will appreciate very much hearing from you concerning this.

Sincerely yours,

*A. WETMORE*

Assistant Secretary.

lp

P.S. The enclosed envelope, which requires no postage, may be used for your reply.

February 2, 1937.

Dr. J. J. Murray,  
6 White Street,  
Lexington, Virginia.

Dear Dr. Murray:

Yours of January 28 is duly at hand, and I have written McDaniel regarding the opening of the road to the big bald on Mt. Rogers. I think it will pay us to arrange to stay over there if we can as we can get so much more information by being directly on the ground. There are always interesting things happening in early morning and late evening. that are missed when staying at a distance.

With regard to the teal I note that Forbush says that the white bar before the wing is sometimes wanting in the green-winged teal. However, I have never seen such a specimen. I have always considered the lack of this bar as a field character distinguishing male European teal.

Sincerely yours,

**A. WETMORE**

Assistant Secretary.

lp

Lexington Presbyterian Church

Lexington, Virginia

J. J. MURRAY, PASTOR  
6 WHITE STREET

January 28, 1937.

W. WETMORE

JAN 29 1937

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,  
Assistant Secretary,  
United States National Museum,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wetmore:

I was glad indeed to get your letter. I had just been thinking about you, wondering whether you were yet back from Guatemala, and also what the chances would be for a trip to Mt. Rogers this spring.

First of all, I am marking my calendar for the period from May 31 to June 5, as you suggest. I certainly want to go, and, barring unforeseen accidents in my church work, think I can do so.

It would be a good idea to get in touch with McDaniel, as you suggest. If we walk up the mountain each day, even if it is only from the far side of the Elk Garden, it would mean a climb of 1,000 feet or more to the 'bald.' So it would be better to stay up there, if that is feasible. I haven't much hope of finding a cabin up there; but we could manage all right with the tent, if there is water. If McDaniel has to work on the road in order to get us up there, I shall be glad to share the expense.

Will you write him, or shall I do so? It would probably be better for you to do so, since you know as to the amount of baggage to be transported. If we decide to go back and forth from White Top, I shall see about reserving our cabin.

I am interested in what you say about the teal which lacked the white bar in front of the bend of the wing, and would like to hear further about it. It definitely lacked the bar. I had good opportunity to study it. But I decided that it was not a European Teal for the reason that it also lacked the scapular stripe (white) which I thought was necessary. Forbush, in the 'Birds of Massachusetts,' says that the white bar before the wing is sometimes wanting in the Green-winged Teal. I should like to know whether that is correct. It may be that in this bird which I saw recently the white scapular stripe was present but not noticeable, although in the bird which I collected last winter that was the most noticeable mark, in the field.

Lexington Presbyterian Church

Lexington, Virginia

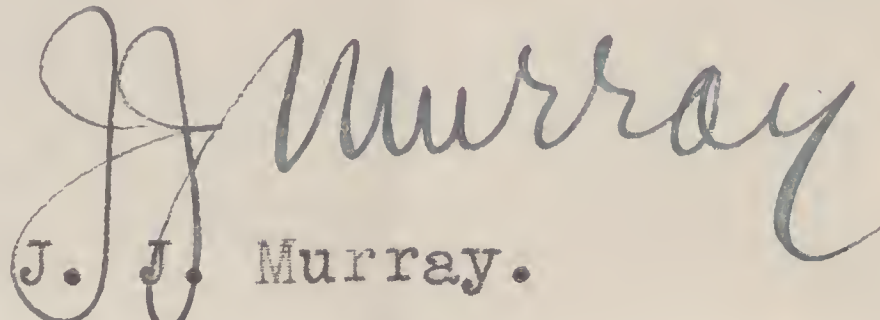
J. J. MURRAY, PASTOR  
6 WHITE STREET

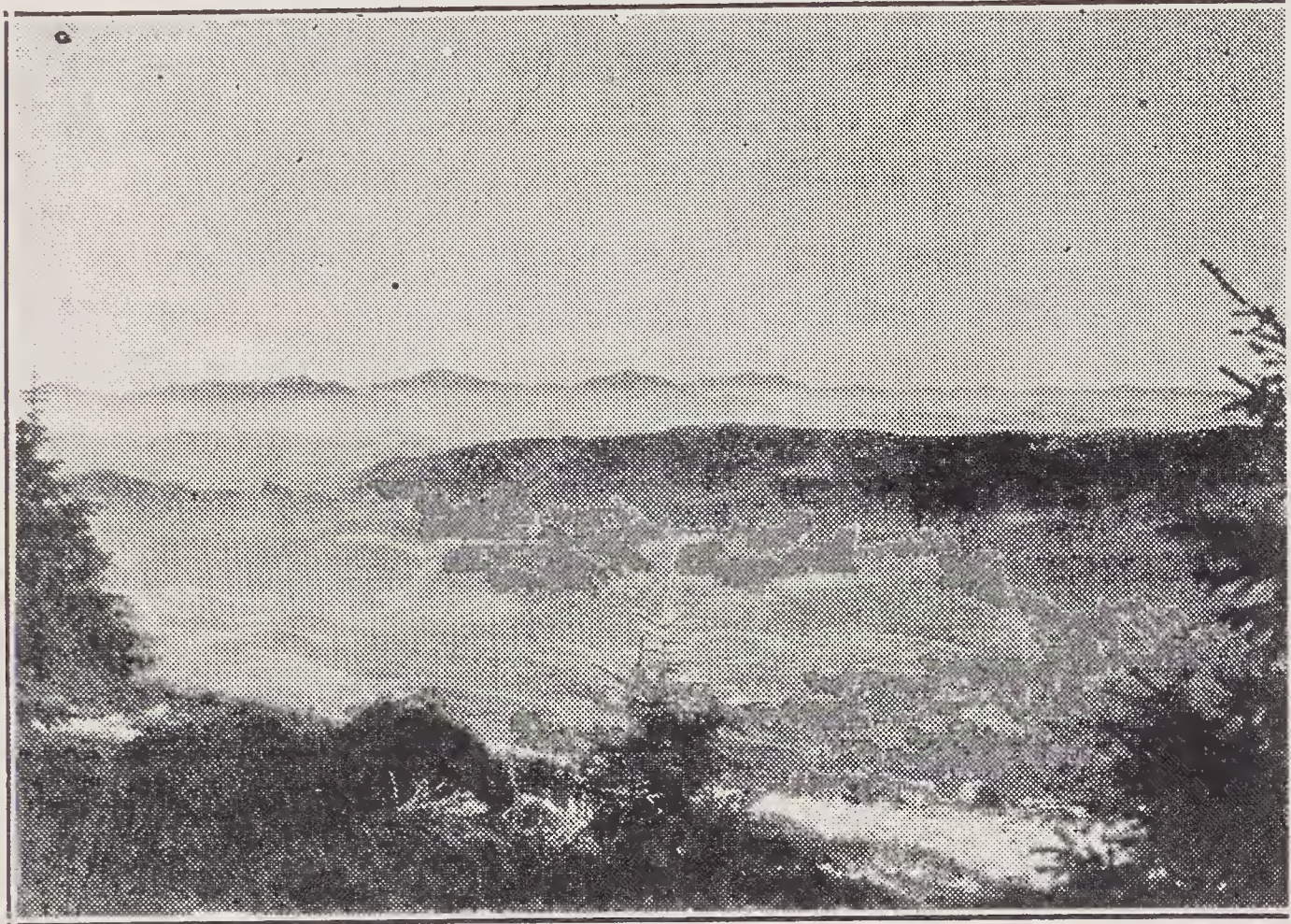
The next meeting of the N A A S Board comes some time in late February. It is very kind of you to ask me to stop in Washington for a night. If I can do that, I should greatly enjoy it. I shall write you, if I find that I can. I suppose Mr. Albright told you something of the show-down which we had at the meeting of the Board in October, and of the fact that Pearson's situation seems to be somewhat happier now.

I shall be glad to hear about crow, robins, etc., from White Top when you get around to them.

Hoping to see you next month, and looking forward to the Mt. Rogers trip, I am

Cordially yours,

  
J. J. Murray.



VIEW FROM WHITE TOP MOUNTAIN

Looking south into North Carolina from the summit of White Top Mountain on a clear day, huge vistas of rolling mountain country for a hundred miles or more, may be seen.

In the above picture, taken from near the top of the Mountain, may be seen from left to right, Peaks of Ash, Big Elk, Big Snake and Grandfather Mountains, more than fifty miles distant.

From Sunset Rock, on a clear day, the view extends into West Virginia and Kentucky; with Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina meeting at a common corner near by.

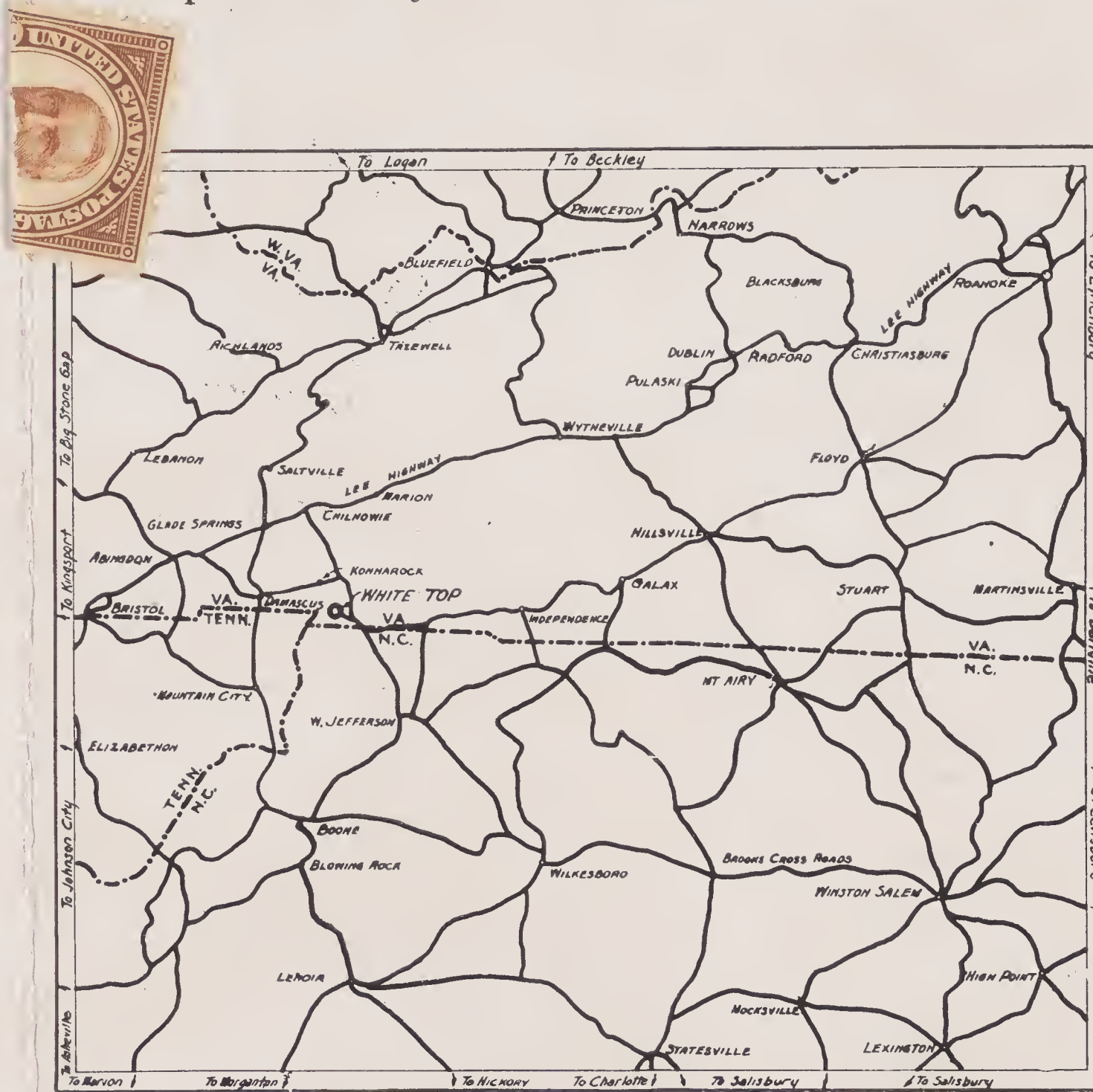
Range after range of mountains roll away in a magnificent panorama from the far Cumberlandlands in the northwest to the Blue Ridge in the southeast.

White Top Mountain is truly the "Top Of The World" in Virginia.

## GOOD ROADS TO WHITE TOP

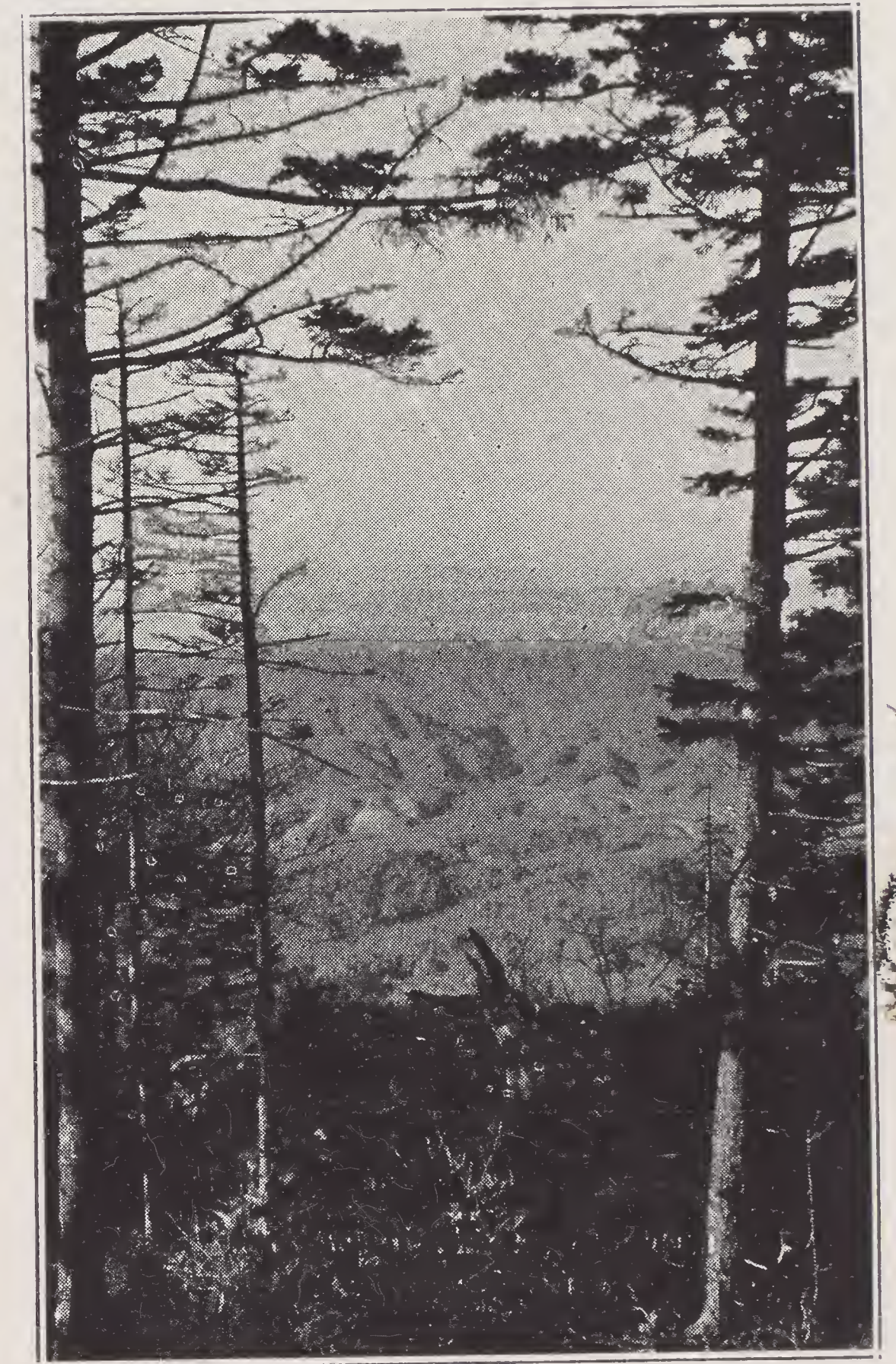
There are good roads leading to White Top Mountain from Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina. Roads leading to the Mountain have been widened, and are constantly being kept smooth and in good repair.

Both on the north and south sides of the Mountain proper, the roads leading to the summit have been widened so as to permit both cars and trucks to pass easily at any point. They are periodically dragged and kept smooth, and the grade to the Lodge is so slight that cars readily make the run in high gear. From the Lodge the road winds, turn above turn, through an open field by the Lashorns, to Sunset Rock.



Map showing improved roads to White Top Mountain, roads which are constantly kept in good repair throughout the season.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore,  
Smithsonian Institute,  
Washington, D. C.



## WHITE TOP MOUNTAIN

Altitude 5,530 Feet

IN

Southwest Virginia

WHITE TOP COMPANY  
INC.  
ABINGDON, VA.

WHITE TOP GUEST LODGE  
Phone: Damascus 1214  
Mail: Konnarock, Va.

## AN IDEAL VACATION SPOT

Plan this year, and every year, to visit White Top Mountain on your vacation. Lying in the heart of the Southern Appalachians and rising 5,530 feet above the sea, White Top Mountain offers scenery not surpassed anywhere in the South.

There are many advantages in a visit to White Top. Lying as it does, above the pollen-carrying breezes, it offers an excellent retreat for those suffering from hay fever. Wandering among groves of beautiful Lashorn (*Picea rubra*) trees, the visitor may stoop to quench his thirst from gurgling springs of delicious free-stone water.

Restful days . . . delightful days . . . may be spent atop this lofty mountain. Bright sunny days and cool nights, free from the worry and heat of the world below.

## OLD CUSTOMS PREVAIL

Old customs and traditions still exist among the people native to the White Top country. The interested visitor may find the best native Anglo-Saxon folk music, balladry, arts and traditions, untainted by the advance of civilization. The White Top Folk Festival, held for six years on the Mountain, brought to light many undiscovered gems of American Folk Lore.

The man in the illustration is holding a Dulcimer, one of the old time musical instruments, some of which still may be found in mountain homes, along with hand looms and old corner cupboards.

One may still hear folk music and see folk dances which are conducted from time to time at the Lodge atop the Mountain.



View from the porch of the Guest Lodge showing Mt. Rogers, altitude 5,719 feet, highest mountain in Va.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

The visitor to White Top Mountain will find ample accommodations in cottages for the family or party groups, as well as several comfortable rooms in the Guest Lodge.

Well cooked meals will be served upon order under the supervision of a capable home economist.

There is no more delightfully cool spot in Virginia for entertaining, whether it be your Bridge Club or a special Banquet, than the Guest Lodge on White Top Mountain. Plan now to entertain your friends there. All details will be handled by Miss Osborne, and you may enjoy the added pleasure of the drive, over improved roads, to and from the Mountain. Charges are reasonable and arrangements for entertaining may be made by calling The White Top Lodge, through Damascus, Virginia, phone No. 1214, or by letter to White Top Company, Inc., Abingdon, Va.

The following charges are made for the use of the roads and grounds by vehicles: \$1 for each car; \$2 for each truck; special season pass for one car \$3.

There is a good floor at the Lodge for dancing, and groups wishing to have Old Time Square Dances will be furnished upon request, with the best string orchestra available.

Campers too are welcomed on the Mountain, where space has been provided in the open field and under the spreading branches of the Lashorns for them to pitch their tents.

Visitors to White Top may wander, unafraid of poisonous reptiles as none exist on the Mountain, over beautiful mountain trails, drinking in the scenery and enjoying the abundant bird life and the rare mountain wild flowers. They may fish, if they choose, in the mountain streams for trout, or in the rivers of the valleys for bass. Too, by making advance arrangements, they will be furnished horses to ride over the numberless miles of mountain roads and trails.

White Top invites you for vacationing, for week-ends, for entertaining.

*Guest Lodge open from May until October.*



## A FOLK DANCE ON WHITE TOP MOUNTAIN

Visitors may still see dancing to such tunes as "Jennie Put The Kettle On," and "Arkansas Traveler" and may hear such ballads as "Barbara Allen" and "Lord Lovel" coming from mountain homes near White Top.