

FEBRUARY 19

SILERS BALD FROM CLINGMANS

What used to be regarded as a *piece de resistance* in any club program has this year been included as a late winter breather. We leave Knoxville and drive to the shoulder of the Park's highest peak, assured that our drive will not be interrupted by any untoward driving conditions. With little feeling of accomplishment we soon find ourselves on the summit ready to warm up by quitting ourselves of tourist haunts and striking off along a portion of the AT remaining to nature.

Compensations will offer themselves in the possibilities of seeing pennants of hoarfrost, flung up on the windward side of every tree and shrub; snow piled into huge drifts such as only sharply broken winds can amass; brilliance such as only sun at high altitudes can achieve. Mt. Buckley, Double Springs Gap, and finally the last steep pull up Silers are landmarks before we reach our destination.

For those who prefer their "downs" before their "ups" an alternate shorter hike to Andrews Bald has been arranged.

Leave Dixie System at 7:00 A.M. Bring food for one meal, flashlight, and change of footgear. Round trip hiking distance 10 miles (Silers); 3 miles (Andrews). Round trip driving distance 120 miles.

LEADERS: GEORGE JACOBSON (2-0697)
JULIA GHORMLEY (2-6567)
R. T. MAHER (2-5006)

FEBRUARY 29

INDIAN CAMP CREEK TO BARNETT'S KNOB VIA DASHONGA RIDGE

If you want a real leg-puller of a hike, this is it. Starting in Cosby near Valentine's we take the old trail to Guyot via Indian Camp Creek. Bernard Frank couldn't find it a couple

of years ago but that doesn't matter, we may not either. From Guyot we follow the AT to Tri-Corner Knob. Then the Balsam Mountains to Dashonga Ridge which is just this or that side of Mt. Yonaguska (U.S.A.). We follow Dashonga over Mt. Hardison (Alt. 6134.0739-ovx) and eventually hit bottom at Three Forks. We camp at Three Forks, Park Service permitting, until the leaders find out where Barnett's Knob is anyway. Running up Breakneck Ridge (nice name isn't it) and down Hyatt Ridge we should come to Straight Creek—If we don't we're just not there.

Here we will be met by the Cherokee Tribe of Indians (Genuine) and Ernest Dickerman, famous guide. Those hikers with good sense will go home, if able, the others will choose between canoeing down Straight Creek with the Indians or following Dickerman cross-country to Barnett's Knob. It may be necessary to wait for a cloudburst to get enough water in the creek to float the canoe, if the Indians have any. The Indian Party (non-political) should be able to find Barnett's Knob as it is on their reservation and according to reports is unscalped. Dickerman's party going Cross-Country (paid Adv. by Sears-Roebuck) crosses Chiltoskie Ridge, Horse Ridge, thru Horsetrough Ridge and turn right. If they cross Barnett's Knob without seeing it, they will wind up on the Atlantic coast and are advised to go soak their heads in the horsetrough.

Leave Dixie System 6:66 A.M. Bring lunch, water bucket and a match. If it snows you will need a dog team, sled and six weeks' additional provisions. If you plan to camp out bring house shoes and an easy chair to go with your pipe.

LEADERS: DAN'L BOONE
NOLICHUCKY JACK SEVIER
WILLIAM BLOUNT