

to put up through Federal, State, and county taxes for 21,000 acres of land that have actually lost recreational value by flooding. We feel that this is recreation in reverse; and we get stuck with the costs, and lose the best fishing stream on the east coast.

6. The Kelly's Ford area of the Rappahannock River has the most wonderful and beautiful section of fast water in all of northern Virginia. This white water section extends $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles upstream above the Kelly's Ford Bridge, which is 4 miles below Remington. The counties of Fauquier and Culpeper have included this area along the river for a future park to preserve its natural beauty. To flood out this beautiful section of rapids and waterfalls would be to destroy something that is priceless, and something that nature has given us very little of. It should be preserved. Engineers can give us flat water, but only God can give us beautiful fast water like the Kelly's Ford Rapids. Canoeists and fishermen come hundreds of miles to use this river. We should leave something for our children besides flat water and mudholes.

7. These two rivers, the Rappahannock and the Rapidan, have great historic values. They lie alongside the battlefields of Chancellorsville, the Battle of the Wilderness, and the Battle of Kelly's Ford. Across the fords of these two rivers crossed the armies of the Civil War. And alongside these two rivers marched the men in blue and the men in gray, and beside them and across them, they fought their desperate battles. These rivers are a part of our battlefields, and a part of our history.

Alongside Rappahannock from Fredericksburg for 53 miles upstream to the west ran the Rappahannock River Canal. It was started in 1832 and finished in 1857. It has great historic value. It linked Fredericksburg with the Blue Ridge Mountain area. It was a great engineering work. Today, it remains one of the most interesting features of the river. Beside the Kelly's Ford Rapids, the canal is held high above the river by a massive stone wall, and makes an ideal hiking path. Its old locks are still standing and are most interesting. The river is steeped in our history. It should be saved from flooding and made into a park to help preserve our history. It would be a unique park alongside the river, as unique as the Skyline Drive.

8. We do not agree with the Engineers that we need to have our lands flooded, among other reasons, for the sake of a Government-owned and operated hydroelectric plant on the Rappahannock River. There is ample electric power in this area. So much, that the Virginia Electric Power Co. is going around trying to sell surplus electric power as heat for homes. Their rate is one of the lowest in the country. They are providing for future needs of this area by having started building an atomic energy plant with a kilowatt capacity that is 20 times greater than the 81,000 kilowatts to be generated at the Salem Church Dam. This power from the Salem Church Dam would be administered and sold by a competing government agency, the REA, eagerly awaiting to increase its bureaucracy by selling this power. It should be borne in mind that this 81,000 kilowatts is capacity, and will be generated only in wet weather, whereas Vepco will be generating every day of the year with atomic energy, and be paying into the Government millions in taxes per year.