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Horace Kephart Memorial Association

Horace Kephart, who was killed in an automobile accident near Bryson City, North Carolina, in April 1931, was known as the apostle of the Great Smokies. He devoted the last years of his life in the unselfish work of preserving the last of the Eastern wilderness for the enjoyment of posterity.

Horace Kephart was also known as the dean of American campers. He was the author of "Our Southern Highlanders", "Camping and Woodcraft", "Sporting Firearms", "The Camper's Manual", and editor of various books of adventure.

The editor of The National Sportsman, writing in the June, 1931, issue, says of Kephart: "His books on camping and woodcraft are classics, and without question the most widely quoted volumes on the subject.---The man of the Great Smokies has blazed a trail which forest fires cannot obliterate. We-and you-feel his loss very deeply. We shall miss him, and we shall remember him."

The people of Western North Carolina and East Tennessee are especially indebted to Kephart for his yeoman service in the creation of the national park. His pioneer work in bringing the beauties of the Great Smokies to the attention of the people of the nation was of tremendous assistance in the movement which culminated in the act of Congress providing the establishment of the park.

HORACE KEPHART'S LIBRARY

Kephart's pioneer courage and spirit are not now at our service. But he has left some things by which we can remember him. These things are his fine collection of books, manuscripts, and camping equipment.

Because of the fact that Kephart's fine library may be sold to satisfy an indebtedness upon the estate, his friends have formed the Horace Kephart Memorial Association which has for its purpose the raising of a sum of money to pay these debts and to take over the Kephart library and his unique collection of camping equipment.



HORACE KEPHART RESTING ON THE PEAK NAMED IN HIS HONOR

THE PLAN

The plan is to use the collections as a nucleus for a Horace Kephart Memorial Research Library and Museum to be established inside the area of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Assurances of the co-operation of the National Park Service have been received.

WHAT PARK OFFICIALS SAY

A. E. Demaray, acting director of the National Park Service, writing under date of July 31, 1931, says:

"It would be a fine thing to have this collection preserved, and it seems to us that a museum within the area of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park would be a fitting place in which to do so. As you probably know, the Park Service has no funds available with which to aid in the purchase of such a collection, but if the library were given to the park, we would probably be able to co-operate to the extent of caring for it and providing a suitable place for its display. We would not be able to do this, of course, until after the Great Smokies area has received full park status."

"Our actions in such matters are greatly restricted by governmental regulations regarding the administration of the national parks, but we think your idea to honor the memory of a man who did so much for the Southern Appalachians a fine one and we shall be glad to co-operate in every way possible."

TO SECURE HIS LIBRARY

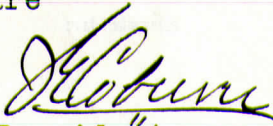
It will readily be seen, therefore, that the National Park Service will co-operate, but it will be necessary for the Memorial Association to raise the funds to purchase the library.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP

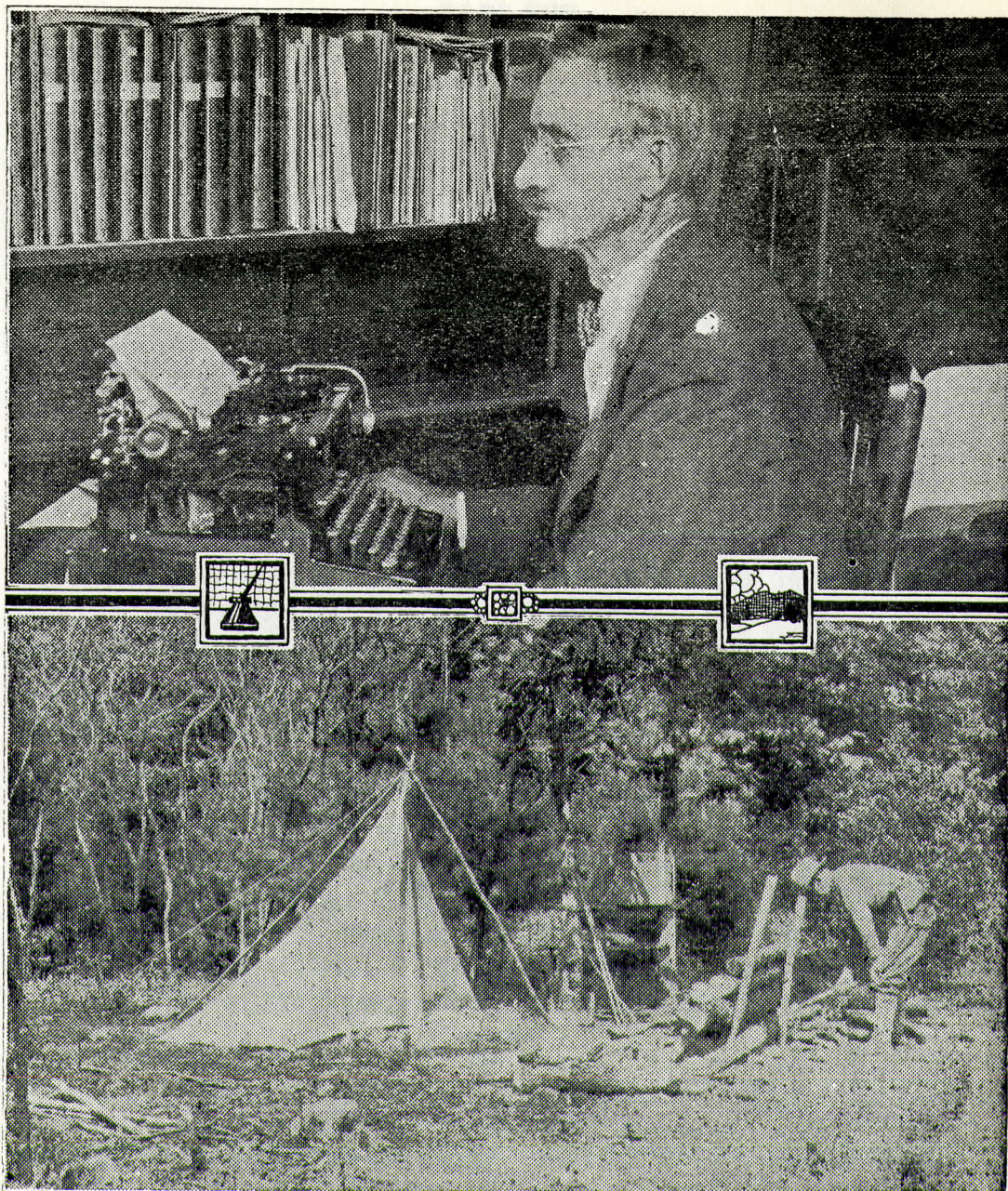
We feel certain that you will want to become a member of the association. The membership fee is small. Junior memberships (for Boy Scouts and other juveniles) are 50 cents each; regular memberships are \$3.00; and endowment memberships are \$10.00, or any amount above that sum that you wish to contribute. The money obtained will be applied on the indebtedness on the estate.

In this letter you will find a membership application blank. We earnestly hope that you will fill it out and mail it to the treasurer of the association.

Assuring you of our appreciation, we are
Faithfully yours,


President

Secretary



ABOVE: WRITING IN HIS STUDY. BELOW: AT HIS CAMP IN THE SMOKIES

(Tear off along this line)

GEORGE M. STEPHENS, *Treasurer*
HORACE KEPHART MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION
c/o Asheville Citizen and Times
Asheville, N. C.

Please count me as a member. Enclosed is my check for \$.....Send membership certificate to:

(Name)

(Address)