



President hands pen to Woodrow Price of Raleigh

Seashore Bill Is Signed

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WASHINGTON — President Johnson warmed to the subject like sun on the beach here Thursday as he signed a bill establishing Cape Lookout National Seashore on the North Carolina Outer Banks.

More than 70 North Carolinians and that many more congressional and conservation leaders heard Johnson say he wanted to be "judged as we judge the great conservationists of yesterday as benefactors of our people and as builders of a more beautiful America."

Departing frequently from

the prepared text of his remarks, Johnson spoke with obvious fervor about his determination "in the time that may be allotted to me as your President . . . to never slacken for a moment my efforts to make this a more beautiful nation.

"I do not want my children, or my grandchildren or those that may come after me that bear my name to ever be able to point to blight and trash as their inheritance," the President said in one addition.

One occasion was a formal bill signing ceremony in the glittering East Room of the White House.

Johnson was putting his

name to legislation which he requested as part of his natural beauty message a year ago. And he was apparently glad to be able to talk about something besides Viet Nam.

His remarks ran twice as long as the prepared text, and he punctuated the prepared words with asides of his ideas on conservation.

"Thanks to the generosity of the State of North Carolina and its vision, and the effectiveness and the vision of a truly great conservation Congress . . . we are today setting aside a 58-mile stretch of wild and beautiful shoreline

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BILL—Signed by Johnson

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for the use of future generations of Americans," Johnson said.

The speech ended, Johnson then proceeded to the familiar chore of signing the bill using several dozen pens.

The pens were then handed out to the crowd as Johnson had a handshake and a word for guests.

The State's congressional delegation was first in line, with Sen. Everett Jordan and Third District Congressman David Henderson getting in early. They sponsored and herded the legislation through Congress.

Next came officials of the North Carolina Seashore Park Commission, headed by Chairman Woodrow Price of Raleigh. The commission guided the State effort toward establishing the Seashore.

Former Gov. Terry Sanford, in town for another meeting, also attended. Sanford first announced plans to donate the Outer Banks land for a national playground.

Alfred Cooper, chairman of the Carteret County Commissioners, and W. H. Potter, head of the County liaison group for the Seashore got pens.

Potter presented the President with a bronze statuette of the Cape Lookout Lighthouse, a gift of Carteret County. He also presented the two framed pictures of the lighthouse as personal gifts to the President and Mrs. Johnson.

Governor Moore was represented by officials of the State Department of Conservation and Development, State Board of Water Resources, and State Department of Administration.

National Park Service officials said a temporary office for the playground will probably be opened in Beaufort within the next few weeks.

Tom Morse, former head of the State Parks Division and now assistant superintendent at Cape Hatteras National Seashore, said he would be

spending some time there in the next few months.

Morse is expected to be named superintendent of the Cape Lookout Seashore, which will include Portsmouth Island, and Core and Shackleford banks.

Most of Portsmouth and Core are already owned by the State, which will donate them to the National Park Service.

The service plans its own land-buying program on Shackleford.