

# 2 HIKERS TO BLAZE NEW 'LONG PATH'

Plan to Scout Missing Links  
Along a 350-Mile Trail  
Extending Up Hudson

By JOHN C. DEVLIN

The growing number of athletic types who like to strap packs on their backs and hike over hill, dale and sometimes mountains may get a special dividend, thanks to the good deed of a former Boy Scout.

It is a 350-mile hiking trail, to be called the Long Path, that would extend upstate from a point two miles north of the George Washington Bridge to Whiteface Mountain. It crosses the famous Appalachian Trail, west of Bear Mountain.

Behind the plan is a 21-year-old fabric worker, Robert Jessen, of 726 Wortman Avenue, Brooklyn, who said that about half the distance already had trails.

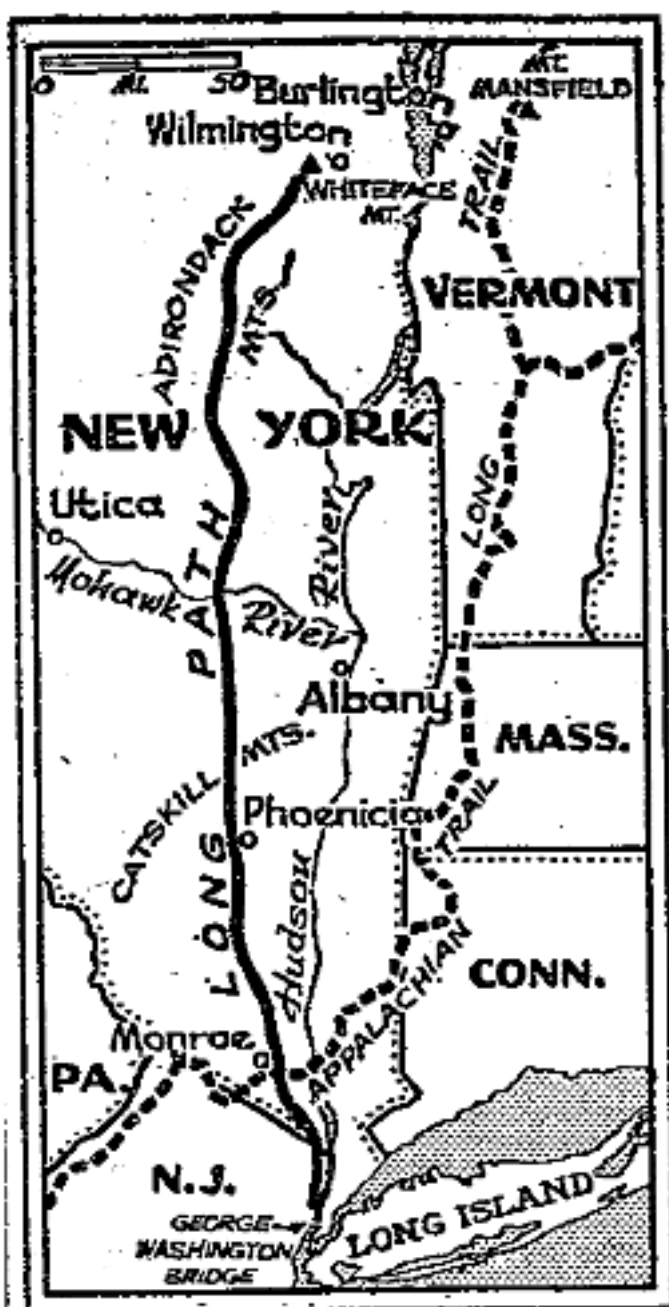
He and an associate, Michael Warren of 30-36 Thirty-fourth Street, Queens, plan to scout the missing lengths on the route and seek permission from owners of the property on the way to walk over their land. No public funds are sought.

## 'A Strong Inducement'

The project, undertaken originally about thirty years ago by the Mohawk Valley Hiking Club, has received the encouragement of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, a parent body for many local hiking clubs.

The original project was pioneered by three hikers, Vincent J. Schaefer, W. W. Cady and Alexander Jessup, all of whom are now dead.

Mr. Jessen said a continuous



The New York Times April 16 1961  
TRAIL PLAN: The solid line denotes Long Path.

path "joining the Hudson Highlands, Shawangunk and Catskill Mountains and the High Peak Region of the Adirondacks would be a strong inducement to lure further new members to the inexhaustible pleasures of hiking."

The youthful hiker, whose own club is the Ramapo Ramblers, said he has discovered a generation of new hikers especially in secretaries, stenographers and clerks who long for the outdoors.

He said that he had become interested in hiking as a Boy Scout. Later, after meeting his wife-to-be at a friend's home, he got her interested in hiking.

Now they have a daughter, Irene, eight months, and are saving to buy a "papoose" basket to carry the baby on one or two-day club trips.