

CLEARWATER SUN

SUN'S PLATFORM FOR TOLERANCE

"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."—Voltaire

RULE FOR RIGHT LIVING

"I shall pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show or any good thing I can do, let me do it now; let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again." — Etienne de Grellet.

BIBLE THOUGHT

I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. — Psalms 31:12.

Parkway Plan Is Improvement

OF PARTICULAR INTEREST to Clearwater area residents are the plans for the proposed new bridge on Courtney Campbell Parkway.

The roadway itself, as announced some time ago, will be moved just a bit to the north of the present alignment and the existing bridges removed. The new bridges will be twin structures to provide more adequate traffic movement in each direction.

Four spans are planned. Bridge A will be a new one at the Clearwater end of the parkway, directly south of Cooper's Bayou and designed to allow additional tidal flow at that point.

BRIDGE B WILL REPLACE the present first structure from the Clearwater end. It will be about 450 feet in length, and have a vertical clearance above mean high water of 10 feet. This has been reduced from the original plan, which was for a vertical clearance of 21 feet. The horizontal clearance of 35 feet will remain as first designed.

The thinking behind this revision seems to be that since the main navigational channel will pass under Bridge C in the middle of the parkway, there will be no need for the far more expensive high bridge at span B. Small boats will be able to use the

passage with its 10-foot vertical clearance; larger boats would probably not be moving from the main channel.

Span C, the principal one, will not be changed from its original design, which calls for a vertical clearance above mean high water of 45 feet and a horizontal clearance between fenders of 75 feet.

THE REVISED PLANS have just been submitted by the Florida Department of Transportation to the U.S. Coast Guard, which must rule on the bridges in relation to navigation. The Coast Guard's Seventh District headquarters (51 S. W. First Ave., Miami, Zip Code 33130) is asking for comments or protests on the plan, to be received not later than Jan. 26.

We haven't forgotten the fourth bridge, span D, but it will be located at the Tampa end at Rocky Point, and is not of such special interest to us here in Pinellas. Like the new bridge at the Clearwater end, it will have a vertical clearance above mean high water of 10 feet.

We understand that the existing parkway will be left for more use for recreation, picnics and similar uses, and will be accessible from the new crossing.