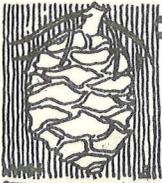


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PARK SERVICE BULLETIN



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR •
OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, • • • • •
BUILDINGS AND RESERVATIONS • •
WASHINGTON, D. C. • • • •



PARK SERVICE BULLETIN

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VOL. III

December, 1933

No. 8

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

SEASON'S GREETINGS

The entire Washington Office staff extends to all of the folks in the field its wishes for a most pleasant Christmas and New Year. It is hoped that as the year 1934 advances under "the new deal" things will continue to get brighter and yet brighter for everyone.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS EXCELLENT INDIAN SALES

The Welfare and Recreational Association, which has taken over the sale of Indian material here in Washington, reports the sale of goods valued at \$305.95 during October. It is understood that sales have increased considerably since then, probably as a result of the approaching holidays, so much larger undoubtedly will be reported for November and December.

NOTE: By direction of the Secretary of the Interior the matter contained herein is published as administrative information and is required for the proper transaction of public business.

VALUABLE DOCUMENTS DONATED TO COLONIAL MONUMENT

Through the kind generosity of Hon. Louis C. Cramton, former Representative in Congress from the State of Michigan, who introduced the bill calling for the establishment of the Colonial National Monument, the library at that Monument now contains his valuable file of documents and correspondence on this bill, from the time of its first presentation to its final passage. The collection contains copies of documents -- Hearings before the Committee on Public Lands, Reports of both Senate and House relating to the bill, and the various readings of the bill as it underwent amendment before its final passage, -- and a vast number of letters to and from Mr. Cramton on the subject. This collection is probably the finest documentary history of the beginning and establishment of Colonial National Monument that could be found. Furthermore, it is a most interesting story of the life of the bill from the time of its introduction in Congress until it received the signature of the President and became law; a story in which the tireless, patient, and resourceful leadership of its sponsor stands out most vividly.

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MONUMENT'S LAKES AND SPRINGS TURN CRIMSON

According to Custodian Tom Charles of the White Sands National Monument in New Mexico the lakes and springs in his monument turn crimson in the autumn. He reports that they are not crimson-hued for long, the water soon changing to a milky white. Examination of these red waters by means of a powerful magnifying glass revealed that they contained much life but there was no trace of color in any of these living forms. A sample of the water has been sent to the Chemical Laboratory of the New Mexico State College for analyses.

BATS NOT TO BE OUSTED

A laboratory concern in Baltimore, Maryland, recently wrote to Superintendent Boles of Carlsbad offering its assistance in the "fight to oust the bats of Carlsbad." Is there such a fight on? It was the opinion of the concern that when said bats had been eliminated and wiped from the face of the earth the cavern would "smell like clean clover."

Superintendent Boles turned down the offer with thanks. The evening flight of the bats is a big attraction with visitors, and furthermore the bats destroy an estimated eleven tons of mosquitoes each night along the Pecos River.

1935 PRINTING FUNDS FURTHER REDUCED

As an economy measure this Office was advised recently that the Budget Bureau had ruled that our 1935 Printing and Binding estimate had to be reduced \$1,200 additional. This amount represents the estimated cost of printing the Director's Annual Report for 1934. In the last Bulletin mention was made of the fact that the Director's 1933 report was not to be printed.

WASHINGTON OFFICE NOW HAS BRANCH OF FORESTRY

In November a Branch of Forestry was set up in the Washington Office, bringing the total number of Branches up to six, the other five being the Branch of Operations, the Branch of Lands and Use, the Branch of Research and Education, Branch of Planning, and the Branch of Buildings. Mr. John D. Coffman has been appointed to the position of Chief Forester heading this new Branch. Mr. Coffman is just the man for this position. For the past five years he served in the capacity of Fire Control Expert of this Office, and for nineteen years previous to that was employed by the United States Forest Service, the last twelve of which he served as supervisor of the California National Forest.

As Chief of the Branch of Forestry Mr. Coffman will supervise the protection of the forests on our far flung reservations from destruction by fire, insect infestation, and tree diseases, and in addition he will continue to assist the Director, as he has since early last April, in the administration of the emergency conservation program in our national parks and monuments.

SOMETHING NEW UNDER THE SUN

There have been quite a few articles made out of petrified wood, but have you ever seen a petrified wood tombstone? Well, there will be at least one in existence if the gentleman who made the following inquiry carries out his plan. Here is what he writes: "I have wished to have a three or four foot section of petrified tree brought from Arizona, Petrified Forest, to a beautiful small town in the State of Illinois. My intentions are to have said stone cleaned and polished to be used as a monument in a cemetery. From whom will I get permission to remove it if not in Government park, or is it necessary to have any permission?"

BEARS

That is the caption to a filler printed in a recent issue of the Washington Evening Star which was quoted from the San Antonio Express. It reads: "National Park Service is giving away its surplus bruins. Couldn't it call on the President to 'bull' the bear market?"

SUPERINTENDENT BOLES GIVES RADIO TALK

Now, please, all you other park superintendents, monument custodians, etc., don't get excited and say "So have we." For this time Superintendent Boles has made what may be the first national park broadcast from foreign soil! Colonel Boles was in Juarez, Mexico on October 28 where he, together with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dempsey, were dinner guests at the famous Central Cafe. Following the dinner Mr. Dempsey gave a radio talk and then introduced Superintendent Boles who told of the wonders of the Carlsbad Caverns. Mrs. Dempsey, the former Hannah Williams of Broadway fame, entertained the radio audience with a blues song.

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McKINLEY PARK HAS MANY PTARMIGAN

Back in the winter of 1929 when Superintendent Liek took up his duties in Mount McKinley National Park ptarmigan were seen but rarely. A slight increase was noted in these birds during the winter of 1931 when small convoys were seen traveling through the park. During 1933, however, according to Superintendent Liek, they are seen by the thousands everywhere, flocks of several hundred at headquarters being a common sight. During the winter these birds live entirely upon the buds of willows and birch trees.

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NOW ITS "WOODY MUSIC"

Frances L. Downs of Sequoia Park who sends us news of Sequoia happenings for possible Bulletin use, tells us that she read all about "Rocky Music" in the last issue of the Bulletin, but wonders if we have heard of their "Woody Music." The following item regarding it was, Miss Downs tells us, forwarded to California papers in the vicinity of the park:

"Splitting firewood has its regard for those musically inclined. At least Mr. C. W. Huckins, while camped at Sunset Rock in the Giant Forest, found this to be true. He noticed the melody obtainable from his sticks of firewood and promptly assembled those of different lengths. Careful selection and trimming to length produced an xylophone with a range of three octaves and all the sharps and flats. Longer pieces formed the frame.

"When he left, Mr. Huckins donated the instrument to the park. It was used at the final campfire program. No dearth of amateur xylophonists is imminent, for all have taken a fling at the keyboard -- from the superintendent down to the messenger boy."

ATTRACTIVE CIRCULARS ISSUED

Two circulars, one containing information regarding the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the other information regarding the Shenandoah National Park project, have recently been rotaprinted here in the Department and copies distributed to our field officers and interested individuals. The Great Smokies circular is especially attractive, being done in green ink and profusely illustrated.

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Custodian Vogt of El Morro National Monument reports that some of the schools in his neighborhood that have no allowance for maps are using our recreational areas map in their class work.

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A PLEASANT WAY TO GET YOUR HISTORY

Next summer students of history who would rather do their studying in the field than with textbooks will be able to do so, as far as the history of Yorktown is concerned, by visiting the Colonial National Monument and its evergrowing museum. A recent addition to the museum is a model depicting the Yorktown battlefield area, and preliminary research is being made by the Historical Division of this Office on four additional models which will depict the surrender scene at Yorktown with British soldiers marching between lines of American and French soldiers; the famous Redoubts 9 and 10 and the connecting segment of the second parallel completed by the allied armies after the bitter hand-to-hand combat that ended in the capture of the redoubts on the night of October 14; the original 'Town of York' showing the waterfront, streets, and buildings as they existed in 1781; and a model in the form of a relief map visualizing the whole Colonial Monument and the parkway being constructed connecting the three sections of the monument -- Yorktown, Jamestown, and Williamsburg.

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IMPORTANT ARCHEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY AT MESA VERDE

Those CCC boys who were encamped in Mesa Verde National Park this past summer can call themselves discoverers of the first order. These boys, while engaged in cutting away rock in an embankment along the park's North Entrance Highway a quarter mile from park headquarters with a power shovel unearthed a grave five feet long and four feet wide which contained two skeletons. The skeletons, one rather large with the legs drawn up in a flexed position and the other much smaller in size but believed to be an adult also, are thought to be those of persons who lived in the early pueblo or cliffdweller period of the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth centuries.

Proper archeological authorities were immediately notified of this important discovery and the work of carefully removing the skeletons was begun by experts. Complete notes of every detail of the grave, with accurate measurements and photographs have been made for future study and also for use in reproducing the burials in the park museum.

In the reports of the work being done by the CCC boys many of them contain mention of the fact that the boys are engaged in doing work that otherwise probably would not have been done for years. In this case they made a discovery that might never have been made, as a great caprock of sandstone rested over the grave and this sandstone was much too heavy to move by casual methods.

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"DEATH VALLEY DAYS" BROADCAST

Mention was made in the last Bulletin of the fact that former Director Albright participated in the October 26 "Death Valley Days" radio program sponsored by the Twenty Mule Team Borax Company. Since then a copy of his talk has been received and those who did not have the opportunity to "listen in" will find it appended to this Bulletin.

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SCENIC STAMP MOVEMENT REVIVED

For a number of years various efforts have been made to have a series of national park postage stamps issued by the Post Office Department. It is hoped that the present movement will result in the issuance of such stamps. The following interesting editorial on the subject appeared in a recent issue of the Washington Evening Star:

"The Post Office Department authorities have been asked to give their approval to a plan for a series of postage stamps to advertise the Nation's scenic wonders. Those who are sponsoring the proposal are philatelists who know what other governments have done along a similar line. Austria, for example, repeatedly has given publicity to its old castles and churches, its treasured national monuments in miniature vignettes, skillfully engraved on stamps. Belgium has brought out a long series of issues representing its most notable landmarks. The little principality of Lichtenstein has had several sets of landscape varieties. And the United States itself on occasion has had recourse to the same general idea, using Niagara Falls, the Golden Gate, the Statute of Liberty, the White House and the Capitol as integrals of stamp designs.

"What is requested now is an expansion of the existing precedent. The Grand Canyon of the Colorado is one of the suggested themes and the Yosemite Valley another. Old Faithful Geyser in Yellowstone National Park likewise

has been cited as a proper subject. Bear Mountain, rising above the glorious Hudson, or the long stretch of the Palisades, now an interstate park reservation, might be selected. Mount Washington or Mount Katahdin would be suitable also, and the Great Smoky Mountains ought not to be neglected. The list of possibilities is endless.

"Perhaps the slogan, 'See America First,' could have no better or more comprehensive application. One of the fundamentals of an intelligent patriotism, surely, would be served by the device -- it would add to the people's knowledge of their domain.

"And somewhere in the series there might be room for a stamp in tribute to Stephen T. Mather, first director of the National Park Service. To him the Nation owes a vast debt of gratitude. With a genius all his own, he organized a public sentiment in behalf of conservation, the influence of which it may be hoped never will fade. Advertising the natural beauties of the land, it would be fitting if the proposed stamps included a philatelic memorial to one who had much to do with saving those beauties for posterity."

It is understood that the Star's suggestion of a Mather stamp has been indorsed by Mr. Franklin Adams of the Mather Memorial Committee.

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MAUNA LOA IN ERUPTION

Mauna Loa, second highest mountain in the Hawaiian Islands and one of the world's greatest volcanoes, burst forth in eruption at 5:54 a.m. December 2, making the Island of Hawaii on which it is located resemble, from the vantage point of an airplane, a land of seething fire. Superintendent Wingate of Hawaii Park radioed this office telling of the wonderful flight he made in an Inter Island plane to the scene of activity. He reports seeing approximately two hundred fountains spouting hot lava and approximately one square mile of the crater's floor covered with silvery pahoehoe lava. The Army Signal Corps has furnished telephone wire which has been run to the summit of Mauna Loa to provide constant reports of the activity and Volcanologist T. A. Jaggar of the United States Geological Survey is at the summit making scientific observations.

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FORMER DIRECTOR ALBRIGHT VISITS PARKS AND MONUMENTS

Former Director Albright received the greetings due a conquering hero when he visited various national parks and national monuments on his way to and from the West Coast recently. He writes so enthusiastically of seeing this and that park or monument official that we know his heart is still with us, even though he listened to the lure of Mammon. Here are a few excerpts from a letter dated December 6, written on The Chief as he was returning East:

"In Santa Fe yesterday I had a little visit with Margaret Smith who had come over with Mrs. Gay Rogers. She asked me to send her regards to all the national park people.

"I had a fine trip in the West and Southwest. In Chicago, Ranger Geo. Collins and Naturalist Paul Franke of Mesa Verde met me and showed me the Exposition on Sunday November 5th and Monday evening the 6th.

"On the night of the 7th, Edward Rogers, after driving from Estes Park in sleet and cold met me at Cheyenne and we had 25 minutes together. On the 8th Dave Madsen and a group of my Salt Lake City friends met me at Ogden. In San Francisco the engineers and architects were fine. Frank Kittredge arranged a luncheon at which were present Will Colby, Francis Farquhar, Duncan McDuffie, Ralph Phelps, former Secretary Wilbur, Charlie Townsend, Arthur Burney, Prof. Joe LeConte, Frank Kittredge and myself. Another day I had lunch with Don Tresidder and some of his directors.

"On Saturday the 11th I stayed in Berkeley. Ansel Hall took me up to see the triplets and the rest of his family. I also called on the Russells, the Dixons, the Prof. Grinnels, the Berkeley office, etc. Had lunch with Geo. Wright at his home and saw his baby girls. Took the whole Berkeley group with me to the Washington-California football game. Also had Frank Kittredge.

"On Sunday, the 12th Don Tresidder sent down his new Waco plane, and I flew with his pilot Frank Gallison all over Yosemite, almost over to the Minarets and Devils Postpile and finally landed at Wawona. There Thomson and Don met me and gave me a wonderful day inspecting the roads and the forests, and visiting the old-timers. After dinner at the Ahwahnee Thomson drove me to Merced.

"The next week I visited my old home, and up there saw Col. and Mrs. White, but did not go to Death Valley.

"With some of my Potash associates, I drove from Los Angeles to Carlsbad via Yuma, Tucson, Tombstone, and El Paso. Great trip. Stopped at Casa Grande and found everybody home --- Pinkley, Fish, Palmer, Rose, Hugh Miller, Mr. Pinkley's mother, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Rogers, etc., also Mrs. Smith's sister, Miss Brown.

"At Carlsbad, I spent a week. Visited the Caverns with Tom and Jimmie Boles and found everything in fine shape. Park Service people so glad to see me that I believe more than ever in the resurrection of the dead, to use Cramton's term after visiting a park after his defeat.

THIS OFFICE TO HAVE ITS SHARE OF CWA FUNDS

If present plans work out this Office will receive approximately four million dollars in Civil Works Administration funds to be expended as follows:

\$3,474,988 for employing 12,905 men to work on projects in the reservations under the jurisdiction of this Office such as erosion control, fire hazard reduction, road and trail construction, telephone and power line installation, landscaping, road sloping, and general cleanup work; also the organization and carrying forward of an historical educational service in these reservations, which will include reconnaissance, research, museum and collection activities.

A second sum of approximately \$450,000 will go for the employment of about 1,200 men of architectural training for periods of two months or more in a program recording interesting and significant specimens of American architecture. These men will have the opportunity of making an enormous contribution to the history and aesthetics of American life.

The third plan calls for a share in the expenditure of approximately \$1,039,000. With our part of this sum it is planned to do three things. One is to send a number of artists (painters) to the national parks and monuments to paint pictures. These pictures will when finished be hung on the walls of Federal, State, and municipal buildings. There are many new school houses that particularly need suitable pictures for their walls, and a number of the paintings will be used in the new Government buildings in Washington. Another is to have about 2,000 enlarged photographs made from the Office negatives and have them colored by artists and then framed so as to be useful for hanging in Government buildings and for display at exhibits. And thirdly, it is planned to have about 2,000 lantern slides made and later colored by artists. Some of the slides are to be colored in the Washington Office, some at the Berkeley Office, and some in the three major national parks having their own photographic laboratories -- Yellowstone, Yosemite and Grand Canyon.

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TOLSON LAW BOOK OFF THE PRESS

A very limited supply of a valuable document entitled "Laws Relating to the National Park Service -- The National Parks and Monuments" by Assistant Director Tolson of this Office, was delivered by the Government Printer early in December. This book represents a great deal of painstaking work on the part of Mr. Tolson and is something that will be more and more valuable as time goes on.

"I also drove to Santa Fe where I spent three days. There I saw Johnwill Faris, Evon Vogt and his family except the three girls, and of course Aileen and Jess Nusbaum and Margaret Smith. So you see I did pretty well in seeing N.P.S. folks."

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TULE ELK REMOVED FROM YOSEMITE

Early in October the small band of 27 tule elk in Yosemite Park were transferred by motor trucks to the Owens Valley, approximately 400 miles distant, where they will be under the care of Mr. G. W. Dow of Lone Pine. Mr. Dow personally assumed the financing of the transfer of these animals. The California Division of Fish and Game approved the transfer and has agreed in writing to Superintendent Thomson that it will relieve this Office of further responsibility for the herd and will, so far as is consistent, give it the necessary protection.

Back in 1921, through the efforts of the California Academy of Sciences and purely as an emergency protective measure, this band of elk was placed in Yosemite. While it was true that the California law then prohibited the shooting of these animals, still the surviving animals in the lower San Joaquin Valley were decreasing and the increase of farm land was restricting their range and there was much complaint of damage to crops.

While these animals proved to be quite an attraction with park visitors, still they constituted a biological exhibit entirely out of line with present national park policy in that they were non-native to the area. Enclosed as they were in a paddock, visitors gained the impression of a zoo, and the policy of this Office is that all the wild life in the parks should be in their natural habitat. Then too, park authorities were faced with the problem of feeding these animals during the winter months, and this proved to be quite expensive and not very practicable.

For several weeks prior to the transfer very definite plans were made to handle the elk with as little difficulty as possible. The animals a few at a time were first dehorned, this operation taking several days so as to avoid frightening the main band. Then their present caretaker, Mr. Dow, and a number of his helpers arrived in Yosemite with trucks on the evening of October 9. The following morning several park rangers, Mr. Dow and his helpers crated and loaded them on motor trucks. All of the 27 elk were loaded by 6 p.m. that day and the work was accomplished without injury. The small boys and girls, as well as some of the grownups, who reside in the park were interested and excited onlookers throughout the day, but the animals came through the proceedings with very little sign of excitement, some of them actually lying down before the crates were loaded on the trucks. Superintendent Thomson reports that all of the animals survived their 400-mile motor trip and are doing nicely in their new Owens Valley home which contains an excellent pasture about seventy miles long, overgrown with willows, saplings, tules and grass.

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TRAVEL TO PARKS INCREASING

Practically all of the monthly travel reports received from the parks for the month of November show increased visitors over November of last year. In fact these reports show an increase in travel for this season which began last October 1.

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INTERESTING FACTS PERTAINING TO YOSEMITE

Yosemite had only 35 fires during the year ended October 1, which burned a total of but 158 acres.

The trucks of the Granite Construction Company used in connection with the surfacing of the Wawona Road this past summer ran over 3,000,000 miles during the period July and August.

The twenty-nine Standard Service Station attendants at the six Yosemite stations pumped 210,000 gallons of gasoline during July. The Camp Curry Station, pumping 105,533 gallons, broke all California records for the month.

The Ahwahnee Hotel accommodations for the New Year Holidays were all sold out early in November.

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APPROVAL GIVEN TO SHENANDOAH-GREAT SMOKIES PARKWAY

President Roosevelt has approved the construction of a scenic parkway connecting the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the cost to be paid out of Public Works funds. The three States - Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee - through their appropriate officials, have agreed to defray the cost of location surveys and to acquire and deed to the United States rights-of-way 200 feet in width where this parkway crosses other than Federally owned lands.

It has been suggested by President Roosevelt that the States take options running for a period of one year on such additional lands as may be indicated by this Office as necessary for recreational purposes. Should these options be exercised Federal funds will be used for their purchase. It is hoped that much of this necessary land can be obtained through donation.

The parkway, which will be from 350 to 400 miles long, will be constructed jointly by this Office and the Bureau of Public Roads, Department of Agriculture. The cost has been estimated at \$15,000,000.

FOREST SERVICE AND PARK OFFICIALS MISTAKEN FOR BOYS' CAMP EXECUTIVES

Approximately 25 men from the Forest Service and a similar number of men from our Office participated in a huge NRA parade staged in San Francisco the evening of November 6. It was estimated that forty thousand people participated in the affair, while about 250,000 San Franciscoans watched and cheered the passing show.

From a report of the event given in the California Ranger we learn that as the fifty representatives of Uncle Sam marched briskly past the reviewing stand in the Civic Center, the radio announcer took a long appraising squint at them, consulted his program, and then blared forth: "Here come the San Francisco Council of Boys' Camps Executives." Says the California Ranger, "A feeble patter of applause rose from the packed stands as the crestfallen Forest and Park men hastened to mingle with the shop girls from O'Connor Moffatt's in a vain endeavor to escape further misidentification."

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E. C. W. NOTES

In our last Bulletin mention was made of the fact that Grand Canyon National Park could probably claim the highest CCC camp -- one on the North Rim at an elevation of 8,430 feet. But Superintendent Rogers writes us that Camp NP-3-C in Rocky Mountain National Park was located at an elevation of 9,038 feet. He further tells us that from that camp the view to the east, north and west embraced the Continental Divide -- a series of rugged, snow-crested peaks that all but struck terror in the hearts of the 200 Texas boys the night they arrived. The personnel of this camp has been transferred to Arizona for the winter.

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According to a decision made by Regional Forester S. B. Show of the United States Forest Service merit certificates are to be awarded to all of the boys in the California CCC camps who in the opinion of their camp superintendents and commanders have honorably completed their term and performed satisfactory work. It is understood that similar certificates for the termination of the second enrollment will be considered later.

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Quoted from the California Ranger: 'Believe it or not' under the expert supervision and training of Foremen Olsen, Johnson and Rourke, the Van-Duzen road crew of Mad River Camp, Trinity Forest, in a test of skill accomplished the remarkable feat of killing eight live rattlesnakes in one shot. This crew now issues a direct challenge to all CCC camps to try to better this record, the conditions being that only live rattlesnakes be used as targets.

It is interesting to learn from the Superintendent of the Hopi Indian Agency in Arizona that the Hopi Indians and their Navajo neighbors are in almost affluent circumstances through the ECW. The Superintendent says:

"Reports coming to us all, we are particularly glad to tell you, are that it is rare to see a hogan without a winter's supply of flour and the best lot of food supplies seen in these Indian homes in many years. Besides this, pawn is coming out of the traders' stores, clothing is being purchased, harness has been bought, so have scrapers -- the Indians having paid for all they have used in the work.

"We have not heard of one case of liquor being at any camp or place where Indians have been working. No Indians have gambled that we have known of; not an auto has been bargained for -- the money has been going for the real things of necessity and this means better conditions in many ways for these Indians and no gratuitous supplies for the coming winter.

"Both Navajos and Hopis are using their money well and profitably. On this Reservation, according to reports of all field workers, it looks as if these Indians will be in excellent shape to go through the winter."

Mr. Everett E. Tillett, Chief of the Accounts Division of the Washington Office, and Mr. Herbert E. Evison, who is assisting Assistant Director Wirth with the E.C.W. in State Parks, attended the recent conference on State Park E.C.W. held in Montgomery, Alabama. Mr. Tillett en route back to Washington visited the Vicksburg, Shiloh, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, and Great Smokies areas.

Educational programs under trained teachers' guidance will be inaugurated in the 1,466 CCC camps. Approximately \$1,000,000 will be expended in this connection. According to present plans there will be an educational adviser for each of the camps and for each corps area. It is expected this program will absorb many unemployed teachers.

From Grand Teton Park comes copy of the following letter written to an ECW cleanup foreman in Grand Teton National Park by one of the CCC boys who had returned to his home in New York City:

"Sorry I couldn't write sooner. I had to visit cousins, uncles, aunts, and friends; and I had to tell each one individually how I spent my time (and money), how I ate and if I worked hard. Boy, what a relief now that it's all over. You know, Fred, the very first night I arrived here I was wishing that I was back. It's funny, but it's true. I noted the change of living when I first arrived here, and I like your method of living much better. It's cleaner, healthier, and more enjoyable. If I ever get rich all of a sudden, I'll be seeing you. I haven't found a job yet and don't know when I will, but I still have hopes.

"How are you getting along? Are you still with the CCC? If you are, I imagine you'll leave pretty soon to parts unknown.

"Speaking seriously, did you enjoy your past term with the CCC outfit. If you enjoyed it as much as I did then you must have had a darn nice time. I want to take this opportunity now to thank you for all the little favors you did for me.

"I really haven't anything else to write except that I'm going to the movies now and I don't have to travel 30 miles to get there."

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ECW Camp No. 858, located at Gillette, Wyoming, which is the only camp under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, Department of the Interior, can probably lay claim to the CCC safety record. According to a bulletin issued by Director Fechner, only one minor injury was suffered during the period June 15, when the camp was opened up, to October 15, when it was disbanded for the winter. This is really a remarkable record as the work in this camp consisted of filling in old mine workings, fighting forest fires, but primarily putting out fires along the outcrop of coal beds in the public lands. One coal fire was flaming in the air to a height of 100 feet and burning along the bank in a horseshoe amphitheatre 75 feet wide and 150 feet long when attacked. Most of the time the heat of the burning coal was so intense that the men worked in 10-minute relays. This camp's sole accident was caused by a hot coal rolling down on the foot of one of the boys. This splendid safety record, Director Fechner states, was due largely to a safety program promulgated the day the boys arrived and a determination to send all of them back at the end of their enrollment without being maimed or scarred.

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Mr. Gerard T. Beeckman of this Office who writes publicity regarding Emergency Conservation Work in all of the reservations under our jurisdiction, also the State Parks, is "The Stamp Collector" of the Happy Days newspaper sold weekly to the CCC boys. When President Roosevelt said that it would be a good thing to establish hobby clubs for the boys, Mr. Beeckman, himself an ardent philatelist, thought at once of stamp clubs. He immediately got to work on the idea and as a result Happy Days carries a column regarding stamps written by Mr. Beeckman and signed "The Stamp Collector." And the inquiries are pouring in. If you are a stamp collector or want to be one don't fail to write "The Stamp Collector." He has collected many thousands of stamps and will be only too glad to forward some to you. There are some 2,000,000 philatelists in the United States at present. Our own President is one, as are also Secretary of the Interior Ickes, many members of Congress, Clara Bow, Jimmy (Schnozzle) Durante, and Adolphe Menjou.

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The two camps in the Chickamauga-Chatannoga National Military Park entered three floats in an N. R. A. Labor Day parade organized and sponsored

by the merchants of Chattanooga. The enrolled men, who planned and constructed these floats, did it all voluntarily on their own time and their efforts were not in vain for the floats received a blue ribbon in their division and honorable mention for the entire parade. The floats were designed with the idea of showing three phases of ECW. One illustrated the help given to dependents by the enrolled men, another showed the educational work being done, and the third showed a part of the work actually being done in the forests.

Mr. R. M. Rittace, an ECW employee in the Washington Office, recently had an opportunity to visit Williamsburg. While there he made a lovely painting of historic Bruton Parish Church which is now on display at the Mount Pleasant Library in Washington.

The CCC is busy in Puerto Rico. According to a bulletin from the Department of Agriculture the development of a recreation area in the Luquillo National Forest there is planned. It is believed the project will offer something unique in the American tropics and that the area will attract many visitors from the mainland as well as from all parts of the island. The location has been described as one of the most beautiful places in the world -- an area of valuable timber, pure mountain palm forests and mountain torrents with numberless waterfalls.

Assistant Director Bryant has been appointed to serve as a member of a Board to advise the Federal Office of Education, Department of the Interior, relative to the educational program planned for the CCC camps.

It is believed that the two CCC camps in the Death Valley National Monument can claim the title of "lowest CCC camps in the U.S." The barracks of one of these camps are situated 175 feet below sea level.

Sequoia Park has five winter CCC camps within a radius of five miles which the park folks think cannot be duplicated except possibly in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Here are some interesting verses. The one entitled "Lament of the Yucca Nut" was written by one of the members of the Yucca Camp in Sequoia Park. The other entitled "Answer to the Lament of the Yucca Nuts" was written, we understand, by Superintendent White and Assistant Superintendent Tobin. The Yucca Camp boys were recently overheard bragging about the homelike appearance of their camp. This improved appearance is the result of a lot of work done by the boys.

LAMENT OF THE YUCCA NUT

When I left Knox - they said to me,
Your going to prune - a Sequoia tree.

On a crooked road - just two feet wide,
With a three mile drop - on either side.

They took me for - an awful ride,
To a pile of rocks - on a mountain side.

Well what I saw - when I arrived,
Was my face red - I nearly died.

Said they to me, - boy what you see,
Is your new home - grow your own big tree.

Oh tell me, tell me - Colonel White,
Who in the hell - picked this camp site.

I've rasted rocks - I've swung a pick,
My back is broke - I'm awful sick.

Before I die - do this for me,
Please let me see - a Sequoia tree.

Don't fill me full - of any more bunk,
My numbers up - my ship is sunk.

I want to make - a little plea,
Won't you hang me - on a Sequoia tree.

For I am just - a Yucca Nut,
All dried out - like old King Tut.

Before I die - do this for me,
Across my chest - pin a giant tree.

But bury me not - in Yucca Camp,
For it gives me - an awful cramp.

Don't let me rot - in this damned spot,
Hell may be worse - but I think not.

Oh bury me not - in Yucca Camp,
Mail me back home - with a three cent stamp.

For the kind of grave - that I do seek,
Cannot be dug - on Yucca Creek.

Just bury me on the lone prairie,
Far, Far away - from Sequoia Trees.

Oh when I cross - the Great Divide,
I want John Grunigen - right by my side.

To Yodeling John - and all his crew,
Our hats are off - to all of you.

Oh thank you, thank you - Colonel dear,
We've drowned our woes - in all your beer.

Oh Colonel Barry - hear our wail,
From the other end - of the lonesome trail.

Just listen to - our dismal moan,
In eight more weeks - please send us home.

If only God - can make a tree,
Oh Colonel White - you don't need me.

I've got eight weeks - and a "but" to do,
Two pay days more - and then I'm thru.

Back to my old - Ohio home,
From there again - I'll never roam.

You've had enough - of my lament,
There ain't no more - so be content.

- - - -

ANSWER TO LAMENT OF THE YUCCA NUTS

When you enrolled - you surely knew
Where'ere you went - was work to do.

On a winding road - flowers on each side
And a mountain view - though twas a rough ride.

You reached the park - a howling mob
You near turned sick - at a real man's job.

You faced your work - with discontent
Even then you started to lament.

When mother's apron strings you break,
You stake your guts - to lose or make.

When Colonel White picked out this site,
He thought of boys with guts and fight.

Real men move rocks; real men swing picks;
Their backs don't break; they don't get sick.

You have not tried - did you not see
God's glory in - a Sequoia Tree

To help men out, flat broke and sunk
Is not to me a lot of bunk.

I'll say to you if you ask me
It's an honor to hang on a Sequoia Tree.

You're what you are - not what could be
If you open your eyes, and try to see.

That men are men - and trees are trees,
But quitters are - just a dirty sneeze.

But Colonel White - is glad to say,
Your discontent has passed away.

Right from the start - when all looked dark,
The Colonel saw - at least a spark.

Of manhood true - not just boys blue,
Americans all - not just a bawl.

And now that spark - is quite a flame,
You're all Okeh - and not to blame.

For feeling blue - a homesick crew,
It's over now - so here's to you,
Yucca Nuts.

- - - -
"BOUQUETS"

This is an editorial from the Hilo (Hawaii) Herald Tribune praising Superintendent Leavitt's work while he was in charge of Hawaii National Park:

"A WORTHY RECORD"

"The passing of our friends to distant parts is an occasion of sadness somewhat mollified by its recurrent frequency; but the entire island is anticipating with sincere regret the departure of Ernest P. Leavitt, superintendent of Hawaii National Park, and Mrs. Leavitt.

"We have come to know Mr. Leavitt as a man of friendly spirit and noble character, whose shrewd insight into the policies of the park service, based on 20 years of instructive experience, has transformed Hawaii National Park into one of the great scenic meccas of the world.

"Hawaii was fortunate in getting such a man to come here; and in three years he has lived among us his activities in securing federal appropriations for improvements in the park have won the admiration of all.

"Prior to Mr. Leavitt's arrival, the park had not received any appreciable national appropriations. Since then, purely through his efforts, it has obtained 16 miles of paved road on this island, and two projects are now on the way, one planning four and one half miles of road here and one calling for twelve miles of paving on Maui.

"These three projects brought from the federal government an appropriation of \$580,000, in round numbers. The funds were obtained only because Mr. Leavitt had anticipated in advance the releasing of federal money, and had completed and filed his plans for improvement in time to be first on the list.

"Mr. Leavitt has added 50 miles of trail in the park, has built six houses for permanent employees, constructed an administration building, machine shop, light plant and reservoir on this island. He has also caused expenditure of money for many minor improvements.

"The staff of permanent employees he increased from six permanent civil service, to 16. He added three resident highway engineers, and maintained a per diem staff of five to 50 men working constantly on trails, roads and buildings.

"Speaking with intrinsic modesty, Mr. Leavitt expressed his convictions that his success here was due in great part to the sincere cooperation of his staff and the community; and feels that anyone in such a position can succeed with similar cooperation.

"He displayed a quality of fairmindedness in interest in community affairs, wherein he took an active part, that impressed all his fellow citizens. He had been an inspiration to the staff in his efficient method of handling the matters at his disposal; his influence was felt not only in the national park but throughout the whole chain of islands.

"Mr. Leavitt's personal honors, achieved in Hawaii, are many and varied. He has been president during the past year of the Federal Business Men's Association for the island of Hawaii.

"He is an honorary member of the Hilo Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber of Commerce of Maui. He is at present vice president of the Hilo Rotary Club, and has taken great interest in Masonic affairs on this island.

"His staff was visibly moved when notified of his orders to leave next month for Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado. It is possible

that the residents in and near the Colorado park do not appreciate at present the calibre of the man who is to be the new superintendent; but the finest compliment we can pay Mr. Leavitt is our assurance that it will not be long before the Coloradans will be as happy in his friendship as we have been for the last three years.

"And ever the old order changeth, yielding place to new. Thus we find ourselves heartily welcoming as the new park superintendent, E. G. Wingate, who has up to the present time been topographical engineer at the volcano observatory; and wishing him, in the future, all the success that has attended Mr. Leavitt's regime. Mr. Wingate's worth has been recognized by the federal government, and we congratulate him upon his appointment."

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The following was written to Superintendent White by a lady who resides in a New Hampshire town:

"No letter addressed to you would be complete without some reference to the splendid manner in which the park is conducted. I have visited it several times over a period of nearly ten years, each time with an increasing appreciation of its beauties, its splendid personnel and the fine treatment I received while there.

"With very best wishes to you and thanks for your efforts to preserve the glories of Sequoia for all of us, I remain"

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This fine letter was written to Chief Ranger Baggley of Yellowstone by Dr. W. P. Magan of Covina, California, whose brother, nephew, and a friend, were drowned in Yellowstone Lake last August 31:

"I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the wonderful work and cooperation which you gave Mrs. S. S. Magan, and which you did in recovering the bodies of my brother, his little boy, and our friend, George Steckle.

"You will never know how greatly Mrs. S. S. Magan, Mrs. W. P. Magan, and my father, Dr. Percy Magan, and I appreciate the wonderful work and sacrifice shown by you and your men. We are indeed sad about the loss of my brother, his son, and George Steckle, but it seems that at times things happen to us that those who are left have no power to prevent.

"Mr. Chapman, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Wilke, were especially high in their praise of Ranger Elliott and Ranger Eckels, in cooperation with Ranger Jay, also Rangers Barrow, Bugas, and all others who helped. I would like you also to know that I appreciate more than words can tell the work of Jack Crony and his assistant, Mr. Tufts, who so unselfishly worked hour after hour with Albert Elliott in recovering the bodies.

"There is not one of our family remaining who in any way feel that it was anyone's fault.

"I have spent two summers in Yellowstone Park, and I could not ask for nicer, more courteous treatment than I have received at the hands of any and all of the rangers.

"If there is anything that I can ever do to repay any of the rangers at Yellowstone Park for their unselfish and kind service, I would be more than glad to do so."

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Captain Frank S. Ross who recently turned over command of the CCC Yucca Camp in Sequoia Park to Captain E. C. Dundon, has written the following to Superintendent White:

"I am writing you to express to you and through you to the other park personnel my personal appreciation for the many favors you have all accorded me and members of my command. The rangers with whom I have come in contact have all been exceptionally fine men and the park personnel in this camp have been most cooperative in all respects. My services here have been pleasant and no small amount of this was due to the many little things which have been done for me by yourself and various members of your staff.

"I shall always entertain only the kindest feeling toward the Sequoia National Park and I trust that it will continue to grow and prosper in the future as it has done in the past."

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The President of the Texas State Board of Education says this of his visit to Grand Canyon Park:

"It was my privilege, in company with some friends, to visit the Grand Canyon of Arizona within the month and the enjoyment experienced, as everyone must feel in viewing the spectacle of this great work of Nature, was much enhanced by the splendid lectures delivered by Mr. Joe J. Bryan and Mr. Paul S. Kraus of the Ranger Staff, both of whom in a most able and comprehensive manner presented to their audiences descriptions and explanations of the formation and development of this stupendous evidence of Nature's handiwork during the several ages encompassing its construction. They gave altogether a new interest and an intelligent presentation of the subject matter which added much to the enjoyment and appreciation of the visitor.

"I am writing of this to you now merely that you may understand how a citizen taxpayer of the Nation, privileged to visit the National Parks, is better reconciled to and much more satisfied with the small added stipend of tax which he pays for the preservation and continuation of these natural beauty spots in America."

Superintendent Toll of Yellowstone received the following letter which was signed by fifty persons who camped at the Fishing Bridge Auto Camp. These folks were from the States of California, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Nebraska, Texas, Missouri, Idaho, Illinois, Utah, and Florida:

"The persons whose names are signed to this letter, representing practically every section of the country, desire in this manner to express their appreciation of the excellent work of the Rangers who are in charge of Fishing Bridge Camp of Yellowstone Park this summer.

"We have found them to be gentlemen in every sense of the word, always endeavoring to make the stay of the campers a pleasant one.

"The persons whose names are attached to this letter are so called permanent campers, most of whom have been here many times before. They are all of the opinion that the group of Rangers in charge of Fishing Bridge camp this summer are most efficient and courteous.

"We heartily approve of the attitude of the Department with reference to the Bear situation this summer and the courtesy extended to permanent campers."

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Stanley P. Young, in charge of the Division of Predatory Animal and Rodent Control, Bureau of Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture, wrote Director Cammerer the following about his Carlsbad trip:

"The undersigned, while in the course of a long field trip throughout the Southwest, was recently in attendance at the annual convention of the New Mexico Game Protective Association which was held at Carlsbad, New Mexico, the final wind-up of which was a trip to Carlsbad National Park, as the guest of Superintendent Thomas Boles. Incidentally, when I completed my visit to the Carlsbad National Park, I had seen every National Park within the United States, exclusive of the Territories.

"Being in public service and knowing how little good we hear of ourselves, I nevertheless can not refrain from writing you as to the fine personnel Superintendent Boles has under him at the Carlsbad Caverns. The routine he has established for handling the many people at the Caverns, the courtesies extended and the consideration given everyone, in my opinion, are not to be excelled in any other National Park that I have visited. A great number of people went through the Caverns with us the day we went through, and I purposely stood on the side lines to observe the handling of this difficult task.

"Incidentally, my attendance at the convention of the Game Protective Association gave me opportunity to renew acquaintanceship with Mr. David Madsen who delivered a very fine message to the sportsmen assembled and cooperated with Superintendent Boles and the rangers in conducting the sportsmen through the Caverns.

"Our hope is to return again to the Caverns in the not too far distant future and once again meet with Superintendent Boles and his rangers for a longer visit."

Here is copy of a complimentary note written by Dr. William T. Hornaday of Connecticut to Mr. George M. Wright of our Division of Wild Life Studies. Dr. Hornaday is an outstanding figure in wild life conservation circles:

"I am positively delighted with your Occasional Paper No. 1, by Ben H. Thompson on 'The Breeding Colonies of the White Pelican.' It is most timely and also highly valuable to all Americans who desire that one of the most wonderful bird species of North America shall survive and not be exterminated by fishermen who grudge every fish-eating bird every fish that it consumes.

"In 1927 I traveled out West as far as Spokane and back again. The total distance must have been about 4,000 miles. In the Milk River Valley, I saw at a distance of fully a mile, a glorious company of 17 white pelicans standing in a line and glistening in the sunlight. It was a sight that thrilled a train-load of people, but in all that long journey westward and back, I saw not one fish. For my use and enjoyment, those pelicans were worth more than all the fish between New York City and Spokane, and back again.

"By a curious coincidence, only yesterday I was writing something about the disappearance of important North American Birds, and when I thought of the white pelican, I was quite uncertain what to say about its remaining numbers, and felt compelled to forego the making of a guess. And now quite as if made for me, here is Mr. Thompson's admirable exposition on the whole subject. I salute Mr. Thompson and all of you who were concerned in the production of this valuable and timely exposition of latest information."

Lassen's administration is praised in the following addressed to Superintendent Collins:

"Since my belief is that it is the duty of every citizen to place credit where credit belongs in all functions of our government, I wish at this time to commend you most highly in your splendid administration of the Lassen Park,

"During the past summer I had the pleasure of spending five weeks camped in Lassen Park. It was my first experience as a guest in one of the National Parks, and I must say that I was most agreeably surprised. From the moment I stopped at the headquarters at Mineral to ask directions and advice upon going into the park, until I stopped again on my way out I met with the most reliable and courteous treatment. Each ranger with whom we came in contact seemed anxious to assist us in every manner. This is most refreshing in our present age of rackets and turmoil, when gruffness seems to be the order of the day. I firmly believe that if more persons knew of the magnificent settings Uncle Sam has provided for rest and the return of sanity we should see our parks filled to overflowing."

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And this last is not really a "bouquet" but a tribute included in a letter written to Director Cammerer by Senior Park Naturalist Hall:

"We frequently read of the self-sacrifice and heroism of prominent men who are patriotically and unselfishly serving the Government in this period of emergency -- but sometimes perhaps we overlook the unremitting loyalty and spirit of unselfish service that exists and is expected of those holding the many minor Government positions.

"I am writing this letter as a tribute to Mrs. Esther C. Wathen, a member of the office staff at our Berkeley headquarters. She has served faithfully as clerk-stenographer for several years, never hesitating to work overtime along with the rest of us whenever occasion demanded. Last night Mrs. Wathen remained at our office until after hours taking dictation on the budget, justifications, and other important data for the Civil Works Program which must go forward to your office today by airmail. When finally all of this material was on her stenographic books we adjourned and she promised to come to the office early in order to type this material so that it would be ready for the airmail at noon.

"During the night a tragedy occurred. Mrs. Wathen's father passed away at 3 a.m. She realized that she must, of course, spend today with her family. Despite her grief, she came to the office at 4 a.m., typed a rough draft of all the material which I dictated last night, and telephoned to me at 8 a.m. this morning saying that she was leaving it on my desk.

"I am so touched by Mrs. Wathen's loyalty and devotion to duty in getting out this material which she knew to be so important to the Service that I cannot help writing this letter to tell you of this fine act of loyalty. You will, I am sure, be as proud as I am that we have such people in our Service."

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ABOUT FOLKS

Director Cammerer has been designated by Secretary Ickes one of the three members of a Land Planning Committee representing the Department of the Interior. Serving also on this Committee will be three persons designated by the Secretary of Agriculture, also Mr. Charles W. Elliot, 2nd, Executive Officer of the National Planning Board.

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Assistant Director Bryant has been selected as one of the judges in the annual forestry notebook contest of the American Forestry Association.

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Superintendent Boles of Carlsbad reports that knowing Chief Auditor Gable's reputation as a bridge shark, two small local bridge tournaments were arranged while the latter was at Carlsbad. Superintendent Boles says: "The Superintendent, with customary caution, did not attend, nor do I know the results of the above tournaments except that the morning after the first session Mr. Gable had me cash a check for him, and the morning after the second session he called for some expense account blanks. Evidently the bridge players of Carlsbad will be glad to see Mr. Gable come again."

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt is giving a series of teas to women executives of the Federal Government. On November 21 the third departmental tea of the series was held, the guests being from Justice, Navy, and Interior. Miss Story, Chief of the Public Relations Division, was a guest on that occasion.

Mr. J. M. Thurnbow of Moab, Utah, has been appointed Custodian of the Arches National Monument. Mr. Albert T. Bicknell is the new Custodian at the Craters of the Moon National Monument. Mr. Bicknell was formerly a ranger in Yellowstone National Park.

Assistant Landscape Architect Merel S. Sager has been detailed to Hawaii National Park to supervise the landscape features on new road construction projects at Haleakala and Kilauea.

Dr. Clarence E. Wells was selected during November to take over the medical service in Sequoia National Park formerly handled by the late Doctor Fraser. He has already acquired Doctor Fraser's hospital at Woodlake.

Among Assistant Director Wirth's Christmas presents was a commission as Colonel on the staff of Governor Ruby Laffoon of Kentucky. The commission was given Colonel Wirth in recognition of the excellent work he has done in directing emergency conservation work in the state parks, and particularly of his interest in helping build up the state parks in Kentucky.

We have just been informed that at the same time Mr. Herbert E. Evison, Mr. Paul V. Brown, and Mr. Harry E. Curtis, were also made colonels. Mr. Evison is known to most national park people as the executive secretary of the National Conference on State Parks, and his knowledge and experience have been invaluable in the State Park CCC work. Mr. Brown is a district officer of the State Park ECW in Indianapolis, Indiana, and Mr. Curtis is district inspector of State Park ECW, and is located in Springfield, Illinois.

Hon. Louis C. Cramton, ex-member of Congress from Michigan, who, during his years as Representative, did so much for the then National Park Service, is still spreading the national park gospel. While on a visit in Flint, Michigan, recently he gave an illustrated talk before a group of Rotarians at the Hotel Durant.

Mr. David H. Madsen, Supervisor of Wild Life Resources for this Office, made a survey of the Roosevelt elk on the Olympic Peninsula in the State of Washington during the hunting season which extended from October 19 to 22 inclusive. It was feared by many conservationists that during this season there would be a severe slaughter of the animals, but according to reports only approximately a hundred of the animals were killed. The Mount Olympus National Monument, now administered by this Office, was not thrown open to hunting as the regulations prohibit the killing of any of the wild life within the boundaries of any national park or monument.

Assistant Superintendent Guy E. Edwards and Mrs. Edwards of Yellowstone visited Mount Rainier Park in October.

Mr. C. Marshall Finnan was officially sworn in as Superintendent of the National Capital Parks at 2:00 p.m., October 31.

Ranger John E. Woodrow of Carlsbad Caverns National Park had the pleasure recently of escorting his old Army commander through the Caverns. The visitor, Major General Roy Hoffman, Commander of the 45th Division of the U. S. A., was in charge of the Oklahoma Infantry during the World War. Mr. Woodrow served under General Hoffman in the Oklahoma Infantry and also in his division in France.

Recent reports from Sequoia Park state that Judge Walter Fry is well again and able to perform the duties of Commissioner.

Due to ill health Chief Ranger Earl Dissmore of Glacier Park asked to be assigned to other duties. Accordingly Thos. E. Whitcraft, Assistant Chief Ranger, was promoted to the Chief Ranger position. Park Ranger Arthur Best thereupon became Assistant Chief Ranger.

Park Naturalist D. S. Libbey of Crater Lake National Park is now in the Washington Office and will remain here for several months to assist Mr. Coffman with the E. C. W. program. Mrs. Libbey and the Libbey boy are also in Washington.

Dr. G. C. Ruhle, Glacier Park Naturalist, visited the Washington Office in November and is now in the Great Smokies helping Superintendent Eakin line up the educational work in the E. C. W. winter camps there.

Park Naturalist Paul R. Franke of Mesa Verde National Park is in the Washington Office and will remain here for several months. He will aid the Branch of Research and Education with its motion picture work. He will also be available for consultation on archeological matters.

Colonel David C. Chapman's many friends in national park work were shocked to learn that not long ago his home at Knoxville, Tennessee, burned down, only the first floor furnishings being saved. Colonel and Mrs. Chapman went to stay with Mrs. Chapman's sister and brother-in-law after the fire. On November 24, the brother-in-law died suddenly.

Mr. Paul J. Leverone who for a number of years was the Chief Draftsman in the Washington Office, and who is now President of the Leverone Engineering and Drafting Company and of the Columbia Technical Schools in Washington, D. C., recently gave a most interesting radio talk on drafting over Station WRC. Mr. Leverone says that the amount of engineering and drafting work for private concerns received by his company has more than trebled during the past few months.

Miss Grace Oakes, stenographer to Superintendent Dorr of Acadia National Park, had an opportunity to make a trip to Boston early in November.

Superintendent Wm. E. Branch of Platt National Park and the members of his family visited Carlsbad Caverns in November. Their daughter Patrica celebrated her ninth birthday during this visit.

Mr. John D. Coffman, Chief of the Branch of Forestry, left Washington the latter part of December for San Francisco. While in the West Mr. Coffman plans to inspect a number of the CCC camps. He plans to return to Washington with his family the latter part of January.

Assistant to the Superintendent Joseph Joffe of Yellowstone Park and Mrs. Joffe arrived in Washington the early part of December. They plan to remain for several weeks.

From an editorial which appeared in a recent issue of Nature Magazine it has been learned that Mr. Joffe received honorable mention in a nationwide billboard slogan contest with the slogan "Let's See Scenery, Not Signs."

Chief Landscape Architect and Mrs. Vint are in Washington. Mr. Vint plans to remain here for the next few months.

Dr. Don Tresidder of the Yosemite Park and Curry Company, Mr. Fred Harvey of the Fred Harvey Company, and Mr. W. M. Nichols, President of the Yellowstone Park Hotel Company are also in Washington. They are conferring with officials of this Office relative to park operator problems.

Assistant Chief Ranger Fred T. Johnston of Yellowstone has been detailed to the Branch of Forestry, Washington Office, to assist in the work of that Branch during the winter months. Mrs. Johnston is also in Washington.

Park Ranger Elmer Ness of Glacier National Park while on a four-day patrol from the Belly River Ranger Station to the Kennedy Creek District slipped on some ice and fell down a steep slope about 300 feet, and struck a protruding rock sideways, the impact throwing him clear over the rock and down on the other side. Ranger Ness had to camp out for two nights and the third day finally managed to crawl onto the porch of the Belly River Ranger Station. X-ray pictures showed that his pelvis bone was broken and that his right leg had been shoved up into the socket of the hip joint, but the attending physician says that he will make a complete recovery.

BIRTHS:

On October 20, a son, Donal, Jr., was born to Chief Ranger and Mrs. Donal Jolley. This is the first child to be born within the boundaries of Zion or Bryce Canyon National Parks since they were established.

An eight-pound girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Suter in the Black Hills Hospital in Hot Springs, South Dakota. Mr. Suter is a permanent ranger at Wind Cave National Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Morris, known to Southwestern people through their archeological work at Aztec Ruins and elsewhere, are the proud parents of a daughter born November 9.

MARRIAGES:

Chief Ranger David H. Canfield of Crater Lake National Park and Miss Helen Winslow were married in Piedmont, California, November 18. The bride, a grand niece of the late Governor Leland Stanford of California, is a graduate of Stanford University and has gained considerable recognition as a poetess, having contributed to the Atlantic Monthly, Saturday Evening Post and other well-known magazines.

Mr. Canfield, who became Chief Ranger at Crater Lake Park in 1931, for two years prior to that date served as a permanent ranger in Mesa Verde Park.

Miss Marguerite Preston, who for several years served as Office Manager and Assistant Secretary to the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission, was married to Dr. Charles Wesley Myers November 28 at Knoxville, Tennessee. The couple are making their home in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mr. Perry D. Edwards of the Accounts Section, Washington Office, and Virginia Lee Fall of Washington, D. C., were married November 29.

Mr. J. B. Leck, President of the Cavern Supply Company, and Mrs. Alice Spencer, Publisher of the Cavern News, were married in the Big Room of Carlsbad Caverns on October 16.

And while speaking of marriages, Custodian Faris of Aztec Ruins National Monument reports that a couple from Durango, Colorado were down at his monument in October and were married in the prehistoric Great Kiva. This is the second such marriage this year.

DEATHS:

After enjoying a pleasant Thanksgiving holiday members of the Washington Office were grieved when they were told by Mr. Brill, Chief of the Mails and Files Division, that our chief messenger, Frank Barnes, had been found dead in bed on Thanksgiving eve. Frank had been away from the office on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday preceding Thanksgiving but it was thought that he had gone on a trip and forgotten to report it to Mr. Brill. According to the coroner Frank had been dead for several days before his body was discovered.

Being a veteran of the World War he was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Frank was with the Office for many years -- in fact was one of the original employees of the National Park Service -- and rendered splendid service.

The following is Director Cammerer's tribute to Frank: "Frank Barnes, colored senior messenger of this Office, passed away to the high trails where the real fellows go. He came with the Service shortly after the World War. No better messenger ever worked for the Government. Kind, considerate, earnest, hardworking, helpful, he was proud of the folks he worked for and worked with, as he often told me. We all liked Frank, and he knew it. No offers of higher salary could draw him away from his beloved Park Service where his folks understood him and he understood them. That he died alone and in the dark of night, where none of us could squeeze his hand and show him that our affectionate regard was true and sincere to the end, is one of the sad things that should not have been. We will always remember Frank as one of us."

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Is the picturesque colonial town of Williamsburg conducive to the writing of poetry? Mr. Thomas E. Brown, who for a number of years was private Secretary to former Directors Mather and Albright, has produced two pieces of verse since he went to reside there a few months ago. Both poems, one entitled "Hallowe'en" and the other "Twilight Over Williamsburg" have been printed in The Virginia Gazette. The Williamsburg poem is quoted below:

TWILIGHT OVER WILLIAMSBURG

Twilight over Williamsburg
Casts a softer glow,
Like a benediction falling
On the town below.

Shadows die in deeper shadows;
Blue skies lose their blue;
Then a star--and then another--
Show the day is through.

Now the window lights are gleaming
Over road and green,
When a traveler, sore and weary,
Stops to view the scene.

Window lights are harbor lights
To weary ones who roam,
Set to guide the lone wayfarer
On his way toward home.

So the traveler starts a-dreaming--
"At the journey's end for me
There's a light that shines!-- I'll follow
Though it lead o'er land and sea."

And the traveler, never turning,
 Starts him on his homeward way
 Never doubting but his fancy
 Will survive the light of day.

But twilight over Williamsburg,
 However soft it gleams,
 A man should never trust too far---
 Twilight thoughts are dreams!

--- T. E. B.

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Radio Talk Given by H. M. Albright

9:15 p.m. Oct. 26th 1933 - WJZ - New York

Death Valley is in Inyo County, California, I think the third largest county in the United States, and one of the least populated. In it is the highest point in the United States, exclusive of Alaska, Mt. Whitney 14,496 feet in altitude, and the lowest point, Death Valley, 276 feet below the sea. At any rate, in one county, and not many miles apart, are the high and low spots of the United States. In September 1930 I was on top of Mt. Whitney and there found the famous Sierra Club mountain climber, Norman Clyde. We looked out to the East in the direction of Death Valley but, of course, could not see the Valley itself because of the Panamint and other high ranges which obstructed our view, even at the great height on which we stood. I suggested that one could go from the highest point in the United States to the lowest in a few hours and I wondered just how long it would take. Mr. Clyde said he had nothing to do and he would like to make just that trip and at once. Within an hour, he and Francis Farquhar, now President of the Sierra Club, descended Mt. Whitney by a new route down the precipitous, northeast face as I remember it, and walked eighteen miles to the Village of Lone Pine, 11,000 feet below Whitney's summit. There Clyde picked up a car and within four hours was at the low spot in Death Valley.

All of Inyo County, like its famous Death Valley, was Indian country and it took troops to quell Indian depredations before the whites could safely prospect for mineral or begin development of irrigated farms.

I was born of pioneer parents up there in that isolated country. It was a three days' trip to a large city, and rarely did anybody visit a city, least of all boys and girls. When I went to college nobody knew the location of my home. I had to draw a rude map to illustrate whence I came. I was regarded as neither an Indian nor a white man, so was just called the Inyoite.

There were no automobiles in those days and nobody went far from home. I remember an old prospector who lived for years back in the mountains. He may be there yet. Nobody could remember when he had left his diggings. About 1923 I asked him when he had been to town. He seemed indignant that the question should be asked. He said "Young man, I am a free and independent citizen. I can travel anywhere anytime I want to." I admitted this, but said I just wondered when he had traveled. Again he drew himself to his full height and said "Young man, in 1903 I went over 100 miles to Independence to the court house." Of course, he was almost a hermit, not a rover like most prospectors and he was very far from being in Death Valley Scotty's class. I have known Scotty for over twenty-five years. In 1907 while I was working in the village of Big Pine Scotty rode into town one afternoon. He had come out of the desert once or twice before with plenty of gold on his packmule and we had heard that as he reached a village he called everybody into the nearest bar and ordered drinks for the crowd. So everybody flocked to the hotel owned by Jim Butler, discoverer of gold in Tonopah and crowded into the bar-room to see Scotty in action. We waited an hour or two while Scotty ate a hearty dinner, but finally he came in with the hotel manager. They treated each other to a cigar and a drink and went out again. Big Pine was greatly disappointed in Scotty, but he made up for the seeming slight later. Scotty had always been a generous cuss, and here he was with a packmule load of gold and apparently the stingiest man in town except the hotel manager. You can appreciate the crestfallen throng as it filed from the bar-room. As for the boys we were happy enough; we were not supposed to drink anyway and the thrill of seeing the great Scotty repaid us for loss of supper and the long wait.

Inyo County, then as now, belonged mostly to Uncle Sam. Even the Indians never seriously claimed it. Mexicans early penetrated the region and some of the early explorers crossed this territory before the Mexican War. In 1849 pioneer parties, including the famous Jayhawkers, traveling together enroute to California reached Death Valley where several members of the party perished. This party named the Valley. Then came the prospector; even he did not need much of this vast region. In 1890 the Federal Government sent in a scientific party to study Death Valley. It was made up of young scientists who have since become very distinguished in their fields of research, among them Edward W. Nelson, until recently Chief of the Biological Survey, Theodore S. Palmer and Vernon Bailey, the distinguished naturalists and bird authorities, C. Hart Merriam learned scientist in the field of biology, ethnology and other sciences, and Frederic V. Coville famous botanist. The Late Major General Frederic Funston captor of Aguinaldo, was a helper in the expedition.

Only last week, in Washington, I saw three members of this scientific party of 1890-91. Dr. Nelson and I had breakfast together at the Cosmos Club. The doctor, now nearly 80, one of the noblest men I know, was reminiscing on his Death Valley trip. I told him I was born in Inyo County the year his party was there. He said as they drove their pack train through my native village he is sure he heard me squalling.

Dr. Nelson told of collecting the mountain sheep or bighorn native to Death Valley, employing Indians who had been living on the Chuckwalla, the large harmless lizard that inhabits that region. The bighorn which bears Dr. Nelson's name still survives in Death Valley. Dr. Coville told me of the Valley's five hundred plants, some found nowhere else in the world, and some of great beauty, and others that show marvelous adaptations to withstand combined heat and dryness. Dr. Palmer relates entrancing stories of animal life especially the birds that remain all year in Death Valley.

The Geological Survey, likewise composed of exceptionally able scientific men, came later to study the geological formations, find and analyze water and map the region. Meantime, the borax mines were opened and the twenty mule teams hauled their output to the railroad far away to the South.

A few years ago, tourists, in search of new lands to see, penetrated the fastnesses of the Valley and their ever increasing number required establishment of facilities for their accommodation. Then finally came the public demand that this unique, spectacular and wonderful region be preserved for all time.

Recently, after careful studies by experts of the National Park Service, of the United States Department of the Interior, the conclusion was reached that Death Valley possessed so many natural features that are unique in American landscape, as well as rare plant and animal life, and other distinctive and valuable scientific assets, not to mention its rich historical sentiment, that this area was entitled to the best protection that our Country can give to it. This meant that it had to become a part of the National Park and Monument System which contains the most sublime scenic features of the entire world.

Accordingly, early in 1933, by proclamation of the President it was made a National Monument and placed under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Now a National Monument is a special reservation set apart by the President because it contains scientific or historic features of outstanding value to the Nation or because it contains historic landmarks of very great importance. If the area has extraordinary scenery, as well as natural features of unusual scientific value and great historic interest, it is eligible for National Park status. Grand Canyon, Zion, Lassen and Acadia National Parks were all National Monuments before they were National Parks. Death Valley fulfills all the standards of a national park because it has every quality of greatness that these ideals require. It has unique scenery not duplicated elsewhere; it has brilliant color not found even in the gorgeous canyons of Yellowstone, Zion, Bryce and the supreme Grand Canyon; it has rare species of animal and plant life; it has a historic background that thrills every one who hears its wonderful story of pioneer life. Finally it has the rare distinction of possessing the lowest point in the United States - 276 feet below the level of the sea.

Death Valley is sure to be a National Park some day, but right now as a national monument, as I have already indicated, it is administered by a national park officer and rangers; in fact, the superintendent of Sequoia National Park, the park of the Big Trees, is also in charge of Death Valley. Two companies of President Roosevelt's Civilian Conservation Corps are spending the winter in the Valley. These 400 men are engaged in erosion control work, protection of plant life, building trails, developing water resources and performing other useful conservation work.

Death Valley too has fine accommodations for the public in its Furnace Creek Inn located at sea level - a very unique establishment with every modern convenience. It also has camps for visitors wishing to "rough it" a little as they travel.

Roads are good. Fortunately the natural charm of the desert has not been impaired by too great improvement of the old borax wagon trails. The old trails have been widened a bit and dangerous curves have been eliminated, but they are still the old trails and it is an interesting, even thrilling experience to drive over these pioneer paths. The National Park Service will preserve the wilderness pioneer character of these trails. It has no program of complete modernization of the highways. The ideals of the Death Valley administration contemplate keeping it as it is - a place apart from the whirl of our feverish modern life.

From what I have just said about the old borax wagon wheel tracks it must not be inferred that accidents are likely to happen in them. There are no accidents on roads of this kind. There are no precipices to fall over, and even if a car left a road, it would only run out into the sage brush and leave some marks in the sand. Some folks ask me if Death Valley isn't a dangerous place to visit because of the lack of water and possibility of getting lost. The answer is the old trails are carefully marked, water has been found and mapped by the prospectors and the United States Geological Survey and is available in all parts of the Valley. Prudent travelers always carry some water with them no matter where they go and here in Death Valley some water must be in the baggage to tide one over the totally arid spots, but Death Valley is not a region devoid of water, and water unfit to drink is plainly marked. National park administration carries with it United States Public Health Service cooperation in perfecting sanitation and assuring pure water supplies.

I can say with assurance that people do not die in Death Valley. My brother lives nearly 150 miles northwest of the Valley and he is the only undertaker in that whole section of California. I don't think he ever made a professional trip to Death Valley. The summer resorts in the high altitudes net a little business for him but the great winter resort of Death Valley not a single case.

I do not mean to give the impression that Death Valley is a smooth open desert region lying at and below sea level with a dry mild winter climate with extraordinary facilities for rest and health restoring activities, where nothing exciting or interesting can happen. There are mountains, canyons, ranches, ghost mining camps, old volcanoes and Scotty's famous castle; there are trails for hikers and riders - one leads to the summit of Telescope Peak 11,000 feet above the sea. There are branch auto trails to several high points which afford commanding panoramas of the Valley and its surrounding colorful mountain regions.

I am proud of that wild country of desert and mountains, that land of sagebrush and pinon, that big free range of the prospectors, rangers and old mule drivers and tonight I greet all my old friends in the deserts and forests and national parks of the West. Finally, I say to my listeners everywhere, these weekly broadcasts of Death Valley Days bring you truly the spirit of the rangers and other old-timers and the atmosphere of a land that will soon rank as one of the Nation's most interesting and valuable places for healthful outdoor life and for the scientist and student a peerless field for research and exploration.