

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEWS

No. 4.

September, 1919

TO EMPLOYEES OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT:

To thrive by thrift one must spend wisely and practice self-denial. But we wisely hold some money for unforeseen emergencies. The best way is to make up one's will to a system of savings. Thrift and War Savings Stamps afford an excellent system to provide for the future.

It is hoped the employees of this Department will continue to practice the lesson of thrift that was brought to us as one of the necessary results of the War. The systematic campaign for buying War Savings Stamps has for its object the financial benefits to the purchaser and assistance rendered the Government in using money to pay our War obligations and expenses.

Mr. Willis B. Magruder, of the Patent Office, is chairman of the Thrift and War Savings Stamp committee for the Interior Department.

The following persons have charge of the sales of War Saving and Thrift Stamps in their respective Bureaus.

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Secretary's Office | W. H. Robinson |
| Indian Office | F. H. Daiker |
| Land Office | S. H. Weeder |
| Bureau of Mines | J. L. Cochrane |
| National Parks | G. C. McClain, Jr. |
| Patent Office | A. D. Merritt |
| Pension Bureau | J. M. McCoy |
| Bureau of Education | J. F. Abel |
| Geological Survey | Miss H. V. Corey |
| Reclamation Service | Mrs. Ella W. Ballard |
| St. Elizabeth's Hospital | George W. Kreis |
| Howard University | E. L. Parks |

Begin a system of saving today. Make up your mind as to how many stamps you will buy each pay day and then see the representative in your bureau and tell him what you intend to do. He will see that you don't forget your resolution.

Cordially yours,

FRANKLIN K. LANE

SUGGESTED POLICY OF CONSERVING THE NATIVE FLORA OF
NATIONAL PARKS AND OF MAKING ALL IMPROVEMENTS
NATURAL AND HARMONIOUS WITH THE
SURROUNDINGS.

(Contributed by Marsden Manson, C. E., Ph.D., Mem. Am.
Soc. C. E., San Francisco, California.)

(1) The range of native flora in the national parks is both grand and beautiful. It affords all that is necessary, from the noblest trees to the most humble plants, to make them instructive and attractive.

In some selected and very accessible area, and around each hotel or stopping place, it is suggested that this range of flora should be completely represented, and every foreign species ruthlessly eradicated. In some instances forest weeds have been introduced and plants from remote regions brought in and cultivated to "beautify" the grandest spots on the continent, the native flowers of which afford all the opportunities for beautifying the grounds which the skill of man can ever properly utilize.

For instance, Yosemite Valley has many foreign trees and plants, and lacks the introduction of species native to the park and some of these are now, and have been for centuries back, perishing.

One of these species is represented by a single specimen which I nurtured by "surreptitiously" breaking the rules and destroying common shrubs and trees to give it more room and light.

(2) Hotels and houses, sign boards, etc., are of the Coney Island type of architecture instead of massive gray granite or other local stone. Bridges are of steel and wood instead of reinforced concrete masked by rough quarry faced stone. Sign boards are on a painted plank instead of on a rough hewn massive native boulder surrounded by native shrubs and vines with the arrow and names cut as if done in the stone age.

Cottages and other buildings should follow the suggestions as to hotels. Gray tiles, or in some instances a dark neutral should replace shingles or tiles of inharmonious colors.

In trees -- the disappearing and perishing yew or the California "nutmeg" are certainly more beautiful than the aillanthus from China or the black locust from Asia Minor, and in far better taste. The same is true of a dozen other species of trees and plants I could name.

PIGEONS WILL PROTECT FORESTS

(From AMERICAN FORESTRY, August, 1919)

The War, Navy and Interior Departments, according to information just received by the Manufacturers Aircraft Association, New York, are co-operating in the forest patrol. The idea of such a guard against timber fires occurred simultaneously to the Forest Service and to the air service of the Army. Now comes the Navy Department with the offer to establish pigeon lofts in the forest reserves and to provide the forest airplane patrol with carrier pigeons whose duty it would be to carry messages direct to home relief stations whenever a fire is discovered.

The pigeon branch of the Navy is expanding under the direction of Lieutenant McAtee, and recruits are now sought for this service, which is so closely akin to aviation that it is under the same general administration.

During the war there was no opportunity to train men for this important duty, but now a special school has been opened at Anacostia, D. C., and twenty enlisted men are receiving daily instruction in the training and keeping of carrier pigeons. At the same time these men have opportunity to put their learning to practical uses.

The pigeon branch of the Navy has 2,500 birds. Plenty are available for the forest patrol. Experiments are going on constantly in the effort to increase the efficiency of the birds. Pigeons took an important part in naval warfare overseas. It has been proved that pigeons can fly at a speed at least equal to that of a sea plane or flying boat.

- - - - -

MOUNT RAINIER

Construction has been begun on a powder house to store the TNT received from the War Department. A frame building is being erected 14 feet by 18 feet in size. The location selected as the most suitable is on the Tahoma Creek Trail, and as far from the main road as a truck can be operated.

Forest Fires

Mount Rainier suffered from forest fires during the month and from the excessively dry weather which prevailed in most of the parks. The air was filled with haze during much of the month from the smoke of fires in the vicinity. The Forest Service lookout on Anvil Rock reported that on August 31st the smoke of fourteen fires was visible from his station.

The Mazamas, the mountaineering club of Oregon, held their annual outing in Mount Rainier, camping on Mazama Ridge from August 3 until August 17. Their stay in the park was saddened by the death of one of their party, Mr. John D. Meredith of Portland, who lost his life while climbing Little Tahoma Peak. This peak had been ascended by but two men prior to this year and is considered a difficult and dangerous ascent. On August 4, Mr. Meredith and Mr. Lee Benedict, both of the Mazama party, left camp in the morning and climbed to the top of the peak, reaching the summit about 5:30 P. M. The descent proved to be slow and difficult. At 9:15 when they had made only the first part of the descent, on the east side of the peak, Meredith called to his companion that he was losing his nerve, and a moment later he fell some forty or fifty feet, and then rolled several hundred feet. It is probable that he fainted before falling. Death must have been instantaneous. Mr. Meredith was an overseas soldier, aged twenty-four years, and unmarried.

Director Mather arrived in the park on August 17. On August 19 he made an inspection trip to the north side of the park, in company with Mr. David Whitcomb, President of the Rainier National Park Company and Major Everett G. Griggs, Director of the company, and others, including the superintendent of the park. The party visited the Carbon River Ranger station, the terminus of the Carbon Glacier, Spray Park, and other points of interest on the north side. The trip occupied four days. The Director returned to Longmire Springs and Paradise Valley on August 24, and left the park the following day.

Travel

The total number of visitors for August, compared with last year, and also for the season to date:

| | August | Jan. 1. to Aug. 31 |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1918 | 18,286 | 35,447 |
| 1919 | <u>31,301</u> | <u>49,354</u> |
| Increase this year - | 13,015 | 13,907 |
| Percentage of increase | 71% | 39% |

Travel for the Labor Day period broke all records, the figures being as follows:

| | Cars | Persons |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Saturday, August 30 | 467 | 2,085 |
| Sunday, August 31 | 833 | 3,761 |
| Monday, September 1 | <u>114</u> | <u>529</u> |
| Total - | 1,414 | 6,355 |

The greatest demand for accommodation that occurred during the year was on the night of Sunday, August 31, preceding Labor Day. The number of visitors accommodated by the Rainier National Park Company on that date was as follows:

| | |
|--|------------|
| National Park Inn and Annex, Longmire Springs, | 433 |
| Paradise Camp | 311 |
| Paradise Inn | <u>485</u> |
| Total | 1,229 |

In addition to the above, more than 150 people spent the night in the lobby of Paradise Inn. The National Park Service secured from the War Department the loan of 500 blankets which were used by the Rainier National Park Company on this occasion.

The Knights of Pythias held their annual initiation at Alta Vista, above Paradise Valley, at sunrise on August 11th. About three hundred members attended the initiation.

The Brooklyn Eagle party visited Mount Rainier August 8 and 9.

The Travel Club of America party visited the park August 9-12.

Three hundred and twenty-nine members and guests of the National Editorial Association visited the park August 13 and 14.

A party of thirty Boy Scouts from Seattle camped at Paradise Valley from August 18 to August 25.

The Washington State Bankers' Association held a convention in the park from August 21 to 24. About four hundred and fifty members and guests attended the convention.

The first electric automobile to reach Paradise Valley made the trip on August 18. The trip was made by a demonstration car for advertising purposes.

Ascent of Mount Rainier

The guides of the Rainier National Park Company have taken twenty-three parties containing two hundred and nine visitors, to the summit this month. In addition to this number, about eight members of the Mazamas made the ascent, making a total of about two hundred and eighty-nine who have reached the summit during August, and about three hundred and fifty-eight for the season to date - the largest number reaching the summit in any season.

C R A T E R L A K E

Fires

Electric storms occurred on the 6th, 13th and 19th of August, starting a few small fires which were quickly brought under control. One fire in the forest reserve west of Union Peak got across the park line, but no damage was done as it was confined to snow brush on an old barn.

The season in Crater Lake has been very dry and the roads on the lower levels where the soil is light are considerably cut up and very dusty.

The Rim Road was cleared of snow and the first automobile of the season went around the lake August 3d.

The labor situation continues difficult . A number of school boys who were working in the park have now left to attend school, and with the scarcity of labor in the locality and saw mills paying a minimum wage of \$4.50 per day, it is becoming difficult to secure laborers.

Crater Lake Lodge.

Three fire escapes were installed on the Lodge during the month, and there are now ample means of escape in case of fire.

Travel

| | Visitors | Automobiles |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Travel for the month | 7,039 | 1,828 |
| " to date | 13,995 | 3,733 |
| " to same date, 1918 | <u>10,162</u> | <u>2,424</u> |
| Gain over last season | 3,833 | 1,311 |

August 11th the National Editorial Association visited Crater Lake. Including the drivers there were about three hundred and fifty in the party. Governor Olcott of Oregon, and Mayor Baker of Portland accompanied them.

Director Mather, accompanied Madison Grant and Charles P. Punchard, Jr., arrived late that same night. As all accommodations at the Lodge had been reserved for the Editorial Association, the Director's party had to use their sleeping bags, which they were fortunate to have with them.

August 16th the Travel Club of America, a party of seventeen, conducted by Charles C. Heyll, came to Crater Lake via Medford. They departed August 18th via Klamath Falls.

Y O S E M I T E

Fires

Yosemite has been very fortunate in the matter of forest fires, no fires of any consequence being reported during the month, in spite of the dryness of the season.

In August the road through Yosemite Village was surfaced with river gravel, approximately 210 cubic yards of gravel being placed on it.

The roads in the valley at the beginning of the season could almost have been called boulevards, but now they are badly rutted, the river gravel with which they are surfaced having decomposed rapidly under the unusually heavy travel. Superintendent Lewis states that the only final solution of the road problem in the Yosemite seems to be the paving of the roads. They are spending enormous sums for road maintenance and the roads are now in such bad condition that if they are not resurfaced at the beginning of next season, as they should be, it must certainly be done the following year. He suggests that in connection with any program that the Service may undertake looking toward securing a general appropriation for park road improvement, an item at least to start the paving of these roads should be given the most serious consideration in the near future.

In regard to the labor situation, Mr. Lewis states that it is uncertain in every respect but that it is particularly bad in respect to trail work, as it is almost impossible to secure competent men to go out into the mountains on that kind of work.

During August a stock of 170,000 fish from the experimental hatchery at Happy Isles were planted in the different waters of the park. They were rainbow and spotted trout and steel heads.

Contract was recently let to the Utah Construction Company for the construction of the main Hetch Hetchy dam, and it is understood that the contractor will take over the city's camp at Hetch Hetchy on September 1, and proceed with the work.

Insect Control

Insect control on a small scale was continued during the month of August by Mr. Patterson of the Bureau of Entomology, the work consisting principally of a study of the life and habits of the needleminer in connection with its activities in the Tenaya Basin and around the Tuolumne Meadows.

On August 7th an accident occurred in which a man named John Moore was killed by being struck by the loose end of a guy wire while engaged in taking down a gin pole.

SEQUOIA

Fires

A forest fire was started on the morning of August 18th along the southern border of Giant Forest about one and a half miles from the tourist camp, and never before within the memory of man has the wonderful Giant Forest been so threatened with partial or perhaps complete destruction.

The fire was discovered about 11.00 A. M., and within less than thirty minutes after the alarm was given all available men were on the scene, and by heroic efforts the fire was surrounded after having spread over ten acres.

The fire did but little damage other than to the Chimney Tree, which it practically destroyed. This tree is a sequoia twenty-four feet in diameter with its top broken off one hundred and seventy feet above ground. In some past time it was hollowed out by fire so that one might crawl through an aperture and look out through the top, which was fringed by green branches. This fire entered into the immense hollow of the tree, and drawn up through the chimney, it burned away the sides, leaving two charred halves as the remainder of what has been one of the objects of special interest to park visitors in the Giant Forest.

Fish

A consignment of trout was distributed and liberated in the waters of Sequoia as follows:

| | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|--------|---------------|
| August 28, | Middle Fork Kaweah River | 15,000 | steel-head |
| " | 29, Lower Marble Fork River | 8,000 | black spotted |
| " | 30, Lower Marble Fork River | 10,000 | " " |
| " | 30, Upper Marble Fork River | 5,000 | steel-head |

Travel

Total travel figures for the season are as follows:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Total travel with Transportation Company | 272 |
| " " , private | 20,429 |
| " " , trails, all sources | 2,004 |
| Grand total, people | 22,705 |
| " " private automobiles | 3,510 |

Wild Animals

Deer and bear are very numerous and quite tame.

The following letter has been received in the office at Washington:

"Gentlemen:

When in the Sequoia National Park this year, I picked a red snow flower.

Today I learn that I should not have picked that flower.

There were no signs anywhere and no one there told me - instead people all admired my pretty flower and no one even knew its name. This - the name - I learned by seeing it pictured in colors in a San Francisco store.

Please accept my sorrow that I picked the flower, and believe me me

Faithfully yours,
Astrid Kimball

September 5, 1919
From Casa Loma
Hope Ranch
Santa Barbara, California."

GENERAL GRANT

Total travel figures for the season are as follows:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Total travel with Transportation Company | 75 |
| " " , private | 18,221 |
| " " , trails, all sources | 354 |
| Grand Total people - - - - | 18,650 |
| " " private automobiles | 3,626 |

GRAND CANYON

Fires

Like her sister parks, Grand Canyon suffered from hot and dry weather during August, there being frequent electrical disturbances, but very little rainfall. Six small fires occurred, caused apparently by lightning but they were all extinguished before they had gained any considerable headway.

Camps

Two public camps were maintained during August, one near Grand Canyon village and one at Grand View, but no accurate check could be kept of the number of campers because of the lack of ranger service.

Water is obtained by these campers at Grand Canyon from the Santa Fe Depot, where a charge of twenty-five cents per day per family or party is made. As all the water has to be hauled by rail from Flagstaff, a distance of ninety-six miles, this charge does not seem unreasonable. Owing to the absence of water on the south rim, these are the only available camping sites. Later the superintendent intends to submit recommendations and estimates for catchment areas and cisterns to supply these and other public camps with free water.

Labor and Supply Markets

Owing to the distance from any large labor and supply markets, difficulty is being experienced in securing labor and supplies. It has been found necessary to bring men from Flagstaff, and to pay most labor \$4.00 per day.

Wild Animals

On the South Rim animals are apparently scarce. Reports from the North Rim indicate a large number of deer, some mountain sheep, and many lions. In a three day exploration trip on the North Rim a tourist reports having seen twenty "lion kills" - deer killed by mountain lions - and says few of these deer were used for food. This condition would indicate a large number of lions.

Because of the press of other business, it has been impossible for the superintendent to spare the time necessary for a trip to the North Rim. This visit is contemplated for the last week in September, at which time it is hoped to establish communication between Rims by the wireless telephone.

Travel

Automobiles entering Grand Canyon during August could not be checked because of the lack of rangers, so that only approximate travel figures can be given. The El Tovar management states that the travel for August 1919 slightly exceeds that for any similar period since 1915. Camping facilities are ample for the present, but all indications point to a great increase in travel of this sort next year.

| | | |
|---|-------------|-------|
| Estimated number of campers during August | 1200 | |
| People registered at hotel and camp | <u>3839</u> | |
| Total - | | 5,039 |

Visitors

Among the visitors at Grand Canyon during August were:

Mary Roberts Rinehart
Robert Sterling Yard
Civil Engineer George E. Goodwin

GLACIER

Fires

It being very dry in August in Glacier, all of the fires reported on July 31st continued burning throughout the month and in addition several new ones started, some of them developing into serious fires.

The labor situation in that vicinity improved a little so that it was not quite so hard to obtain fire fighters, but much valuable forest has been destroyed and some beautiful scenery made less beautiful. The south slope of Lower Two Medicine Lake suffered very much, the fire there immediately developing into a top fire by reason of the high winds, and getting beyond control. By August 31st this fire had burned over an area of about 9000 acres, 3000 of which are inside the park. The maximum crew engaged in fighting the Two Medicine fire was about seventy-five men.

The total cost of all fires in the park up to the present time is approximately \$30,000.00. It is believed that unless there is relief by rain in the near future the total cost of fires for this season will amount to from \$40,000.00 to \$50,000.00.

The only relief from the drought of the present season was experienced between August 1st and 5th, during which time a rainfall of .894 inches was recorded.

Fish

A total of 201,000 trout fry were planted in lakes and streams on the east and west sides of the park during August; they consisted of black spotted advanced fry and rainbow trout fry.

Travel

Travel fell off from the 8,827 tourists of July to 6,901 tourists for August. The decrease was probably due for the most part to the forest fires and the poor atmospheric conditions resulting not only from the fires burning within the parks but also from smoke blown in from the many fires around it.

A slight decrease was noted in the number of tourists entering by private automobile at both the Belton and St. Mary entrances. Road conditions were not so good during August, due to the extremely dry season. The accounts of the fires raging in the park were exaggerated, so that many tourists were deterred from visiting the park.

Among the visitors to Glacier in August were Mr. LeRoy Jeffers, Secretary of the Bureau of Associated Mountaineering Clubs of North America; Mr. Horace M. Albright, Mr. Theodore Naves, editor of the Washington Star; and Professor Walter A. Stafford, of the University of California.

On August 6th, Mr. John Kendrick Bangs visited the park. He delivered a lecture in the auditorium of the Glacier Park Station on "Devastated France".

The Brooklyn Eagle Party arrived in Glacier August 2. While there they were entertained by talks by Mr. Albright, Superintendent Payne, Professor Standley, who is making a study of the flora of the park, and who addressed them on that subject; and by Miss Bassett, a member of the party, who spoke on the geology of the park and the effect of glaciers. Mr. Davidson, a Canadian, told of the bad stretch of road between Babb and the Canadian boundary and of the cost of putting it in passable condition. The members of the party immediately took the matter up and subscribed \$1120.00 to make the needed repairs.

The Flower Lady

The Glacier Park Hotel Company secured the services of Miss Gertrude Norton of Salt Lake City, to gratify the desire of tourists to know the wild flowers. She spent four weeks at the Many-Glacier Hotel, identifying flowers which the tourists brought to her and taking parties out on wild flower expeditions. Her work was very popular and she was kept busy.

On August 6th, Robert Singer, a sixteen year old boy of Evanston, Illinois, swam across Lake McDonald between Lewis's Hotel and Kelly's Bay. The distance was a mile and a half and was covered in an hour and five minutes. As the water is very cold, this was quite a feat.

YELLOWSTONE

Fires

The weather conditions in Yellowstone were unusually hot and dry during the month of August so that the forest fires were unusually bad. The situation was not relieved until August 31st when there was a heavy rain, which helped conditions both inside the park and around it.

In fighting the fires in the Yellowstone, the Service was badly hampered by the fact that most of the available labor in the northwest was employed by the Forest Service in fighting big fires in western Montana and northern Idaho. They are still short of labor in the Yellowstone, but the rains are subduing the forest fires outside the park, thus releasing men for road construction work. The road crews in the Yellowstone are to be commended for fighting the fires inside the park without demanding the high wages paid outside for fire fighting. They had forty-four laborers hired especially to fight fires from August 17th to August 31st.

Fish

As a means of conserving the supply of fish in Yellowstone Lake the camping and hotel companies were prohibited by an order effective July 20th from catching fish in the park for the use of the hotels and camps. A total of 5,327 pounds of native trout were caught for supplying the hotels and camps during the season - most of them in June and July, when the fishing was fairly good. The fishing was not good during August unless people took the trouble to leave the roads and go to places where the waters had not been constantly whipped by travelers.

In August some black-spotted trout eggs were shipped out of the park, and in addition 571,800 trout fry were planted in small streams adjacent to Yellowstone Lake.

The Greater Yellowstone Project

In almost every case tourists who visited the extension area were enthusiastic over the possibilities of developing this region as a part of the park, and expressed a willingness to help advance the interests of the project in every feasible way.

But on the other hand the people of the Jackson Hole continued their fight against the extension. They held a meeting at Jackson on August 25th to which they invited the Governor of Wyoming. The Governor invited Superintendent Albright; and Commissioner Clay Tallman of the General Land Office was also present.

During the month Mr. W. C. Gregg, of Hackensack, New Jersey, made a trip into the extension area and took what were probably the first pictures of the headwaters of the Yellowstone, a stream flowing from an enormous glacier near the Continental Divide. The people who traveled through the Upper Yellowstone country have become very much interested in the extension.

Wild Animals

The wild animals were in excellent condition throughout the month and there was plenty of good forage for the elk, deer, antelope, and mountain sheep. But owing to the drought a hard winter for the wild animals is expected. The superintendent is trying to get all the hay possible, but thus far it has been hard to secure and the prices have been exorbitant. They are also cutting all the available native grass in the park which is suitable for feed. An attempt was made to get bids for hay shipped into Yellowstone from Minnesota and other western states, believing they could ship it in for less than they could buy it in the neighborhood, but few bids have been received. It has been very dry in the Jackson Hole country and grave apprehensions are entertained for the elk in that vicinity. The hay crop is very short there.

A Yellowstone Bear Story

The bears are always a great attraction to all visitors around the hotels and camps, but one young black bear has carried off the palm. He had climbed up a tree to a knot hole about ten feet from the ground to steal a supply of bread crusts that some red squirrels had brought from the automobile camp and stored there. He put his head into the knot hole but alas, when he was ready to withdraw it, he found himself held fast, and all his violent efforts to free himself were in vain. There he had to stay until he was chopped out. About fifty people gathered around to watch the performance, and the bear was finally rescued without injury to himself or to the rescuer. Fortunately there was a limb at a convenient place below the knot hole so that the bear could rest his weight on it, or he would have been strangled to death early in the game. So frantic were his struggles that he lost his balance several times and turned completely over. In order to protect the chopper, it was necessary to hold the bear's hind feet with ropes.

It should have been a very shamefaced little bear that was finally released from his uncomfortable position, and if it didn't completely cure him of stealing, this experience should at least teach him to beware of knot holes that aren't of godly size.

An Unusual Accident

An elderly man, a member of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce party, stumbled and fell into Prismatic Lake on August 16th. He was wet to the neck and was burned somewhat, but not dangerously. He was able to travel in an ambulance and left with the party in a private car on August 18th. Prismatic Lake is quite large and while it is very hot in the center, it is, of course, cooler around the edge where the accident occurred.

Travel

Travel to the park was unusually heavy during the month, all records for August and for the season to date having been broken. The year 1915 has been the record breaker heretofore, 51,895 people having visited the park that season. But it can no longer claim the record, 56,231 visitors having toured Yellowstone this season at the close of August.

4,410 private automobiles entered during August 1919, carrying 16,668 persons; the total for August being 25,171 visitors.

In August of 1918, 2,170 cars came into the park, carrying 8,166 persons, and the total number of visitors was 9,665.

The season's travel will exceed 60,000.

Visitors

Among the visitors to Yellowstone during August were:

Huston Thompson, Federal Trade Commissioner

Walter L. Fisher, Former Secretary of the Interior

William Hamilton Osborne, writer for the Saturday Evening Post

James Dorrance, writer for the Red Book and Munseys

Louis W. Hill, of the Great Northern Railroad

H. A. Noble, of the Glacier Park Hotel Company

LeRoy Jeffers, of the Associated Mountaineering Clubs

Famous PlayersLasky Company, taking moving pictures

The United States Chamber of Commerce party and the

Governors' party - about twenty in each party.

Park-to-Park Tours

The Transportation Company in Yellowstone now hands cards to its passengers carrying the sign of Yellowstone Park (a Yellowstone bear) and of Glacier Park (a mountain goat), and advertising the Yellowstone-Glacier automobile trip as "Geysers to Glaciers"; 365 miles to Glacier Park. Automobiles leave Mammoth Hotel, Yellowstone, for Glacier Park Hotel, Glacier, Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30 A. M., arriving Helena at 6:30 P. M., and Glacier Park Hotel 7:00 E. M. second day, driving 193 miles the first day and 197 the second. The fare is \$35.00 including war tax.

New Entrance to Yellowstone

The September number of the Colorado Highways Bulletin reports that public spirited citizens of Riverton, Wyoming, have organized a company with a capitalization of \$50,000 to build a thirty-five mile strip of the Wind River Road between Riverton and Jackson Hole, which will afford a new route to the southern entrance to Yellowstone National Park.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Fires

In Rocky Mountain there were several small fires during August, but they did no material damage to timber or other natural conditions. The fire hazard during August was less than earlier in the summer, because of the heavy rains the first part of the month.

Roads

The road to Lyons and Longmont, by way of the Middle St. Vrain, which was put out of commission by the disastrous cloud-bursts on July 30th, is still closed to travel. It is expected, however, that this road will be opened within the next few days, at which time the road down the Big Thompson will be closed to permit of double tracking and other extensive improvements.

Work on the Fall River Road is progressing very satisfactorily considering the shortage of labor. It is expected that this road will be completed the early part of next summer.

Wild Animals

More deer than usual at this season have been seen in the neighborhood of Longs Peak. Five deer were seen near Thunder Lake, an unusual record for Wild Basin. A few mountain sheep were seen above timber line in Glacier Gorge. There is abundant evidence that black bear are now in Meeker Basin. Grouse are fairly abundant. Several kinds of small birds have been unusually conspicuous, flocking together for fall migration.

The little fawn which was separated from the herd and run down by two young men attending the YMCA conference, and which has since been cared for by Superintendent and Mrs. Way, is now well and happy.

First Airplane in the Park

On August 8th, A. M. Lendrum and I. B. Humphreys made the first airplane flight from Denver to the Rocky Mountain National Park. The flight was successful in every way, and was made in fifty minutes.

Travel

Travel increased in the Rocky Mountain National Park during the month of August. Up to and including August 31, a total of 14,025 vehicles and 66,151 passengers, actual count, had entered the park through the Longs Peak and Estes Park entrance. The count misses approximately

twenty per cent, due to persons coming in by way of the Devil's Gulch, or over the regular routes after the checkers have gone off duty. The figures given above do not include the Wild Basin entrance, or the Western Slope or Grand Lake entrance. Last year, for the corresponding date, the grand total of travel showed 10,756 vehicles and 51,051 passengers, an increase of approximately 35 per cent, by actual count, this year over last. During the months of July and August the weekly average was in excess of five thousand through the Estes Park and Longs Peak entrances. The record weeks for the summer were the first week in July, with a count of 1,757 vehicles and 8,061 passengers, and the last week in August, with a count of 1,242 vehicles and 6,687 passengers.

The lack of hotel accommodations has prevented thousands of people from visiting the park this season. Many of the hotels have kept a record of the number of people turned away from lack of room. This list totals 10,487 for the Longs Peak and Estes Park entrances alone, while approximately three thousand have been turned away at Grand Lake since June first.

M E S A V E R D E

Mr. Thomas Rickner, superintendent of Mesa Verde National Park, reports that the heavy rains of July made it necessary to have the entire length of the road in the park graded and dragged during August. The roads are now in good condition.

Travel

Tourist travel was very good until the latter part of August, when the number of visitors dropped. Mr. Rickner attributes this falling off to the railroad troubles. The number of people visiting the park in August was 934, as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Tourists in private cars | 814 |
| " with transportation companies | 102 |
| " in wagons | 11 |
| " on horseback | 6 |
| " on foot | 1 |
| Total ----- | 934 |

From the Colorado Highways Bulletin for September:

"As the Bulletin goes to press many delegates from seventeen states had arrived at Durango, Colorado, for the convention of the National Old Trails Association. Shandish L. Mitchell, secretary of the Automobile Association of Southern California, was in the chair for President J. M. Lowe, of Kansas City, who was East on business. Mitchell had piloted a party of several cars from Los Angeles by way of Gallup,

New Mexico. The visitors were to be entertained later by a trip into Mesa Verde National Park."

W I N D C A V E

The weather continues to be hot and dry at Wind Cave, which is favorable for tourist travel, but which is hard on the range and watering facilities.

Travel

Mr. Roy Brazell, superintendent of Wind Cave National Park, reports that there were 2,457 visitors to the Cave during August, 448 coming with the transportation concessioner and 2,009 by private conveyance. So far as he has been able to ascertain this breaks all records for the number of visitors conducted through the Cave in any one month. This unusual number, he thinks, is due in part to the advertising campaign of the Hot Springs Commercial Club, and the entertainment it has offered to visitors in that part of the Black Hills.

Camping parties are quite numerous in the park. A large proportion of the tourists carry camp equipment and do not seek accommodations at hotel.

P L A T T

Superintendent Ferris, of Platt National Park, decided to build a road, the foundations of which were laid by a former superintendent, Col. A. R. Green. The road is almost completed and is now in use as a thoroughfare. In constructing this road a good clear water spring was found, which has been walled up and cemented, thus giving the park another spring.

Almost all the parks report unusually hot and dry weather during August. Platt, however, reports a precipitation during the month of 7.24 inches, which exceeds the record rainfall for any other month since the local weather bureau was installed a year ago. The total rainfall since the first of the year is 29.92 inches.

The number of visitors to the Bromide Park during August totaled 29,325. These visitors took from the springs a total of 4,795 gallons of Bromide water, 514 gallons of Medicine, and 1,144 gallons of Sodium-chlorid. The only water shipped during the month was 135 gallons of Sodium-chlorid water. No Bromide nor Medicine waters were shipped during the month because of the scarcity of these waters and the number of visitors who had to be supplied.

H O T S P R I N G S

Dr. Parks, Superintendent of Hot Springs Reservation, reports that the roads on Hot Springs, West and North Mountains were gone over in August and kept grassed. All the lawns on the Reservation were given special attention, and the flowers, shrubbery and hedges were kept well trimmed and cultivated, and the grass neatly trimmed. All this makes the reservation present a very attractive appearance, and is a feature commented on by visitors.

The splendid patronage has continued during the month of August, which has necessarily added to the duties of the office in supplying the wants of the large number of people who came there for information.

Government Free Bathhouse

The average number of persons bathed daily at the Government Free Bathhouse during August was 345, which was a considerable increase over the average number bathed daily during the month of July.

T U M A C A C O R I

Mr. Frank Pinkley, custodian of the Tumacacori National Monument, in southeastern Arizona, reports that he has just made an inspection trip there from Florence, where he is located as custodian of the Casa Grande National Monument. He made the trip in the new Ford truck lately purchased for Casa Grande. He found the roads in the southern part of Arizona in fair condition, no particularly bad spots but the surface gone from some stretches so that twelve to fifteen miles an hour was all one could make in comfort. He says the range around Nogales looks well and the cattle he saw were in good condition.

Two prospectors camping in the vicinity of the mission have offered to put down a well on the monument grounds and their offer has been accepted. The present well is at some distance and is in rather bad condition. It will be a convenience to visitors to have fresh water on the grounds.

Mr. Pinkley also reports that the Tumacacori Mission ought to be roofed this year.

Z I O N

Fires

Zion National Monument has escaped any serious fires in August. One fire was discovered, caused by campers leaving burning coals, but it was extinguished before any damage was done. The weather is very dry and springs are getting low

Game

Deer have been seen on the valley floor by some of the visitors. The deer are becoming more plentiful each month owing to the excellent grazing in the canyon. The superintendent thinks it would be a good idea to place some elk in the valley - they would be an attraction to visitors, and grass would be available for their needs.

Travel

During August the Farm Bureau had an excursion to Zion. The number of visitors to the Monument during August was 670, as compared with 92 visitors in the same month last year.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Miss Isabel Story, secretary to the Assistant Director of the Service, has gone to Yellowstone National Park for a vacation.

Mr. John Harvey, Chief of the Mails and Files and Appointments in the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, visited Hot Springs on August 15 and 16.

Mr. P. C. Standley, of the National Museum, has returned to Washington after spending the summer in Glacier National Park, collecting material for a handbook on the flora.

Mr. W. H. Peters has been designated acting superintendent of Grand Canyon, the latest member of the national park family, which was created February, 26, 1919. He arrived at the Canyon August 11th and took over the administration of the park. Mr. Peters is an engineer of experience. He was transferred to the Service as Assistant engineer at large from the Engineer Department of the War Department, May 6, 1919. His first assignment in the Service was Yosemite, from where he was detailed to Grand Canyon.