



# Grist



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## A MAN AND HIS STORY

Ours was a small group, but a good cross-section of touring Americans—a New York banker, a family from Texas, a college group on tour, an Iowa farmer and his wife, a professor from a New England college, and a few others. We were never introduced, and I never once, as I recall, spoke with any of them. Yet we felt we knew each other before we completed our tour of England's Parliament. We knew each other through our guide, one of the most skillful interpreters I have known.



Mr. Stagner

An elderly man of fine stature, he reflected dignity and sincerity. Once a member of the working staff of Parliament, he was but a few years retired. He knew the place well—the people, the traditions, the history associated with this important place—he made it all come alive.

There were no histrionics, no forced humor, no artificial attempts to be dramatic. His commentary was a conversation between friends—we were not an impersonal batch of tourists, but people; individuals. In his commentary he addressed each of us, personally, at least once. He did so not just to be chummy, but in a way relating this place of English History to our own background and our own national tradition.

The youngsters, and there were several from about six through the teens, were no problem for him. He talked their language. In fact, much of his interpretive story was conveyed to us through the questions and remarks he directed to the children.

His story was accurate and as complete as our time permitted. I am sure that within ten minutes he knew just how far our interest and background would permit him to lead us, and his presentation was tailored accordingly.

The climax came when our guide, in quiet sincere voice, recalled London during the Blitz. He was in this very building the night it was bombed. Losing consciousness amid concussion and falling debris, full of deep despair, his last thought was

"This is the end of England". Some hours later he fought for consciousness, destruction, halocaust, ruin all around. Then, suddenly, a sound—the chimes of Big Ben. The tones dispelled all despair and brought assurance, hope, and promise. Something solid still stands—England will win out! Right will prevail!

His whole narration was a fine demonstration of what makes a good interpreter. First, he knew what he was talking about. He knew its depth, and he knew a great deal more about Parliament and all of its associations than he would ever be called upon to use for any group under his leadership. He was personally identified with the place, and he cherished all that it signified to him, his guests, and to his country. He reflected sincere conviction, but was humble about it.

He knew how to communicate, but, moreover, he knew his people. And, we were people—individuals—not an anonymous bunch of tourists. He knew us better than we knew each other—our expectations and interests, and our probable level of knowledge of English history and tradition. Starting at our level, he led us to a level of appreciation approaching his own.

Howard R. Stagner

## SPEAKING OF SIGNS THATSPEAK—

There is more than one way to skin a cat, so we are told, and the Indiana farmer who had trouble keeping vandalizing picnickers out of his lower 40's down by the brook, learned this fact the hard way.

Polite signs at first, then threatening signs simply furnished the picnickers and campers with kindling. It was then he devised his unique 'cat-skinning' sign—

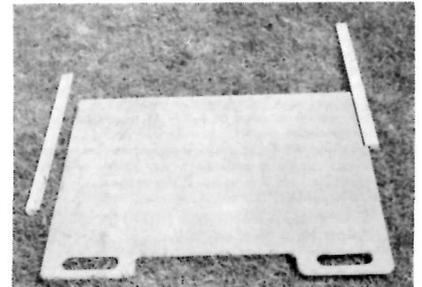
### CAUTION!

Trespassers are warned that there are *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, Leporidae at large in these woods. If you are bitten, consult a physician as soon as possible!

That did it—no more trouble with trespassers. We wonder how many who fled in terror took the trouble to look up '*Oryctolagus cuniculus*, Leporidae' and find that it was a common rabbit?

## STONE-AGE FILING CABINET

Handling and storing large flat mineral specimens containing hardened bird and animal tracks and other fragile matter is easier if you use sliding trays. These shown in the photographs were designed by Park Naturalist, William C. Bullard of Death Valley National Monument and made in the park carpenter shop, reports Alfred P. Schwarz, Administrative Assistant.



The trays are constructed of 3/8 to 1/2-inch plywood with cut-in pulls. The size of the shelving governs the tray size. The runners are 1 by 1 1/2-inch hardwood rabbeted to accommodate the trays and fastened with wood screws to the metal frame of the shelving. The trays rest directly on the steel shelf, but the runners hold the tray and prevent it from tipping when being inserted or removed.

## CONSERVATION BULLETIN AVAILABLE

Paul E. Schulz, NPS Regional Naturalist at Richmond, reports that "Conservation Education", a bulletin published by The Conservation Foundation, 30 E. 40th St., New York 16, N.Y., is available for the asking. Issue No. 7, Winter of 1963, is of importance to all interpreters—especially those working with children's programs—and this 4-page leaflet should be in their possession.

## PARK PRACTICE

## Grist

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*... the largest and finest purpose of the parks is to provide and to preserve regions where people can get away from the marring grind of big cities and the dullness of small towns, and make friends with nature as handiwork of the Creator.*

-Henry van Dyke

FOR CAMERA CLOSE-UP,  
FLIP THAT LENS!

Park naturalists will be especially interested in a recently reported method of taking close-up pictures of such small objects as flowers, large insects, and mineral specimens without the use of elaborate and expensive extra camera equipment. All that is required is a single lens reflex camera with interchangeable lens—a fairly common type. "You don't need any special attachments," says Keith A. Trexler, Chief Park Naturalist at Lehman Caves National Monument, Nevada, "nor do you need to do any special figuring."

The secret, Keith explains, is to take the camera's standard or wide angle lens and reverse it. Excellent results are possible by simply holding the lens against the camera body, although it is more convenient to use a coupling (variously known as a macro-, micro-, or reversal adapter

and available from camera supply houses).

Explaining the system, Keith says: "One of our 50 mm. lenses has a normal focusing distance of 1.8 feet. Using it at that distance, we can just fill the viewfinder length-wide with a 12-inch ruler. By reversing the lens, we see just about 2 inches of the ruler at a viewing distance of about 3 inches."



Reversing the 50 mm. lens mentioned reduces the "subject to image ratio" from nearly 8 to 1 down to about 1.5 to 1. With a 35mm. lens reversed, the change is from about 6 to 1 down to 0.7 to 1 — a magnification. This means that if you use a 35 mm. lens reversed, an object 0.7 inches long is reproduced as 1-inch long on a standard 35mm. film frame.

The report on this Keith Trexler system was sent in to GRIST by Edward E. Countreman, Administrative Assistant.

## PLASTIC PAGE HOLDS SLIDES

Ever hear of anyone filing 2x2 slides in standard 3-ring binders? Jack E. Boucher, Senior Photographer in the Director's Office, National Park Service, Washington,

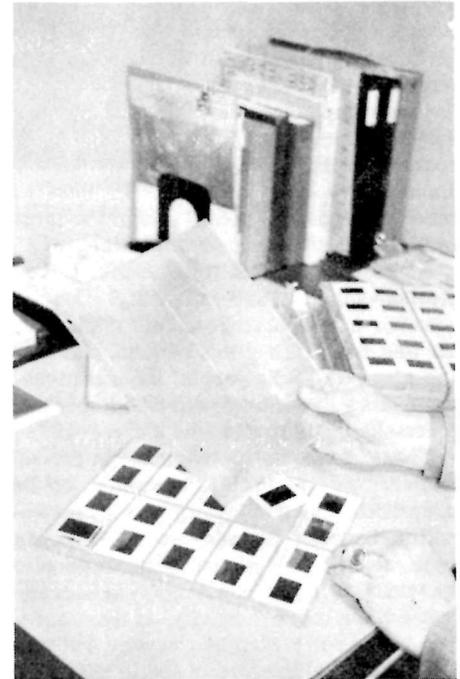


files them that way. Jack discovered that this method of filing color transparencies has many advantages over other, older methods.

For example; 20 slides—the number that fits the pockets built into the 8 1/2x11-inch transparent plastic page—may be examined at any one time, as Jack is doing in the first photo, without danger of getting dirt or fingerprints on the delicate emulsion. The page of slides is simply removed from the binder and held in front of a light source.

Another advantage lies in the ease with which the binders can be cataloged and stored, with the assurance that the slides are going to remain clean, easily identifiable, and readily accessible.

The color transparencies are easily inserted and removed from the pockets placed in 4 vertical rows of 5 pockets each. Openings to the pockets are on the sides of each. The other photograph shows one of the plastic transparency pages before slides have been inserted. A binder with a number of pages inserted is open in the background.



The Brenner Photo Company, 933 Pennsylvania Ave., N. W., Washington 4, D. C., developed the plastic pages which sell for 50 cents each, or 40 cents each in gross lots. If ordering, ask for Brenner No. 8511 Slide Page.

PROJECTION SCREEN FROM  
WALL OR WALLBOARD

It is often hard to set up a projector and screen so that the image projected will just fill the surface, being neither too big nor too small. The solution used by Richard G. Prasil, Regional Research Biologist, National Park Service, Western Region, is to project the pictures on to a wall or large white-painted piece of wallboard.

To prepare a wall to serve as a screen, fill up all holes and cracks and then paint

with a flat white latex-based paint.

Where a wall becomes the screen, you can use a projector with almost any focal length lens normally available, or you can use two projectors having lenses of different character, without worrying about overlap to cause the image to "spill over."

In outdoor situations, a sheet of masonite painted with white latex-base paint will work well. If the edges and back of the sheet are waterproofed with an oil paint, varnish or other coating, it will not warp in damp locations.

**STOCKS OF PAPER VISIBLE  
YET PROTECTED**

For those who have quantities of hand-outs—leaflets, mimeographed programs or song sheets, trail maps, registration forms, etc.—there is always the problem of storage until further quantities are needed for distribution. You can wrap them, but that only means they must be rewrapped each time after a small quantity is removed; you can put them in boxes, but the boxes must be opened to see how many sheets remain, if any are left at all and quite frequently the last few are taken without anyone making note of the fact so that they can be reordered.

James E. Yeo, recently appointed NCSP Circulation Manager for Park Practice, had as one of his first assignments the inventorying and storage of the hundreds of packages of Park Practice DESIGN sheets and GUIDELINE pages. He wanted to have some kind of visible storage arrangement for each sheet, yet he didn't want the sheets exposed to dust, dampness

or other damage since they're too expensive to have reprinted needlessly.

So, he came up with a simple, but very effective idea. He cut a slit about an inch wide in the edge of the storage boxes, from the bottom to the top about in the center. Over this slit, both inside and outside the box, he fastened clear cellophane tape. Next, he counted the number of sheets to the vertical inch in a pile of DESIGN and GUIDELINE pages, transferring this information, in the form of horizontal lines, onto a "Ditto" master, and ran off a quantity of sheets, one of which he pasted beside the previously cut slit on each of the boxes. Lines were located so as to intersect the slit at a point where 50, 100, 150, 200, etc. sheets would show in the window slit. The index number of the DESIGN sheet or page was noted, for identification purposes, on the right side of the gauge sheet.



Now he has a visible inventory with existing quantities easily noted without the necessity of moving and opening stacked boxes, or unwrapping and rewrapping packages, and the job of ordering reprints in ample time is facilitated.

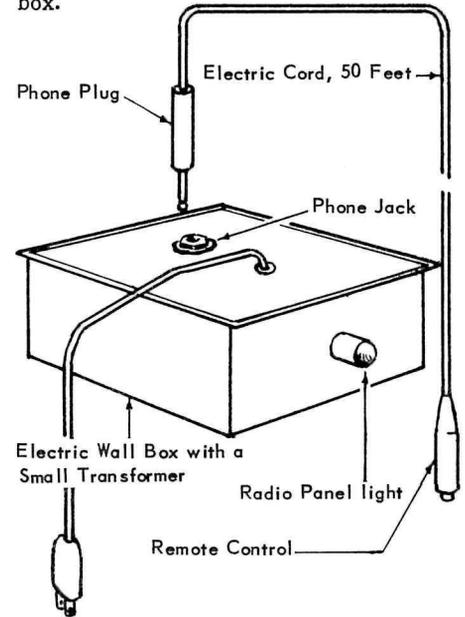
Interpreters stocking leaflets, and those storing quantities of forms will find this method a useful and time-saving one.

**SIGNALLING SLIDE PROJECTIONIST**

Those annoying cricket clicks, buzzer sounds, finger snaps, or words like "O.K., George, change it!" are not necessary when a lecturer can signal his projectionist with the silent light device shown here. Theodore H. Schaefer, Jr., Assistant Director of the Toledo, Ohio, Metropolitan Park Board, suggested the inexpensive gadget illustrated.

A simple electrical wall box, square or octagonal, will house the radio panel signal light and the phone jack to provide a quick connection. This box can be mounted on the projection stand, or merely placed on a nearby chair or table. A long cord bearing a button-switch at one end and a

phone plug at the other provides the connection between the lecturer and the light box.



Both the phone jack and the signal light can be set into place in the box either by using one of the standard 'knockout' holes provided, reducing size as necessary with washers, or by using a solid cover on the box and drilling holes of the precise size desired. The latter method is best.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Harry W. Pfanz, Park Historian at Gettysburg National Military Park, has a suggestion for a fast way to produce odd bits of information for visitors.

How many children did Col. Smith, who lived here from March to June, 1776, have? What's the largest wall-eye ever caught in this lake? How many years did it take that little stream to make that big hole?

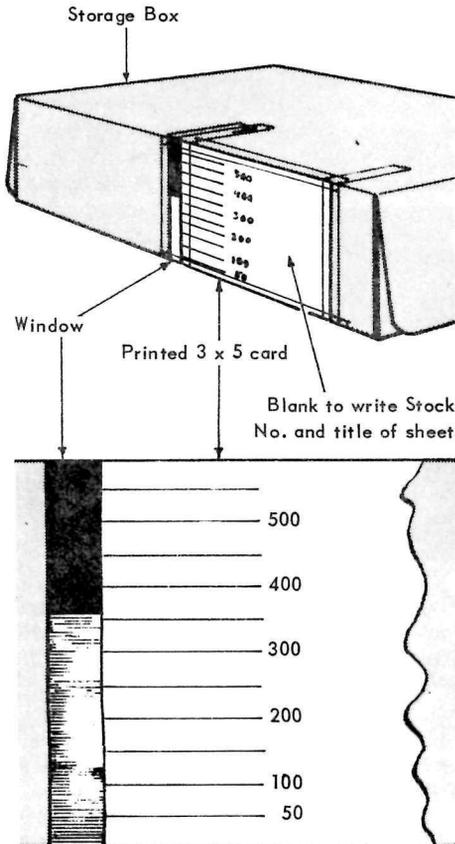
To have the answers to such questions about your park at your finger tips, just type a note on a 5 x 7 inch card and place it alphabetically by subject in a file. Then the next time someone asks for an unusual bit of information, just turn to your subject card file and come up with the answer.

**PAINT POINTERS**

Keep a can near at hand in which to place your brush when you have to leave the job temporarily. In the can put a mixture of half linseed oil and half turpentine. This will keep the brush soft and ready to use when you return, saves the time of cleaning out the brush, and, too, the mixture can be used to thin your paint, if needed.

When finished painting for the day, you can prevent a skin from forming on your paint by pouring a small amount of turpentine into the can, enough to cover the top of the paint. Be sure the can lid is tightly in place.

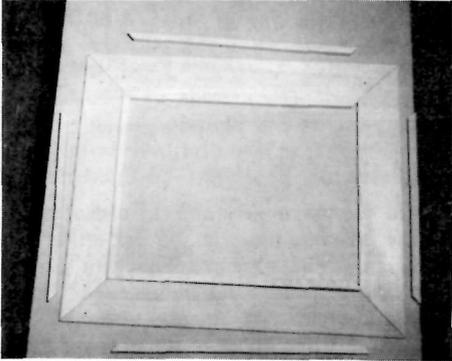
The suggestions come from Superintendent C. H. Determan, Lake Shetek State Park, Minnesota.



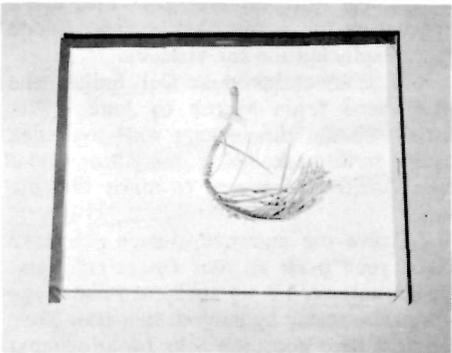
## IMPROVED TECHNIQUES FOR LAYMAN'S HERBARIUM PREPARATION

Paul F. Spangle, Staff Curator at the Western Museum Laboratory, National Park Service, offers a few refinements in the preparation of layman's herbarium which was first described in GRIST, Vol. 1, No. 2, 'way back in 1957.

Many Southwest Region, NPS parks and monuments have developed these refinements, Paul reports, in their making of these important and useful interpretive devices. Here, then, are a few items he points out as reducing preparation time, waste through standardization, and which will result in more professional appearing mounts.



The primary refinement is the construction of a jig to provide for easier and faster fastening of the plant mount to the frame, and an accurate control for standardized mount size.



The second refinement is the use of colored MYSTIC tape to bind the mount which covers the mount staples and provides the flower color guide without painting the frame strips.

The attached photographs show how framing strips can be cut in bulk, yet each final frame will be of an exact size as previous mounts by using the jig. The jig also provides rigidity to the frame when the plant mount is stapled to it. An acetate covering of .020 thickness has proven to be adequate protection for the mount. Stapling with 3/16th- or 1/4-inch staples has proven to be adequate (mounts in use for five years at Carlsbad Caverns were still in good condition, Paul says).

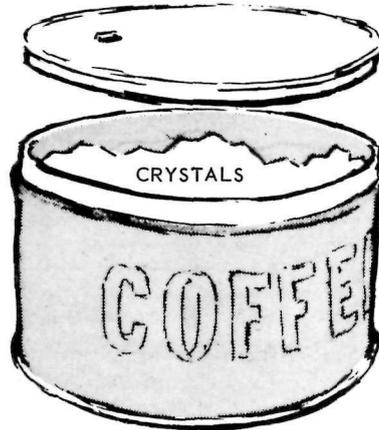
The jig itself is a picture frame of 1/8-inch strips fastened to a base and measured 8 x 10 inches on the interior. Strips of 1/4-inch, cut to form a mitered corner, are fitted into the frame, the plant mount

is placed face down on the strips and is then stapled. The mount is then removed from the jig and the acetate cover sheet is fastened to the frame. The final step is to bind the frame with tape colored to match the flower color category.

## HANDLING "MOTH FLAKES"

Paradichlorobenzene crystals (sometimes just called "moth flakes") are used by naturalists in herbarium and mounted insect displays. Keeping the crystals at hand can be almost as much trouble as spelling that chemical name, but Donald M. Black, Naturalist at the Natchez Trace Parkway stationed at Tupelo, Miss., offers two ideas for such handling.

Don keeps the crystals in an old vacuum top coffee can, leaving the top off when the herbarium or insect collection needs protecting fumes while in storage, but closing the can tightly at times when he has the collections out in the laboratory for work.



An easy way to keep such crystals in a shallow insect tray is to put them in a small cardboard box such as those in which photographic slides are mailed. Holes are punched in sides and top of the box to allow free circulation of fumes in the storage area. Such a box can be held in place in a corner of the tray by three insect pins.

## NEW USE FOR AN OLD LID

Hold it! Don't throw away those garbage can lids after the cans rust out. Look what Donald M. Black, Naturalist, Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, Miss., has done with them. Don's active imagination is always at work for him, finding new uses for salvaged materials (see his suggestion above in this column for using discarded coffee cans).

In the summer at Natchez Trace, they invert a lid, put it on a support, add a rock or two for weight and attractiveness, and there you have it, a very acceptable birdbath. A discarded bucket, buried deeply enough to hide the handle makes a satisfactory support. Paint will make it attractive in appearance.

In the winter, place the lids, handle up, on three stakes driven into the ground

IN THE WINTER



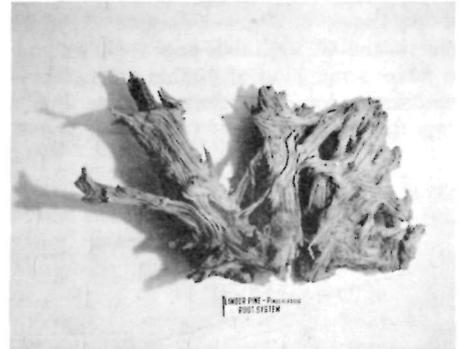
IN THE SUMMER

for support, weight them with bricks tied to the handle, then, to keep the snow out, drive some boards into the ground or pile some brush on the windward side.

## NATURE DECORATES

### VISITOR CENTER LOBBY

Make the most of native materials to decorate what might otherwise be an uninviting, desolate visitor center lobby, says Franklyn N. Hambly, Chief Park Naturalist, Craters of the Moon National Monument, Idaho.



Following a suggestion of Superintendent Floyd Henderson, the park force dug some root systems from the lava flows, sand blasted them, and placed them attractively in the lobby of the visitor center. One, as you see in the photograph, was made into a planter. Visitors were so interested and curious about them that signs were made, providing answers to their questions. So, an interpretive purpose was served as well as a decorative one.

# Speaking of Interpretation -

With this issue of GRIST we inaugurate a new feature section titled as above. In light of a general recognition of the growing importance of interpretation in park work, such a feature section can serve a very useful purpose in bringing new concepts, ideas, and important information to the attention of all whose efforts are directed toward interpretation's fullest development.

Interpretive personnel in the National Park Service are being asked to contribute liberally to these columns so that "Speaking of Interpretation - -" will become an important intra-Service medium of exchange. Of equal importance is our need to get items from all other sources—State, county, and municipal park agencies, other Federal bureaus and offices, universities and colleges, private organizations and individuals—in fact, from any group or person having something worthwhile to report to fellow interpreters everywhere within the reach of this paper's circulation. Thus, it can become a broad inter-Service medium for the exchange of valuable knowledge.

The methods by which contributions of material reach these pages are not nearly so important as is the necessity that such material continue to get here. Items may, therefore, be sent to the Chief, Park Practice, National Park Service, Washington 25, D.C. either directly or through organizational channels. Photographs, sketches, or diagrams, if desirable to clarify a story or item, should be included. All contributions of material will, of course, be fully credited to the source.

## MAMMALIAN-AVIAN TERMINOLOGY

Regional Naturalist Natt N. Dodge, NPS Southwest Region, offered some animal names in "Interpretive Suggestion No. 16" back in February, 1961. These were, for the most part, based upon a list prepared by Park Naturalist Francis H. Elmore of Glacier NP, although additional items were added to it from a list which had been prepared by Dr. R. H. Manville, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDI, Washington, D.C. Dr. Manville, by the way, is the author of Specialized Mammalian Terminology, a paper originally presented in Vol. 40, No. 10 of the Turtlox News for October, 1962, since released in reprint form.

Park people, especially naturalists, are frequently asked for the names of males, females, juveniles, and groups of various creatures—and not always those to be found in the immediate vicinity, either. The list following should be helpful in this respect. It is by no means complete, nor is it intended to be. It includes those names we believe to be most often mentioned.

Animal	Male	Female	Juvenile	Group
antelope	bull	cow	calf	herd
ape, monkey	---	---	infant	troop
ass	jack	jenny	foal	pace
bat	---	---	batling	flock
bear	boar	sow	cub	sleuth
beaver	---	---	kit	colony
bison	bull	cow	calf	herd
bovines	bull	cow	veal	herd
buffalo	bull	cow	calf	troop
camel	---	---	foal	train
canids	dog	bitch	pup	pack
caribou	bull	cow	calf	herd
coyote	dog	bitch	cub	pack
deer, red	hart	hind	fawn	herd
donkey	jack-ass	she-ass	colt	pace
dove	---	---	squab	flight
elephant	bull	cow	calf	herd
elk	bull	cow	calf	gang
fish	---	hen	fry	school
fox	fox	vixen	cub	pack

goat	billy	nanny	kid	herd
giraffe	bull	cow	calf	herd
grouse	cock	hen	chick	brood
hawk	jack	---	---	cast
hippopotamus	bull	cow	calf	herd
herring	---	---	sardine	school
hog	boar	sow	shoot	sounder
horse	stallion	mare	foal	herd
kangaroo	buck	doe	joey	troop
leopard	---	---	cub	leap
lion	tom	lioness	cub	pride
llama	---	---	kid	herd
manatee	bull	cow	calf	school
musk ox	bull	cow	calf	herd
otter, sea	---	---	pup	pod
partridge	cock	hen	chick	covey
peafowl	peacock	peahen	---	muster
peccary	boar	sow	shoot	sounder
pheasant	rooster	hen	poult	nide
porpoise	---	---	cub	school
pronghorn	buck	doe	kid	herd
quail	cock	hen	chick	bevy
rabbit	buck	doe	kit	warren
rhinoceras	bull	cow	calf	crash
seal, (most)	bull	cow	pup	trip
sheep	ram	ewe	lamb	flock
swine, dom.	hog	sow	shoot	drove
walrus	bull	cow	calf	pod
whale, killer	---	---	cub	pack
whales, (most)	bull	cow	cub	pod
wild hog	boar	sow	pig	herd
wolf	dog	dam	cub	pack
zebra	stallion	mare	colt	herd

## SANTA ROSA ISLAND STUDY

Francis R. Holland, Jr., Historian at Cabrillo and Channel Islands National Monument, California, is the author of a well written, informative paper titled: "Santa Rosa Island: An Archeological and Historical Study".

First published as a feature article in the Journal of the West, Vol. 1, No. 1, July, 1962, it has been released as a pamphlet in response to popular request. Copies may be obtained by addressing the Journal, 1915 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles 18, Calif.

Mr. Holland's scholarly study discloses his intimate knowledge of his subject and

gives a good indication of the great amount of time which he has spent in research. The Study would make an important addition to the reference material of anyone concerned with the Channel Islands and the history connected with the coast of Southern California.

## BIOLOGICAL SOURCE MATERIAL

Paul E. Schulz, Regional Naturalist, NPS, reports in Southeast Region Interpretive Notes that biological source material of excellent quality for interpretive presentations is available in the form of American Institute of Biological Sciences Curriculum Study booklets. These are known as BSCS Pamphlets published by D. C. Heath & Co., 285 Columbus Avenue, Boston 16, Mass. Not all titles are suitable for park use, but many are. The 1962-1963 series includes:

- Guideposts of Animal Navigation, Dr. Archie Carr
- Biological Clocks, Dr. Frank A. Brown, Jr.
- Biomechanics of the Body, Dr. E. Lloyd DuBrul
- Blood Cell Physiology, Dr. Albert S. Gordon
- Courtship in Animals, Dr. Andrew J. Meyerbriecks
- Metabolites of the Sea, Dr. Ross F. Nigrelli
- Marine Biology, Dr. Dixy Lee Ray
- Bioelectricity, Dr. E.E. Suckling

These 36-page pamphlets are well written, attractively illustrated and are rich in up to date material and stimulating ideas. The subscription price is \$2.25 a year for the 8-issue series. The material is copyrighted. Single copies are 48¢ each, postpaid if covering check or money order is enclosed with the order.

## NATURALISTS' GROUP FORMED

Over 70 people representing National, State, and local park and interpretive programs have formed the Association of Interpretive Naturalists—"for the advancement of education and development of skills in the art of interpreting the natural environment as an instrument of service in the public welfare."

President Harold E. Wallin, Staff Naturalist for the Cleveland Metropolitan Park District advises that several membership categories are available for naturalists, outdoor education and recreation interests. Further information can be secured by writing: John D. Kason, 2048 Standard Bldg., Cleveland 13, Ohio. The Association has recently published its first Newsletter, and copies can be obtained by writing the Editor: Stanton G. Ernst, Park Naturalist, Brookside Nature Center, Wheaton, Maryland.

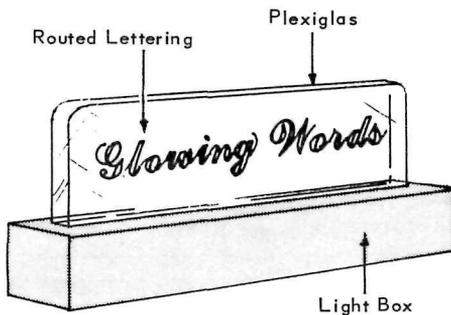
## GLOWING SIGNS

Some plexiglas, a router, and a shop-made light box will provide distinctive glowing signs especially good for inside use, as in museums or lodge lobbies, says Popular Mechanics magazine. Such signs may also be used in sheltered outside locations, such as on porches.

The lettering desired is routed into the surface of the plexiglas, preferably quite deep. Sign sizes may be varied to meet requirements, but it is best that the distance from the light box to the outer edge of the sign not exceed a foot. The length may be as long as you wish to make your light box.

The light box, of sheet metal, or of wood lined with sheet metal, should be fitted with brackets for fluorescent light, end sockets for a "lumline" bulb (such as is often used in showcases), or for several standard light bulbs. The box should have sufficient ventilation to prevent excessive heat build-up inside it, but ventilation holes or louvres should not be on the top where the slot for the plexiglas is placed. The slot should provide a snug fit for the plexiglas both to hold the sign firmly and to prevent light from passing on the outside of the plexiglas.

Like glass, the plastic plexiglas will carry light from any edge, such light being reflected from routed or etched indentations. Therefore, the routed letters appear to glow as if radioactive.



## SWINGING SIGN

It is sometimes advantageous to have signs so mounted that they can be swung into position to be read by vehicle drivers, and at other times to be swung out of the way. This is particularly true in snow country because of changing road conditions.

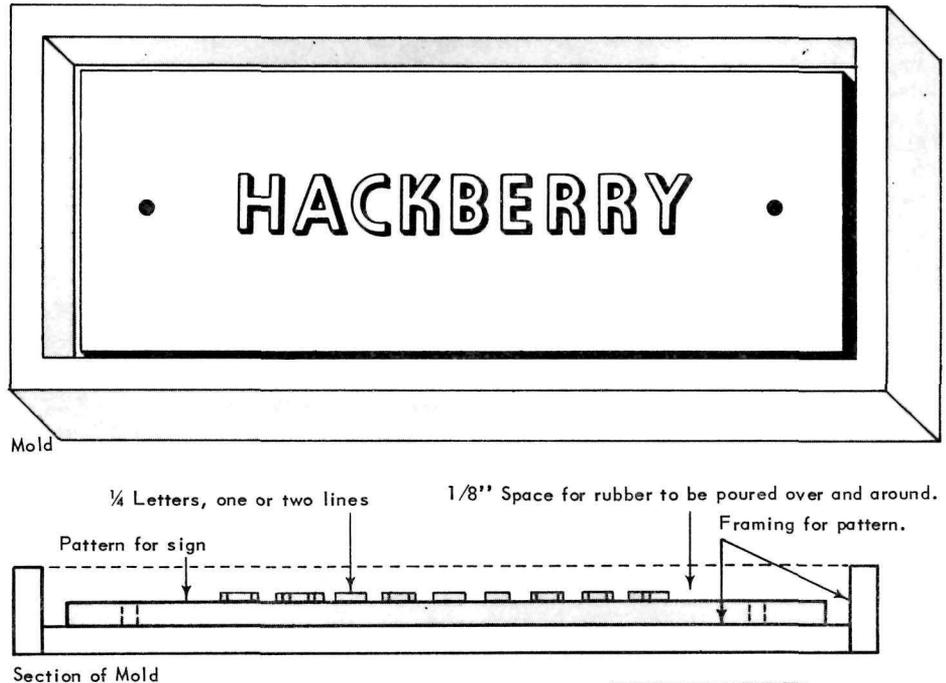
Such a sign post has been worked out very simply by Harold O. Nelson, Maintenance Foreman, Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado. A pipe, large enough in circumference to allow the sign post pipe to fit into it, is rigidly mounted in the ground with about 6 inches extending above the surface. With the sign post pipe inserted and the sign in position so as to be read by traffic, a hole is drilled directly through both sides of both pipes. Through the sign post pipe only, a hole should then be drilled straight through

## CAST WHITE CEMENT SIGNS

Using latex molds, you can make up numerous duplicate signs from a white cement mixture, says Russell A. Gibbs, Superintendent of the George Washington Birthplace National Monument in Virginia. The wire stand to hold up the finished sign may be molded right into the sign itself; or holes may be provided to allow

wiring the sign to a bush or tree. Russ uses the signs extensively to provide identification of park flora.

As the illustration shows, a basic pattern sign must be prepared first. Rubber paper cement may be used for sticking letters and the frame pattern to the plywood backing. Liquid latex rubber is poured into the sign pattern and dries into a mold. When the mold is ready, the white cement mixture may be poured into it to shape and harden.



both sides at a quarter turn from the first drilling. This makes four equidistant holes in the sign post pipe. A pin, which may be locked in place if desired, holds the sign in whichever position is needed.



To change the position of the sign, it is only necessary to remove the pin, give the sign post pipe a turn to the second set of holes and reinsert the pin.

*There's a line on the ocean which you can cross and lose a day. There's one on the highway where you can do even better.*

—The Washington Post

## EASY TO READ ALL-WOOD SIGNS

All-wood signs are sometimes hard to read except when the light hits them from side or top to provide shadow contrast on routed or raised letters.

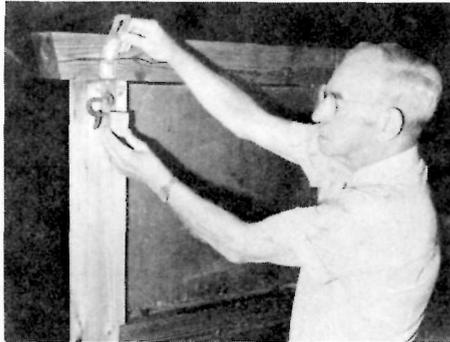
Robert W. Werts, Assistant Park Supervisor at Torrey Pines State Park, Calif., uses the following method to overcome this problem and get an extra durable sign in the bargain. He cuts the signs from red-wood planks, sizes and pretreats them with



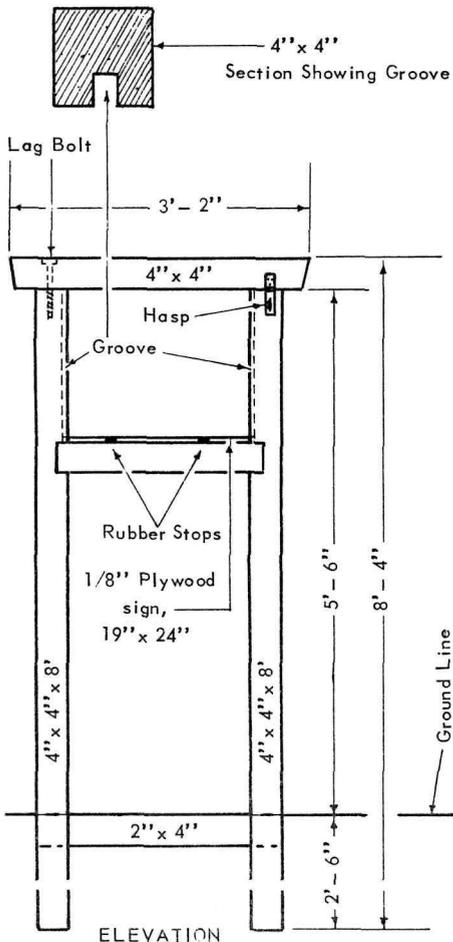
Houston's No. 3 wood waterproofing, then routs the letters and fills them with exterior black enamel. The entire surface is then sanded, the edges finished and the sign mounted.

Roger says the signs hold up well for a long time without any attention.

INTERCHANGEABLE SIGN ASSEMBLY



There's no more tacking of cardboard seasonal signs to trees or posts in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County



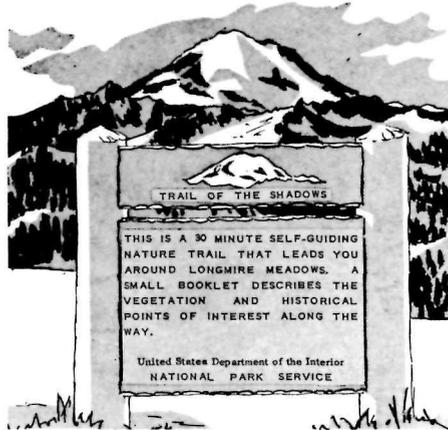
Illinois. Glenn Wiedemann designed and Louis Sana built this sturdy assembly, which protects all seasonal and special bulletins—fire warnings, wildflower information, swimming rules, etc. Sign sizes have been standardized to permit interchangeability. Edgar P. Romilly, Director, In-Service Training, is shown fastening a lock to secure the top 4x4, which pivots away to admit signs to the grooves.

SUGGESTS SYMBOL FOR EACH PARK

Give your park a "trade mark", urges Earl W. Estes, Park Naturalist at Mount Rainier National Park. "I suggest each park develop a symbol to be used with all interpretive devices," he writes. "The symbol should be a feature of outstanding significance in the area, one that will attract the visitor to the sign, exhibit, or structure."

As Earl points out, such a symbol will tend to tie interpretive facilities together in a given area, even where they cover different fields such as geology, ecology, history, archeology, etc. The symbol can be used on routed wooden signs, cast aluminum signs, wayside exhibits, doors and signs of visitor centers, and so on. It acts as a guide for the visitor, suggesting that he stop at this point and investigate the interpretive story that is presented.

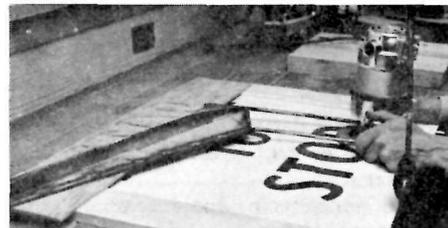
As would be done with a corporate trade mark, the symbol can also be mentioned in park literature, with the explanation that it will appear on all interpretive devices in the park.



To illustrate what he had in mind, Earl turned in a sketch similar to that presented here, showing a typical symbol.

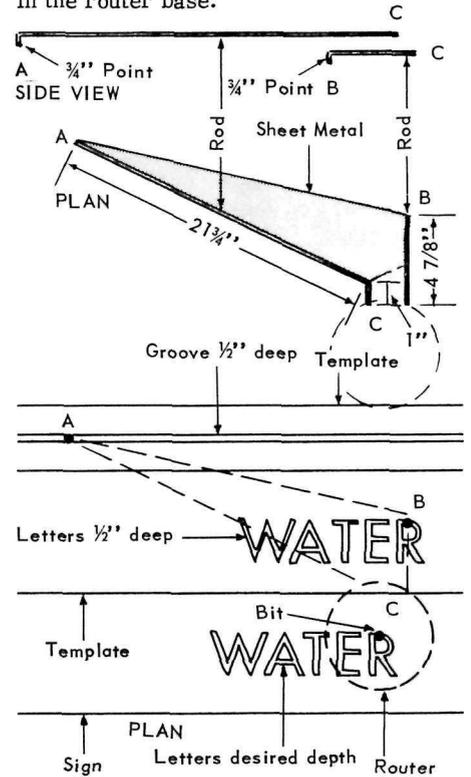
ROUTER GUIDE FOR SIGN DUPLICATING

Rapid duplication of routed signs may be achieved by preparation of a master template and the use of a shop-constructed guide device for the router (see sketch). William S. Chapman, Jr., a Sign Maker Helper in Yellowstone National Park devised the guide which was discovered and written up by Richard C. Miller, Personnel Officer in Yellowstone.



The template is made up of plywood and consists of the routed words plus a straight groove parallel to the line of lettering.

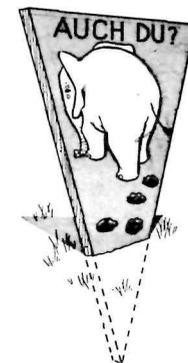
As the sketch shows, the guide has two arms, one of which rides in the straight groove of the template and the other of which follows the lines of the letters. The arms are attached to a connecting sheet-metal web, and are also fitted into holes in the router base.



Bill and Dick recommend the guide and template system because it saves time and money, eliminates hand stenciling of each sign, reduces mistakes by guiding the router, and allows even an inexperienced person to do an acceptable sign routing job.

UNIQUE FOREIGN SIGN

By way of Austria and the magazine "Town and Country Planning" (England), we have a sketch of a sign that has a unique way of telling the visitor to "Keep off the grass" (see illustration). The "Auch Du?" when translated from the German means, of course, "You, Too?"



It was our good friend Harold S. Wagner of Akron, Ohio who dug this one up and sent it in to us, suggesting that such signs have much more appeal than do the signs which start out with 'Don't . . .'

The sign is triangular and easily placed. The background is light green, the elephant is white, and the footprints are dark green to indicate a shadowed depression. The lettering can be yellow or other bright color in contrast.

This method of telling people to keep off the grass would be right at home in zoos, particularly children's zoos.

