

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

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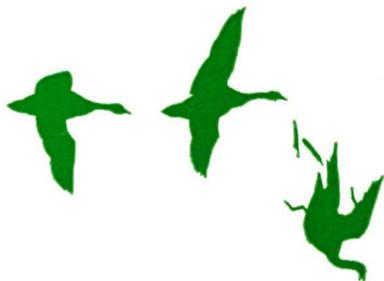


DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT—Page Nine

APRIL-JUNE

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NUMBER 81



“What monstrous folly, think you, ever led nature to create her one great enemy—man!”

JOHN C. VAN DYKE.



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NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, formerly National Parks Bulletin, has been published since 1919 by the National Parks Association. It presents articles of importance and of general interest relating to the national parks and monuments, and is issued quarterly for members of the Association and for others who are interested in the preservation of our national parks and monuments as well as in maintaining national park standards, and in helping to preserve wilderness. (See inside back cover.)

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Jackson Hole with its backdrop of towering Teton peaks must be saved from future haphazard commercial development by being maintained in its present unspoiled condition for all time to come.

George A. Grant

JACKSON HOLE

A COURT DECISION AND H. R. 1292

THE outcome of court proceedings held last August in Sheridan, Wyoming, to determine the legality of the Presidential Proclamation establishing Jackson Hole National Monument on March 15, 1943, was made known publicly on February 10 of this year. Judge Kennedy, in the District Court of the United States for the District of Wyoming, issued on that day a memorandum stating that, "This court feels that it has a limited jurisdiction to investigate and determine whether or not the proclamation is an arbitrary and capricious exercise of power under the Antiquities Act. . . ." The memorandum states further that, "This seems to be a controversy between the legislative and executive branches of the government in which, under the evidence presented here, the court cannot interfere." Thus, a question that has been in the mind of the public for many months is concluded.

It appears now, that at long last, the Teton County proponents of the Jackson Hole National Monument are going to make themselves heard above the din of "Thief! Thief!" which opponents have been crying for two years.

This new turn of events in the Jackson Hole controversy first came to public attention when the Salt Lake *Tribune* on January 4th, published an article telling about a request made by a group of Teton County citizens. Here is the request: "We, the undersigned, the taxpayers of Teton County, request the county commissioners to reimburse Teton County for the money they have expended fighting the Jackson Hole Monument and not to use any more county funds for or against same." Signed: William Wallace, Ben F. Goe, Cecil Jensen, H. C. Richards, and Jess Wort.

The newspaper article stated that a spokesman for these taxpayers had said that

they were prepared to go into the courts, if necessary, to determine whether or not county officials have authority to spend the taxpayers' money for such purposes when "a large number" of taxpayers feel that the Jackson Hole National Monument is a great asset to the country.

Among other things, the group let it be known that, "With the recent statements in the press that Frank A. Barrett (U. S. Representative from Wyoming) will again introduce his measure, and the announcement that the Committee for the Preservation of Teton County will again go into action, the Jackson businessmen have indicated that another committee will be formed for the preservation of the Jackson Hole National Monument, so that the misleading statements put out locally by paid publicity agents will not go unanswered."

Since that information was given out by the Jackson businessmen, Congressman Barrett, true to his word, reintroduced, on February 12, his bill to abolish the national monument. The number of the bill is H. R. 2109. (See The Parks and Congress on page 30.)

More than a month earlier, on January 9, Congressman J. Hardin Peterson, Chairman of the House Public Lands Committee, introduced H. R. 1292 "providing for payments to the State of Wyoming and for rights-of-way, including stock driveways, over and across federal lands within the exterior boundary of the Jackson Hole National Monument, Wyoming."

Speaking about his bill on the floor of the House, Congressman Peterson said: "I have introduced H. R. 1292 for the purpose of clarifying the whole situation. . . . It is my sincere belief that H. R. 1292 will protect the rights of existing property owners and will reimburse the county affected, for the

(Continued on page 26)

DAMS FOR THE POTOMAC

PUBLIC HEARINGS on the flood control and power production project proposed for the Potomac River and its tributaries by the War Department's Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, are planned to be held in the auditorium of the Department of the Interior on April 3.

For the benefit of the hundreds of people who have become members of the National Parks Association during the past year, we shall review the Potomac problem by quoting in part from a notice published in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for April-June 1944:

"Under authority of the Flood Control Act of 1936, the Corps of Army Engineers is working on plans for the construction of dams for flood control and power production on the Potomac River. . . . Three of the (fourteen) dams are proposed to be located in the gorge near Washington. The lower one would be placed a few hundred feet below Chain Bridge. The lake that it would create would flood the scenic valley and the historic Chesapeake and Ohio Canal for a distance of seven miles. This part of the canal is now administered by the National Park Service for recreation. A second smaller dam would be placed at Wide Water on the canal; and a third dam would come at a point two miles above Great Falls. The falls would not be flooded, but the flow of water over them would be altered."

The notice also stated that hearings were to be held on the proposal in late spring. Those hearings never were held.

Opposition to the proposed project by local and national conservation organizations, civic groups and chambers of commerce has been nearly unanimous, and is steadily growing. In the District of Columbia, opposition is based upon the contention that the river, together with its wooded shores and palisades and the canal, should serve, in its present scenic condition, the higher use to the nation's capital as a recreational area.

Speaking of the dam plan in the January-February issue of *Outdoor America*, the

national Izaak Walton League says, "The revival of this proposal is typical of the high-handed procedure which should be vigorously opposed by every citizen who believes in his or her right to determine the desirability of such a proposal."

One of the most recent sources of opposition was learned on March 8, when the Washington newspaper *The Evening Star* published an article saying that "Residents of the Shenandoah Valley extending from Charles Town, West Virginia, to Front Royal, Virginia, will fight 'to the last ditch' to prevent postwar construction of a dam that would flood an estimated 22,000 acres of fertile farm land in the area. . . . Effects of the proposed dam, according to valley residents who were interviewed by a reporter from the *Star*, would be to submerge some of the area's finest bottom crop land, reduce tax returns to Warren and Clark Counties in Virginia and Jefferson County in West Virginia, submerge some schools and roads and create a health menace from mud flats."

When the Army Engineers proposed this project in the 1920's, the National Parks Association vigorously opposed it. Opposing it again in 1944, the Association's Board of Trustees adopted the following resolution:

"The Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association has heard with regret of the revival of the project to place several dams on the Potomac River near Washington for purposes of flood control. We believe (1) that commercial developments, especially when they are intended to serve distant communities, should not be encouraged in the capital city area; (2) that flood control can be adequately taken care of by true flood control dams up stream; (3) that the existing natural beauty and historic sites of the valley, including the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal now managed for recreational purposes by the National Capital Parks, should not be marred. We therefore again vigorously oppose this project."

PEOPLE OF THE EVERGLADES

Photographs by DEVEREUX BUTCHER

THE Seminoles are a conglomerate of several Florida Indian tribes, with an admixture of negro.

During the early part of the past century, there was the usual conflict between whites and Indians that accompanied settlement in other parts of our country. Attempts by the U. S. Government to enforce treaties, and an effort to have the Seminoles move out of south Florida, precipitated the Seminole War in 1833. The war ended when it became apparent that, secure in their Everglades retreat, the Indians could not be entirely subjugated. They are the only unconquered Indians in North America.

Centers of Seminole population today occur chiefly on two reservations. The largest, comprising 600 individuals known as the Miccosukee Indians, is the Big Cypress Reservation some forty miles north of the northern border of the proposed Everglades National Park. The Miccosukees also inhabit small villages along the Tamiami Trail where some profit is realized through

sale of native handicraft to tourists. The smaller reservation, consisting of 125 individuals known as the Cow Creek Indians, is the Glades County Reservation a few miles northwest of Lake Okeechobee.

Formerly the Seminoles hunted, trapped and traded in plumes, furs and skins. Today, cattle raising is pursued by some, while frog hunting and truck farming provide other sources of income.

Protection of the proposed park area by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (see page 13) probably will have little effect upon the Indians except that the area will be closed to hunting. In the event that the park is created later on, it is likely that the Seminoles would acquire the advantages of Indians in western parks. There might result a stimulation in the sale of their handicraft, and the Seminoles themselves might become an attraction of the park. Certain problems such as the Indians' custom of burning the Glades would have to be solved by officials of the Park Service.

The village of the Cow Creek Seminoles.

From a kodachrome





This is a view in one of the Tamiami Trail villages of the Miccosukee Seminoles. The shelters, known as "chickees," consist of a simple raised platform on which the Indians sleep and keep their possessions. The roofs and also the walls, if any, are thatched with fronds of the palmetto palm. Each family owns two or more shelters, one of which is used as an eating place, and the others for sleeping.

Here is a Seminole girl of the Miccosukee group. She is one of the many who do bead-work and sell it to tourists. Working in Florida's winter sunshine, she keeps the cool breeze off by hanging a piece of fabric across the uprights of her shelter. The hair-do of the Seminole girls is a feature that always arouses interest among tourists because of its extreme dissimilarity to hair arrangements of white women.

A mother and child of the Cow Creek Seminoles pose for the camera in their palm shaded village. Unlike the other women shown in these pictures, this one does not have her hair arranged in the usual way. The Glades County Reservation to which she belongs, is not strictly within the Everglades, but is located on a flat prairie that is broken by dense groves of palmettos that rise abruptly from the floor of the prairie and give a striking appearance to this subtropic landscape.

The Seminoles travel through the Everglades in their dugout canoes which they propel by a pole. These canoes are made from a hollowed out cypress log. The bow of the canoe is fashioned to part the 'glades saw grass in such a way as to prevent occupants from being cut by its sharply toothed edges. Although the men wear trousers of plain material, their shirts are of the patterned material that is a leading characteristic of the Seminoles.

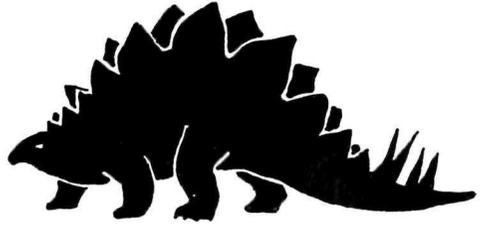




Two Seminole belles of a Miccosukee village on the Tamiami Trail pose to show off their gay attire. The heavy strings of beads which give a pyramid effect to the shoulders, are as brightly colored as the intricate and varied patterns of their skirts.

A Visit to Dinosaur Quarry

By DANIEL B. BEARD



ABOUT two months ago a young man who walked with a slight limp visited the Dinosaur National Monument. He wore an aviator's uniform with the careless ease of one who has been in the service for a long time. Early last summer this young officer was a member of the crew of a flying fortress somewhere in the Pacific. A Japanese fighter came after them and the fragments of a shell hit the flyer in the leg. He was recovering from his wounds when he visited the Dinosaur Quarry.

We wondered why this officer, fresh from the thrills and the horrors of war, should come out from Jensen to see our temporary museum and quarry. It was a far cry from the war. Perhaps that was the reason. When asked, the flyer said: "Oh, I thought this was as good a chance as any to look around the country." He left unsaid that he wished to see something more of the nation that he had been wounded trying to defend.

The officer limped up the trail to the Dinosaur Quarry and was shown where tons of fossils had been removed since 1909. We explained to him the plans of the National Park Service for a permanent museum in place, how the dark sandstone cliff with dinosaur skeletons in place would make one wall of the museum. Also, we told him how some fossils had already been un-

covered, but had to be temporarily covered up again "for the duration" awaiting the erection of the museum because water might seep into the crevices, freeze, and break the bones loose. He recognized the possibilities and volunteered that such an undertaking would require plenty of time and infinite patience.

Next, we hiked down the narrow trail to the ledge where chips of bone, several yards of vertebrae, and numerous other fossils are exposed in the rock just as nature left them. Back at the office and temporary museum again, we showed the officer some half finished drawings and told him of plans for fixing up the temporary museum this winter.

It was learned that this young veteran had completed two years of college in the East, although he had not taken any geology. But like more than ninety percent of the visitors, he was very much interested in Dinosaur National Monument, the half-finished story it had to tell, and its full picture for the future. Perhaps we were a little too apologetic to this visitor. We need not have been because he said upon leaving, "You've sure got something here. You take care of your job and I'll see if I can't take care of mine so your fellows can do yours."

THE COVER—This is a view looking south in Dinosaur National Monument showing the canyon of the Green River at the junction of the Yampa River. The Yampa enters the canyon from the left below the foreground, while the Green River flows out of the Canyon of Lodore, entering at lower right. Pat's Hole and Echo Park are names that have been given the location which is in Colorado. The monument extends westward across the Utah line, and it is in the western end of the monument that the famous dinosaur quarry is situated. The highly scenic canyons are not yet accessible to the general public. There has been talk of flooding these fine canyons by building dams.



Courtesy Carnegie Museum

These are the bones of a huge *Diplodocus* that roamed over Utah many millions of years ago. Shown here in the process of being removed from the quarry face, they now stand assembled in the U. S. National Museum in Washington, D. C.

People often need something like that to awaken them.

Things that we take for granted, like the scenic and scientific resources of this Uinta Basin, are unique and interesting to visitors from all over the world, whether they are learned professors from great universities or shopgirls from Chicago. It is a universal, human fallacy to appreciate only those things that are far from home. For instance, relatively few native New Yorkers have taken the trouble to visit the Statue of Liberty. Yet, a family from Vernal out to see New York City would certainly go there and be thrilled by the proportions of that

famous statue and its significance. Similarly, there are people living at Livingstone, Montana, who have never been to Yellowstone National Park some forty miles away. People come all the way from distant lands to this country just to see that wonderland.

Some people ask why there should be all this interest in dinosaurs that have been dead and gone for millions of years. Well, did you ever pick up a sea shell in the hills of the Uinta Basin? Did you ever come across a weirdly eroded canyon or find a fossil bone embedded in the rock? If so, and no doubt you have, has it never caused you to ponder upon what this familiar land-

scape once looked like? Sea shells are indisputable evidence that a sea was once here. In the Middle Ages they used to think that shells on dry land were created by a so-called "plastic force" which made the shells out of something or other right where they were found. We have come a long way since those days.

If we might isolate one word that has meant most to the progress of mankind it is the query "why." By wishing to know why, civilized man has become different from the lower animals that take life, death, and their environment as a matter of course. It is only man who wants to know, and in learning, opens up new vistas and appreciations. If the average person could spend a few days at Dinosaur National Monument listening to the questions asked by the visitors, he would recognize how much the query "why" is used.

The drive from Jensen to the monument always arouses interest. Why are the rock strata all twisted and tilted? That is one of the first questions of visitors, or they may put it in the form of a statement something like this: "There must have been a terrible volcanic eruption (or earthquake) around here to cause all this."

When it is explained that the tilting of

the rock masses was a very slow process, not associated with volcanoes, new ideas form. It was a great fold in the earth's crust, the visitors are told, with its axis near the northern margin of the Uinta Mountains. Like dominos, the rock strata lean against the core of the Uintas. Thus, the once buried sandstone containing the invaluable dinosaur fossils was tilted into view.

From the top of the hill at Dinosaur Quarry, all of this is quite evident. One can even follow the ten foot thick exposure of dark sandstone that contains the dinosaur fossils as it dips and rises again in the distance. The visitor can also see other strata—sediments laid down in a Cretaceous sea, the older rocks of the Triassic, and the weird, yet obvious, tilting to the crest of Split Mountain. Here is a geologic cross section all set up by Mother Nature herself. Surprisingly little explanation is needed to enable people to grasp its significance.

Upon viewing the dinosaur fossils in place at Dinosaur Ledge just east of the quarry, someone in the party of visitors is bound to raise a question on why so many bones occur in one place. We return to the temporary museum and examine a map which shows the exact location and shape

The size of this dinosaur thigh bone is revealed by comparison with the men who are carefully lifting it from the steeply inclined face of the quarry by means of block and fall.

Courtesy Carnegie Museum



of every bone taken from the quarry by the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh. It is enlarged from a map made by Dr. LeRoy Kay. Drawings are also studied that illustrate how the mounted skeletons in museums are placed together from the parts found in the quarry. By this time there are many ideas being formed among the visitors. Could there have been a terrible disaster? Was there a flood? How about a volcanic eruption such as the one that buried Pompeii? Did all the dinosaurs die at once?

We do not know all the answers yet, perhaps we never shall. From bits of information or evidence, if you will, gathered in much the same way that Dick Tracy picks up his clues, part of the story has been pieced together. There must have been a great river that flowed through a somewhat tropical land. It carried plenty of sediment, because the bones are found in sandstone—not volcanic ash—that rules out the volcano theory. By the way that the skeletons were deposited, we deduce that the river flowed from west to east. Why? Because the long tails of dinosaurs must have been swept with the current and pieces that were broken off must have been carried downstream where they were found.

The dinosaurs did not all die in one great debacle. Many have been found in later formations elsewhere on earth. Perhaps, when they died here, their bodies were carried down by floods (such as the spring freshets of today) and became lodged among the sand bars of the ancient river. There they were covered up by sand rather quickly. Hence, we find an abnormal number of specimens here. As someone once said, it is a veritable Noah's Ark of that period. All sizes and shapes have been unearthed—huge ones, little ones no bigger than a cat, those with armored backs, flesh eaters, vegetarians. Also in this unique deposit are remains of ancient turtles, crocodiles, fresh water shells, fossil leaves, bits of primitive palm-like plants (cycads), and even fragments of petrified wood. So,

gradually the story takes shape, and has meaning.

A visitor is permitted to pick up a piece of bone in the temporary museum and he is surprised at its weight. Is it like petrified wood? The guess is correct. Silica has infiltrated into the bone, cell by cell, preserving the exact shape and structure. By looking at a broken piece of fossil under a hand lens it is possible to see how the silica has displaced the bone, yet "frozen" it perfectly through the ages. Scientists have been able to take microscopic cross sections of these petrified bones and study their structure, even to the extent of diagnosing bone diseases that occurred among the tribe of dinosaurs.

Examination of the bones leads to questions about the animals themselves. A cynical visitor will often remark that "some people have mighty big imaginations." So, we show a drawing of a mounted skeleton. In some cases, a piece of tracing paper is placed over the drawing and the visitor is asked to sketch in what he thinks the animal must have looked like. It is a convincing cure for cynicism because one can hardly help sketching in the same creature that scientists conjured up "in their imagination." Years of study and painstaking care have resulted in drawings of dinosaurs to show what the animals must have looked like when they lived on earth. Even their environment can be accurately portrayed because those fossil leaves and other materials found with the bones tell us what the earth was like millions of years ago.

A small exhibit of gastroliths, or gizzard stones, is always a focal point in the museum. The legend under the exhibit reads, "There is some evidence that dinosaurs swallowed stones such as these just as chickens swallow grit." Here we are less positive. Recent studies by a geologist from Princeton University throw a dash of cold water on that happy theory, yet it has not been completely discounted.

We examine the tooth of a *Tyrannosaurus*, the tyrant lizard, and see that it

is dagger-like and serrated along the edge. A drawing of the animal shows it to have huge hind legs and a powerful jaw. It does not take much imagination to deduce that the tyrant lizard was a meat-eater just like wolves and mountain lions today. The fact that its tooth marks have been found upon the bones of other dinosaurs is verification of the theory.

Likewise the huge, long-tailed, long-necked Brontosaurus is known to have been a vegetarian and seems to have been amphibious like hippopotami are today. And, in spite of their immense size, they probably did not eat as much as we would guess.

That these dinosaurs were reptiles, there can be no doubt. Some laid eggs, although we have found none in this locality. Cold-blooded, stupid to a remarkable degree, unable to adapt themselves to a slowly changing environment, they all perished long ago. No man, modern or primitive, ever saw a live dinosaur. But, we are often asked, could they not be alive somewhere upon the earth today. No, there is not the slightest chance because there is not one scrap of evidence anywhere upon this earth in the rocks for millions of years. The only places they live and breathe in 1945 are in comic strips and movies.

The visitor leaves Dinosaur National Monument after spending, on the average, fifty minutes to one hour at the quarry area. He has seen things that are unduplicated elsewhere, and, from remarks that he

has made, we know that he has been impressed with this section of the monument. We also know that he wants to see the rest of the Dinosaur National Monument—the Canyon of Lodore, Harpers Corner, Pats Hole, Island Park, and all that scenic country that is still inaccessible to the average visitor. From the questions he has asked, we have learned, too, and can plan our future developments that much better.

It is seldom that a visitor leaves without expressing some surprise that no fees are charged at this monument at the present time. We explain that the fee system is not in force because our program of development does not yet warrant it.

Our wounded flyer saw and felt what many people do who visit the Dinosaur Quarry section of Dinosaur National Monument. In this corner of the monument dedicated to the protection and presentation of dinosaur fossils, one can find many answers to the query "why." Viewing the fossils at Dinosaur Ledge and knowing that they were once parts of great, living animals; seeing and comprehending the vast geologic changes that have taken place in the landscape; these are experiences that are remembered.

As one woman is reputed to have said to a guide at the monument several years ago: "I never know'd sech horrible critters ever growed." To which her escort incidentally replied: "Yeah, thet's right. We kin learn frum the most ignorant people."

PROGRESS TOWARD EVERGLADES PROTECTION

Your Association has received word from Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Chief of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, saying that the deeds to the state lands within the boundaries of the wildlife refuge in the Everglades have been received. The area is now being established under authority of the recent congressional act permitting its management as a wildlife refuge pending further study of the national park possibilities.

The Fish and Wildlife Service plans to put a manager and at least three patrolmen on the refuge as soon as possible. Two patrol boats will be assigned, one to the coastal section and one to Florida Bay, both of which are important wildlife areas. The Service hopes to have these men on the ground at an early date to start the protection and management of this unique wildlife region, which is so remarkably different from all the other units in the wildlife refuge system. This should be encouraging news to conservationists.

BIRTH OF A NATIONAL PARK

By FREEMAN TILDEN

IN a statutory sense, Big Bend, in southern Texas, is the newest of our national parks. But in a very real sense, it is a national park just coming slowly into existence.

To representatives of a national periodical with whom I spent some days recently in Big Bend, I casually mentioned my thought that we were enjoying a grand adventure, never to be repeated. To my delight, they caught the idea, and gaily enlarged upon it. Both said, "We see what you mean. It will never again be quite what it is at this moment. We are pioneering backwards."

The problem, as every conservationist realizes, is not so much what to develop, as how and where to prevent development; not rashly to introduce any kind of animal or plantlife, but to try to restore the conditions under which the delicate biotic balance may again assert itself.

Consequently, in this article, I shall venture to say some things about Big Bend National Park that have to do with the at-

tainment of those objectives that are associated with all such areas, and to note some of those things, on debit and credit side, that concern the carrying out of accepted policies.

It should be understood that, although I am connected with the National Park Service as collaborator, the things I shall say must be accepted as the comments of a private observer. If this is not understood, then I am indeed embarking in a frail skiff on a rough sea, and I shall wish I had heeded the implication of the ancient wish, "Oh, that mine enemy would write a book!" My aim is to help to make National Park Service policies understood; not to devise them, or adopt any tone of authorization.

My first thoughts about Big Bend turn toward the impact of the outside world upon our recreative endeavors in that vast domain. One thinks, in this relation, first of all of Texas and the Texans. Through tax money and private donation, the people of Texas acquired the land for the park, and then generously gave it to the nation.

The tops of the Chisos Mountains terminate in towers of rimrock.

U. S. Army Air Corps



Naturally, those people feel, in addition to what every American should feel, a special sense of proprietorship.

From what I have been able to ascertain so far, we start here with much on the credit side. In the first place, Texas has a magnificent galaxy of state parks, well chosen as to site, and efficiently managed. The Texas State Parks Board has no amateur views as to the management of its own areas, and therefore it is the better able to comprehend the organic laws and the policies arising from them, that bind the National Park Service in its trusteeship. I think it is true that the Texas attitude in respect to Big Bend is understanding and patient, as well as full of pride.

The people of Texas hope, in the coming years, to make a good profit from tourist visitation to this park. Why not? To me it seems a legitimate aspiration. Everywhere that national parks have been established, a good measure of prosperity has grown up around them. I believe that the people of Texas will realize that if they will allow the Park Service to go unhampered ahead with its revival of highest park attributes, the dollars and cents results will far exceed those arising from any possible innovations that do not belong in the setting.

Perhaps this is as good a time as any to say, that in my judgment, at the present time, no travel to this park should be encouraged. Considerable publicity has been given the area, and more is to come: but with meager accommodations and with an understaffed personnel in the park, as well as there being the necessity to bring in one's rations, the prospective visitor to Big Bend will wisely bide his time.

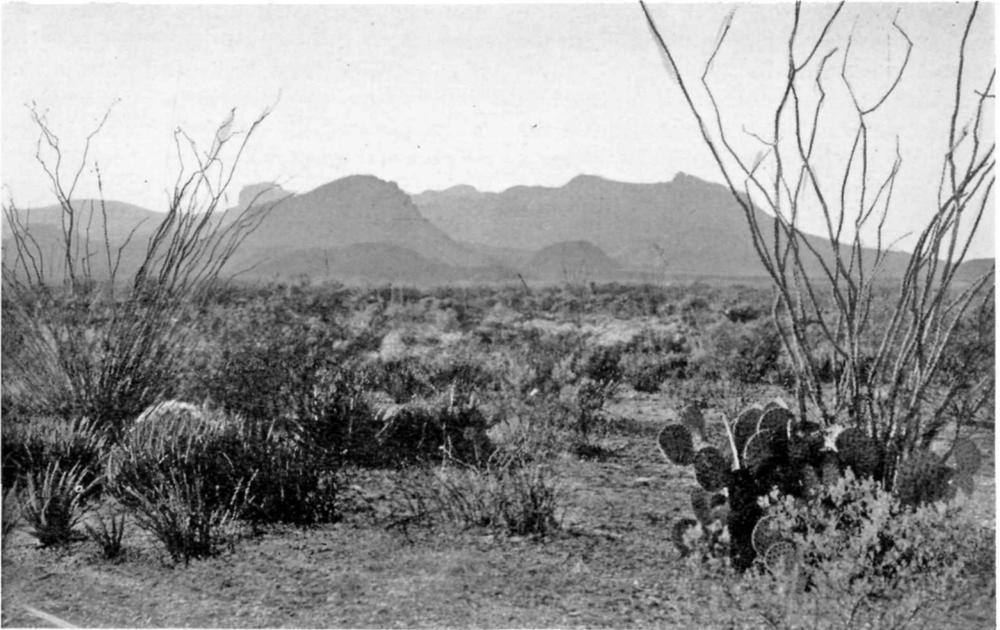
What of the wildlife in Big Bend? In my recent adventure into the park I saw more and greater varieties of animals than I had hitherto met there. The white-tail deer are numerous in the area that leads down into the Chisos Basin. They are delightful fellows, not timid, yet ready to put distance between the visitor and themselves until they become better acquainted. I saw sev-

eral coyotes, a desert fox, many skunks, and on my hike over to see some remarkable petrified trees that stand *in situ*, the jack rabbits were so plentiful as to suggest a convention. I did not see a peccary. They are hard to meet with unless one is on a horse. But I was told that this year they are plentiful.

I judge that there is competition between the rodents and the browsing and grazing animals for the limited vegetation remaining in the region where the grazing of "hoofed locusts," as John Muir called cattle, sheep and goats, has been pitiless. I am not assuming that this desert country, in terms of present-day climate and rainfall, was ever a lush pasturage. What the conditions were when cattle first came in, nobody can know, for the grazers were not interested in keeping records, and they may have thought that the annual grasses would renew themselves without making seed, if they thought about it at all.

"Ecology" is a ten dollar word—very alarming to some people—but it describes a study that is of great import to mankind. Actually, it is as easy to understand as the multiplication table. A farmer discovers the meaning of ecology when he learns that although he has killed the foxes that raided his hen coop, he has done so at the expense of his orchard, now being raided by mice whose increase had been kept in check by the foxes. The large number of jack rabbits I saw on the hike mentioned above, can probably be attributed to the over-grazed condition of the area.

As Dr. Shelford of the University of Illinois has said, it is a wild hope that you can make anybody like rattlesnakes and wolves, or see any justification for preserving them; but it is obvious, just the same, that both of these hated creatures have always played their useful part in maintaining an equilibrium of species. Will the lobo put in his appearance again in the Bend? So far as I can learn, they have been exterminated on this side of the Rio Grande, although I did hear a report of an assassina-



Natt N. Dodge

Wand-like ocotillos, lecheguillas and cacti add beauty to Big Bend's desert.

tion recently in which evidence pointed to the work of wolf fangs. Emigration from the Mexican side is possible. As for the rattlesnake, he is always pretty well able to take care of himself.

Big Bend, roughly resembling a triangle, is bounded on two sides by running water—the Rio Grande. Elsewhere in the park, water sources are meager. It is a long distance from the river to the country adjacent to the Chisos Mountains, a fact that may necessitate careful consideration being given to the locating of visitor accommodations. The limited supply of water from springs will have to be shared with wildlife. Furthermore, this will have to be done in such a way that the animals will not have to come too close to the camps. All such considerations, of course, are having their influence upon the making of the master plans for the park.

The problems to be dealt with in the formation of these master plans are many and difficult. I remember that when Thomas

Vint, Chief Landscape Architect of the National Park Service, and myself, were standing in the Chisos Basin, viewing the scenic disfigurement that was the unavoidable result of the CCC camp days, Vint pointed at the talus-covered ground and said to me, "This is very delicate." The casual observer would have whooped with laughter at the words. Delicate? That slippery rock-fragment, pebble, sand and soil? Yet Vint was stating a truth. Not only is that rocky matter always on the move from gravitational pull, but the nature of the whole region is such that in order to start an erosional calamity you have only to kick around on it awhile with hobnail boots. Thus arises a question to be solved—if such questions can ever be solved: Is it better to accept an already scarred and disfigured spot, and place "developments" there, even though it is not the best place for them? Or should you try to induce the restoration of natural beauty there—which might take a century—and instead, scar

a now undisturbed, unblemished spot?

Next we come to the problem of roads. What kind of roads do we want, and how many and where? Access roads there must certainly be, whether they disturb the eye or not. I thought more about this subject upon my latest visit to Big Bend than I had ever done before in any national park. It happened this way: When I came out of the Bend I had with me Natt Dodge, the biologist of Southwestern National Monuments in Santa Fe. Natt is a competent man with a camera. We clambered up a rocky hill outside the park boundary, and perched the tripod at a spot where we got a most excellent view of the Chisos framed in Persimmon Gap. But—there was the road in front of us! Always that scar was crossing and recrossing the desert outlook. You can fool the camera by getting behind a yucca and blotting the road from the picture, but you cannot fool the eye.

The road in question is now a gravel road. The natural colors of the desert, at this time of year, tend toward cream yellow and delicately in spots toward sage. At any time of year they do not assault the eye. But if you build a road across the desert, you create a light streak that grows whiter as the sun burns upon it. It is not like a twisting road through deciduous forest country of the Northeast, for instance. It is visible for distances up to twenty miles. Sometimes you locate it by a cloud of dust, and then the eye can trace it.

I fell to wondering, that day, whether

our engineers could give attention to the possibility of camouflaging national park roads; not camouflaging in the ordinary sense, but by restoring to them the natural coloration. Call this deception if you wish, but certainly it would be a desirable form of deception.

The dilemma of roads will always be a matter for intelligent compromise, no doubt. At one extreme are those who would have no roads, only trails. At the other are the ardent modernists who think a road should be built to every scenic point. Undeniably, the young and vigorous, or even the older and vigorous, are the lucky people in any of our national parks, for they can hike, pack, and climb to the choice hidden places where roadways are out of the question. Is it unfair? Of course; but so are a lot of things in this world. I am afraid life is like that.

Fortunately, those who stand between the extremes are agreed that surfaced roads should be held to just that point that will allow adequate facility for the average person to see some of the beauties and marvels of the park areas. Even if the manner of this statement is not too good, I think there will be no great quarrel with the spirit.

Finally, I wish to offer my opinion, just as a private visitor, that although the old saying that "he who travels must be prepared to take away only as much as he brings with him" applies to all our great parks, it holds true especially of Big Bend.

The desert wilderness is scarred by the dusty highway.

Natt N. Dodre



It is a desert-mountain country whose qualities offer an allurements, a satisfaction of soul, only if the visitor will put himself in the right mood, and will remain long enough to know it with some intimacy. For instance, let me describe a scene that I saw on my recent visit. The day I went into Big Bend was cloudy, cold and threatening sleet. The top thousand feet of Mt. Emory was iced. At a certain point between Cooper's Store and Green Gulch, the Chisos Mountains in that leaden light suddenly stood out as I had never seen them before. I once saw the medieval city of Carcasonne at dawn on a morning when fog covered the lower town, and the walled city

rose out of a cloud. It looked like the work of a magician. Here was the same effect, but upon a vast scale. I truly believe that there are effects there that might occur only once in a year. I can only hope that others may see what I saw. They will if the time and atmospheric conditions are the same. He who drives in and drives out without letting the motor cool, may see, to be sure, some most interesting natural objects, but he will not know, and can never love, Big Bend. That "feeling of continuity" about which John C. Merriam has written so wisely with respect to the Grand Canyon is here in another impressive form for those who will tarry and observe.

EDITORIAL

Over-Development and Land Grabbing

IN the early days of national park establishment when slow means of travel made it necessary to place hotels, restaurants and other visitor accommodations near major points of interest within the parks, centers of development sprang up in certain of the parks. Around several of these developed areas have been placed certain accommodations that are of very questionable value to the foremost purpose of the National Park System. Among them are facilities for swimming, dancing and moving pictures.

National parks are created to preserve for posterity outstanding examples of nature and scenery and to make these accessible to the people for the spiritual uplift obtainable through contact with them. Conspicuous structures and artificial amusements in national parks intrude upon primeval nature and lessen the degree to which the individual is able to benefit from the otherwise natural environment. Furthermore, they attract many people who care little for what the parks have to offer.

The question is occurring to increasing numbers of thinking men and women as to how far development of visitor accommodations should be carried in the National Park System; and likewise the question of what should be done about those earlier developments that today have reached a state of expansion that renders them deleterious to highest spiritual enjoyment of the parks by the people.

One of our newest national parks—Great Smoky Mountains National Park—has no overnight accommodations at all. Hotels, restaurants and other requirements of visitors are located in the town of Gatlinburg and in other neighboring villages. Thus, the superb wilderness of that park is untouched except for the necessary roads and trails.

Perhaps the ideal that many wilderness enthusiasts hope for, is to have other parks restored to a similar condition. If so, then it is heartening to find that officials of the National Park Service have been giving consideration to this problem.

Director Newton B. Drury, in the Service's annual report issued on February 23, asks the following question: "Should future planning envision only such facilities as are necessary for daytime use, depending upon nearby communities to furnish sleeping accommodations? . . . A trend away from developments of the resort type within the parks will serve the objective of holding perishable features of many areas unimpaired."

How many people realize that the area of the United States that is administered by the National Park Service is equal to only 85/100ths of one percent of the country's total area? A large part of that fraction is comprised of numerous small bits of land on which are located such objects as the Florida forts, the Statue of Liberty, Appomattox Court House, Hopewell Village, Vanderbilt Mansion and others, as well as several national cemeteries, national memorials, parkways and miscellaneous areas. That leaves a considerably smaller percent that is given over to preservation of primeval wilderness. To those who appreciate undisturbed nature, this revelation may come as a disappointment.

It is in connection with certain of the larger primeval areas that the National Park Service has been accused, during re-

cent months, of being a "land-grabbing agency." Ours is a rich nation and our country vast. Can we not well afford, therefore, to set aside for posterity such a comparatively small portion of our land? Is it not worth while to preserve intact a few outstanding examples of the primeval wilderness that once covered this continent?

In the Service's annual report, Director Drury makes an answer to this accusation. He says that lately many areas have been removed from Park Service jurisdiction under congressional authority. This has been done through request of the Department of the Interior upon the advice of the Park Service. Also, out of 770 areas proposed over a period of seven years, for national park, national monument or related uses, only thirty-eight were favorably recommended by the Service. Furthermore, up to June 30, 1944, twenty-eight of the original forty-six recreational demonstration areas, assigned for development by the Service, had been turned back, or were designated to be turned back, for administration by the states in which they are located. Mr. Drury says, too, that it is hoped that the states in which thirteen others are located will eventually be in a position to accept ownership and administration of these areas.

We ask, is this land-grabbing?

NEW YORKERS, GUARD YOUR ADIRONDACKS

The *Utica Observer-Dispatch* for March 22, printed the following editorial which was sent to us by Mr. A. Osborn Mayer of Waterville, New York, one of our members: "The State Senate has passed resolutions calling for amendments to the 'forever wild' provision of the constitution. If passed by the Assembly, and again passed in 1947 and approved by referendum, then the state land in the Adirondacks may be 'opened up' and 'developed' for recreational purposes and mining. Then if people want to see a bit of wild land, they will have to go to Canada. . . . The developers

are not in favor of keeping . . . wild land in the populated East, but want it cleaned up, tamed and equipped with the comforts of a city park. If the amendment should go through, the legislature will ask for appropriations . . . to carry on the barbaric work of 'citifying' the forest."

The Adirondacks reservation, larger than our largest national park, the Yellowstone, is worthy of the pride of all New Yorkers, and it will need their united efforts to keep it wild. That it is in the populated East, gives all the more reason to preserve it in its present wild condition.

A Reply to Professor Chapman

By ERNEST C. OBERHOLTZER, President
Quetico-Superior Council

IN commenting briefly upon Professor H. H. Chapman's article "The Quetico-Superior Program" in the January-March 1945 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, it is pleasing at the outset to find Professor Chapman in agreement on one point—the urgency of federal purchases of private lands in the roadless areas of Superior National Forest. The Quetico-Superior Council favors priority not only for the roadless areas, but for key locations on lakes and streams within those areas and will welcome any assistance toward securing appropriations for this purpose.

In other respects Professor Chapman's article and others like it by the same author are a severe challenge to the objectives and leadership of the Quetico-Superior movement. However, if the respect due the authority and achievements of Professor Chapman helps to focus public attention anew, and leads to an unbiased re-examination of the problem under the present difficult war conditions, the Quetico-Superior Council has complete confidence in the outcome. Many misconceptions may thus be cleared away.

The Quetico-Superior program is the same now in all details as in November, 1927, when it was approved by Secretary of Agriculture Jardine—except that the endorsement two years later by the national bodies of the American and the Canadian Legion carried the additional suggestion that the area be dedicated to the service-men of both countries. The program is a large one. It represents twenty years of incessant struggle and the brilliant and devoted service of a small group of associates, entirely unrecognized. While at times winning official endorsement, the project has never been the official program of any government, but instead is a purely volun-

tary public movement. It depends for its success upon the vision and the courage and pioneer spirit of the people of both countries.

The value of the region recreationally lies in its unrivalled network of lakes and streams and their predominant wilderness character. While the program seeks to protect these connected waters for public health and enjoyment, it recognizes the need of providing by adequate zoning for every suitable kind of recreational use, including the most intensive. Wilderness does not exist like an isolated cloud in the sky. In a lakeland area such as this especially, it must be shielded by outlying zones adapted to camps, homes, resorts and automobile camping, or it will ultimately be engulfed and destroyed. The process of destruction, moreover, carries with it not only the wilderness areas themselves, but the whole surrounding recreational economy, which, by its proximity to the wilderness, is just as much dependent upon the maintenance of the wilderness as the more primitive pastimes of canoeing and forest hiking. As Mrs. Frank T. Wallace of Minneapolis has well written to the Minnesota Conservation Commissioner, "There is no more intention to make the entire region an undeveloped wilderness solitude than there is to turn it into a cut-over picnic ground with a road to every lake."

The Minnesota Conservation Department and the lumber and power companies that have so long attacked the Quetico-Superior program are at present widely circulating reprints of articles charging misrepresentations and preaching defeatist doctrines. It is said, in spite of all proof to the contrary, that Ontario cannot consent to a treaty without giving up sovereignty over her own lands. It is also said, in disregard of favor-

able declarations by leading Ontario organizations and newspapers, that the people of the Province are opposed and will never consent.

There is only one Quetico-Superior program—not a greater and a lesser. There are substitute programs by other agencies, it is true, and the original program has suffered severe set-backs during the war and needs public support as never before. For those who have copies available, the Council asks a careful re-reading of its own articles on the program in the July-September 1944 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, and the September 1944 issue of *American Forests*. It may be necessary as soon as possible to publish for general distribution many of the voluminous documents bearing on the history of the movement.

Since publication of the Council articles last summer there is one further development of particular interest. It became known recently that the Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company, leading industrial

opponent of the Quetico-Superior project, in proposing to trade its Kabetogama lands in the Quetico-Superior area to the state in return for an equal value of virgin spruce lands elsewhere, is reserving the right to flood the shores of these lands to elevations far above the ordinary natural high water marks as computed in 1934 by engineers of the two governments. From the point of view of the Quetico-Superior Council it is unfortunate that these Kabetogama lands, which the U. S. Forest Service sought to buy for the Superior National Forest in 1942, and which involve some one hundred miles of shore line, are now lodged in the hands of the Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company and that the Company is thus in position to impose its own terms as to future developments. The Council meantime is patiently seeking reasonable and harmonious solutions without sacrificing any of the fundamentals of the program. These efforts in turn depend above all upon full public understanding.

MOUNT RAINIER LOGGING DANGER ENDED

It has been announced by the National Park Service that a contract of sale for the more than 300 acres of primeval forest within Mount Rainier National Park owned by the Northern Pacific Railroad has been signed by Secretary Ickes and Mr. C. E. Denny, president of the railroad company.

Although Congressman Coffee of Washington had introduced a bill to authorize purchase of the area, no funds are being appropriated for such purposes during the war. However, because the threat to the tract was acute, it was considered advisable to utilize a balance of funds available to

the National Park Service for the purchase of this land.

Lumbering operations have been in progress just outside Mount Rainier National Park and have threatened the Northern Pacific tract, making it urgent that the Service act quickly. The Northern Pacific Railroad Company had received an offer for the timber on this property, but in the interest of conservation, and to protect the beauty of the park, the company is selling the land and timber to the National Park Service for a fraction of what it would bring in the present lumber market.

Never destroy a copy of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. The largest single element in the endeavor to preserve nature and primitive wilderness is public enlightenment. You can help the cause by passing your copy of the magazine on to a friend, or to a school, hospital or public library, so that its message will spread and benefit the nation.

Threats to Wilderness Areas

By JAY H. PRICE, Regional Forester
North Central Region, U. S. Forest Service

WILDERNESS areas provide the last frontier where the world of mechanization and of easy transportation has not yet penetrated. They have an important place historically, educationally, and for recreation. Suitable provision for them is considered an important part of national forest land-use planning and management.

In such planning it is obviously difficult to estimate on the basis of present and prospective need what the total area of wilderness reservations should be. From the standpoint of the wilderness lover the more of such areas that are set aside and the larger they are, the better. However, the management of national forests must meet the needs of many people. Therefore, it has been necessary to consider all competing values. The physical and psychological value must be weighed as best it can against the non-wilderness value of the same area if it is capable of yielding commodities, opportunities for employment, and less primitive forms of recreational use.

During the last two decades much such planning has been done. Fortunately for the wilderness program, there were, at its inception, areas of substantial size where, due to rough topography, relative inaccessibility, and absence of resources of high commercial value, primitive conditions still existed. A comprehensive study of such areas was made and there were established seventy-seven wilderness reservations of various sizes amounting in all to a gross area of over 14,000,000 acres. This is about seven percent of the gross area of all the national forests and about three quarters of one percent of the area of the United States, both percentage figures without reference to Alaska.

In general, the wilderness reservations are well adapted to that form of manage-

ment. The fact that selection was necessarily confined to areas that had, by their nature, discouraged development, adds to their security. It is very doubtful, however, that their wilderness character can be maintained if the main dependence is placed upon their past and current inaccessibility and lack of sought-after resources. With this thought in mind there has been evolved a series of Departmental regulations governing the dedication and use of the wilderness areas. These regulations, however, are not thought to represent the final word, and it is doubtful if under them alone as presently constituted, further invasion of the wilderness areas can be entirely avoided.

One problem is that many of the wilderness reservations are not entirely in public ownership. While the percentage of private ownership is small (it is about three percent), any private ownership at all represents a threat to the permanency of wilderness management. Such management requires that the areas be administered so as to preserve as fully as possible the primitive and frontier qualities. This means in general that there should be no roads or other provisions for motorized transportation, no commercial timber cutting, no occupancy permits for hotels, stores, resorts, summer homes, or other similar establishments, and the restriction of administrative and protective improvements should be held to a minimum. We would indeed be optimistic if we expected all private owners to subscribe permanently to that form of management. Sooner or later the average private owner will look to whatever values there are on his property and seek to develop them for his personal use and enjoyment or for commercial purposes, which development more likely than not will be



U. S. Forest Service

Some idea of the beauty of the Superior wilderness referred to by the author can be gained from the air. This view shows the South Arm of Knife Lake with the North Arm beyond. The foreground is in Canada.



U. S. Forest Service

Canoeing is the activity for which the Superior wilderness is ideally and outstandingly suited.

in conflict with the public management policies.

There is theoretically a simple solution for the foregoing problem, and that is federal acquisition of the private holdings within the wilderness areas. As a practical matter, funds have never been made available for that purpose on any adequate basis.

The other threat against the wilderness areas revolves about the expected expansion in airplane travel. With the type of land plane that has been commonly used to date, ownership of the land carries with it the authority and power to limit or regulate air-borne traffic because such planes require landing fields or strips. By the exclusion of such facilities undesirable air-borne travel to the wilderness areas can be prevented.

We are, however, in the horse-and-buggy days as far as air travel is concerned. The

expected development and use of the helicopter type of plane which will be able to land and take off on relatively small areas promise to present a problem that rough topography and exclusion of man-made landing strips will not solve. It appears that it is about time to start developing a better understanding of that problem and an exploration of what may be done about it.

Somewhat unique among the wilderness reservations are the Superior roadless areas in northern Minnesota amounting to somewhat over 1,000,000 acres. Those areas differ from the western wilderness areas in several respects.

1. They were not created entirely from lands which had never been developed or exploited. Rather they were formed from lands where exploitation had taken place, reaped a harvest, and passed on. Time and protection are bringing back the wilderness and primitive qualities of the region. They

are also restoring the timber resource, which is important economically.

2. As proved by their early exploitation, the Superior roadless areas are not protected by factors of ruggedness and inaccessibility as are most of the wilderness areas of the West.

3. The principal attraction of the Minnesota areas consists of the many lakes and streams. It is a country of water and beautiful shore lines rather than one of high mountains and long-range vistas.

The nature of the Superior roadless areas has necessitated a somewhat different plan of management. Timber harvest is accepted as an allowable and desirable feature of the over-all management of the areas. It is restricted, however, to such portions of the areas as do not abut upon the stream and shore lines. Minimum restrictions are imposed by law, and it is the administrative policy of the Forest Service to go even beyond those minimum restrictions where it is desirable to do so in order to preserve the wilderness atmosphere. The integration of timber utilization and wilderness use

calls for a high degree of appreciation of wilderness values and of good judgment, but it is not considered by any means an insurmountable difficulty.

The restrictions against road construction are similar to those in the western wilderness areas except that it is contemplated that temporary roads used merely for the transportation of forest products will be required in places. The principal danger, as far as the intrusion of roads is concerned, revolves around the considerable amount of land in private ownership. Fundamentally this problem does not differ from that encountered in many of the western wilderness areas. It is more important and acute, however, because of the much greater percentage of land remaining in private ownership, and the absence of topographic barriers to road construction.

Airplane travel is already intruding within the Superior roadless areas. Due to the presence of so much water surface, hydroplanes can land almost at will. Landing strips are not required. Thus the situation that is developing on the Superior

Tourist accommodations, with their accompaniment of inappropriate amusements such as speedboating, tend to lower wilderness values.

U. S. Forest Service



roadless areas is a forecast of what is very likely to develop on western roadless areas as soon as low landing-speed planes become common, and natural openings adequately serve as landing and take-off points.

The answer to the problem on the Superior is not clear. Public acquisition of the private land will help tremendously in that it will not only remove the threat of intrusion by roads, but will also, through the prevention of resort and summer home developments, discourage to some degree airborne entry. It does not, however, constitute the entire answer to the problem. Control of the water surfaces on the navigable lakes and streams is not vested in the riparian ownership, and controls in and above those that can be imposed through land ownership appear necessary.

This matter of air-borne travel to and from the roadless areas has been of concern to all agencies and individuals who take an interest in the primitive character of the region. Several approaches to a possible solution have been suggested, but as far as it is known, no individual or agency has made a thorough and objective study of the situation. Obviously, whatever is proposed in the way of the regulation of airplane travel in the Superior roadless areas, and ultimately in the western wilderness areas, should be developed with the greatest possible integration with nation-wide plans in the aeronautical field. Many agencies are already busy in that field. The Civil Aeronautics Authority is one of them. Most states have either state aeronautical authorities or planning boards dealing with the same questions. Industrial advertising is already beginning to have an effect in making people think in terms of private plane ownership. A policy of watching and waiting does not seem wise when there is so much public and private endeavor to stimulate future airplane travel. If the protection of the wilderness reservations is to be given adequate consideration in the over-all picture, it appears that something should be started now.

Among the factual elements that should be surveyed and organized are: 1. What are the basic laws, if any, that apply to the situation, including those having to do with the control of the use of water surfaces of streams and lakes? 2. What plans, if any, does the C. A. A. have for public control of air travel that might have a bearing? 3. What is the authority of the states and of what are they thinking? 4. Will merely safety restrictions adequately take care of the problem as has been suggested by a few people who have hurriedly studied the situation? 5. What specific legislative proposals, either at the Federal or state level, are desirable? 6. What can the public land agencies do, in addition to what already is being done, in fortifying protection against impairment of wilderness values?

JACKSON HOLE

(Continued from page 3)

loss of taxes, and will definitely solve the problem without injustice to anyone."

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Parks Association was held early in March to consider H. R. 1292. At the close of that meeting, the Committee issued to Congress, to representatives of the Interior Department, and to Wyoming newspapers, the following statement: "After a careful study of H. R. 1292 . . . this Committee is of the opinion that, under existing circumstances, the enactment of this measure is essential for the proper administration of the Jackson Hole National Monument and for the effective preservation of its historic and natural values. The Committee believes, therefore, that H. R. 1292 should be enacted into law at the earliest possible time."

H. R. 1292, as a constructive measure, deserves nation-wide support for its enactment. Write to your congressmen in Washington at the earliest moment expressing your views in regard to the bill.

HELP NEEDED

THE preservation of flora and fauna is one of the functions of the National Park System. The same is true of many national monuments; while the wilderness areas of the national forests, and federal, state and private refuges make further contributions toward this end.

These reservations are widely scattered, and their total area is not great. One might ask, therefore, what about the preservation of species and natural beauty over the vast remainder of our country? The answer is that much of our country has been made nearly barren of wildlife and of many forms of plant life. A great deal of this destruction has been needless.

Preservation and restoration of nature throughout the country can be brought about only by public enlightenment, and the work of enlightening rests with those of us who enjoy nature for nature's sake. Education of people in nature appreciation and in the understanding of the need for preserving nature will lead toward the desired result. It is true that conservation education belongs in every school and college in the country, but it should not be confined to the class room. Whenever the appropriate occasion is presented, conservation can be brought into everyday talk with friends and acquaintances. Attention can be drawn to any of the various phases of nature destruction that are nearly everywhere apparent. The wonders and beauty of nature can be pointed out, and ways of avoiding their destruction can be discussed.

What are some of the thoughtless actions of man that tend toward species extermination and bring about a loss in beauty of landscape? Probably the most serious is the careless burning of forests. To be careful with fire when in the woods is of prime importance, for to burn the woods means killing trees and plant life, and it means the destruction of wildlife habitat and even the burning alive of animals and birds.

The burning of fields is injurious not

only to soil fertility, but it deprives ground nesting birds of nest sites. Meadowlarks, quail, bobolinks, and certain sparrows are prominent among the sufferers here, because they need dense grasses in which to build their nests and conceal their young. Mowing hay while the young are still in the nests is another source of havoc to bird populations.

Fence rows provide nest sites, cover and feeding habitat for many birds; while the trees and shrubs comprising the fence rows add beauty to the landscape as well as provide a windbreak. In spite of the advantages of maintaining fence rows, farmers in most parts of the country persist in what is commonly called "clean farming" by shearing down year after year all vegetation that springs up along field borders.

There is an erroneous belief held by many woodland owners that dead, dying, hollow or otherwise imperfect trees should be removed from the forest. To remove such trees means losing many species of wildlife. Raccoons, opossums, squirrels, bluebirds, owls, flickers, woodpeckers, titmice and other species depend upon hollows for shelter and for raising their young. Dead and dying trees often contain insects that are the food of woodpeckers. Smaller imperfect trees of today may become the large old den trees of tomorrow. In the great areas of commercially operated forest lands we occasionally hear of efforts being made to leave den trees standing. This may be temporarily beneficial, but logging companies cut the so-called mature timber, and they often fell imperfect specimens to allow better growth of the young trees that will comprise the next timber crop. It seems a fair question to ask where the homes of future wildlife populations will come from. If we want animals and birds around us, we shall have to give consideration to their needs.

In addition to the esthetic value of songbirds, they have also an economic value in

reducing insect pests. For this reason they deserve protection from unnatural enemies, one of the foremost of which is the house cat. Brought to North America by man, the cat is also a killer of many small mammals. It is important to keep its numbers to a minimum everywhere. Stray cats should be exterminated. For protection against natural predators, smaller birds and animals must have cover provided by shrubs, tangles of vines and brier. They must also have food supplied by berry-, seed- and nut-bearing plants, shrubs, vines and trees. Pure water is essential. Where life-sustaining necessities are lacking, wildlife will not exist.

Any discussion of human abuse of nature inevitably includes mention of predators. Tied up with predator problems are the fundamentals of ecology. If a farmer, for instance, fails to make his hen house proof against foxes and thereby loses hens, he proceeds at once to kill off the foxes. Presently his property is overrun with mice and rabbits that formerly were kept in check by the foxes. Thus, it is a high price that the farmer pays for upsetting the balance of nature. Occasionally overabundance of a predator may require artificial control; but predators such as hawks, owls and foxes are creatures of beauty and interest, and when their place in nature's scheme is understood by man, they will be accepted by him as valuable members of the fauna.

The preservation of native flora is as worth while as that of fauna. In the matter of preserving rare wild flowers and flowering trees, establishment of inviolate sanctuaries is one of the surest methods. However, the deplorable decline in the abundance of such species as orchises, lady's slippers, trilliums, arbutus, groundpines and ferns can be curbed through education. Efforts to transplant such species to gardens nearly always meet with failure. Many nurseries dig large supplies of lady's slipper plants and the like from the wilds each year, thus

furthering depletion. To pick rare wild flowers, as well as to break down the branches of such trees as flowering dogwood and berry-laden holly, is nothing short of vandalism.

With regard to man's destruction of wildlife, a statement that appeared on the back cover of the January-March 1945 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE is pertinent. Here it is: "When it is universally realized that the greatest pleasure and satisfaction to be derived from wildlife does not come from killing, but from observing, preservation of wildlife will no longer pose a costly national problem." Let any man who now pursues wildlife with gun or trap learn the truth, especially of the first part of this statement, and he will turn with loathing from waging further war upon the wonderful and interesting creatures with which he shares the earth.

Boys are often a serious menace to wildlife. In this respect, William T. Hornaday wrote: "A million boys who roam the fields with small rifles without having been instructed in protection, can destroy an appalling number of valuable birds in the course of a year. . . . It is now the bounden duty of each parent to teach each one of his or her children that the time has come when the resources of nature, and especially wildlife, must be conserved. To permit boys to grow up and acquire guns without this knowledge is wrong."

These are but a few of the many subjects that can be brought to the attention of people you know. Wherever and whenever possible, take the opportunity of doing the good that desperately needs being done. Help spread the conservation message. On the need for so doing, Henry Fairfield Osborn wrote: "The preservation of animal and plant life, and of the general beauty of nature, is one of the foremost duties of the men and women of today. It is an imperative duty, because it must be performed at once, for otherwise it will be too late."

Opinions expressed in signed articles are not necessarily those of the Association.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE



Ernest C. Oberholtzer

Ernest C. Oberholtzer (*A Reply to Professor Chapman*) was born at Davenport, Iowa, on the Mississippi, in the days of sawmills and river rafts. He attended Harvard, taking an extra year for training in landscape architecture under Olmsted and Pray. Later, two years were spent abroad in foreign service and study. Since that time, Mr. Oberholtzer has made his home on a tiny island in Rainy Lake, Minnesota. In his study of primitive Indians and the vanishing wildlife, he has traveled thousands of miles by canoe and snowshoe, even into far unexplored corners of the Canadian barren lands northwest of Fort Churchill. It was his interest in land-planning for wild areas, and his exhaustive knowledge of the Minnesota-Ontario border lakeland that brought him from his backwoods seclusion seventeen years ago, into the cities to serve as President of the Quetico-Superior Council at Minneapolis. In his fight for wilderness preservation he has continued in this capacity ever since.

Daniel B. Beard (*A Visit to Dinosaur Quarry*) has been associated with the National Park Service since 1934. In that year he was appointed wildlife technician under the CCC program at Bear Mountain, New York, but was transferred later to a regional office to supervise wildlife in the northeastern states. In 1937-38 Mr. Beard made biological reconnaissances of the proposed Everglades National Park, Fort Jefferson National Monument and other Florida areas. In the fall of 1938 he was assigned to the Washington office of the Section on National Park Wildlife, Fish and Wildlife Service, where he remained until

the autumn of 1940. While at Washington, he was chairman of an interbureau committee that compiled the book *Fading Trails: The Story of Endangered American Wildlife*. Mr. Beard was next assigned to National Park Service Region 2 in Omaha, Nebraska, as regional biologist, and then, in the summer of 1942, he received an appointment as custodian of Dinosaur National Monument. At the present time Mr. Beard is in the Army.



Jay H. Price

Jay H. Price (*Threats to Wilderness Areas*) was born in 1889 at Chico, California. In 1913 he received his B.S. degree from the University of California, after which he became actively engaged as a logging engineer for the Diamond Match Company and other California lumber companies. In March, 1920, Mr. Price entered the U. S. Forest Service as a logging engineer of Region 5. From 1927 to 1935 he was in charge of national forest fire control and Clark-McNary cooperation in Region 5; and from 1935 to 1939 he served in the capacity of Associate Regional Forester, Region 5. In 1939 he was advanced to Regional Forester of Region 9 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mr. Price served in World War I from 1917 to 1919 with the rank of Captain in the 20th Engineers Division. He is a member of the Commonwealth Club of California and the Society of American Foresters. His hobbies are gardening and fishing.

Devereux Butcher (*People of the Everglades*) is Executive Secretary of the National Parks Association and Editor of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.

THE PARKS AND CONGRESS

79th Congress to April 1, 1945

H. R. 27 (Bland) To provide for the establishment of the Rehoboth-Assateague National Seashore in the States of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. Introduced January 23. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.—See also H. R. 2032.

S. 147 (Truman) To provide for the establishment of the Russell-Majors-Waddell National Monument. Introduced January 6. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys.—This bill would make a national monument of the “site of the home of Alexander Majors and corral for mules and oxen used by the firm of Russell-Majors-Waddell near Eighty-fifth and State Line Road in Jackson County, Missouri, and Johnson County, Kansas.”

H. R. 170 (Cannon of Missouri) To authorize a National Mississippi Parkway and matters relating thereto. Introduced January 3. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.

S. 386 (Ellender) To provide for the establishment of the Tensas River National Park, Louisiana. Introduced January 25. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys.—The area in question now contains little, if any, primeval forest. It is valuable as a wildlife refuge and should be so established.

H. R. 480 (Hebert) To abolish the United States Park Police force in the District of Columbia, to transfer the personnel of the United States Park Police to the Metropolitan Police Department. Introduced January 3. Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.—This bill was opposed by conservation groups including the National Parks Association. On March 27 the District Committee scrapped the bill for a substitute to retain the park police as guards. This matter will need watching.

S. 535 (Meyers) **H. R. 519** (Mundt) To prevent pollution of the waters of the United States and to correct existing water pollution as a vital necessity to public health, economic welfare, healthful recreation, navigation, the support of valuable aquatic life, and as a logical and desirable postwar public-works program. Introduced February 15, and January 3 respectively. Referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce and the House Committee on Rivers and Harbors.—Passage of this bill would prove to be the best possible antidote for the many undesirable high dams now causing conservationists concern in programs for postwar river development.

H. R. 1112 (O'Connor) To repeal the Act entitled “An Act for the preservation of American antiquities,” approved June 8, 1906. Introduced January 6. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.—The repeal of the so-called Antiquities Act would prevent the future establishment of national monuments by Presidential Proclamation.

H. R. 1507 (Chenoweth) **H. R. 2110** (Barrett) To repeal section 2 of the Act entitled “An Act for the preservation of American antiquities,” approved June 8, 1906. Introduced January 16 and February 12 respectively. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.—The repeal of section 2 of the Antiquities Act would remove the power of the President of the United States to establish national monuments by proclamation.

H. R. 1292 (Peterson of Florida) Providing for payments to the State of Wyoming and for rights-of-way, including stock driveways, over and across federal lands within the exterior boundary of the Jackson Hole National Monument, Wyoming. Introduced January 9. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.—See *Jackson Hole* on page 3.

H. R. 1383 (Roger of Florida) Providing that certain real property, together with improvements thereon, acquired for military purposes, or for national parks or monuments, shall not be exempt from taxation by the states and their political subdivisions. Introduced January 11. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.

H. R. 1407 (Angell) To authorize the acquisition of forest lands adjacent to and over which highways, roads, or trails are constructed or to be constructed wholly or partially with federal funds in order to preserve or restore their natural beauty. Introduced January 15. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

H. R. 1441 (Lemke) To establish the Theodore Roosevelt National Park in the State of North Dakota. Introduced January 15. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.—The Committee has requested a report on this bill from the Interior Department.

H. R. 2032 (Peterson of Georgia) Authorizing general shore-line investigations at federal expense, and to repeal an Act for the improvement and protection of the beaches along the shores of the United States, approved June 26, 1936. Introduced February 7. Referred to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors.—Hearings are scheduled to be held on April 24.

H. R. 2109 (Barrett) To abolish the Jackson Hole National Monument as created by Presidential Proclamation Numbered 2578, dated March 15, 1943, and to restore the lands belonging to the United States within the exterior boundaries of said monument to the same status held immediately prior to the issuance of said proclamation. Introduced February 12. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.—See *Jackson Hole* on page 3.

H. R. 2203 (Cochran) To establish a Missouri Valley Authority to provide for unified water control and resource development on the Missouri River and surrounding region in the interest of the control and prevention of floods, the promotion of navigation and reclamation of the public lands, the promotion of family-type farming, the development of the recreational possibilities and the promotion of the general welfare of the area, the strengthening of the national defense, and for other purposes. Introduced February 15. Referred to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors.—No action has been taken by the Committee except to submit the bill to several other committees. The bill is fifty-five pages in length, and although certain headwaters of the Missouri are located within Yellowstone National Park and Glacier National Park, the bill makes no mention of this fact, and therefore gives no assurance that plans will not be drawn up that would affect waters within the boundaries of these parks.

H. R. 2691 (Barrett) To provide for the administration of all public lands in the Jackson Hole National Monument by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. Introduced March 20. Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.—In the event of enactment of his bill H. R. 2109 to abolish the Jackson Hole National Monument, Congressman Barrett apparently offers this as a solution to the administration of the former public lands of the monument.

H. R. 2081 (Simpson of Illinois) To permit the use of live decoys in the taking of ducks. Introduced February 8. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture.—This bill would remove authority from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to establish hunting regulations; yet, because of its information on the status of wildlife throughout the country, this Service is the agency best equipped to make the regulations with consideration to future breeding stocks. The bill is a dangerous one, and must be vigorously opposed by every person with a sincere interest in the preservation of our vanishing wildlife.

With respect to H. R. 2081, last bill above, and its companion S. 518 introduced by Senator Lucas of Illinois, Irving Brant, writing in Publication No. 91 of The Emergency Conservation Committee, 767 Lexington Avenue, New York 21, N. Y., says:

“Defenders of waterfowl must bestir themselves once more. Conditions are being created by government action which threaten disastrous results when millions of hunters take to the field after the war. Far worse conditions are in prospect. The conservationists of America must pit their strength against reckless killers. . . . In addition, is the fact that the attempt to force the use of live decoys is the opening wedge for the restoration of baiting. . . . The Lucas-Simpson bills violate the principle upon which the Migratory Bird Treaty with Canada is based—that hunting regulations shall be laid down by the governments for the purpose of preserving breeding-stock.”

The National Parks Association believes that the solution to the problem of killing wildlife, although involving a long time program, rests in educating the young in nature appreciation. A child so schooled is not likely, as a man, to destroy the lives of creatures whose beauty and usefulness he has learned to love. But the history of wildlife diminution in North America proves that commercialization and organized sport, joining hands under the false banner of conservation education, have engendered a powerful minority whose watchword is utilization, and which defends the destruction of our native species and their replacement by substitutes and introductions. There is constant danger that this type of native education will prevail. From those educated in this school of thought come these two bills. The use of live decoys, as well as baiting, must be permanently outlawed.

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WHY THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

ORIGIN OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM AND SERVICE

Wanderers penetrating the wilderness that is today known as Yellowstone National Park told tales of the natural wonders of the area. To verify these tales an expedition was sent out in 1870. At the campfire one evening, a member of the expedition conceived the plan of having these natural spectacles placed in the care of the government to be preserved for the inspiration, education and enjoyment of all generations. The party made its report to Congress, and two years later, Yellowstone National Park came into being. Today its geysers, its forests and its wildlife are spared, and the area is a nearly intact bit of the original wilderness which once stretched across the continent.

Since 1872 twenty-five other highly scenic areas, each one a distinct type of original wilderness of outstanding beauty, have also been spared from commercial exploitation and designated as national parks. Together they comprise the National Park System. To manage the System the National Park Service was formed in 1916. In its charge are national monuments as well as other areas and sites of varied classification.

COMMERCIAL ENCROACHMENT AND OTHER DANGERS

Most people believe that the national parks have remained and will remain inviolate, but this is not wholly true. Selfish commercial interests seek to have bills introduced in Congress making it legal to graze livestock, cut timber, develop mines, dam rivers for waterpower, and so forth, within the parks. It is sometimes possible for an organized small minority working through Congress to have its way over an unorganized vast majority.

Thus it is that a power dam built in 1913 floods the once beautiful Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park; and that during World War I certain flower-filled alpine meadows in the parks were opened to grazing. The building of needless roads that destroy primeval character, the over-development of amusement facilities; and the inclusion of areas that do not conform to national park standards, and which sometimes contain resources that will be needed for economic use, constitute other threats to the System. A danger also grows out of the recent establishment of ten other kinds of parks lacking the standards of the world-famous primeval group. These are designated by descriptive adjectives, while the primitive group is not. Until the latter are officially entitled *national primeval parks* to distinguish them from the others, they will remain subject to political assaults.

THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

The Association was established in 1919 to promote the preservation of primeval conditions in the national parks, and in certain national monuments, and to maintain the high standards of the national parks adopted at the creation of the National Park Service. The Association is ready also to preserve wild and wilderness country and its virgin forests, plantlife and wildlife elsewhere in the nation; and it is the purpose of the Association to win all America to their appreciation.

The membership of the Association is composed of men and women who know the value of preserving for all time a few small remnants of the original wilderness of North America. Non-political and non-partisan, the Association stands ready to oppose violations of the sanctity of the national parks and other areas. When threats occur, the Association appeals to its members and allied organizations to express their wishes to those in authority. When plans are proposed that merely would provide profit for the few, but which at the same time would destroy our superlative national heritage, it is the part of the National Parks Association to point the way to more constructive programs. Members are kept informed on all important matters through the pages of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.

THE NATIONAL PARKS AND YOU

To insure the preservation of our heritage of scenic wilderness, the combined force of thinking Americans is needed. Membership in the National Parks Association offers a means through which you may do your part in guarding the national parks and other wilderness country. Join now. Annual membership is \$3 a year; supporting membership \$5 a year; sustaining membership \$10 a year; contributing membership \$25 a year; life membership \$100, and patron membership \$1,000 with no further dues. All memberships include subscription to NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.

IT IS A NATION-WIDE DUTY OF EDUCATORS
TO INSTRUCT YOUNG CITIZENS
IN THE NEED FOR SAVING THE NATION'S NATURAL BEAUTY
FROM THE GRASP OF SELFISH INTERESTS
AND FROM THE HAND OF THE DESTROYER