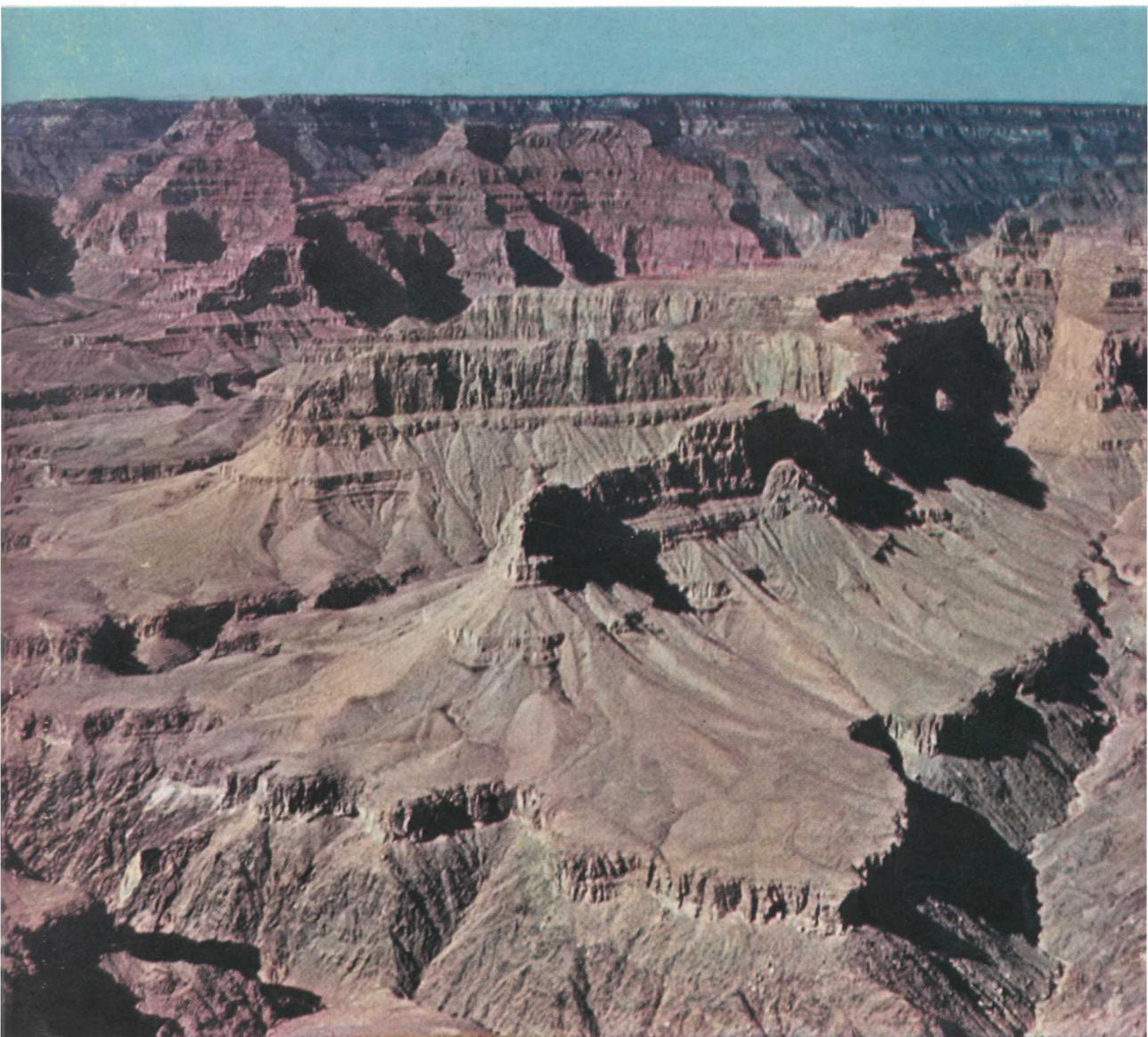


NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION



GRAND CANYON FROM SOUTH RIM

JANUARY-MARCH 1956

VOL. 30; NO. 124

No reservoir should ever be built to satisfy selfish personal or local interests; but only in accordance with the advice of trained experts, after long investigation has shown the locality where all the conditions combine to make the work most needed and fraught with greatest usefulness to the community as a whole. There should be no extravagance, and the believers in the need of irrigation will most benefit their cause by seeing to it that it is free from the least taint of excessive or reckless expenditure of public moneys.—
THEODORE ROOSEVELT, in his message to Congress, Dec. 1901.

THE COVER

From a Kodachrome by the Editor

Taken in early afternoon, this shows the Grand Canyon from the south rim, the north rim eighteen miles away. Visible is the inner gorge, through which flows the Colorado River, a vertical mile below. The Grand Canyon was first established as a national monument in 1908, by Presidential proclamation, under authority of the Antiquities Act of 1906; but because this part of the canyon so fully met the standards of the great parks, Congress redesignated an area of 1009 square miles of it a national park in 1919. An additional 314 square mile area, adjoining the park on the west, was established as Grand Canyon National Monument in 1932.

Bridge Canyon dam, proposed to be built by the Bureau of Reclamation on the Colorado, down-stream from the monument area, would create an artificial lake through the entire length of the monument, and for eighteen miles into the west end of the park. This would constitute a violation of the national policy governing our national parks and national nature monuments by altering the primeval landscape for the preservation of which the park and monument were established.

The park's scenery is further threatened by the proposal to place a church on the rim, west of Grand Canyon village. A church is needed by the permanent residents, and should be built; but it can as well be placed in the village, back from the rim. That a hotel, a lodge and other buildings already mar the rim here, makes it the more imperative that no additional man-made structures be located where most visitors gain their first glimpse of the incomparable chasm.

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

Published quarterly by The National Parks Association

An independent, non-profit organization with nation-wide membership
guarding America's heritage of scenic wilderness

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DEVEREUX BUTCHER, Editor

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Rocky Mountain National Park's Hidden Valley is being turned into a ski resort to satisfy the commercial ambition of a near-by village. Compare this view with the one taken two years ago, on page 18, in our January-March 1954 issue.

EDITORIAL

THAT SACRED TRUST

Photographs by JOSEPH W. PENFOLD, Conservation Director

Izaak Walton League of America

FOLLOWING demands of the Chamber of Commerce of Estes Park village, Colorado, for a chair-lift at Hidden Valley in Rocky Mountain National Park to attract more winter visitors and to stimulate business, the National Park Service, in December, 1953, authorized a winter use development with permanent installations for two mechanical ski-lifts instead of the proposed chair-lift.*

At a meeting of your executive committee on December 9, 1953, a resolution was adopted: "The National Parks Association disapproves any mechanical ski development in the national park system."

When the Park Service, one year later, approved another ski installation—this time in Mount Rainier National Park—your Association recognized a trend in Park Service and local public thinking that, if continued, might turn some of our magnificent national parks into ordinary winter playgrounds. At the 1955 annual meeting of your Board of Trustees, therefore, a much more comprehensive resolution was adopted: "The Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association is concerned by recent demands for artificial and mechanical development for playground purposes in the national park system, specifically for ski lifts in Rocky Mountain and Mount Rainier national parks, not only because they will seriously disturb natural conditions, but also because they will de-

tract from appreciation of the natural features that these areas have been established to preserve, and from their significance to coming generations. It regrets that any such devices have been officially authorized by the National Park Service, and opposes the construction of any facilities designed to encourage commercialized or otherwise inappropriate playground activities in the national park system.

"The Board is firmly of the opinion that there are abundant opportunities for such developments outside the park system, in locations where they would be proper and beneficial, and urges that they be encouraged at such places rather than in the national parks and monuments. Specifically, the Board urges the National Park Service to withdraw its approval for installation of the proposed ski lifts in Rocky Mountain and Mount Rainier national parks."

It may be well to explain why the Estes Park businessmen so persistently urged the Park Service to allow the development of a ski resort in the nearby national park. In 1938, Congress authorized the Bureau of Reclamation to construct the Colorado-Big Thompson Water Diversion Tunnel under the park to bring water from Grand Lake on the west side of the continental divide to agricultural lands on the east side. While this huge project was under construction,

We are fortunate to have been able to obtain the accompanying views showing work under way on the winter resort in Rocky Mountain National Park's Hidden Valley; and we are grateful to Mr. Penfold for taking the time and trouble to drive from Denver to the park to secure them.

*See *A Chair Lift for Rocky Mountain National Park?* and *A T-Bar Lift for Rocky Mountain*, in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for January-March 1954; *The Termites*, October-December 1954; and *Mount Rainier—Saved?* April-June 1955.



A ski-lift, with permanent steel towers, will be erected in this swath cut through Hidden Valley's forest.

the Bureau brought hundreds of men to the vicinity to do the work, and built a large housing development for them and their families near Estes Park. With this increased population, Estes Park business boomed. Lately, the tunnel has been completed, together with several participating projects, and Estes Park's population has dropped to normal, with the exodus of the Bureau's working force. Local business has felt the pinch, and the Chamber of Commerce has looked around for ways to restore the inflated condition. Development of a winter resort in the park became their objective, and the National Park Service has consented to increased winter facilities.

Although we sympathize with Estes Park business, we must point out that this is not the purpose for which national parks are established. They are not intended to provide profit for any individual, group or community, although their existence invariably has a beneficial effect on the business of communities near them. As expressed so well by Dr. Carl P. Russell, recently superintendent of Yosemite National Park: "Local interests must not affect the high standards and selection, acquisition, and use of areas." Commenting on how the national park system is to be preserved for its highest use by all of the people, he said that recreational development should

A clearing has been cut in the valley, to make way for a parking area and concession buildings.



be limited to natural facilities, and that to interpret park features is of primary importance.

In his appraisal of *Natural Areas* written after World War I, Harold Bell Wright said: "Everywhere we see evidenced the sad fact that men who would give their lives for their country in time of war will, in time of peace, rob their country of its noblest treasures. Our need is to grasp the larger truth—that to live for one's country is greater than to die for it."

That the National Park Service, in its role of guardian, protector and preserver of these examples of unspoiled nature, is continually subjected to heavy pressure, political and otherwise, to lower its standards, to substitute local advantage for national interest, to permit local interests to promote commercial enterprise for profit, is a sad reflection on the public spirit and the Americanism of the pressure groups who would take from the many for all time, to profit a few in the present.

In 1938, Mr. Ovid M. Butler, then executive secretary of the American Forestry Association, presented a national park platform which contained as its fourth objective this statement: "In the use of the parks, preserve as unmodified and unharmed as humanly possible the craftsmanship of the Creator and its environment of wilderness, birds and animals. To this end place emphasis on organized knowledge of the meaning of the things in the parks, rather than on organized crowds and organized amusements."

In the same year, your Association adopted this resolution: "The National Parks Association reaffirms its belief that the unique spiritual, scientific, and educational uses inherent in our national parks constitute the best obtainable opportunity for the enjoyment of these values in nature; and that, realizing the beneficent influence such examples have upon the thought and life of the people, this Association again pledges its utmost endeavor to protect them against whatever may tend to

disturb their continuity of natural conditions or to diminish their effectiveness as supreme expressions of majesty and beauty."

The National Parks Association wants to see greater enjoyment of the national parks in winter and believes it should be encouraged; but only in ways that will not deviate from the purpose for which the parks were intended. We believe that mechanical ski devices do deviate from the original ideal by placing emphasis on downhill skiing only. It is true that there is a thrill to hurtling down a slope, but that is not the only way to enjoy the winter landscapes of the high country. The whole world of nature assumes new garments then, and the quiet wilderness is at its best when snow bends the trees and snow banners plume from the peaks. A man on skis, moving through the canyons and over the path of summer trails, can refresh his spirit through intimate contact with the white outdoors.

Cross-country skiing has been all but forgotten in the enthusiasm of skiers to get to the top of a mountain for the sake of a swift run down; but to ski through the valleys and over the meadows is a kind of enjoyment the founders of the national parks really had in mind. Cross-country is a way to get close to the frozen wilderness and really appreciate it, and it offers a challenge far more rewarding than having to depend on a mechanical device for the sake of a swift thrill.

We are therefore perturbed by what appears to be a change in basic park principles through permitting, in certain areas, the development of a winter-use policy that seems to favor not the kind of skiing most suited to national park enjoyment, but rather the kind that can be done anywhere on snow-covered slopes. What should make skiing unusual in a national park like Mount Rainier or Rocky Mountain is the exceptional beauty and the wilderness quality of the environment.

Mechanical ski-tows, no matter what the

(Continued on page 33)

KATMAI NATIONAL MONUMENT

By ROBERT S. LUNTEY, Recreation Planner
Division of Cooperative Activities, National Park Service

THE second largest volcanic explosion to shake the earth's crust in the time of recorded history took place on the Alaska Peninsula within the memory of many persons living today. In fact, there probably are a few still living who were caught in the ashfall from that explosion. This volcanic activity was centered around Mount

Katmai, in the Aleutian Range, which reaches from the Aleutian Islands to the Alaska mainland.

Mount Katmai was a prominent and peaceful landmark before its eruption. The area that now comprises the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes, extending from the foot of Mount Katmai, was green with grass

A jade-green lake fills the bowl of exploded Mount Katmai, and on the crater wall hangs a glacier which perhaps is the only one in the world whose age is known.

National Park Service



and trees and dotted with ponds. Then, from June 2 to 6, 1912, earthquakes of increasing severity caused frightened natives to leave their villages of Katmai, Kukak and Savonoski, never to return. Shortly after their departure, a flow of incandescent sand, heavily surcharged with escaping gas, welled up through fissures in the valley floor and moved in a swift, frothy foam for fifteen miles down the valley, consuming glaciers, trees, grass, and all living things in its path. The sand, on cooling, averaged a hundred feet thick and had a volume of about a cubic mile. The gases escaping from this material formed thousands of fumaroles, and thus was born the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. A few of the fumaroles are still active today, forty-three years later.

Shortly after the devastating sand flow, a series of gigantic explosions burst from the top of Mount Katmai. A mushroom cloud of gas, volcanic ash and pumice billowed up into the stratosphere. Soon the ash and hot pumice began falling from the sky, almost obliterating daylight, choking the harbors for miles around, and covering nearby glaciers, mountains and valleys. Three feet of ash fell at Katmai Village, sixteen miles from Mount Katmai; and six inches to a foot fell at Kodiak, a hundred miles away. The dust formed a haze over half the world that summer, causing spectacular sunsets and measurably lowering the earth's temperature, not only in North America, but in Europe, Asia and North Africa.

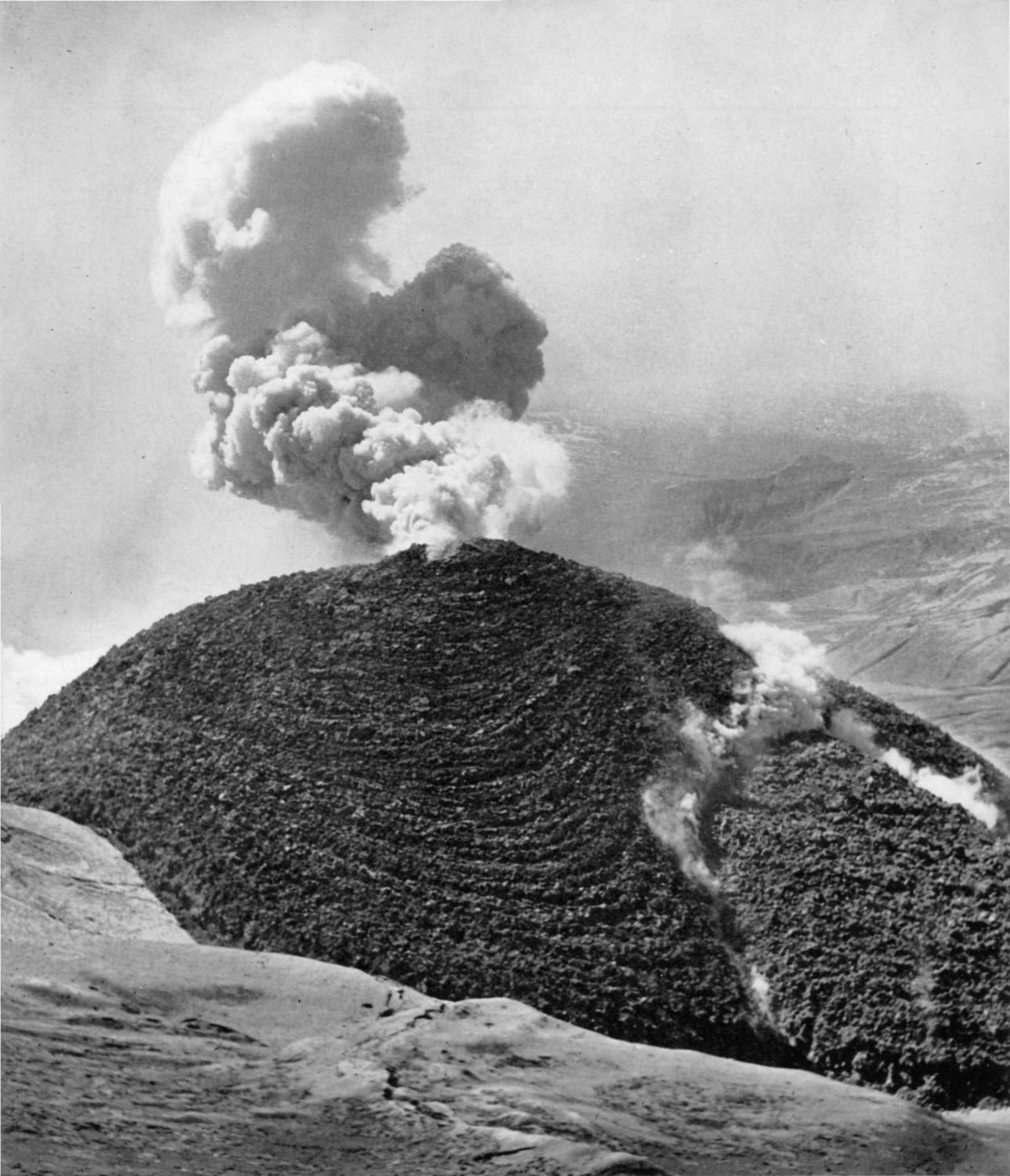
Stories of this cataclysm seemed so fantastic that, in 1915, the National Geographic Society decided to send a series of scientific expeditions to the area to determine what had happened. The stories brought back by members of these expeditions, led by Dr. Robert F. Griggs, were so startling and unusual that national monument status was recommended to protect this geologically significant area.

In 1918, President Wilson established Katmai National Monument enclosing the

site of the Mount Katmai eruption and the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. In 1931, the monument was enlarged to protect various related historic and scientific features, as well as the peninsula brown bears, moose and other wildlife of the area. This addition brought within the monument, near the volcanic area, a series of large and beautiful lakes, affording habitat for waterfowl. Again, in 1942, the monument's boundaries were extended to embrace the scenic islets off the Gulf of Alaska seacoast to protect the rich marine life there. Katmai National Monument now contains 2,697,590 acres, making it the largest area administered by the National Park Service.

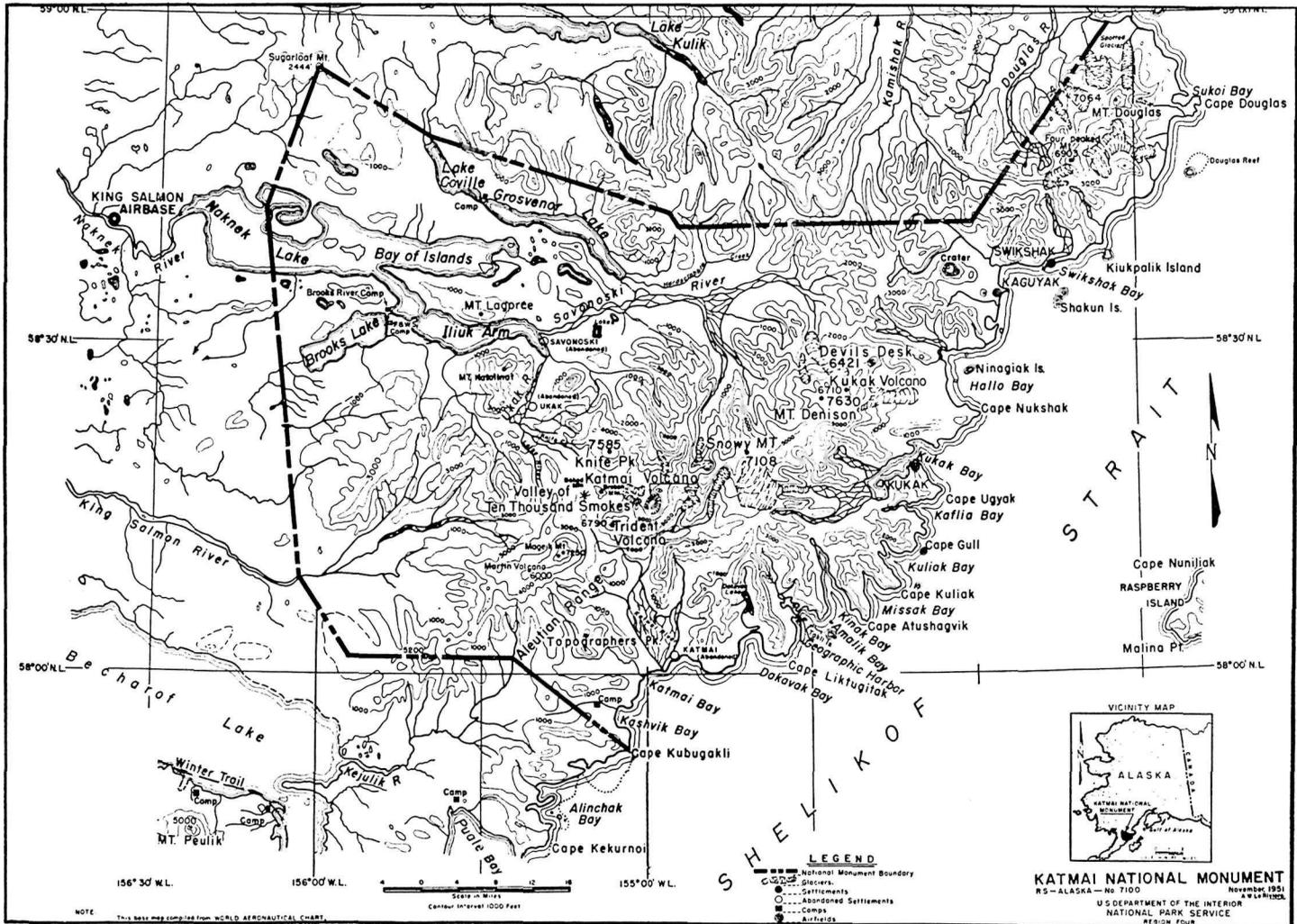
In 1953 and 1954, scientists from several universities and government agencies made archeological, biological and geological studies in the monument, under the general direction of the National Park Service. In order to make the best use of equipment, supplies and transportation, the studies were organized into a group known as the Katmai Project. I was named project leader, and had the responsibility of obtaining equipment for field camps, arranging transportation for personnel and supplying about a dozen scientists with the things they needed, while living in field camps at remote places in the wilderness. Mr. Victor H. Cahalane, then biologist for the National Park Service, now Assistant Director of the New York State Museum, was the only project member who had had previous field experience in Katmai. He and the other scientists can relate many unusual incidents that happened while they were in the monument, some of them frightening and some humorous, which they probably will remember for years.

One objective of the scientific studies was to make an appraisal of the volcanic activity and general geology of the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. For a while, in the spring of 1953, there was a question as to whether field studies could be carried on that year because of the disturbance caused by the February, 1953, eruption of Mount



Garniss Curtis

Steam erupts from the new lava dome of Mount Trident. This volcano was active during the Katmai Project field investigations.





Garniss Curtis



George Schaller

An unnamed waterfall plunges down the south slope of Mount Katmai; and a peninsula brown bear holds a catch, while gulls hopefully await leftovers.

Trident, which stands near the head of the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. We feared that the volcanic activity might prevent field parties from entering the valley, or possibly endanger them while working near the volcano. Although Mount Trident continued eruptions throughout 1953 and 1954, scientists were able to pursue their work, even to making close-up observations of the volcano on many occasions as it belched smoke, steam and ash and slowly extruded lava. Mild earthquakes shook their camp at times, and reduced visibility, due to smoke from the volcano, caused some delays.

The volcanic activity did prove to be an unusually valuable aid to us in one respect. Selection of a suitable camp site for the geological field party depended to a considerable extent on the availability of a supply of potable water. High winds had helped build tremendous snow drifts in the valley before Mount Trident erupted,

and some drifts were covered with a layer of volcanic ash thrown from the mountain. This ash served to insulate the drifts, thereby retarding their melting rate. One particular drift adjacent to the geologists field camp in the valley remained through the summers of 1953 and 1954, providing a water supply for the camp, and refrigeration for fresh foods flown in at intervals.

On clear days, as we flew toward the monument's west boundary from King Salmon, the tundra-like country, dotted with myriads of small ponds, extended as far as we could see to the north and south. It appeared to me that more than half of the area was covered by water. Small black and white dots on the surface of ponds proved to be ducks and whistling swans when the pilot flew low over them. Sometimes the usually clear pond water was turbid, and we looked carefully for moose, which we thought may have discolored it while searching for food on the pond bot-



Garniss Curtis

A pumice-covered glacier spreads over the foreground, and beyond rises majestic Knife Peak, one of the more prominent summits in the monument area.

tom. The sparkling blue water of Naknek Lake and its tributary lakes and streams occupy much of the heart of the monument, and to the east we could see the lofty snow-capped mountains of the Aleutian Range, which form a backdrop for the lakes. Knife Peak Volcano stands out prominently from a distance, and as the plane approaches the mountains, other majestic peaks come into view.

Within the monument there are fifteen recently active volcanoes. Some of them, Martin, Mageik, Novarupta, Knife Peak, Kukak and Douglas, steamed with varying degrees of intensity during the summer of 1953. We often wondered if the steam issuing from these giants would finally cease, leaving the mountains to erode away in a quiescent state; or was it evidence of a still powerful but dormant force that

might once again erupt to alter the landscape?

At times when atmospheric conditions were favorable, we could see steam issuing from fumaroles on the floor of the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. The 1919 National Geographic Society expedition demonstrated that the temperatures of some of the fumaroles were becoming lower, and that many of the small ones had died out since a previous expedition to the area in 1917. Some moss and algae were appearing on the edge of the sandflow, in 1919, indicating that the area was cooling. By 1950, the smokes had dwindled to fewer than a hundred, located along the main fissures near Baked and Broken mountains. In 1954, even fewer smokes could be found. However, new chapters in the valley's history continue to unfold, such as the recent

Mount Trident eruption, so that it continues to be of absorbing interest to geologists, biologists, and all who are concerned with the tremendous forces of nature.

A few people have climbed the glaciers from the floor of the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes to the rim of Katmai Crater to peer down at the jade-green lake which now fills the bowl of the exploded mountain; probably many more persons have seen it from aircraft circling above. Observers who have seen the lake in midwinter say it does not freeze, even in the coldest weather. Latent heat in the crater bowl or hot springs feeding into the lake may keep it from freezing. Early photographs of Katmai Crater show an island in the lake. This island no longer exists, probably because rain and melting snow water have

raised the lake's level completely submerging it.

The only glacier anywhere whose age is known, is within Katmai Crater. This presumably came into being after the 1912 eruption which caused the crater. On the exterior slopes of both Mount Katmai and Mount Trident there are five more glaciers which the casual observer often misses seeing unless they are specifically pointed out to him. They are completely covered with ash and pumice from the 1912 eruption and possibly from more recent volcanic activity. The pumice and ash has covered them so deeply that they have lost much of the characteristic appearance of normal glaciers. This may be the only place in the world where completely buried glaciers may be seen and studied.

Flying from Katmai Crater southeast

This aerial view reveals the strange volcanic formation named Novarupta, located near the head of the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. The crumbling mass is 800 feet across, and 200 feet high.

Garniss Curtis





Garniss Curtis

Streams gouge canyons through the sand flow in the foreground, and glaciers at the foot of the mountains are kept from melting by a coat of pumice. From behind the center peak drifts Mount Trident's plume.

across the Aleutian Range, and before dropping down to the seacoast on Shelikof Strait, we sometimes obtained a glimpse of one of the many unnamed waterfalls in the monument. The infinite number and variety of bays, fiords, lagoons and waterfalls along the coast for a distance of a hundred miles provides a haven for many kinds of wildlife. Whales and porpoises may come into these waters, and seals can often be seen feeding and at play. In 1954, an Air Force pilot and I saw what we believed to be a number of sea lions on one of the islets just off the coast. We spiraled downward for a better look and to take pictures, but before we could make positive identification, the animals all had disappeared into the sea. Wide paths worn through the vegetation by brown bears in search of food are numerous, and occasionally we saw one of the brownies fishing in a fresh water stream. Salmon ascending their spawning streams often are so numerous that, when seen from the air, they obscure the stream bottom. During low tide, large razor clams

can be found on the tidal flats along the coast.

Very few remains of the abandoned native village of Katmai, located near the mouth of Katmai River, are to be seen today. The village was covered with ash and pumice during the 1912 eruption, after its residents had been removed by boat to a safer place. Katmai River was choked with pumice, and it flooded a large area near its mouth, backing water into the village. Archeologists tried to excavate the site in 1953, but found that the water level was so near the surface of the covering layer of pumice that excavation was not feasible. However, they did manage to secure enough information to enable them to draw a rough map showing the location of the village. This may serve as an aid to future studies. There are remains of other native villages along the coast, some of which the trained eye can detect from the air. Grass often is more rank at these sites, because of enrichment of the soil by refuse, and this sometimes makes their outlines

quite distinctly visible from the air.

Flying inland from the site of the abandoned village of Kaguyak, we could look into the mysterious blue depths of a crater lake still unexplored and unnamed. Pilots have examined the lake from the air to determine if a safe landing could be made on its surface by aircraft equipped with pontoons, but as yet it is doubtful if anyone has landed there. We were curious to find out whether this lake contains fish, but we were unable to make an investigation. Such a study would be an interesting project for a fisheries biologist.

Returning westward across the Aleutian Range, it is possible to see rugged snow-covered Devil's Desk, a peak near one of the low passes that pilots often fly through, when bad weather prevents flying over the mountains. Mountain climbing enthusiasts undoubtedly would find considerable challenge in climbing this and other peaks in the monument. Some of these peaks likely have never been climbed. Down the western slope of the Aleutian Range, course streams

with intriguing names like Hardscrabble Creek. These streams are seldom visited by man. Moose, beavers, otters, martens, wolverines, wolves and brown bears live here undisturbed.

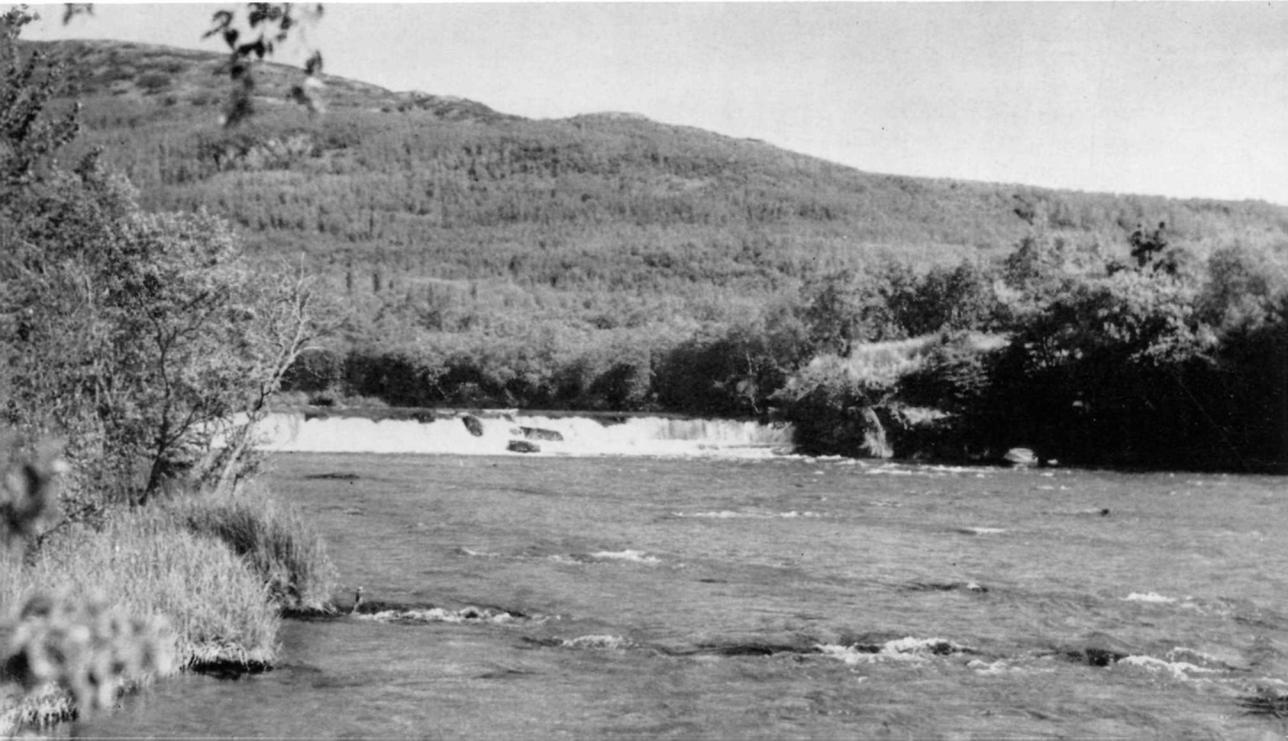
On a narrow neck of land between Grosvenor Lake and Lake Coville nestles the Coville tent camp, from which there is an enchanting view of Grosvenor Lake and the mountains beyond.

Swinging southwest toward the Brooks River Camp, the plane crosses the Bay of Islands, the easternmost end of which is filled with dozens of islands best explored by boat and on foot. The waters of Iliuk Arm and Naknek Lake are sometimes marked with tan or brown splotches that frequently resemble islands or that stretch in thin lines as though arranged by lake currents. When the landing plane touches the lake surface, the smooth steady surge of water against the floats may be disturbed by sharp noises that sound like rocks striking against metal. Close inspection of this

(Continued on page 36)

Although the volcanic areas of the monument are barren, large stretches of the sanctuary are green with a luxuriant growth of shrubs and trees. Salmon often can be seen leaping up Brooks River Falls.

National Park Service



Speaking of Park Architecture

THE accompanying illustrations show the west side and south end of the new dining room building at Skyland, in Shenandoah National Park. Built about three years ago to replace an earlier structure that burned, it was mentioned in our article *For A Return to Harmony in Park Architecture*, in the October-December 1952 issue. We

described it this way: "Done along modernistic lines, it is inharmonious not only with its Appalachian Mountains setting, but it is out of tune with all the rest of the park's beautiful architecture."

We have wanted our readers to judge for themselves about this building, but only recently have we been able to make a trip

The new dining room building at Skyland, in Shenandoah National Park, disappoints those who remember the picturesque one that burned.





The terrace, with its grand view westward, is a pleasant place on a summer day, but the hideous structure seems to cast a spell of gloom on it.

to the park to take photographs of it. One feature the illustrations do not show is the red and blue striping around the windows. The interior is cold and unfriendly.

At the time of our trip to the park, we learned on reliable authority that many visitors who knew the old, picturesque building, express regret when they see the new

one, with its harshly severe aspect.

Although these photographs are somewhat inadequate to reveal the full character of the structure, there may be those who would care to express their opinions about the building, at least insofar as it is shown here. If so, such letters will be welcome.—*Devereux Butcher.*

MCKAY DEFENDS WICHITA MOUNTAINS REFUGE

FOLLOWING passage of the military public works bill, which authorized the use of funds for transfer of 10,700 acres from the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, in Oklahoma, to Fort Sill, the decision became the responsibility of Secretary of the Interior McKay.

As reported in the October-December issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, Secretary McKay had expressed his disapproval

of the proposal, but was subjected to pressure by the Department of Defense to modify his stand. A vigorous expression of public opinion showed that the people of the country wanted their wildlife refuge preserved, and on October 20, Secretary McKay advised Secretary of the Army Brucker that he is "unalterably opposed to such a transfer. I trust," he continued, "that it will be possible to meet the basic needs of the

Fort Sill expansion program without impairing the integrity of the Wichita Refuge.”

The Interior Department offered to set aside an area of the refuge as a safety or buffer zone during firing periods and to assist in the establishment of necessary firing sites within the refuge. “Under this proposal,” said the Secretary, “the integrity of the refuge would be protected, and the public could use the buffer zone during periods when the Army was not firing. This proposal contemplates no transfer of refuge lands.”

Subsequently, a conference was held with military officials to discuss ways to reach an agreement. The Army continued to press its original plan, but Secretary McKay stood firm. When asked for a summary of the meeting, Assistant Secretary D’Ewart said, “The Department is not going to give up primary jurisdiction over the refuge. I do not contemplate any change in its previously announced position to oppose anything that would interfere with the basic purpose for which the refuge was created. We would be happy to meet again with the Army if they request it.”

It has been reported that renewed effort may be made to induce Congress to direct this transfer as a means of overriding Secretary McKay’s opposition. If so, this will probably be the opening gun in a major congressional inquiry about the increasing attempts by military authorities to seize property assigned to the jurisdiction of other departments, much of it specifically reserved for paramount purposes. The Department of Defense appears to have no established policy to govern its relations with other agencies in this matter, but permits its officials to propose such raids without control.

No lands seem safe from this kind of invasion. On the floor of the Senate, on August 2, Senator Neuberger listed a number of current threats. In Arizona, the Army seeks to take over much of the Kofa Game Range for the purpose of testing poison gas.

The Air Force wants one-half million acres of the Desert Game Range in Nevada for air-to-ground and air-to-air gunnery practice. The Kenai National Moose Range is contemplated as an artillery range. The Air Force proposed enlargement of its photo-flash bombing range in Texas to include much of Matagorda Island and the waters of San Antonio Bay, adjacent to the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, winter home of the rare whooping crane and vast concentrations of waterfowl. In response to public protest, including diplomatic representations from the Government of Canada, this proposal was dropped.* The Navy sought withdrawal of nearly a million acres in California, including 285,000 acres within Death Valley National Monument. Its request was denied, but indications are that the Navy will try again. Another gunnery range would be located just north of Joshua Tree National Monument, on lands which, while not specifically reserved, are important to wildlife. A similar proposal would affect a large area of Nevada’s most critical wildlife habitat.

In each of these cases, and many others, the Defense Department asserts the destruction is essential for national defense. Rare, indeed, is the instance when the national security is actually concerned. As one general stated frankly, “It is not convenient to use our own lands.”

Many good patriots are wondering why the nation’s wildlife, national parks and monuments, and other natural resources should be destroyed to serve military expediency or convenience. They do not understand why the supposedly amalgamated military services cannot share bombing and gunnery ranges and so require fewer millions of acres of land. They shared such ranges during the war. It is difficult to believe they cannot do so in time of peace. The day has come for bringing common sense into focus on this subject.

*See *Air Force Ends Threat to Whooping Cranes*, in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for October-December, 1955.

On the River Trail of John Wesley Powell

By CHARLES EGGERT, Director of Motion Pictures

National Parks Association

Photographs by the Author

THE Eggert-Hatch River Expedition pushed off from the banks of the Green River at Green River, Wyoming, on June 10, 1955, to head down-stream into one of the wildest, most beautiful and relatively unexplored regions of the United States. We started from almost the exact spot where, in May, 1869, Major John Wesley Powell and a group of valiant men began the first journey down the Green and Colorado rivers to the mouth of the Rio Virgin, below the Grand Wash Cliffs, at the western end of Grand Canyon.

The purpose of our expedition was three-fold. First, we wanted to duplicate the trip of Major Powell and partake of the wondrous experiences he and his men enjoyed. Second, we wished to make a documentary motion picture of the entire voyage, and record on film places that never before had been photographed with a movie camera; and third, we wanted to have an opportunity to view the sixteen canyons of the Green and Colorado rivers in the event that some of them are flooded by reservoirs, which, incidentally, would make such a voyage as ours impossible. I particularly wanted to see *all* these canyons in order to judge better (at least for my personal satisfaction) the value—the scenic value—of the four canyons of Dinosaur National Monument, of which I already have made two documentary films.

It seemed to us a good omen when, as we pulled away from shore at the town of Green River, a Union Pacific passenger train passed over the bridge, just as one had done when Major Powell was starting his journey.

Although we were to follow the Major's route, it must be admitted that, in this year of 1955, our equipment not only was different, but superior. Instead of wooden boats, we had two made of neoprene—one sixteen feet long, the other twenty-seven. The smaller boat was equipped with two Evinrude outboard motors, each seven and a half horsepower, with which we towed the big boat through the quiet, sluggish sections of the river.

We carried with us a full supply of food, and nothing was lacking. To meet any eventuality, we also carried elaborate medical supplies, and were prepared for anything from an attack of asthma, (which befell one member of the party) to a broken leg, (suffered by one of our boatmen) and even hysteria, (which no one had in spite of the fact that things became a bit rugged in Cataract Canyon). From the reports of several of the ten river expeditions since the Major's, we expected to run into some trying and dangerous conditions.

Our photographic equipment was extensive. It included two motion picture cameras—an Eastman Cine Special II for standard size motion pictures, and a Bell and Howell Model 70-DL equipped with a FilmoRama lens (the 16mm version of CinemaScope), a $2\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ Hasselblad, a Leica and an Eastman Pony 35. We carried fourteen cameras in all, and had an especially built waterproof and "air conditioned" film box to safeguard all our film, including the 20,000 feet of color motion picture film. We kept the outside of the box wet constantly, and the water that evaporated from the foam rubber lining

kept the inside cool—an important factor with regard to Kodachrome, especially after exposure, in country where temperatures soar. Once I accidentally left the 70-

DL lying in the sun, and when I went to pick it up, it was too hot to touch. Our marine compass exploded when accidentally left in the sun. On our larger boat we

Lodore Canyon, in Dinosaur National Monument, was the most magnificent of all the sixteen canyons through which we floated.





Our twenty-seven-foot pontoon, the "Brontosaur," runs one of the fifty-two rapids in the forty-five-mile Cataract Canyon.

built a platform from which I operated—even to the point of standing while riding some of the rapids. The platform doubled as a table at our evening camp.

One reason why our expedition was the first to make this journey without a major catastrophe was because we had four of the most competent boatmen. Don Hatch, who,

with his famous father, Bus Hatch, runs the fabulous river trips in Dinosaur National Monument, was in charge of navigation. Under him were Leslie Jones, one of the few ever to "solo" through Cataract, Marble and Grand Canyons, and Bruce Lium and Alden Galloway, both of whom we borrowed from the Dinosaur National Monument crew.

Our speed was much greater than Powell's. We lunched the first day at Powell's evening campsite below the town of Green River. Also, we ran all the rapids, most of which Powell and his party either lined or portaged. The only exception was that we did line the small boat down the first quarter of Hell's Half Mile in Lodore Canyon. But our expedition was blessed with perfect water conditions—that is, until we arrived at Lee's Ferry, Arizona. We realized that our trip would have been far more dangerous had the water been higher. We noted that Cataract Canyon, during periods of high water, must be a chamber of horrors from one end to the other.

In some respects our experiences were similar to those of the Powell party. There was the scenery—just as it was in 1869. We saw the same things they saw, and we were as thrilled as they must have been, or perhaps more so, for in 1869 the continent contained more wilderness than today, so that they undoubtedly were more accustomed to wilderness than we. I am sure therefore, that the thrill and the extraordinary feeling of awe that we experienced at being so alone and so far from civilization in this wilderness region was much more thrilling to us. Only five times in the 714 miles and thirty-one days did we come in contact with civilization, and even then only slightly. We crossed but two major highways in the entire distance. One need only look at a road map to realize how vast a wilderness this river country is. Since the Powell expedition, fewer than seventy men have seen it from the ground.

We passed through sixteen of the eighteen canyons of the Green-Colorado river

system—Flaming Gorge, Kingfisher, Swallow, Horseshoe, Red, Lodore, Yampa, Whirlpool, Split Mountain, Desolation, Grey, Labyrinth, Stillwater, Cataract, Narrow, and Glen canyons. The only canyons we did not travel through were Marble and Grand canyons. We had to call a halt at Lee's Ferry on July 11, because of low water. To float our big boat through these last two canyons would require a great deal more water. During two days of waiting there, the river dropped even lower, and we knew there was no hope of continuing. Because we plan to complete the voyage next year, several of us went afterwards to the south rim of Grand Canyon to see this giant chasm and to look forward to next spring, when we will challenge her 365 rapids and see the sights she has hidden from all except those willing to chance her dangers.

During the House and Senate hearings on Dinosaur National Monument and the Echo Park project, many western representatives and senators were heard to say "We have hundreds of canyons just as beautiful as Dinosaur's." Had I made the journey prior to those hearings, I could have told the senators and representatives that this is not so. Now that I have seen all the major canyons of the Upper Colorado River basin, I have a yardstick with which I can better estimate the quality of Dinosaur's Lodore, Yampa, Whirlpool and Split Mountain canyons. In my opinion, and in the opinion of every member of our expedition, not one of the other canyons we saw can be compared to these four. It seems incredible that the four Dinosaur canyons, each so very different from the others, constitute so compact a unit in the comparatively small area that is Dinosaur National Monument. Yampa, its yellow-brown walls twisting and turning with the gyrations of the river deep within; Whirlpool, its ominous chocolate-colored cliffs and red and orange sloping walls overtopped by Harpers Corner; Split Moun-

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The Salmon La Sac Country

By JOHN F. WARTH, member

National Parks Association

Photographs by the Author

WHEN I came down out of the Salmon La Sac country in the summer of 1947, I was possessed with a strange double impulse; something like a prospector who has just made a strike—a feeling of wanting simultaneously to proclaim my discovery and to keep it to myself until proper protective measures were established.

Here was a mountain lakeland so outstanding in every detail that it seemed hard to believe that its recreational possibilities would not have been discovered and capitalized on years ago. Inaccessibility was

hardly an explanation. Not only are most of the points of interest readily accessible by trail or road, but the area itself is less than a three hours' drive—mostly over a four-lane highway from Seattle. Could it be that others had been so captivated by the virgin forests, clear streams, and undisturbed lakes set in a background of imposing peaks that they just weren't telling? Or could it be that I, fresh from the prairies and foothills of eastern Washington, had never dreamed that such superlative scenery existed so close to home and had conse-

The imposing shaft of Cathedral Rock towers beyond the blue water of Fish Lake and its bordering meadows of wild flowers.





The outlet of Fish Lake is an example of a kind of natural feature growing rarer every year, as more and more dams are built to raise lake water-levels.

quently been somewhat carried away? Were these wild hinterlands typical of the entire Cascade Range? Whatever the answer, it seemed beyond a doubt that what I had just seen compared favorably with more famous wonderlands, and that the region was definitely of national importance.

Another eight summers spent exploring much of the length of the Cascades from California to Canada intensified my enthu-

siasm for the Salmon La Sac country. Yes, the area was typical of the range, but in a highly concentrated form. It seemed to have quality and character all its own.

A glance at a Washington map will show that by far the greater number of alpine lakes lie along both sides of the Cascade Crest, between Stevens and Snoqualmie passes. The Alpine Lakes Limited Area, (a temporary classification used by the Forest

Service in Region Six) in the Wenatchee and Snoqualmie national forests, is said to contain some 300 lakes. The Salmon La Sac country represents the finest of this larger lakeland. Unfortunately only a small part of this sizeable protected zone coincides with the area discussed here.

The Salmon La Sac country is truly a land of dashing streams leaping into box canyons; and sparkling lakes, some so large as to be choppy most of the day, others so small and high as to be frozen well into the summer.

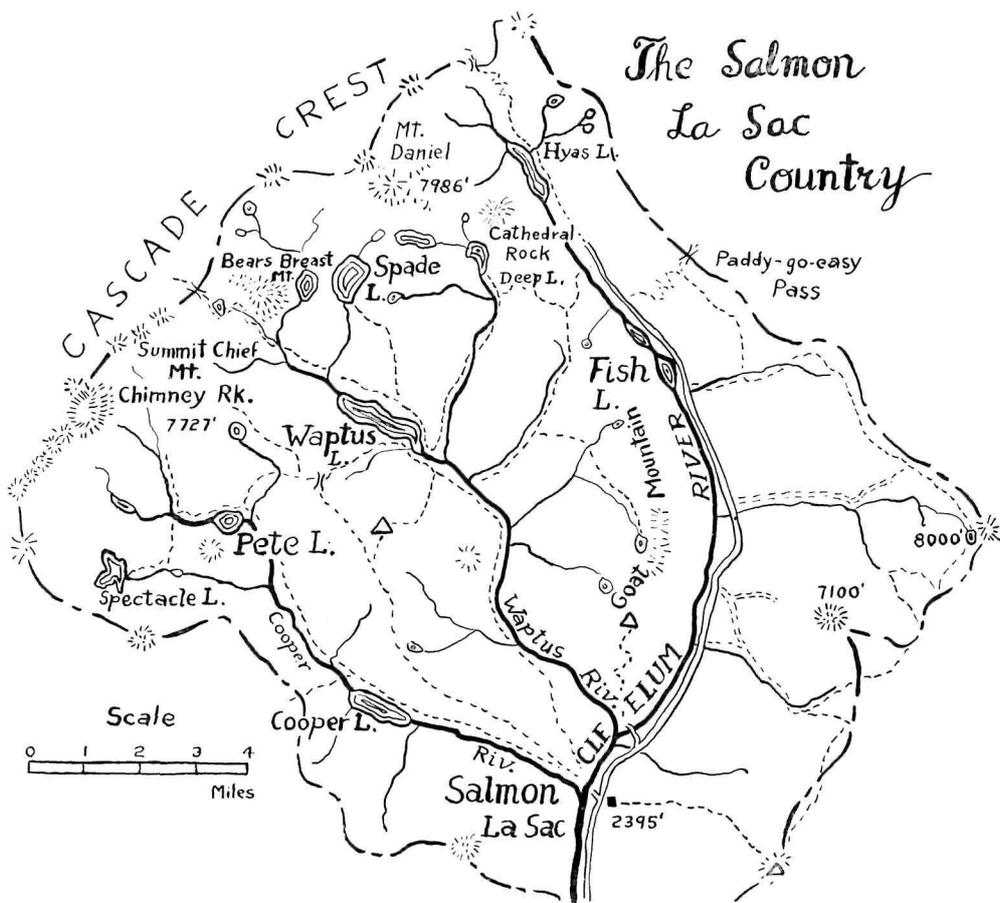
The area's three rivers cut through the uplands and penetrate to the very feet of the highest peaks along the crest. In each valley, at just the right distance back, as if placed by a master landscapist, is a low-land lake. Each rivals the other in being Washington's "most" beautiful.

Pete Lake on Cooper River is in some ways the most individualistic of all. To provide a backdrop for this, the crest has squeezed up into a veritable "Great Wall" composed of ten striking crags. It resembles Banff's Valley of the Ten Peaks on a small scale. The lake itself is hardly more than an extra-large pond. Jumbles of glacial boulders dividing the water with islands and parallel peninsulas adds an oriental touch. The tall spruces, firs, white pines, and shrubbery growing on the rocks are so exquisitely placed as to seem the work of a landscape architect.

Waptus Lake, in the next valley to the north, is on a grand enough scale to suggest some famous lake in the Canadian Rockies. At the head of this two-mile-long body of water, a pair of towering peaks vie for attention. Bear's Breast, in sculptured

Waptus Lake, largest in the area, is on a grand scale and suggests the famous lakes of the Canadian Rockies. Snow-patched Summit Chief and Bear's Breast mountains vie for attention.





beauty, rises 4500 feet directly from base line, and is quite different from the typical peaks of the Cascades. Summit Chief sits farther back to the left, completing a perfect composition.

If you camp on the beach that borders the east shore of the lake, a memorable experience is in store. In the hush of dawn, the alpenglow creeps down the sides of Bear's Breast Mountain. Now it lights the tips of the tall evergreens that march down to the shore. Gradually the sun's warmth dispels the early-morning mists brooding over the waters, while the lake is a mirror. The reflections of the peaks somehow seem sharper and more real than the peaks themselves.

At noon, cool breezes whip the water, and threatening clouds surround, but seldom pass, the peaks of Summit Chief, for the Salmon La Sac country lies at the edge of the dry belt, on the east slope of the Cascades.

All but five of the area's twenty-six named lakes are alpine. I recall climbing with my wife up the rugged five-mile trail to seldom-visited Spade Lake perched in a hanging valley high above Waptus. Even though aching muscles had been partially anesthetized by the sight of fields of golden groundsel, interspersed with alpine firs that framed snowy peaks, our spirits sank as we rounded the final bend in the trail. This was August, but the entire valley seemed

still in the dead of winter. The lake was under a plain of snow-covered ice. Our sleeping accommodations that night consisted of a patch of heather betwixt a snow-bank and a rock. Ice crystals on our tarps next morning showed that "frozen" feet were not altogether the result of imagination.

The wild scene that greeted us at breakfast time might have been in Tibet. The complicated cliff formations of Mount Daniel start at the far end of the lake and climb to almost 8000 feet elevation, the highest point in the region.

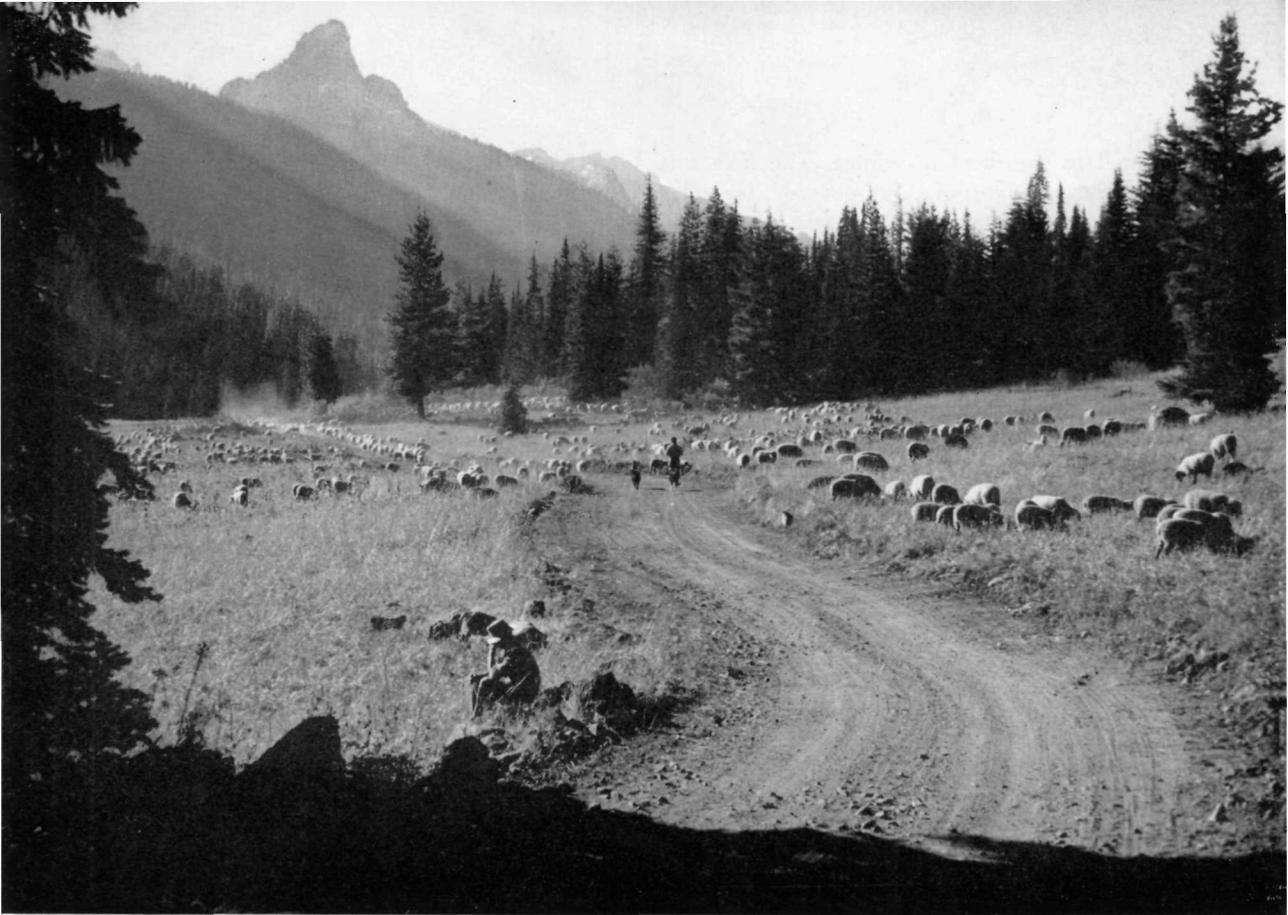
The well-known Pacific Crest Trail skirts Waptus Lake and plunges into one of the finest remaining groves of old-growth forest in the Cascades. The giant Douglas firs and white pine seem out of place at the

foot of lofty peaks. Yet, oddly enough, the large trees appear to delight in growing at the highest and most inaccessible sites. Isolated trees, with trunks five to six feet in diameter (one measured more than nine feet), of most of the seventeen species of conifers, were noted at such high spots as the slopes west of Fish Lake Meadows and above Waptus Pass. An enchanting meadow tucked away at the foot of precipitous Chimney Rock is bordered by Alaska yellow-cedar, mountain hemlock and white pine up to five feet and more in diameter.

Fires, avalanches, and exposure to wind have not encouraged the growth of commercial forests here. But a wall of protecting peaks has produced a flora of unexpected variety. Here East meets West in a curious intermixing of forest types and

Jagged, snow-clad peaks form a "Great Wall" along the Cascade Crest, and provide a backdrop for Pete Lake and its picturesquely landscaped rocky islands and peninsulas.





None but a photographer or artist could appreciate the flocks of sheep that come every August to crop the lush wild-flower meadows.

life zones. From Waptus Lake alone, there are at least four ages of forest. On the forest floor thrives an amazing assortment of shrubs and flowering plants—Canadian dogwood, mountain ash, serviceberry and buckbrush. Sometimes the ground is nearly bare, with nothing more perhaps than a few trailing kinnikinnicks or twinflowers. In general, the forests are pleasantly open and sunny—unlike the damp tangles of underbrush of almost tropical luxuriance found just west of the Cascade Crest. The flora on the east slope differs sufficiently from that of either of Washington's two parks to justify its complete protection.

Although the Salmon La Sac country is still remarkably wild, one can see much of the eastern part by auto. The road traverses the area from north to south,

but keeps closer to the less primitive eastern border. This is an old wagon road, that lately has been improved. Soon it may be possible to reach Salmon La Sac on a paved surface, and the remainder of the distance on two-lane gravel.

Most visitors drive as far as the campground and small resort at Salmon La Sac. On this large boulder-covered flat the Cle Elum and Cooper rivers meet, with the Waptus joining them in a gorge a mile or so upstream.

Those who wish to tackle the rather narrow, rough canyon road to Fish Lake and Meadows will be well rewarded. Passing through alternating sections of national forest and private land (now being logged), gazing dizzily into white water in rocky gorges beneath the 3000-foot cliffs of Goat

Mountain, one at last enters the promised land.

The valley of the Cle Elum River spreads out in a flowery meadowland of unsurpassed beauty. Here is a geographical feature that is becoming rarer every year. To me, it is one of the loveliest of nature's creations—the natural outlet of a lake. It seems that modern man takes particular delight in improving on nature at such situations by building dams. Here at Fish Lake (Tacquala on maps) we see the placid, mountain-reflecting waters squeezing between grassy banks lined with spruces and firs. At first there seems to be no current; then a faint ripple appears; and then definite motion, breaking into a boisterous stream. One evening in camp, while engrossed in

the scenery, I noticed a new ripple developing. It proved to be a beaver nosing along. From this same camp site, we often see deer and bears. Even goats occasionally may be spotted on Goat Mountain. Myriads of birds, in an unexpected variety, sing obbligatos to the stream music.

The meadows surround the lake and extend four miles toward the divide. Seldom does one encounter such an assortment of flowers—false hellebore, bog orchid, elephanthead, shootingstar, and dozens more.

There are several short hikes from here to such beauty spots as Hyas Lake, Deep Lake and Paddy-go-easy Pass. The latter offers a more comprehensive view of Mount Daniel than the close-up from Spade Lake.

(Continued on page 38)

Everywhere there are dashing streams that pause only momentarily before leaping into box canyons. Here the Waptus and Cle Elum rivers join in a forest-clad gorge.



OUR STREET

By BETTIE ALLEE BLACK

A ranger's wife

OUR STREET is a private street, reserved for permanent residents. Our street is a short street lined with brown cottages nestled among pines and junipers; but ours is no ordinary street, because it leads to the Grand Canyon's rim. Our street is on the plateau's summit, as though on a mountain top, and we can look across the canyon's depths, with its realms of changing color.

When you stroll along our street, you will share it with deer. Sedate does cross ahead of you, then stop and look inquiringly—curious, alert, poised; and at evening antlered bucks pass by. In autumn

the does bring their frisky but obedient spotted fawns. The deer seldom run from your approach. One doe I know of enlisted friends of ours as baby sitters. Each evening she would bring her fawn to lie beneath their window and listen to the radio. It seems the music was soothing, and after listening a while herself, she would leave for the night, with no fear for her little one. Our friends soon needed no alarm clock. A spell of plaintive hunger wails, an hour ahead of alarm time, signalled the doe to come and give her fawn its breakfast.

Our street, our village and all the park

Tricycles and bicycles predominate.



are a sanctuary, and the creatures seem to know the boundary well. They stay inside it, especially when the autumn open season prevails in the adjoining national forest. During a recent hunting period in the forest, regulations allowed shooting does as well as bucks, and many villagers were hurt and angry at the "sportsmen" who shot fawns, and even does accompanied by fawns.

Near our house sprawls an ancient tree—a wind-whipped giant that each spring is a nursery for young chipmunks, which sprint around its trunk. All summer long it is the playground of squirrels and birds; and in winter, snow gently, softly covers it for sleep.

In summer, traffic passing the end of our street may number thousands of cars a day, but children play freely on our street, for traffic here is light. Tricycles and bicycles predominate; and dolls and ball games are the order of the day.

Our village is home to white men and Indians alike. Here live Hopis, Navajos and Havasupais, whose ancestors dwelt nearby, long before Spanish padres came seeking souls, and the white men rumbled across the plains in quest of gold. The Havasupais, smallest of all tribes, live nearest—in the depths of the canyon itself. They call themselves the "people of the blue-green water," referring to the brightly colored pools near their native village. Well-known to us are little Sammy, a Hopi, who shines shoes at the lodge, and Porter, a Hopi, too, who is master of the group who performs tribal dances for tourists.

All things at our village are designed for the pleasure and comfort of visitors; yet our village is not a resort. We know, as do many others, that the Grand Canyon



The deer seldom run from your approach.

was set aside by Act of Congress as a national park, just as other areas have been, to be preserved in its pristine grandeur for the enjoyment of ours and coming generations. The livelihood of our village is based on the desire of hundreds of thousands who come here yearly to see, to ponder, to photograph the canyon and to hear inspiring lectures by the naturalists.

But the people of our village have a life that is all their own. Dormant in summer, it blooms in winter when visitors are few. It is then we organize square dance groups, become busier with church organizations, club and lodge activities; we plan and hold a church bazaar, and enjoy the movies twice each week. Christmas and New Years are occasions for celebration, with parties and exchange of gifts; while "open house" is the heart of merriment. The children present a Christmas program and, of course, there is always Santa's visit.

Our life is happy here. Our street is our home, and our village is our world. "Small," would you say? But see the view!

The northern Yellowstone elk herd has now increased to an estimated 12,000 head. To save the elk range from ruin, and to help the bighorn, antelope and bison populations, which share the range with the elk, the Park Service plans to reduce the herd by one sixth this winter. Because most elk habitat elsewhere already is stocked, the states are not expected to ask for many more live animals.

Dinosaur Now Nearly Secure

By FRED M. PACKARD, Executive Secretary

National Parks Association

PROPONENTS of the Upper Colorado Storage Project called a meeting at Denver on November 1 to consider strategy to secure authorization of the project during the next session of Congress. To make clear again the position of the nation's conservation forces, the Council of Conservationists published a full-page notice in the *Denver Post* the day before the meeting. It recalled the firm statement made by twenty-eight national organizations at the National Parks Association's conference held in New York last year, and stated that this position not only had not changed, but had been strengthened by later developments. After summarizing the many deficiencies and economic weaknesses of the project as now presented, and the refusal of its proponents to agree to reasonable modification, the notice concluded:

"We must go on record—today, while you are making decisions—that we will exercise every honest, democratic prerogative to prevent the passage, in the next Congress, of an Upper Colorado bill which needs, encompasses, anticipates, or secretly hopes for a dam or reservoir in a national park or monument."

Commenting further in Denver, in a statement released on the day of the meeting, Mr. Howard Zahniser explained that "the Council of Conservationists cannot specifically support any plan as a proper solution to the Upper Colorado's problems, because the ultimate engineering and economic virtues of any plan are beyond the legitimate scope of conservationists. However, if a new or revised project is developed and a new bill created which we are satisfied does not require or anticipate a dam or reservoir in a protected area or

otherwise violate good conservation and does include language which insures protection for our national park system in subsequent developments, the Council will inform conservationists, directly and through the press, that the matter is no longer a conservation issue and the conservation leadership has dropped all opposition."

The proceedings of the November 1 meeting at Denver were not published, but a motion presented by Senator O'Mahoney provided:

"Resolved that, in the hope of getting action on the Upper Colorado River Storage bill in the present Congress, the senators and representatives present agree they will not try to reinstate the Echo Park dam."

This resolution was adopted unanimously by the meeting, which included such key supporters of the project as Senators Anderson, Millikin and Watkins, and Representatives Dawson and Thompson.

Then, on November 29, Secretary McKay met with the executive committee of the Council of Conservationists to discuss the matter thoroughly. After the meeting, the Secretary issued a statement of the position of his Department, in part as follows:

"We are fully concerned today with insuring the orderly and efficient development of the West. We have, at the same time, understood and we have an appreciation for the views of those who have maintained that no dam should be built in Echo Park.

"We have taken note of the resolution . . . unanimously approved by the seven senators and seven representatives from the upper basin states. It does seem clear that the passage of an authorization for the Upper Colorado Project in the next session of Congress may be accomplished as a result of the agreement

to exclude Echo Park from the project. In the interest of getting the Upper Colorado Project started, the Department will acquiesce in this action. . . . At various times before the Congress, at their request, we have presented information regarding alternate proposals should Echo Park be excluded from the project. The Department has not in the past supported any of these alternate proposals. We will, however, give further study to this matter in view of the general agreement that Echo Park be excluded, and we will be prepared to recommend alternate action."

By these actions, the proponents have at last recognized the force of public opinion that Echo Park dam shall not be approved because of the impact on Dinosaur National Monument, and that it should be nearly impossible that the next session of Congress will give further serious consideration to it. To this extent, the defenders of the parks and monuments have won a victory.

However, it must be kept in mind that congressional witnesses before the House Rules Committee made it clear they intend to return at a later date for approval of dams not included in the present first phase

legislation, and one witness expressly named Echo Park dam as one of those to be sought in the future. We who value our parks and monuments as untouched remnants of the once primeval continent must continue to insist that positive language be included in any legislation relating to the Upper Colorado Project to provide definitely that no national park or national monument shall be invaded by any dam or reservoir approved as part of the project. In the absence of such guarantee, we shall continue to oppose any authorization of any part of it. It has been protested that one Congress should not interfere with the actions of future Congresses—but every Act that has established a national park is intended to do precisely that, to prevent later Congresses from destroying what already has been reserved.

An important advance has been made; but the final safeguard to our national park system has not yet been given. The Members of Congress should be made aware that any legislation that is approved must provide that protection, clearly and without equivocation.

THAT SACRED TRUST

(Continued from page 6)

type, stimulate athletic sports and inevitably lead to competition, and this in turn to tournaments and public spectacles. Eventually, provision must be made for those who come to watch, and new facilities must be built for them. By a process of attrition, national park policy would thus be perverted in support of a Sun Valley resort concept, which is fine in Sun Valley, but out of place in any national park. Gradually our national parks could degenerate into recreational playgrounds for the entertainment of the sports-minded public.

We are convinced that the present administration of the National Park Service has no desire to see such developments come into the system, and are pleased that the proposed chair-lifts have been rejected.

We have been assured that a firm line has been drawn below the T-bar ski-lifts. Even so, the location of that line has the effect of opening the door, of setting a pattern that future administrations may well seize upon as justification for more and more conversion of national parks into resorts.

The people of America came to the defense of Dinosaur National Monument because they realized that authorization of Echo Park dam would open just such a door. In precisely the same way, approval of mechanical ski-tows in one or two national parks can lead to even more undesirable expansion of the resort-playground concept. Should the establishment of the precedents come to be accepted by the public as proper national park policy, the damage to the national park system as originally conceived would be irreparable.

Fewest Park Fires in Two Decades

By L. F. COOK, Chief Forester,

National Park Service

THE record of forest fires in areas protected by the National Park Service, for the first ten months of 1955, has been relatively good despite a period of critical and prolonged danger in parts of the West.

The total number of fires reported as starting inside park areas during the year has been the smallest for any of the past twenty years. Even the number of lightning-caused fires has been slightly below normal.

Despite record public use of the areas, there were only 154 man-caused fires inside the parks during the year to November 1. This is considerably below recent years. A very marked reduction in the number of smoker fires (only fifty-six this year, which is fewer than half of the usual number) is an encouraging indication of the increasing attention park visitors are paying to this cause, which formerly represented almost half of all man-caused fires. During the past three years, a marked increase in the number of camper-caused fires has been noted, so particular attention was given this year to trying to reduce this source of fire, with the result that there were twenty-four, which is about equal to the previous twenty-year average.

A disturbing increase in incendiarism was noted in and adjacent to several of the southeastern parks this spring. In cooperation with the neighboring state conservation departments, concerted investigations have been made to determine the reasons why these fires were started. Apparently the intentions were not primarily to injure the parks. The investigations are being continued.

The area burned inside national parks and monuments this year to date is 3200 acres of forest, 135 acres of brushland and 1765 acres of grassland, or a total of 5100 acres—a smaller area damaged than for

any year since 1946.

It is interesting to note that of the thirteen fires of more than a hundred acres, six started outside the parks, and five were incendiary-caused. None of those larger fires was attributable to visitors.

During the last week in August and first week in September, California and southern Oregon, and to a lesser extent, the northern Rocky Mountain region, experienced very severe fire danger conditions. The state director of natural resources of California said that this was one of the most critical fire weather periods in twenty-five years, and a large area of the state was burned over. Crater Lake National Park had twenty-seven lightning fires started within the park, but all were promptly controlled, with little loss. In various parts of California, large conflagrations burned simultaneously. During this critical period, the National Park Service escaped without serious damage. One large fire threatened for several days to enter the giant sequoias in the Grant Grove section of Kings Canyon National Park, but was controlled at the boundary by the combined and coordinated efforts of the U. S. Forest Service, the state and the National Park Service. This fire was, however, extremely destructive on the adjacent Sequoia National Forest. At its height, while park forces were concentrating in assisting in its control, two other fires started within the Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks, one on private land within the Atwell Grove of giant sequoias and another, a lightning fire in the high Sierra Nevada back country. Prompt and intensive action prevented either of these from developing into major conflagrations.

As in previous years, much attention was given to the advance training and organization of employees in the areas.

BIG BEND DEDICATED

THE long-delayed ceremonies to dedicate Big Bend National Park, Texas, were held at the park November 21. The Chisos Mountains Basin area was the location for the program. Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay, the principal speaker, and numerous other dignitaries attended, including Governor Allan Shivers of Texas and the governors of the neighboring Mexican states of Coahuila and Chihuahua.

Secretary McKay spoke in part as follows:

"We have gathered in this setting of wild and majestic natural beauty to dedicate for the benefit and enjoyment of all the people for all time the Big Bend National Park. No finer gift is within the reach of any government or any mortal than the preservation for all time of a vast wilderness area in its untrammeled natural beauty."

The Secretary expressed hope that eventually Mexico will find it possible to establish the adjoining land south of the Rio Grande as a national park to form the second half of the proposed international peace park. "The pooling and mutual sharing of great scenic treasures along those borders," he added, "is an inspiring example to the troubled peoples behind the iron and bamboo curtains of the way free men and women can live in peace and friendship."

Speaking about the future of Big Bend, the Secretary said: "Ten years from now—in 1966—the number of visitors to Big Bend will approximate 500,000, according to our National Park Service experts. Look about you in this beautiful basin and consider for a moment what would happen if half a million people were concentrated here in the course of a single year. Visualize, if you can, the facilities they would require—the roads, lodging, restaurants, gas stations and other facilities. Clearly, the very beauty that attracted the multi-

tudes soon would be destroyed. To permit this to happen would be a desecration. It shall not happen. That I can promise. Yet a way must be found to permit those anticipated half-million citizens to enjoy the beauties of Big Bend. It can be done without despoiling the wild beauty of these mountains. It will require bold planning and vigorous action.

"Looking ahead, we can visualize the kind of development Big Bend will require. The rugged beauty of the Chisos Mountains will be preserved by restraining overdevelopment. Park planners feel, however, that the construction of roads and developed areas has progressed just about as far as it can without harming the scenery. Future plans contemplate the establishment of an attractive village in an oasis near the river in the vicinity of Hot Springs. Here the park's principal visitor accommodations would be concentrated. Motels, cabins, stores and other facilities would be created. The Park Service would erect a public-use building containing a museum and other facilities for interpreting the park to the public. Likewise, the Service would install roads, water and sewage facilities and public campgrounds. A spur road would take visitors to the spectacular Mariscal Canyon.

"Another development is contemplated for the Santa Elena Canyon area with provision for expansion to meet the growing needs of the future. These plans are part of a ten-year program which we are developing to provide the American people with the kind of park system they want.

"Without impairing the irreplaceable values of the wilderness, we can make it possible for people to enjoy sections of some of our park areas which have never been seen. To the perpetuation of the noble aspirations of the free American people, I dedicate this park as a haven of peace for all time."

KATMAI

(Continued from page 15)

same material washed up on the beach reveals that it is pumice, which has been carried down from the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes by water. A piece of pumice floats like cork. At times this curious natural phenomenon interferes with boating, as large islands of floating pieces may force a change of course to avoid scratching the hull or fouling the propeller. Water-logged pumice sometimes floats just beneath the surface, and the unsuspecting boatman may be astonished to plow into it at high speed in a deep part of the lake where an obstruction would not be expected. In 1954, a geologist was disembarking from a float-equipped plane, which had pulled up to what appeared to be a beach on Iliuk Arm of Naknek Lake. The geologist jumped from the plane's pontoon, and found the supposed beach to be floating pumice. He plunged through into water.

Katmai National Monument is the meeting ground of two life zones, the Hudsonian, characterized by white spruce forest, and the Arctic, which is distinguished by dense stands of reedgrass (*Calamagrostis*) that reach a height of from five to seven feet. This area contains the westernmost stands of spruce in southwestern Alaska, and the outposts of the forest are moving westward and southward into the grassland. Along the coast, spruce extends in patches to Hallo Bay, where a stand of considerable extent forms the last outpost. In the interior, a true spruce forest surrounds Iliuk Arm, the eastern end of Naknek Lake and part of Brooks Lake. Within this forest are balsam poplars, paper birches and cottonwoods. On the hills and knolls are heaths, blueberries, dwarf birches and crowberries. An especially interesting feature of the Katmai vegetation is the gradual recovery of extensive areas that were devastated by the 1912 eruption. Plant life is virtually in its original state, civilized man apparently having had little effect on it.

Most prominent of the monument's mammals is the peninsula brown bear. Weighing 1000 to 1800 pounds, it is the largest carnivore in the world. This bear is seen during the summer along stream banks or in the streams near the channels, fishing for salmon. At other seasons, it is largely a vegetarian, cropping grass on the open slopes like a cow, or digging for roots and the nests of mice and ground squirrels.

Alaska moose are fairly common, and often can be found in the swampy lowlands, near small ponds or along the lake shores. Caribou have been absent from the monument area for many years. To some extent they have crossed with the domestic reindeer, which were brought to Alaska from Asia some years ago. The hybrid is smaller than the native caribou, and is sometimes spotted.

Katmai Project scientists observed and recorded factual data on twenty-three species of mammals within the monument, exclusive of several genera of mice known to be there. Rather numerous are red fox, wolf, Canada lynx, otter, beaver, Aleutian ground squirrel, wolverine, Pacific harbor seal and, of course, the brown bear and moose. Mink, martin, arctic weasel, varying hare and lemming are also found.

Ducks of many species are common, and whistling swans nest in the rivers and swamps. Loons, grebes, gulls, and shore birds are plentiful in the lakes region and along the seacoast. Bald eagles commonly nest on various rock pinnacles by the sea, and spruce grouse and two species of ptarmigan are present. Eighty-six species of birds were noted in the monument in 1953, and others may be added to this list as a result of studies made in 1954.

Rainbow and lake trout, Dolly Varden, grayling, whitefish, northern pike, and red salmon abound. It is an especially thrilling sight to watch the red salmon attempt to ascend the six- to eight-foot falls in Brooks River.

Katmai National Monument is located on the Alaska Peninsula about 200 miles south-

west of Anchorage, Alaska, placing it almost directly north of the Hawaiian Islands. It is an area remote from centers of population and, prior to the airplane, access was difficult. In the days when everyone traveled by boat, the town of Kodiak, on Kodiak Island, was the nearest regularly used port. From Kodiak, visitors to the native village of Katmai made the hazardous trip in small boats across the thirty-mile Shelikof Strait, noted for its storms.

The trail from Katmai Village, on Shelikof Strait, to villages near Naknek Lake, in the monument's interior, was the most important route of travel across the Alaska Peninsula in the 19th century. This trail, pioneered by the natives of the area, was used by the Russians in transporting their supplies from Kodiak, on the south side of the peninsula, to the larger rivers entering the Bering Sea. Although laborious, this route was much safer than sailing around the storm-lashed peninsula, through the fog-bound passes between the Aleutian Islands, and on the Bering Sea.

Today, the monument is accessible by air from Anchorage, Kodiak and other Alaskan villages. At least two commercial airlines operate scheduled flights from Anchorage to King Salmon, a small village about twenty miles west of the monument, where bush planes are available on a charter basis for flights into the monument. During the visitor season, two tent camps operated as concessions within the area are served by scheduled flights. A few of the more adventurous visitors ascend the beautiful Naknek River from King Salmon by boat. This most rewarding trip offers a variety of scenery, and presents an opportunity to make close-up observations of wildlife, and there are boating thrills galore. The placid blue waters of the Naknek River spread over a relatively shallow area perhaps a quarter of a mile wide a short distance above King Salmon but, farther up, it rushes through a deep, narrow, winding channel fraught with rapids, whirlpools and immense underwater boulders that make navigation difficult.

Within the monument itself, travel is done by air, boat or by hiking. A canoe that can be portaged is one of the more interesting means of transportation. The chain of lakes are so interconnected that a scenic circle trip of at least eighty miles, involving several days of travel, can be taken by this means. One adventurous King Salmon resident had his canoe flown to one of the uppermost lakes of the Lake Naknek chain, and had his supplies flown to convenient caches on lake shores and river banks along the previously planned route in order to lighten the load in the canoe. He reported an exciting and arduous trip suitable only for the most hardy outdoorsman, but he did prove the feasibility of using a canoe on Katmai waters.

Most visitors prefer to stay at one of the concessioner's two tent camps located on Naknek Lake at Brooks River, and near the stream linking Lake Coville and Grosvenor Lake. An area near the mouth of Brooks River has been set aside as a campground for those persons wishing to camp out. By obtaining a fire permit from the Park Service ranger, the visitor may camp anywhere in the monument. A limited supply of food may be purchased at the Brooks River camp, or at the villages of King Salmon and Naknek, but it is advisable to determine in advance whether the desired items will be available there.

Although Katmai National Monument is located far from any great concentration of people, it may not always be so remote. At present, only a comparative handful of people enjoy the area each year; but the same could have been said of Yellowstone, when development of the West was in its infancy. Now Yellowstone is visited by more than a million people annually. Large numbers of people will in time, and perhaps sooner than we think, visit Katmai National Monument in search of its scenic magnificence and solitude, for this is one of the great wilderness areas in our system of national parks and monuments.

SALMON LA SAC

(Continued from page 29)

This remote and generally unknown peak sprawls for miles in snowy ridges and lesser peaks. Here at the pass are fantastic burnt-sienna colored rocks, twisted whitebark pine, and rare Lyall's larch. In such a harsh setting, the cool blues and whites of Mount Daniel across the valley are startling in their almost unreal contrast.

Every year more people come to this charmed valley. Some are drawn back again and again. The Forest Service, recognizing the unique values of the lake and meadow, included them in the larger Alpine Lakes Limited Area, in spite of the intruding road.

To see the western part of the area, we must leave our cars at Salmon La Sac. The Cooper and Waptus rivers are two of the very few completely virgin streams left in the Northwest. Roads extending the length of both of these streams are feasible, and tentative plans for them are filed at national forest headquarters at Wenatchee. Supervisor E. T. Blair assures us, however, that no further development of the area will be carried out without giving the matter careful consideration. This statement becomes less consoling when we realize that the administrators of our public lands can, at best, be expected to please the majority. Those who would treasure such a choice example of pristine America must voice their desires!

Travel into the back country is done afoot or on horseback. There is so much to see and do that the leisure and comfort afforded by packing in will be appreciated by all but the most self-reliant. On earlier trips, I had to give so much time and energy to the serious business of survival that little nature study or philosophizing were possible.

For those who prefer loop trips, the Salmon La Sac country is made to order. The Economy Circle Tour (afoot or mounted) follows the Cooper River to woody Cooper Lake, continuing on to Pete

Lake, over the broad ridge to Waptus Lake, and finally downstream to the starting point. This takes from three days to two or more weeks, depending on how many side trips and stopovers are included.

Etched forever in my memory is the climb up Summit Chief by way of Escondido Ridge. Sprinting along this lofty ridge, my companion and I were quite overcome by the ever-increasing magnificence of the view. We felt as if propelled by a great sense of freedom and almost reckless joy. Seeming almost at arms length before us was the 4500-foot wall of Chimney Rock and Glacier—actually separated by a 2000-foot drop just below us.

Unfortunately there are two jarring notes in all this perfection. One is the sawmill and logging operation on an old mining claim. The other is the flock of domestic sheep which comes in August to crop the wild flowers. No one who has seen (and smelled!) the aftermath of this grazing, with its dust and polluted waters, could say that there is no conflict in land usage here.

How can we best safeguard the priceless scenic values of the Salmon La Sac country? A plan for development has long ago been established for the eastern section, with its private lands and mining claims. It is to be hoped that the owners and administrators of these lands will never lose sight of the exceptional recreational values here. These eventually may prove of far greater importance to the local economy than the often meager returns from mining and logging. Tourist attractions are not to be regarded lightly in a state where vacation travel is the third largest industry.

But what about the western section? Here nature rules supreme and is generous in scenery. Forests of economic importance are patchy or inaccessible and there are almost no minerals. Most of the land is already in federal ownership. Logically this section should be left in its wild state.

Some may suggest that roads be built into the back-country to relieve crowded camping facilities below. Such a suggestion

hardly seems valid to one familiar with western Washington. Puget Sound is said to have some 2000 miles of shoreline. The center of population, King County, is blessed with over 200 lakes and innumerable streams. That many of these have been robbed of their natural beauty is all the more reason for keeping intact our few remaining primeval areas.

As accessible waters become more and more commercialized, such untarnished gems as Pete and Waptus Lakes will become increasingly valuable. Indeed wilderness areas are not without their economic importance, to say nothing of their immense recreational benefit to man. Not only are virgin upland forests of inestimable value

for water conservation, but adjacent resorts, packers, and dealers in outdoor equipment are thereby kept in business. Even today some thirty-seven packers are required to meet the demand for horses and guides in the Cascades of Washington.

The problems of preserving this choice bit of primitive America are complex. Will public appreciation of this area come too late? The Salmon La Sac country needs friends now.

Those who are unable to make a personal acquaintance with the area, and who would like more information about it, may write to the author at 3806 Burke Avenue, Seattle 3, Washington. A set of color slides of the area also will be available soon, from the author.

FOR BEAUTY AND ATTENTION

THE cover of this issue is the realization of a dream deferred for many years—the use of color in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. Only by full color reproduction can the beauty of our national parks and monuments be shown as it really is, and a magazine about these areas is the ideal and perfect place for such illustrations.

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE appeared in 1942, as a growth from the Association's earlier *National Parks Bulletin*. At that time, it had only thirty-two pages, but even then the high standard of attractiveness was established that has been adhered to through subsequent years. Income limitations ruled the size of the magazine, but it soon became evident there was too much to be said for so few pages, and, with healthy growth of membership, it was enlarged. First, eight pages were added, then another eight, without increasing membership dues. This has proved to be a wise decision, for it has contributed to the usefulness of the organization, and the increased service has been reflected in continuing growth.

Now another step forward has been taken. It has been made possible by a donation to cover the increased cost for the first

year. Thereafter, it is hoped increase in membership will carry the expense—as it inevitably will if every member encourages a friend to join the Association. This modest beginning should lead to color illustrations inside as well, so that NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE will attract even wider public attention to the importance of preserving the national parks and monuments.

It is this educational need that has led to the new cover, and not merely a desire to beautify the magazine. One of the most difficult problems confronting your Association is the complexity and expense of reaching new people, of securing the attention of the grassroots public that knows little or nothing of the dangers threatening the national parks and monuments, and on whom, in the end, the security of the parks depends. NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE has always been arrestingly attractive, and the addition of color should increase its appeal. If this results in wider appreciation of the value of national parks and monuments, which will be reflected in growth of your Association's membership and influence, the purpose will have been well served.

IN MEMORY OF BERNARD AUGUSTINE DE VOTO

ON November 13, America lost a uniquely eloquent scholar, historian and conservationist, when Bernard De Voto died at the age of fifty-eight. He was author of many outstanding books on the history of America, especially of the Civil War and the West. He won the Pulitzer Prize for History, in 1948, for his brilliant *Across the Wide Missouri*. As a journalist and editor of *The Easy Chair* in *Harper's*, he expressed forcefully and effectively his trenchant Americanism.

Few men knew the patterns of the culture of the West as did Mr. De Voto; he insisted that the West, and the nation, could survive only if our western resources were guarded from exploitation and saved and used wisely as national necessities. When rapacious livestockmen sought to wrest unregulated control and ownership of all federal rangelands, De Voto warned of the national catastrophe that would follow if they succeeded, and his article *The West Against Itself* aroused the nation to defeat this notorious landgrab.

He knew and loved the national parks. Believing they are essential to the welfare of

the people, he brought his tremendous knowledge and perception to their service as a member of the National Parks Advisory Board and of the Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association, to which he belonged. When the national park system was endangered by proposals that would undermine its security, his pen was ready in its defense. His article, *Shall We Let Them Ruin Our National Parks?*, published in the July 22, 1950, issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*, was one of the first to appear during the six-year struggle in defense of *Dinosaur National Monument*.

A native of Utah, De Voto received his first degree from Harvard University, and subsequent degrees from the University of Colorado, Northeastern University, Middlebury College and Kenyon College. He taught and lectured at Harvard and Northeastern, where his alert intelligence and ready wit endeared him to his students. In addition to the Pulitzer Prize, he was awarded the Bancroft Award, in 1948, and the National Book Award, in 1953. He belonged to many conservation organizations, through which he spread his influence.

PANTHER MOUNTAIN DAM DEFEATED AGAIN

For the second time in five years, New York State voters have prevented efforts to construct a proposed Panther Mountain dam on a tributary of the Moose River, in the Adirondack State Park. In 1950, the proposal was turned down when Governor Thomas E. Dewey signed a state bill barring construction. (See *Panther Mountain Dam Threat Ended*, in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for October-December 1950.)

This time the voters rejected a proposed constitutional amendment to authorize construction of a private power dam at the Panther Mountain site. Fortunately, the voters amended their state constitution two years ago to provide that dams may not be built in the state forest preserves except by approval of the voters. On November 8, this amendment was put to its first test. Opposition against the proposed dam was three to one—a vote so overwhelming that we may assume that the persistent efforts of the would-be dam builders have been put to rout for some time to come.

The dam would have invaded a superb wilderness region of the state park, and would have inundated 4000 acres of forest land.

Afield With Your Executive Secretary

PART II

Mr. and Mrs. Packard reported on the highlights of the first part of their camping survey of western areas in the October-December issue. This presents the second half of their report.

FOLLOWING our float trip through Glen Canyon, and after washing ten days' accumulation of silt from our clothes and ourselves, at Marble Canyon Lodge, we drove through the pastel panorama of the Painted Desert to the south rim of the Grand Canyon.

The railroad properties there have been bought by Fred Harvey, Inc., who will, we trust, be able to improve the appearance of the village, which is certainly shabby. Granting the need for more adequate campgrounds, relocation of the service station, and for other facilities to serve the public in this isolated region, it is regrettable that present planning seems to be to extend the village eastward and westward along the rim; the proposed Shrine of the Ages,* if built as now proposed, will be located west of the village and a new service station east of it.

A serious threat to the park is the development of an old patented mining claim as a source of uranium. The ore is being taken from a mine twelve hundred feet below the rim and involves an elaborate cable lift which, even if mining is discontinued, may remain an impairment of the environment. Ironically, this private inholding might have been purchased for the park at a fair price years ago but for miserly penny-pinching by the authorities controlling appropriation of funds. It accentuates the necessity of acquiring inholdings everywhere in the parks and monuments at the earliest time.

*See *A Church for Grand Canyon*, in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for April-June 1955.

Driving north to Bryce Canyon National Park, we stopped at the excellent Museum of Southern Utah, at Kanab, which a family of archeologists has built to display superb exhibits of ancient Indian culture, and where one may buy the very best of modern Indian jewelry and other crafts. We reached Bryce Canyon at sunset, when the exquisite spires were tinted with coral hues. The naturalist, during his evening talk in the lodge, coined the perfect taxonomic name for the species of litterbug tourist, *Snootus tootus americanus*—although we noted that this park was immaculately clean.

From Bryce Canyon we drove up to Dinosaur National Monument to join another Sierra Club group at the home of Bus Hatch, veteran riverman, for a run through the Yampa and Green River canyons. Sixty of us piled into busses to drive to Lily Park on the Yampa River, at the eastern edge of the monument. The magnificence of Dinosaur's now-famous canyons has been described so eloquently in film and story that it will suffice to say only that they are well worth the long and bitter struggle to save them. The exhilarating river trips are so well arranged by the Sierra Club that everyone who can should see the monument this way (the low rates for these trips generously have been made available to members of the National Parks Association). In our raft, rowed by a husky University of Utah student who had a way with kids, were children ranging from five years to thirteen, who welcomed every rapid with cheers of delight and who made pointed comments about the timidities of

some local people who view these rivers with terror. I tried my hand at folboting through a rapid or so and inexpertly tipped over in one, which was as much fun as staying upright.

Dinosaur will come into its own when funds are appropriated for reasonable access by people who have limited time to spend there. It would be a shame were this superlative wilderness to be overdeveloped. The existing roads need resurfacing and plans to provide one-day boat trips should be realized as soon as possible. Campgrounds are needed; but we felt motels and similar overnight facilities would better be located in the towns of Jensen and Vernal, easy driving distances from the monument. Progress is being made on excavation of a tremendous exhibit of fossil dinosaurs in place at the quarry; it is urgent that funds be provided to protect these fragile remains.

The monument staff deserves high praise for its diplomacy and good humor in handling probably the most difficult public relations job confronting any national park system area, during these past years of heated controversy.

Our final stop was at Rocky Mountain National Park, where we floundered through snow drifts to the great lava slides on Specimen Mountain, in quest of bighorn sheep. I had spent two years in this park studying these animals and other wildlife for the National Park Service, and have an especial affection for its mountains. It was so windy on Specimen that the bighorns had sought shelter, but we did see some at a distance on the alpine meadows of the Never Summers to the west.

We were interested to survey the work that has been done to provide ski-tows at Hidden Valley. As the editorial in this issue explains, the Association is perturbed by the policy approving such devices in national parks (as this is written, report comes of plans for T-bar lifts on Hurricane Ridge in Olympic National Park). In my inept way, years ago, I skied with pleasure

through the trees at Hidden Valley, when no tows existed or clearing had been done there. In fairness, we should say that we were impressed by the care with which the winding runs have been cleared—advantage has been taken of every natural clearing, and the little cutting is less than that required for the usual hiking trail. We felt, however, that the introduction of mechanical devices and an artificial amusement into the system is a serious violation of the national policy governing the national parks. There was considerable clutter at the foot of the slope, where a parking area was being installed.

Rocky Mountain has a more serious private inholding problem than any other national park, but progress is being made to solve it. The Association was instrumental in saving a key tract of eighty acres from exploitation, through the generous cooperation of one of its members, and this land, with some adjacent tracts, will soon officially be added to the park.

Few pursuits could be more rewarding than the opportunity to work professionally for the welfare of our national parks and other wild areas of America. It is stimulating and challenging, and gives a rewarding sense of public service. To meet this responsibility, it is not enough to sit in an office in the nation's capital. Intimate acquaintance with the parks themselves is essential, not only to understand them, but to enable one to interpret them and their significance to others. We returned to Washington refreshed, ready to pick up the work that we feel is necessary to ensure that Americans now and in the future shall be able to enjoy the fullness of life.

LETTERS

Franz Lipp Photographs

It was a privilege to meet you and your friends and to be able to express thanks for your contributions to our work here in Germany. One of the highlights of our activities was the Yellowstone National Park exhibit.

The Voelkerkunde-Museum exhibited the photographs, which attracted several thousand Germans to the museum. The opening was a festive occasion with a short address by Prof. Termer and a talk by the Public Affairs Officer LeVan Roberts, and a lecture by Prof. Kraus, Munich, on the national parks of the United States. The telegram by Mr. Sigurd Olson, president of the National Parks Association, to the now deceased Dr. Foerster, was read to an audience of almost 300, which stated: "The National Parks Association is delighted that the Yellowstone Park exhibit will be shown at the famous Voelkerkunde-Museum in Hamburg, and we hope it will create an incentive to maintain the natural beauty in Germany for the benefit of future generations."

The exhibit was among the most important contributions toward creating an interest in the United States, and toward furthering cordial German-American relations.

Sofie H. Bernard, director
Amerika Haus
Hamburg, Germany

Hetch Hetchy

My vacation is past, but my experiences I will never forget. This was my first visit to Yosemite. I saw many disturbing things there. Hetch Hetchy (dam) was as I had visioned. The thought occurred that here was an excellent means to show by exhibits and interpretive talks how such commercialization has no place within our parks. The average visitor, not aware of the fight John Muir waged against the builders of this dam, is apt to think of Hetch Hetchy as a park facility. It's on all Park Service maps. A park ranger station on the edge of the site is, to the unknowing, an endorsement. The road to Hetch Hetchy should be closed to visitors. Better still, the reservoir should be dropped from the jurisdiction of the Park Service. Why should Park Service funds be used to protect something that is a violation of park principles?

During the Dinosaur fight, I often wondered what Mr. Wirth would do if Echo Park dam were built. Would he go along with the recreation boys and develop the area as another Lake Mead, or would he declare the area no longer of national park caliber?

I feel that every time we give in to the

recreational instead of re-creational development, our parks drop one more notch from their high place. Such appeasement is endorsement in the public's eye, and it will be almost impossible to stop such thinking in the years ahead. A positive stand on just what does constitute a national park would go a long way toward protecting them in the future.

J. F. Carithers
Tucson, Arizona

● The suggestion that Hetch Hetchy be closed to the public has point. While it does represent a vivid example of what should not be done in a national park, most visitors think it is part of the Park Service program and do not know the background. It seems to me that this is the sort of subject that should be studied by the Park Service as part of its Mission 66 program. I could not agree more that the emphasis should be on re-creation, as contrasted with recreation. One school of thought is that the Park Service should be a dynamic, aggressive agency, with plans to increase public enjoyment of the areas, even if that means relaxing the guards in certain places to accommodate it. The other school is the "primitive" school, that the Park Service's main responsibility is to maintain the status quo by protecting the features, and not disturb existing conditions by artificial recreational attractions or overly elaborate accommodations. After all, the fundamental objective of establishing the parks is to preserve, rather than develop. It seems to me those of our view have a good opportunity to express their opinions now, as a contribution to Mission 66.—Fred M. Packard, *Executive Secretary*.

Forces of Destruction

Am proud to be a member of such a great organization established to help promote preservation of our national parks and monuments. NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE is the greatest I have read, with all the informative material given on matters concerning our national parks and monuments and wildlife. Here in my state is Mount Rainier. The land adjoin-

ing the park on the west is owned by a big lumber company. It has been logged off and makes Mount Rainier look like an oasis in a desert. There is room in the Colorado River basin for building dams without invading Dinosaur National Monument or any national park or monument.

Wayne S. Pritchard
Tacoma, Washington

National Parks Book

I want to express my appreciation and enjoyment of your book, *Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments*. The text and

photographs do justice to the individual units, and also effectively portray the reasons for the system.

James E. Hilley
Warner Robins, Georgia

I have just finished reading *Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments*. The book is excellent. Every page brought nostalgia for places we have visited and loved. Please send me information on membership in your organization. Your interests are very dear to my heart.

Mrs. Eugene Hermanski
North Attleboro, Massachusetts

RIVER TRAIL

(Continued from page 22)

tain, its high, sharp spires, flying buttresses and cliffs crowned by verdant pines; and Lodore, most magnificent of all, with its 3000-foot sheer walls and amphitheatres of blood-red rock splashed with the somber green of Douglas firs, and its river bordered all the way by pale green cottonwoods, willows and tamarisk. Nature did her finest here! These canyons are neither so dull as Grey and Desolation, where occasionally there are inspiring sights, nor as threatening and dangerous as Cataract, nor yet as monotonous as Labyrinth, Stillwater and Glen. In Dinosaur, nature has been more modest than in Grand Canyon, for here she has poured forth so much grandeur that man can hardly comprehend it.

Those who have fought for the preservation of Dinosaur National Monument, and who, for the moment, at least, have saved her from destruction by the Echo Park and Split Mountain reclamation projects, can be proud indeed to have worked for so worthy a cause. I now place an even higher value on Dinosaur than previously. All of us must work harder than ever to keep this area intact. It is of national *park* quality. We must keep eternal vigilance

over this wondrous scenic property of ours to make certain that the few who are more interested in reclamation spending than in the opportunity which our children and theirs might have in visiting it, do not slip in and take it away from us.

Editor's note.—The premiere showing of Mr. Eggert's spectacular film was given on November 21 at the Cosmos Club, Washington, D. C. This seemed especially fitting because Major Powell founded the club. A distinguished audience attended the showing, and was enthusiastic.

The showing required a specially-designed twenty-one-foot screen.

Mr. Eggert is planning to lecture with *A Canyon Voyage* during the next several months, in New England and the Middle West. The schedule for New England is as follows: January 10, The Brooks Club, Grace Church Parish House, New Bedford, Mass., 7 P. M. January 11, John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company, Boston, 180 Berkeley Street, 7:45 P. M. January 14, St. Paul's School, Concord, N. H., 8 P. M. January 15, Moses Greeley Parker Lectures, Lowell Memorial Auditorium, Lowell, Mass., 3:30 P. M. January 17, Maine Charitable Mechanic Ass'n, Frye Hall, 76 Pitt Street, Portland, Me., 8 P. M. January 18, Groton School, Groton, Mass., hour to be set. January 20, Natural History Museum of Worcester, 21 Cedar Street, Worcester, Mass., 8 P. M.

THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

WILD AMERICA, by Roger Tory Peterson and James Fisher. Published by Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1955. 434 pages. Illustrated. Maps. Index. Price \$5.

During his sojourns in England, while preparing his *Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe*, Roger Peterson invited James Fisher to see for himself the beauty of America and to meet new birds in the New World. Together Peterson and Fisher followed spring around the continent.

Roger, better than any other American, knows where birds are to be found, and he planned the 30,000-mile expedition from the bird-crowded islands of Newfoundland, down the Blue Ridge to the Great Smoky Mountains, and on to the fabulous avian wealth of Florida, Louisiana and Texas. They dropped briefly into the jungles and cloud forests of Mexico, and thence to explore the deserts and forested peaks of the Southwest. As spring advanced, they moved on to Yosemite, Crater Lake, and the rain forests of Olympic National Park, completing the trip in the Pribilof Islands and on the vast waterfowl nesting grounds of Alaska. Every place they stopped was a mecca for bird students, and they achieved the triumph of seeing more kinds of birds in one season than ever previously recorded—more than 500 species.

America, seen through the eyes of an alert British scientist, who looked for living beauty rather than neon signs and skyscrapers, takes on new radiance in this book. Peterson and Fisher, who alternate in writing the account, are human and sensitive, surprisingly alike in their perceptions and humor. They present a banquet of memory and anticipation, not only for those of us who identify places by the birds we see, but also for everyone aware of America's heritage of scenic splendor

and natural magnificence. They newly tell the story of the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Canyon de Chelly and other national parks and monuments as refreshingly as have any writers. Most of us cannot hope to encompass so much in a single trip, nor to have such an escort as Roger Tory Peterson. But this book will help invaluablely to encourage other travelers to follow their trail and see for themselves the myriad facets of the American outdoors that so fascinated our English visitor. "I hope you Americans will always hold on to these primitive areas," writes James Fisher, thoughtfully. "We would give our souls to have some of them on our side of the Atlantic. You cannot realize until you are as crowded as we are how important wilderness values are."

Wild America will be enjoyed by people of any age, and will open new horizons to those who have already seen some of the beauty of the land, but who, perhaps, have not seen it with such freshness or awareness. It is an eloquent appraisal of the values the people of America have worked so diligently to preserve, and strengthens the resolve that they shall be safeguarded for the future.—F.M.P.

ANIMAL FRIENDS OF THE SIERRA, by Fran Hubbard. Obtainable from the author, Box 21, Yosemite National Park, California. Illustrated with line drawings. Thirty-two pages 8½" x 10½". Prices \$2.25 cloth, \$1 paper.

Especially designed for children, this is one of the most appealing books of its kind to come across our desk. Not only is it handsomely arranged, with its fresh and vigorous pen-and-ink drawings by William D. Berry, but it embodies the best in national park thinking with regard to wildlife. As the title indicates, it deals exclusively with the mammals of the Sierra Nevada of California, and relates the several

species to the national parks of the region. An introduction *Why Do We Have National Parks?* is followed by the descriptions of the characteristics and habits of more than thirty species, pointing out the place of each animal in the scheme of nature. Numerous full pages of drawings are supplemented with smaller marginal drawings, which add to the attractiveness of every page of the text. These show not only the full portrait of the animal, but also show the creature in various poses or in action, and there are drawings of tracks, deer antlers, teeth, and in several instances, the young. We highly recommend this book as a means to helping youngsters achieve a proper attitude toward the dwellers of our wilderness.—*D.B.*

THE EDGE OF THE SEA, by Rachel Carson.

Published by Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1955. 276 pages. Illustrated. Maps. Index. Price \$3.95.

Thousands of readers have gained new appreciation of the wilderness of the oceans from Rachel Carson's *The Sea Around Us*, one of the most sensitive accounts of nature ever written. Now, in *The Edge of the Sea*, she reveals the fascination of an equally little-understood primeval environment, where life follows strange and wonderful patterns seldom noticed by man. The setting is the North American Atlantic coast, where the tides sweep over the rocky headlands

north of Cape Cod, the sandy beaches of the central and southern states, and the living coral of Florida. Each has its incredible communities of animals and plants, extraordinarily adapted to a rigorous habitat that requires a hardihood to survive that is almost beyond comprehension. Miss Carson tells the strange ways the under-water creatures have met the challenge of their environment, and explains the influences of tide and surf, of movements of the earth's crust, of the character of the surrounding water, to show how such life came to exist.

She has a truly spiritual comprehension of the wondrous powers of nature that have produced this community of beings and of the beauty they possess. She is an eloquent writer, gifted with a facility of expression uncommon among scientists. The charm of the book is enhanced by the attractive marginal drawings by Robert Hines, which portray many of the unusual forms of life encountered where the tides come and go. As one reads the book, he is chagrined that he has not been more observant as he has walked along the shore, for casual vision overlooks the wealth of minutiae spread before him. He will approach this world with new perspective now, and gain enrichment. This is a volume to take with you next time you visit the shore, and especially to give to your young friends who have the priceless attribute of curiosity about the world they live in.—*F.M.P.*

The Navy has been granted permission by the Department of the Interior to construct a facility near the lighthouse, in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area, on the grounds that it is vital to national security. It will be landscaped in conformity with National Park Service directives, and title will remain with the Park Service. The Navy purchased equivalent adjacent privately-owned lands for the Park Service, and is building a short road through them to permit continued public access to the lighthouse and museum near by, and to a campground planned in that vicinity.

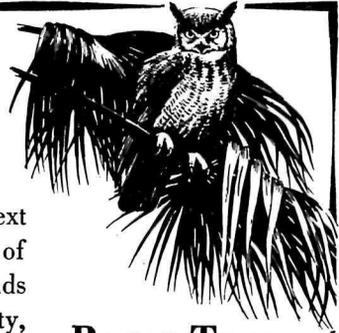
Your Executive Secretary Fred M. Packard addressed an inquiry to the Department of the Interior to ascertain whether this installation was justified for the reasons given, and made a personal inspection of the area. Your Association believes the only justification for such military use of any National Park Service property is in the event that the national security—as contrasted with military convenience—so requires. Mr. Packard was convinced this facility is warranted.

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"Wild America" is a bountiful book both in text and illustrations, the latter superb examples of Mr. Peterson's scratchboard art. The reader ends with the feeling of having been one of the party, of having joined two fortunate naturalists during great days of their lives."

— *Edwin Way Teale, N.Y. Times*



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THE NATIONAL PARKS AND YOU

Few people realize that ever since the first national parks and monuments were established, various commercial interests have been trying to invade them for personal gain. Lumber companies, hydroelectric and irrigation interests, mining groups and livestock raisers are among these, and some local communities seek to turn the parks into amusement resorts to attract crowds.

The national parks and monuments are not intended for such purposes. They are established as inviolate nature sanctuaries to preserve permanently outstanding examples of the once primeval continent, with no marring of landscapes except for reasonable access by road and trail, and facilities for visitor comfort. Attempts to force Congress and the National Park Service to ignore the national policy governing these sanctuaries are ceaseless and on the increase. People learning about this tendency are shocked, and ask that it be stopped. The Association, since its founding in 1919, has worked to create an ever-growing informed public on this matter in defense of the parks.

The Board of Trustees urges you to help protect this magnificent national heritage by joining forces with the Association now. As a member, you will be kept informed, through NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, on current threats and other park matters, so that you may take action when necessary.

Dues are \$3 annual, \$5 supporting, \$10 sustaining, \$25 contributing, \$100 life with no further dues, and \$1000 patron with no further dues. Bequests, too, are needed to help carry on this park protection work. School and library subscriptions are \$2 a year. Dues, contributions and bequests are deductible from your federal taxable income. Send your check today, or write for further information, to the National Parks Association, 2144 P Street, N. W., Washington 7, D. C.

The Association's First Objective

To protect the integrity of national parks and monuments; to uphold the highest standards for these areas; and to develop an informed appreciation of these areas by furthering understanding of their primary purpose by every appropriate means.

THE national parks and nature monuments were established to preserve superb examples of the wilderness that once covered North America. The nation's sanctuaries of the primeval, where we can still see the most magnificent scenery on the continent—ranges of mountains, rivers and lakes, deserts and forests and all living things found there—afford a glimpse of the past that has come to us unchanged through countless centuries.

The National Parks Association was founded in 1919 for an express purpose, to help keep these areas intact and undisturbed. We oppose, therefore, invasions by interests who would cut their forests, mine their minerals, dam their rivers, graze their meadows, or build such things as airports and needless roads within their borders. We believe that these superlative areas should be protected from any uses that might reduce them to the level of

commercialized playgrounds, in which artificial amusements would be substituted for the greater spiritual values for which they are intended.

The Association is convinced that any developments deviating from the intent of the National Park Service Act of 1916, which states that the parks and monuments are to be left unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations, must be prevented, and that any such deviation in one park or one monument constitutes an invasion of the entire system.

Only through the development of an informed public opinion can our parks and monuments be defended. It is therefore the purpose of our Association not only to build up an appreciation and understanding of the basic purposes of these areas, but to exercise eternal vigilance in safeguarding them from exploitation and change.



President

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GROWING MORE PERSISTENT YEARLY
ABOUT INVADING OUR PARKS FOR PERSONAL GAIN,
THE NEED IS GREATER THAN EVER
FOR MEN AND WOMEN OF MORAL COURAGE
TO DEFEND AS PERSISTENTLY
THESE REMNANTS OF OUR VANISHED WILDERNESS