

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

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KATMAI—A Wilderness to be Guarded—Page 10

JANUARY-MARCH 1958

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God has lent us the earth for our life. It is a great entail. It belongs as much to those who are to come after us as to us and we have no right by anything we do or neglect, to involve them in any unnecessary penalties, or to deprive them of the benefit which was in our power to bequeath.—JOHN RUSKIN.

THE COVER

Photographer unknown

This aerial view of Kaguyak Volcano in the northeastern section of Katmai National Monument was taken looking in a generally northeast direction. The snow-covered mass in the left center distance is Four-peaked Mountain rising to an elevation of 6903 feet. Most of the white on the mass at the time the picture was made was snow-covered glaciers. In the valley between the distant range and Kaguyak Volcano is Big River, which flows east (to the right) into Shelikof Strait. (See map on page 12.)

The “splinter” of the Volcano on the east (right) side of the crater rises 1800 feet above the lake. Two cinder cones were thrown up by this volcano in the dying phase of activity; one of them rises barely above the lake. The vegetation on the outer slope of the volcano is mostly alder and grass. The pale patches are banks of volcanic ash, probably wind-drifted remnants of the material which was thrown out by Mount Tridant in 1953.

Geologists of the Katmai project believe the Kaguyak Volcano is geologically recent and the eruption may have occurred as recently as 1000 years ago. No tradition of the eruption exists among the native people of the peninsula, so it must antedate the period during which folklore has survived.

An analysis of the problems of Katmai National Monument—past and present—including the Mission 66 plans for this area may be found on page 10.

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

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

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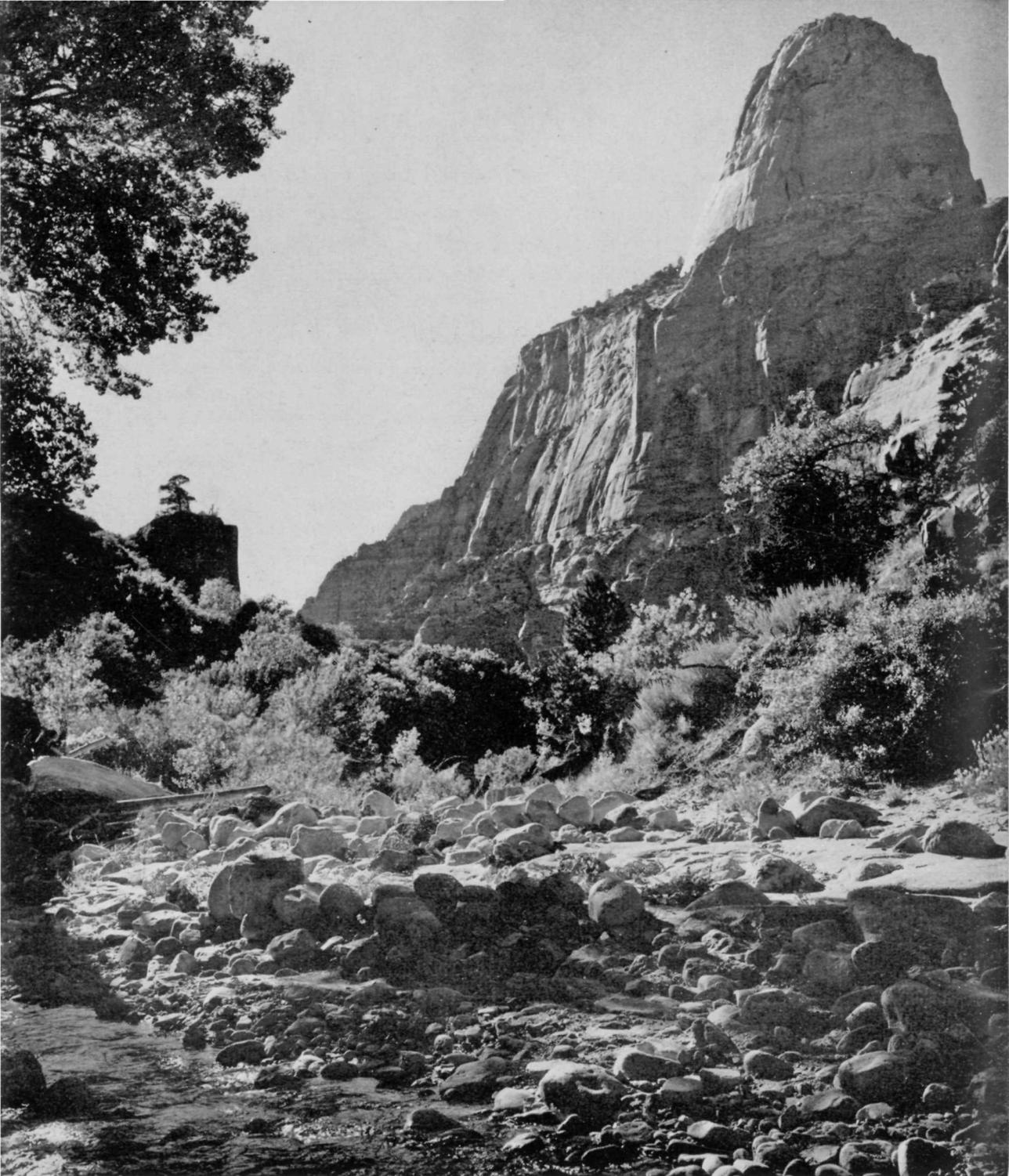
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NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, formerly National Parks Bulletin, has been published since 1919 by the National Parks Association. It presents articles of importance and of general interest relating to the national parks and monuments, and is issued quarterly for members of the Association and for others who are interested in the preservation of our national parks and monuments as well as in maintaining national park standards, and in helping to preserve wilderness. School and library subscription \$2 a year. Individual copy 50 cents.

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Looking downstream on La Verkin Creek, Zion National Park, Butte 7705 at right.

Now part of Zion National Park's roadless back country, a Mission 66 road is planned here together with an interpretive center. Does the present law under which "there is no limit" adequately protect park wilderness?

"MISSION 65" IS PROPOSED BY REVIEWER OF PARK SERVICE'S NEW BROCHURE ON WILDERNESS

Calls Attention to Changes in Publication From Earlier Version and Urges Wilderness Bill Support

By DAVID R. BROWER, Executive Director
The Sierra Club

NEW YORK, December 6, 1957.—The East River wilderness reaches outward beyond this window on Beekman Place. It is a man-made wilderness, softened now by a new fall of snow, not yet sooted over. A wilderness of papers is spread out before me. On them I read of voices in the wilderness, and for and against wilderness.

Just two years ago today, one of the pages reminds me, Howard Zahniser and I met with the Director of the National Park Service and a member of his staff to talk about the real wilderness—"the relatively few islands representative in appearance and in environment of this land as it was created," to quote an earlier Director.

Mr. Zahniser and I were there to represent the concern of conservationists about some of the purposes of forthcoming Mission 66 which had just been summarized in the press—in particular those items calling for "facilities geared to modern means

of transportation and recreation" and for "greater dispersion of visitors throughout the parks." Nothing in the eight-point summary had spoken of the primary value of the parks, their wilderness.

"Can't another point be added to the summary?" we asked. We proposed a ninth point: that the entire Mission be directed so as to provide for the continued preservation, unaltered and unimpaired, of the areas of wilderness within the park system and their appreciation and enjoyment by our increasingly urban population.

This was no more than a restatement of basic park policy, we conceded, but a most pertinent restatement. For although it is superfluous for a man to say publicly every day that he loves his wife, nevertheless, if he is in the position of extolling the virtues in public of a group of other women, he had better point out at the same time that he does love his wife.

Yes, the park people said, such a reiteration could be added. A few months later—not added yet, but it would be. Still another few months—overlooked again. Finally it did become part of the stated Mission 66 purpose.

At about this same time, the Wilderness Bill was drafted by conservationists, to proceed hand in hand—they hoped—with the developing Mission 66. The bill would strengthen with Congressional policy the

This special dispatch was received from Mr. Brower in response to a request for a review of the National Park Service brochure entitled *The National Park Wilderness*. Copies of the brochure may be obtained by contacting the Regional Director, National Park Service at any of these addresses: 900 North Lombardy Street, Richmond 20, Virginia; 307 Federal Building, Omaha 2, Nebraska; Box 1728, Santa Fe, New Mexico; 180 New Montgomery Street, San Francisco 5, California; 421 Walnut Street, Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania.

zoning determinations the Park Service would be making in Mission 66 as it determined which areas should be for mechanized visitation and which for wilderness wandering.

We had been encouraged to draft the Wilderness Bill by an earlier Director's reply to a question asked by the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress about a national wilderness policy: In 1949, Director Newton B. Drury advised that the few remaining areas in the United States qualifying for wilderness status should be preserved "inviolable by congressional mandate rather than by administrative decision."

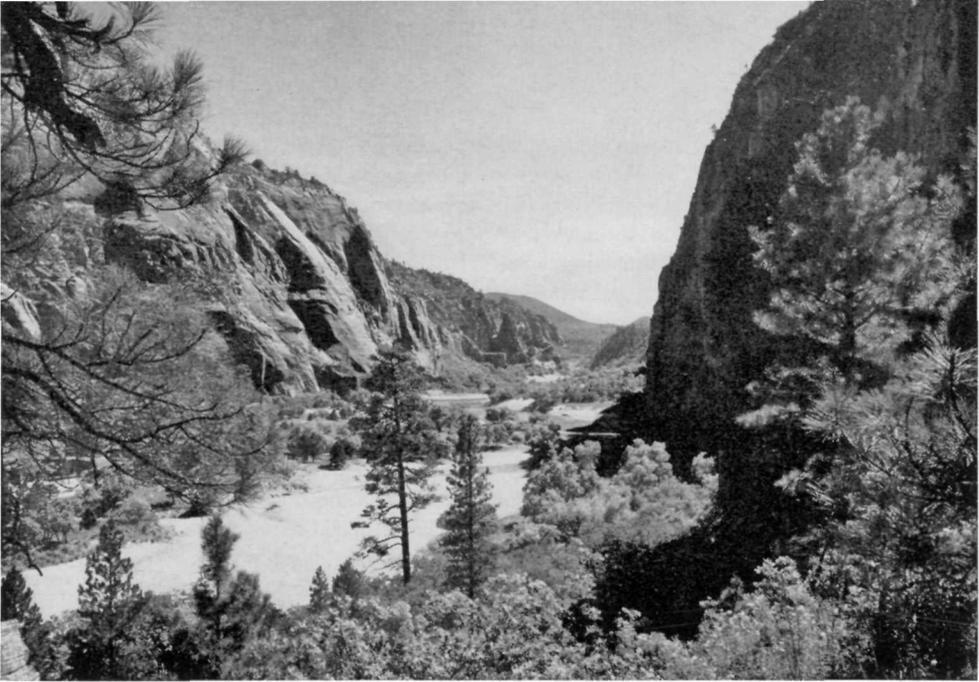
Then it was March, 1957. The Park Service had urged the Advisory Board on National Parks to oppose the Wilderness Bill and had prepared, for distribution at the Fifth Biennial Wilderness Conference in San Francisco, a 30-page mimeographed publication, "Preservation of Natural and Wilderness Values in the National Parks." [A condensation of this document was published in the July-September 1957 NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.]

The purpose of this publication was a "first step toward a published brochure" that would discuss the "objectives, principles, and practices relating to the preservation of wilderness qualities in areas within the National Park System." The motivation of the paper can only be inferred. One of the results was to blur the distinction between the real wilderness and the wilderness of the East River:

"Comparatively few park visitors," the paper says, "experience true wilderness. By contrast, millions profit from those qualities of wilderness which are available to them in the near vicinity of park roads and developed areas. But who may say that the latter gain less than the former?" And again, "Wilderness does not necessarily require vast areas of undeveloped or rugged topography, dense forests unopened by modern man, or a wild jumble of mountain peaks. The quality of wilderness is experienced . . . in a narrow glen, or even close to a major highway, if shielded from the effects of mechanized civilization." In its introduction, the paper speaks of "wilderness values along a roadside."

Standing on Death Point in Zion, we are looking southwest across Kolob Arch Canyon and down La Verkin Creek with Kolob Arch in shadow at right. This country is readily and pleasantly accessible now for wilderness travel.





Unless stopped, the presently approved Mission 66 road will come up La Verkin Creek to the mouth of Kolob Arch Canyon, and eventually is expected to pass through Hop Valley (above).

True, a broader definition is also given: "A wilderness is an area whose predominant character is the result of the interplay of natural processes, and large enough and so situated as to be unaffected, except in minor ways, by what takes place in the non-wilderness around it." The publication continues, "Eliminate the qualifying words from this statement, and you have defined pure wilderness"—but elsewhere the brochure nullifies the working validity of this definition by claiming that "there is no wilderness left" in the United States today.

Add all these up. The Park Service publication is saying that: *wilderness is large and natural. There isn't any left. Anyway, millions enjoy roadside wilderness.*

Was the purpose of the publication thus to demonstrate that the Wilderness Bill was superfluous? If this interpretation seems forced, consider then the further paragraph [noted editorially in our July-September 1957 issue] which points out that our national park wilderness persists, not by legislative mandate, but rather by administrative good fortune:

"There would be little wilderness and much less of the natural beauty of the national parks left today had the National Park Service been development-minded, promotionally inclined, and unrestrained by conservation principles. Acquiescence by the National Park Service, plus a little promotion, could have extended the road system, at least in prospect, up the Kings River, across the Olympics, around Mount Rainier, or into almost any other wilderness area. There is no limit to the enterprises that could have been developed if every activity and every recreational device usually found in a resort development had been invited into the national parks."

Brochure Changes Are Not Reassuring

These excerpts from the March publication did not survive the summer, nor did several other paragraphs and sentences, but their subsequent excision is not reassuring to conservationists. Moreover, in June the Park Service appeared before the Senate and House Interior Committees to testify for the Interior Department against the Wilderness Bill "because we have supported the Recreation Bill and for other reasons," as the statement said in effect. No substi-

tute bill was offered, and it was developed in the hearing that (a) the Park Service wasn't happy about the Recreation Bill either, and (b) that the Service knew that the Wilderness and Recreation bills were companion measures, neither substituting for the other.

Then in September, 1957, the brochure (promised in the March publication) appeared. It is a very handsomely illustrated, 40-page (8½ by 11) booklet with full-color, glossy, full-spread cover scene from Rocky Mountain National Park entitled "The National Park Wilderness."

The brochure, publication of which was "made possible through a donation by a friend of the National Park Service," is of very effective modern design, the text printed in two colors, the 16 large photographs alternately overprinted with tint blocks, and artwork blended pleasingly in the broad margins—all in all a very effective piece of promotion.

About ninety-five percent of the original mimeographed text has been retained, with much editorial improvement and a slight editorial loss, such as the substitution of "wilderness is a physical condition" for "ecological condition." The excisions, including those excerpts quoted above, do not change the attitude of the original statement however, nor of our feeling of concern for the fundamentals of park preservation. Exactly what does the Park Service mean to do with its wilderness? The lack of clarity persists in the brochure. Consider, for example, the captions of some of the photographs of the parks:

"Distance, ruggedness, and climate often are their most effective guardians," says the caption over Mount McKinley. Facing this, over a seascape, is **"and time can restore wilderness, and heal an abused landscape."** This pair of pictures is effective in conveying an idea all right! And what can it be but that *these places are so far away that almost nothing can hurt them, and they'll heal anyway if it does, so why worry?*

The final two facing pages arouse still more serious concern. Above a photograph of a group of people on the floor of Yosemite Valley, the caption speaks of **". . . the quality of wilderness that invests even the most visited spectacles and reveals itself to all who regard it . . ."** Facing this is the caption, **"and wilderness reaches outward from the roadside to be experienced fully by those who penetrate it,"** illustrated by a photograph in the heart of the wilderness of Kings Canyon National Park (lower Rae Lake)—about as far from a roadside as one can get. We assume that a roadside here is not contemplated in Mission 66 or Mission 76. But a road—or a reservoir—could be fully rationalized by the philosophy which emerges from this series of four captions.

The final legend reads, **"the laws of the Nation require preservation of wilderness in National Parks and Monuments."** The selection of photograph to accompany this caption is amazing—Echo Park, in Dinosaur National Monument, the subject of one of the greatest of all park-area controversies, but one from which the Park Service was constrained to retire at the very time when the threat became most intense. Volunteers came to the rescue and persuaded the Congress against this threat. Apparently the Service still feels constrained, in this brochure, not to mention it—a restraint noted also in a recent press statement released by the Service announcing Mission 66 plans for Dinosaur.

Further, if existing laws require preservation of wilderness, then how could the Service have written, as it did in its first, mimeographed edition of this brochure, that: **"There is no limit to the enterprises that could have been developed . . ."**? Should we conclude, from the internal evidence presented in the brochure, that these remarks are considered by the Park Service to be consistent because ruggedness protects wilderness, time will heal

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GUEST EDITORIAL

A Colossal Give-Away

By ROBERT MOSES, Chairman

New York State Council of Parks

EXPERIENCE in New York and elsewhere indicates that we cannot expect effective action by the individual states to control the billboard menace which now threatens the 41,000 miles of the new interstate highway system.

Unless the federal government takes action to control advertising along these new highways, which are being built largely at federal expense—ninety per cent in the case of these main interstate arteries—we will never get protection. It will be extremely difficult—probably impossible—to persuade even the most progressive states and communities to do anything about it if the federal government continues to maintain the position that it has no interest in protecting its investment of fifty billions of dollars of federal funds.

There should be direct federal control of advertising along these federally financed highways, as provided in proposed legislation submitted to the last

The National Roadside Committee, with headquarters at 1214 16th Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C., serves as an action group and a clearing house of information on the problem of outdoor advertising versus the interstate highway system. This is a voluntary organization of individuals and is supported by contributions from those interested in the future of our highway investment. Further information on how to help in the billboard fight can be obtained by writing to this committee.—*Editor.*

session of Congress. The enactment of such legislation is apparently within the constitutional powers of Congress. But lack of interest on the part of the Administration, timidity of the Department of Commerce and its legal advisors and the bugaboo of "states' rights," which acts as a block to intelligent action by our legislators in Washington, have thus far put this constructive measure beyond reach. It is imperative that Congress establish by law definite standards for the regulation of billboards along the interstate system, with enforceable provisions requiring each state to accept, adopt and enforce such standards.

Representatives in Congress should be asked by letter, telegram, phone or personal visit what they intend to do to protect the investment of the billions of dollars of public funds in the new interstate highways and to prevent permanent damage by uncontrolled roadside advertising. They should be reminded that this costly program as it now stands represents an outright gift to billboard companies because these roads give the signboard its entire value. These new highways will be limited-access roads which will automatically exclude all roadside business which requires direct access to the roadway. The only roadside business which does not require

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American Nature Association



Mission 66 in the Headlines

By CONRAD L. WIRTH, Director
National Park Service

During a discussion of construction and road building aspects of Mission 66, at an October 29, 1957 meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Parks Association, Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth, Associate Director Eivind T. Scoyen and Mission 66 Chief William G. Carnes explained the program and answered questions and criticisms of certain construction aspects. This article presents Director Wirth's explanations of the over-all program and his defense of particular criticized aspects for the consideration of all members of NPA and our many other readers.

AWARE of the emphasis which newspaper stories give to the construction aspects of Mission 66, Sig Olson, President of the National Parks Association, suggested that the members of this organization ought to know that this program involves much more than the mere construction of new facilities. I don't think anyone can appreciate the intent and the scope of Mission 66 who has not read *Our Heritage* and *The National Park Wilderness*. These are the basic guides. But perhaps I can, in this brief article, bring out a few highlights that will put this matter of park development in perspective with the other important phases of Mission 66.

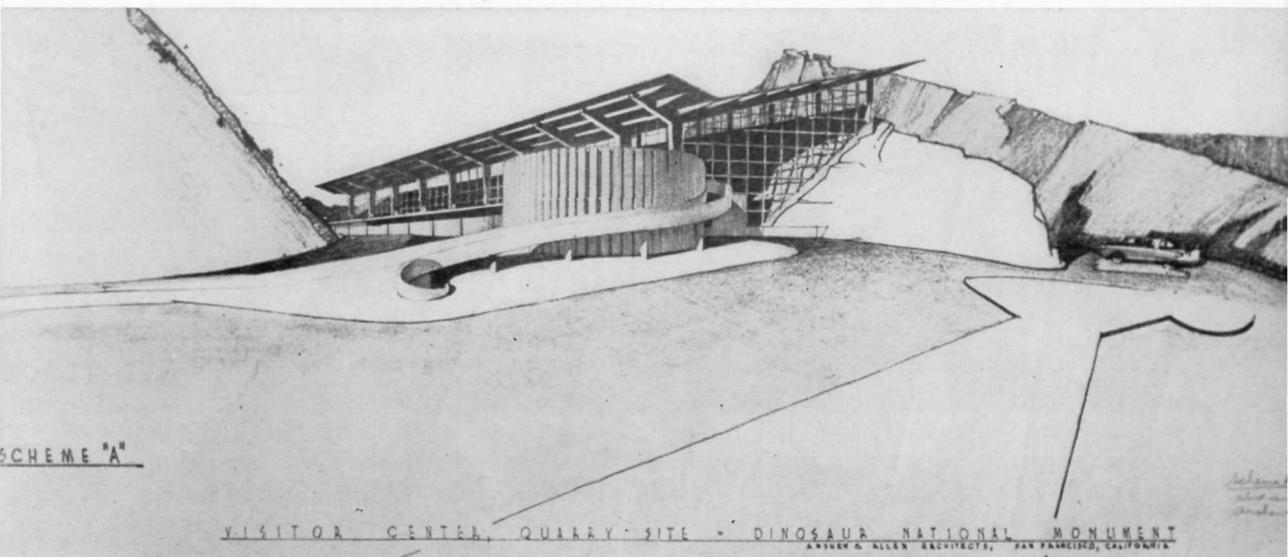
The fact that construction projects are stressed in news reports is not unusual nor unexpected. These are measurable things. A new office building goes up in a city, and the news reports tell you what it cost, how big it is, what shops and offices, and how many people it will accommodate. The real story of the life and purpose of the structure—why it was built, what it adds to the efficiency of its users, the part it plays in the economy and destiny of the city—is left pretty largely to the imagination.

Mission 66 is treated no differently, and from the newspapers we learn that during the past year nearly 1000 construction projects, representing a capital investment of some 62 million dollars, were completed or

under way in the national parks and monuments. Actually completed during this period were 8 miles of new main roads; 39 miles of new circulatory roads serving campgrounds, lodges and utility and administrative areas; 130 miles of rebuilt roads; additional capacity for 3200 campers and 2300 lodge guests; nine visitor centers, new ranger stations, utility systems, and other behind-the-scenes facilities. What all of this, plus the other very important accomplishments of Mission 66, means in terms of better use and more effective preservation of park values is not evident in the headlines.

Now I make no apology for the construction included in Mission 66. You can't merely rule, *ipso facto*, that a road is wrong, a building is a mistake, and a water system an intrusion. It is the people's right to visit their parks, and they do so in large numbers. Recognizing this fact, you must also accept its corollary—certain physical developments are required. There is no surer way to destroy a landscape than to permit undisciplined use by man; and roads, trails, campgrounds, and other developments are one means, perhaps the most important one, of localizing, limiting, and channeling park use.

The part played by well-designed facilities in the preservation of park values is a fact that few people realize, and a park



Upper—Joseph F. Carithers

Lower—Ralph H. Anderson

The present interpretive building in Dinosaur National Monument (above) and an architect's drawing of the new visitor center being built under Mission 66.

development project must be judged not only by what it adds to the convenience of park visitors, but as well by what it contributes to preservation. Let me give you three examples, each on a different scale. First, the boardwalks in some of Yellowstone's thermal areas are surprisingly successful, much more so than hard-surfaced trails, in keeping people from wandering aimlessly over the formations—a safeguard for the visitor as well as protection for the formations.

But, the new developments at Jamestown Island and at Virginia's nearby Festival Grounds are a better example of what the right kind of development can do to pre-

serve an area. In spite of this year's unprecedented volume of use, these grounds are as fresh and unworn today as before the thousands came. Why? Simply because four and one-half million dollars were spent to make these facilities adequate in scale, and to design them so that people would automatically go where they ought to go and avoid the places they ought to avoid.

I might observe that the result would have been the same regardless of decorative colors used, or the style of architecture selected. These are details. In their way they are important, but park resources are neither destroyed nor preserved merely by

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National Park Service

KATMAI—A Wilderness to be Guarded

By VICTOR H. CAHALANE, Member
Executive Committee, National Parks Association

ONE of history's mightiest volcanic eruptions led to the establishment of a remarkable nature sanctuary at the base of the Alaska Peninsula. It has magnificent scenery—mountains, smoking volcanos, glaciers, picture-book lakes, and a rugged marine coast with colorful fiords. By far the largest unit of our national park system, it is the only completely roadless one in America. In its near-aboriginal fauna roams the largest carnivore in the world. Yet many persons have never heard of Katmai National Monument.

Although distance, ruggedness, and climate have played a major role in keeping this area wild in the past, times are changing rapidly. Increasing population, together with expanding settlement and growing mechanization, seem destined to occupy and

modify all of our country including this Alaskan wilderness treasure—unless we deliberately set about to insure its preservation. It is up to all of us to prevent the monument and its wildlife from being whittled away. Actual and potential threats to the integrity of Katmai have ranged from feeble gestures to potent (and successful) campaigns of invasion.

Pumice Mining and Congress

In the years following World War II, the housing boom in Anchorage set off a search for building-block material. An enterprising contractor carried out experiments with volcanic ash (pumice) and preliminary tests were promising. As supplies of ash in the vicinity of Anchorage were limited, the search turned to Katmai. Here, on the

AT LEFT is Geographic Harbor in Katmai National Monument. During the post World War II housing boom, an enterprising contractor set up an illegal pumice operation on the left shore, near the lower left edge of the photograph. Since then, Congress has passed legislation opening the monument to mining of all minerals.

shores of the bays along Shelikof Strait, were vast quantities of ash from the 1912 eruption. With a dragline, barges could be loaded directly from shore and hauled up the Strait and Cook Inlet to Turnagain Arm and Anchorage.

But Katmai was a national monument and closed to commercial exploitation of resources, including minerals! An Act of Congress, opening the monument to mining (of all minerals, not only pumice) was the answer. Even without opposition, however, the legislative machinery was too slow for this Alaskan go-getter. The contractor quietly (and illegally) set up his camp and machinery on the south shore of Geographic Harbor, the most spectacular of the numerous scenic bays on the coast, and started hauling pumice. Unfortunately for the enterprise, the first barge-load revealed a crushing fact. The Katmai pumice was only superficially like the Anchorage samples, and the building blocks crumbled under the

Our author, Mr. Cahalane, is Assistant Director of the New York State Museum at Albany. A former biologist for the National Park Service, he served as head of the Service's Wildlife Division from 1939 to 1955. During most of this period as Chief Biologist, he was expected to study biological problems in relation to other fields of work which might affect plant and animal life, including road building and construction activities. In 1950-51 he served as consultant to the National Parks Board of South Africa on a wide variety of problems in Kruger and other parks of that country.

Mr. Cahalane spent more than seven months in Katmai National Monument during three periods of field investigations (1940, 1953, and 1954). He has perhaps spent more time and traveled more extensively in this wilderness area than any other employee of the Park Service, past or present.

required test. The operation was immediately abandoned, leaving the site littered with a flimsy building and trash of all descriptions.

But no one told Congress! Its mills ground on and produced the requested legislation long after the illegal "mining" ceased. The way is now clear for any entrepreneur to enter this scenic area, build roads for heavy machinery, and create permanent scars on the land.

Pressure to Reduce Wildlife Numbers

Katmai's many wildlife species are under constant pressure for reduction. Representatives of the salmon industry have demanded the sanctuary be opened to beaver-trapping on the supposition that beaver dams impede movement of salmon to spawning grounds. Actually, mature salmon are too agile and strong to be held up for long by any beaver dam. Twentieth century seiners, faced with a fishery depleted by over-exploitation, forget that eighteenth century Russians found huge salmon runs *together* with a rich beaver fur resource.

Almost any commercial fisherman in Alaska will tell you that brown bears destroy vast quantities of salmon spawn by capturing the fish on their up-stream migration. (And that bald eagles, gulls, cormorants, mürres, hair seals and otters, and a long list of other creatures, also make inroads on salmon.) Bears have been a special target for attack at Katmai, for the monument contains important spawning sites of the Bristol Bay salmon fishery. Preliminary studies on nearby Kodiak Island appear to show that the bears do kill appreciable numbers of salmon containing unripe eggs (in addition to many that have spawned and therefore fulfilled their life function). Nevertheless, it is difficult to determine whether these eggs, if deposited and fertilized, would add significantly to the pack four or five years hence.

Protection of the monument and its wildlife against pressures for commercial use is the responsibility of all Americans. And protection of the wilderness character of

Katmai is an equally important problem. In opening this beautiful and fascinating area to public use, great care and restraint will be necessary if we are to retain its distinctive quality.

The National Park Service has very properly ruled against filling the air with sightseeing planes in future administration of the area. Considerable use of the air-space above the monument is now made by casual fliers wishing to view the geological phenomena, anglers intent on fishing in out-of-the-way waters, and travelers taking advantage of mountain passes en-route to their destinations. Use of planes over the monument is sometimes quite frequent in good weather. Yet it is destructive of the wilderness atmosphere and imposes administrative and law-enforcement demands which the Service cannot possibly meet.

The much-needed solution to this problem would be an air-space reservation over the entire monument. The inconvenience to commercial airlines would be slight—only a minor modification of the flight-course between Kodiak and King Salmon. But a more radical change would be required in transportation procedures of the Park Service and its concessioner.

An Airstrip Is Planned

About ten years ago, with official authorization, two small camps for visitors were established by Northern Consolidated Airlines. Delightfully situated on Naknek Lake and Grosvenor Lake, they are adequate for

comfort and conform ideally to the character of the area. From their establishment, the camps have been serviced and visitors transported by planes on floats. This type of transportation imposes limitations: the passenger capacity of each plane is only a half-dozen persons, and during severe storms, landing and taking-off are unsafe or impossible.

Therefore, the concessioner has desired to change over to wheel-equipped aircraft, thus gaining greater carrying capacity and independence of weather as well as convenience in transferring passengers at the airport in King Salmon. Obviously, a landing strip near the main visitor camp at Brooks River would be required as a minimum facility.

Park Service Mission 66 plans for the monument provide for just this. These plans say: **“An airstrip for wheel planes will be provided at a suitable location compatible with air currents, topography and landscape considerations near Brooks River Camp.”** This despite the fact that point number nine of the Park Service’s over-all Mission 66 program (as presented in *Mission 66 for the National Park System*) states: **“Where airports are needed they should be located outside the park boundaries.”** The only justification indicated in the Mission 66 Katmai brief for this transgression of the Service’s own policy statement is the following: **“This facility is needed since travel to Katmai is and will continue to**

Brooks River falls is a favorite fishing spot in the monument. A trail to Mount Dumpling (background) would “provide a day’s hike and breathtaking views for the visitor at the main camp nearby.”

Victor H. Cahalane



be via air and since air travel is rapidly expanding.”

Because of topography, the most likely location for such a landing strip would be east of Brooks River in the extensive spruce forest. Construction would require clearing an area at least a quarter mile long and 200 to 300 feet wide. A cross strip, if added, would mean almost as much more cutting. In this region, filling and paving would be expensive in dollars. But the scar and intrusion of this modern facility on the wilderness would be even more costly in terms of destruction. A road would be necessary to connect the landing strip with the camp. This would require a bridge to carry the road over Brooks River. Eventually, a demand would probably be made for a hangar as emergency storm shelter for planes.

The cost to the government of converting to a wheel-plane operation has been conservatively estimated at more than a quarter million dollars. It might well turn out to be

Cormorants are among the many species of Katmai wildlife under pressure for reduction because of their claimed effect on the salmon population.

Victor H. Cahalane



double that figure. *In terms of economy, wilderness preservation, human safety and (in many respects) visitor enjoyment, it seems desirable to abandon aircraft as the accepted means of transportation into the monument.*

Why Not by Boat ?

If planes were excluded, how could access to the camp be assured for people, equipment and supplies?

The National Park Service has announced plans for a “freightboat” to run from the head of Naknek River, at the west end of Naknek Lake, to Brooks River camp and monument administrative headquarters nearby. Access to the boat dock at the head of Naknek River would be provided by a road constructed during World War II and still maintained by the Air Force in connection with the base at King Salmon. Visitors could be transported over this road (when improved) to the boat and thence to the Brooks River camp. In a boat designed to carry passengers as well as supplies, the trip east on Naknek Lake would be comfortable, pleasant and scenic. While requiring nearly two hours rather than a twenty-minute flight, such a trip would be practically independent of weather and should be less expensive for the visitor. As the primary consideration, however, the wilderness character of Katmai would be maintained.

Do We Need a Road?

Another Mission 66 project would bring the first means of mechanized ground transport into this wilderness area. A proposed road up the Ukak River to the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes would enable the visitor who had come by boat to the head of Iliuk Arm to ride comfortably for ten miles to the lower end of the Valley. Although not specifically described, it would then be quite feasible, with a few small bridges, to drive by a marked route over the smooth, hard “Sandflow” to Novarupta Volcano and to the glaciers at the head of Knife Creek.

If built, this ten-mile road from Iliuk

Arm to the lower end of the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes would bring the first automobiles to this vast wilderness monument. Although proposed as a simple road for two vehicles, we can be sure it would develop inevitably into a "finished" highway. While much less intrusive and destructive to wilderness values than the proposed airstrip, the road seems questionable in this place.

Perhaps it is not essential after all. The distance—about ten miles—is not too great for normal, able-bodied persons to walk in a day over a good trail. The trip at present is rather strenuous. Without a trail, the hiker struggles through alders and tall grass and flounders across spongy, rough ground and streams. Yet a good trail with gentle grades could be constructed without much expense, making the hike a very easy one. Using the simple over-night accommodations suggested for the lower Valley, the visitor could go on the following day or he could return by the graded ten-mile trail to the boat landing on Iliuk Arm.

With the exception of the airstrip and Ukak Valley road projects, the Mission 66 program for Katmai National Monument appears to be restrained and in harmony with the primeval character of the area. Transportation within the monument by motorized boats, on the extensive and beautiful chain of lakes, will provide easy access without marring the landscape with roads and with least disturbance to the wilderness atmosphere.

If this type of travel is extended to the "entrance" of the monument at the foot of Naknek Lake, aircraft can be excluded

completely. Docks at various points are essential if storm-worthy boats are to be used safely on these large and often wind-swept lakes. Trails must be constructed if visitors are to hike to points of interest, for foot travel across the lower country in summer is extremely difficult due to lush, dense grass and shrubs and spongy, wet ground. On the tundra, above one thousand feet elevation, only direction markers are needed, for here the growth is short and the soil firm and dry.

A trail to the top of Mount Dumlupung will provide a day's hike and breathtaking views for the visitor at the main camp nearby. Another trail to the summit of Mount La Gorce will also encourage an easy climb to a grand panorama of the Savonovski Valley and the Aleutian Range with its smoking volcanos. Trail shelters, as planned, are desirable because Katmai weather is changeable and frequently rainy.

Beyond these modifications, Katmai National Monument should be kept inviolate. And the most effective way to safeguard this wilderness area of volcanoes would be to make it a national park. In every respect—in expansiveness, magnificent scenery, geological phenomena, an original assemblage of animals and plants, and its unimpaired quality—Katmai deserves the higher status.

A "national park" is a formidable obstacle to those who, at any time in the future, are tempted to plunder the public's property. I believe there is every justification for safeguarding this magnificent scenic-biologic area in southwestern Alaska by designating it—Katmai National Park.

"The problem today is not survival in the wilderness—but survival of the wilderness."

—"Wilderness Travel," Olympic National Park Pamphlet.

In February, 1957, the Navajo Tribal Council of Window Rock, Arizona, passed a resolution establishing the Navajo Tribal Parks Commission to preserve and protect scenic and archeological treasures of the reservation. Five Navajo rangers were on the job last summer—concentrating their efforts on Monument Valley, but also posting the entire reservation with warning signs which restrict entry into certain prehistoric ruins. Plans are being made for the establishment of a central campground.

Western Park Notes

By JOSEPH F. CARITHERS, Assistant Western Representative
National Parks Association

Photographs by the Author

Last summer Mr. Carithers spent five weeks visiting a dozen western national parks and monuments. This afforded him an opportunity to see first hand some of the recent progress of the Mission 66 program and to look into current problems confronting the parks in the face of rising attendance rates. Generally, he was pleased with what he saw. Specifically, he found room for improvement in implementing the program. The increase in resort and amusement-type activities in the parks—particularly mechanized winter sports—cause him special concern.—Editor.

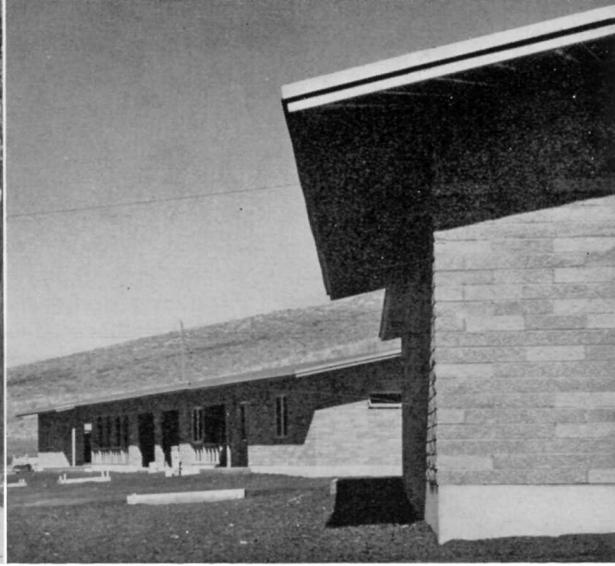
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks—In Sequoia I felt I was seeing a “model” national park as far as man’s influence is concerned. Most people with whom I talked and those I saw using the park’s facilities were there to see the park itself. That intangible element called “atmosphere” was only mildly diluted, even in areas where people tended to congregate. Here there are no questionable activities or facilities to disrupt the fragile scene and

mood, the very basis of the national park concept.

One of the main reasons, in my opinion, for retention of this ideal mood is the simplicity and balance of the concessioner’s operation. It does not dominate the scene, but seems subordinate to the Park Service operation. The concessioner and park officials are to be complimented on their cooperative spirit and their desire to act in the best interest of the public.

Privately-owned “Wilsonia” in Kings Canyon National Park “looked not unlike half-deserted mining camps I had seen in Arizona.”





Newly-installed telephone shelters at Yosemite (left) replace former modern types. At Craters of the Moon National Monument, new buildings of a textured, pebbled cement block blend in well with the surroundings.

In the General Grant Grove of Kings Canyon National Park is a summer colony of one hundred acres, privately owned, known as *Wilsonia*. My first impression was that it looked not unlike half-deserted mining camps I had seen in parts of Arizona. The buildings were trashy, unpainted, and dilapidated. The clutter in the yards and along the streets and the signs nailed to trees were appalling. These things would have been almost comical if they had been located anywhere else; but in a unit of our national park system, they are a flagrant desecration. It is to be hoped the Mission 66 program will contribute toward the eventual acquisition of this tract and similar private inholdings in other parks.

Yosemite National Park—On entering Yosemite after leaving the relatively calm atmosphere of Sequoia and Kings Canyon, I was convinced anew that the problems of Yosemite are as serious as any in the parks. How different the park appeared on this trip in comparison with my April visit! I was told that if the present increase of visitors continues, almost one and a quarter million people will be exposed to Yosemite's wonders this year. (*Editor's note: 1,138,716 people visited Yosemite in 1957.*)

I saw the nightly firefall. Although this

exhibition to attract and hold people in the valley has long been objected to by many park supporters, it is still practiced. This nightly performance has nothing to do with preservation or interpretation of the natural scene. While it may have some historical significance, in my opinion it has no place in a national park. Considering park principles and purposes, I see no valid reason for its continuation.

The National Park Service is to be commended for removing the valley's city-type telephone booths and replacing them with appropriate ones.

Lehman Caves National Monument and Wheeler Peak Area—Although the developed part of the cave is small, it is a gem among the caves I have seen. I noticed very little destruction and vandalism. There is, however, a real need for an exit to eliminate the return trip through the cave. (I understand the National Park Service is studying this idea.)

In company with Darwin Lambert, president of the newly-formed Great Basin Range National Park Association, I hiked up to Baker Lake in the heart of the proposed park. (See *National Park Proposed for Nevada* in the July-September 1957 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE). The trip carried us through scenic country which took on an alpine look as we drew near the lake.

We saw remnants of the great snow pack that covers the region in winter and a tiny "iceberg" floating on the calm water. Baker Lake and the beautifully proportioned cirque above it are unbelievably majestic.

Rich in scientific features, the Snake Range has a variety of plant life that is astonishing in a region regarded by most people as a desert. Five life zones are represented; the glaciation story to be read is outstanding; the animal life also covers a broad variety. These facts strongly favor giving the area national park protection.

Dinosaur National Monument—So that visitors may see the canyons of Dinosaur without having to spend days on the river, about forty-five miles of new road will be built and some thirty miles of existing roads improved. There will be no rim drive, and with the exception of approaches to scenic overlooks, such as at Harper's Corner, the roads will be kept well back from the rim, not visible from the floor of the canyons. In my opinion, construction of reasonable roads, following the old road rights-of-way, would not seriously affect the wilderness qualities of the region.

I was impressed by the amount of wild country which will remain in the monu-

ment after the proposed facilities are completed. Much of the Yampa Bench, south of the river, will remain primitive. That part of the monument northeast of Echo Park is and will remain wilderness under present plans. One or two unimproved roads enter that area now, but I see no reason for their being improved. This is an extremely valuable part of Dinosaur and one of the principal justifications for giving the area national park status.

The new visitor center at the fossil quarry will consist of a flat v-shaped roof surrounded on three sides by roof-to-floor glass panels to provide illumination for the fossil-bed cliff itself. A long but graceful ramp, complemented by a round silo-like affair, runs from the parking area to the floor level, which is raised higher than the surrounding ground. (See page 9.) I thought the structure far too modernistic for a national park. New quarters for the staff seem well placed and designed. The old quarters and workshop will be removed.

Craters of the Moon National Monument—Unlike the Mission 66 program for most of the parks, which will not be completed until 1966, the Park Service decided to give Craters of the Moon (in

The parking lot as seen from the skating rink at Hidden Valley, Rocky Mountain National Park. "In my opinion, Hidden Valley is a gross violation of national park principle!"



south-central Idaho) the full treatment in as short a period as possible. The surrounding country is barren, with little ground cover and stunted pines growing here and there. Some of the old log buildings—completely out of place here—are being replaced by buildings made of a textured, pebbled cement block which blends in well with the physical characteristics of the monument. Red cinder is being used for roofs.

A large area adjacent to the main highway was leveled to make room for these new structures, which include a visitor center and museum. No new roads are contemplated, but existing ones will be improved and made safer. Additional camping space is badly needed, since the present area is full almost to overflowing every summer night.

I was told that in doing this work all at once, the Park Service is saving thousands of dollars by using equipment that otherwise would have to be brought in again. This "one shot" treatment also avoids lengthy inconvenience to visitors.

I was impressed with the back country in the monument. I drove all the roads and saw dozens of people using the many trails leading to the various volcanic formations. It would seem this area can absorb many visitors with little harm to its natural features, provided adequate trails, markers, and interpretive devices are made available to aid in protecting fragile formations. It is ideally located, away from centers of population and attracts people from every state year after year. When its building program is completed, I feel this relatively small area will be one of the best interpreted and most appreciated monuments in the system.

Rocky Mountain National Park—

In studying the problems of Rocky Mountain, we cannot overlook Estes Park—the highly commercialized collection of motels, curio shops, and similar ventures located just east of the park. In many ways such a development is helpful in filtering

out those people who are not truly interested in national park experience and desire a resort-type atmosphere. While this sort of thing remains outside a park, there is little damage to park values. On the other hand, it is quite easy for such influence to creep into an adjacent park area. It is glaringly apparent that such has happened at Rocky Mountain in the recently expanded ski area at Hidden Valley. What I saw there was appalling.

Hidden Valley—no longer hidden—has been opened up and carpeted with macadam and blacktop. The axe has cleared swaths for the erection of mechanical lifts. This heart of a national park has been laid bare to satisfy a comparatively few people who do not understand, or have no regard for, the national park concept.

Few who have studied the situation would deny that Hidden Valley is but an extension of the resort facilities outside the park. Local promoters are doing their best to maintain and increase interest in it. In one year, the December attendance in Rocky Mountain National Park tripled. Local press releases attributed this to the Hidden Valley winter sports activities. Not content with this increase, the promoters have even gone to the ridiculous extreme of comparing the now exposed Hidden Valley with Sun Valley, Idaho!

In my opinion, Hidden Valley is a gross violation of national park principle! Yet some with whom I talked tried to justify it on grounds that it merely utilized an area previously burned over or logged. Arguing on this same practical line, we can point out that experienced skiers say all but the upper slopes of the valley are mediocre, and winter wind conditions make skiing inferior to that in other areas of the Rockies. I was told that present ski runs are too narrow for serious group skiing and if widened, the wind would ruin them. So what can they do? Just keep their fingers crossed and hope the weather behaves. Yet this was the basis for violation of basic national park principle. The idea that this

development could be in conflict with the original intent of the National Park Act, regardless of previous use or condition of the land (or quality of skiing provided thereby), did not occur to them.

In talking with local people and park officials I was astonished to learn how many are firmly convinced that the buildings, ski runs and lifts, parking area and skating rink do not impair the natural scene. Some people feel these things add to park enjoyment. Here lies the real danger—in the reasoning behind this type of development. Although this once lovely valley could have been saved, with such thinking coming to the fore, I see little hope for areas that are vulnerable to this sort of treatment. This means virtually every unit in the system, for they nearly all contain some feature that can be altered and exploited to fit into the local economic grist-mill.

We have never let the dam builders forget Hetch-Hetchy. I feel we should use every appropriate means to bring attention to what has happened at Hidden Valley. The trend is toward more of this type of activity; only vigorous action can prevent such mistakes in the future. We must not overlook errors that have cost the parks dearly—rather we should hold them high for all to

see as examples of what *not* to allow in our park system.

Although Hidden Valley was not originally a Mission 66 project, it has more recently been included in that program. One of the provisions of Mission 66 states:

The use of a park for organized events, organized competitive sports, or spectator events which attract abnormal concentrations of visitors and which require facilities, services, and manpower above those needed for normal operation should not be permitted.

This is in effect a guideline for the future development of our national parks. It is all too evident, in the case of Hidden Valley, that little attention has been paid to this principle.

It would therefore appear that certain aspects of our national park program have drifted from the original intent of the National Park Service Act of 1916. With our increasing population and leisure time, the pressures for inappropriate use of parks will multiply and become even more complex. It behooves all friends of the parks to strive to assist the National Park Service in coping with these problems.

(The remainder of Mr. Carithers' 1957 field trip will be reported in the next issue.)

NEW FILMS AVAILABLE

16 Mm.—Color and Sound

Two Yosemite: A comparison between the beauty of Yosemite Valley and the destruction of its companion valley by Hetch Hetchy dam. A challenging park conservation story pointing out that: "*It need not have been.*" Produced by the Sierra Club. 15 minutes. Rental \$2.50.

Valley of Light: A superlative new film about Yosemite National Park. Produced by the Ford Motor Company. 20 minutes. Rental \$5.

When ordering, indicate title(s), date of showing, address, and amount of check enclosed. Contact: National Parks Association, 2000 P Street, N.W. Washington 6, D. C.

NPA's Stand on Winter Use

THE winter use policy of the National Park Service has been presented for our readers' information (see *Winter Use of National Parks* in the October-December 1957 issue). We now wish to reiterate the position which the National Parks Association takes in this matter.

The over-all governing policy statement of the NPA was most recently presented in the January-March 1957 magazine, under the title "A National Policy for the Establishment and Protection of National Parks and Monuments." Point No. 8, entitled "Amusement Attractions Are Inconsistent," covers most of the problems arising out of winter use of parks. This principle states:

National parks and national nature monuments are not resorts or amusement centers. The introduction of incongruous recreational features diminishes visitors' enjoyment of the basic character of the sanctuaries. Resort amusement facilities, such as golf courses, swimming pools, ski lifts, tramways, skating rinks, tennis court and speedboats, abundantly available elsewhere, destroy wilderness atmosphere, and defeat the purpose of visitors who wish to derive inspiration from contact with pristine nature.

At its 1957 annual meeting, the NPA reaffirmed the application of this principle to the problem of mechanized skiing in the following resolution:

National parks are not commercial resorts, nor are they intended for the accommodation or encouragement of spectator sports or competitions of any sort.

Mechanical ski lifts do not conform to the ideal and therefore should be removed.

The National Parks Association believes that cross-country and non-mechanized skiing as a proper winter use can contribute substantially to appreciation of the parks, and that the use and development of ski resorts outside the parks should be encouraged to satisfy the present and growing need for sport and competition skiing.

In conformity with its desire to encourage cross-country and non-mechanized ski-

ing, the Association presented an article on ski touring in the last issue by Dr. Joel H. Hildebrand, past president of The Sierra Club. As Dr. Hildebrand has indicated, he feels down-hill, slalom, and jumping "do not contribute to use of a national park for its primary purpose."

On the following pages of this issue, we present a second article on ski touring. Our author is thoroughly familiar with skiing problems in national parks, her own roots in Yosemite National Park going back to 1899. Mrs. Mary Curry Tresidder, daughter of David Curry, is president of the Yosemite Park and Curry Company, concessioner at Yosemite. Her ideas on mechanized skiing do not conform to those of the National Parks Association. Yet we feel her article merits use for its value in encouraging ski touring—which we do consider to be an appropriate use of parks. In her covering letter, Mrs. Tresidder says:

Let me stipulate at once that I am not opposed to "mechanized" skiing in the national parks or elsewhere. Skiing is beneficial to Americans east and west; it gets whole families of them out into that winter world which has a fresh wilderness to offer whenever there is a new snowstorm. I consider access to good ski slopes, whether by lift or automobile, a boon to the public. If this be treason, I only share the guilt of those thousands who enjoy the many facets of downhill skiing. For I feel there will never be many skiers with the hardihood, aptitude, and inclination to forsake the easy course and choose instead the rigors of ski touring.

We shall not attempt to speculate as to how many skiers will have the hardihood, aptitude, and inclination to take up ski touring. We feel that those who do not, can find many places in national forests and resort areas to do mechanized skiing. There is no real need to use parks for this purpose.

The National Parks Association wants to see greater enjoyment of the national parks

(Continued on page 39)



Yosemite Park and Curry Company

"... even the hardest mountain-climbing skier welcomes the bonus of some flying downhill moments."

SKI TOURING IN CALIFORNIA

By MARY CURRY TRESIDDER, President
Yosemite Park and Curry Company

Mrs. Tresidder is president of the Yosemite Park and Curry Company, concessioner at Yosemite National Park. A part of her operation includes the Badger Pass ski development. The National Parks Association is opposed to installation and operation of ski tows and other mechanical ski devices in national parks—such as are found at Badger Pass, and in this respect, differs from views held by Mrs. Tresidder. (See NPA's Stand on Winter Use on page 21.) Presentation of her article here in no way implies approval of the winter use activities of her company in Yosemite, but rather offers information of value to our members.

THE earliest skiing in Yosemite was all touring, for there were no ski centers or lifts here or anywhere else in the West. I fell in love at once with that way of life.

I remember sunlit mornings at Snow Creek Cabin: crystals of hoar frost blossomed from the snow of the little meadow and encased the willow twigs when we went to draw water from the well. There would be twelve to fourteen of us at the cabin at most—often only three or four. The bolder ones made occasional forays to Mount Hoffman

or Tenaya Lake; but our most frequent tour was to Mount Watkins, a thousand feet above the cabin, across Tenaya Canyon from Half Dome.

Evenings were gay at the little cabin, with much waxing of skis, while Jules Fritsch, our little Swiss ski guide, philosopher and mentor, knotted sets of ropes for our use in climbing, since few of us had "skins" for our skis. We played wild games of "Concentration" or "Twenty Questions," with the occasional luxury of a pan of fudge.

Skiers on their way to the Ostrander Lake Ski Hut in Yosemite National Park. Ottoway Basin in the background.

Yosemite Park and Curry Company



One day as we were returning from a tour to Mount Watkins, Jules slipped as he came down through an open place in the trees, making a complete somersault and going straight on. When we inquired about it later, he blushed to the tips of his ears that he had been seen, and said, "Oh, I slip, I see I am going to fall, I make myself as less as possible, I am on my feet!"

A trip to Glacier Point in the early thirties also stands out in my memory. We plodded up the so-called "short trail", skis on shoulder as far as Union Point, two-thirds of the way. Then came a wearying climb on "skins" and a ticklish crossing of an avalanche gully filled with loose snow. Jules missed one member of the expedition and went back in search. He found tracks disappearing into a deep pit around a pine tree with low-sweeping branches, from which the skier could not extricate himself. Jules stood there, an anxious little gnome, peering into the depths and pleading, "Mr. Shoe, Mr. Shoe, come out now!" That, like "making oneself as less as possible," became part of our ski lingo.

We reached the Point just at sunset in an eerie glory I shall never forget—crimson spreading from the Sierra Nevada peaks across the deep canyon of the Merced River to the snow at our very feet. The next day we skied by way of Illilouette Ridge to Ostrander Lake and back, a trip that took us from dawn until long after dark. Those were long days; but there was magic in them, as there is today for those who venture forth on skis.

Ski touring is an ambiguous term. It may apply to an hour of wandering through forest and meadow, away from lift-lines and packed slopes—packed snow packed with people. It may mean skiing cross-country to a hut from which to make day-long outings, with the comfort of a roof for the night and a fire to warm you, and perhaps even a bunk.

The values of ski touring differ from those of the ski center and of downhill skiing *per se*, but it is my feeling that one com-

The Pear Lake Ski Hut at 9500 feet in Sequoia National Park is six miles by marked ski trail from the road at Wolverton. It provides quarters for ten persons.



Robert E. Frenkel

plements the other. A brief excursion has a different tempo, one of sauntering along versus speeding down on the winged boards. Nonetheless, even the hardest mountain-climbing skier welcomes the bonus of some flying downhill moments. (May his pack not be too heavy!) One phase can't be separated entirely from the other, but when the tourer has earned his reward, the honey is sweeter on his tongue.

My husband and I had a dream of using some of the Yosemite High Sierra Camps as a chain of huts for winter touring; but we soon realized that the standards of skiing would have to be much higher and the knowledge of snow and winter conditions much more widespread before anything of the sort could be attempted. That led us to the ski school which has been such an integral part of our Yosemite ski development.

Yosemite's one established ski center at Badger Pass has only day-use facilities. The Lodge, built in 1935, rests in a meadow off the Glacier Point Road and the ski slopes lie on a ridge bordering an area logged in the twenties.

For ski tours involving overnight stays, most touring groups leaving Badger Pass head for Ostrander Lake Ski Hut (at 8600 feet), built by the Park Service in 1941.

This attractive stone hut faces a steep snowy slope dropping abruptly from the long escarpment of Horse Ridge across the lake. Skiers may bring their own food and bedding and cook in the government kitchen or use services supplied by the caretaker from mid-February on. Tours to Horse Ridge and to Buena Vista Lake and the peak above it are rewarding. And there are fine runs back to Ostrander Lake or to basins farther down.

Relatively few parties a year sign up to go farther afield on that most exciting phase of ski touring—an expedition into the winter wilderness of the higher Sierra peaks and passes. Only such touring offers the fierce pleasure of achievement that disdains such amenities as huts may offer. This type of touring, it must be emphasized, requires careful planning for a minimum



Robert E. Frenkel



Robert E. Frenkel

Touring enthusiasts at Helen Lake in Lassen Volcanic National Park (left) put on climbing aids in preparation for the uphill pull. Skiers at right are on their way up Horse Ridge near Ostrander Lake in Yosemite National Park.

of weight and a maximum of essentials, with some leeway for stormy weather. It demands an experienced leader on whose judgment the group can rely. Someone must have the knowledge and the authority to say, "we go back now," when that becomes necessary.

Mr. Robert Frenkel of the Sierra Club's northern branch led a tour from Badger last spring, for instance, planning to cross to Mammoth. But an unexpected storm forced the party to hole in (that may often be literal, in the snow) because of some thirty inches of new snow. Finally they had to retrace their steps.

How totally bewildering such a storm may be is beyond imagination until you have found yourself in one. The curtain of snow seems dense, almost impenetrable. Tracks are blotted out in a matter of minutes; there are no landmarks; the rise or drop of the terrain must be watched in cautious progress.

Jules Fritsch and I found ourselves in that situation once when we were returning

from Mount Hoffman to Snow Creek by way of Tenaya Lake. We had climbed the mountain in sunny spring weather with its glorious view of the Sawteeth and Tower Peak to the north, Mounts Conness and Lyell to the east and Mount Diablo and even glimpses of the coastline far to the west. Clouds were for decoration only. But shortly after noon they began gathering themselves together and taking on a different aspect.

Shrouded in a curtain of white, we descended into Ten-Mile Meadow, which we both knew well (so we thought); we climbed Monticola Ridge on the other side (so we thought, again). Suddenly there was a break in the clouds. A pale moon gleamed through, and we found ourselves back on the old Tioga Road at Snow Flat, at the foot of Mount Hoffmann again! In more than twenty-five years I have never forgotten the "blacked-out" feeling.

But Yosemite provides only part of California's many ski touring opportunities. The Sierra Club is the leading organiza-

tion in encouraging ski touring in all parts of the state. It has built and equipped several huts near its main ski lodge on Donner Summit and is pressing for a marked ski trail and more shelters in the area to provide tours of three to five days. The Club also has a hut on Mount Shasta in the north and one on Mount Baldy near Los Angeles. It sponsors trips on most winter week-ends, both to its own huts and elsewhere, and permits public use of its facilities with due registration. In 1956 Sierra Club scheduled tours had 130 people in 23 parties.

Mr. Frenkel believes Lassen Volcanic National Park affords California's best skiing terrain. There is a small shelter hut at Lake Helen at the foot of Lassen Peak, five or six miles from the sulphur vents. Diamond Peak to the south is described as a "dizzying descent." from Manzanita Lake on the northwest border there are excellent runs and tours with a small cabin

near Twin Lakes for a longer trip.

Dr. Charles Wilts of the southern branch of the Sierra Club reports that one-day tours take off from various ski centers in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino mountains. Longer outings are made to Mount San Gorgonio, (11,400 feet) which is in a designated primitive area without access roads. Here the ski tourer should plan to camp in the snow, as the single hut permitted and provided by the Forest Service for emergencies is inadequate.

Most other touring by southern skiers for week-ends or longer starts from three places: the Pear Lake Hut in Sequoia National Park, Mineral King just south of Sequoia, and along the steep eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada.

The Pear Lake Hut (9500 feet) is six miles by marked ski trail from the road at Wolverton and has quarters for ten persons. Built by the Park Service, it is maintained by the Sequoia Ski Club, which stocks it

The author's favorite ski tour is the Inspiration Point run with its magnificent views across Yosemite Valley toward the High Sierra. Massive El Capitan is at left, with Cathedral Peak and Cloud's Rest on the horizon and Half Dome to the right.

Yosemite Park and Curry Company



each winter with a small supply of food and fuel. This hut was used by 93 people in the winter of '55-'56. Mineral King (7381 feet) is especially popular as a base camp for spring touring. Magnificent slopes descend to it from Farewell Gap and other passes.

The abrupt rise of the Sierra Nevada on its eastern rampart gives rapid though rugged entry to the passes into the Palisades, Kearsarge and Whitney regions and from Mammoth into the southern margin of Yosemite. Tours are often made in spring for periods of several days, but there are no shelter huts.

Cross-country skiers in all of California's national parks must register with the Park Service before and after their trips. This procedure serves the multiple purpose of establishing competence, defining whereabouts, and reporting safe return.

It would be difficult to estimate the total number who now engage in ski touring of one kind or another, in all parts of California. But it seems evident that the number is still small. Looking to the future, I should say that these are some of the primary requisites in developing ski touring:

- 1) Accessibility to *good* ski terrain.

- 2) Marking of more touring trails.
- 3) More thorough understanding of winter conditions, both as to snow and weather.
- 4) Better information and more interest at the skiing centers.
- 5) Better maps and knowledge of how to read them.
- 6) Inspired and experienced leadership.

I believe the most important of these is the last. I think here of enthusiastic leadership which my husband, Don Tresidder, gave to ski tours in Yosemite over a number of years. On those mornings with the firm and constant "feel" of spring snow underfoot, we found devious ways down unmarked and unknown runs. We played "follow my leader" in deep powder snow—swooping over unexpected buried logs, or having a sudden bending race among the dark fir trees. These experiences seem to me, as I look back on them now, to have been part of "*the morning of the world, when earth was nigher heaven than now.*"

Many of the youngsters who were our skiing companions still remember those days at Snow Creek or at Badger with nostalgic pleasure. It delights me that some go on to sow the seed of interest in others.

ARCTIC WILDLIFE RANGE

NINE MILLION ACRES of Arctic Alaska were temporarily set aside in November by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton for future establishment of the nation's largest wildlife range. The proposed "Arctic Wildlife Range" is located on the Arctic Ocean, and is bounded on the west by the Canning River and on the East by the Alaska-Canadian border. The southern boundary is about 140 miles from the Arctic Ocean and is formed by natural landmarks.

This section of the Brooks Range—well above the Arctic Circle—is the home of grizzly and polar bears, Dall sheep, wolverines, and great herds of caribou. Huge flocks of migratory birds nest there each

summer and nearly one hundred species of birds are found in the area as well as innumerable small land animals.

The new wildlife range and other Alaskan wildlife areas will receive added protection under new gas and oil leasing regulations recently approved by Secretary Seaton. The part of such regulations pertaining to Alaskan wildlife areas provides that the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management would agree what lands shall not be leased. Actual leases on Alaskan wildlife lands available for gas and oil development would require the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and all leases would contain stipulations "necessary to protect wildlife resources."

Nature in the Arctic

By OLAUS J. MURIE, Director
The Wilderness Society

AS we looked out from our first base camp at Lobo Lake, in Alaska's Brooks Range, we felt that we were really in a far place of adventure. Perhaps we did not put it into those words. But there was an exhilaration in being here which meant that—and more.

We could look southward to the low country. Far down, somewhere in the distance, lay Fort Yukon, on the Arctic Circle. The little bush plane had landed us on the ice of this little lake, June 1st; then it had gone away and left us here in this arctic wilderness.

We studied carefully the rocky, treeless mountains on either side, flanking the

Sheenjek River valley. Northward the valley went on to distant mysteries in a maze of mountains. This was the country we were to explore.

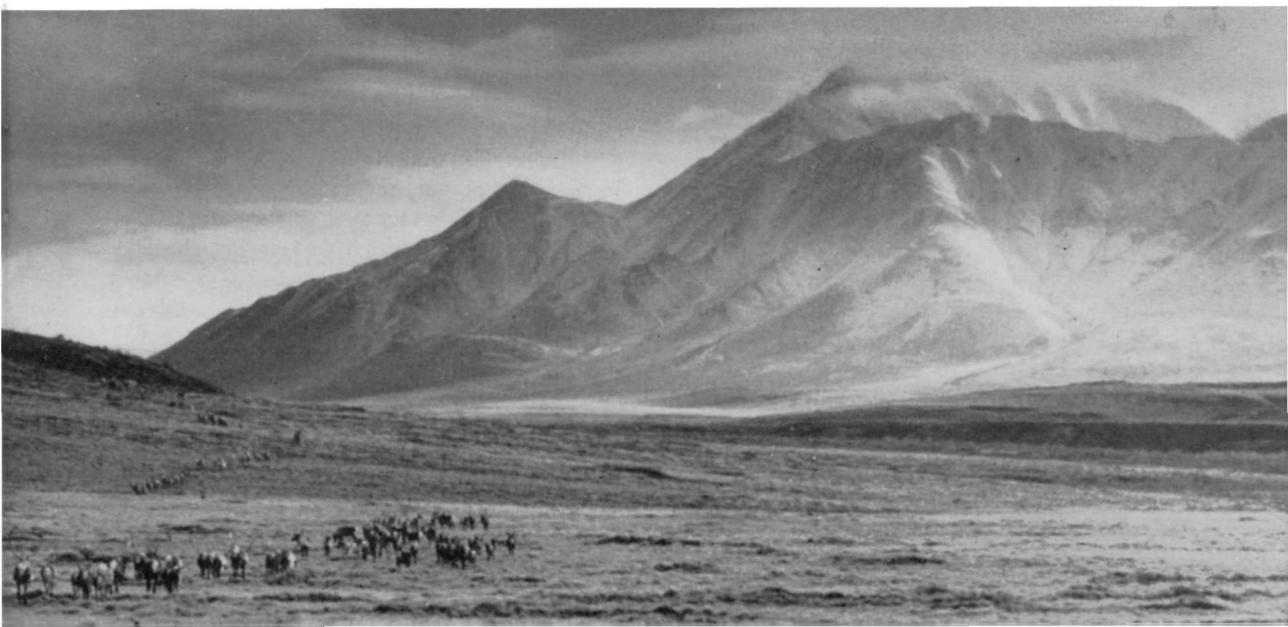
Why were we here and what did we expect to find? The New York Zoological Society and The Conservation Foundation—who have so actively worked to save some of our American outdoors—are much interested in Alaska. These groups had sent us up here to appraise again this north-east part of Alaska as some sort of wilderness area to be saved for the future. Dr. Brina Kessel, representing the University of Alaska, had come to look into the ecological situation for future studies. George Schaller and Bob Krear, ardent and scientifically trained outdoorsmen, were with us to help explore the country. And Mardy and I made up the party of five.

As the June days came on, one precious one after another, we were unconscious of New York or any other part of the

Dr. Murie, a leading advocate of the establishment of a wildlife preserve in the Brooks Range of Alaska, here describes an expedition taken in the summer of 1956 to the Sheenjek River section of the range. The present status of the proposed wildlife preserve is described in *Arctic Wildlife Range* on the opposite page.

A band of caribou (left foreground) in the Brooks Range of Alaska. This is the heart of the tentatively set aside "Arctic Wildlife Range."

Lois Crisler





Olaus J. Murie

"We particularly liked to see masses of saxifrages and other flowers finding a suitable living place on cliff ledges far up in the mountains."

populated southland. Round about us was no sign of recent man-made structures. Here were lakes, the winding river, low hills and tundra flats in the valley, and the mountains—nature's own domain. And in this north country, we had the night-long sunlight.

Each day we went in different directions, and soon began to be aware of the birds and mammals of the region, and of the arctic flowers coming out in colorful profusion everywhere. At random, I refer to my notes for the 8th day of June:

Mardy and I went up the valley, explored the shores of some little lakes. We came to a side-stream too deep to cross, so took a wide circular course back toward camp. On the way, we found nests of tree sparrows, always tucked into the moss on the ground, often in the base of a clump of dwarf birch. All were lined with soft white feathers of ptarmigan, and had one to five eggs. In my notes is the following:

"As I looked into these little hollows that were to be the future tree sparrow homes, I had the impression of looking into a dainty boudoir, so white and pure and clean, so appropriate a place for the birth of young birds."

As we roamed in this Arctic paradise during June and July, when this northland is benign, we became acquainted with the diverse manifestations of its life. The lichens on the cliffs and jumbled rocks, the

mosses, the flowers blooming humbly among the tundra tussocks, all had a strong appeal. Rhododendrons colored the hillside back of our camp. And we particularly liked to see masses of saxifrages and other flowers finding a suitable living place on cliff ledges far up in the mountains.

In many places grizzly bears had torn up the ground seeking roots, occasionally digging out a ground squirrel burrow. Sometimes we saw the bears themselves. There were foxes and a few moose. High in the mountains were the white mountain sheep. We were thrilled by the sight of occasional tracks of wolves on the sandy river bars of the Sheenjek. And we had the caribou with us most of the time. The migration of a great herd near our camp one July evening was probably the highlight of our trip.

One day when Mardy and I were back-packing for several days, up to the head of the Sheenjek, we saw a fine big bull caribou, antlers in velvet, standing on a wide stretch of overflow ice. Water was dripping from under the edge of the ice in the summer sun, and behind the caribou rose the mountain slope—a virile scene that had a significance which we felt, but could not define.

The caribou finally fled up the valley, out of sight. Since we were going that way, we hoped to see him again, and we did. Later in the day, we were plodding

along over the tundra tussocks, the hardest walking I have ever encountered. This was the second day of our trip to the head of the river, and our patience and strength were pushed to the limit. Several times on this afternoon, loaded as I was with a pack, I lost my footing and fell—and just wanted to lie there! Now and then we looked at each other, trying to evaluate each other's endurance. Then, ahead of us over a rise, we saw the bull caribou again. We were sure it was the same one. He trotted off across the flats easily, seeming to float along over the hummocks. Mardy watched the disappearing animal, and exclaimed: "Oh, why can't *we* do that?"

As we look upon our experience, the richness, the beauty, it was surely enhanced by our struggle to achieve it. It is not something you can put into a photograph or into words—these can only suggest the real thing.

That night we camped by a small stream, beside a grove of willows. We had no tent—but merely put down our sleeping bags and mosquito bars, and cooked our supper over a small fire of dry willow limbs. After exploring around we finally decided it was bedtime. I had already crawled into my bag when Mardy called to me: "Look! Here is a fox, right in camp!"

There was the fox, standing at the edge of our camp place, serenely looking us over! He turned, sniffed at things near the campfire, looked at us, and wandered about, to the edge of the willows. A wandering tattler evidently had a nest nearby, and from the gravelly shore of the little stream was scolding excitedly—a fox so close! But the fox drifted about with unconcern, disappeared behind the willows, came back to look us over again, then slowly wandered off, like a shadow.

A summer of such experiences! We didn't, any of us, like to think of this as some kind of land category. We wanted it to be just what it is. As Mardy has expressed it, we were the privileged ones. We felt this very strongly; deeply felt our

responsibility; and when we left the Sheenjek we destroyed every trace of our presence—tried to leave that place as it was before we came. And it is our fervent hope that others, a few at a time, can enjoy the spiritual uplift of such a place. We human beings need to muster the wisdom to leave a few places on the earth strictly alone, to leave them for such esthetic adventure for the next generation.

Please understand. We are not the only ones. One of the most satisfying experiences in the last two summers was meeting with groups of Alaskans. We had opportunity to meet with the garden clubs in and near Fairbanks, with sportsmen's organizations in many parts of Alaska, with certain groups of forward-looking teachers at the University of Alaska, and many individuals. In this era when we have so many complications, and so much confusion of material ambitions, it is hopeful to find many Alaskans who are determined to keep the wildlife, the arctic flora, the natural beauties of the Alaskan scene—for the eventual good of all.

**"Water was dripping from
under the edge of the ice
in the summer sun . . ."**

Olaus J. Murie



C and O Canal National Historical Park

By ANTHONY WAYNE SMITH, Member
Executive Committee, National Parks Association

A HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE proposal to establish the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park is now pending before Congress. This proposal arose out of the famous 1954 hike led by Justice William O. Douglas of the United States Supreme Court. In the course of some ten days, the hikers traveled from Cumberland, Maryland to Washington, D. C.—a distance of about 180 miles—to demonstrate that the C and O Canal lands are better suited for preservation as a park than for use as a roadway.

This group was successful in arousing support all over America for its point of view. As a result, the sponsors of the original roadway idea and the people who desire to preserve the Canal as a park have generally agreed that the old Canal will be protected, restored, and made accessible to the public; while a short, scenic parkway, somewhat similar to the Skyline Drive, will be constructed some distance back from the Canal.

The program for the old Canal includes restoration of the ancient locks and lock-houses, the repair of the towpath, the rewatering of considerable stretches of the canal itself, and the acquisition of additional land—mainly between the canal and the river. Many country roads lead

down to the canal from the paved road system; these would be graded, drained, and gravelled, and used for access by the public. At the foot of these roads would be recreational centers, with canoes and skiffs, horses in some places for riding, or bicycles. People could walk along the towpath, fish in the canal or the river, have picnics or camp in quiet places, and enjoy the beauties and pleasures of nature without the danger and disturbance of motor traffic.

This program to protect one of the most important recreational resources of the Potomac Valley draws public attention to many other Potomac River problems. Thus far the Canal has been defended successfully against the roadway. But now it is threatened with flooding by the Corps of Engineers-proposed River Bend dam. This dam is advocated as necessary to provide Washington with an adequate water supply. However, many people feel that the estuary of the Potomac River, below the falls, is an inexhaustible source of potable water for the city if pollution can be eliminated. The estuary is fresh water as far down as Fort Washington, and contains an immense volume of water.

The estuary must be cleaned up anyway. There are many fine communities along the estuary facing an intolerable pollution situation. If the pollution were eliminated, Washington could draw on the estuary, and it would not be necessary to construct a dam which would submerge the old C and O Canal and many other valuable recreational and historical resources.

It seems essential that sewage from Washington be given the fullest possible treatment. This is the minimum that any modern American city should do. After that, however, comes the problem of dis-

Earlier articles on this general subject were *Potomac Valley Recreation Project* and *Historic C and O Canal Threatened by Road* in the July-September 1953 NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. On May 1, 1953, the National Parks Association voted to approve in principle a report by Mr. Smith which provided: "that the entire canal property should be protected as a recreational area and that no highway should be built on any part of it." On October 29, 1957, the executive committee of the Association passed another resolution covering the major points stressed in Mr. Smith's present article.

posing of sludge and liquid effluents. There are many ways by which this problem can be approached; a number of new ideas are being developed which will ultimately, and perhaps before very long, ensure that the valuable fertilizers contained in urban sewage are eventually returned to the soil, and not wasted.

Among these ideas is that of effluent distillation; pure distilled water would result (which could be returned to the river or to the water supply) plus the residue from distillation, which will be rich fertilizer.

This is not the only approach. Some people have advocated allowing the effluent to flow onto agricultural lands, from which a richer harvest could be reaped. Others have suggested that it should be piped to Chesapeake Bay or the lower Potomac, where the salinity of the water would prevent its giving rise to an undue and troublesome growth of algae.

Whatever the precise technical answers may be, the important thing is to solve the problem in terms of pollution abatement and the utilization of the estuary as a fresh water supply. One other alternative to River Bend dam would be dams on upstream tributaries. This too is undesirable from the viewpoint of people interested in national and state parks and wilderness and persons concerned with

timber and agricultural resources; for tributary dams would mean destruction of these kinds of resources. Such dams should not be built unless absolutely necessary. Downstream solutions should be relied upon to the greatest extent possible.

Big highways present another problem. Route 240, coming into the city from the northwest, is approaching the center of the capital. Various routes by which it might enter and go all the way downtown have been suggested. All of these proposals would result in the destruction of park land within the city which cannot well be lost; Rock Creek Park, Glover-Archbold Park, the C and O Canal lands—all of these would be in danger.

Many people feel the answer is to prevent Route 240 from coming down into the heart of the city at all. Much of its traffic could be diverted across the river by suitable bridges, or over to Baltimore by circumferential highways. Much of the remainder could be dispersed into various routes leading into town. If the big roads were pushed right downtown, they would merely increase the congestion there; pressure would develop to take height limitations off the buildings in Washington; then the city would really have been ruined.

Another road problem is the George Washington Memorial Parkway, planned

In bygone days, two boys wait as water flowing into the C and O Canal lock lifts their canal boat to a higher level.

National Park Service





Abbie Rowe

The mule-drawn barge trip is one of the many recreational opportunities offered by the C and O Canal for the masses of people crowded in and around the nation's capital.

for the stretch of the C and O Canal land between Chain Bridge and Great Falls on the Maryland side and between the Falls and the existing George Washington Memorial Parkway on the Virginia side. Conservationists may have been successful in pushing this roadway back from the river on the Virginia side. As this article is written, we do not know whether we can stop construction of the parkway on the Maryland side, or relocate it farther away from the Canal. The first contract for construction of the Parkway on the Maryland side has just been awarded. It will substantially destroy the recreational qualities of the canal property for the four miles nearest Washington. Several alternative routes are available in Maryland, one along the Cabin John streetcar line, the other along MacArthur Boulevard. However, the planners appear to be intent on creating a fast road from the suburbs into town, instead of a parkway which they say they want, and which was originally authorized.

A more encouraging element in this picture of destruction by roads and dams is the proposal for establishment of Great Falls Park on the Virginia side of the river. If established, this park would provide generations of people from Washington and its surrounding communities with a beautiful and attractive recreational center. Centers of this kind are greatly needed in the capital area; they will be more and more important as the years go by and as expanding government bureaus and other sources of employment bring a larger and larger population.

But the Potomac is more than the metropolitan area; it is a great river basin stretching high into the Appalachian Mountains. In its upper reaches, it has some magnificent forests, including the George Washington National Forest and the Maryland state forests; it contains the Shenandoah National Park. These timbered regions afford magnificent recreation for town and city people. They are an economic asset of tremendous value. Also within the valley are its agricultural resources. This is a region for dairying, meat animal fattening, and the production of orchard and other tree crops. Closely related to the economic activities of agriculture are the problems of soil conservation.

The protection of the natural environment which the Potomac Valley provides for human life is greatly dependent on the restoration of the timber and agricultural resources. We should expand the recreational opportunities which these forested and farming areas provide. We need more campgrounds and picnic grounds, for example. We need restoration of the wildlife resources of the area as well as the soils and forests. Around such protective and restorative activities, a sizeable recreation industry could develop which would contribute to the prosperity of the region.

Our interest in these matters as parks people stems from our knowledge that the state and national park systems will be protected to the extent that we can develop

(Continued on page 35)

1957 NATIONAL PARK FIRE RECORD

DESPITE the steady visitor-use increase since World War II, this year's number of man-caused fires is the smallest since 1930—only 125 in all areas under protection of the National Park Service. This is especially remarkable in view of the more than 59 million people visiting the parks during the year.

Most park visitors are careful and anxious to help prevent fires. Fire hazard reduction and improvement in and adjacent to campgrounds and other use areas, reminders of the need for care with fire, and simple restrictions have greatly reduced the number of fires in our national parks. The kinds of people and the activities responsible for fires have been carefully studied. Thus prevention can be specifically directed toward potential sources.

Only half the man-caused fires this year were considered to be visitor caused despite the very heavy visitor use during periods of high fire danger. The other half apparently were caused by local residents—people living or working in and adjacent to the areas. Fishermen, who should be good woodsmen, are still one of the sources of too many "visitor" caused fires. Debris burning, construction projects, incendiaries, children playing with matches, farmers clearing land and other activities of people who live nearby all create special problems requiring specific prevention work. For years one of our problems has been the many fires starting outside the boundaries which escaped and entered the parks. This year the number

has been greatly reduced by cooperative efforts of all concerned.

Lightning fires are, as yet, unpreventable and they usually vary in number year to year and area by area. Lightning fire occurrence this year was slightly less than average. Significantly, there were no large concentrations reported by any area and acreage burned by lightning-caused fires has been the least in many years. Whereas the number of man-caused fires in the parks and monuments usually far exceed those caused by lightning, the number of lightning-caused and man-caused fires this year were about equal.

Only three fires burned over more than 100 acres of park lands during the year; two of these occurred in Everglades National Park and burned over 2405 acres of forest and 13,510 acres of grass, accounting for 91 per cent of the total forest and 96 per cent of the grassland burned inside the parks during the year.

The relatively good record of fewer fires and a smaller than usual number of large fires may, in part, be credited to less hazardous weather conditions.

Such a fire record itself creates problems for a protection organization. Too often a feeling of complacency develops. We tend to forget the tragic consequences of the large fires which have occurred in the past and which can, of course, happen again unless intensive prevention and preparedness are continually stressed.—*L. F. Cook, Chief, Branch of Park Forest and Wildlife Protection, National Park Service.*

C AND O CANAL PARK

(Continued from page 34)

an outer defense for them. This defense will take the form of well managed commercial forests—both public and private, well managed farms, and the development of an economic and industrial life of a kind which will not destroy the natural

environment for human life. The Potomac River, as yet relatively untouched by the worst forms of industrialization, can still be a region in which people can live and work close to nature, and in which they can easily reach out to excellent outdoor recreation. We should try to work toward this objective.

MISSION 66-WIRTH

(Continued from page 9)

application of a paintbrush or by a choice of the architectural decor of its buildings.

One shudders when anyone suggests developing a brand new area in any national park, no matter how ordinary the few acres involved may be. Yet we did exactly this at our third example, Canyon Village in Yellowstone, and at Colter Bay in Grand Teton. Are these to be considered merely multi-million dollar construction projects? Canyon Village will accommodate some 4000 visitors in campgrounds, lodges, and cabins, and thus it contributes much to good park use. This is evident. But what does it contribute to park preservation? Just this—it permits the restoration and preservation of the scenic lands surrounding the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. Already the lodges and cabins, which for years obstructed use and marred the scene on the Canyon Rim, are being razed. In a short time the Canyon Rim will be restored to use for esthetic enjoyment, understanding, and appreciation. To devote a very few of the more than a million acres of lodgepole forest to development is a small price indeed to pay for the restoration and preservation of the far more valuable, for more significant values of Yellowstone. This is basic park preservation.

Remember too that we are preserving more than a landscape. It is just as important to preserve the opportunity to enjoy. By its location, the old Canyon lodge denied park visitors the most dramatic view of Upper Yellowstone Falls and convenient access to the trail to Lower Falls. Its replacement at Canyon Village restores this right and opportunity.

There are other places in the national parks that can stand this kind of preservation—replanning and redeveloping to restore and preserve the things and qualities that are really important. Old Faithful and West Thumb thermal basins in Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Yosemite Valley, Paradise

and Longmire in Mount Rainier, Spruce Tree Point in Mesa Verde are, perhaps, most critical, and solutions to all of these situations are in the Mission 66 program. But, keep in mind that to move functions out of Yosemite Valley or to restore Spruce Tree Point as an archeological interpretive area means construction somewhere else—construction sizeable enough to make headlines.

Do I need to point out that all of this represents a movement quite opposite from that of extending developments farther into the heart of a park? We do not need to push farther into the wilderness—we need only to use better what is already accessible to us. To pull mass use developments back, away from the parks' climax areas—even beyond the boundaries when possible—this is preservation in a very real sense.

But in our developments we ought to look far enough into the future so that what we build today will not have to be torn up and redone, as has happened in the past, just about the time the scars of construction are healing over.

Construction and maintenance today are machine jobs. This is true even to the extent that power mowers seem to be necessary for small patches of green in front of many homes. You don't put up a house with hand tools in these days, nor do you build or maintain a road with a rake and a shovel. Despite every practical precaution and restriction that can be written into a contract, construction work today is a noisy and somewhat messy operation. The park visitor today is likely to see giant bulldozers, power shovels, carry-alls, trucks and compressors, and hear the roar of their motors and the boom of blasting. These things may be impressed on him even more because of traffic delays where these machines are working. Considering all these things, it is easy for a motorist to forget the many miles and the expansive areas where no construction whatsoever is evident, and to reach the conclusion that the entire park is being torn to shreds. The

person who spends his vacation back on the high country trails will not pass this judgment, for he sees little, if any, construction.

It is not exactly fair to condemn a park development because of what it looks like during construction. We ought to reserve final judgment of its fitness and adequacy until the job is finished, structures and landscaping complete, scaffolds and bulldozers removed, and harsh lines and scars softened by use and time.

It took many years to hand-build the first roads into the national parks. One of the great advantages of using modern methods is simply that the job can be completed, the equipment removed, and the park restored to uninterrupted use in the quickest possible time. Laborsaving construction equipment is beneficial to the taxpayer no less than to the park visitor, for to save effort, to save time, to save money and materials by employing modern methods—this is conservation, too.

Nine visitor centers were built in the parks last year, and many others are in the program for the future. These mere statistics certainly leave much unsaid about the emphasis Mission 66 gives to interpretation: the many ranger-naturalists and naturalists added to park staffs last year, the intensive experimentation and development of audio-visual interpretive techniques and numerous such installations, and the new systems of roadside and trailside exhibits installed and on the drawing boards. There is no precise measure of the added enjoyment and understanding that result.

Statistics cannot even suggest the important part interpretive considerations play in the whole process of park planning. The new Everglades road, for example, a four and one-half million dollar construction project, bought a great deal more than a mere road from the park boundary to Flamingo. The primary factor here was a location that would bring the visitor to a good sample of each major environment—pineland, glades, hammock, mangrove, coastline, and bay—at each of which, by

means of wayside museums, overlooks, signs, and exhibits, he can learn the story of the nature and origin of these landscapes, progressively, as he travels through the park.

We are concerned that a park visitor needs to eat and sleep, and that he needs to travel from place to place, but, in satisfying these needs, we are even more concerned that he have the opportunity to enjoy, understand, and appreciate the natural scene for what it is. Effective presentation of the park scene and its interpretation must justify all public use developments. Roads and trails and their associated interpretive devices are the direct instruments in this, but, in their way, indirectly, lodges and campgrounds, and even a comfort station, contribute too.

We make a practice of identifying Mission 66 construction projects by suitable signs, but you can't hang a sign on a new ranger saying, "I am a Mission 66 project." It takes money and men to protect park resources, to serve park visitors, and to conduct a park operation. Over 750 new seasonal and permanent employees were added to field staffs this year, together with funds to carry out their work. The results are measured in terms of better service, closer supervision of park use, intensified protection of park forests, lands, and wildlife, more adequate research, and more satisfactory maintenance of facilities.

The national parks must be served by competent, well trained, dedicated men, fully indoctrinated in the philosophy, traditions, and policies of the National Park Service. This is why I consider the new training center, where all new rangers, naturalists, and historians will receive three months training in national park principles and methods, such an important phase of Mission 66. The school opened last September with a first class of thirty men.

You don't read very much about land problems within the parks, nor about progress toward their solution. The Mission 66 program contemplates the acquisition

of all strategic, privately owned lands within park boundaries. Over 50,000 acres of such lands were acquired last year. Nor will I here take the time to detail some of the other programs going forward without fanfare under Mission 66: The Historic American Buildings Survey, the Historic Sites Survey, comprehensive studies of existing parks to determine long-term boundary needs, and the development of a National Recreational Plan—all of these are in progress in accordance with plans described in the Mission 66 report, *Our Heritage*.

There will be many more headlines in the years ahead announcing a new road, a completed visitor center, a newly opened lodge or campground. But, at the same time, many other things will be going on as a part of the job Mission 66 set out to do: to protect the irreplaceable resources of the national parks and monuments, and to prepare them for the enjoyment of their visitors. Financing, personnel, and train-

ing; park planning, land acquisition, and nationwide planning; operation, protection, and interpretation—all are part of this balanced, coordinated program. As it goes forward as one, adjusted to the realities of today, undergirded by the principle of beneficial use without impairment, we need not be concerned that the task is being accomplished faster than has ever before been possible.

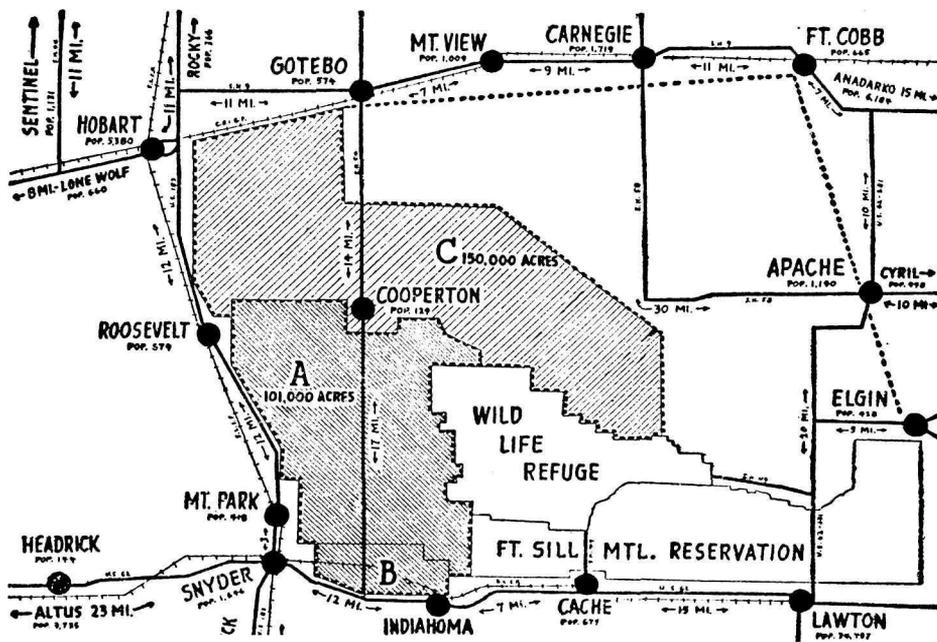
Nor do we need to be disturbed by headlines. Headlines merely echo the pulse-beat reflecting the health of the whole body. Mission 66 is the body, and development, planning, management, protection, and interpretation its separate functions. All, separately and together, contribute to the one objective of the national park system: provide for beneficial enjoyment in ways that will leave these wilderness, natural, scientific, and historical areas unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

EDWARD ALEXANDER PREBLE, 1871-1957

Ardent conservationist, noted naturalist and staunch defender of national parks, Edward A. Preble passed away on October 4, 1957. He became a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association in 1937 and was a member of the Executive Committee for 16 years.

Mr. Preble belonged to the old school of naturalists whose knowledge of nature was nurtured in the field. A boyhood love of nature grew into a career, which had its official beginnings when he came to Washington to join the staff of the Bureau of Biological Survey in 1892. In the years that followed, he became established as one of the world's ablest mammalogists, and an authority on the fauna of northern Canada—to which region he made several trips into primitive wilderness. Staff naturalist for the American Nature Association from 1924, he joined the staff of that Association in 1935 as Associate Editor of *Nature Magazine*.

Although a native of Wilmington, Massachusetts, Mr. Preble spent much of his boyhood on the family farm near Ossipee, New Hampshire. Gradually he consolidated surrounding acreage of abandoned farm country that had "gone back to nature," and there established a sanctuary of about one thousand acres. He built a library of native stone to house his library that had been collected through the years. His ashes rest nearby on a site of his own choosing, beneath a granite boulder that he selected as a marker.—*Richard W. Westwood*.



Oklahoma Farmer, January 3, 1958

A RING AROUND A REFUGE

*The Army's on the move again,
East and south they've been.
West and north are wanted next;
And unless we move to stop this hex,
The Wichitas are gone!*

Current Army expansion plans at Fort Sill, Oklahoma would completely surround the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge and take over some 300,000 acres of farm and ranch land. The above map

shows that Fort Sill's size would be quadrupled if such plans are approved by Congress. Notations on the original Army map show that Area A is planned for acquisition in 1958, B and C in 1959 and the last area, bounded by the dotted line from Gotebo to Fort Cobb to Apache to Elgin, in fiscal 1960-61. (See April and October 1957 issues for earlier stories.)

NPA ON WINTER USE

(Continued from page 21)

in winter, and believes it should be encouraged—just as the National Park Service does. However, such use, we feel, must be only in ways which *do 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 continually hurtling down a slope to be pulled up by a rope or tow. But that is not the only way, nor even the proper way, to enjoy the winter landscape of our national parks.

Therefore, we wish to make our attitude clear on installation and use of mechanical ski devices in national parks. We do not intend to let our national parks degenerate

into recreational playgrounds for the entertainment of sports-minded people. We shall do all we can to work with the Service to avoid these intrusions. But when the Service follows its stated policy, as reported in the last issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, of including ski tows, toboggan slides, and the like, we cannot support these plans. We must then go to the public for our support in changing these policies and practices.

Thus in answer to the four questions posed by "Winter Use of National Parks" in our last issue, we of the National Parks Association must say "no" to the first three questions and "yes" only to the question indicating our disapproval of Park Service policy as it relates to mechanized skiing as well as our disapproval of those things done within the framework of that policy.

LETTERS

Pennsylvania Hawk Law

The improved hawk law adopted by Pennsylvania has silenced the guns in the notorious shooting stands on the Kittatiny Ridges and is a great stride toward treating our hawks and owls on a more intelligent basis. (*Hawk Law in Pennsylvania* in the July-September 1957 issue.) Its enactment was due to the dedicated efforts of the many people who worked directly to secure it, and also to the more than twenty years influence of Mrs. C. N. Edge, Dr. Maurice Broun, and others who founded Hawk Mountain Sanctuary as the first effective protest against the slaughter of hawks on the Pennsylvania ridges. Now that this effective step has been taken, it is hoped a model law protecting all raptors will become the code, not only of Pennsylvania, but of all the states.

Every successful conservation program is the achievement of numbers of people, working along several lines of endeavor. Their service to their country is immeasurable.

Roger Tory Peterson
Old Lyme, Connecticut

National Park Winter Use

Hidden Valley was once a beautiful, scenic area with one of the few mature stands of spruce-fir in this section of the Rockies. It was used as a demonstration area by plant ecology courses from the University of Colorado. The development of the ski area has proceeded in and around this stand, and its value as a field study area is already lost. The huge asphalt parking lot, large lodge (painted in bright, conspicuous colors as seems to be the new policy of the Park Service), and tows have been made conspicuous and consequently destroy the scenic aspects of the valley.

Lastly, the Park Service or their concessioners seem to be incapable of designing and running a successful ski area. (Such enterprises, I believe, should be left to private development outside of the parks, and not to government agencies or their subsidized concessioners within the parks.) The upper tow at Hidden Valley has been broken down or buried in snow about fifty per cent of the time since it was installed. Last spring the

asphalt parking lot was a sea of mud, and the lodge was being undermined by slumping of the surrounding earth.

To answer the question put forth in the October-December issue, I am against ski tows in national parks—both in policy and in the way the policy is being carried through—but not against winter use of parks for ski touring and camping.

Les and Teri Viereck
Boulder, Colorado

I have reread "Winter Use of National Parks" many times, and even though I am a sincere believer in wilderness, in parks and national forests, I do think the Park Service is right in developing winter use areas in the parks favorable for such activities. Our national parks have been set aside for use and enjoyment. To fulfill this purpose, it has been necessary to build roads into the parks and provide the needed facilities for housing, feeding, and maintenance of health and a certain degree of comfort. Mechanical facilities for skiers are no more out of place in their effect on wilderness than conveniences developed for summer visitors. I am sure the skier is getting a healthful benefit from the parks and at the same time is enjoying a beauty which in some ways surpasses that enjoyed by the summer visitors.

Then there is a chance that these developments may be needed to alleviate the pressure of too many skiers for the available facilities in other parts of the states. We cannot justly ask for the elimination of the ski facilities in the national parks, for we would be depriving many people of their right to equal benefits in the parks.

Ralph W. Hubbs
San Bernardino, California

The winter use programs described by the National Park Service seem to have little relation to the main purposes for which the national parks were established. (*Winter Use of National Parks* in the October-December 1957 issue.) The parks were set aside to assure preservation of their special scenic qualities and were supposed to be used in such ways as are appropriate and non-destructive of park values. There is a perfectly legitimate place for proposed sports centers, but outside park boundaries!

Ski touring is an uncomplicated, non-destructive kind of use. I think the ideal touring arrangement would be to have a string of small cabins a short day's journey apart or single cabins placed a day in from the road's end. The cabin at Pear Lake in Sequoia National Park could serve as a model. (See photograph on pages 24-25.) The tour into this cabin is so lovely that my husband and I have made it several times. You do not have to be an expert skier to be a competent ski tourer.

Mrs. Richard C. Bradley
Ithaca, New York

Yes! Let there be skiing, dancing, souvenir shops. But bar these from my parks. Bar from our parks, too, those who cannot enjoy living without the ugly and noisy advancements of civilization. I wish a road which will carry me into the park. I wish a bed to sleep on and a table to sit at while I eat my food. Beyond this, is not nature grand enough to capture every thought? For those who would walk the hushed trails, who would glide silently across the lakes, who would tour the glistening snow in fervent search for complete rapport with nature, there must be a few places set aside in this mighty land.

L. Russell
Astoria, New York

Olympic Salvage

I read your article with interest (*More Salvage at Olympic* in the October-December 1957 issue), and thought that it was very fair, while at the same time pointing out the false philosophy of "save the harvest," viz., log all the "ripe" timber.

Conrad Chapman
Boston, Massachusetts

Jazz in Glacier

The growing Coney Island atmosphere in

our national parks seems to be getting worse, according to this clipping (*Jazz Comes to Glacier Park* by Morton Cathro, Oakland (California) Tribune, August 18, 1957). Can't the nature clubs figure out some kind of a program to counteract jazz bands, cocktail bars, etc.? I thought Mission 66 was to go for better salaries and more rangers, but not to make a Coney Island out of our parks.

Muriel Newberry
Oakland, California

● Excerpts from Mr. Cathro's article follow:

"Local musicians were melting the glaciers with their hot jazz rhythms the afternoon we arrived at East Glacier. . . . The concert was followed by a parade of seventeen beautiful young ladies vying for the title of Glacier Park Queen. . . . By now every squirrel, mountain goat, and antelope for miles around was wondering just what was going on these days in his ancient mountain home. If he had poked his nose into the lodge later that evening, he would have found even more to perplex him: the lobby resounding to the beat of tom-toms . . . actors proclaiming their lines in 'Night Must Fall.'

"You may pause to wonder at the wonders of nature and at the incongruities of man. And it's just possible you'll decide that a trip to Glacier National Park would be a great experience in itself, even without jazz."

We are informed by the Park Service that East Glacier Lodge is outside the park boundaries, and that the manager responsible for the theater entertainment at Many Glacier Hotel (within park boundaries) has ended his employment with the park concessioner. We are pleased the problem has seemingly been met for the present. But we are concerned that a philosophy of "let them try it and see it is not economically feasible" was present in Service handling of the matter.—*Editor*.

How to Make Bequests

Recognizing the importance of providing adequately for the Association's valuable work, members have asked how best to make bequests. This wording will serve:

"I give and bequeath the sum of dollars to the National Parks Association, a non-profit corporation incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, to be used by that Association to further the purposes for which that Association is organized."

THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

NATURE AND THE AMERICAN: THREE CENTURIES OF CHANGING ATTITUDES, by Hans Huth. Published by University of California Press, Berkeley, California, 1957. 268 pages. 64 plates. Vignettes. Bibliography. Price \$7.50.

For one whose boyhood recollections include repeated poring over the unbound numbers of William Cullen Bryant's *Picturesque America*, this beautiful book has an irresistible appeal. It is the long story of the beginnings, growth and spread of American appreciation of the natural beauty of the land. Such appreciation is now ripening into intense love of the noble and inspiring aspects of the natural scene and finding expression in stern resolve to preserve its beauty for endless generations to come.

More than sixty years ago, Mary E. Woolley, then a graduate student in history at Brown University, produced an essay on *The Development of the Love of Romantic Scenery in America*. Dr. Huth's book is a long-needed elaboration of that theme. He begins with the first settlers and the pioneers who went up against the land with broadaxe and crosscut saw to possess it. He tells how the sense of natural beauty was induced and stimulated by literature and intensified by art and shows how this sense nourished the roots of the movement for conservation.

The influence of poets, essayists, historians, travellers, scientists, editors and public men is described at length. William Bartram, James Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving, Francis Parkman, Nathaniel Hawthorne, William Cullen Bryant, Thomas Starr King, Clarence King, John W. Powell and Frederic Law Olmsted are only a few of those whom Dr. Huth presents to us.

Special attention is devoted to the long line of artists who painted, drew or engraved the American scene: Washington Alston, Thomas Cole, Asher B. Durand, Albert Bierstadt, Robert S. Gifford, Thomas Moran and many more.

Chapters are devoted to such subjects as "Play and Rest," "The Poetry of Travelling" (not over six-lane highways at seventy miles per hour), "Summer Migration," "City Parks

and Timberlands," "The Era of Theodore Roosevelt," and, as a fitting climax,—"Conservation". Naturally the great national parks receive special attention as among the finest fruits of conservation.

This is a book to enjoy, to pick up at any time, as well as to read completely. It is a source of inspiration and cannot fail to strengthen the resolve of all lovers of natural beauty to protect our noblest scenes from commercially inspired depredations of all sorts. For those scenes are a precious heritage and are vital to the spiritual life of our people.—*Waldo Gifford Leland*.

SAGUARO NATIONAL MONUMENT, by Natt N. Dodge. National Park Service. 1957. 64 pages. Illustrated. Maps and charts. Price 30c, Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C.

Twenty-odd years ago the southwestern corner of the United States was looked upon as a wasteland, fit only for cactus, Indians, and a few hearty souls who called it home. This picture has changed considerably in the past few decades. The cactus still has its thorns, and the summers still seem unbearably hot to the new-comer. But America's eyes have been opened to the wealth of beauty, awe-inspiring character, and year-round healthful climate of this heretofore unpopular land.

In this natural history handbook, Mr. Dodge, Naturalist for Region 3 of the National Park Service, points up one of the determining factors responsible for this change in attitude—namely, the tremendous appeal of the contrasts of the desert country. In the heart of this fascinating region, Saguaro National Monument is a showplace where these contrasting elements are clearly shown and intelligently interpreted. In the course of a one-day hike within the boundaries of the monument, while traveling a vertical distance of 6,000 feet, you pass through four life zones—comparable to a horizontal distance of over 1,500 miles. You encounter plants, animals, and other life forms and conditions that ordinarily would be seen in traveling from the State of Sonora,

Nature and the American

THREE CENTURIES OF CHANGING ATTITUDES

By Hans Huth

Traces through literature, art, philosophy, science, and politics varying aspects of public and private attitudes toward natural resources in the United States from Colonial times to the present. Describes early conservation ideas and the development of government agencies to administer protected areas. Illustrated with numerous delightful vignettes, full-page plates of photographs and paintings from original, sometimes obscure, sources. Curator of Research of the Art Institute of Chicago, the author is also a consultant to the National Park Service on historical matters. \$7.50

A Flora of the Marshes of California

By Herbert L. Mason

A convenient, authoritative text describing currently known species of flowering plants and ferns that occur in wet lands of California, including many significant as waterfowl food. Data on geographical and ecological ranges outside California also noted. Line drawings vividly illustrate more than 350 species. For botanists, wildlife managers, and sportsmen. \$10.00

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By Robert Marshall

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A guide for all states on improving conservation law and practice. Using Pennsylvania as a yardstick, book examines the organization and operation of federal and state agencies; offers a Model Conservation Administration Act. *A Conservation Foundation Study. 34 ills., tables; 607 pp.* \$10

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Mexico, to the provinces of southern Canada. And this in a land that to the casual observer appears quite dull.

The adaptability of desert plants to desert environment has always fascinated southwest visitors, and Mr. Dodge has done a commendable job in the chapter dealing with the subject. Profusely illustrated with photographs of plant and animal life and life zone charts, the entire booklet is a high-spot narrative which does not leave the reader dangling as do some abbreviated writings in the field of natural history.

The handbook includes a map of the Monument showing the route of a proposed "Desert-to-Mountain Highway," to be built from Monument headquarters into the Rincon Mountains—as a part of Mission 66. In a field report earlier this year, the Association pointed out that:

All the finest of southern Arizona's mountain ranges have, or are planned to have, roads built into them. Ought not one range, at least, be spared and kept permanently wild as a sanctuary? And which more appropriately than the Tanque Verdes and Rincons of Saguaro?

—Joseph F. Carithers.

(We hope to get a satisfactory answer to this question soon.—*Editor.*)

GIVE-AWAY

(Continued from page 7)

direct access to the highway on which it faces is the billboard business. The public should let their congressmen know what they think about this colossal give-away to this particular business with the attendant defacement of miles and miles of our country's scenery.

This great federal highway program will affect our entire economic structure. The appearance of the new arteries of travel and their adjacent areas will have a permanent imprint on our communities and people. These highways will constitute the framework within which we must live for generations to come. The importance of protecting them from ruination by uncontrolled roadside advertising cannot be overstated.

MISSION 65 PROPOSED

(Continued from page 6)

it, and roads and development won't hurt it—and that therefore the present law, under which “there is no limit,” nevertheless adequately protects wilderness?

Some of our best informed law-makers, incidentally, see the situation somewhat differently. Hubert Humphrey said recently in the Senate that at present “there are no laws of Congress which protect these areas of wilderness as wilderness.” In the House of Representatives, the great champion of national parks John P. Saylor said on July 12, 1956:

“Even in the national parks and monuments, the pressures for roads and non-wilderness recreational and tourist developments threaten in many places to destroy the primeval, back-country wilderness. Within the national parks and monuments in general there is at present no act of Congress that would prevent a future Secretary of the Interior, or park administrator with his approval, from deciding to construct a road, a building, or any other installation that he would deem appropriate for a national park or monument anywhere within the park or monument.”

Misinterpretation of Basic Park Act?

What the National Park Act of 1916 does do, as Wallace Stegner has so clearly pointed out, is to present the Park Service with a dilemma, the problem of using and preserving at the same time—of stepping on the flower without hurting it, or more recently, of paving where the flower was, so that the flower alongside won't be stepped on. Whether or not the dilemma was intended, both horns certainly have grown. The brochure argues that each should carry the same load, that neither use nor preservation should be emphasized to the exclusion of the other.

A good case can be made for the argument that this is a misinterpretation of the basic Park Act and that it leads to the troubles seen elsewhere in the brochure. These troubles prevent the brochure from achieving what the Park Service Director

hoped when he wrote in the foreword, “I am convinced the fundamental concept of national park wilderness has never been more clearly defined than in this publication.”

Perhaps we can suggest a way out of the trouble with a condensation of the key part of the Act of 1916. Suppose we say: *The Park Service shall promote and regulate the use of parks so as to conserve their natural objects unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations (including ours).* The full wording of this sentence appears below.* Scrutinize it and see if the condensation distorts it in any way. If you concede that in 1916 the word “promote” meant something different from the Madison Avenue technique of implanting ideas with careful design and four-color illustration, then perhaps you will accept the further condensation, *regulate use so as to assure preservation.* This very clearly limits the kind of use and emphasizes preservation.

Here is where the man who is developmentally oriented could say, “Look! This purist wants to put the parks under a bell jar.”

But I say, *not so*—neither purity nor bell jar is asked for. Just recognition, instead, of primary values, without a smidgen of being against people or their enjoyment. The park idea is man's idea, and means nothing to man if he can't enjoy the park. It gets down to the question of “*how enjoy the park?*”—and to the fundamentals the brochure seems to have missed. That *how* needs to be looked at honestly and hard, lest Mission 66 become an “omnibus bill” for still further incursion on the primary values of the parks.

* “The service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations hereinafter specified by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”—*National Park Service Act of 1916.*

If we are to conceive of the parks not as islands of wilderness among development, but coves of development in wilderness, then what kind of development should there be, and how does that compare with what we have? The two editions of the brochure reveal an uneasiness here that bears looking at.

About kind of development, the first edition said that Mission 66 seeks to avoid the potential danger of trying "to broaden the definition of recreation so as to admit activities which find their value within themselves."

This seems to be basic. If people want to skate, let them skate; but don't promote their coming to a park for skating—which is disruptive of primary purpose—and then ask the taxpayer to spend more money for highways, parking areas, and accommodations lest the park-seekers be squeezed out. That would be one interpretation of the statement quoted; there are others. In any event, the point seems to be right on target in establishing the most important guideline of all for park use and Mission 66. **But this statement was deleted in the published brochure!**

If there has been trouble in retaining a guideline policy, then we might expect trouble in singling out which specific uses are appropriate and which aren't. The brochure runs into this trouble, too.

Both the first edition and the finished brochure recite a series of requests to introduce activities and devices inappropriate to the best use of the national parks—"strange proposals," the brochure calls them, adding that "the National Park Service immediately rejects such proposals." But if we compare the two editions and consider what has happened in the parks, we find that some of the strange proposals were rejected from the text, but not from the parks; others, although in theory rejected by Service policy, nevertheless persist in some parks.

The brochure omits the following proposals listed in the first edition: aerial

tramways, dance pavilion, jeep sightseeing, rare bird farm, and observation tower.

The brochure retains, and reports as rejected from the parks: gambling concessions, helicopter sightseeing, summer theatre, pocket billiards, miniature golf, bowling alley, miniature train for sightseeing, cable car into Grand Canyon, gunnery range, lands for farms and summer homes, private airports, grazing, lumbering and mining.

However, *the parks retain* (or plan for): something like summer theater in Glacier; a theater and dance pavilion in Yosemite; "semiaerial" tramways for skiing in Rocky Mountain and Yosemite; golf courses in Yosemite; paving of vast areas for parking that a sightseeing train (on tires) might obviate; military expansion into White Sands; a dude ranch (contemplated) in the Tetons; airports built and enlarged in Death Valley, continued in the Tetons, and planned for Katmai; "salvage" logging continuing in Olympic; and mining legally in some areas—with "strip mining" for gravel being permitted by the Park Service on primary wild land above Tenaya Lake and in Yosemite Valley. The Service was willing to cede Yosemite Valley land to the state for school purposes, and remains willing to see a Shrine of the Ages constructed on the South Rim of Grand Canyon—a special place where Theodore Roosevelt urged that the hand of man should not compete with the hand of God.

The brochure then continues to say, "Other proposals, however, are not so clear cut"—and then omits the problem children listed in the first edition! These were: ski tow, skating rink, toboggan slide, church, game room, firefall, the line between individuals or families and large organized groups, and wilderness impact by large parties. The first edition concludes this listing with: "Between the ideal and the practical, *these matters leave room for honest difference*, and the National Park Service draws no sharp and arbitrary lines." None of this sentence appears in the final

brochure, except for a paraphrased version of the words in italics.

Other problem children—nasty ones—weren't listed, but might have been: transcontinental highways, reservoirs, protection of wildlife from poisons, tractors and steel bridges in primitive back country, ski tours by weasel, and protection of a veneer of wilderness air space. The problem population is as perplexing as the population problem! They point up the need for sharper lines, not arbitrary but fair and just and formulated with public participation, that don't sacrifice the park ideal to the practical pressure. The need to be clear cut was never greater; it will hardly be less in our time.

Wilderness Wisdom in 1865

We have a magnificent system of national parks and a National Park Service which matches with devotion the grandeur of the primeval lands it guards—a Service beset by problems even as we all are as we expand our universe in finite space. These men are our friends and we theirs.

So what's the answer? What guidelines about uses can we suggest to them that will assure enjoyment? What policy to insure preservation of the primary values, the wildness along the roadsides, and the wilderness that sets these great parks apart? The wilderness that alone keeps the parks from being Babbitized; reduced to the lowest common denominator that can produce maximum visitation; get the most tourists, whatever they seek, to drive their cars over the counting meters and then hurry out to make room for more.

Noble concepts don't spring full-grown, one could argue; patience is a virtue. Why the fuss?

Because a noble concept *did* spring full grown, long enough ago to excuse some impatience. So long ago as to suggest that instead of a Mission 66, celebrating the birth and growth of a splendid bureau born in 1916, we might think of substituting a Mission 65, celebrating the centenary of the birth of a noble idea and the genius of a

man whom we can thank every day that dawns on dedicated scenic beauty. In 1865 Frederick Law Olmsted anticipated our questions in the recently discovered "*The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Trees, a preliminary report (1865)*":

"The first point to be kept in mind then is the preservation and maintenance as exactly as is possible of the natural scenery; the restriction, that is to say, within the narrowest limits consistent with the necessary accommodation of visitors, of all artificial constructions and the prevention of all constructions markedly inharmonious with the scenery or which would unnecessarily obscure, distort, or detract from the dignity of the scenery.

". . . it is important that it be remembered that in permitting the sacrifice of anything that would be of the slightest value to future visitors to the convenience, bad taste, playfulness, carelessness, or wanton destructiveness of present visitors, we probably yield in each case the interest of uncounted millions to the selfishness of a few individuals."

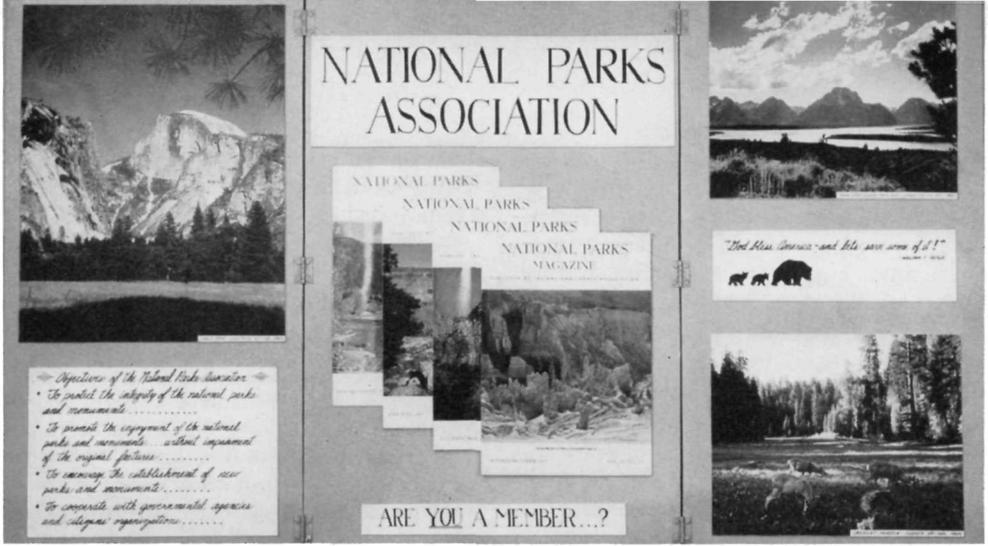
This wisdom, 93 years ago!

Harvey Broome, President of The Wilderness Society, using this quotation in the latest *The Living Wilderness* adds:

"Mr. Olmsted expected millions of visitors. They have come—a remarkable forecast. He wanted the scenery maintained and preserved as naturally as possible—'As a museum of natural science.' It has not been so . . . preserved. . . . [A new] influence has made of Yosemite a playground—rather than preserving it as the awesome place of inspiration which was envisaged."

Yosemite was not the first national park *per se*, but it *was* the first park to be dedicated to the nation by Congress. Surely it is one of the gems. As Yosemite goes—and it is going—so goes the national park system.

I believe that Frederick Law Olmsted, with the understanding and perception he demonstrated in 1865, would have clarified and not obscured what wilderness means. He would have known why the Wilderness Bill is so important. We still have a chance to realize most of his dream. Let's have a Mission 65, too.



Joseph F. Carithers

— A New Year's Resolution —

Protect Our Parks—Enlist a Member

O'Shaughnessy Dam in Yosemite National Park stands as mute evidence of the need for eternal vigilance. Our national parks *have been invaded*. There are those who try *today*. We *must not* let it happen again!

We all have neighbors and friends who have returned from vacation trips filled with wonder and love for our national parks. Many have never heard of the National Parks Association and its work of protecting these crown jewels of America for your sons and daughters—their children and grandchildren. The Association is unable to contact all of these many prospective members, but *you can*.

Already 10,000 strong, we aim this year to double this membership. We must continue to expand and provide the vitally needed leadership in solving the many park problems which arise each day. But we are not miracle workers—we need your help.

Our challenge to each of you is this: Bring in one new member during 1958 as your contribution to the fight to preserve our parks. Take this issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE along next time you visit friends. We believe they will be greatly interested in its contents and delighted at your personal invitation to become a member. Just fill in the blank below:

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

Dept. 10, 2000 P Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

I wish to join the National Parks Association, and to receive its NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, so that I may play my part in helping preserve our national parks. Please enroll me in the class designated below:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual \$3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$1000 |

(Special school and library subscription rate—\$2.)

My check for \$..... is enclosed.

Name (of new member)

Address

Recommended by (name of old member)

Why Join NPA?

Our Past —

The Association has taken an active role in successful campaigns that have:

- Stopped Echo Park dam in Dinosaur.
- Established Everglades National Park.
- Prevented construction of Glacier View dam in Glacier National Park.
- Prevented flooding of Mammoth Cave National Park by proposed Mining City dam.
- Defeated legislation to transfer large areas of national parks and other federal lands to private ownership and exploitation.

- Prevented abolishment of Jackson Hole National Monument.
- Initiated a “student conservation program”—providing volunteer student assistance in national parks.
- Increased public understanding and appreciation of our national parks.
- Stimulated growth of national park and nature protection programs in other countries.

Our Future —

An action program for 1958:

- Advance the Wilderness Bill to give added protection to wilderness in our parks, forests and wildlife refuges.
- Urge enactment of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Bill to make a thorough study of all outdoor needs.
- Scrutinize Mission 66 programs to make sure they match in practice their admirable, stated purposes.
- Guard against resort-type encroachments which threaten to bring superficial recreation into national parks.
- Make Dinosaur a national park without a dam.
- Further establishment of the proposed Great Basin Range National Park.
- Work to establish the C & O Canal National Historical Park.
- Urge establishment of permanent boundaries for Everglades National Park.

- Defend White Sands National Monument from military encroachment.
- Work to establish adequate criteria for decisions on salvage logging operations in Olympic and other national parks.
- Work to secure seashore preservation.
- Encourage preservation of areas outside national parks to take pressures off our primeval areas.
- Continue to guard against dam proposals in national parks.
- Urge permanent status for the tentative “Arctic Wildlife Range.”
- Protect the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge and other refuges from attack by military and gas and oil interests.
- Stimulate wider understanding of parks in schools and colleges.
- Protect our parks and monuments from any and all threats to their integrity.

Services to Members

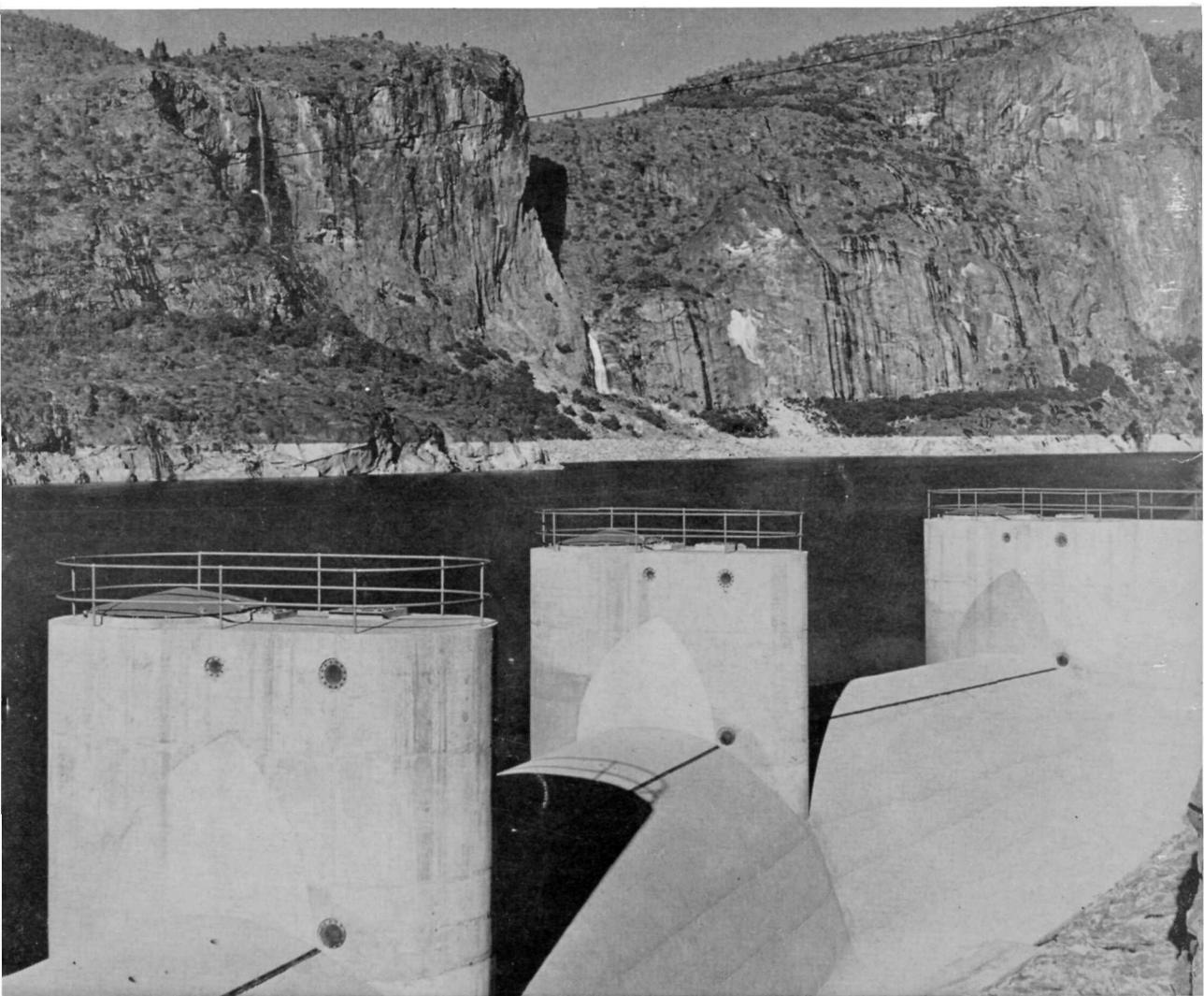
1. NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.
2. News releases with latest park reports from the field and from Washington.

3. Books: *Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments* and others.
4. Sound, color films on national parks.

Our Four Objectives

- I. To protect the integrity of the national parks and monuments . . .
- II. To promote the enjoyment of the national parks and monuments . . . without impairment of the original features . . .
- III. To encourage the establishment of new parks and monuments of national significance . . .
- IV. To cooperate with governmental agencies and citizens' organizations. . . .

Lest We Forget . . .



O'Shaughnessy dam, Hetch-Hetchy Valley, Yosemite National Park

Martin Litton

Once a beautiful wilderness valley, its nearest counterpart was Yosemite Valley.

Now Hetch-Hetchy Reservoir, it is like reservoirs the world over.

“It need not have been!”

PROTECT YOUR PARKS -- See page 48