NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

Avalanche Lilies in Mount Rainier National Park, Washington

June 1960

GUEST EDITORIAL

Our Wilderness Opportunity—*Can We Lose It?*

READERS of this page are the custodians of one of the superlatively great opportunities of our history—the opportunity to establish an enduring policy and program for the preservation of wilderness. Yet we are in grave danger of losing this opportunity before it is even recognized or understood.

We—the readers of this page—are the generation of preservationists who now comprise the National Parks Association, Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society and other organizations concerned with parks, wilderness, refuges, and all the various remaining places that are natural, unspoiled, wild and unalienated. We are the mid-Twentieth-Century Americans who have in part inherited, in part created, this chance to fashion, in the midst of a highly organized, mechanized, urbanized culture, enduring policies and effective programs for preserving wilderness. We are the custodians of a perishable, diminishing, unique opportunity.

The opportunity, it must be emphasized, is simply to preserve wilderness. If the opportunity is lost, the ultimate loss will be wilderness. The issue is not whether we shall have parks, or wildlife refuges, or outdoor-recreation areas in forests or parks. The question is: *Will there live on in any of these areas what we know as wilderness?* Or shall we, not recognizing the jeopardy of our peculiar opportunity, see ourselves and our successors satisfied with a continued partitioning of our areas of wilderness, an increasing use of them in ways that destroy their wilderness character and atmosphere?

The wilderness—those extensive portions of our land where, in contrast with the areas in which man and his works dominate the landscape, the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a member of this community or a visitor who does not remain, whose travels leave only trails—this wilderness is still a part of our heritage. In a dozen dozen areas, or more, of our national parks and monuments, national forests and wildlife refuges it not only still lives, but exists within federally-owned lands where the Nation, if it wills, can preserve and use it indefinitely as the living wilderness it now is. Without transfers of jurisdiction, without sacrificing purposes for which the areas already are administered, simply by recognizing that their wilderness character can be preserved while they also serve other purposes as park, forest, or refuge—thus can wilderness preservation be integrated within our existing policies.

We have perceived rather clearly the conditions of such preservation. We have seen that all our land is destined for some human use. We have recognized that only those areas that are deliberately designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition can be expected to persist as wilderness.

We have also realized that through such designations by the people, through government, respected and enforced in this public interest, we can indeed provide the basis for an enduring preservation program. We have seen established a national park system on the basis of such designations, and, after prolonged controversies, the sanctity of dedications affirmed with such declarations as a national intention that no dam or reservoir constructed as a part of a great federal project shall be within any national park or monument. Thus the way is prepared for dedication and preservation of wilderness.

Yet we also have seen, and are seeing difficulties in the way, many wayside distractions, and even temptations of our own. Policies and programs that may endure are opposed by those who wish to exploit commodities in wilderness or see wilderness preserved only tentatively, merely until they are ready to exploit or develop. Recreationists looking for areas to serve their good purposes see unspoiled areas of wilderness as invitations for parkways, cabin colonies, picnic grounds, and other conveniences that enhance landscape for many but destroy wilderness for everybody.

Confronted with such opposition, we find patience and persistence less interesting than the newness of other good outdoor programs—reviewing scenic and recreation resources, for example, saving seashores, or visualizing the conversion of forests to parks. And as we hesitate, we ourselves, in the wilderness, are tempted to rationalize airplanes, justify administrative mechanized equipment, tolerate machinery that might save forage by replacing pack animals, or construe wilderness in a more convenient way. Thus our difficulties, our distractions, our temptations diminish and jeopardize our unique perishable opportunity.

BY NOT ACTING PROMPTLY and effectively, by modifying our effort for some more practical or more exciting reason, by unwillingness to devote all our resources as needed to the effort that is basic to all our future as wilderness preservers, we are running the risk of sacrificing the basis in reality for all our interest in wilderness. It is a sacrifice that would take from us the scientific values of wilderness and also the areas of reference which give meaning to the photographs, the motion pictures, paintings, and literature that inform and inspire us and can continue so to do as long as their basis in reality persists in the wilderness itself. The frontier values of the picnic grounds and campsites at the end of the road would perish too, and the wilderness meaning of the prospect from many miles of our best roadsides. We would gain a whole world of well-developed outdoor recreation and lose our sole purpose as wilderness preservers.

Our opportunity is indeed perishable—our opportunity to preserve a true living wilderness. We are in danger of doing what we always have done, of continuing to use the wilderness as raw material out of which to fashion a culture that will seem, in our constantly more civilization-conditioned image, to be a "better" world, but one with less and less of its wilderness raw material.

Toward national forests where "multiple use" may *everywhere* embrace the uses that sacrifice wilderness; toward national parks where even the back country will include the roads and accommodations that introduce more and more people to less and less wilderness—toward a beautiful, lovely outdoors where any of us would gladly live on century after century if we could, a marvelous land, *but without wilderness*—toward such a destiny we are surely headed if we hesitate and turn aside from the only way that we have yet found toward enduring policies and programs for wilderness preservation.—*Howard Zahniser.*

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

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Bruce M. Kilgore, Editor

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ON THE COVER

Within a short time now, avalanche lilies at Paradise in Mount Rainier National Park, Washington, will herald the July arrival of spring in this snow-drenched country. White mountain deertongue, as it is also called, is by far the most abundant and conspicuous flower in early spring. Thrusting its leaves and flowers up through the snow, it grows from seven to fifteen inches high. Although Paradise is snow-covered for nearly ten months each year—and hence far from an ideal spot for providing overnight accommodations for visitors, it nonetheless is a wonderful spot from which to view the Mountain with a floral foreground display. Paradise is but one of many high alpine "parks" at Rainier which present the visitor with a glowing contrast to the glacier-covered peak. Others are Yakima Park, Spray Park, Sunset Park, Klapatche Park, and Indian Henrys Hunting Ground.—Photo by Louie Kirk.

THE NATIONAL PARKS AND YOU

Few people realize that ever since the first national parks and monuments were established, various commercial interests have been trying to invade them for personal gain. The national parks and monuments were not intended for such purposes. They are established as inviolate nature sanctuaries to preserve permanently outstanding examples of the once primeval continent, with no marring of landscapes except for reasonable access by road and trail, and facilities for visitor comfort. The Association, since its founding in 1919, has worked to create an ever-growing informed public on this matter in defense of the parks.

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

Dues are $5 annual, $8 supporting, $15 sustaining, $25 contributing, $150 life with no further dues, and $1000 patron with no further dues. Bequests, too, are needed to help carry on this park protection work. Dues and contributions are deductible from your federal taxable income, and bequests are deductible for federal estate tax purposes. As an organization receiving such gifts, the Association is precluded by relevant laws and regulations from advocating or opposing legislation to any substantial extent; insofar as our authors may touch on legislation, they write as individuals. Send your check today, or write for further information, to the National Parks Association, 1300 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Washington 6. D.C.

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The Proposed Oregon Dunes National Seashore Features . . .

Oregon State Highway Department

Oregon State Highway Commission, Salem, Oregon

In spring, Irish furze (gorse) blankets the hillsides on the south-central Oregon coast. Fortunately for future outdoor recreation, long expanses of sandy beach are still only sparsely settled and relatively undeveloped. The famous dunes sometimes rise 200 feet above the beach.

Oregon's Untarnished Seascape

By Anthony Netboy

LITTLE UNSPOILED SEA COAST remains in the United States in the year 1960. In its survey of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, the National Park Service found only 240 out of 3700 miles of shoreline in federal and state ownership for public recreation, and only 640 miles of beach that offered opportunities for conservation of seashore resources. Happily, on the Pacific Coast, where settlement (and despoliation of scenery) began later, a much larger area of untarnished seascapes was found to be still worthy of preservation by the National Park Service.

One of the choicest sections of Pacific coastline that should be incorporated into our national park system is the Oregon dunes. Until the late Senator Richard L. Neuberger introduced a bill in the U. S. Senate in 1959 to give this area national seashore status, few people outside of Oregon had heard of it, and not too many West coast residents or Oregonians, for that matter, appreciated its scenic and recreational values.

From the mouth of the Columbia to the California border, the Oregon coast offers a panorama of prominent headlands, intermittent beaches of silky white sand, occasional outcroppings of rock standing high offshore, and endless palisades covered with twisted pines, furze or vines. Except for a few sections, as in parts of Clatsop and Lincoln Counties, this fiord-like coast, often bathed in mist or fog, is sparsely settled and relatively undeveloped. The equable climate has attracted many year-round residents, especially elderly retired people; settlements are generally small and cluster around a sandy beach, a quiet cove, or the estuary of a river. Except for logging operations and a few paper mills, industry is mercifully absent. The resort towns, like Depoe Bay, Newport, Reedsport, Gold Beach and Brookings, dependent on tourists and fishing enthusiasts, are somnolent in winter and spring but come alive in summer and early autumn.

The proposed Dunes National Seashore, as outlined in the Secretary of Interior's recent suggested revision for Senate Bill 2010 (see page 19), consists of about 35,000 acres of land and lakes along the south-central Oregon coast. It comprises some 30 miles of coastline, from one-half to five and one-half miles wide, lying between the Siuslaw River in Lane County and Tenmile Lake in Coos County (see map, page 6).

Beach, Dunes, Forests and Lakes

The area reveals three distinct types of land forms, each with its special ecological qualities. Fronting the ocean is an incomparable stretch of sandy beach, 100-125 yards wide at low tide and 25-30 yards at extreme high tide, that sweeps off into the misty distance "almost beyond the limits of one's vision," as the National Park Service report says. Immediately inland is "a series of low sandy hummocks, their crests clothed with beach grasses," forming a foredune or upper beach.

This gives way abruptly to the dune area, a vast expanse of moving sand which has been—and is continually—swept up from the shore. In places the glistening dunes are low and gently rolling, but many rise, almost vertically, 200 feet above the beach. In their relentless march, the dunes have completely swallowed a dense coniferous forest except for tiny islands of tree-clad hills protruding above the sand. In places the dunes have crept almost to U.S. Highway 101, the main artery along the Oregon coast. This duneland is the core of the proposed National Seashore area.

The third type of land form consists of ancient, forest-blanketed dunes forming the interior highlands which reach a maximum of 450 feet above sea level. This belt is of varied width, from one-quarter to one-half mile up to two miles from the ocean at its western extremity. Three freshwater lakes lie within the forested dunes—Cleawox, Woahink, and Siltcoos, totalling 4770 acres. With their irregular shorelines, small quiet bays, and tranquil water vistas, the lakes add immeasurably to the symphony of surf, beach, dunes and forest that is rarely matched elsewhere on the Pacific Coast.

Who Owns It Now?

Somewhat less than half the proposed seashore area, about 15,000 acres, are in national forest; about 3000 acres are in state ownership; additional small parcels of land are controlled by the Bureau of Land Management and Department of Defense. Private holdings comprise 13,000 acres or forty percent of the total. Florence with 1750 people and Reedsport with 3450 are major centers of population within the region, but are excluded from the boundary proposals.

The spectacle of moving dunes set against a broad expanse of sandy beach is breath-taking. Up to now, Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management efforts to stabilize the dunes by plantings of European beachgrass, Scotch broom, and lodgepole pine have been on too small a scale to produce impressive results.

Beyond the migrating dunes there is an area where the older dunes have been stabilized over the centuries and produced a fairly dense forest in which the dominant trees are sitka spruce, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, cedar and red alder, interspersed with the famous myrtle, some western yew and sitka willow. Douglas fir inhabits the occasional islands being slowly smothered by the sands.

The natural vegetation also includes a large variety of shrubs and berry plants, such as huckleberry, blueberry and salmonberry. In late May and early June the profuse rhododendron transform the countryside with their pinkish blossoms. The shores of the fresh water lakes are inhabited by reeds and aquatic grasses, wild cranberry and other moisture-loving plants, and happily their margins have not been logged off, in contrast to the denuded uplands typical of the central Oregon coast.

Big game is not plentiful in this region except for the Columbia black-

The shifting sands may cover nearby forests. Here a few dead trees are all that remain of a former forest island. In the distance, sands have obstructed the outlet of a small stream, resulting in fresh water ponds.

National Park Service

A former editor-in-chief for the Forest Service, Anthony Netboy is now teaching at Portland State College in Oregon. He is also serving as executive secretary of the State Legislative Interim Committee on National Resources. Co-author of *Water, Land, and People* (Knopf), Mr. Netboy has written many articles on forests, wildlife, waters, and parks.

tailed deer which inhabit the forested areas and occasionally come down to the dunes to drink from a rare water hole. As elsewhere along the Oregon coast, a large variety of shore birds and waterfowl may be seen in the spring or autumn. At all times of the year sandpipers skip along the surf in large numbers while gulls cavort nearby. In the autumn the empty beaches and quiet lakes are visited by plovers, loons, teal, baldpate, and ruddy ducks.

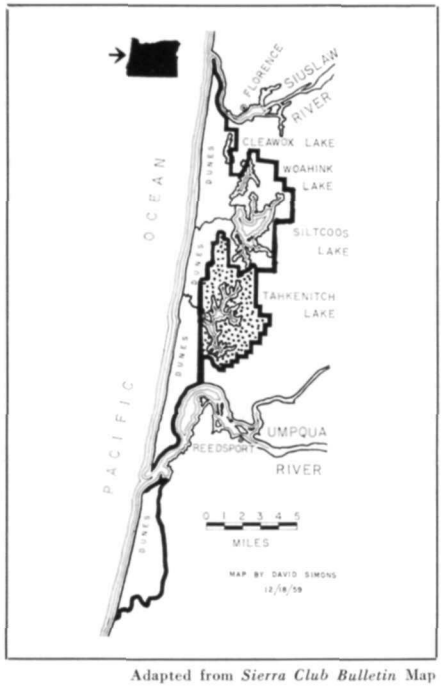
Sea Lions, Seals and Whales

When the ocean waves are relatively calm, one may sometimes see small groups of sea lions and hair seals swimming close to shore. Sometimes a family of gray whales may be observed diving and spouting merrily. Even porpoises and sea otters have been reported from time to time.

Salmon, of course, is the prime fish in Oregon's coastal streams, although its numbers have steadily declined in recent decades, despite the outlawing of commercial fishing on nearly all the rivers emptying into the Pacific south of the Columbia. Thousands of sports fishermen plunge their little boats into Winchester Bay off the Umpqua, into the Siuslaw and other rivers in summer and fall, hoping to catch their small limit of salmon. Many of them will settle for large striped bass—and do. Cleawox, Woahink and Siltcoos Lakes are well stocked with trout by the Oregon Game Commission.

While the natural setting and the flora and fauna make the Oregon dunes immensely attractive, the marine climate typical of the Pacific Northwest leaves much to be desired for those unaccustomed to it. Annual precipitation averages 75 inches—almost twice that of New York City—and is spread out over the late fall, winter and early spring months, when sunny days are rare, and fog, mist, or drizzle continuous.

In contrast, summers usually offer a constant menu of sunshine and cool weather, giving rise to the saying that western Oregon has an air-conditioned summer climate. As compensation for the long months of rain, temperatures are usually comfortable in winter, snow is practically unknown at the lower elevations of the coast range, and freezing weather is uncommon.



Adapted from *Sierra Club Bulletin* Map

Secretary of Interior's recommendation for the Oregon Seashore provides for possible addition of the shaded area.

The Pacific Ocean, in this region and northward, is too cold for s. imming except to the hardiest of mortals.

National seashore status is desirable for the Oregon dunes for many reasons. There is no area on the entire Pacific coast possessing a comparable association of dunes, seashore, freshwater lakes, and forest as does the area under consideration. As ecologist William S. Cooper has said, "It is by far the longest stretch of unbroken beach on the Pacific coast of the United States. Its dunes surpass all others, including both coasts, in size and beauty." These inherent values combine to offer the type of inspirational qualities, as well as the recreation attributes, that are found in areas of exceptionally high caliber. These qualities are so outstanding as to definitely warrant permanent preservation in the national interest.

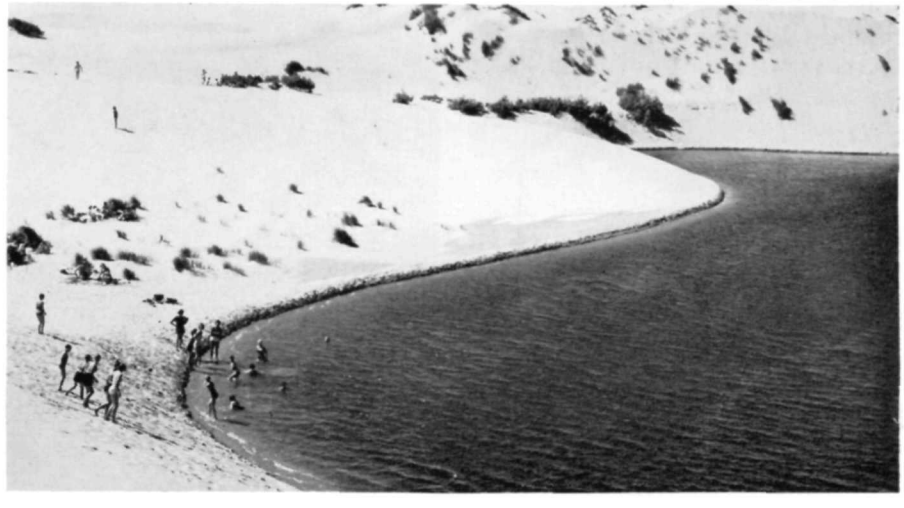
Public Seashore Or Hit-and-Miss Development?

Though an appreciable portion of the area is in public ownership, improved protection, preservation, and public appreciation might be achieved if the area were to be classified for its dominant recreation value and planned, administered, and developed as a unit.

If national seashore status were granted by the Congress, recreational developments in the Oregon Dunes would be increased, but orderly improvements, rather than the hit-and miss type characteristic of private enterprise, would be assured. The area would thus benefit many more tourists, fishermen, and vacationers from Oregon and other states. But most important of all, a small segment of the lovely Pacific Coast would be preserved for posterity in its pristine grandeur. ■

Cleawox Lake and the dunes form a popular recreational area for persons of all ages. Camping, picnicking, swimming, fishing and playing in the surf are enjoyed in this area, with the Pacific Ocean but a few hundred yards away.

Oregon State Highway Department



An August climb on the Nisqually Glacier in Mount Rainier National Park, Washington

Mount Rainier Year Around

By Ruth Kirk, A Ranger's Wife

Photographs by Louie Kirk

PERHAPS MORE than anything else that first day at Mount Rainier, I remember what the district ranger's wife said to me. We had just arrived in the park, newly transferred from Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona, and Bob and Kay Rogers had asked us to come for lunch.

"One thing I never can decide," Kay said as she stirred the spaghetti sauce, "is which season I like best here at the Mountain. Each is so different, and so attractive."

In the next five years I never could pick the "best" season either. When pioneer violets and calypso orchids would push up through the forest duff at Longmire or Ohanapecosh, and the does began dropping their fawns, I'd think spring was best.

Later, summer would seem best, when heather and lupine turned the high meadows of Paradise and Sunrise into an alpine blaze of pink and purple backdropped by glaciers. But September would bring a glow of crimson to the huckleberry and a nip to the air, and I'd decide nothing could beat fall.

Then would come the first snow. The hushed meadows and forest, the Mountain covered with marshmallow, and the purity of white snow against blue sky would seem loveliest of all.

Winter in July

Winter dominates the seasons in Rainier's high country. Snow and ice are found year-round at 10,000 feet and above, and even at the Paradise and Sunrise level (5000 to 6000 feet) winter comes ten r onths at a stretch.

Its grip awed us those first weeks at Rainier. In Arizona, before we left, the saguaro cactus had been blooming and the midday temperature was climbing to 100 degrees. Yet when we drove

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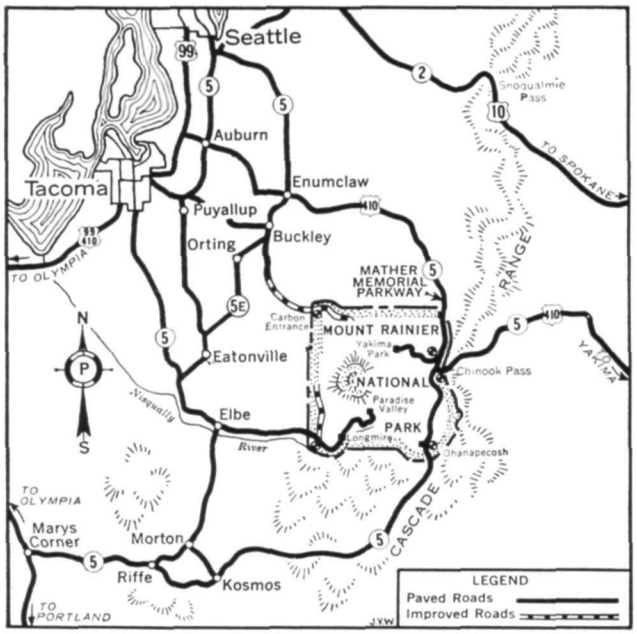
As a ranger's wife, Ruth Kirk has lived in such park system areas as Wind Cave, El Morro, Death Valley, Organ Pipe Cactus, Theodore Roosevelt and Mount Rainier. Her family, which includes two teen-age sons, spends summers in Olympic where Mr. Kirk is seasonal naturalist. The other nine months the Kirks are residents of Lancaster, California where Louie teaches geology. Co-author of *Exploring Death Valley*, Mrs. Kirk has written many articles on travel and natural history subjects.



Main approach highways to Mount Rainer National Park.

After the first snow of the season, the Mountain and firs seemed covered with marshmallow. Then I would think that winter was the best season of all.

to Paradise the first time we found the Inn buried to its eaves in snow and the ski season in full swing. That was May. In July when friends came from Florida we still could take them skiing—although by that time, it's true, avalanche lilies were starting to whiten south-facing slopes.

On the east side of the park Sunrise also was solidly blanketed with snow. The calendar might say it was summer, but the high country proclaimed winter. "July, and not a flower or a marmot in sight," Louie remarked on our first trip to Sunrise. "Talk about the desert plants and animals having tough living conditions! It's here that life is really rugged. Only about ten weeks between one year's snow and the next."

I'll never forget one particular July spectacle that day. Sitting in the snow by his back porch and cranking an ice cream freezer was one of the seasonal rangers (off duty). He would pause to scoop up a handful of snow and pack it around the cylinder, then crank on. "Los Angeles was never like this," he sang out as we crunched our way across the icy snow toward him. "Not in January, let alone in July."

Of course summer does arrive eventually. When it does, it is with a glorious rush, a sort of biotic urgency that skips over spring and flings forth all warm weather splendors at once. Water that dripped and trickled suddenly cascades, and marshmarigolds bloom creamy and golden, submerged in eddies. Waterfalls spill from cliff tops. Lakes thaw, briefly host icebergs, then turn the sparkling blue of summer. Mama bears venture out with cubs, and marmots whistle their piercing ode to the worth of courting danger rather than lose a moment's sunshine.

Solitude Scarce in Summer

Such a resurgence of life does not go unnoticed. As many as 28,000 people have come to the park on a single day, most of them bound for Paradise. "You can tell it's summer," say the cynics. "The roads bloom with Fords and the trails with Kleenex."

Mass sharing of our wildlands is an acute problem at Paradise and, to a lesser extent, at Sunrise. Its urgency has put priority on such Mission 66 undertakings as the Stevens Canyon Road, the Horse Barn Flat loop road through Paradise Valley, and the blacktopping of the most heavily used trails.

Reality is behind these projects. Gone are the days when scenery and solitude were inseparable. Over-use exists in many of our national parks, and its concomitant is the alteration of the face of the land—call it despoliation or development or what you will.

What can be done? A pragmatic answer is to spread the use and thereby ease the strain. At Rainier this is meaning a few miles of new roads, and paving the main trail at Paradise to forestall the "social paths" that threatened the meadow with disastrous erosion.

How long will this sort of answer suffice, and what is its end result? This too is an urgent matter. Problems seldom have easy answers, especially not in a democracy pledged to defer to the opinions and purposes of its people.

But crowded, paved Paradise and Sunrise are only part of Mount Rainier National Park. From Third Burroughs, a short hike beyond Sunrise Lodge, roads and buildings are a mere blur. From Fremont Fire Lookout they don't show. At Paradise the "trail therapy" prescribed for the flowers vanishes a mile above the Inn. The eye and heart are caught by the Mountain towering above the meadows and forested folds of the low country. The essence of the park is wilderness.

To us, summer at Rainier meant the magnetism of the back country: the glaciers to climb, the river valleys and ridges to hike. Sometimes, I'll confess, my lazy nature asked why bother? On our first summit climb I remember plodding ever-upward through the predawn blackness asking a silent "Why?" with each step. At 11,000 feet the exertion, new to me that summer, was fast reducing my breathing to mere gasping, and my ears ached with cold

despite two layers of wool and the hood of a nylon parka.

Then came the dawn: a 4:30 a.m. luminescence in the East; a pink glow tipping the summit ice cap, then sliding down the Emmons Glacier to us. With it came the answer. The white and blue beauty of the Arctic world of ice and sky is worth it. As simple as that.

More hospitable than the glaciers are the forests and meadows, the world of the trails. Two successive summers, three of us ranger wives hiked the Wonderland Trail, first having extended to our husbands appropriate regrets that they couldn't take time off during the mid-summer rush to join us. My notes of the first summer's 90-mile loop around the Mountain show that we met only eleven people, in three parties, and shared only the Summerland overnight trail shelter. The next summer we shared our campsite twice in ten days—once at Mowich Lake with *thirty* Explorer Scouts!

Fall and Huckleberries

Fall is as good as summer for hiking—better in fact, for the huckleberries are ripe. You can stroll the deep forests stripping the purple berries from head-high bushes as you go. Or you can climb the ridges and pick the sweeter, powdery-blue berries that grow low to the ground. You have a feeling of well-being when you climb to a ridge top, slip off your parka, and let the breeze ruffle your sweaty shirt while your tongue presses one moist huckleberry after another against the roof of your mouth. Well-being, and peace, and a glimpse of Truth.

Then comes winter. I quote at random from notes I made at Nisqually (six miles below Longmire):

Jan. 31—Today is the fifth with snow. Six inches pile up between glances out the window.

Last night there was a great Whoosh-Boom! and the house shuddered so that we thought a tree had hit. But it was just snow sliding off the roof. Strange, I don't consciously worry about trees falling over on the house, yet each time anything hits us—snow dropping from the trees in huge plops, or broken-off branches, or this time with the roof unloading its snow—each time I think it is a tree.

I love the look of white-blanketed firs against white sky. The wet snow that is falling now coats everything: the radio antenna is five inches thick. A few days ago we had a "sandy" snow, the kind that peppers down instead of floating, and it stuck on the trees only enough to emphasize their inherent blackness by contrasting with it. It turned them into black and white etchings, or steel engravings. I prefer them this way, as voluptuous plumes.

The boys made an igloo. High enough to stand in and long enough to lie in. It took only a couple of hours to build, the snow is so wet. At 4:00 this afternoon the electricity went off and Bruce suggested I use the igloo for a refrigerator until the power is restored!

In winter I often suspected that *it* was my favorite season. Snow shoes and skis took me on many a lone sojourn just to see the soft new contours of the world and to joy in the muted colors and sounds.

Spring *would* come of course. Sunshine would again stream through hemlocks and catch on the new leaves of vine maples, giving the forest a pale green glow. Dappled fawns would stand by the trail, then leap into the forest with an ease that utterly belies their fragile look and pipestem legs. Summer would bring to the high country the flowers girdling the Mountain in what John Muir called nature's grandest wreath. Later would come huckleberry time . . .

Season would follow season as they always have and always will. And I'd never decide which is best. Maybe winter is my choice, I'm not sure. But I do know that if ever a way is found to turn back the flight of time, we shall set the clock for noon of the day we first transferred to Mount Rainier and live again those five years. ■

The first bucket of concrete for construction of Glen Canyon dam will be tripped by Secretary Seaton on June 17, initiating full-scale operations on the dam.

RIGHT: Three ranger wives hike the Wonderland Trail. Left to right are Carolyn Miller, the author, and Carolyn Rogers.

BELOW: In July, a tunnel must be dug to reach the lobby door of Paradise Inn, still blocked off by huge quantities of snow.

Big Bend National Park, Texas, Is Found

IN THE CROOK OF THE ELBOW

By Natt N. Dodge

"WARNING—80 Miles to Gasoline Station" admonishes the sign beside State Highway 51 just south of Marathon, Texas. This sobering pronouncement should stimulate rather than alarm you, for those relatively uninhabited but all-paved miles form a buffer zone to the heart of Big Bend National Park, making it almost a world apart.

Enclosed in the crook of a south-bending elbow of the entrenched Rio Grande, this isolated land of mountains and desert reflects the atmosphere and charm of Old Mexico. Big Bend is truly back of the horizon that lies beyond the southern skyline seen from heavily traveled U. S. Highway 90 which crosses the west Texas panhandle.

Whether you turn south on State Highway 51 at Marathon or leave U. S. 90 at Alpine to follow the equally scenic, but even longer approach afforded by State Highway 118, you will find it helpful to drive directly to park headquarters at Panther Junction. Big Bend's 1100 square miles of rugged terrain contain an enormous variety of fascinating features. By consulting park officials regarding your particular interests, you will obtain specific suggestions—thereby saving both time and mileage in reaching your objective.

Summer in Big Bend

Big Bend is a park of sharp contrasts. The high, central Chisos (meaning ghost or phantom) Mountain portion offers delightful summer climate, while the surrounding desert lowlands bring travelers from far and near during winter months. In spring and fall the entire park is at its spectacular and comfortable best so that "you can take the high road and I'll take the low road" and we'll both enjoy a marvelous display of Mexican border scenery.

National Park Service

At the mouth of Green Gulch, visitors leave their car to photograph a sea of clouds pouring down from the Chisos Mountains.

But now it's summertime! Leaving the hot and dusty desert where temperatures along the Rio Grande sometimes reach 115 degrees, you turn abruptly south from the road that skirts the northern base of the Chisos Range and start climbing toward what appears to be an impenetrable barrier of blocky peaks. Beautiful Green Gulch leads you steeply upward, the slopes on either side closing in as the road takes an even steeper slant. Here the vegetation changes from the yellow-green desert cover of mesquite, prickly pear, yucca, and sotol to the dense, darker growth of oak-pinyon-juniper woodland.

As a final sharp twist of the road brings you out at almost 6000 feet in Panther Pass, you feel a cool, welcome breeze sweeping in from the west. Before you, with the road switch-backing to enter it, is a beautiful mountain valley, the Basin, surrounded by rugged, rocky peaks except on the west side where a great V-shaped notch, "The Window," gives you a limited view of the distant desert far below.

Center of summertime activity in Big Bend, even before it was established as a national park in June 1944, the Basin now contains a modest visitor development with a new campground, overnight cabins, a small restaurant, a campers' supply store, and a saddlehorse concession. Trails lead to such interesting hikers' objectives as The Window, summit of Casa Grande, Juniper Flat, Blue Creek, Ward Mountain, and the South Rim. The last, a 12-mile roundtrip hike or horseback ride, partly encircles forested Mount Emory whose summit at 7835 feet is the highest peak in the park and the third highest point in Texas.

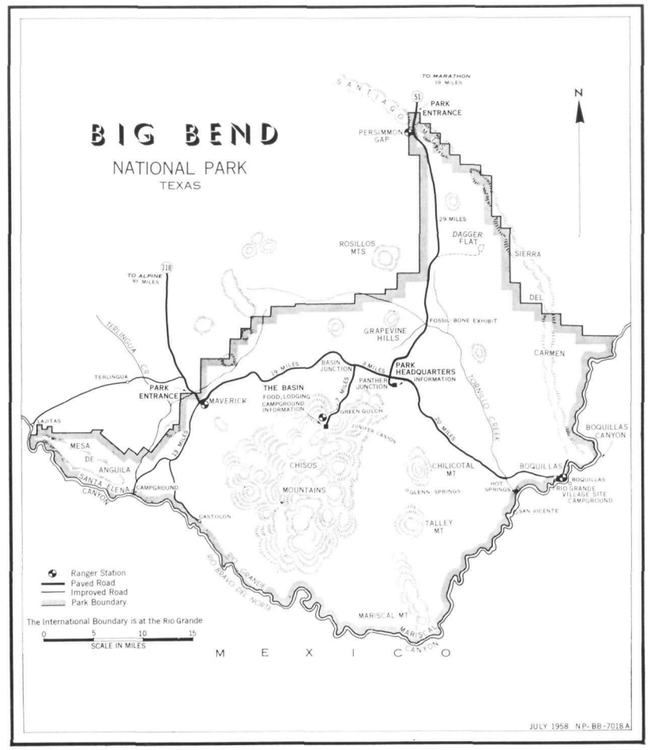
The trail leads through pinyon-juniper-oak woodland inhabited by many species of birds and the home of the Coues whitetail deer, locally called "flagtail." Alongside the trail grow specimens of the rare drooping juniper and the Chisos agave (ah-GAH-vee). At higher elevations among such trees as the Arizona cypress, Douglas fir, and quaking aspen, you may possibly see the small and unspectacular but scientifically important Colima Warbler, a bird recorded to be nesting nowhere else in the United States.

To the Day After Tomorrow

The view from the South Rim is considered one of the outstanding spectacles of the Southwest. Beyond a foreground of jumbled peaks of the Punta de la Sierra, the silvery thread of the Rio Grande winds across the middle distance with the lowlands of the Mexican States of Chihuahua and Coahuila extending away and away "to the day after tomorrow" as one enthusiastic visitor remarked. The forested peaks of the Fronteriza (frontier) Range in Mexico loom on the southeast with the serrated and stratified escarpment of the rugged Sierra del Carmen rising boldly across the eastern horizon.

Having approximately the same latitude as Hermosillo, Mexico, and central Florida, the Basin, due to its elevation of approximately 5400 feet, enjoys a delightfully cool summer climate. But winter days in the Basin are often uncomfortably cool, nights are downright cold, and snow is not uncommon.

On the other hand, winter is "shirt-sleeve time" in the desert portions of the park where elevations range from 2000 to 3500 feet above sea level, and mid-day temperatures rise into the 70's and 80's, even in January. At that season the recently constructed campground at the Rio Grande Village development site alongside the river near Boquillas is the center of activity. Here, already well underway, is the major Mission 66 development project in the park which will provide modern accommodations for winter visitors.



National Park Service

A system of roads, some paved, others gravel surfaced, and many miles of primitive truck trails suitable only for pickups or jeeps in the "back country," lead to all lower level parts of the park. Chief of the scenic attractions are the two magnificent canyons, Boquillas and Santa Elena, the former near the eastern terminus of the scenic drive, the latter at its southwestern end.

A third, Mariscal Canyon, is more difficult to reach. At these locations the Rio Grande, sometimes called "the biggest chiseler in Texas," has carved deep, winding gorges through mountainous uplifts. At Santa Elena you get a breathtaking distant view of the mouth of the canyon from your car, while at Boquillas Canyon a half-mile hike takes you into the head of the awesome chasm, its dark walls rising almost perpendicularly for more than 1000 feet.

In April, famous Dagger Flat in the northeastern part of the park presents a rare spectacle when thousands of plants of the huge tree yucca, the giant dagger, unfold their massive clusters of creamy blossoms. To see and photograph them is a long-remembered experience.

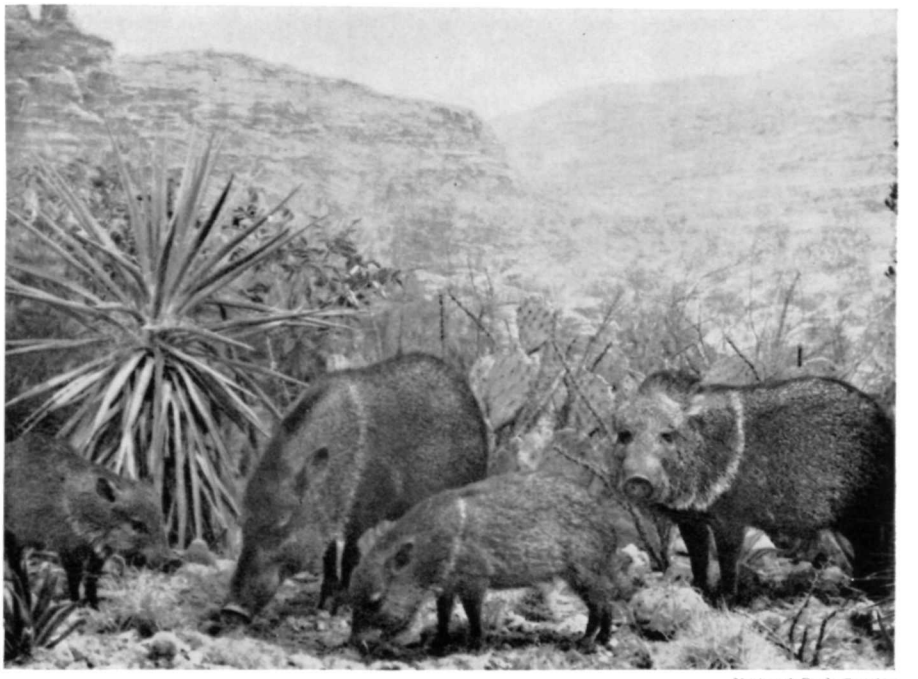
The Romance of the Rio Grande

Along the 120 miles of its course as the boundary between Mexico and Big Bend National Park, the ever changing Rio Grande offers a wide variety of interests. Much of the terrain it crosses is rugged and inaccessible, but at a number of locations you can reach the river. Rank growths of tree tobacco, carrizo reed, water motie, tamarisk, arrow-weed, and other semi-tropical shrubs choke the banks. Beaver tracks are abundant in muddy places, and catfish weighing more than forty pounds have been caught. Several small Mexican villages enliven the southern bank, but at no place is there a bridge.

The real romance of the Rio Grande

National Park Service

Park Naturalist Brodrick poses with a group of Torrey Yucca, a common park species.



National Park Service

Under complete protection peccaries are increasing in numbers in Big Bend, thus providing thrills for observers and photographers. (Habitat group, Denver Museum.)

lies in the ebb and flow of human history that has followed its winding course, or crossed where sandy shallows and wide, quiet waters provide fords. Among the first to use these crossings were war parties of Comanche Indians from the high plains who, with ponies stolen from the Europeans, made hit-and-run raids deep into New Spain in the mid-1700's. Warlike Apaches found the Chisos Mountains an impregnable stronghold and their presence, together with the rugged terrain, discouraged exploration so that the region long remained a little-known wilderness.

Following the establishment of the Rio Grande as the boundary between the United States and Mexico in 1847, bolder spirits among settlers penetrated the region, depending upon the Texas Rangers for protection from Indian attack. By 1870 stockmen were establishing themselves in the Big Bend. Rustlers and raiders used the fords to drive bands of stolen horses and cattle into Mexico, and smuggling took on aspects of big business. Outlaws took the place of Indians in harassing settlers.

As late as 1916 bandits raided the store at Glen Springs killing three soldiers at the nearby military outpost, then went east to Boquillas and raided a store there. Pancho Villa, the famous Mexican bandit leader, once raided the store at Castolon, a few miles east of the mouth of Santa Elena Canyon.

With the purchase of land by the State of Texas for donation to the National Park Service as Big Bend National Park, agreements were made with ranchers to remove all of their horses, cattle, sheep, and goats. Heavily grazed for half a century, and with long continued predator control by stockmen having eliminated or reduced the majority of carnivores, much of Big Bend was in far from a "natural" condition when it was given park status in 1944.

Stimulated by favorable moisture conditions and freed, suddenly, from the burden of grazing, the vegetation began a prompt and startling growth. Of course certain species, particularly the herbs palatable to cattle, had been practically eliminated from portions of the area. Others, such as lechuguilla, the cactuses, and species either inedible or unpalatable to livestock had spread widely in many locations replacing many of the range grasses. With the forage plants gone, such mammals and birds as relied upon them for food, shelter, or nesting sites also left.

The Animals Come Back

The end of grazing, termination of predator control, and enforcement of national park regulations against hunting brought gradually accelerating changes. Species which had been almost extirpated revived, began to spread, and again took their normal places in the climax plant associations. Gradually the animals dependent upon these plants came back and resumed their niches in the various biological communities. Some, of course, such as the prairie dog, the pronghorn antelope, and the desert bighorn sheep had been completely eliminated from the area. These the National Park Service hopes to reestablish when careful studies indicate that their food plants have recovered sufficiently to provide adequate support.

An experimental planting of pronghorns was made in the park in the late 1940's with animals provided by the

Texas State Game and Fish Commission. These have broken up into several small bands and established where suitable conditions prevail. They are frequently seen by park visitors who get a thrill from watching and photographing them in the wild.

In 1950 the famous biologist, Dr. Olaus J. Murie, was requested by the Service to make a study of food plants and other bighorn requirements. He reported that, in his opinion, conditions were suitable for planting a small band of desert bighorn sheep.

During recent years the Texas Game and Fish Commission (in cooperation with the Arizona Department of Game and Fish and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service) has shipped by air several desert bighorns from southwestern Arizona to the Black Gap Refuge which adjoins Big Bend National Park on the east. It is fully expected that these animals, once established, will spread into the park.

One of the more spectacular results of the elimination of grazing, followed by rapid revegetation, was the phenomenal buildup of the park's deer population. Fortunately, and as might have been expected, the natural predator of deer, the mountain lion or cougar, also increased in numbers which reached a fantastic peak in 1952-53. This increase prevented development of what might have been a disastrous overpopulation of deer.

Shy and rarely observed under normal conditions, the panthers, as mountain lions are called in Big Bend, became quite bold and fearless and, on several occasions apparently impelled by curiosity, approached park visitors on the trails.

This familiarity was almost too exciting for some of the hikers, but the big cats made no unfriendly advances and, with the reduction of the deer population, the animals left, apparently in search of better hunting elsewhere. Since 1957 the normal balance between predators and prey seems to have been reached and only an occasional panther has been seen and deer numbers have remained normal.

Mearns quail, for a long time believed to have been extirpated by hunters before the area became a park, were observed in Green Gulch in April 1959, proving that some of the birds had survived and that restoration plantings will not be necessary.

Other animals which were destroyed by human activity in the area and which are being considered for possible reestablishment include prairie dogs and wild turkeys. Still others such as the peccary, kit fox, and mourning dove are increasing under complete protection with visitors' chances of seeing them getting better all the time.

A number of biologists have indicated interest in the scientific aspects of the recovery of plant and animal life in Big Bend National Park, and several have made specific studies under Service permit. A five-year program of ecological research was started in 1955 by Texas A & M College. Geologists of the University of Texas have been carrying on detailed studies in the park for many years.

Do-It-Yourself Interpretation

For visitors who derive enjoyment though an understanding of the various manifestations of nature, their causes, and their results in the form of scenery and of interesting plant and animal communities, a rudimentary interpretative program has been developed in the park. Park Naturalist Harold J. Brodrick, a veteran Service interpreter, was assigned to Big Bend in 1955. Under the Mission 66 program an attractive and well-equipped outdoor amphitheater was constructed near the new Basin campground in 1958. Park rangers presented evening campfire programs there to enthusiastic audiences during the summer of 1959.

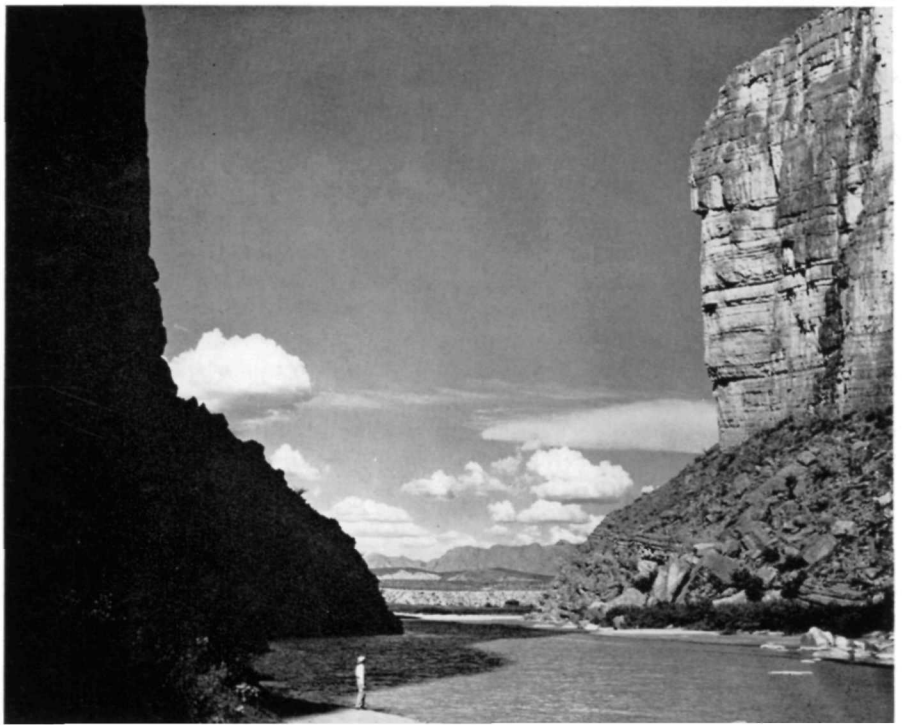
A self-guiding trail, starting at the Panther Pass parking turnout, leads through a rich vegetative belt in the Chisos Mountains to Lost Mine Peak and its magnificent view out over the eastern part of the park. Significant trailside features are marked with numbered stakes which correspond to explanatory paragraphs in a guide booklet which you pick up at the registration stand at the Panther Pass parking turnout.

Although its many strange flowering plants and colorful animal life are of the greatest interest to visitors, the park's complex geology is its chief claim to scientific fame and the basis of much of its scenery.

A deposit of fossil bones near the point where the entrance highway crosses Tornillo Wash has been developed by the park naturalist as an exhibit-in-place and includes a brief interpretive explanation. Other wayside exhibits are contemplated in expansion of the park's interpretive program.

These interpretive devices not only add to visitors' enjoyment, but sometimes serve to forestall a question occasionally asked by impatient motorists: "Why in the world does the government put these national parks so far from the main highways?" ■

National Park Concessions, Inc. Photo by W. Ray Scott



Santa Elena Canyon of the Rio Grande is 1200-feet deep in some places. The man at left stands in the United States looking across river at Mexico.

Conservation News Briefs

Interior Names Seashore Areas

Cape Cod in Massachusetts, Padre Island in Texas, and the Oregon Dunes (see pp. 4 and 19) were nominated by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton in a revised version of S. 2010 recently sent to Congress. The pending legislation is designed to bring within the national park system several portions of the remaining undeveloped seashore of the United States. Originally introduced by the late Senator Neuberger, the bill would also establish a national policy of seashore preservation.

Although the Secretary's original recommendation to Congress did not specify any areas, public hearings and rising interest in the three areas named have indicated to the Secretary the need for including the three areas in his recommendation. In a supplemental report to the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, he wrote:

> We feel that investigations and hearings with respect to the Cape Cod, Padre Island, and Oregon Dunes areas have proceeded to the point where arrangements reasonably satisfactory to most of the interested persons can be agreed upon. We *therefore have no objection to a revision of* S. 2010 that nominates these three areas and spells out the special provisions that are needed for each of them.

Yellowstone Boating

Latest report on the Yellowstone Lake boating question is that the regulations will not be put into effect until sometime in 1961 after further hearings have been held and after publication of the proposal in the Federal Register.

Paul Bartsch

Paul Bartsch, National Parks Association Board Member since 1939, died at his 458-acre home and wildlife preserve in Lorton, Virginia on April 24. Mr. Bartsch was a curator of mollusks at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum for many years and served as a consultant to the museum following his retirement in 1941. In 1945 he retired as professor emeritus of George Washington University's department of zoology where he was instrumental in building the science curriculum of the school.

During his retirement, Mr. Bartsch and his wife, Dr. Elizabeth Parker, made their home at Gunston Hall, built four years before Mount Vernon. Here they provided a home for animals and birds including foxes, eagles and geese. They grew more than one hundred varieties of ferns on the slopes and ravines of the sanctuary. A writer of more than 500 scientific books and articles, Mr. Bartsch was well-known in Washington by thousands of wildlife lovers who visited his home.

Quetico-Superior Consultations

The White House has recently announced completion of arrangements for consultations between the President's Quetico-Superior Committee and a similar committee being created by the Prime Minister of Ontario. The objective of these consultations is the adoption of similar policies for the administration of the wilderness preserves maintained on both sides of the United States-Canada border.

The two areas concerned are both set aside as wilderness recreation zones and form a natural geographic unit. The old

Point Reyes National Seashore Hearings

Dairy rancher opposition to the proposed Point Reyes National Seashore in Marin County, California was milder than expected at the April 14 Kentfield, California hearings of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

An attorney for 17 dairy ranchers on the Peninsula agreed to give serious consideration to a plan whereby 21,000 acres would be left under individual ownership, but with land use restricted to preserve the scenery. Another alternative proposal made by the National Park Service would be to purchase the land outright, and then lease it back to the ranchers.

In a fact-finding survey prepared for the hearing, the Park Service reported:

(1) Some 53,000 acres will be needed for the park in the area lying west of Highway 1 between Bolinas and Tomales Point.

(2) About 21,000 acres used mainly by the dairy and beef cattle ranchers could be continued in such use without hampering development of the park.

(3) The ranch land either could be purchased outright by the Federal Government and leased back to the ranchers, or it could be secured by "scenic" easements.

(4) Whether Tomales Bay State Park and Marin County's Drake's Beach would be absorbed by the National Park Service for the seashore project will depend on the inclination of the State or county to operate them separately.

(5) Figured on current fair market values, it will cost the Federal Government a minimum of $6,500,000 to acquire all the privately owned land within the proposed site. It is entirely unlikely that the entire site would be purchased at one time.

Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth told the Senate Committee:

> The natural values on Point Reyes Peninsula are, from the national point of view, of such natural and historical importance as to far outweigh the value of the area for subdivision and unintegrated commercial uses.

He then went on to warn that:

> If action is not taken soon on a broad scale, the intrinsic natural beauties of this area will be steadily replaced by a highly developed suburbia.

In answer to complaints that the seashore proposal would create hardships on some local school districts, Senator Clair Engle suggested that the Federal Government might compensate local jurisdictions in the county for lost taxes during the development of the seashore project.

The subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee, chaired by Senator Frank E. Moss, heard favorable statements by Governor Edmund G. Brown and Senator Thomas H. Kuchel. The governor urged that state and federal authorities combine forces to preserve the area.

Voyageurs canoe route to the west goes through the heart of the country along the international boundary line. The Ontario portion contains much virgin country, and on the United States side, in Minnesota, there has been a restoration program under way for several years on a million-acre tract. There are no public roads on either side of the border and the area is especially well-known among canoeists for the many lakes connected by relatively short portages.

The consultations between the United States and Canada mark a significant beginning in international cooperation on common problems of wilderness management and preservation.

National Park Courier

Herb Evison, former Chief of Information with the National Park Service, is the editor of the revised *Steve Mather's Family Newspaper*, now published quarterly as the *National Park Courier*. The 20-page tabloid covers the activities of the National Park Service and its employees as well as significant news in the national park system. Subscriptions are $1.75 per year, and may be obtained by writing to the Employees and Alumni Association of the National Park Service, Wind Cave National Park, Hot Springs, South Dakota.

Smokies Road Problem Again

Rumblings from an earlier Great Smoky Mountains road controversy were heard in February and again in April in the North Carolina press. As a result Acting Secretary of the Interior Elmer F. Bennett has written Governor Hodges of North Carolina asking for "a determination from [the Governor] on the State's present desires concerning the 1943 agreement." The Acting Secretary goes on to say that "if you voice the State's position as calling for the road project to proceed as contemplated in 1943, this Department stands willing to fulfill the Federal Government's contractual commitments."

Some years ago, the Park Service agreed to build a road across the southern boundary of the park as a substitute for the road then to be flooded by the Fontana Dam project. Since that time, an alternate road has been built south of Lake Fontana which removes the necessity for the road across the park.

However, local North Carolina interests, including the Swain County Commissioners and the North Carolina National Park, Parkway and Forests Development Commission, want to hold the Park Service to the original agreement even though the need for the road no longer exists. Local conservation groups, including the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club, point out that some of the finest wilderness trout fishing anywhere in the east is found on Hazel, Eagle and Forney creeks which are at present accessible by trail.

The Park Service earlier indicated its intention to build a park road from the east park boundary as far as Gold Mine Creek, thus making Noland and Gold Mine creeks accessible by road. Wilderness and national park interests hope that the Park Service can withstand pressures to extend the road all the way to Fontana Village and thus preserve at least a part of the wilderness character along the park's southern boundary.

However, in the face of North Carolina Senator Jordan's statement that he would insist that Congress do everything necessary "to see that the National Park Service keeps its commitments, not only on the Bryson City-Fontana Road, but that we find out why we have not had our share of funds on rightly and obligated projects in North Carolina under National Park Service jurisdiction," the Department apparently feels it must leave the decision up to the Governor.

Persons wishing to urge protection of the wilderness character of the southern section of Great Smoky Mountains National Park can communicate their views to Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C. North Carolina residents and others can be most effective by contacting Hon. Luther H. Hodges, Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh.

Airfield in Mt. Rainier?

An airfield with a 4300-foot runway has been proposed for construction at Longmire on the slopes of Mount Rainier, according to a May 4 report in the *Tacoma* (Washington) *News-Tribune*. Representative Thor Tollefson was quoted as saying that the proposed airport might become a valuable asset for the Rainier National Park tourist trade, "especially should the National Park Service come around to the views of the people in the area and construct overnight facilities within the park." (Further details will be reported in July.)

Paul Mason Tilden Becomes Editor

BRUCE M. KILGORE leaves the National Parks Association in late May to accept a position in San Francisco, California as Managing Editor of the Sierra Club's expanded publishing program and its monthly *Sierra Club Bulletin*. Mr. Kilgore became Editor of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE and Assistant to the Executive Secretary in July, 1957. Midway during his three years as editor, the magazine was changed from a quarterly to a monthly.

Paul Mason Tilden, Associate Editor of *Natural History*, succeeds Mr. Kilgore. Mr. Tilden comes to the Association with wide experience in the editorial and publishing field.

After attendance at Colby College, Maine, he served on the staff of various newspapers in the Southwest. He later returned to New England where he became editor and publisher of a weekly newspaper in Warner, New Hampshire. Mr. Tilden was Assistant Editor of American Nature Association's *Nature Magazine* in Washington, D.C., for three years prior to the magazine's merger with *Natural History* in January 1960.

Capitol Photo

Editor Paul Mason Tilden

The son of Freeman Tilden, he is an enthusiastic amateur geologist, an experienced free-lance writer and photographer. He has traveled widely in all parts of the United States. ■

Your NPA at Work

Power or Preservation in Yosemite

Based on information received from its Yosemite NPA Program Group, the National Parks Association on April 26, 1960 registered its protest with the Director of the Bureau of Land Management "against the application of the City and County of San Francisco for a land use permit to construct an aqueduct tunnel from the O'Shaughnessy Dam in Hetch-Hetchy Valley, Yosemite National Park, through the park and the Stanislaus National Forest to Early Intake on the Tuolumne River where a hydro-electric plant would be built."

In 1913 Congress passed the Raker Act which gave San Francisco the right to construct and maintain the Hetch-Hetchy Project in Yosemite National Park and the adjacent Stanislaus National Forest. According to the Association's letter, "A mature appraisal of the water supply development undertaken at the O'Shaughnessy Dam as a result of political pressure from the City of San Francisco now indicates that in view of many alternative sources of supply for the City, this heedless destruction of one of America's scenic wonders was completely unnecessary."

While construction of the dam largely devastated the Valley above the dam, at least the flow of the river below the dam—for the seven miles in the park and more in the forest—was maintained at stable levels "adequate for the maintenance of the wildlife and recreational resources of the valley and the protection of scenery." But the proposed plan would alter this by diverting this water into a tunnel on the north side of the river where it could maintain a relatively high elevation until close to Early Intake, and then be dropped from a high head into a power plant for generation of electricity for San Francisco.

Such diversion would seriously impair fishing, recreation and aesthetic values of the region. The Forest Service has found that with sufficient water, this river area has an annual potential for camping and picnicking of 110,000 visitor-days.

The National Park Service, U. S. Forest Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the California Department of Fish and Game have joined in submitting stipulations that a minimum of from 25 to 40 cubic feet per second must be released in dry years and from 40 to 80 cubic feet per second in wet years. San Francisco wants to guarantee only a minimum of 30 cubic feet per second at all times. National Parks Association indicated its emphatic support of the stipulations proposed by the several park, forest and wildlife agencies.

The Association goes on, however, to raise a second, and even more penetrating question: Does San Francisco have any remaining right whatsoever to the use of Hetch-Hetchy waters at or above Early Intake for the development of electric power? The Association concludes its letter to Bureau of Land Management Director Edward Woozley with the statement:

> It would be best that the entire application of the City and County of San Francisco be denied on the ground that such rights as once may have existed to the use of Hetch-Hetchy waters for power purposes have been lost; in the alternative, the very least that should be done to protect this river valley, which has suffered such serious injury in the past, is to maintain adequate stream flows, and to do so, not by the delegation of discretion to the water user, but by firm reservation of control by the Government of the United States.

Washington, D.C., Parks Supported

On invitation from Senator J. Glenn Beall of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, the National Parks Association submitted a statement in late March on *S.802*. This legislation would have authorized grants and loans under the Capper-Cramton Act for acquisition of stream valley park lands in Maryland and Virginia areas adjacent to the nation's capital. Under the act, the Federal Government pays one-third of the cost of buying land in suburban stream valleys.

"Time is running against us heavily in the metropolitan area of Washington," the Association pointed out. "The Capper-Cramton Act, passed in 1930, was a far-sighted effort to make provision for natural outdoor recreation for the growing population of the nation's capital. The authorizations for loans and grants provided for in the original legislation have now been exhausted in large part, and it is essential that new authorizations be written into law if the purposes of the act are to be accomplished."

The Association's statement urged that the appropriations recommended by the Budget Bureau be restored. This would mean $600,000 for the federal grant program and $1 million for the loan program. As we go to press, Senate and House conferees are reported to have scuttled the program. The House conferees were adamant in their opposition, saying the suburbs of Washington, D.C. can finance their own parks from now on.

NPA Backs Douglas Proposal To Expand Oregon Wilderness

In a late April letter to Richard E. McArdle, Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, the National Parks Association joined with Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas in urging the expansion of a wilderness area in the Wallowa and Whitman National Forests of eastern Oregon.

Justice Douglas has recommended that the Minam River watershed be added to the 220,000-acre Eagle Cap Wilderness Area. "The Minam River canyon and basin," according to the Association's statement, "constitute one of the few untouched forested regions remaining in eastern Oregon."

While recognizing that the timber stands in the valley have commercial value, the Association considers that:

> Their importance as a remnant of original wilderness is far greater than any possible timber harvest . . . The trouble with too many of the Forest Service wilderness areas is that nothing much is contained in them except high mountain country without much forest cover . . . Wilderness areas ought to include representative samples of the old growth stands, while some of these are still available for protection.

The Association urged that Forest Service hearings be held on the question "at the earliest possible date, and that recommendations favoring such extension of the wilderness area be made to the Secretary of Agriculture."

East-Side Sierra Wilderness Threatened by Ski Development

The National Parks Association in late March sent a wire to Joseph T. Radel, Supervisor of the Inyo National Forest, Bishop, California, recommending that no modifications be made in the boundaries or protection of the High Sierra Primitive Area as presently contemplated for ski development in Robinson Valley. This development would destroy the principal east side of the Sierra wilderness gateway to Kings Canyon National Park.

Better areas are available, with only a short additional drive for ski development, which would not affect the prime wilderness country in the region immediately south of Onion Valley. The wire from Executive Secretary Anthony Wayne Smith concluded, "We would be delighted to assist in planning for ski

development which would not injure outstanding wilderness values."

1960
Student Conservation Program

The following are the high school and college students selected to participate in this summer's SCP program:

College Students, Grand Teton, Wyo.

Helen Gill, W. Englewood, N.J. (Chicago)
Toni Lincks, Pittsfield, Mass. (Mt. Holyoke)
Dwight Baldwin, Wellesley, Mass. (Bowdoin)
Elizabeth Barker, Northampton, Mass. (Smith)
Mary Bruhn, Birmingham, Ala. (Alabama)
Masha Etkin, Plainfield, N.J. (Antioch)
Robert Hall, Everett, Wash. (Everett Jr.)
Charles Hunt III, Nashville, Tenn. (Peabody)
Susan Koelle, Univ. City, Mo. (Vassar)
Paul Lehmann, Dublin, N.H. (Harvard)
W. Lewis, Pomona, Calif. (Mt. San Antonio)
Joseph Richardson, Bedford, N.Y. (St. Lawrence)
Emily Shirley, Syracuse, N. Y. (Vassar)
Peter Smith, Belmont, Vt. (Cornell)
Arthur Stukey, Medford, Mass. (Tufts)
Elizabeth Venrick, Winnetka, Ill. (Pomona)

High School Students—Olympic

Group I—June 27 to July 21

William Drabkin, Los Angeles, Calif.
John Hughes, Yellow Springs, Ohio
Russell Kendall, Houston, Texas
Richard Kennelly, Milton, Mass.
Albrecht Kroeger, Boulder, Colo.
Dudley Ladd, Needham, Mass.
Albert Lamb, Englewood, N.J.
Jeffrey Lewis, Barrington, Ill.
Robert McClintock, San Jose, Calif.
James Meade, Washington, D.C.
David O'Neil, Cos Cob, Conn.
Todd Perkins, Vashon, Wash.
John Sellers, Pittsburgh, Penna.
Donald Van Meter, Spencer, Ohio
Allan Weissman, Mercer Island, Wash.

Group II—August 1 to 25

Jonathan Black, East Lansing, Mich.
Jon Carothers, Naches, Wash.
Eugene Garand, Centerport, N.Y.
Douglas Gill, West Englewood, N.J.
George Gipe, Carmichael, Calif.
Beren Harrington, Wilbraham, Mass.
Richard Meyer, Columbus, Ohio
Earl Mundy, Mehlville, Missouri
Wayne Nelson, Brook, Indiana
Richard Olson, Milwaukee, Wisc.
Steve Sikora, Columbia, Calif.
Lowry Stephenson, Villa Nova, Penna.
Roderick Swenson, Norfolk, Mass.
Peter Vanderhoof, Port Angeles, Wash.
Clarke Young, Casper, Wyo.

Independent Research Grants—Olympic

M. Harthill, Port Angeles, Wash. (Wash. State)
James Jokerst, Logan, Utah (Utah State)

The Three Tetons and Jackson Hole, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. Photo by George Grant

How About You?

Seven hundred college and high school students asked to participate in National Parks Association's SCP program this summer. We turned most of them down. Because we lacked the funds, we could not expand the program beyond its present 50-man capacity.

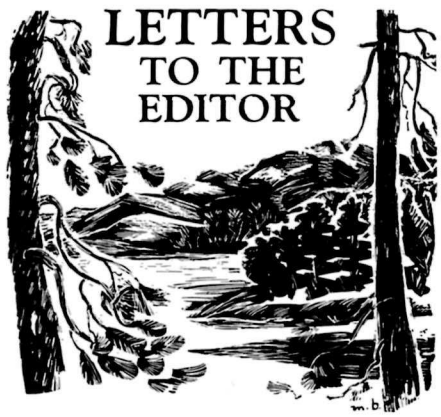
For the same reason—lack of funds—we could not fill requests for additional SCP programs in various national, state and local parks throughout the country.

Students want the program; parks want the program. You can make it possible.

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TODAY TO:

National Parks Association, Student Conservation Program
1300 New Hampshire Avenue N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

For further information write to the address above.



Nostalgia or Sense at Rainbow

For seven years I have spent my summers in the Glen Canyon exploring and researching. We have been places in the Canyon that we're sure haven't been visited since prehistoric times and we've been to Rainbow Bridge so many times we can't count them. When we heard about the mass of dams and tunnels proposed to surround Rainbow, we set out to do some serious investigating.

I studied the aerial photograph on the back of your March issue for three days trying to figure out what this proposed set of dams and tunnels would be able to accomplish. Dam Forbidding Canyon near the mouth? Dam above the bridge in Bridge Canyon and send a mile-long diversion tunnel through to Aztec Creek? For what?

The canyon's peace is gone . . . its beauty is marred beyond picture-taking by ugly yellow and white lead marks and numbers all over the sandstone . . . All this building of tunnels and dams by the Rainbow is going to completely destroy the lovely solitude of the place.

My question is why? Why is it impossible to do the simple thing? Why cannot Glen Canyon Dam be lowered.

KATIE LEE
Keyport, New Jersey

• To clear up one misunderstanding at the outset, the back cover of our March issue includes several alternative dam sites. Under no circumstances would they all be built. As explained on page 17 of the March issue and on page 17 of the February issue, there is a choice between a protective project involving barrier damsite "B" 0.6 mile below the monument with a diversion tunnel 0.5 mile above the monument *or* barrier damsite "C" located some three miles below the monument.

While we would prefer damsite C (as indicated in our letter to Secretary Seaton on page 17 of our February issue), we feel—in view of the Secretary of Interior's backing—that the plan involving B may be the best attainable choice. While we too are nostalgic about the loss of solitude in Glen and Forbidding Canyons, doing nothing and letting reservoir water rise and fall beneath the bridge will not save it from harm.

It now appears that the confusion among conservationists over what to do at Rainbow Bridge may permit the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to do nothing. (See *Parks and Congress* on page 19.)

If you have read our previous articles on the subject (NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for October-December 1958; August, 1959; and February, March and April 1960) as well as looked at the pictures included, then you can answer many of your own questions. Silt and "stinking" muck—to quote the National Park Service's statement which the House Appropriations Committee didn't want to hear—and a fluctuating reservoir are what you will have in the canyon beneath Rainbow Bridge without the protective devices.

You must decide if you prefer this to one tunnel outside the monument (not many tunnels as your letter implies) and one diversion dam (25 feet high) upstream from the monument plus one barrier dam below the monument—all *outside* the monument and *beyond sight* of the Bridge. It's a sad thing to have to make this choice.

We too wish we could lower the height of Glen Canyon dam and solve all our problems. But this would appear to be wishful thinking and daydreaming, unless you have more powerful friends than we do.

In the meantime, however, we plead with you not to muddy the thinking regarding this issue which can be all-important precedent-wise. We must not, if any alternative exists, let reservoir water enter Rainbow Bridge National Monument. For while the roads needed to build the protective devices will wash away beneath reservoir water anyway, a departure from national park standards will stay with us for centuries.—*Editor.*

How to Reach North Cascades

Recent issues of your magazine have inspired me to consider the following plan for August 1960: Take a train to Wenatchee or Chelan. Then go by boat to Lucerne. Then a three- or four-day pack trip (horseback) into the Glacier Peak area. Basic urge: to see wild animals that are not pets. It's fun to see the roadside bears in the Smokies, but I prefer to ride through forest and above timberline with only the boys and guide, and to see animals that aren't used to people. Do you know of any guide who arranges pack trips in the Glacier Peak area?

AUGUSTA W. LYONS
Carlinville, Illinois

• Members wishing to visit the North Cascades this summer can approach the area through Wenatchee, Washington via plane from the Seattle-Tacoma area, Great Northern Railroad or private auto. Bus service is available twice daily from Wenatchee to Chelan at the foot of Lake Chelan. Lady-of-the-Lake boat service leaves Chelan for Lucerne and Stehekin early each morning and returns in late afternoon. The packer at Stehekin is Ray Courtney.

Other towns which afford access to the western side of the range and which can be reached by bus, rail and air are Bellingham and Everett. Other gateway points available to private car travelers are Twist, Marblemount and Darrington.—*Editor.*

Parks and Congress

Arctic Wildlife Range

H.R. 7045 (Bonner) and *S. 1899* (W. Magnuson at the request of the Secretary of the Interior.) Authorizes establishment of nine-million-acre Arctic Wildlife Range in Alaska. *H.R. 7045* passed by the House in February. Hearings on *S. 1899* completed in late April; bill awaits action by the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Bridge Canyon Dam

S. 3135 (Bible and Cannon), *H.R. 10617* (McDonough) and *H.R. 10755* (Hosmer). Would flood Grand Canyon National Monument and Park, Arizona. Reports from the Department of Interior requested by the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs.

C & O Canal National Historical Park

H.R. 2331 (Foley). To establish a national historical park in Maryland. House action postponed until third week of May. Public Lands Subcommittee of Senate Interior Committee heard final testimony on similar Senate Bill *S. 77* in May; then planned to meet in closed session for further consideration.

Mount Rainier National Park

S. 1358 (Murray). Authorizes headquarters site for Mount Rainier National Park in the general vicinity of Ashford, Washington. Passed the House by a wide margin.

Multiple Use of Forests

S. 3044 (Ellender), *H.R. 10572* (Grant) and others in the House. House Committee on Agriculture reported favorably late in April on *H.R. 10572* to establish principles of multiple use of national forests as a policy of Congress. The first section of the bill has been amended to include:

"*The purposes of* this Act are declared to be supplemental to, but not in derogation of, the purposes for which the National Forests were established as set forth in the Act of June 4, 1897 (*16 U.S.C. 475*)." The new sentence was added at the insistence of commercial lumbering interests who want to continue the emphasis of the 1897 Act which set forth watershed and timber production as priority purposes of national forests.

The following phrase has also been added: "Nothing herein shall be construed to affect the authority of the Secretary of the Interior provided by law with respect to mineral resources *or the National Park System.*"

Commenting on the amendments, the formal committee report states: "The addition of the [first sentence] is to make it clear that the declaration of congressional policy that the national forests are established and shall be administered for the purposes enumerated [outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed and wildlife and fish purposes] is supplemental to but is not in derogation of, the purposes of improving and protecting the forest or for securing favorable conditions of water flows and to furnish a continuous supply of timber as set out in the cited provision of the act of June 4, 1897. Thus, in any establishment of a national forest a purpose set out in the 1897 act must be present but there also may exist one or more of the additional purposes listed in the bill. In other words, a national forest could not be established just for the purpose of outdoor recreation, range, or wildlife and fish purposes, but such purposes could be a reason for the establishment of the forest if there also were one or more of the purposes of improving and protecting the forest, securing favorable conditions of waterflows, or to furnish a continuous supply of timber as set out in the 1897 act. It is also clear that the Secretary of Agriculture shall administer the national forests for all of their renewable natural resources, and none of these resources is given a statutory priority over the others."

Point Reyes National Seashore

S. 2428 (Engle). April 14 hearings reported on page 14.

Rainbow Bridge Protection

S. 3180 (Moss). While no public announcement has yet been made by the House Appropriations Committee regarding the item in the Bureau of Reclamation budget for protection of Rainbow Bridge National Monument, it now appears that no money will be provided. A decision is expected during mid-May.

During the Senate hearings on the Bureau of Reclamation budget (including protection of Rainbow Bridge) Senator Moss of Utah testified in opposition to funds for the protection of the monument. Hearings were expected to be completed in late May. Senate action on this matter is expected early in June.

Anyone wishing to express his opinion regarding whether or not to protect Rainbow Bridge National Monument may write (1) Clarence Cannon, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee, House of Representatives, Washington 25, D.C.; (2) Carl Hayden, Chairman, Senate Appropriations Committee, United States Senate, Washington 25, D.C., or (3) any Congressman or Senator for forwarding to Mr. Cannon or Mr. Hayden. Such statements, to be effective, would have to be sent in immediately, (perhaps by wire) since Congress will probably adjourn by July 1.

Three Seashore Bill

S. 2010 (Neuberger) A suggested revision has been submitted recently by the Secretary of the Interior. Incorporates general provisions of the original bill which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish three unspecified national shoreline or lakeshore areas, but includes special provisions of bills dealing with three specific areas. (Kennedy-Saltonstall's *S. 2636* for Cape Cod, Neuberger's *S. 2898* for Oregon Dunes—introduced at the request of Oregon's Governor Hatfield. Includes special provisions for the Padre Island area, also.)

In the case of Oregon Dunes, the revision provides that Sea Lion Caves and the Tahkenitch Lake areas may be added to the initial development at some future time. Concurrence of the Governor and State Legislature of Oregon, as specified by *S. 2898*, is not required. While *S. 2898* would give the state primary jurisdiction over fish and wildlife in the seashore, the Interior revision would provide for the Secretary to enter into cooperative agreements with the State for fish and wildlife regulation that will not impair park values.

In the case of both Oregon Dunes and Cape Cod, the revision does not provide for payments for tax loss sustained as a result of purchase of land for park purposes. The Secretary believes that the subject should be treated apart from a bill dealing with three specific areas.

With regard to Cape Cod, the Secretary's revision will not permit additional residential development within the established seashore (as provided in Section 5 of *S. 2636*). The Secretary notes that such development "would, in all probability, substitute an immediate local financial benefit at the expense of long-range financial benefits that would accrue from the establishment of the proposed National Seashore."

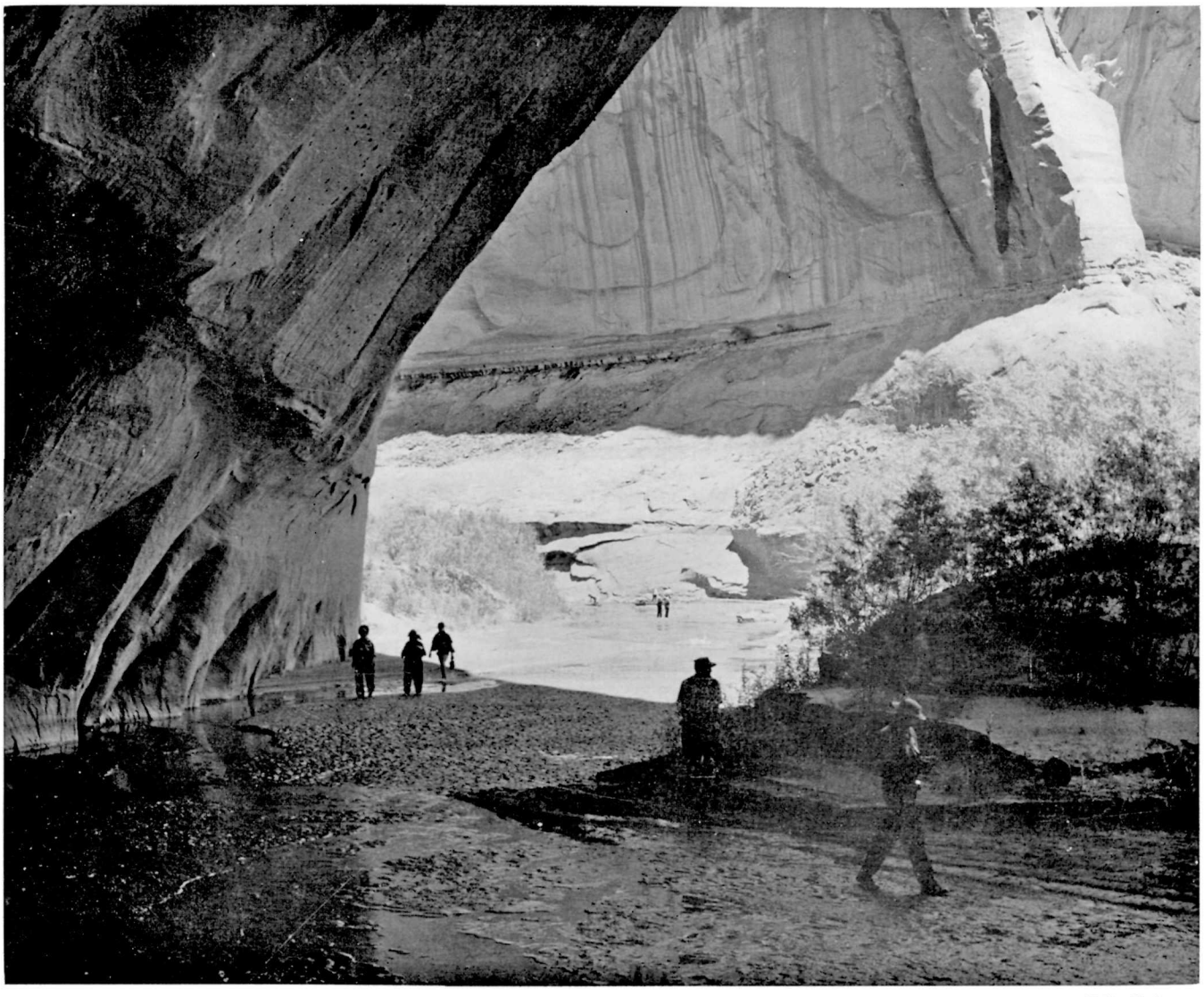
A provision for Padre Island permits the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands with the reservation that owners may retain extraction rights to oil or other mineral resources.

The revised bill, submitted with the approval of the Bureau of the Budget, is before the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

Wilderness Bill

S. 1123 (Humphrey et al.) and *H.R. 10621* (Miller). Executive (closed) hearings on the revised version of *S. 1123* were held the first week in May. Senators Allott and O'Mahoney continued their delay tactics during the first day of the hearing.

There are some indications of strong support in the House if Senate action is forthcoming in the next few weeks. The revised bill could come up for early consideration by the House Committee if sufficient public interest is shown.



Moki Canyon off Glen Canyon, Colorado River, Utah

Philip Hyde

In many parts of America today, the needs for wilderness are too often overshadowed by more immediate demands for water power, water supply, flood control, timber and minerals. The continued existence of any *real wilderness* is in jeopardy.

Rainbow Bridge, Dinosaur, and numerous forest wild and wilderness regions may soon become just areas that *once were unique.*

We need the strength of a firmly-stated national policy to preserve what little wilderness remains. We need adequate programs to make such a policy effective. Wherever administrators of public lands have wilderness in their custody—in parks, forests and refuges—the American people should insist that these last resources of wilderness be carefully safeguarded and administered for the future as well as the present.

See Page 2