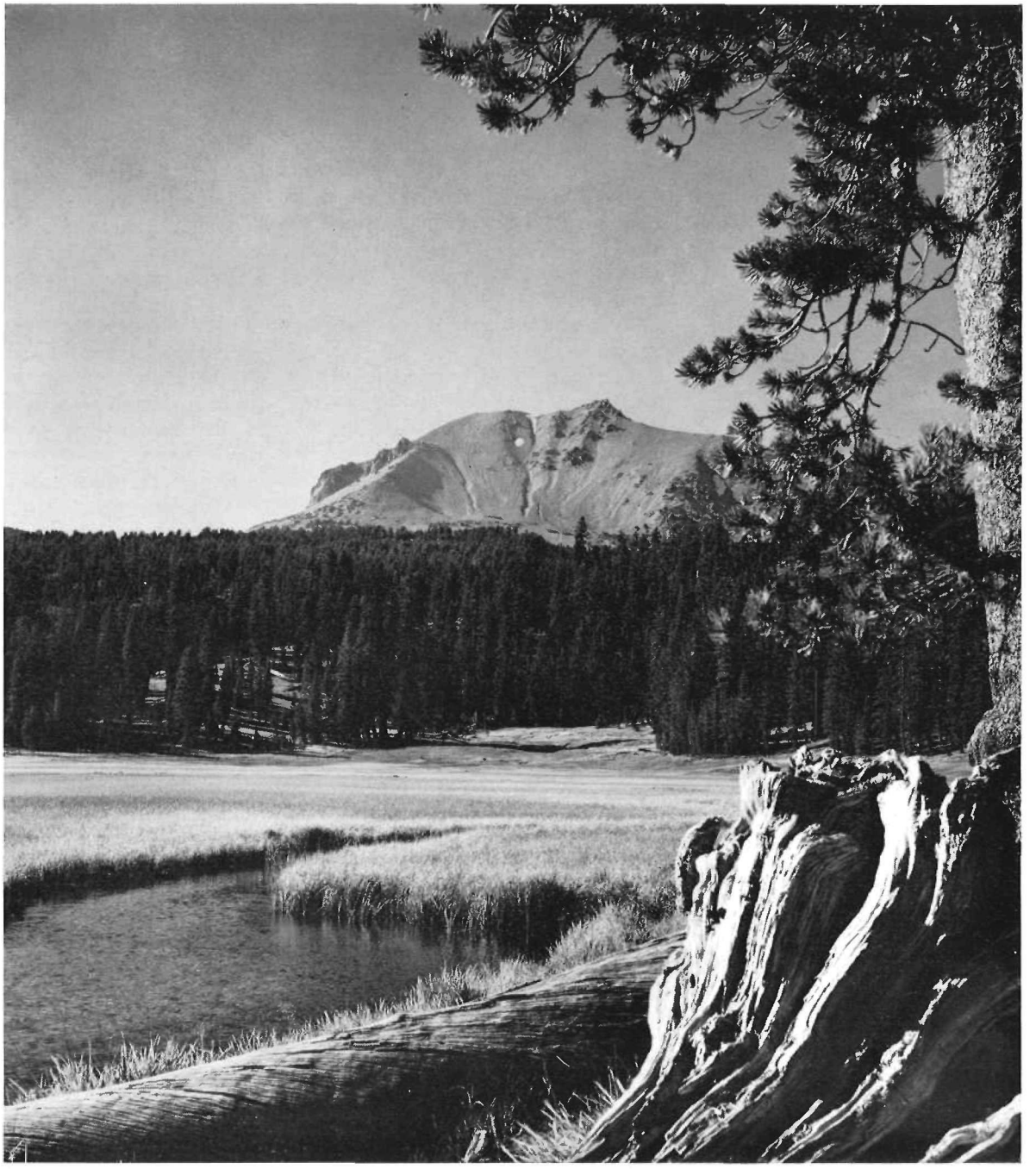
NATIONAL PARKS *Magazine*



Kings Meadows and Mount Lassen:
Mount Lassen National Park, California

May 1962

The Editorial Page

Time for Decision

EVENTS HAVE BEEN PLUNGING DANgerously in respect to hunting in the parks and the use of outside hunters to manage ungulate populations in the parks.

It is high time the Secretary of the Interior put his stamp of approval on the policy statement of the National Park Service issued months ago.

Our only suggestion is that the statement could be tightened up to prevent the use of outside assistance in extreme cases except after deputization.

We plan to lay all the issues in this matter before our members through the pages of this magazine next month.

On motorboating also, the time for decision has long since arrived. The Solicitor of the Department of the Interior held hearings last July. The 1962 summer season will soon be upon us. The waters of the parks need protection against the motorboat uproar. In any case, good or bad, let the decision be made.

Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the Rockefeller Report

COMMENDATIONS AND CONGRATULAtions are definitely in order to President Kennedy, Interior Secretary Udall, and Chairman Laurance S. Rockefeller of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission on the establishment of the new Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in the Department of the Interior.

The choice of Dr. Edward C. Crafts as Director of the Bureau is excellent; he is well known to conservationists as the experienced Assistant Chief of the United States Forest Service, a career Federal Government official of unusual competence and a broad and humane point of view.

Among the major achievements of the ORRRC report was its recognition of the need for a central coordinating office to integrate the planning work of the many Federal agencies concerned in one way or another with outdoor recreation and related resources.

The Commission considered placing the Bureau in the Executive Offices of the President, and this would have been our preference, because the lack of appreciation of conservation matters in the Budget Bureau is at present one of the barriers to sound resources management. Moreover, as the leader of the dominant party, the President, as no other man, is in a position to decide the fate of many conservation proposals.

We trust, however, that the Secretary of the Interior will continue to have the President's ear; moreover, that since the new Bureau has been established pursuant to Presidential recommendation, the President will continue to give it close attention; it must needs act with implications of Presidential authority if it is to coordinate work being done throughout a number of departments.

We might also have urged a slightly larger responsibility for the agency, to be suggested by some such title as the Office of Environmental Resources; while much can be done under the imprint of recreation, the real problem we face as a nation is the protection and recovery of the natural environment for all living, including both work and play.

One word of caution is perhaps in order: To the extent to which the planning authority of the National Park Service has been transferred to the Bureau, it will be necessary for conservationists to be vigilant in the protection of established national policies for the preservation of the unique resources of the parks. An all-important tradition has been built during the past ninety years on the simple foundations of the concepts of conservation and nonimpairment which were ultimately incorporated into the National Parks Act; it would be calamitous if the establishment of the Bureau were to lead to the breakdown of this tradition.

The Bureau is obviously the logical place for policy formulation in respect to the grants and loans to States and municipalities which the ORRRC report recommends as a major element in an effort to preserve a reasonable measure of the natural outdoor environment in America.

Highly significant is the emphasis placed in the report on the preservation of primitive lands in the broad sense of the term for the sake of their esthetic, scientific, and spiritual values. This emphasis conforms to deep-seated attachments in the hearts of the American people, stemming from the frontier and rural experience of generations; that the Commission was not swept away by pressures to place production demands first, such as logging and mining, is mightily encouraging.

And, finally, the action of the President in creating the Bureau is proof positive that an unusual event has occurred in America: The appearance of an official Federal study recommending a good program which is actually about to be taken seriously and put into effect by the Government.

—A.W.S.

Disaster on the Atlantic

THE HUMAN TRAGEDY IMPLICIT IN the wreckage of the seashore resorts on the Atlantic Coast by the great storm in March is beyond the power of the imagination to comprehend. Homes which were to provide a haven in retirement, which embodied the savings of long work-years, and which contained the mementos of a lifetime, were completely washed away, not a trace remaining. Stores, restaurants, motels, which provided their owners with a modicum of security and prosperity, were smashed to splinters. Cottages which had been the scene of many happy summer vacations, and from which parents watched small children play safely on the sand, were demolished. The sympathy of the nation has reached out to these families who have lost so much, and there will be strong sentiment for public and private aid in reconstruction or compensation.

In some cases it is true that settlement on these offshore islands was unwise from the beginning. Much expert opinion indicates, for example, that the northern half of Assateague Island, on the far eastern shore of Virginia, will always be unsafe for human habitation, and that it should be part of the Assateague Wildlife Refuge, which occupies the southern half, or a national seashore. During the decade just past this area was subdivided, and thou-

(Continued on page 19)

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Paul M. Tilden, Editor

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Front Cover Photograph by Ken Wheeler

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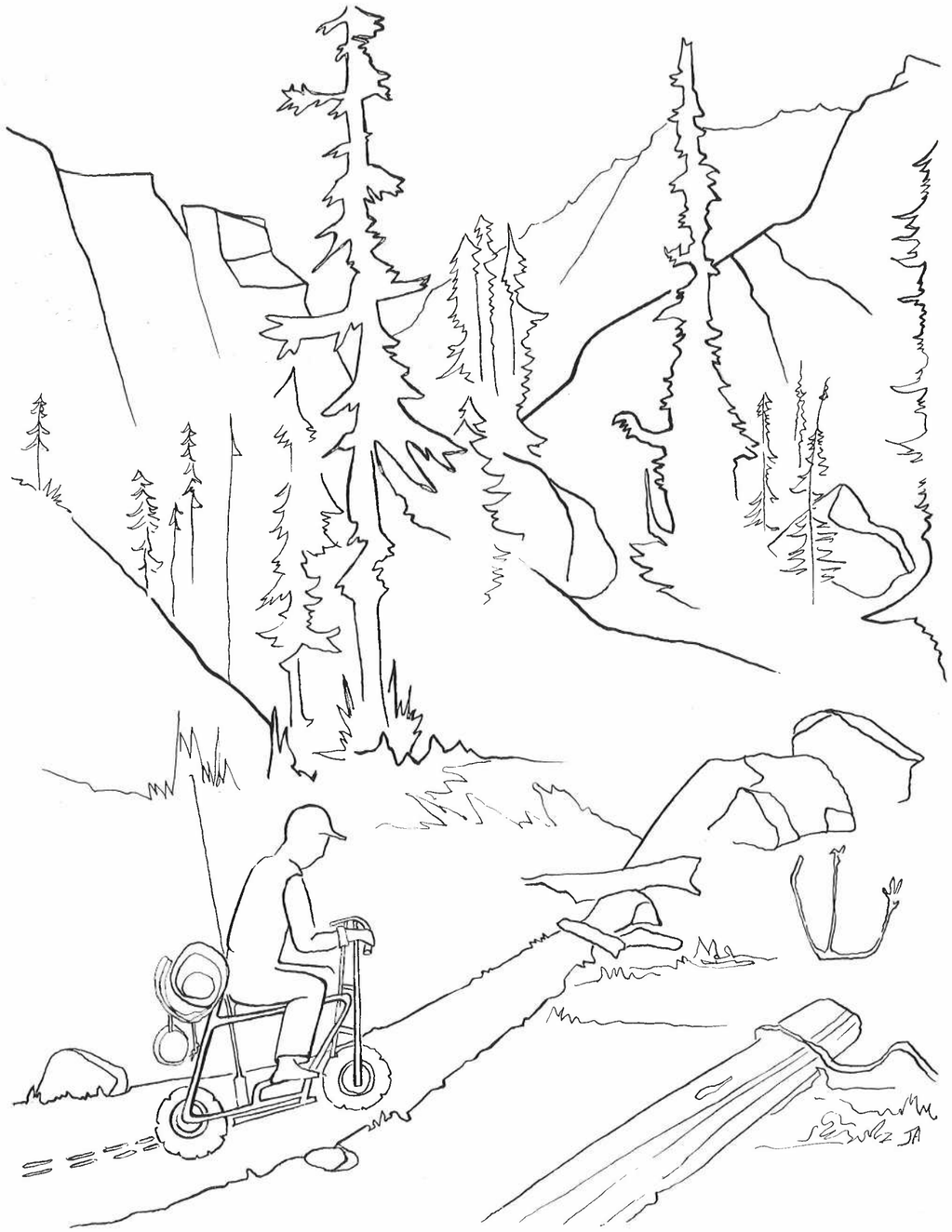


At the end of the trail, say the advertisements for motor scooters, true adventure begins. But for the man who still prefers to attain the end of the trail on foot or on horseback, the raucous machines are posing a challenge; although they are still in the minority on back country trails, their numbers are increasing at a great rate.

The proliferation of motor scooters on forest trails has inspired the hikers' lament:

HERE COME THE ROUGH RIDERS!

BY FREDERICK EISSLER

WITHIN THE NEXT TEN YEARS, one of the greatest threats to the sanctity of wildlands in our national parks and forests will come from the devotees of the almighty machine. Leftover frontier in the out-of-the-way corners of the continent, originally considered to be of little or no commercial value during the pioneer industrial thrust of American civilization, has now been rediscovered, and is today being threatened by the full impact of the machine age. The cacophony of portable, camp-sized electric power plants, mechanical saws, motorboats, and helicopters is but the opening chorus of another phase of the technological revolution—one that could finally overwhelm all that remains of the wilderness.

One of the most raucous of these intrusions in the back-country is a mechanical mule that may become as popular as its predecessor, the horseless carriage. Subverting the sportsman's urge to leave mechanized civilization and return to the solitary wilds, where nature in all her procreative abundance has produced the bountifully big catch, numerous ads in national outdoor magazines offer a new stripped-down motorcycle that pulls forty-five percent grades with a 400-pound load and fits snugly in the back seat of a car—the first scooter ever to be designed primarily for use on wildland trails.

"This year travel with ease to remote fishing areas, far away from crowds out where the big ones jump," reads the caption beneath the sketch of a fisherman seated on his scooter, as he casts from the bank of a wilderness stream. The word "remote" is thrice repeated in the salespitch, doubtless because of its etymological relation to "motor." And the ad finishes with the breezy slogan: "Where the road ends, adventure begins."

There can be no question that these new-bred mules and their manufacturers are feeling their oats. In California last year, according to a reliable report, more than 3000 of a certain model were sold—one of fifty foreign and domestic makes that are hitting the national market. Annual sales are rising sharply—as high as three hundred percent in some areas—and United States Forest Service representatives confirm that motor traffic on certain national forest trails last summer doubled and tripled over the previous season.

The sudden noisy appearance of these trail-eaters has caught the hiker, horseback rider and conservationist sitting down or relaxed in the saddle. Only in recent months has action been taken—mainly at the county and local national forest level—to curb and corral the machines. A strong public clamor in California's Santa Barbara County led to the adoption of a restrictive ordinance which apparently needs to be extended to the nearby Los Padres National Forest. There, officials are experimenting with what has been termed by the local press as a "half-ban that is not good enough." Some paths in the forests in the Monterey District of California are closed to machine travel, but four major cross-forest trails have been opened for the use of motor scooters. Ranchers, sportsmen, hikers, equestrians and land-preservation groups, who on some issues find themselves poles apart, have joined local citizen trail-conservation committees and are insisting in unison that there be no compromise of their demand that trails be reserved for the hoof and foot, and roads for the wheel. The iron mule should have all the privileges of any other motor vehicle; and, therefore, the committees argue, should stay exactly where machines belong—on public roads open to automobile travel.

Although vehicles of any kind are not permitted on the trails in national parks or in designated Forest Service primitive, wild and wilderness areas, the local citizen committees mentioned above believe there can be no ultimate protection of even the legally protected wilderness if machines are permitted on any trails whatsoever. Observers point out that trespass regulations are difficult and costly to enforce, and report that tire treads have marked almost every trail in the Los Padres National Forest, prohibited area or

Frederick Eissler is Conservation Chairman of the Los Padres Chapter of the Sierra Club, widely known conservation group with headquarters in San Francisco.

not: and, elsewhere in the State of California, have crossed over into national park territory.

Many devastating forest fires are known to have been started by other kinds of motorized equipment, and along grass-covered or brushy trail areas the cycles created an especially dangerous fire hazard. Evidence submitted by forest rangers and recreationists alike shows that the skid and spin-out marks—and normal tire tracking of the scooters—damage waterbreaks, causing severe erosion of trails, to say nothing of the rutting and marring of cross-country terrain. Intruding upon the silence and natural sounds of the back country, the brazen beasts-of-burden nullify the very wilderness qualities which, the advertisers tell us, invite the outdoorsman to remote areas. And furthermore, stress proponents of a complete trail ban, scooters are a traffic hazard, endangering life and limb. Horses and other livestock are "spooked" by the machines. In one instance, a horse, frightened when a cycle appeared around a sharp turn on a mountain trail, tumbled down an incline and killed both itself and its rider.

One need not be a prophet to recognize that modern technology needs but little encouragement before it "takes over." In the Pacific Coast's North Cascades region, which has been viewed as of national park caliber, trails that are in good condition by the standards of the hiker and rider are reportedly to be reconstructed and graveled in some places for the accommodation of motor scooters. Must trails be engineered and resurfaced for machines? The horseless buggy, be it remembered, demanded the partial paving of a nation.

An Eye to the Trend

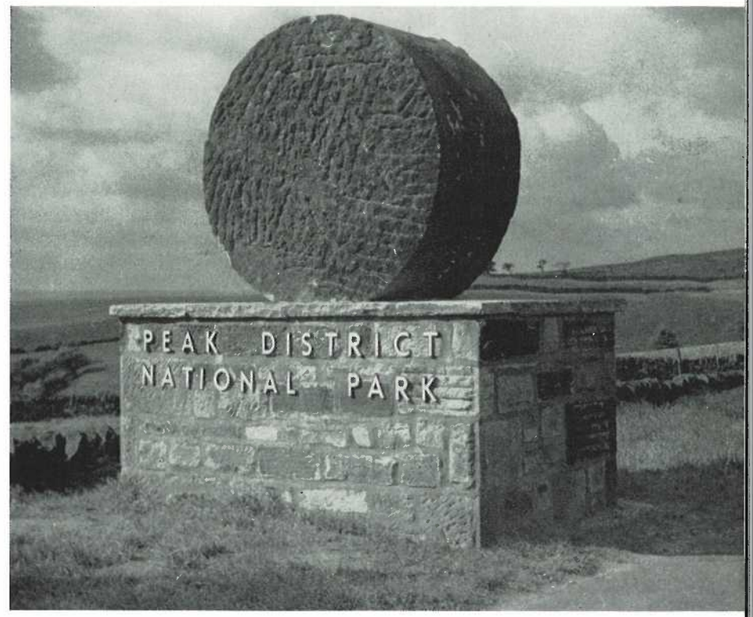
Signs, old and new, should be watched with care as marks of what could become an overwhelming trend. Less than four years ago Yosemite National Park was experimenting with a "Go Devil Trail Buggy," trade name of a sturdy motor-mule that carried heavy loads. The California Fish and Game Department, in a publication of August, 1961, announced that "Gasoline Burning 'Horses' May Revolutionize Travel in Hills. The Department is testing such vehicles for use by wardens," the article continued, "and where the scooters can replace horses, the Department will save a lot of money." A forest ranger describes a "Tote Gote Posse" organized in Arizona to catch up with trail-vehicle scofflaws.

If his rights on the trail are to be respected, the man on foot or horseback had better work hard to present his case or the new Rough Riders, though they are in the minority, will eventually shove him aside. He must demand that present rules against motorized travel be strictly enforced, and that prohibitions against vehicles be extended to all foot or horseback trails. He must promote the establishment of new national parks and national forest wilderness areas, still the best legal protection against vehicle encroachment. If his voice is not to be smothered by canyon-echoing blasts from the new machines, he must stand up now and be heard. ■

HIS STORE OF COUNTERS

Beneath the dusty rafters the attic floor
Rambles to corners warm because of sun
That strikes the roof and dries the bundled store
Of sheaves. The sunflower clusters have begun
To loose their ripened seed of polished brown.
Red peppers strung in sagging rows nearby
Are resting wrinkled skins against the down
Of spider webs, where yellow corn swings high.
To him the attic's store of counters yield
The cherished heart of every harvesting,
Where seeds from sleeping argosies of field
Rise once again with Phoenix in the spring.

—Jean Rasey



The Peak District National Park, situated in the southern extremity of central England's Pennine Range, was the first national park to be set up in Britain under terms of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act of 1949, being designated in December, 1950. In physical expression the lands within the park vary from wooded valley and rolling farmland in the south to the wild, bleak moorland of the north; included within the park are some 542 square miles of relatively unspoiled country. Boundary signs on the main roads into the Peak National Park are old, locally-manufactured grindstones mounted on stone plinths, as that of Owler Bar entrance shown in the photograph at the right.

All photographs by courtesy of Peak Park Planning Board

The First Ten Years in England's Peak District National Park

By John Foster
Planning Officer, Peak Park Planning Board

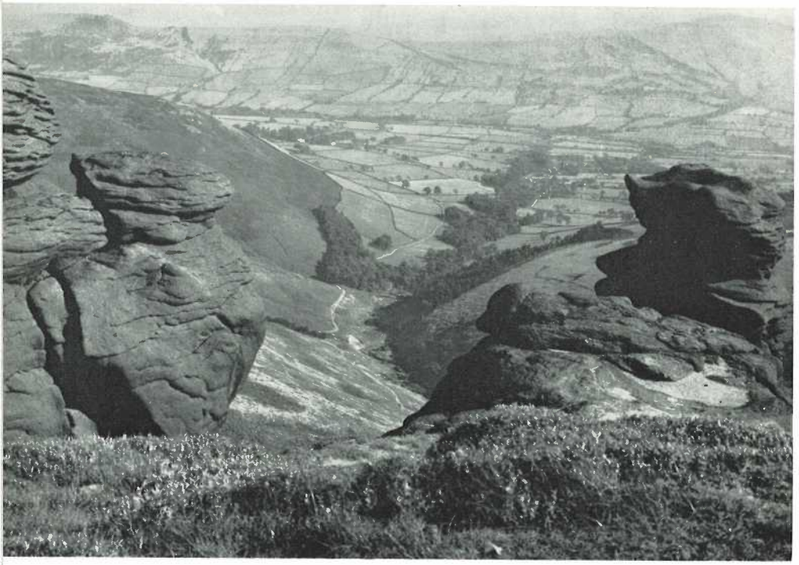
". . . I think there is room for great expansion of the Board's work, but this will only be possible when the National Parks Commission is given more power to assist in a practical way those park authorities who are prepared to carry out their duties and responsibilities as envisaged by the National Parks Act. . . ."

This was how Alderman N. Gratton, M.A., J.P., Chairman of the Peak Park Planning Board, summed up his review of the first decade of activity in England's Peak District National Park at the tenth anniversary meeting of the Board in Bakewell on the fourteenth of November, 1961.

To understand fully this remark one must look at the background of national parks in England and Wales. The Government report which preceded the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, proposed the establishment by the National Parks Commission of twelve national parks within three years, along with capital expenditure over a period of ten years amounting to £9½ million (approximately $26½ million) and an annual expenditure of £¾ million ($2.1 million). In fact, ten national parks were set up in eight years, and the total expenditure on national park work, under all headings, was not much more than £1 million ($2.8 million) in the whole country up to the end of 1961.

However, this is not to say that national parks in Britain have been a failure. Much has been achieved in conserving what still remains of the country's natural landscape, and in helping people better to understand and enjoy its beauty. In this work the Peak District has had its share of problems—and has enjoyed, too, a modest proportion of the achievements.

The Peak was fortunate in that, being the first national park to be established, the Government of the day insisted upon the form of administration prescribed in the Act; namely, a joint



From the lofty wind-worn rocks of the Kinderscout Plateau the hiker may look down across the Edale Valley in the heartlands of the Peak District (photograph above). This is popular weekend walking country for the teeming thousands of Manchester and Sheffield cities, not far distant. The ravine in center foreground is that of Grindsbrook. Below: on the steep slopes above Edale a ski run constructed by the Peak Park Planning Board in 1961 has proved a highly popular winter attraction.

board comprising members of the constituent county councils, along with members nominated by the appropriate Minister of the Crown. Although not popular locally at the time, this administration has since proved itself a more effective vehicle for action than the compromise types of advisory administration set up in some of the later national parks. Even after ten years the Peak is still the only national park with its own technical staff.

The Board, like all other national park authorities, has two main jobs—firstly, to look after the appearance and character of the countryside and, secondly, to help, by various means, the many visitors who come to the district.

The preservation of the countryside is achieved mainly by a full and careful use of the powers of the Town and Country Planning Acts to accept or reject new building and uses of land—this is the unspectacular, and sometimes unpopular, preventive medicine of planning control. Particular regard has to be paid to esthetic values, to prevent unnecessary and incongruous development from occurring in the open countryside, and to insure that necessary development is suitably sited and harmonizes with the surroundings. In new building this does not mean slavishly following tradition in every detail, but rather recognizing the local idiom in the general form of buildings and the color and texture of their materials. For centuries the Peak has built in the local gritstone and limestone of the district, and buildings erected during the past ten years incorporate these materials in some form or another.

Adverse Uses Are Denied

In addition to the major development problems posed by mineral workings, overhead electricity lines, radio masts and the like, some highly unusual problems arise from time to time. A nearby town proposed to dump its domestic rubbish in a vast disused quarry on an open moorland. This was refused permission, and the Board's decision was supported on the appeal which followed. A gliding club, using winch-launching for their craft, recently asked for permission to develop an air strip so that they could launch their gliders more expeditiously with powered aircraft. This, too, was refused permission on the ground that a national park is no place for the public spectacle of aeroplanes taking off and landing regularly.

Naturally the villages of the Peak District are attractive places to live in, and many people have come out from the nearby cities of Manchester and Sheffield to enjoy a country life, while still commuting daily to business. This has produced a pressure for building land which, if the Board had not taken a firm line, could have so swamped these villages with suburban building as to have taken from them the very character which makes them attractive. In dealing with more than five thousand applications for planning permission during the past ten years—many for residential development of this kind—the Board has refused to allow sites for more than fifteen hundred dwellings to be developed.

The Forestry Program

Care of the landscape in the Peak District inevitably means the care of trees, for there are many fine woodlands scattered over the area. A few years ago the Board wisely decided that it was not sufficient just to prevent trees being felled unnecessarily, and they embarked upon a modest policy of acquiring derelict and run-down woodlands of outstanding scenic importance which have ceased to be an economic proposition to their owners. These are treated on an amenity basis, and felling and restocking is carried out to produce again living woodlands of indigenous character.

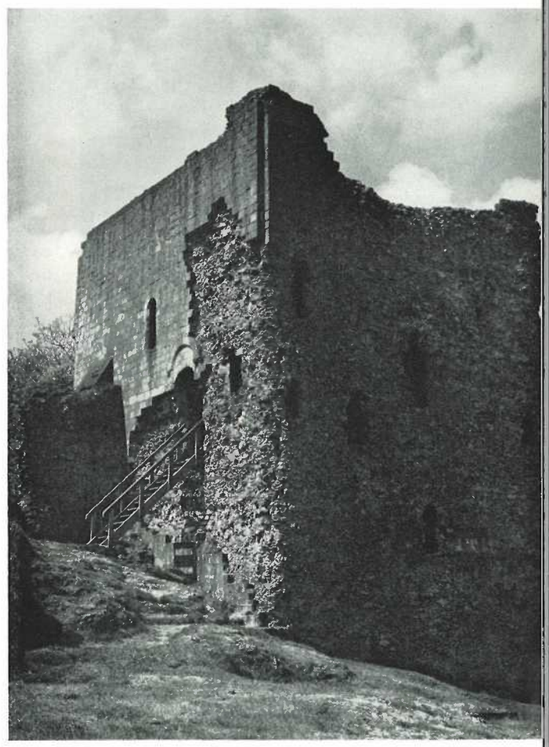
A vitally important part of landscape care is the removal or screening of eyesores. Unfortunately this is expensive, and to keep expenditure down various devices have been adopted. Industrialists have been persuaded to use their own heavy equipment to demolish derelict buildings on their land, service departments have been shamed into clearing some of the litter of buildings left behind after the last war, and parties of volunteers have been organized to help to clear up old derelict sites. The Board itself has paid for the demolition and clearance of some sites, and has carried out a number of tree-planting schemes on old industrial dumps.

In the work of landscape care and improvement, however, no national park authority is doing more than dabbling with the major problem. What is required in all the parks is a broad and comprehensive survey of the landscape, from the results of which can be picked out the problem spots to be dealt with in a comprehensive fashion.

The Board's other job—that of helping the visitor—includes providing (a) overnight accommodation and places of refreshment, (b) caravan and camping sites, (c) car parks and lay-bys, (d) public access to the hills and moors, and (e) information and publicity services. These measures involve substantial public expenditure, and while Government grants to meet up to seventy-five percent of their cost are available, during the periods of financial stringency which have beset the country during the past decade nothing like enough has been done.

Of all the national parks none has the pressure of day visitors experienced by the Peak District on summer weekends. Closely surrounded by the teeming industrial centers of the north midlands of England, people flock into the national park on fine days, using every form of transport from stout walking shoes to expensive motor cars. More than half the population of England and Wales—well over twenty million people—are within two hours' ride by train, bus or car of the national park. This pressure of use raised in places the problem—already well-known in some of the American national parks—of how to help people enjoy the out-of-doors while ensuring that they do not literally wear away the very attractiveness which brings them.

The Peak Board has just a little to show for its efforts in this sphere. Three major car parks have been built at important visitor centers, and fourteen lay-bys have been constructed at particularly fine viewpoints. A property bought last year at Edale, on the fringe of the high moorland country, has been converted into a field center with information rooms, warden service accommodation, and a highly successful public camping site. A caravan park for forty caravans is being constructed near a popular village, and an old



At right, the keep of Peveril Castle, an ancient Norman stronghold standing high above the village of Castleton in the Hope Valley, within the Peak Park. Peveril Castle now forms the centerpiece of the Peak Park emblem.

Readers of this magazine have been able to follow, over the years, the progress and problems of England's first national park through the writings of Planning Officer Foster. His first article appeared in NPM for July-September, 1953, shortly after establishment of the park; the second, in the magazine for January-March, 1955. A limited number of these back issues are available from the National Parks Association at $2.00 per copy.

building is being leased for conversion into a hostel on the Pennine Way, the tough high-level walking route—like the Appalachian Trail—which traverses the northern part of the park on its long way to the Scottish border.

While the designation of an area as a national park in England and Wales does not automatically give the public any greater rights, in the Peak District there exists a specially long and difficult history of private and closely-guarded grouse moors. Consequently the Peak Board, much more than any other national park authority in the country, has used the powers in the National Parks Act to make access agreements with moorland owners. These agreements give the public the right to walk on the moorlands provided that they observe by-laws for good behavior. Today eleven access agreements exist, covering forty-two square miles of the finest moorland walking country in the southern Pennines, and a stage has now been reached when landowners are coming forward offering to make agreements rather than having to be sought out and persuaded to do so.

To enforce the by-laws and give guidance and advice to walkers, a warden service has been built up. This had a nucleus of two full-time and, at present, twenty part-time wardens, supplemented by many volunteers from nearby towns and cities, who give their services freely to the Board on weekends for patrolling the hills. For some years, too, a mountain search and rescue unit has been maintained; and recently, also at Edale, a public ski run was opened and is proving highly successful in the right snow conditions.

The national park public relations job is twofold. Firstly, it is vitally important to secure and hold the confidence of the 43,000 local people to whom the 542 square miles of the Peak District National Park is home and work-place. A healthy local economy, and particularly a thriving agriculture, are of paramount importance to the success of the national park for, above all else, it is not a museum piece. Secondly, visitors must understand that because the area is a national park it does not automatically follow that access everywhere is free to everyone, and one of the most important tasks in this field is to get the townman to understand and respect the countryman's point of view and his way of life.

The Board runs, with part-time staff, two static information centers—one in Edale and the other in Buxton, an important holiday resort just outside the park. A specially built caravan is also used as a combined exhibition and information center which visits local events and popular villages. This caravan attracted more than 20,000 visitors through it during 1961. An exhibition on easily transportable screens also tours the countryside and the nearby towns, telling people about the park and the work of the Board.

The information centers and exhibitions are important points for distributing publications about the park, and the Board has now available an official guidebook, a book giving information about accommodation available, and leaflets on aspects of visitor interest.

Education for the Future

The Board values particularly highly its contacts with schools, especially those in the towns and cities outside the national park. At the information center at Edale last year alone, more than a thousand school children and students were met and talked to about the park. No opportunity is missed of getting over to young people what the park is, what it has to offer them, and how they should look after it.

It is not easy to sum up what has been achieved in the Peak during the first ten years. Clearly not enough has been done, and this is certainly true of that part of the Board's work concerned with providing accommodation and other facilities for visitors. A total annual expenditure varying from £13,000 ($36.5 thousand) in 1952 to £50,000 ($140.5 thousand) in 1961 obviously cannot include capital works on any major scale. However, if the material comforts of visitors have not been extensively provided for, something has been done to insure that their enjoyment of the magnificent scenery around them is not reduced by the scars of Subtopia which are elsewhere so widespread today.

The needs of the visitors, important though they are, can be provided in the future; but the integrity of the landscape, once lost through ill-considered development, can never be replaced. Now that the Board's administration has been built up and its ideas moulded into a unified policy, the next ten years should see a welcome expansion of activity into the sphere of making better provision for visitors. ■

Voluntary wardens of the Park Planning Board's warden service set out on park patrol across a log bridge at Edale. Bridge is starting point for the Pennine Way, 250-mile mountain trail which runs northward to the Scottish border.

Trapped by the high wall of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in south-central Colorado, sand from the San Luis Valley has piled up in great dunes that sprawl for ten miles along the base of the range. The dune area is preserved in Great Sand Dunes National Monument, some twenty-five miles northeast of the town of Alamosa.

Great Sand Dunes National Monument

As Recorded by Peter A. Appleton, of Denver, Colorado

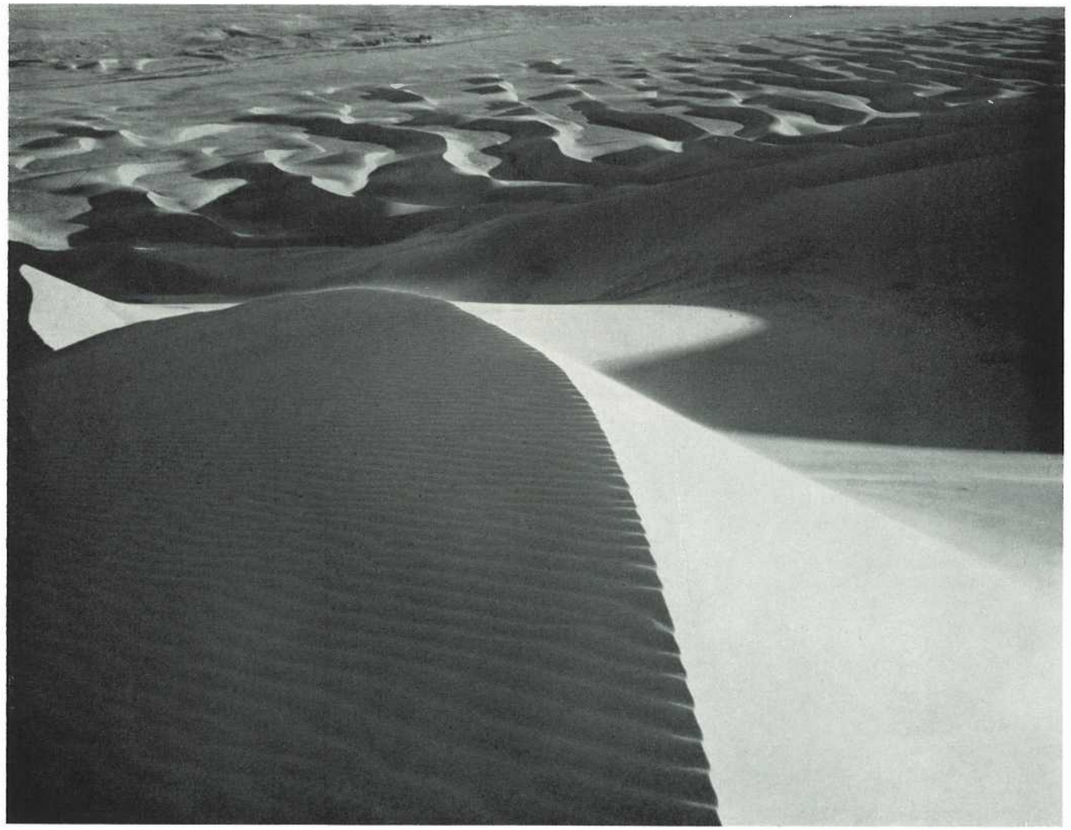
South of Central Colorado, the high peaks of the Rocky Mountains march south into New Mexico along the rugged summit of the Sangre de Cristo Range. Miles to the west lies the San Juan Range of southwestern Colorado; between the two mountain masses is the semi-arid expanse of the San Luis Valley.

The winds that blow across the valley come mostly from the southwest, scouring up sandy earth and carrying it toward the Sangre de Cristos. But the base of the high range is a trap for flying sand; as the wind is slowed by the mountain front, its carrying power diminishes and its load is dropped. This great sand-trap has accumulated the most spectacular dunes in the United States, some up to 600 feet deep. Here, among the ever-shifting crests and miniature valleys, there is quiet beauty, and a fierce struggle for survival among the few plants which are adapted to a precarious existence among the dunes.

(Photo story continued on pages 12 and 13)

Medano Creek, a wide, shallow stream which flows along the eastern foot of the dunes, provides a desert "beach" for visitors to Great Sand Dunes National Monument. Flowing from the Sangre de Cristo Range, the waters of the creek eventually sink into the sand near the southwestern edge of the dunes.

Lack of moisture and the continuous motion of the sand among the dunes is reflected in a sparse vegetation. In certain protected pockets, however, small patches of grass and a species of low pea plant (shown at the right) are able to secure a foothold. In the constant struggle to avoid burial in the shifting dune-surfaces, the plants are likely to develop abnormally long stems.



As winds sweep upward along the slopes of the dunes, beautiful sand crescents are formed. In the background, several dunes provide a multiple pattern of light and shadow.

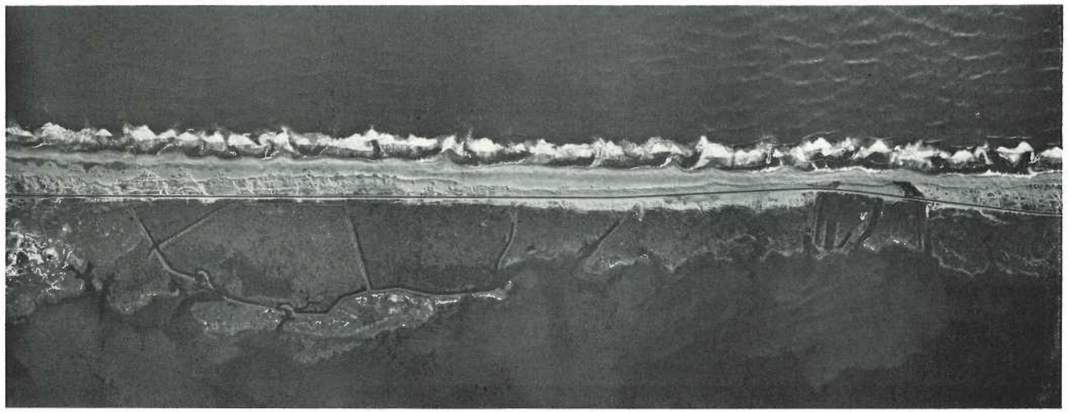
Cape Hatteras Seashore Battered by March Storm

THROUGHOUT THE RECENT GEOLOGIC PAST, the Atlantic Ocean has been nibbling at the unconsolidated sands and gravels of the Eastern seaboard from Massachusetts to Florida, moving and spreading captured material over the shallow continental shelf grain by grain in times of calm, in vast amount during times of storm—eating, shifting, building, destroying, always moving and working.

The wave-built spits, bars, and sandy islands built by the ocean are perhaps the least permanent of the East Coast's geological features. People build homes, roads and recreational facilities on them; but the foundations of all are in sand, and the sand moves with the mood of the Atlantic.

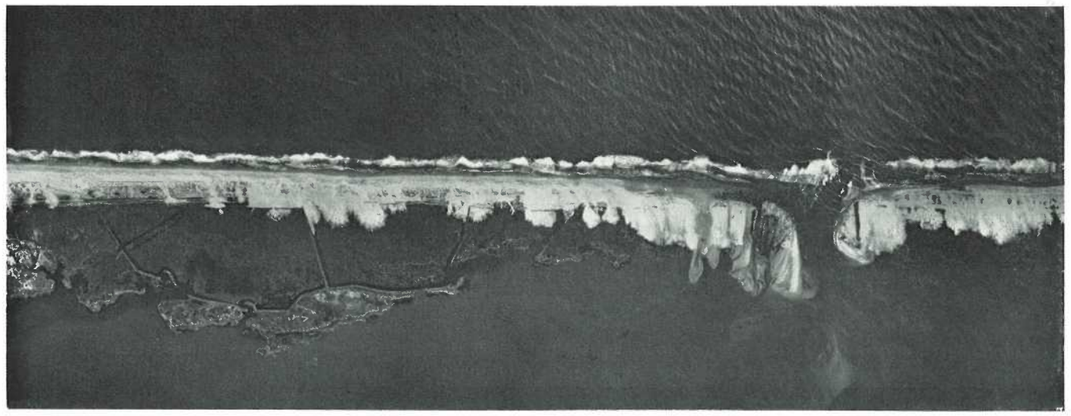
The great storm which hovered for several days off the Atlantic seaboard during early March made radical changes in the aspect of the coastline from New York to South Carolina. The more subtle of nature's alterations will not be fully appreciated for months to come. But in one area of particular interest to readers of this magazine—the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area—the changes were far from subtle. This park is essentially an elongated offshore sandbar broken into islands by tidal inlets. After the storm, Hatteras Island had been broken by at least one new inlet. Park Service campgrounds on each side of Oregon Inlet, which separates Hatteras Island from Bodie Island, were destroyed; roads were partially or wholly covered or destroyed; barrier dunes along the islands largely levelled; and, as this is written, the Park Service estimates damage to beaches and facilities at not less than two million dollars. ◆

The first photograph below shows a strip of Hatteras Island, in Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area just north of the village of Buxton, as it appeared from the air in October, 1958. The left side of the photo is north; Atlantic Ocean at top; Pamlico Sound is at the bottom. The highway which is visible as a black line in the photograph is North Carolina State Route 158.



Photographs by courtesy Coast and Geodetic Survey

Below: the same area photographed immediately after the storm by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, March 13, 1962.



Your National Parks Association at Work

Subcommittee Hears Public on Canyon Lands Park

During the closing days of March, the Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs held hearings in Washington, D.C., on a bill (*S. 2387, substitute,* by Senator Moss of Utah) which would establish a Canyon Lands National Park around the confluence of the Green and Colorado Rivers in south-central Utah.

Among those submitting their recommendations regarding the bill, upon invitation, was Anthony Wayne Smith, a specialist in natural resources management and executive secretary of the National Parks Association.

While applauding the general purpose of the bill—that of bringing a needed and well qualified new area into the national park system—Mr. Smith found it necessary to recommend against the reporting or passage of the Moss measure in its present form. He drew the attention of the subcommittee to a number of provisions in *S. 2387, substitute* which would breach the standards of park policy.

One such provision in the contemplated legislation, said Mr. Smith, is that which provides that any program for the management of the wildlife population within proposed Canyon Lands Park would have to be developed jointly by the Utah Department of Fish and Game and the National Park Service, and recommended to the Governor of Utah and the Secretary of the Interior for their joint approval. Such a provision would, noted Mr. Smith, actually place a veto power over Federal management of Federal lands in the hands of the Utah State Game Commission and the Governor of Utah. No discretion would be permitted the Secretary of the Interior or the Director of the National Park Service to control excess mammalian populations through the use of park personnel. Such work, under provisions of the bill, would be done by outside hunters licensed by the State of Utah, Mr. Smith pointed out.

Another objectionable provision of the bill, in Mr. Smith's opinion, is that which would permit continued mining and mineral exploration within the park. All existing mining rights are confirmed under the bill, he noted, and no time limit is placed on mining activities.

Yet another unsatisfactory provision of *S. 2387, substitute,* in Mr. Smith's view, is a section dealing with the renewal of grazing privileges in proposed Canyon Lands Park. Under the bill, he pointed out, it would be possible for grazing privileges to continue in effect for 80 years or more.

Forest Service Replies to Association Protest

The April issue of *National Parks Magazine* carried the text of a letter (page 16) from NPA Executive Secretary Anthony Wayne Smith to Dr. Richard E. McArdle, then chief of the Forest Service, expressing the Association's concern over the growing use of motor scooters on national forest trails.

In his letter to Dr. McArdle, Mr. Smith also requested the opportunity to meet with Dr. McArdle, in company with representatives from several other interested conservation organizations, for a more detailed discussion of the matter.

The request was granted and the meeting held; subsequently, however, Dr. McArdle announced his voluntary retirement from the Government service (see news item on page 16, this issue); he was succeeded by Edward P. Cliff, an assistant chief of the Forest Service.

On March 21, Mr. Cliff replied to Mr. Smith's letter in his capacity as chief of the Forest Service. Mr. Cliff's reply appears in full below; editorial comment on its contents will appear in this magazine for June, 1962.

Dear Tony:

We were very glad to have the opportunity to discuss with you and others the Forest Service policy on cross-country motorized travel and motorized travel on trails on the National Forests. It is always worthwhile for us to get the views of people who are sincerely interested in national forest management, and we appreciate your taking the time to let us know how you feel about this important phase of national forest management.

We all recognize that this is an important and growing problem which we will have to handle effectively. The subject was actively discussed at the recent Regional Foresters meeting where agreement was reached that more thought and closer supervision to this activity was needed. There was also agreement reached that the principle of public safety on trails deserved an important place in policy determination on the subject.

For the present, we will continue to operate under the policy as expressed in the Forest Service Manual, copies of which you have, but we will try to give this policy closer supervision and will be constantly on the alert to possible changes necessary to insure public safety and adequate protection of land, resources, and uses.

We are sending a copy of this letter to the other organizations which were represented at this meeting.

EDWARD P. CLIFF, Chief

Problem in the Arctic

Project Chariot is a scheme of the Atomic Energy Commission to excavate, with atomic bombs, a harbor on the Alaskan coast some miles southeast of the Eskimo village of Point Hope, above the Arctic Circle where the westernmost flanks of the wild Brooks Range reach toward salt water.

The need for the experiment has never been explained to the satisfaction of many, although the operation has been advertised as a step toward the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, and would thus not seem to need the cloak of great secrecy.

It has been said that such an artificially created harbor would provide an outlet for the supposed mineral wealth of northwestern Alaska. This terrain, however, is as yet little known, geologically speaking, and the waters of the coast at this point are perpetually frozen save for some ninety days of the year.

It has also been said that the project would bring much new money into the economy of Alaska.

But the Eskimos of the area, whose lives would be disrupted and whose health could be endangered by the experiment have protested the plan. The land chosen for the site of the explosions is in the heart of Eskimo hunting and fishing territory; and the Eskimos subsist almost wholly by hunting and fishing. The natural biological cycle, in which plants and animals are linked in a closed chain, brings the possibility of radioactive contamination directly to the Eskimos of the region.

Conservationists have protested the proposed experiment as serving no economic purpose; as tending to pose a serious moral problem in our dealings with an inoffensive and voiceless people; and as contributing uselessly to the world's already ample heritage of radioactive debris.

If you feel that this experiment is not well advised you may write to Glenn T. Seaborg, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Washington 25, D.C., and state your views.

News Briefs From the Conservation World

Park Service Appointments

Two recent Park Service appointments have provided superintendents for Mount Rainier National Park in Washington and the Cape Cod National Seashore Project.

In Mount Rainier, John A. Rutter has been promoted to superintendent to succeed Preston P. Macy, recently retired from the Service; Mr. Rutter has been assistant superintendent at Mount Rainier for several years.

Robert F. Gibbs, superintendent of both Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreation Area, on the Outer Banks of North Carolina's coast, and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, has been appointed superintendent of the Cape Cod National Seashore Project, which eventually will become the Cape Cod National Seashore when sufficient acreage has been acquired to constitute an administrable park area.

National Parks Director Conrad L. Wirth has indicated that Mr. Gibbs will be responsible for coordinating project activities such as administration and protection of the future Seashore and planning for facilities and services.

Garden Club of America Adds to Redwood Grove

In accordance with its continuing policy of purchasing inholdings and fringe areas to round out California's Redwood State Parks wherever possible, the Save the Redwoods League, of San Francisco, has recently purchased forty acres of privately owned land in the heart of the Garden Club of America Grove, in Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

The land, acquired at a cost of $33,000, lies on the headwaters of Canoe Creek in a beautiful park-like basin. On it, there is a stand of exceptionally large, tall redwoods intermingled with Douglas fir which a professional timber cruiser has estimated to contain 1,421,000 board feet, mill cut, of redwood and 344,000 board feet of Douglas fir. The forty-acre, square tract is surrounded on three sides by the Garden Club of America Grove. Privately owned land adjoins it on the fourth side.

Contributions by members of the Garden Club of America in recent years to a fund for the purchase of additional redwoods to round out the grove, totalling $16,617, were used toward acquisition of the tract. The Save the Redwoods League advanced the balance from its land fund.

The forty-acre purchase increases the Garden Club of America Grove to 3760 acres, leaving 1600 acres to be purchased to acquire the entire Canoe Creek watershed to protect the grove from erosion in time of flood.

The Garden Club of America Grove is adjoined on the north by the famous Rockefeller Forest, which sustained severe damage by floods in the winter of 1955 and in 1956. On the south, it is adjoined by the Children's Forest, a 1750-acre grove. These three groves, with the nearby "Avenue of the Giants" and a number of memorial groves, comprise the Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

The new land purchase is only the latest instance in the long history of Garden Club of America interest in saving some of California's redwoods—an interest which started at the annual meeting of the Club in Seattle in 1930. At that time, the Club decided to raise funds for the purchase of a grove, and later that year it presented $91,634 to the State of California to assist in purchasing the redwood grove on the south fork of the Eel River which now bears its name, and which was dedicated in 1934.

Dr. Richard E. McArdle

Chief of Forest Service Retires

During the early part of March, the Department of Agriculture announced the voluntary retirement of Dr. Richard E. McArdle as chief of the U. S. Forest Service. Dr. McArdle, 63, has been Chief Forester for the past ten years and has spent the better part of a lifetime in the Government service. He is a native of Lexington, Kentucky, and a graduate of the University of Michigan; he has accumulated, during a 39-year career in the public service, innumerable awards and honors in forestry and general conservation.

Dr. McArdle has been succeeded as Chief Forester by Edward P. Cliff, native of Heber City, Utah, a career forester who since 1952 has been Assistant Chief of the Forest Service in charge of National Forest Resource Management.

Canada Announces Six New Migratory Bird Refuges

Canada's Department of Northern Affairs and Natural Resources has announced the establishment of six new migratory bird sanctuaries in the western Canadian Arctic. The sanctuaries, ranging in size from about one square mile to more than 24,000 square miles, were established for protection of migratory birds and their habitat from the anticipated effects of increased mineral exploration in the Far North. Among the birds thus afforded greater protection are several species of geese, and whistling swans, ducks, shore birds, and in one case a colony of murres.

The hunting of big game animals in the reservations by Indians and Eskimos will not be affected, it was stated; however, sled dogs will not be allowed to run at large in the areas while migratory birds are present. The new refuges and their areas in square miles are: Kendall Island, in the MacKenzie River Delta (234); Anderson River, near the mouth of Anderson River (418); Cape Parry, along the Amundsen Gulf coast of Cape Parry (1); Queen Maude Gulf (24,240); Banks Island #1, southwest parts of Banks Island between coast and Bernard River (7922); Banks Island #2, Thomsen River and Castel Bay (55).

Public Land Use Sesquicentennial Observed

To assist in the 1962 commemoration of the 150th anniversary of public land management and the 100th anniversaries of the Homestead Act, Land Grant College Act, and Land Grant Transcontinental Railroad Act, a new national association was recently formed.

The Public Domain Sesquicentennial Commission—representing all major land users as well as outdoor, wildlife, and allied groups concerned with public lands and resources conservation—will work with the Department of the Interior and its Bureau of Land Management. Speaking in behalf of the Interior Department, Secretary Stewart L. Udall said: "We welcome the interest and cooperation of the new Commission, and we also welcome the interest of all the general public during 1962, when we celebrate the 150th anniversary of our Federal system of public land management, and other important land anniversaries."

The Steering Committee of the new Commission is under the chairmanship of C. R. "Pink" Gutermuth, vice-president of the Wildlife Management Institute, of Washington, D.C. Among other prominent conservationists represented on the Steering Committee are Dr. Clarence Cottam, president of the National Parks Association; Howard Zahniser, executive Secretary of the Wilderness Society; Carl W. Buchheister, president of the National Audubon Society, and Joseph W. Penfold, conservation director of the Izaak Walton League of America.

Campers and Hikers National Convention Date Set

One of the year's outstanding events for American campers will take place this summer during the week of July 7-14, when the National Campers and Hikers Association holds its national convention at Indian Falls Lake near Batavia, New York. Here campers from all over the country will meet friends made in the field, examine the latest items of camping equipment, and help new campers with problems.

According to the Association, members from all parts of the United States, as well as a representation from Canada, will be in attendance; chairmen of the event are Jerome and Faith Bayer, of Lancaster, New York. Information concerning both the convention and the Association and its activities may be obtained from Louise Martin Hess, National Publicity Director, National Campers and Hikers Association, Box 451, Orange, New Jersey.

A Proposed Addition to Craters of the Moon

A recent report from Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall's office has recommended enactment of pending legislation which would add 5361 acres to Craters of the Moon National Monument, in the lava-bed country of Idaho. The proposed enlargement would bring within Monument boundaries a tract of land containing a *kipuka*, or island of land completely surrounded by a relatively recent lava flow. Such biological "islands" may be of great interest, scenically, and especially scientifically; they may preserve the floral associations of a terrain before its inundation by lava.

Secretary Udall has pointed out that Craters of the Moon does not presently possess such a physiographic oddity. He noted that, because of the extremely rough character of most of the proposed addition—consisting largely of a broken and jagged "recent" lava flow—its enclosed *kipuka* has remained virtually untouched by man or his livestock.

National Capital Parks Becomes Region Six

National Capital Parks, the unit of the national park system which has jurisdiction over some 780 park units of all descriptions in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, has been given the status of Region Six in the park system.

Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth has pointed out that the administration and operation of the parks program in the Federal District has reached a point where a parks organization of more efficiency has become necessary. Visitor figures for the Washington area have shown continual increase during the past few years, Director Wirth has noted; the 1961 visitor count alone jumped almost three-quarters of a million over the preceding year.

Designated Director of Region Six was T. Sutton Jett, formerly superintendent of National Capital Parks; Robert C. Horne, formerly senior assistant superintendent, was named associate regional director.

Winter Count Showed 38 Cranes at Aransas

Thirty-eight whooping cranes were present at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge on the coast of Texas during the winter past, according to a U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service survey; two more than were counted during the winter of 1960-1961, and the largest number of the rare birds to make the long flight south from Wood Buffalo Park, in northern Canada, since record-keeping commenced in 1938.

The winter flock of whoopers at Aransas consisted of thirty-three adults and five young. With the addition of the eight birds that are presently in captivity—seven in the New Orleans Zoo and another at San Antonio, Texas—there are now forty-six whoopers in existence.

In reporting on the whooping crane and its fight for survival, the Fish and Wildlife Service has noted an outstanding example of cooperation on the part of goose-hunters during the fall migratory season a few years ago. At that time, says the Service, hundreds of goose-hunters in Nebraska refused to shoot at a large flock of migrating geese because two whooping cranes were part of the flight. Cooperation of this kind among hunters and those concerned with preserving wildlife should assure salvation for the country's small whooping crane population, the Service added.

NEW MEXICO BIRDS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM. By J. Stokley Ligon. The University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, New Mexico. 1961. 360 pages, illustrated in black and white and with 34 color plates. $8.50.

State bird books are as varied as they are numerous. They range from complete guidebooks, exemplified by Forbush's *Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States*, to distribution studies such as Stewart and Robbins' *Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia*. The Forbush classic provides minutely detailed descriptions, magnificent color plates, and much information about the habits and distribution of each species. Completed in 1929, the work is out of print and its three large volumes now bring about $50 a set. The Maryland treatise restricts itself to a thorough analysis of the occurrence of birds in the State, refers its users to other books for such things as descriptions and illustrations, and comes from the Government Printing Office for $1.75. Each of these books has its special value; comparison would be meaningless.

The present volume by the late Mr. Ligon fits about midway of this pattern. It contains written descriptions of each species, a limited number of pictures, a smattering of remarks about habits, and an ambitious presentation of bird distribution and nesting in New Mexico (but, alas, no maps). There is an excellent chapter on bird finding by localities—an elaboration of the chapter which the author contributed to Pettingill's *A Guide to Bird Finding*. A welcome feature of the introduction is a series of biographies and portraits of pioneer ornithologists of the Southwest.

Appreciation of *New Mexico Birds* will, obviously, vary with the reader's requirements. One who remembers the monumental *Birds of New Mexico* (1928) by Florence Merriam Bailey, long out of print, will doubtless be disappointed. A bird book collector who likes oversize prestige publications, breath-taking new color plates and a shocking purchase price will sniff at this one. Some may dislike its two-column format, reminiscent of *National Geographic*. But the book brings up to date much useful ornithological information. For the New Mexico resident intent on pursuing knowledge of his own State's birds, and for the serious visitor who values a species-by-species record of birds in relation to the terrain, this well-intentioned work has much to offer. —*Orville Crowder*

THE CONTINENT WE LIVE ON. By Ivan T. Sanderson. Random House, 457 Madison Avenue, New York City 22. 1961. 300 pages with 235 photographs in color and black and white. $20.00.

As a publisher's tour de force, this massive volume (its pages measure 9½ x 12½ inches) is perhaps one of the most impressive of recent years. Illustrated profusely with the very finest photographs of American flora, fauna, and scenery—the gravure color work by Conzett & Huber of Zurich must be called superb—the book takes the reader on a pleasant natural history tour of North America, beginning in the Arctic, crisscrossing the United States, and ending in Mexico.

Mr. Sanderson's accompanying text is quite adequate and satisfying, if not inspired. There are, however, a number of rather annoying errors of fact or terminology in the writing; for example, readers of this magazine will be surprised to find a Glacier Bay National Park in the park system (page 60), and will be further surprised to find that Glacier Bay National Monument, the area obviously under reference, has shrunk to 230,000 acres from its original 2.27 millions. There are also a number of points of natural history made which would probably not find wide support among students of the various fields—especially those of geology and glaciology.

The book is the outgrowth of a 50,000-mile tour of the continent by the author, who has a fine feeling for nature and the out-of-doors. It is a volume that conservationists could not fail to enjoy even if, at the listed price, they might not feel inclined to wholly comply with the publisher's suggestion, as seen by the reviewer in an advertisement for the book, and "order some copies now."

—*Paul Tilden*

WESTERN CAMPSITE DIRECTORY—1962. Sunset Book Staff of the Lane Book Company, Menlo Park, California. 1962. 112 pages, illustrated in black and white. With maps. $1.75.

A valuable aid for the ever-growing number of camping enthusiasts who are drawn to the American West each summer. The popularity of past editions of this book has resulted in plans by the publisher for annual revisions of the comprehensive, well-designed and useful volume.

FAMILY CAMPING. By the Sunset Book Staff of the Lane Book Company, Menlo Park, California. 1962. 128 pages, illustrated with black and white photographs and how-to-do pictures. $1.75.

Primarily for those seeking camping comfort, this volume treats exhaustively of the many ways in which family camping can be made more pleasurable. It, and the same publisher's *Western Campsite Directory* (already described) contain about all the camping family need know about the pleasant art of camping comfortably.

The Editorial Page continued from page 2

sands of people invested money in lots; perhaps two dozen houses were built, half of which were washed away, the remainder seriously damaged; it seems probable that lot owners will welcome an opportunity to retrieve their investment by sale to the Government for a seashore or a refuge; those wishing to remain could sell their development rights. The proposed bridge from the mainland, always a fantastic project, may now be abandoned. Most conservationists will feel that this is the time for vigorous public action along these lines.

Fire Island, bordering the southern edge of Long Island, New York, has been isolated by inlets cut by the storm. This is one of our last remaining wild seashores, once recommended by the National Park Service as a New York State park. Ambitious developers in plenty have eyed Fire Island, but may not be over-enthusiastic at the moment; many persons concerned with our coastal recreational resources will incline toward a national seashore on Fire Island.

Parts of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area have also been isolated again by inlets, and existing bridges and roads in the area largely wrecked. Until very recently, Hatteras Island and its indigenous communities were accessible only by water. There is no reason why access can not be provided for people, freight, and vehicles, in the future as in the more distant past, by boat. This would protect the seashore against the vast overcrowding which will otherwise be its fate before long. We urge the Park Service to adopt a water access policy for Hatteras, and sink no more public funds in roads and bridges. —*A.W.S.*

A Significant Victory

CONSERVATIONISTS, WITH THIS ASSOciation well in the lead, may justly claim a notable success in having compelled the Highway Department of the District of Columbia to abandon its plans to construct a four-lane divided highway through the Glover-Archbold Park in the city of Washington.

The Park consists of land donated to the District by Charles C. Glover and Anne Archbold for use as a park. Its spaciousness, its quietude, and its residue of the natural outdoor environment comprise beauty and wealth of a kind which our big cities can no longer afford to sacrifice to the conveniences of traffic.

Some three years ago, the bulldozers were getting ready to move in, and the donors filed suit for an injunction; the Association asked leave to submit a brief and argue in opposition as a friend of the court; other groups of residents and conservationists followed suit and petitioned to intervene as parties. Judge Burnita S. Matthews in the U. S. District Court promptly granted the Association's request and later admitted the other groups, refusing to dismiss the complaint.

The case would have come up for trial that fall, except that meanwhile Senator Paul Douglas of Illinois led a magnificent fight in Congress to prohibit the construction of any throughways in that part of the city for some five years.

Nonetheless, the District kept its highway plans on its drawingboards and indicated its intention to proceed with construction after the expiration of the freeze. The contemplated new Three Sisters Island Bridge was planned to discharge traffic into an interchange connecting with Glover-Archbold.

A great public outcry ensued. Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield introduced legislation to transfer the Park to the National Park Service for protection. Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall expressed support. Eventually the District publicly backed down. The most recent plans for the interchange contain no connections into the Park. We congratulate the District on its prudence and the defenders of the Park on their determination and effectiveness. Most conservationists will support transfer to the Service, and will favor retention in completely roadless condition.

The road builders are now muttering about putting the speedway across Rock Creek Park instead. This is the old technique of trying first here, and then there. We suggest that a lesson once learned the hard way should be retained in the mind.

Important as Glover-Archbold Park is in itself, this victory has a wider significance. The parks in our big cities may soon be regarded as the most precious possession of the inhabitants of those cities. Overcrowding is one of the two or three greatest dangers to civilization in the urban-industrial economy. Our exploding traffic problems are but one aspect of that overcrowding; ill-conceived attempts at their solution must not be allowed to destroy the remaining open spaces, and particularly the parks, which are our last-ditch defense against intolerable congestion. —*A.W.S.*

Poison for the Green River

A PROGRAM WHICH RICHLY MERITS the condemnation and protest of conservationists, scientists, and laymen alike is that presently contemplated by the Fish and Game Departments of the States of Wyoming and Utah: the eradication, by poisoning, of the native fish populations, and the carp, of some 475 miles of the Green River and its tributaries in the two States. The fishes to be eliminated are those known to sports fishermen as "rough" or "trash" fish; they would be replaced by exotics like rainbow trout and kokanee salmon.

Among the interesting native fishes slated for the poison treatment are the squawfish which, sometimes attaining five-foot length, is the largest of the American minnows; the humpback chub, and several species of suckers. Doomed also would be those members of the Green River's aquatic organisms susceptible to a heavy dose of rotenone.

It should be noted that the stretch of river scheduled for this rather shocking treatment is but a few miles above Dinosaur National Monument; scientists who have studied the situation can give no guarantee that aquatic life within that great scenic and scientific reservation will not be adversely affected. —*P.M.T.*

✶ Those wishing to express an opinion about this poisoning program, scheduled for September, 1962, should write the Hon. Jack R. Gage, Governor of Wyoming, State House, Cheyenne, Wyoming; and the Hon. George D. Clyde, Governor of Utah, State House, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Merriam's Chipmunk
Portola State Park, California
Photograph by James H. Erickson