

# NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION



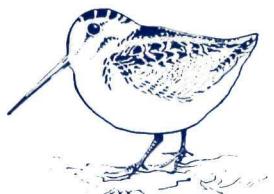
SCHOODIC PENINSULA—Page 27

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*The true sportsmen of the world are the men who once were keen in the stubble or on the trail, but who have been halted by the general slaughter and the awful decrease of game. Many of them, long before a hair has turned gray, have hung up their guns forever, and turned to the camera. These are the men who are willing . . . to go to the firing line at their state capitols, to lock horns with the bull-headed killers of wildlife who recognize no check or limit save the law.*

—WILLIAM T. HORNADAY.



# NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

Published quarterly by  
The National Parks Association

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

1214 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

DEVEREUX BUTCHER, Editor

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OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1948

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

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The North Fork of the Flathead River forms the west boundary of Glacier National Primeval Park. A dam built here would flood 19,460 acres inside the park, destroying virgin forests and the wintering grounds of white-tailed deer, mule deer and moose.

## EDITORIAL

# GLACIER VIEW DAM

LAST SPRING, when the Columbia River went on a rampage, newspaper headlines blazed, and radio commentators screamed the horrors of the flood and the wreckage of habitations and farm lands. The reporting was like most other reporting when rivers overflow their banks, in that there was practically no mention of the cause of the flood.

If newspapers had blazed with black headlines a decade or so ago, warning of the wreckage of forests and natural vegetation taking place on the mountains of the Columbia River watershed, and urged that care be used in logging operations there, public opinion might have been aroused sufficiently to take steps that would have lessened the violence of the flood of last spring.

Just as surely as day follows night, this flood disaster, as have previous ones, is likely to be followed by an increased urge to build dams "to control future floods." But dams, at best, are only a temporary means for controlling floods. In a sense, building dams for flood control is like "closing the barn door after the horse has gotten out." The water, when it has reached the dam, has already escaped from the upper slopes, where it should have been held and allowed to seep into the soil. It is now racing down the mountain sides, across the farms, depositing topsoil in the lakes behind the dams, so that eventually the lakes become filled, and the dams are no longer able to hold back flood waters.

Efforts to effect flood control must start on the land, not down in the river bed. It is important that people everywhere learn this. But the engineers, who wish to build the dams, are adept at promoting their business; while the tax-paying public, to whom the primary cause of floods is not apparent,

is persuaded to continue blindly to pay the bills.

In the case of last spring's Columbia River flood, a sudden warm spell sent water racing down mountain sides at an unusually rapid rate; yet, had these mountain slopes not been logged so severely, the flood would have been much less serious. The U. S. Forest Service, after serious studies of conditions on the Columbia watershed, issued a report containing the following statement:

"The major flood waters that inundated Vanport, parts of Portland and other cities, were caused by extraordinary weather conditions prevailing over most of the basin. However, the watershed technicians found ample evidence that damage to lands, improvements and property would have been far less severe, and that considerable water would have been held back until after the flood peaks passed, if millions of upland acres in the basin had not been previously deprived of their forest cover."

Among the dams now proposed to be built on the Columbia River watershed, Glacier View Dam is one that would seriously affect a great national park. It is suggested that this dam be built on the north fork of the Flathead River, which forms the western boundary of Glacier National Primeval Park. As reported in the July-September issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, page 35, a hearing was held on the project last May at Kalispell, Montana. At the hearings, Mr. Olaus J. Murie, Director of The Wilderness Society, made an excellent statement on behalf of the Society, at the same time, representing the National Parks Association. Concerning the hearing, Mr. Murie writes us as follows:

"Col. L. H. Hewitt, of the U. S. Army Engineers, conducted the hearing. Approximately forty statements were made in opposition to the dam; three were neutral, while only nine were for construction. As explained by the engineers, the purpose of the dam is primarily for flood control and power. Irrigation appears to be minor in this instance. One of the reasons given for the dam is the need to move industries back from the coast where they would be less vulnerable to enemy attack.

"It was pointed out by the several witnesses, including the National Park Service, that a dam at the proposed site would destroy the winter range of a large percentage of the park's larger mammals by flooding many acres of their winter range in the Flathead River lowlands. The Montana Game Department was among the objectors to the proposed dam site, because of the destruction of elk, white-tailed deer and moose that would result.

"A splendid presentation was made by Winton Weydemeyer, who has a ranch in the area. He spoke for the Montana State Grange. Mr. Weydemeyer stressed the importance of flood prevention by watershed management.

"From the strong opposition, it may seem that the conservationists have overwhelming support for the preservation of Glacier National Park boundaries; but let us remember the tremendous power of commercial enterprise. Let us note that when the Army Engineers have reached the point where they are ready to hold a public hearing, a project is well on its way. It already has been given a name; and it is recognized as a full-fledged plan approved by the engineers, who have already obtained much support. True, they point out the many steps necessary for final approval—that their blueprints must be approved by such government agencies and passed by Congress. This is all very democratic; but we know from experience that when a plan is offered at a public hearing, the psychological and political effect is such that the conservationists, who wish to safeguard existing values threatened by the plan, find two strikes against them. Witness the long-drawn controversy over Lake Solitude in the Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming.

"As we have so often urged, the wilderness preservationist and the recreationist should take part with the construction engineer in the early stages of planning. It is not fair to the

American people to have one agency, specialized for a single function, assume responsibility for important alterations of the surface of the earth, and then give other agencies merely a chance to hunt flaws in its plan. This is one way to give unequal representation in a democracy. Conservationists have a hard fight ahead. Never before has the future appeared so ominous as far as wilderness and nature preservation are concerned. Never before has there been so great a need for concerted effort to keep the earth a good place in which to live."

Newton B. Drury, Director, National Park Service, made the following remarks in his statement at the hearing:

"Our principal interest in protecting these lands is that they contain some of the finest virgin ponderosa pine to be found anywhere in the park. Altogether, construction of the dam would result in the destruction of approximately 8000 acres of virgin forest.

"The wildlife of Glacier National Park is one of its major attractions, from the standpoint of both abundance and variety. Among all the western national parks, only here is the white-tailed deer to be found in considerable numbers. The flooding of the park land would reduce the winter range of this species by fifty-six percent. In order to prevent extensive starvation it would be necessary for the Service to slaughter most of these animals.

"About thirty percent of the winter range of the park's mule deer and elk would also be destroyed. In this part of the park, because of particularly favorable habitat for the beaver, the population of this interesting mammal is very heavy. About seventy percent of their habitat would be flooded out, along with much of that of muskrats, badgers and many lesser animals.

"Civilization is encroaching on the wilderness all over our land; what remains of wilderness becomes increasingly precious to present-day Americans, and will be in even greater degree to Americans of the future. Here, threatened with permanent destruction, is an extraordinarily fine sample of original America. We cannot afford, except for the most compelling reasons—which we are convinced do not exist in this case—to permit this impairment of one of the finest properties of the American people."

# PREDATORS AND PEOPLE

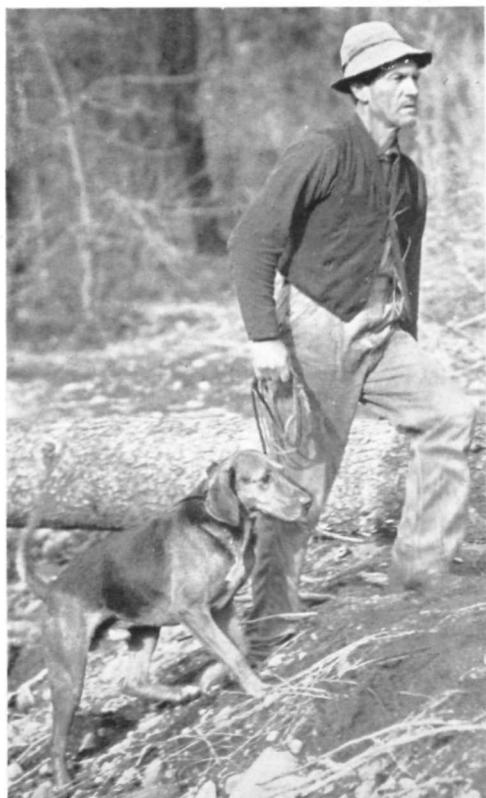
By VICTOR H. CAHALANE, Chief  
Biology Branch, National Park Service

THE national parks of the United States give sanctuary to hundreds of thousands of wild animals. In Yellowstone National Park alone, there are 12,000 elk, 1,000 bison, 600 mule deer, 500 antelopes, 600 moose, 550 bears, 280 mountain sheep, and many other smaller species. It is a fascinating experience to see these animals going about their daily lives without fear of the rifle and shotgun.

Most people desire the complete protec-

Paid hunters were employed  
to track down cougars.

William L. Finley



tion of animals in park areas. There is only one class of wildlife whose protection is viewed with misgivings or worse. These are the predators.

"MURDERERS! ASSASSINS!" Thus they are denounced by humans who have the same habit of eating flesh. "They are furtive and sly. They are killers of great strength, endurance and appetite. They are cruel, savage, ruthless and rapacious. In a park they are no good to anyone, not even a furrier. They add nothing to the landscape. KILL them!" Thus the human meat-hunters continue to shout at intervals. One of the most publicized campaigns against predators was waged not long ago by a well known "sportsman" and writer. Although his habits and those of the wolf were alike, both being hunters, he conceived a great hatred for this other predator. He went back and forth across the continent, emitting constant blasts against the wolf: "Would it not be more interesting (for tourists) to see huge bands of sheep and caribou rather than a prowling wolf, or hear one of its blood-curdling yells? One ewe sheep and lamb, or one small band of rams would give more of a thrill to any full-blooded person than all the wolves of Mount McKinley National Park . . . The very thought of a predator so terrible as a wolf, dragging down a magnificent specimen of game would, I am sure, be repulsive and revolting to any tourist as it would be to me." Apparently the "repulsive and revolting thought" had not occurred to this wolf in human clothing when he shot down *his* "magnificent specimen of game."

The attitude of this present-day journalist toward animal predators is the same as that of early park administrators. During

the first four decades of the national park system, with a few conspicuous exceptions, they used every means to rid their areas of what they called "vermin." Paid hunters were employed to track down cougars. Rangers trapped regularly for wolves and coyotes. At intervals, despite some protests, they resorted to poison. At times, the list of condemned species was extended to include bears, lynxes, bobcats, foxes, badgers, minks, weasels, wolverines, fishers, otters, and martens, as well as hawks and owls, pelicans, kingfishers, and other birds that were universally persecuted in those days.

As a result of this early campaign against predators, the mountain lions were exterminated from most parks, and the wolves from every park but one—Mount McKinley. Smaller predators were greatly reduced or even extirpated.

Why destroy an animal because it eats meat? The robin on your front lawn is as predatory as a wolf . . . Just ask the worms. Modern man is the most predatory of all predators.

In the wild, meat-eating animals are generally more intelligent than vegetarians. They have to be. It doesn't take a high degree of intelligence to "wrassle" a mouthful of grass. A mountain sheep may, in most eyes, be more beautiful than a wolf; but, to many minds, the sheep is not as interesting.

This point of view is expressed in a letter to the Park Service from a famous newspaper editor: "I would rather see a wolf than a mountain sheep anytime. It is a much more interesting animal. I am not concerned as to whether the wolves are killing the sheep. Are there enough sheep to feed the wolves?"

A senseless program of cougar killing continues, and the deer and elk populations the cougars controlled are increasing beyond the capacity of the range to feed them.

Courtesy Nature Magazine



Both coyote and wolf are more intelligent than the domesticated dog. They play an important part in the scheme of nature. They remove the sick and old and handicapped, and reduce the chances that epidemics of disease may spread. They serve as a check on the increase of grazing and browsing animals that otherwise might do great harm to their own food supply.

What happened in Yellowstone when the mountain lion and wolf were exterminated and the coyote greatly reduced in number? The hoofed mammals increased to such numbers that thousands of them starved to death. They damaged their range to an extent that it will take decades to recover. While other factors were involved, such as grazing and disruption of age-old migration habits north of the park, the normal population of predators would probably have prevented, or at least mitigated, this catastrophe.

It must not be forgotten that predators are largely responsible for the swiftness, agility and skill of prey species. It is often said that we cannot have deer, mountain sheep, elk and antelope without having predators. Without natural wildlife enemies, these wild hoofed species would become like cattle.

As the harmful effects of predator control became apparent, a new wildlife policy in the parks evolved. By the mid-1930's the Park Service had terminated the last routine, unfounded, control program. No native predator may now be destroyed merely because it is a meat-eater. Individuals may be removed, if, by scientific inquiry, it is determined that a prey species is in danger of extermination. Species such as pelicans and ospreys, which live on fish, are allowed to continue undisturbed.

This modern view of wildlife relationships, which evolved only after many birth pangs, has been clearly described and encouraged by such authorities as Drs. Erington, Murie and others in the United States, and by Dr. Clarke, Professor Dymond and Mr. Taverner in Canada. As a

result of their writings, we have begun to have a better understanding of the relationships between predator and prey.

Contrary to popular opinion, prey species are never helpless against their enemies. Ordinarily, all animals reproduce themselves many times over. In the case of the prey, this in itself is a safety device. Prey animals also have developed more direct methods of defense. Some species may beat off their attackers with surprising success. I have seen deer defend themselves against coyotes with flailing hoofs, and even take the offensive. Other prey depend entirely on speed of flight and on hiding tactics. It has been proved that bobwhite quail will live successfully in the same area with foxes and great horned owls, provided there is suitable cover.

Any environment, of course, has room for only a certain number of individual animals. The best cover is filled to capacity, while the overflow animals must take whatever remains. Predators merely take this overflow, which would disappear in any event. Except under unusual circumstances, they are not a threat to the basic stock, which will keep right on producing surpluses. Most prey species, in fact, will stand much heavier predation pressure than that to which they are subjected.

For hundreds of thousands of years prey species have made their way in competition with predators. There is no reason why, in general, they cannot continue to do so.

There are two outstanding problems in predator management that have arisen in the national park system of the United States during the past twenty years. One is in Yellowstone, the other in Mount McKinley National Park, Alaska:

Wolves were greatly reduced in Yellowstone Park before the turn of the century, and were finally exterminated about 1915. The last cougar was killed there ten years later. Although ample evidence existed to show that the winter range could not support the herds of elk and other species, trapping was continued in an effort to



Lorene Squire

The coyote, too, plays an important part in the scheme of nature.

eliminate the coyotes. Shooting was continued after 1930, but few animals were killed, and this small drain was stopped early in 1935.

The opinion persisted, however, that control of coyotes was essential to the continuance of the park herds of antelope, mule deer, bighorn, and other hoofed mammals. A detailed scientific study of the coyote in its relation to associated species was started in March, 1937. Continued for almost two years, it resulted in one of the most thorough reports in the field of predation studies. The findings of the investigator, Dr. Adolph Murie, appear to hold true to the present day.

Our best knowledge of coyote relationships in the Yellowstone is as follows: *After twelve years without control*, coyotes were found to have had no appreciable effect on the numbers of antelope, deer and bighorns then in the park. On the other hand, it had become crystal clear that these prey animals, together with the elk and bisons, were handicapped by a de-

pleted, over-crowded winter range. They had almost eaten themselves out of house and home. From 1934 to 1942, the number of deer increased 330 percent—from 363 animals to 1200 in eight years. However, two die-offs occurred: one in early 1935 and the second in 1943. During the latter, almost half of the deer on the northern winter range succumbed to starvation. The carrion was so abundant that many carcasses were never touched by the coyotes. More predators, rather than fewer, are desired under these circumstances. They would remove the weak and diseased, and save the limited food for the nucleus of the deer herd.

Those who cried, "Wolf!" alleged that the antelope would be the first species to be wiped out if these little wolves were allowed to go unchecked. On the contrary, antelope increased from an estimated 600 in 1936 to 800 in 1938 and 900 in 1943—fifty percent increase in seven years! Unfortunately, effects of drought and overuse have done grave and perhaps irrepa-

rable damage to their principal winter food (sage) in the park. Arrangements were made, therefore, with the Montana Game Commission to livetrap and remove half of these antelope.

The problem facing the bighorn is also lack of food. From this there arise related troubles: disease, parasites, and low reproductive rate. But despite a large coyote population on the bighorn range, predation is at most an unimportant cause of death.

A few elk calves are killed by coyotes, but the race shows practically no effect. Only human predation can reduce the elk herd in the northern Yellowstone and permit the depleted range to recover.

During the investigation of the coyote, special attention was paid to the vanishing species—the trumpeter swan. It had been alleged that the coyote was a major cause of their precarious state. No substantiation of this belief could be found, although examinations were made of thousands of droppings of coyotes living in trumpeter swan territory. On the other hand, proof was obtained that swans were dying of lead poisoning\* and were shot by gunners outside of the park. Furthermore, their winter food supply is believed to be limited.

What happened to the coyotes during this twelve years of protection? Any trapper knows that a female will bear up to eighteen pups in a single litter. It could have been reasoned that, with the great supply of larger mammals, the coyotes would multiply at least fivefold. They did not. In fact no increase or decrease could be detected.

True, coyotes soon became more in evidence. Intelligent animals, they quickly learned that humans were no longer to be feared. They began to be seen more frequently along park highways, in order to take advantage of the rodents and other animals which were killed or disabled by

\* Lead shot, fired by gunners, falls to the lake bottoms where swans, as well as ducks, take it into their digestive systems while feeding along shallow margins.

motorcars, and at refuse piles and in campgrounds where they picked up tidbits from visitors' tables. In these locations they attracted much attention, and often stole the show from the other wildlife.

While the coyote population is expected to fluctuate, it does not increase indefinitely. A number of Yellowstone coyotes have been found dying or dead of starvation. A larger number have died of disease. On one winter snowshoe trip in 1943, I found four sick or dead coyotes within a distance of one mile. Natural controls operate effectively on this species.

The second outstanding predator problem in our national parks is still facing us. I refer now to the wolf-sheep controversy at Mount McKinley National Park in central Alaska.

This park was established thirty years ago in order to preserve in its entirety one of the most thrilling natural spectacles on this continent. Against the backdrop of a 100-mile section of the snow-capped Alaska Range, including Mount McKinley, is a region of tundra and barren, glaciated mountains. Here lives a remarkable assemblage of mammals: caribou, Dall sheep, moose, grizzly bear, Canada lynx, wolverine, otter, red fox, timber wolf, and many lesser species, down to the ground squirrels, meadow mice and lemmings.

This is the only national park of the

Wolves in Mount McKinley National Park provide a thrill for visitors.

Harry Liek





Ira N. Gabrielson

A wolf pup crosses a stream in Mount McKinley National Park. Wolves belong to the park's native fauna and deserve protection accordingly.

United States where the wolf has continued to live since the earliest times, unextirpated by man. From the time the area was established, it has been administered under the policies which now apply to all national parks. No animal species was sacrificed for the benefit of another species, and the fauna remained in a completely natural state.

Four years ago, however, efforts were exerted to pass legislation to prevent the continued application of general park wildlife policies to Mount McKinley National Park. This campaign is particularly aimed at extermination of the wolf. It was set in motion largely by the decline which has taken place in the sheep population during the past twenty years.

In general, this decline has been common to much of interior Alaska, and perhaps to

Yukon Territory wherever conditions are comparable.

Back in 1928, sheep in McKinley Park had increased to huge numbers. Travelers described them as being "abundant as snowflakes on the mountainsides." They guessed the number as high as 25,000 animals. Undoubtedly, there were at least 5000 sheep in the park. Then came two severe winters, 1929 and 1932. Deep or crusted snow prevented all but the most favorably situated and most vigorous sheep from obtaining enough food. Thousands of sheep perished. Carrion was everywhere. Many carcasses were not even touched. By spring of 1932, it was estimated that only 1500 sheep survived in the park. Nature had made an adjustment between the sheep and their range. As is often the case, she did it drastically.

A study of skulls indicated that the lambs, old sheep and diseased were largely eliminated. Apparently only the healthiest sheep in their early prime survived. This may have been the cause of startling developments that took place ten to twelve years later.

During the ten years that followed, as many wolves (about fifty) continued to levy their toll as when there were 5000 or more sheep. Nevertheless, the sheep maintained their numbers fairly well. Then, suddenly between the years 1941 and 1945, the sheep population decreased fifty percent. By 1945, not over 500 sheep remained.

Immediately the critics of park policies leaped to their feet and raised their voices proclaiming that the wolf had practically exterminated the white Dall sheep.

They ignored the fact that sheep and wolves have ranged together for thousands of years.

They ignored the fact that there were no more wolves in the park than during the ten years that the sheep had maintained their numbers.

It was true that wolves had been feeding on sheep, but it was not possible to determine that this feeding was any greater than it ever had been, or that it was a potent factor in the sheep decline.

Nevertheless, since the numbers of sheep had reached such a low level, the Park Service instituted in the winter of 1945 a wolf control program in order to give maximum protection to the remaining sheep. It was immediately discovered that already, due to natural causes, the wolves had become very scarce in the park. Probably not more than ten existed in the entire area. Apparently food was so difficult to obtain through the winter months that the wolves either had starved or moved out of the park. No more than fifteen of them have been in the park since that time. Orders have been given that up to fifteen are to be killed if seen. Nine have been shot to date.

What caused the fifty percent loss of sheep within four years?

The real causes of sheep decline can only be surmised. Due to financial retrenchment during the war, there was no trained biologist in the park during those four critical years. Dr. Adolph Murie, who made investigations of this problem in 1939 to 1941, and in 1945 and 1946, has advanced this tentative explanation. He bases it on all available historical data and on many past counts of the age classes of sheep. As I have mentioned before, skull studies indicated that the die-off of 1932

The Dall sheep of Mount McKinley National Park are, among other animals, preyed upon by wolves, as nature intended.

Joseph S. Dixon



took the young, the old and diseased. The principal survivors presumably were the vigorous two-, three- and four-year-olds who, barring disease and accidents, would be expected to live until 1941 to 1945. These healthy specimens alone would keep up a fairly stable population. In 1941 it was noted that old sheep with great horns were predominant. If they should all die about the same time, as was to be expected, there would be a sudden, heavy drop. This may have been what happened. Poor lamb crops and poor survival may have prevented a compensatory increase over the years.

In 1945, Dr. Murie found that the lamb crop was only ten to fifteen percent of the ewes. In 1946 it was much better—thirty-nine percent. Survival of the 1945 lambs to the yearling stage was excellent. Another excellent lamb crop occurred in 1947.

Considered as a whole, the sheep population now has a more normal age composition than in many years previous. It appears to be a vigorous population, better fitted to survive than during the period when the range was encumbered with many old sheep. Furthermore, the lessened supply of carrion is likely to discourage the wolves from visiting the sheep hills in winter. This is the only season they have been known to exert definite pressure on the sheep. Caribou, when present in large numbers, and rodents—ground squirrels and marmots—are the staple summer food of wolves in this park.

All factors considered, there is good reason to believe that the mountain sheep will survive the recent set-back. As soon as an upward trend of the sheep population is clearly apparent, any need for control of wolf numbers within the park will have passed. Certainly there is no point in attempting to rebuild the sheep herd to such a high level that they will again not have enough to eat. We do not desire to repeat the winter catastrophes of 1929 and 1932.

Wolves or Sheep? That has been the hue and cry for the last six years. Let us hope that the answer will be Wolves and Sheep!

The wolf is generally believed to be an elusive animal—one that is rarely or never seen outside of a trap or a poison station. Experience in McKinley Park, during the years that wolves were not molested, proved that this is not a natural condition. Practically every day, for weeks at a time, wolves could be seen by tourists traveling the park highway. Through field glasses, the animals could be watched as they lazed in the sun, groomed their fur and hunted ground squirrels. Both males and females could be seen caring for the pups and teaching them to get food. Constant observers were able to distinguish the adults at a distance by size and markings. With the exception of the few persons who found interest only in "shootable" species, the visitors were greatly intrigued by this unique spectacle.

But even if the sight of wolves is not assured, the knowledge that they are still a part of the animal life of the park is of deep interest. The people should have the opportunity of sighting this rare animal or of hearing its eerie howl—the most mournful sound of the wild. Even the fresh track of a wild wolf will be long remembered by city dwellers. It would be a tragic error if future generations of visitors could not find unmodified animal communities in a few of the rare landscapes that are unmarred by the works of man.

Do you hunt with a gun, a field glass, or a camera? It makes no difference. The more difficult the chase, the greater the thrill. Shall we have swift, graceful, alert, wild mountain sheep, deer and antelope? Or tame, apathetic cattle?

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This article, with statistics brought up to date, is adapted from the second part of a talk given in 1947 before The Royal Canadian Institute, Toronto.

# CONSERVATION COMES OF AGE

## THE INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

By FRED M. PACKARD, Field Secretary  
National Parks Association

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS in the conservation field, and particularly the Inter-American Conference held at Denver in September, show that the urgency for protecting and administering both the renewable and irreplaceable products of the earth, if human culture is to survive, has at last begun to reach the consciousness of the general public. The outlook often appears discouraging, and citizen inertia delays action that is vital; but suddenly there has been a surge of interest in this fundamental problem. Fifty years ago, even in America, the conservationist was viewed as an impractical idealist, a sentimental fanatic who, for some incomprehensible reason, was not interested in the immediate dollar, but prattled of visionary benefits from long-range planning. Today, the advocates of wise use and preservation of our natural wealth are becoming leaders of public thought, and receiving the close attention of the people.

It is hard to realize that the first co-operative conservation meeting in our history was the Conference of Governors at the White House in 1908. That was only forty years ago. Four major international conferences on conservation are scheduled to be held in various parts of the world during the next ten months, and three have just been concluded.

At the same time, the press has suddenly awakened to the news value and growing public interest in the subject. At the recent conference in Denver, Mr. Tom Wallace, of the *Louisville Times*, told of a conversation he had a few years ago with the managing editor of the largest daily in the United States. Mr. Wallace urged that that paper take action to help stop pollution of our rivers, as a basic national problem. "Oh,

yes," the editor replied, "I suppose some campers do throw picnic plates into the streams of the Adirondacks!" Such ignorance and indifference to many conservation problems has been typical of the journalist until very recently, and is still too prevalent.

Effective rousing of newspapers and magazines to the value of publishing articles on conservation probably began with Bernard de Voto's trenchant exposé of the land grab in *Harper's* in 1946. This has been followed by the forceful writings of William Voigt, Arthur Carhart, Lester Velie, Howard Martin and others, in many publications. Fairfield Osborn's articles in the *Atlantic Monthly*, and his dynamic book, *Our Plundered Planet* (reviewed in the July-September issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE); and William Vogt's dramatic article in *Harper's* in July, preceding publication of his masterly book, *Road to Survival* (see page 38), have all rapidly generated public awareness that conservation affects everyone; not alone his purse, but his ability to survive.

The preservation of the land is no longer a local question, nor is it merely national in scope. Since the war, with our concept of One World, the interrelated global aspects of these matters has gained recognition. The National Parks Association, in company with other groups, is working to promote understanding of the national park concept and other phases of nature protection among all nations. One way in which we have served was in helping plan the conference on Conservation in Micronesia, held at Washington in May, 1948, immediately following a preliminary meeting in Honolulu. The Navy had asked advice about how to administer the Pacific

Islands with proper regard for the forests, plants, wildlife, soil and archaeological remains. Experts on Micronesian conditions were called together by Mr. Harold J. Coolidge, Jr., of the National Research Council, who is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Parks Association, to meet with leading technicians of this country. The definitive recommendations included, among other points, that suitable natural reservations be established, with the advice of the National Park Service; that protection be given to native and migratory birds, with complete protection to all ducks, rails and pigeons on the islands; that forests be preserved; and that a conservation officer be made a part of the framework of the administration of the Trust Territory. The Navy Department is acting on these suggestions.

Perhaps the most impressive international conference yet convened on the subject was the Inter-American Conference on Conservation of Renewable Resources, at Denver on September 7 to 15. Mr. William Vogt, of the Pan American Union, who also is a member of the Executive Committee of this Association, organized the conference and secured the enthusiastic cooperation of the governments of all of the American republics. Among almost two hundred Latin-American representatives were cabinet ministers, heads of departments and technicians, who are working directly with the land problems of the countries to the south. Most of the leading authorities on conservation in the United States addressed the meeting and joined in the discussions. Seldom has there been such close attention at a conference. The participants were there to learn from each other, and their earphones (providing English and Spanish interpretation of every word spoken) were in constant use. Latin America is being jolted by the realization that her lands

and resources are in a truly precarious state, and her administrators are determined to take action before it is too late.

The initial presentation was by population experts, who analyzed the tremendously increasing human population of the earth, 2,300,000,000 at present estimates, and the consequent drain on the fertility of the land. The Latin nations are especially concerned with this aspect of the problem because in many places they are already overcrowded. Later speakers discussed the catastrophic effects of continued abuse of the land, and the resultant starvation of the peoples, unless positive and immediate steps are taken to administer the land resources on long-term national planning, rather than for present financial gain. The interest expressed by Latin-American delegates in the preservation of wildlife was encouraging. Mr. Sigurd Olsen of Minnesota and Mr. Olaus Murie of Wyoming discussed the value of wilderness for its own sake, followed by Mr. Newton B. Drury, Director, U. S. National Park Service, who presented the national park viewpoint as exemplified by the parks of this country. One of the delegates asked Mr. Drury to explain the principles of inviolate protection given our national parks; and following his answer, Sr. Paulo De Souza, Director of National Parks in Brazil, made a spirited defense of the policy of complete protection for such reservations.

If future international conferences provoke equal interest in conservation and result in such concrete gains, there is reason to hope that this most serious of considerations before humanity may be successfully solved. Progress has been made that would have seemed impossible fifty years ago, and, if public interest is increasingly stimulated, we need have less fear for the welfare of the earth.

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Another block of privately owned land has been acquired. In August, the 160 acre John Hance ranch, on the south rim of the Grand Canyon, became part of the park through purchase under an option entered into in 1942.

## UNESCO AND CONSERVATION

PROTECTION of nature has been included in the program for UNESCO recommended by the U. S. National Commission for UNESCO to the State Department. At its sessions in Boston, September 27 to 29, the Commission adopted a resolution declaring "that it is a direct concern of UNESCO to further the protection and preservation of areas, objects, and living fauna and flora having scientific, historic or esthetic significance and to encourage appropriate legislation, including the establishment of national parks, nature monuments, and reserves in all parts of the world where they may benefit future generations of mankind."

Recognizing that certain aspects of conservation of natural resources fall within the scope of other United Nations agencies concerned with economic considerations, the Commission approved the view that UNESCO "will primarily be concerned with the scientific, educational, social, cultural and inspirational aspects of this field, rather than the economic aspects."

In addition to this general approval, the Commission accepted the recommendation

of its Section on Natural Sciences that UNESCO cooperate fully with the aims of the United Nations Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Natural Resources to be held at Lake Success next May. It also urged that the participation of UNESCO "put special emphasis on the preservation of natural areas which have particular importance for their esthetic and non-materialistic values."

Action on the program for nature protection followed upon the presentation of a report by the Panel on Nature Protection, headed by Harold J. Coolidge, Jr., Executive-Secretary of the Pacific Science Board. Since Mr. Coolidge was absent in Fontainbleau, France, attending the sessions concerned with the formation of the International Union for the Protection of Nature, the case was presented by the acting chairman of the panel, Richard W. Westwood, President of the American Nature Association. Perfection of the program was greatly aided by Dr. Waldo Leland, Dr. Bart Bok, Dr. Harlow Shapley and Dr. Raymond Zwemer.

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## CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES PARK STAFFS

BENEFIT should accrue to the national park services of Canada and the United States if staff members of each service could visit the national parks in the other country. Progress should also result from similar visits to state and provincial parks.

It is surprising that even the heads of the two bureaus have never met. Were Director Drury of the U. S. National Park Service and Controller Smart of the National Parks Service of Canada to meet, a grand exchange of ideas should take place, and many problems and methods for coping with them would undoubtedly be discussed.

During my visit to two national parks in

Canada this past summer (see page 27), and in 1946, when I visited Banff National Park and spent three days in the field with the head of the British Columbia Provincial Parks, it became clearly apparent how greatly needed is such an exchange of personnel visits.

Some time ago, both services agreed to have a group, including the heads of the two bureaus, visit parks across the border. To date, the U. S. National Park Service has been unable to carry out this worthy plan because of insufficient appropriations to cover the cost of travel.—*Devereux Butcher.*

# AS THE RANGER SEES YOU

By NATT N. DODGE, Naturalist  
Southwest National Monuments

ANY national park, during the tourist season, becomes a fertile field for the study of human nature. People are on vacation, are out for a good time, and have neither clocks to watch nor work to do. The attitude engendered by this spirit of freedom occasionally rubs the rangers the wrong way. This comes about through the unconscious assumption on the part of the visitor that all others, including the rangers, are on vacation too. Almost every evening when I announced that the museum at Grand Canyon's Yavapai Point would close at five o'clock, someone asked if I would not keep it open fifteen minutes longer "just this once."

On one occasion at Mount Rainier National Park I was returning after a long, hard hike getting some high elevation specimens for the fresh flower display. It was after six o'clock and I still had to pick out my slides for the evening lecture, get supper, change clothes, and be at the community house at seven thirty. I was nearing the hotel when I was stopped by a motherly individual out for an evening stroll. Smiling upon me benignly, she exclaimed, "My, what a wonderful life you lead. Nothing to do all day but take walks and pick flowers." Some parks have highway gates that are closed about midnight. Visitors arriving after that hour must wait outside until the gate is opened about six o'clock the following morning. The ranger at the Nisqually Entrance to Mount Rainier tells me that he is frequently awakened in the small hours by people who insist that he get up and open the gate so that they may enter the park.

Privacy is not always the lot of a ranger. One of the boys returned to his house on a snowy Sunday noon to find a party of four people eating lunch on his front porch.

Another came home and found a lady wandering around inside the house. She was pleased at his arrival, as it gave her an opportunity to question him about the details of a ranger's romantic life. But not all people consider the life romantic. One October afternoon I was on duty at the checking station. Although travel had dropped off for the season, I had checked in about seventy-five cars carrying nearly two hundred people. Even though the checking station is only about a quarter of a mile from the village, the latter is around a bend in the road and there is no habitation in sight. A car drove up and stopped. "My, what a lonesome job you have away out here in the woods," exclaimed the driver. "I wouldn't want to be a ranger!"

As travel to the parks steadily increases, the ranger's work becomes more and more that of a public contact man. Ranger-naturalists who deliver the informational talks and conduct nature-study trips are before the public all of the time while on duty. Many visitors enjoy competing with them. It is not at all unusual, in a park museum, to hear a loud-voiced individual explaining various matters of natural history to the members of his party. Usually at least half of his explanations are incorrect. And then he puts us on the spot by concluding triumphantly, "Isn't that so, ranger!"

One Sunday morning I was on duty at the information desk when Ranger G. came in from traffic duty. A visitor entered and asked several questions about whereabouts of deer. Then, for our edification, he launched into a dissertation on deer. Ranger G. listened, but offered no comments. The incongruous part of the affair was that the visitor quite apparently knew very little about deer, whereas Ranger G. and his

wife, for twenty years, had been caring for all of the sick, injured, and orphaned deer found in the park. Sometimes the tables are reversed. One rather unimposing gentleman asked me several questions regarding the geology of the park, which I answered as well as I could. Several hours later the same man was pointed out to me as the president of a university and a paleontologist of international reputation.

Many prominent persons visit the national parks each year. Occasionally we have the privilege of escorting some famous person on a short trip. Assignment to this type of duty is known as "gigoloing." One evening I took Dr. Soong, at that time Minister of Finance of the Republic of China, on a short walk to view the Nisqually Glacier. Accompanied by several members of the party, we strolled along a path that overlooked the lower reaches of the great ice river. Dr. Soong became annoyed by several mosquitoes. Noticing his distress, I cut short my explanations, and the party returned to the lodge in a less dignified manner than it had started out.

When Floyd Gibbons was at Mount Rainier, he lunched at Paradise Lodge. One of the carpenters making some repairs on

the interior of the building had injured his eye and had placed a patch over it. As Gibbons was eating, he heard a noise overhead. Looking up among the rustic rafters he met the one-eyed gaze of the carpenter. "My God!" exclaimed the famous war correspondent, laying down his fork, "are there two of us!"

In April, 1935, Mayor and Mrs. La Guardia of New York City visited the Grand Canyon by airplane. It was my privilege to accompany the pilot of the local airline to Winslow where we met the mayor. The wind was blowing a gale and the pilot and I had difficulty in getting the ship out of the hangar. As I was pushing with all my strength on the wing, I glanced up to find the mayor, a former pilot, straining and tugging beside me. "Well," he puffed, "I guess I haven't forgotten how."

One summer afternoon, a mud-splashed roadster with two roughly dressed occupants stopped at the checking station. After noting the license number, I turned to the driver, "Your name, please?" He undoubtedly enjoyed my surprised glance when he replied quietly, "Clark Gable." If celebrities expect to be recognized at park entrances, they should try to look

Park visitors on vacation, have no clocks to watch or work to do,  
and sometimes their spirit of freedom rubs rangers the wrong way.

Allan M. Rinehart





Ralph H. Anderson

*"My, what a lonesome job you have away out here in the woods,"  
exclaimed a park visitor. "I wouldn't want to be a ranger!"*

the way their photographs show them.

Although we ask only four questions of each driver at the checking station, we get a great variety of answers. Also, the visitors seem to get far more enjoyment out of these questions than we do from the thousands of questions they ask us. These questions are; Your name? Your address? Are there any guns in the car? Are there any cats or dogs in the car? The first two usually elicit sober replies, but number three often brings a burst of laughter or a wisecrack. The best comeback that I have ever received to it was from the man who replied, as he glanced at his wife, "No guns; only the battle-ax." A family by the name of Gunn and one with the name of Katt entered the park while I was at the checking station. Both jokingly inquired if they would be barred from the park.

The question regarding pets almost always evokes hilarity. The majority of folk seem greatly amused at the thought of taking a cat or dog on a trip. However, it is surprising how many people have pets with them. Some drivers reply in a manner to cast reflections on the other passengers, as, "no cats, except those in the back seat." Few persons realize the purpose of these questions, hence the mirth. All national parks are wild animal sanctuaries. It is the privilege and the duty of the National Park Service to protect these wild creatures. Cats at large would create havoc among the birds, squirrels and smaller animals. Dogs chase the deer, rabbits and others, and get so excited over a bear that they disturb an entire campground. People frequently allow their dogs to run loose when they think a ranger is not in the

vicinity. On one occasion a lady of some social prominence (in her home town) was standing on the rim of the Grand Canyon while her dog, a large German shepherd, investigated the fascinating odors in the neighborhod. A ranger happened along, and politely requested the lady to put the dog on leash. "He won't hurt a thing," she exclaimed, "and I think it's a mighty silly law. I don't think you can make me keep him on leash." "No, of course not," shrugged the ranger, "but so many dogs fell off the rim and were killed that we had to pass some sort of protective regulation." After that the lady took no chances, but kept the dog shut inside the car.

Pets, other than dogs and cats, occasionally enter the park. Canaries are not uncommon, and one of the rangers reported a monkey. The simian was quite playful and insisted on picking the sticker off the windshield. It was finally necessary to put the sticker on the outside.

The national park windshield sticker, before being done away with as a safety measure, was given a favorable reception by some drivers, while others objected to it. Many passengers desired extra stickers for souvenirs. One visitor from a foreign country inquired, upon receiving the sticker at Grand Canyon, "Does this permit me to enter all the rest of California?"

At all parks, information is given to the visitor at the checking stations or at an information office. Many visitors prefer to find their way around without assistance. Some come to the information desk with a challenging attitude, remarking, "Well, here we are." The insinuation is, "And what do you intend to do about it?" The less time they have for the park, the more unfavorable toward assistance they seem to be. Since this informational service is free, it is a mystery to rangers why so many people are unwilling to avail themselves of it.

Although park roads and trails are marked as carefully as possible, signs are sometimes stolen and drivers and hikers frequently overlook markers. People often

underestimate the dangers involved in a hike, and they undertake too strenuous a trip. In spite of great changes in elevation, lack of water, or other conditions, hikers often start out without proper preparation. One of the duties of a ranger is to inform people about such trips and to advise them as to necessary equipment. Many folk look upon us as "wet blankets" rather than as friendly sources of information.

Occasionally a visitor dumfounds us with his reaction to conditions. The case is reported of a hiker who stumbled in at Phantom Ranch at the very bottom of the Grand Canyon, suffering from fatigue and thirst. He had hiked the fourteen miles from the North Rim, the last ten miles along the bank of Bright Angel Creek. When asked why he had not quenched his thirst from the stream, he replied simply that he had no cup.

In his book, "Grand Canyon Country," former Superintendent Tillotson describes the thrills and scenic wonders enjoyed on the muleback trip from the canyon rim down to the river. The return trip, he states, is made slowly by leisurely stages. One lady who had read the book took the journey, but refused to mount the mule when the party was ready to start back up the trail. After considerable argument and discussion, the guide finally drew from her the fact that she intended to return, not on the mule, but by one of Mr. Tillotson's "leisurely stages." It took the combined efforts of the guide and the members of the party to convince her that no busses operated within the canyon walls.

Surprisingly few visitors are aware of the ideals and purposes of the national parks. Many persons consider the national parks and the national forests as synonymous. Mothers frequently ask us how their sons may obtain positions as forest rangers. This, in a way, is synonymous to boarding a battleship and making inquiry as to how to enlist in the Army. The requirements of a forest ranger and a park



Ralph H. Anderson

**As travel to the parks increases, the ranger's work becomes more and more that of a public contact man.**

ranger differ as much as do those of a sailor and of a soldier.

During World War I, the French people found difficulty in differentiating between officers and privates of the United States Army because of the similarity of uniform. Within the Park Service, rank is even less distinguishable; nor is age any criterion of position. This occasionally creates embarrassing situations, particularly if the park superintendent is mistaken for a hotel bellboy. Although service to the public is the first duty of the park ranger, he is by no means a personal servant. In case of accident, in the restoration of lost property, or in rendering assistance, the ranger is always on the alert to help, but he is not an errand boy. Neither may he receive gratuities. People sometimes offer tips to rangers and may be offended when they are refused. We are always pleased and inspired to greater effort when people express appreciation of a service, a nature-study trip, or of the park itself, but these expressions must be either verbal or written.

The uniform affects people in a variety

of ways. Some people confuse us with bus drivers, telegraph messengers, or boy scouts. Others are awed by the mark of authority. Small boys, as a rule, are inclined to be worshipful; and the young ladies: well, as I am happily married, perhaps the less said on that score the better. We are the recipients of many sweet smiles and hand waves, and occasional advances of a bolder nature. However, of the permanent ranger force in the two parks where I know all of the men, there is only one unmarried ranger.

Although I cannot recommend a ranger's position as offering all of the features that a young lady might desire to assume when acquiring a husband, there seems to be something about the uniform that appeals to the ladies. Whether this appeal remains when the same uniform becomes an object demanding many cleanings and pressings, usually a wifely duty, is another matter. If any girl feels that she must marry a park ranger, may I suggest the source from which many rangers have drawn their wives. Get a summertime job in one of the hotels and lodges in any national park.

## REPORT ON THE ESTES PARK EXPERIMENT

**B**ELOVING that a vital part of the effort to preserve nature and wilderness is public enlightenment, your Association established a summer office at Estes Park, Colorado, on June 28, as announced in the July-September magazine, page 34. Your Field Secretary, Fred M. Packard, operated the office, drawing upon his previous experience as a wildlife technician in the National Park Service at Rocky Mountain National Park.

The office, attractively furnished as a lounge, and located next to a popular theater, aroused the interest of thousands of visitors to Rocky Mountain National Park, as well as the interest of local residents and businessmen of Estes Park, most of whom had not previously heard of your Association. Many people came in to ask for park information, and stayed to talk about national park problems and other aspects of conservation, learning of the work the Association is doing, and the part each person can play in defense of our national parks and monuments.

The attentive reception given to some forty illustrated lectures held at hotels and lodges in Estes Park, showed that, once aware of the problem, the public is readily interested. The talks were more serious than those usually given to national park visitors, analysis being made of the more critical attacks on the parks—the Jackson Hole and Olympic bills, the threats certain reclamation and power projects represent to the Grand Canyon, Glacier, Mammoth Cave and other national park areas, the grazing landgrab, vandalism due partly to insufficient appropriations to provide enough rangers, and other aspects of the situation in which citizens can take effective action. People were eager to learn the truth about the danger to the parks, so much so that a number of lodges asked for weekly talks. Each lecture was illustrated with kodachrome slides, and was followed by

informal discussions that in some instances lasted an hour or more.

Of the thousands of people who attended Mr. Packard's lectures, or who talked at length with him, fewer than twenty showed they knew their parks were under attack and that they could do something about it. Interest was immediately evident, some people joining the Association at once, and others stating they would do so as soon as they returned home. Thousands of people picked up our folder or read the magazine, thus becoming potential park defenders. While returns on new memberships may not be complete for some time, the educational value of the project is certain.

Great appreciation and thanks are due the National Park Service for its cooperation in helping make the Estes Park project effective. The Service's Washington office loaned many valuable kodachrome slides, supplementing our own collection, and Mr. Alberts, park naturalist at Rocky Mountain National Park, made a projector and screen available for the entire summer. Superintendent Canfield encouraged his staff to let visitors know about our office, and his rangers did everything they could to be of assistance, several of them joining the Association themselves.

Experience gained this summer shows that by far the more effective part of the Estes Park project was the lecture program. This alone cost the Association little, while the maintenance of the office was comparatively expensive. A little less than half the cost of the project has been realized so far from new memberships and through sale of our book *Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments*, and this seems not unsatisfactory for the first year of the experiment. In the future, it may be deemed advisable to sponsor a lecture program only: but whether the Association can repeat such a venture will depend upon finances at the time.

# Is the Trumpeter Swan to Remain Only a Refuge Bird?

By GEORGE MARLER, Naturalist  
Yellowstone National Park

THE trumpeter swan, so far as the United States is concerned, would undoubtedly now be extinct had it not been for the establishment of Yellowstone National Park. The establishment of this preserve in the saving of the trumpeter was wholly incidental. The wilderness area of Yellowstone harbored the nucleus that made it possible for the trumpeter to perpetuate itself until aroused public opinion took further steps in establishing other favorable conditions.

The creation of the Red Rock Refuge has proved to be a big step forward, no doubt the saving one, in assisting the trumpeter to make a comeback. This refuge, in connection with Yellowstone Park, should serve as an excellent dispersal area, making it possible for nesting birds to extend into contiguous areas.

The need for dispersal areas is even now becoming pressing. So far as nesting birds are concerned it is probable that Yellowstone has already reached its carrying capacity. Dr. Sharp, manager at Red Rock, estimates that by 1952 the refuge will have reached its saturation point. It seems that the trumpeter swan population is approaching a static condition, when the yearly crop of cygnets will, at best, offset the death of older birds.

It is admitted by students of wildlife that the present trumpeter swan population is not sufficiently large to have a safety margin in assuring its survival. With the present concentration, which concentration will become even greater, disease and other inimical factors could so decimate the population as to make survival of the species impossible.

The fact that the trumpeter swan is suc-

cessfully nesting only in controlled areas is a challenging problem. Unfortunately for the trumpeter, its nesting habits make its present dispersal and propagation, in areas that are not strictly controlled, a dubious operation. Not a cygnet was reared outside of the refuges last season. The trumpeter not only prefers, but in a large measure demands primitive wilderness conditions in which to nest. This does not mean that the mere presence of man in a nesting area is wholly deleterious to successful nesting. The refuge and Yellowstone are outstanding examples to the contrary. The basic root of the problem is the behavior of man when he trespasses upon trumpeter swan territory. It is that behavior which has made the preservation of wildlife difficult.

It is unfortunate that the greatest movement of trumpeters from the refuges occurs at the season of legalized waterfowling. With the ducks and geese, the swans must run the gantlet of gunfire. True, a closed season on swans has been enacted. While many gunners are not only aware of the law, but observe it, it is axiomatic that the mere enactment of law is no guarantee that law will be observed by all. This truism is perhaps far more applicable to game laws than any other kind of legislation. A large class of "sportsmen" feel no moral responsibility toward the conservation aims of game laws. Out-of-season shooting and excessive bag limits are observed only when circumstances dictate this to be the wisest policy in preventing their running afoul of the law.

Being a devotee of the rod, and in a lesser measure the gun, I have had long experience in observing the actions and

listening to the discussions of those who find pleasure in hunting and fishing. It is surprising to find how many will not only take advantage of an opportunity to break game laws, but will go out of their way to find an occasion. Many men who seem morally impeccable in their business relations feel no personal culpability toward the breaking of game laws, if they can get away with it.

The trumpeter swan is confronted with this situation whenever it wings beyond the havens that have been established for it. The following observations are in point: For the past fifteen years, three seasons excepted, I have made one or more trips to the Railroad Ranch in Island Park during the regular waterfowling season. On none of these trips did I fail to see trumpeter swans. On fully half of the trips to the Railroad Ranch I have noted that guns started booming when trumpeter swans passed near a gunner or group of gunners.

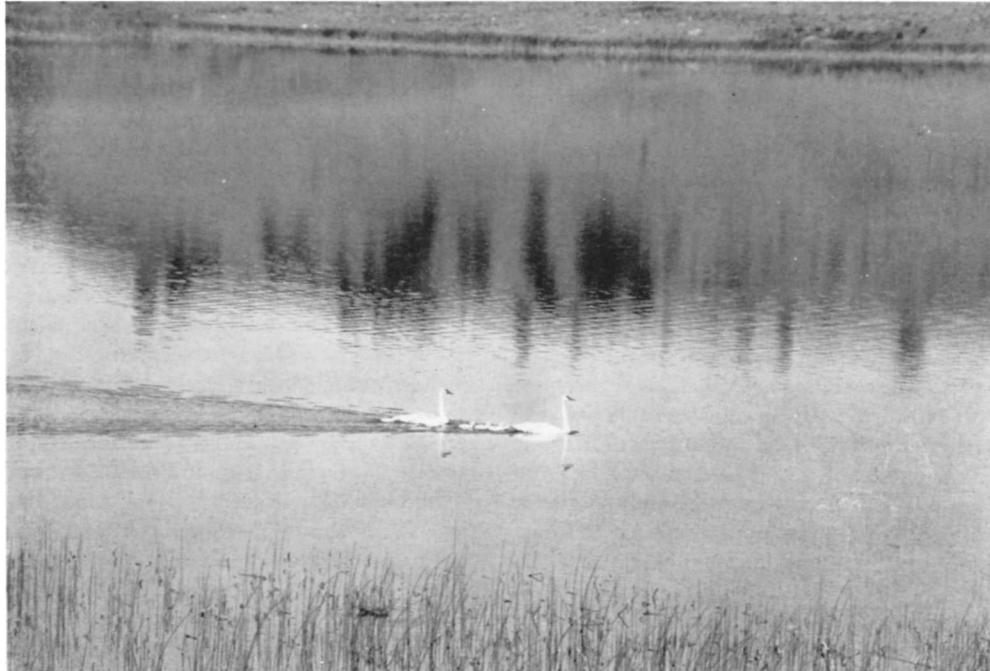
During this period I have seen four trumpeters killed. Scores of times I have seen the birds fired at, being near enough many times to hear the shot strike the trumpeter without the bird coming down. On December 3, 1947, I made a stern protest to two gunners who had fired at passing swans. I received a supercilious reply.

On but one of the trips to the Railroad Ranch have I had my license checked by a conservation officer. When the snow lies deep over this area (permanent snow comes early) these officers are conspicuous by their absence.

The unwary trumpeters that serve as targets in the Island Park country are undoubtedly birds from both the Red Rock Refuge and Yellowstone Park. Dr. Sharp informs me that, following the freezing over of the lakes, the trumpeters "are constantly coming and going. By going, I mean somewhere to the southeast of us, possibly Snake River." That many of these

**The rare trumpeter swan inhabits Yellowstone National Park and nearby Red Rock Refuge, but its present population is so small that even its survival is not assured.**

Joseph S. Dixon



birds, and also those of Yellowstone, move onto the Henry's Fork (Snake River), is amply demonstrated to anyone who observes the bird life in that area from mid-October on. Always these rare and beautiful birds have been part of a rich nature that I have enjoyed in the Island Park region during the time indicated. On November 14, 1946, I was especially fortunate in the number of trumpeters I was able to see. Small flocks of from two to eight were almost constantly on the wing, some of the flocks being but a few feet above the snow. On this particular afternoon no one was disturbing them, and I saw nearly fifty, as well as a flock of ten whistling swans. This is an area of greatest concentration, but beyond were thirty more miles of open water on the Henry's Fork and its larger confluent streams, which without doubt contained additional trumpeters.

The harrying of the trumpeters with guns during the open season on migratory fowl, deplorable as it is, is secondary in its effects in preventing the swans from extending their range. The mere fact that no trumpeters are successfully nesting outside of the refuges speaks for itself of the intolerable conditions in near-by lands. The Island Park country is not only visited by many migrating trumpeters, but it is a type of country highly favorable for nesting. In forest and vegetative cover and in general physical structure it is comparable to Yellowstone. It can be described as an extension of the Yellowstone country into eastern Idaho.

That no trumpeters are found nesting here is due to the uses man is making of this area. Wood roads lace most of the accessible forest land. Thousands of truck loads of logs are hauled each season from the forest. This condition alone is a seriously disturbing one to nesting. Furthermore, many loggers, sheepmen and vacationists make a .22 rifle (occasionally a high-powered rifle) part of their equipment. Native grouse have been almost exterminated.

The living target has always carried priority over stationary objects; and as ever, the bigger the target the more irresistible becomes the urge to kill. Elk, deer and moose also are victimized in out-of-season shooting by a few rifle-carrying, law-evading predators.

The Island Park Reservoir, Henry's Lake in Idaho and the Madison and Hebgen lakes in Montana offer favorable nesting conditions, but growing recreational use of these lakes is making nesting impossible. The lakes are not only being ringed with cabins, but motorboats scurry over the water, disturbing the swan's solitude. Many times at Henry's Lake, especially on week ends, I have observed rifles being put into the boats. These rifles are not fishing accessories! In speaking of the movements of the swans from the Refuge, Dr. Sharp states: "They go to outside lakes, but where fishing occurs, they are so disturbed that hatching a clutch is impossible. Each year those that nest at Henry's Lake are so disturbed that they cannot stay on the nest long enough to keep the eggs from chilling."

Not only were the Henry's Lake swans unsuccessful in nesting last season, but other out-of-refuge swans must have met with this same ill fortune. The concentration of trumpeters on the Island Park Reservoir in August, 1947, would lend some credence to this point of view. At the time of the annual swan census twenty-two trumpeters were observed on the above reservoir. At this season of the year, nesting swans are more or less isolated into family groups. The cygnets have not yet reached a fledged stage. It is only when nesting is disrupted that the cob and pen wing to other waters. The concentration of swans on the Island Park Reservoir might represent, in part at least, birds that have attempted to nest in the Island Park area only to meet with disturbance. Dr. Sharp, who was with the Fish and Wildlife Service at the time the reservoir census was made, classed most of the swans that

were residing there as non-nesting birds.

Aware that occasional swans were being killed in the Island Park area by gunners unfamiliar with the bird, officials of Yellowstone Park attempted out-of-refuge protection. For a week in January, 1939 and 1940, a park ranger gave illustrated lectures to high schools in eastern Idaho, hopeful of making as many people as possible aware of the plight of the trumpeter, and that many birds were making a struggle for existence in that part of Idaho. Government red tape prevented a continuation of these lectures.

The Emergency Conservation Committee of New York, upon learning that the Park Service was unable to continue its educational work, launched a project of its own. The Yellowstone Park cooperated by furnishing a movie projector and color films showing the life of the swans during their sojourn in the park. During the winters of 1941 and 1942, lectures were given to most of the high schools and civic and sportsmen's groups in eastern Idaho, northern Utah and western Wyoming.

As a result of the lectures, most people in the area covered became aware of the trumpeter swan as a bird. Previous to this, the preponderance of people, sportsmen included, who encountered the trumpeter identified it as a snow goose. There were no qualms about bringing down such a large and remarkable quarry. The old politically appointed game wardens were little better informed on species, and, in two instances, gave tacit consent to exhibitions of bagged swans as "snow goose."

The Emergency Conservation Committee's action produced results. Sportsmen's organizations and game wardens took cognizance of the trumpeter as a species frequenting Island Park waters, and local papers carried columns in behalf of swan preservation. At least two arrests were made during the 1941 hunting season for swan killings on the Railroad Ranch. Unfortunately, interest is again lagging, and the trumpeter is once more being harried

with callous indifference. Work like that of the Emergency Conservation Committee should frequently be repeated, not only as a reminder, but each season finds a new crop of teen-age boys making use of firearms. The majority of these boys can make no field identification of species, and in too many instances lack interest to learn how. They see their elders shoot down a gull or a hawk, and consider this a part of normal behavior.

There is need for frequent press releases to remind those who sojourn in swan country. Further progress would be gained if a few large signs were located in such areas as the Railroad Ranch, Island Park Reservoir, Henry's Lake, Madison and Hebgen lakes and at other strategic points, informing all comers that trumpeter swans frequent those areas.

It is too bad that the registration of firearms in all states is not mandatory; and the field possession of guns, except in seasonal hunting, be made an offense to be summarily dealt with. Not only would the trumpeter swan benefit by such regulations, but it would be a boon of incalculable value to wildlife in general.

If the present number of trumpeter swans is too few; if the two refuges alone are inadequate to remove this bird from the list of vanishing species, it becomes imperative—now, not when a new crisis arises, that positive steps be taken to extend the range of nesting swans. At present, any new refuge would seem to be impractical. Private interests are too firmly entrenched. The trumpeter swan problem can be solved, lastingly, only by public education. If the hoped-for utopia for man, beast and bird is to be realized, reform must come in the mental functions of individual man. That "we are saved no faster than we gain knowledge" is a basic tenet of life.

Anyone wishing information on the trumpeter swan in Canada should read the article *Return of the Trumpeter* by Duane Featherstonhaugh, in the October, 1948, issue of *Natural History* magazine, published by the American Museum of Natural History, New York City.—Editor.

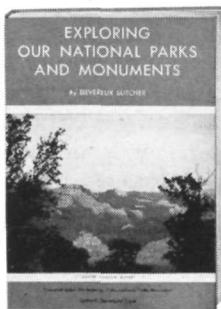
## IN MEMORY OF FRANÇOIS E. MATTHES

**O**N June 21, the nation lost one of its foremost geologists. On that day, Dr. François E. Matthes passed away at his home in El Cerrito, California. Prior to his retirement, he had been senior geologist in the U. S. Geological Survey.

Born in Amsterdam, Holland, in 1874, Dr. Matthes was educated in Holland, Switzerland and Germany, and later at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he graduated in 1895 as a civil engineer; "but geology and glaciology," to quote Dr. Matthes, "have ever been my hobby and finally became my life work." A year after graduation he joined the staff of the U. S. Geological Survey. It was during his many years with that government bureau that he made outstanding contributions to geological science. One of Dr. Matthes greatest sources of happiness was to interpret the meaning and origin of scenes of great natural beauty so that the explanation would be understandable to the layman. This he did both in talks and in published articles.

Among the numerous field studies made by Dr. Matthes were the surveying and mapping of the Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming; survey of the Chief Mountain

region, Montana, and mapping of the area that later became Glacier National Park; mapping of the Grand Canyon, Yosemite Valley and Mount Rainier National Park. After the work at Mount Rainier, Dr. Matthes was transferred to the Geological Branch of the Geological Survey, and his writing of the *Geological History of Yosemite Valley*, in 1930, became his most monumental work. In all, Dr. Matthes wrote eighty or more articles on the geologic features of the national parks. He received various awards, and belonged to many scientific and educational organizations including the Geological Society of America, the Association of American Geographers, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Club Alpine Français, the Appalachian Mountain Club, the American Alpine Club, the Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society and the National Parks Association. Of the latter, he was a charter member, having attended the Association's founding meeting held in Washington on May 21, 1919. Dr. Matthes was also a member of the Association's Board of Trustees, attending regularly the Board's annual meetings. He is survived by his wife, Edith.



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# AFIELD WITH YOUR SECRETARY

*Executive Secretary Butcher, accompanied by his wife, this summer visited Baxter State Park and Acadia National Park in Maine; Cape Breton Highlands National Park in Nova Scotia, and a new national park in New Brunswick. The following is an account of his visit to these areas.*

IT was mid-July when we reached Baxter State Park. Having read much about this great wilderness reservation, we have long wanted to see it. Entering the park from the west and following the park's only road, we began taking pictures of the mountains at once. By evening we reached Katahdin Stream Campground where we spent the night. Next morning, with brilliant sunlight shafting down through the forest and across the valley, we moved southward. It was late in the morning when we finally got our first glimpse of the great Mount Katahdin, 5267 feet above sea level, its elongated crest smothered in clouds. At a new ranger station we met and talked with the park's chief ranger, Mr. Dyer. We discussed the park's present area and additional areas being acquired. We talked about the devastating forest fires that have, in past years, swept over this part of Maine; and we talked about former Governor Percival Baxter whose gift to the state the park is. The area is a monument to the public spiritedness of this one man; and it shows what can happen when real appreciation of wilderness is coupled with recognition of the need to preserve wilderness.

Although we lingered long with Ranger Dyer, Katahdin continued to hide its head,

and our pictures show it that way. This peak seems as elusive as Mount Rainier, when you want to see it and photograph it.

Four days later found us at Canada's Cape Breton Highlands National Park. As described in the foregoing issue of the magazine, this park is located on the northern peninsula of Cape Breton Island. Here we spent ten days of exploration. The park spans the peninsula, with the Atlantic Ocean on the east and the Gulf of St. Lawrence on the west. Terrain consists chiefly of a plateau that is high on the west side, rising to 1700 feet, with spectacular headlands and rocky cliffs dropping abruptly to the gulf, and sloping gently eastward to the Atlantic shore, where the landscape is less striking in appearance. We explored picturesque Middle Head on the Atlantic side at Ingonish Beach and found a small nesting colony of great blackbacked and herring gulls on the outermost point. We drove over the famous Cabot Trail, 78 miles, stopping at Cape North overnight and continuing to Bay St. Lawrence beyond the park. From here we drove south into the park again, reaching the west coast through the valleys of the Aspy and the Grand Anse rivers to Pleasant Bay where a forest fire took devastating toll of the park last autumn. South of here the trail winds up onto the plateaus where muskegs make fascinating and botanically important landscapes. These bogs deserve careful protection against drainage or overuse by the public, which might cause a serious disruption of plant communities. Here we found stunted larch and black spruce, Labrador tea,

**THE COVER**—Acadia National Park's Schoodic Peninsula area, on the mainland, overlooking Frenchman Bay, rises in sheer cliffs of yellow and pink granite. Here the ocean air is fragrant with the scent of balsam fir, and with the aroma of crowberry vines which form thick mats along the tops of ledges. This view looks south toward the open ocean. Westward lies Mount Desert Island with its mountains in Acadia's larger area.

pitcher plant, sheep laurel, white fringed orchis, lichens and red sphagnum. Our southward journey on the west coast ended at the town of Cheticamp, from where we retraced our route to Ingonish Beach. On the return trip we explored Presque Isle, where wind-swept heads are clothed in thick, clinging mats of juniper and crowberry. In spots along the coast we found purple fringed orchis in abundance.

Wildlife in the park was not greatly in evidence. We saw one deer; four white-winged crossbills, a few guillemots along the cliffs, and the usual small birds. Moose were reintroduced in the park a few years ago, but there is some doubt as to how many now remain. Another shipment is to be brought in from Elk Island National Park this autumn.

At Keltic Lodge we gave a lecture, showing our park and monument kodachromes to an audience of sixty, most of whom were Canadians. I had a talk with Superintendent Cyril Child, as well as with Mr. J. C. Boyd and Mr. Andrew Livingstone of the park staff, and had the unexpected good

fortune to meet and talk with the Controller of the National Parks Service, Mr. James Smart. At this park, as in other national parks of Canada, there is a marked lack of contact between Parks Service officials and the visiting public. I asked Mr. Smart if there were to be any attempt at establishing a naturalist service. He informed me that naturalists were serving in four of Canada's western national parks this summer, and that it is planned to expand this service to other parks in coming years.

It was interesting to learn that certain new, important areas are under consideration for inclusion in the national park system. Plans for these are indefinite. It may be best, at this time, to omit naming the locations. Suffice it to say that at least two of them are of outstanding park calibre. One is already designated as a provincial park, but as such, still is almost totally lacking protection. The other will bring into the system a kind of country not yet adequately included in either the parks of the United States or Canada.

A new national park has just been es-

During our stay in Baxter State Park, the great  
Mount Katahdin kept its elongated crest in the clouds.

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**Middle Head in Cape Breton Highlands National Park is a narrow tongue of land partly forested and partly covered with flower-filled meadows on high rocky cliffs.**

Established in New Brunswick, Canada, on the coast of the Bay of Fundy. The area contains eighty square miles of coniferous forest, predominantly of red spruce in the interior with white spruce and balsam fir along the coast. The park, as yet unnamed, and not yet ready for visitors, does not, perhaps, measure up to the standard of other great parks of Canada. Nevertheless, the area will serve as a good reservation for wildlife protection, and the forests represent typical wilderness of this part of the country. Superintendent E. T. Saunders, who is busy carrying out development work, greeted us at his temporary headquarters, and then very kindly drove us to the more scenic coastal spots for picture taking. We camped in the park that night.

Upon returning to the United States, we went directly to Acadia, our little national park on the Maine coast. Here, we knew, was to be sadness for us, for we must see

the devastation of last autumn's fire. (See NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for January-March 1948). Of all the national parks in our country, we are most familiar with this one. We know its trails and all its beauty spots well. Before going to the larger part of the park on Mt. Desert Island, however, we stopped at the Schoodic Peninsula area on the mainland. This is truly a gem. It is a national park in miniature, and, in the company of Ranger Juergensmeyer, we spent an entire afternoon and the following morning exploring and photographing its rocky coastal cliffs, Jack pine forests, its broad, shelving granite shores, where surf displays can be seen, and we went to its highest point, the summit of Schoodic Mountain. In the evening we showed our kodachromes to the ranger and his wife and a group of their friends.

Fire damage in the large part of the park on Mount Desert Island cannot be over-

estimated. The destruction of forests and scenic beauty is complete.

Our Association's President William P. Wharton was taking a vacation at Southwest Harbor, and, with him, we called on Superintendent Ben Hadley at park headquarters in Bar Harbor. Mr. Hadley gave us a vivid description of the fire.

With the assistance of Ranger Naturalist Doudna, I gave a lecture one evening at Black Woods Campground. We had an audience of 125, including members of the park ranger staff. We lectured again on the island to a smaller group at the Somesville home of Association member Mrs. Russell Wilson on another evening, and during our stay we climbed the Western Mountains with President Wharton. To stroll through the unburned forests in the

western part of the park is to feel more keenly than ever the superb beauty of Acadia.

It was with regret that I found there is still a sense of antagonism toward the park on the part of permanent residents on the west side in such communities as Southwest Harbor. Some of these good people feel that the Park Service has given far too much attention to development of trails, roads and other facilities in the eastern section of the park, with little being done near their own communities to make the area attractive and accessible to visitors. It takes but a glimpse at a map of park lands to see why this is so. On the eastern side of the island, park lands are well consolidated. On the west there is a patchwork pattern of park and private lands. The need

**We found the destruction of Acadia's forests complete, where last autumn's fire had swept through.**

National Parks Association





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**Association President William P. Wharton, center, and Executive Secretary Devereux Butcher and Mrs. Butcher explored Acadia's Western Mountain. They are shown here among the red spruces that cover the mountain's summit.**

is to add these intervening private tracts to existing park lands. Although the people want park development, they seem reluctant to have their lands added to the park to facilitate development.

In the past, the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations have been active in acquiring lands for the park. If the residents would see to it that the work of this organization is continued, and if they would cooperate by allowing their lands to be added to the park, it should be only a matter of a short time before the western part would become as important as the eastern. Action of this kind must come from the people; and if necessary, through their elected congressmen in the federal or state legislatures. It is well to keep in mind, too, that federal agencies like the National Park Service act in accord with the will of the people expressed through their legislators.

Throughout our trip we gave eight lectures, with kodachrome slides showing scenes, wildlife, and plantlife in thirteen national parks and six national monuments. Association members will realize, of course, that these lectures do not consist solely of exhibiting pretty pictures. While showing pictures of a park or monument in which a threat exists, the pending danger is briefly but forcefully pointed out. At such times, gasps can usually be heard from individuals in the audience, for almost no one knows that our parks and monuments are threatened in any way at all. Audiences showed keen interest. Each talk was followed by a question period, giving added opportunity to discuss pending dangers and the work of the Association to combat them. Furthermore, on each occasion, copies of the current magazine and membership folders were available free to anyone wishing them.

# Florida's Royal Palm Forest

Association members will recall that, as reported in the April-June magazine, Executive Secretary Butcher visited the newly established Everglades National Park last January and February, and while in the vicinity, also visited the royal palm-big cypress forest of the Fahkahatchee Slough. His article on this magnificent forest, strongly urging the earliest possible action to save at least a small part of it from the destruction of logging, appeared in the April-June issue, page 3, with a map showing location of the area, page 32.

Subsequently, Director Newton B. Drury of the National Park Service authorized that a study be made of the tract, and in May, Superintendent Daniel B. Beard and Chief Ranger Earl M. Semingsen of Everglades National Park, and C. R. Vinten, Co-ordinating Superintendent, Southeastern National Monuments, visited the area and wrote a report on their explorations. The report, in part, is as follows:

**W**E covered approximately twenty miles singly or as a group by logging railway and on foot with Mr. J. R. Terrel, logging superintendent of the Lee Tidewater Cypress Company, by arrangements made through Mr. Miles Collier of the Collier Corporation. All current logging operations were checked, and several areas where logging had been completed were noted. The only sections that we were unable to reach were those now grown up in the extreme southern part of the slough and some of the uncut portions in the northern tip.

Fahkahatchee Slough is located in Collier County north of the Tamiami Trail and west of the state road 164 extending north from the trail to Immokalee and Lake Okeechobee region. It is within townships 49 to 52 S. and Range 29 E. It is roughly twenty-five square miles in size.

Mr. Miles Collier told us previous to the visit that the Lee Tidewater Cypress Company purchased the lands in 1906 for future use. Mr. Terrel said that they had owned it since 1913 or thereabouts. It is possible that the corporation changed then. We do know that it had been held in private ownership over a considerable period of years because of cypress timber values. Actual logging operations on a big scale started as a war measure in 1944 and have continued to date.

Various botanists have mentioned this slough in the past, but it did not receive much publicity until the owners of Hialeah Race Track in Miami obtained some royal palms for transplanting at the track twenty years ago.

About 1941, Dr. John H. Davis of the University of Florida met Beard and Vinten in the field during the course of his botanical studies of southern Florida. At that time, he mentioned to them that western boundaries of the proposed Everglades National Park should include part of the Fahkahatchee as well as more of the Ten Thousand Islands. Dr. Buswell, of the University of Miami, made a similar suggestion.

Royal palm and cypress seem to be the dominant trees in the climax growth. Associated with these are red maple, Florida willow, Florida ash, cabbage palm, wax myrtle, Wright palm and such hammock growth as live oak, gumbo limbo and strangler fig. There are large numbers of air plants and epiphytic orchids. Various fresh water marsh plants are plentiful. There is a fairly dense tropical undergrowth of coffee bushes, marlberry and lancewood.

All forms of wildlife are the same as those characteristic of the Big Cypress Swamp country. The density of mammalian life is apparently greater than in the Everglades National Park. Mammals include the Florida black bear, otter, raccoon, bobcat, cougar, mangrove fox squirrel and white-tailed deer. We found more pileated woodpeckers than occur in similar areas of the park. Wood ducks and reptiles, including alligators, are relatively common. The egrets, herons and ibises are not as common as in open lands of the Everglades country. The only rookeries that we know of in this general area are the Corkscrew white ibis rookeries about twelve miles northwest of where logging is now tak-

ing place and six miles west of Lake Trafford. They are not endangered by the logging operations.

The impenetrable nature of the swamp, in past years, has been favorable to the protection of all species; but the situation in the future will be different unless protection is available. The network of old logging railroad grades has opened up all the inaccessible places and the advancing draglines and skidders are opening new country.

The Lee Tidewater Cypress Company has logged off the southern ten miles of the slough. At the time that we were there, they were working in Sections 2 and 3 of T. 51 S., R. 29 E. and should be in T. 50 S. sometime within the next six months. While Fahkahatchee Slough proper ends in the southern part of T. 49 S., the company expects to go beyond and estimates they will be working for the next sixteen years. We are not certain, however, whether they mean at this locality or in their other extensive holdings in Florida. We suspect that Fahkahatchee Slough will be completely logged off six years from now.

The operation was originally started to produce lumber for wartime needs and the base camp was built by the government (of California redwood, by the way). It is apparent that this logging operation could start only when prices were high because it is a very costly and somewhat cumbersome operation. The trees themselves are often hollow with a considerable amount of the "pecky" wood around the hollow core. After cutting, some trees are wholly discarded due to the tree being entirely center rotted. Before the war (1938) a similar project in the maximum boundaries of Everglades National Park was abandoned because of the quality of the wood. However, the demand for cypress is expected to hold because this wood is much desired and is now getting very scarce. If prices should happen to drop, a commensurate drop in labor costs would be expected (especially for this type of labor) and this already subsidized operation is far enough advanced so that economies could be reasonably expected that would permit continuance of the work.

Fahkahatchee Slough contains the largest stand of royal palms in the United States. It is the only place where a mature royal

palm forest is found in association with a mature cypress forest. This type of forest is entirely unique in this country. The importance of the royal palm stand is in the abundance of large trees growing in a limited area. To appreciate this point one has only to compare it with Paradise Key and Royal Palm Hammock (Collier County)—the only other mature royal palm colonies left. There are not over 150 mature trees in these two places combined. At Fahkahatchee Slough there are probably more than 5000!

No mature cypress forests exist within the present limits of the Everglades National Park; but examples of such will be included if present Congressional legislation is approved permitting the park to be expanded north and northwest. This will not be a cypress-royal palm forest, though.

We believe that there are now only about six sections of good royal palm-cypress area left uncut. This is north of present lumbering operations.

Logging operations have left raw scars, especially along right of ways. But, in this extremely fertile country, the scars heal quickly. In places where logging took place four years ago they are scarcely discernable and the average observer would not even know that cypress had been cut out.

Admittedly, it is unfortunate that logging is taking one of the last stands of cypress left in the United States—perhaps *the* last really big stand; but it may be too late to save it, and questionable if any extensive part of it ever could have been saved. If it took eighteen years for the Everglades National Park to become a reality, with all the support that the project had, what chance would there have been to acquire the Fahkahatchee Slough with its high valuation per acre? It is even questionable whether the Park Service, if it had owned the Slough, could have prevented logging of cypress as an emergency wartime measure when the actual need for cypress lumber was so great.

If a way can be found to save a single unlogged section of this slough, it should be worth while. More than a section may be impossible at this stage.

There is considerable beauty to Fahkahatchee Slough—a wild, humid, "Green Hell" type of beauty. The royal palm clusters or

colonies throughout the slough area are magnificent. The cypress does not have the same aspect as that which grows at Highlands Hammock State Park or Cypress Gardens. It does not have the hanging Spanish moss, or as much water at its feet. The cypress grows among many types of other trees and lacks, shall we say, the picturesqueness often associated with this species of tree.

We are frank to admit that the scenic value of the area, to our eyes, was not seriously impaired by the removal of the cypress. We are in full agreement that the royal palm forest without the mature cypress trees is well worth saving. Disregarding entirely all considerations of acquisition difficulties, political implications in relation to Everglades National Park, administrative problems, oil

leases on the entire area, or development questions, we would say that, standing alone, a considerable portion of Fahkahatchee Slough—cut and uncut alike—is worthy of consideration for national monument status. We believe that it would be a serious mistake to consider as valuable only the uncut parts of Fahkahatchee Slough. The feature to be stressed is the royal palm forest. However, by-passing a representative cypress and royal palm "exhibit" unspoiled by destructive logging operations, would be a "double-barreled" conservation move of greater public interest than an exhibit of royal palms in the midst of a cut-over forest. This idea seems worth discussing with the owners regardless of the agency that might ultimately administer it.

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## ADIRONDACK DAM PROJECT STILL PENDING

THE threat to the wild valley of the south branch of the Moose River in the Adirondack State Park, New York, is imminent. The proposal of the Black River Regulating District Board to construct the Panther Mountain dam has not yet been defeated, although hearings were held by the Board in June and July, with opposition expressed by forty individuals and organizations.

The National Parks Association, taking an interest whenever important wilderness reservations are threatened with despoilment, is represented on the Executive Board of the Adirondack Moose River Committee, which has led the fight to prevent the construction of dams on the Moose River.

At the hearings, the law firm of Hughes, Hubbard and Ewing acted as attorney for the National Parks Association, and for the American Nature Association, the Emergency Conservation Committee, the Wildlife Management Institute, the National Wildlife Federation, the New York Zoological Society and the American Planning and Civic Association. A separate brief was filed by Attorney Milo R. Kniffen on behalf of the Adirondack Moose River Committee.

Mr. Curtis E. Frank of the above-named law firm has submitted to our headquarters

a copy of the brief filed on our behalf with the Black River Regulating District Board. The brief finds no proof that the dam project is required by the public welfare, and points out that it is primarily a power project. Should the Board decide, contrary to the evidence, that public welfare requires construction of the dam, the brief contends that it be constructed at another site. The proposed St. Lawrence power project, says the brief, will render the Panther Mountain dam unnecessary for power purposes. It points out that provisions of the federal conservation and navigation laws require that, before a dam can be built on navigable waters, permission must be obtained from the Federal Power Commission and approval be given by the Army. This has not been done. The brief concludes: "The proposed Panther Mountain dam project is illegal and contrary to law and, on the basis of the evidence, the Board must determine that the public welfare requires that it be abandoned."

Mr. Frank has written us that if the Board decides in favor of the dam, and if further opposition is to be made, it will be necessary to petition the courts for a review.

## News from the Conservation Battlefronts

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE FOR THE QUETICO-SUPERIOR AREA, 919 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.—Information has come from Toronto that the Ontario government is inaugurating the same kind of zoning policies for the Quetico Provincial Park and the balance of the Rainy Lake watershed as we are planning ultimately to put into effect on our side of the international border. According to Mr. Wilson Cram, Chief of the Department of Recreation and Lands, "The days of cut and slash are over in Ontario." From now on logging will be done with consideration for recreational values. Shoreline timber of lakes and streams and islands, as well as stands along portages and trails, will be given protection everywhere. A comprehensive zoning program has been prepared which established several wilderness areas, both in the Quetico, and in the best lake country to the north and west of the Quetico. It is encouraging to know that both governments are already in accord in principle on a common type of administration for the area. Canada is much interested in our efforts to control the use of airplanes in wilderness areas, as she is faced with the same problem. If our efforts are successful, there is every hope that Ontario will apply the same regulations on her side of the border.—C. S. KELLY, E. C. OBERHOLTZER, O. J. MURIE, J. H. PRICE, W. ZIMMERMAN, JR., *The President's Committee.*

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY, 1840 Mintwood Place, N. W., Washington 9, D. C.—Wilderness preserves were greatly encouraged early in June when Congressman Clifford R. Hope, chairman of the House of Representative's Committee on Agriculture, submitted to the House a report entitled "Safeguarding and Consolidating Certain Areas of Exceptional Public Value within the Superior National Forest, State of Minnesota." The immediate import of this document—which dealt with the airplane-resort threat to the Superior Roadless Area—well warranted a feeling of encouragement, but its significance is general as well as particular and will justify special attention.

The report—it should, of course, be pointed out first of all—accompanied the Ball-Thye bill (S. 1090), which had been passed by the Senate. The report recommended that this bill be passed by the House with certain amendments, notably a substitution of the Blatnik bill's provision (H. R. 6240) regarding payments in lieu of taxes to counties within the forest for the similar section in the Senate bill. The recommendation was followed by the House, and subsequently, on June 21, President Truman, with the hearty approval of conservationists, signed the bill. It became Public Law 733 of the 80th Congress.

The law provides for the exchange of federal lands outside the Superior Roadless Area for non-federal lands within this wilderness. It also authorizes an appropriation of \$500,000 for purchasing non-federal lands within the roadless area. Finally, it removes local objections to a public land acquisition program by providing that the federal government shall pay annually in lieu of taxes "a sum of money equivalent to three-quarters of one percentum of the fair appraised value" of the lands within this area.

The new law thus enables the Forest Service to acquire holdings that have been exploited for resorts and resort prospects, made accessible by airplanes. At the same time, this Act of Congress demonstrates to Canada the earnestness of the United States in seeking to establish, with Canadian cooperation, the Quetico-Superior International Peace Memorial Forest. A worthy precedent has been established. The Congress has concerned itself with the preservation of wilderness.—HOWARD ZAHNISER, *Editor, The Living Wilderness.*

HAWK MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY ASSOCIATION, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Drehersville, Pennsylvania.—The Tenth Annual Report of the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association is a milestone in a unique venture. The sanctuary itself is four years older than the association, having been established in 1934 under the Emergency Conservation Committee. At that time, the protectors of birds and animals were in a house divided against itself. Hawks, most inspiring of winged crea-

tures, were anathema among the supposed bird-protectors. But a flame had been lighted by a few ardent spirits determined to save the hawks and other predators from extermination. In 1933, interest centered on Hawk Mountain, then a place of hawk slaughter. With the cooperation of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Broun, a sanctuary was established, protecting all forms of wildlife. In 1938, our headquarters was given to us. The 1938 report stresses the human migration to the mountain. We inaugurated our newsletters, now widely read. In 1939, we came to realize the love that our members felt for the peaceful mountain which then became a sanctuary for spiritual values. The year 1940 saw our first bunkhouse. Our many miles of boundaries were enclosed with a strand of wire to meet Pennsylvania laws. The 1941 report tells of hundreds of students coming to the Sanctuary. Almost without realizing it, we had grown into the "School in the Clouds." In the spring of 1942, Mr. Broun spent a month lecturing in the cities and countryside around Hawk Mountain, and spoke to no less than 14,077 people. A young officer of the Navy wrote, "Those months I spent at Hawk Mountain gave me a back-log of inspiration and strength to use when the going was rough." During the war years, the Association had been able to put aside a few thousand dollars in War-Saving Bonds. In 1946 and 1947, increased memberships permitted us to continue our year-round protection and educational work. With the return of the Brouns, the sanctuary took on a new aspect. Another shelter has been built, and two new outdoor fire places.

We need a recreation room, which could have an informal museum and a library. In such a room, moving pictures could be shown and lectures given as in the national parks. The recreation room well lighted, is our greatest need. Our sanitary facilities are inadequate. We need donations for capital expenditures. Our sanctuary was established in faith, but our support has always been at

the level of the widow's cruse. We have, perhaps, not voiced our needs loudly enough.—  
MRS. C. N. EDGE, *President*.

CALAVERAS GROVE ASSOCIATION,  
231 East Weber Avenue, Stockton, California.  
—The South Calaveras Grove of Big Trees is located in the drainage of Big Tree Creek, in northern Tuolumne County, California, four miles southeast of the North Grove, which is in Calaveras Big Trees State Park. The South Grove acquisition project covers 1400 acres. It is the fifth largest of the Big Tree groves.

The grove is owned by the Pickering Lumber Corporation. Cutting operations of the company have extended almost to the proposed park area. The company is willing to sell to the state, and has agreed not to cut in the grove during 1948. There is no guarantee for 1949.

The State Park Commission has set aside \$500,000 toward the acquisition of this grove. This money must be matched from sources other than the state before negotiations for the grove can begin. Some supporters of the acquisition insist that the virgin stand of sugar pine located northeasterly of the main grove area be acquired. The land, however, also is owned by the lumber corporation, and company officials have stated the pine forest is so vitally important to the commercially successful outcome of the operation, that the corporation will not voluntarily sell this unit even at a price sufficient to cover its computed value.

What you can do: 1. Activate your organization to publicize this project and enter into a fund-raising campaign. 2. Make a personal donation to the fund. 3. Advise the California State Park Commission, 1211 16th Street, Sacramento, if you set up a fund for collections in your area, and keep them advised of the amount available. Contribute now. Send your money to Depository, Stockton Saving and Loan Bank, Stockton, California.

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The word *wildlife*, not *game*, is the proper word to use in referring to the living creatures of the national parks and monuments. "Game" is a word used by gunners to designate the species they like to kill. Since killing is not carried on in the national nature reservations administered by the National Park Service, the word "game" should find no place in literature about these reservations.

# THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

**POISONOUS DWELLERS OF THE DESERT**, by Natt N. Dodge. Published by Southwestern Monuments Association, Popular Series No. 3, Santa Fe, 1947. 44 pages. Illustrated. Price fifty cents.

There is so much nonsense believed about the deadliness of the venomous creatures of the desert that the appearance of a detailed and accurate account of facts will serve a useful purpose. There are only about fifteen species in all that are poisonous to humans, and very few of them can cause death. Mr. Dodge gives descriptions of all of these animals, tells what happens when one chances to inflict a wound, and explains what to do to counteract the effects. The information is concise and definite, and the treatments recommended are so simple that anyone should be able to remember them in case of need. All are based upon the latest medical knowledge.

Anyone who views the desert with distrust will find his feelings relieved by this pamphlet. Most fears are groundless. The author and the Southwestern Monuments Association are to be congratulated for this excellent addition to the Association's publications.—*Fred M. Packard*.

**SILENT WINGS**, edited by Walter E. Scott. Published by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Mendota Beach Heights, Madison 5, Wisconsin, 1947. 42 pages. Illustrated. Price \$1.00.

This booklet is a memorial to the extinct passenger pigeon, and was prepared in commemoration of the unveiling of a monument at Wyalusing State Park, Wisconsin, in October, 1947, to the memory of the passenger pigeon. The booklet contains an article by the late Professor Aldo Leopold, *On a Monument to the Pigeon*; one by Dr. Hartley H. T. Jackson, *Attitude in Conservation*; two by Dr. A. W. Schorger, *The Passenger Pigeon in Wisconsin and the Problems in Its History* and *The Great Wisconsin*

*Passenger Pigeon Nesting of 1871*. The booklet is an historical document. Containing a number of extremely interesting accounts of a natural spectacle that we and future generations will never know, it sounds a warning to those who still persist in seeking pleasure through the killing of vanishing species, which, unless there is abandonment of such killing, will inevitably follow the passenger pigeon into oblivion. Every person concerned with the preservation of nature should own a copy of *Silent Wings*; and it should be in every school and public library.

**CAMPING CAN BE FUN**, by Robert W. Weaver and Anthony F. Merrill. Published by Harper and Brothers, New York, 1948. 241 pages. Illustrated. Price \$3.00.

Sound advice to campers is always welcome. In this day of gadgets and military surplus, it is easy to fall for attractive devices that do not serve their intended purpose. This book analyzes the merits and defects of many items of modern camping equipment, telling clearly and entertainingly which are suitable for hiking, automobile camping, or sojourning in wilderness areas or national parks. The book has been written especially for easterners who may not be familiar with the West. It prepares them for the requirements of pleasant enjoyment of the outdoors, and tells what kinds of facilities to expect. The style is witty, yet packed with odd bits of information gained through years of experience. Perhaps the most valuable chapters are those discussing camping courtesy and common sense safety. The authors suffer fools not gladly, and give invaluable tips on how to avoid being taken for a tenderfoot.

There are several excellent camping handbooks, notably Horace Kephart's *Camping and Woodcraft*, to which this book serves as an introduction. None of

the other books, however, attempts to provide an understanding of the policies of the national parks and national forests, or of the relationship of the citizen to the agencies administering them. This unique feature alone justifies the book, and every camper would do well to tuck a copy in his pack.—*Fred M. Packard.*

**ROAD TO SURVIVAL**, by William Vogt. Published by William Sloane, Associates, New York, 1948. 335 pages. Illustrated. Price \$4.00.

It is not surprising that *Road to Survival* has become a national best-seller; it is in many ways the most significant publication of the year. In pungent, vivid language, it clarifies the importance of conservation, explaining how man, like the Kaibab deer, is destroying the source of his sustenance. Mr. Vogt has the knack of turning a phrase, so that his decidedly original concepts are dramatic and vital.

The theme of this book is similar to that propounded by Fairfield Osborn in *Our Plundered Planet* (reviewed in the July-September issue), that thousands of years of ruthless despoilment of the land and a surging increase in human populations have led us to a precipice over which our culture will crash unless we act intelligently at once. Mr. Osborn's excellent volume was aimed primarily toward those who know little of conservation. *Road to Survival* presents a wealth of fascinating information that was perforce omitted from the earlier book; it is a study easily read by anyone who wants to know what conser-

vation is about, but is also invaluable to those long active in this field. The two books supplement each other, and both are provocative reading.

As Mr. Vogt points out, "Conservation is not going to save the world. Nor is control of population. Economic, political, educational and other measures also are indispensable; but unless population control and conservation are included, other means are certain to fail." He adds, "Freedom seems far less important when one's belly is rubbing one's backbone. Democracy . . . can scarcely flourish on a diet of ignorance and illiteracy, and mobs of people scratching a bare living from overcrowded, exhausted, eroding land are not in a position to build schools, buy books, and train and employ teachers."

The obvious solution is to follow the advice of those who know the natural values of the soil, which usually increases the yield in usable products at the same time, and to do so on a global scale. A tragedy of conservation is the belief that we are practicing soil, forest and wildlife conservation as a general program in America, which is far from the truth. There is no quick patent remedy for the ailment: we cannot coat seeds with synthetics to restore fertility to our soil (as was suggested in a ridiculous editorial on Mr. Vogt's book in a leading magazine), nor can we trust in hydroponics and chemicals to rebuild our land. Only vigorous public opinion, reflected in adequate funds and education, can secure assurance that human culture will survive.—*Fred M. Packard.*

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## A TWELFTH COMMANDMENT

**The Lord thy God hath placed upon the earth the wild creatures for thy pleasure and benefit. Thou shalt not molest them or disturb their homes. Thou shalt protect the forests and meadows and marshes of their dwelling places, and thou shalt not pollute the waters that are theirs. Thou shalt hold their lands inviolate against the encroachment of thy cities and thy roads, and shall in all ways see that their needs are met, so that they shall be able to perpetuate, each one its own kind, and none shall be exterminated from the face of the earth.**—*Devereux Butcher.*

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# Why the National Parks Association

## ORIGIN OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM AND SERVICE

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

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

## COMMERCIAL ENCROACHMENT AND OTHER DANGERS

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

Thus it is that a reservoir dam authorized in 1913 floods the once beautiful Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park; and that during World War I certain flower-filled alpine meadows in the parks were opened to grazing. The building of needless roads that destroy primeval character, the over-development of amusement facilities, and the inclusion of areas that do not conform to national park standards, and which sometimes contain resources that will be needed for economic use, constitute other threats to the System. The National Parks Association has long urged designating the great parks as *national primeval parks* to distinguish them from other reservations administered by the National Park Service. The Association believes such a designation would help to clarify in the public mind the purpose and function of the parks, and reduce political assaults being made upon them.

## THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

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

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

## THE NATIONAL PARKS AND YOU

To insure the preservation of our heritage of scenic wilderness, the combined force of thinking Americans is needed. Membership in the National Parks Association offers a means through which you may do your part in guarding the national parks, national monuments and other wilderness country.

THE WILDLIFE OF AMERICA  
BELONGS TO ALL THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA.  
IT IS NOT THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY  
OF A MINORITY GROUP  
WHOSE PRIMARY INTEREST IS TO HUNT WITH GUNS.