NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

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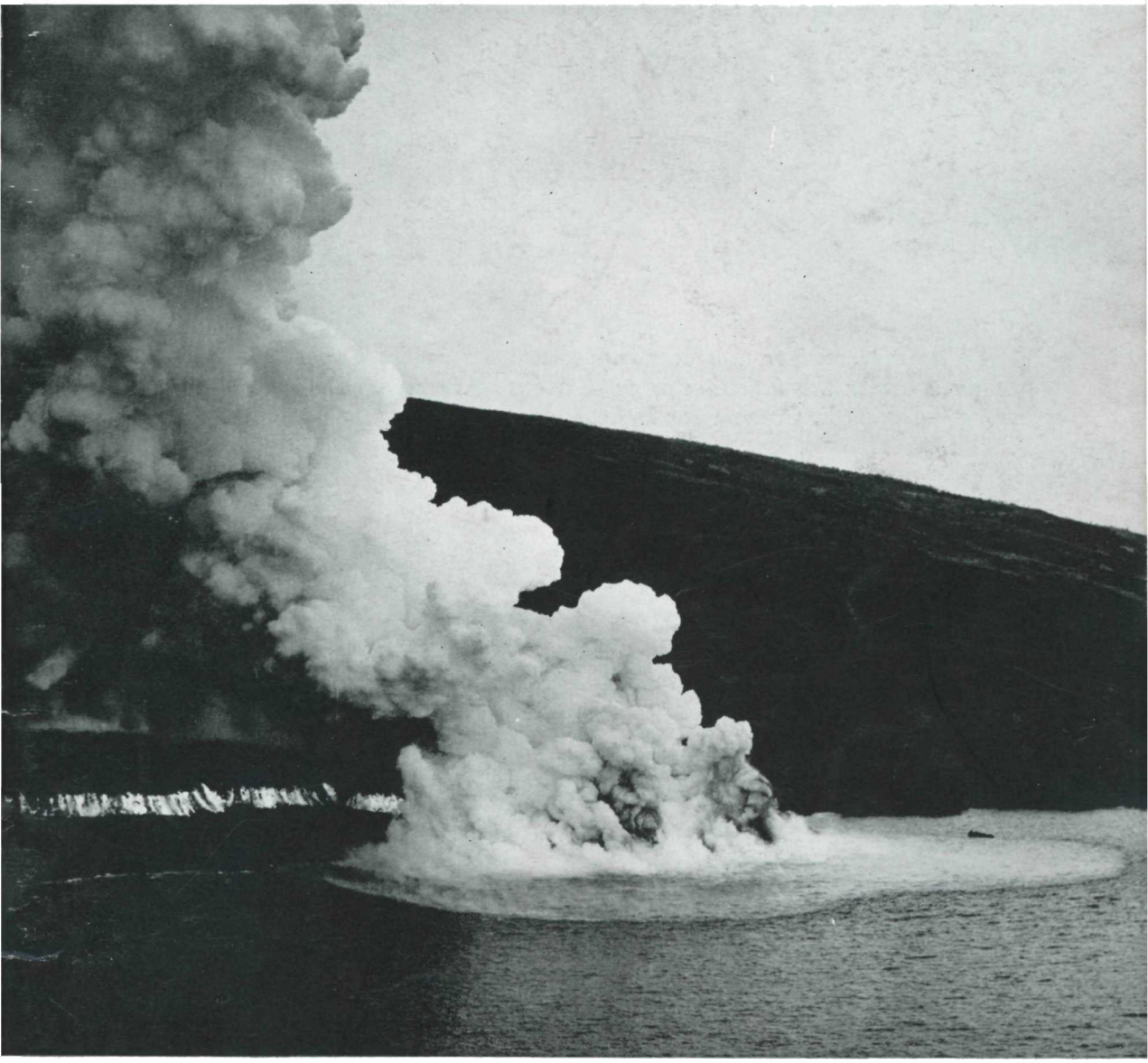

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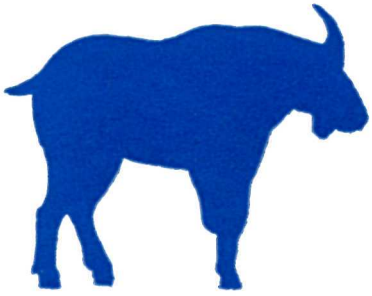

We do not consider that economic necessity justifies a moral wrong, and we do consider the infliction of torture on either man or beast as morally wrong.—DELOS E. CULVER for *Defenders of Furbearers.*

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

Published quarterly by

The National Parks Association

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

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DEVEREUX BUTCHER, Editor

October-December 1950 **CONTENTS** **Vol. 24; No. 103**

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.) School or library subscription $2 a year.

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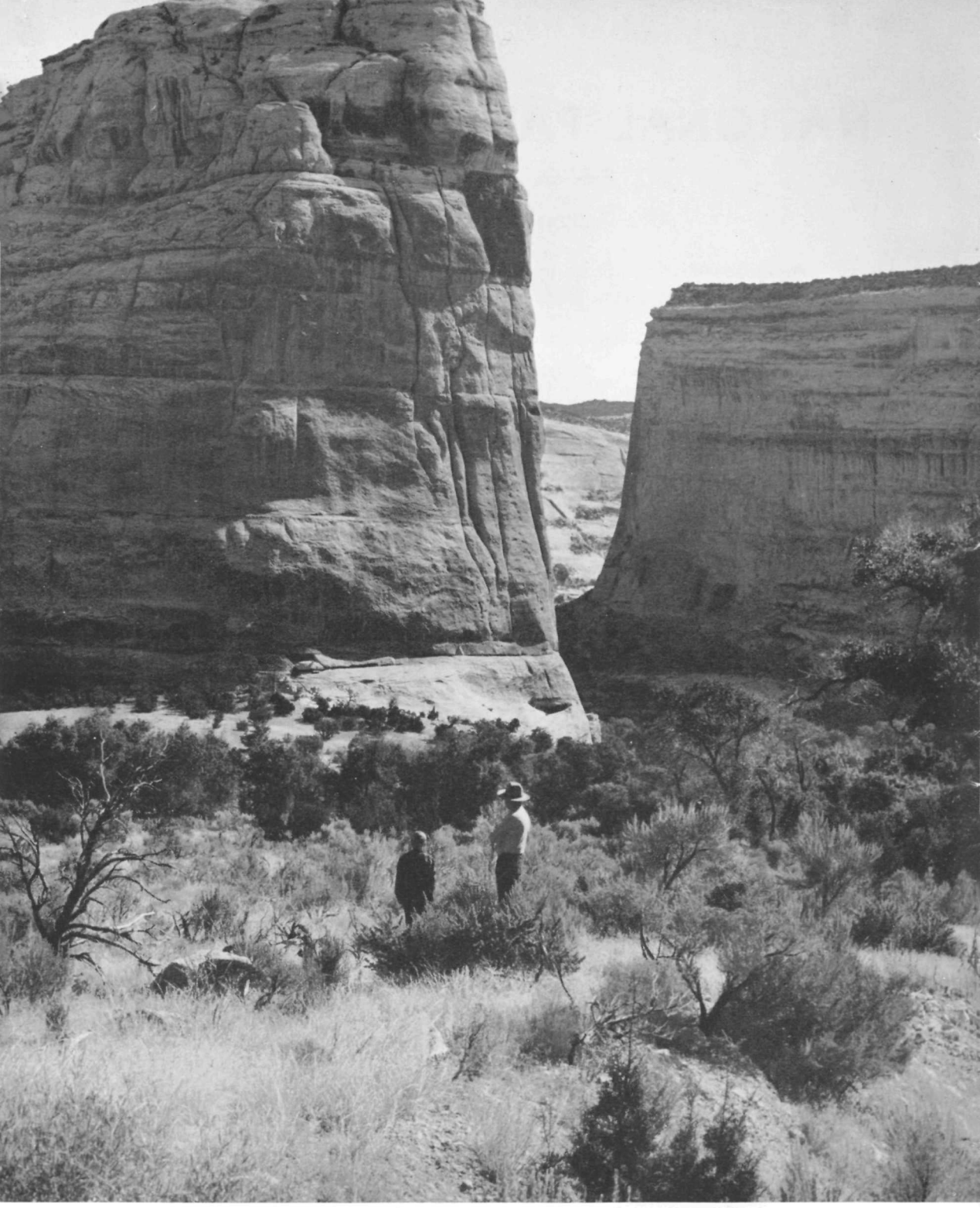
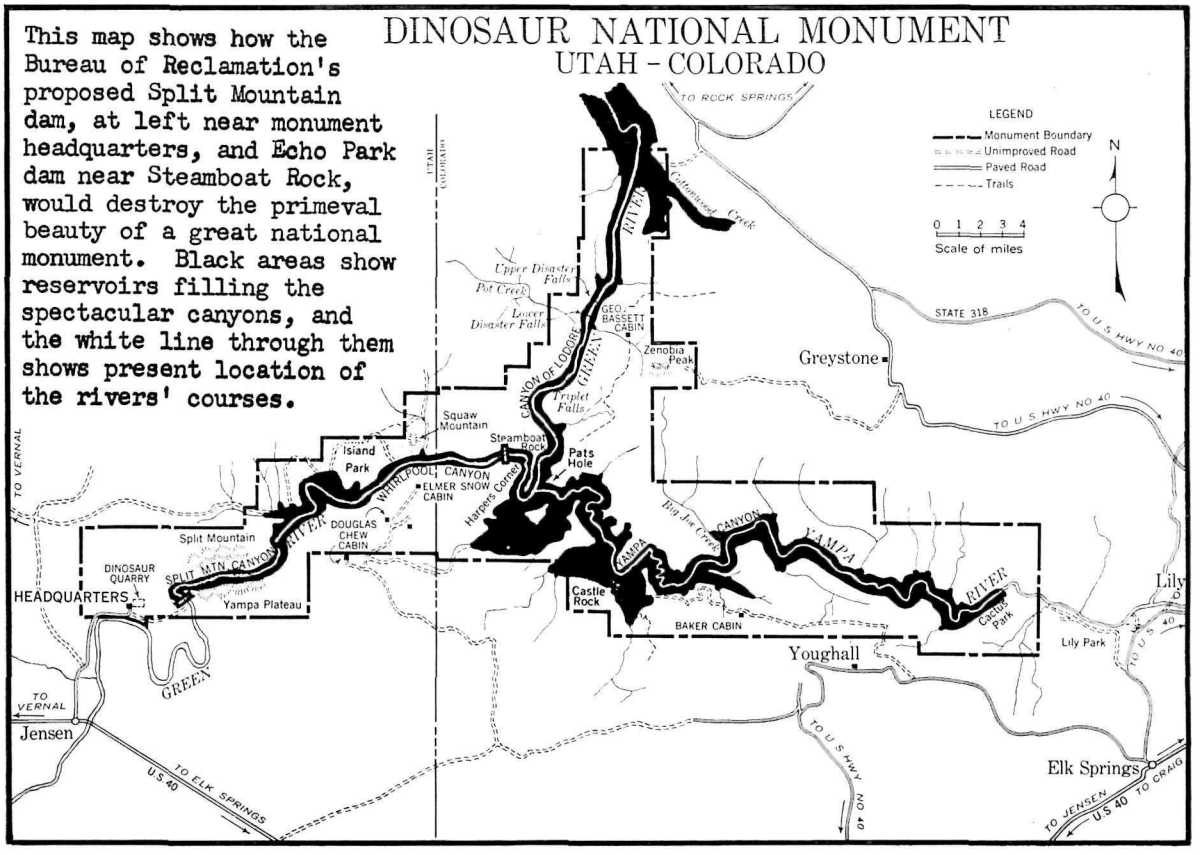


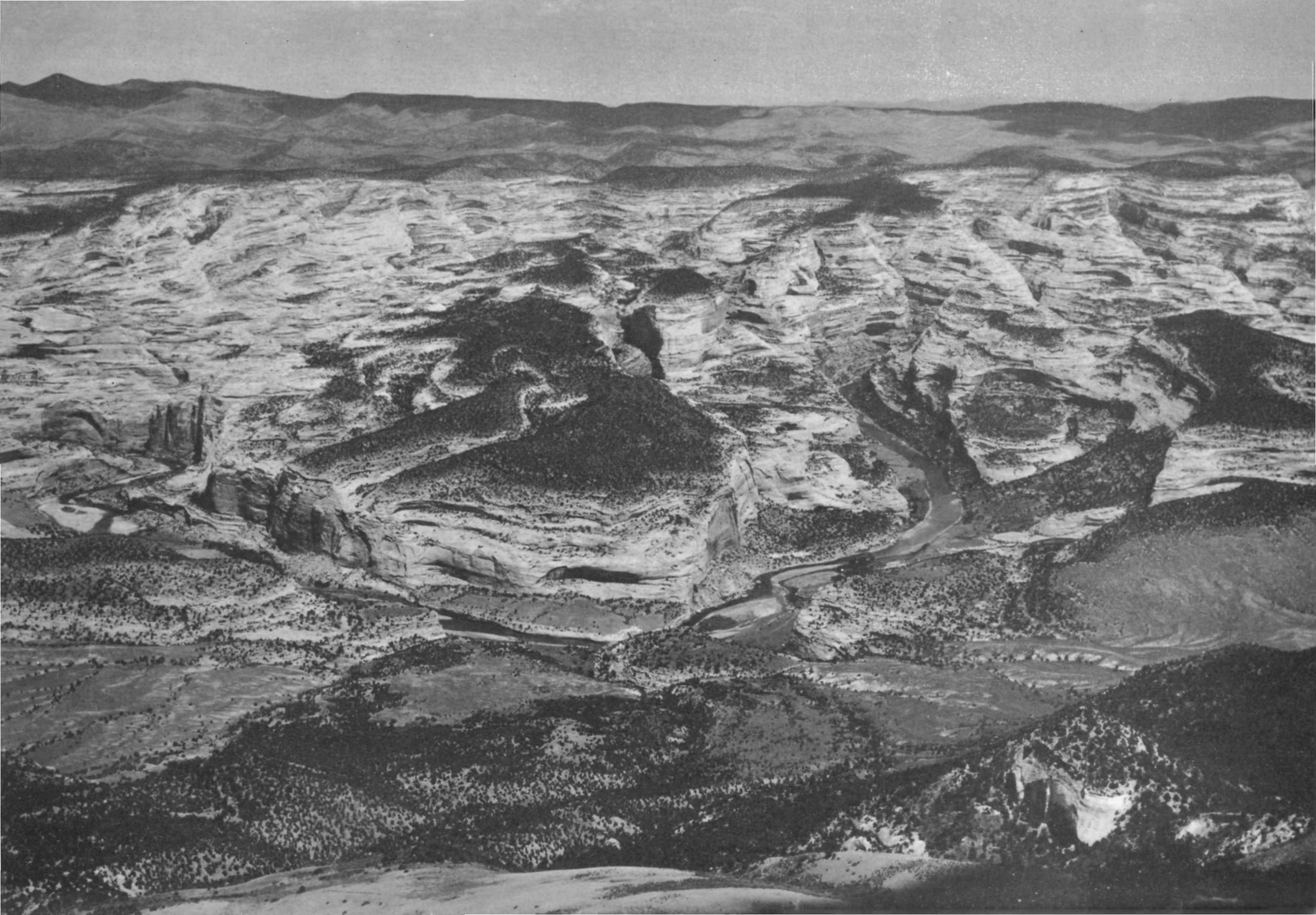
Symbol of Dinosaur National Monument is Steamboat Rock towering 800 feet above the floor of Pat's Hole. Only 300 feet will show above water if Echo Park dam is built.

THIS IS DINOSAUR

By DEVEREUX BUTCHER, Field Representative
National Parks Association
Photographs by the Author

AS you reach the summit of Round Top, highest point on the ridge of Blue Mountain, the land drops away suddenly 3000 feet, and like an eagle, you gaze down on the intricate, magnificent, turbulent landscape of Dinosaur National Monument. Below, and stretching eastward into the blue distance, are the pale canyons of the Yampa River gleaming with the color of ivory in the brilliant light of the midday sun. So snarled and twisted are those canyons that the river's main channel is hardly distinguishable; even at the oxbows near Harding's Hole, you must look carefully to find it. Nearest to Round Top is Castle Park, where the river makes a wide bend southward and then north. Here the clear, green water of the Yampa is visible until it enters the windings of Bear Canyon, from whence it soon joins the Green River at Pat's Hole, a little to the west. The top of the famous Steamboat Rock, at Pat's Hole, can be seen above the canyon's south rim, and just beyond, the dark red walls of





Lodore Canyon, through which flows the Green River from the north.

You will go down to Pat's Hole. A road plunges over the brink of Blue Mountain and enters Iron Springs Wash. Through juniper and piñon pine, it passes the head of Upper Pool Creek Canyon, rambles across sage-covered bench lands to drop into Sand Canyon and on across hot sage flats to wind down through Lower Pool Creek Canyon—red-walled, and grown with boxelder trees and cottonwoods. Here you stop to explore Whispering Cave and feel the cold, refreshing air that pours down through long gashes in the cave's roof. The canyon makes an abrupt turn beyond the cave, and there before you, framed by the mouth of Pool Creek Canyon, stands the towering form of Steamboat Rock, symbol of Dinosaur National Monument.

Your destination on this day is the road's end, just below the junction of the Yampa and the Green. In a grove of boxelders, you make camp. The sun is sinking now, and its last rays make the Yampa's north ramparts blaze with the color of flame, while the shadows of advancing night deepen in the canyons. The silence of the wilderness is broken only by the gentle, steady, distant sound of rapids made by the Green, where it emerges from its Canyon of Lodore. A wide, clean sand bar along the river's bank is the ideal place to sleep.

All through the still night there is no sound except the echo of rapids. No air stirs, and the sand bars and canyon walls long hold the warmth of sunny hours. Steamboat Rock stands in massive silhouette against the stars, its top 800 feet above.

Through the Yampa's mouth, the sky becomes luminous announcing the coming of day. Faintly, very faintly, detail shows on the broad eastward face of Steamboat Rock. Later, from high on the talus at the base of the cliff that forms the angle between the Yampa and Green, you look down on the meeting of the rivers. A rock wren scolds, and white-throated swifts chatter as a pair of these graceful birds skim past on vibrant wings, now far below, now high above, and on up, to vanish over the very crests of the lofty crags.

Beyond and above Steamboat Rock, high peaks catch the first rays of the rising sun, and presently, with dramatic effect, the brilliant light shafts down Yampa Canyon gilding the face of Steamboat. The meadows and boxelder groves of Pat's Hole are yet in shade. Now the light reaches the Yampa's clear green mirror pools. Where the sun touches the pale rock of the Yampa Canyon, horizontal striations show on the smooth curves.

A rough dirt road winds its way north in the high country toward Harper's Corner. Beyond the gray sage, the land dips a little, and you pass along through junipers and piñons, and stop within two miles of the tip of the corner. It is hot, now, even at this altitude of 7500 feet above sea level. The sun is brilliant, although clouds hover above the Uinta Mountains far to the west. A trail climbs over several tree-clad hills and brings you toward the ever narrowing tip of Harper's Corner. When the ridge pitches steeply down on each side, there are sudden and unexpected views east and west through the trees. To the right, and so far down that it all looks like a toy landscape, is Pat's Hole. There towers Steamboat Rock, the Green winding around its prow. There is the twisting canyon of the Yampa in view over the knife-edge of the rock; and there, easily visible from this high point, is the Canyon of Lodore. To the left is Whirlpool Canyon. Farther on, the ridge continues to narrow, and the trail comes out of the trees. You may go on to the very tip if you wish, but to get there, you will cross a neck of rock only twenty inches wide. Here you stand in one spot,

From Round Top, you look down 3000 feet to Castle Rock and the winding canyons of the Yampa. At upper left is Zenobia Peak.

When the morning sun tops the rim of Yampa Canyon, it illuminates the mirror pools of the river. Echo Park dam *would raise the water more than halfway up these walls.*

and with a slight turn of the head, look down an almost sheer drop of 2800 feet to the river on each side. Where the river bends around the corner is the place a dam is planned to be built. All of the magnificent wild natural canyons to the right will be submerged under 500 feet of water. Only 300 feet of Steamboat Rock will show above. The superbly beautiful windings of the Yampa will be submerged. Gone will be the bright green pools, the peaceful groves of boxelders, willows and cottonwoods, and no more will be heard the distant echoing of rapids.

To reach Rainbow and Island parks, you will take a road west of the monument, winding north, then east through rolling ranch lands and sage-covered rangeland. Climbing, it will bring you to the top of a hill from the base of which stretches the lowlands of Island Park, with the precipitous wall of the Yampa Plateau beyond to the south. Across Island Park flows the Green River, just emerging from Whirlpool Canyon. After the turbulence of the canyon, the river rests awhile, meandering among green islands bordered by big cottonwoods. Soon it is to become turbulent again as it plunges into Split Mountain Canyon. From your vantage point on the hill, you see the spectacular gap of Whirlpool and the forbidding chasm of Split Mountain Canyon.

From the Rupel Ranch in Island Park, you go to the mouth of Whirlpool Canyon by crossing a mile of meadow, and then following the river's sandy shore; and you approach the entrance to Split Mountain

Canyon by a road to Rainbow Park, and then following the bars along the river's bank for a mile or more.

At Split Mountain Gorge, to the south, the Green River bids farewell to the monument and its wild canyons to flow peacefully through green farms on its way southward through Utah to its junction with the Colorado. But if the river bids farewell to the canyons here at the Gorge, this is where you enter afoot, to explore, perhaps alone, its grandeur and solitude. A road terminates at the gorge, and a rock formation on each side of the river comes down to the water, blocking your passage. You must climb high along the west bank, and follow deer trails upriver. If you go in mid-afternoon, you will find the red canyon wall, 2000 feet above you, casting welcome shade across your trail. Below, the river washes the very foot of the cliff, and in places, boils and hisses and rises in waves of foaming rapids. At the bend, you come down to the water's edge and rock-hop, eventually following a series of sandy beaches where the going is easy and restful after the hard climb along talus and cliff. This is the site of another dam proposed to be built inside the national monument. The glorious sense of solitude you are enjoying, the peace and beauty and quiet of the place, may some day soon be shattered by exploding dynamite and the roar of machinery. Rapids will be silenced, and upstream from here, through the length of Split Mountain Canyon, into Rainbow and Island parks, and on through Whirlpool Canyon to the foot of the dam at Harper's Corner, all will be submerged beneath a reservoir up to 200 feet deep.

Leaving its red-walled Canyon of Lodore, the Green River flows along the base of Steamboat Rock to join the Yampa at Pat's Hole.

For a glimpse of the Green River, at the north end of the monument, go to Maybell, Colorado, and from there take the road northwest for sixty miles across the rolling expanse of sage flats and juniper forests to where the river leaves the open country of Brown's Park to plunge through the Gate of Lodore. At road's end, a walk across a small plateau brings you to the brink of a cliff high above the quiet Green. Just beyond is the magnificent Gate of Lodore—the entrance to the awe-inspiring, sheer-walled red canyon. Here the Green starts its turbulent journey through the national monument. This, like the rest of the monument, will some day become a destination for tourists from all parts of the nation and from foreign countries, if preserved as nature made it. But even here, fifteen miles, as the crow flies, from the dam site at Harper's Corner, the effect of the dam would be felt, for the reservoir would inundate the Canyon of Lodore to a depth of 200 feet at this, its upper end.

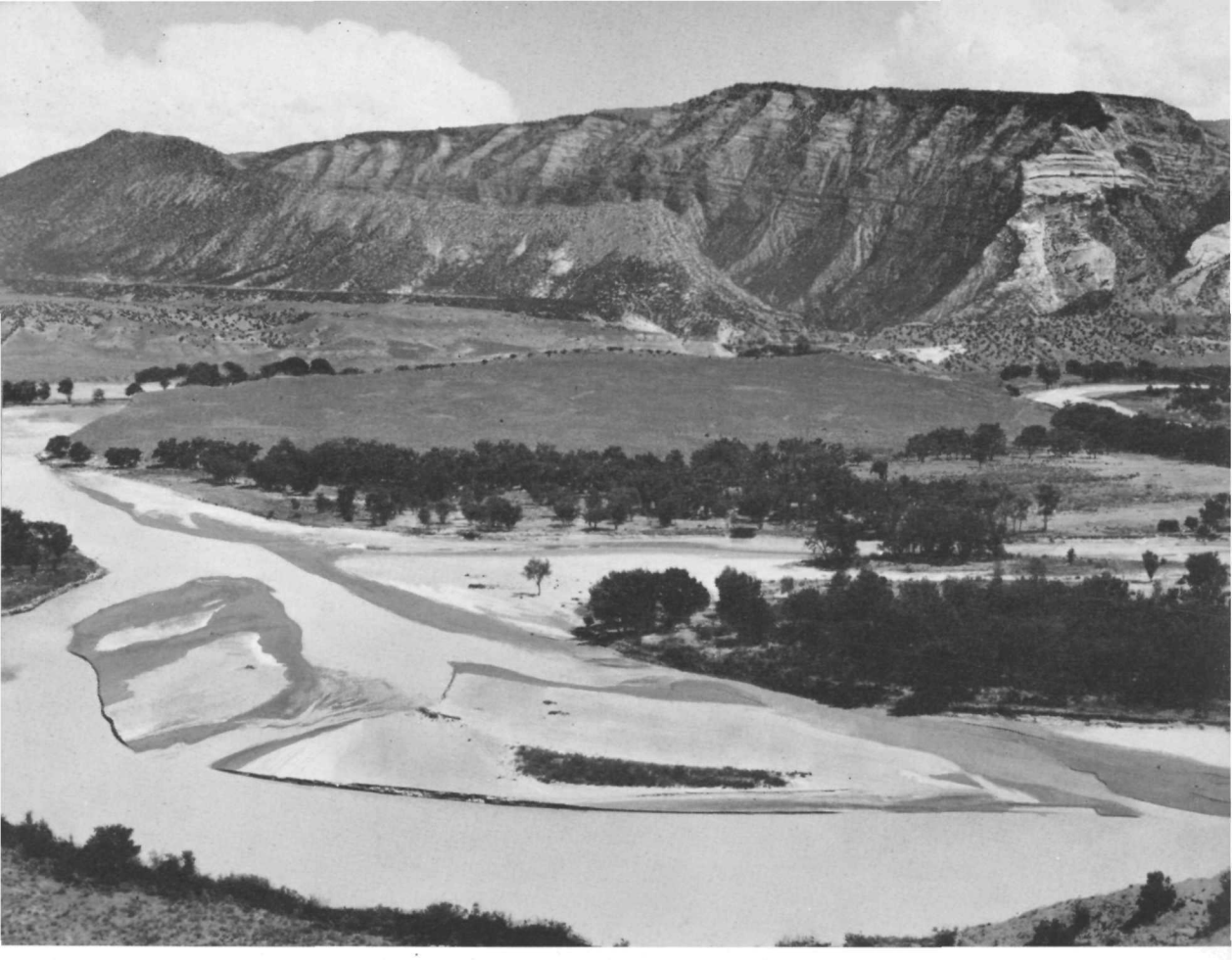
In the near-by towns they will tell you the monument is inaccessible. Most of the local people believe that, and as a result, few of them have ever seen it. Tell them you have been there, describe what you have seen, and they will look at you as though you had dropped in from outer space.

The area is accessible, but not easily explored. The day before we visited Pat's Hole, seven cars had been there. On our way out, we met a sedan full of tourists going in. The wife of a rancher, who lives in the monument down near Pat's Hole, has just bought a big new Buick. Every time the lady wants to go to town, she drives that heavy car out over the sandy, rocky road. Yes, Pat's Hole is accessible, as are many other parts of the monument, and if you want to see the reservation you can; but don't wait. Those magnificent canyons may not remain much longer as nature made them.

From Harper's Corner, there is an incomparable view eastward across Pat's Hole and Steamboat Rock to the Yampa's maze of canyons.

Here's what has happened: In 1938, the canyons were set aside to be preserved in perpetuity as one of this nation's great and spectacular natural exhibits of undisturbed scenic grandeur. During World War II, engineers of the Bureau of Reclamation entered the area in search of dam sites for water storage and power development. They gave notice, thereafter, that two sites, Echo Park (the site at Harper's Corner) and Split Mountain Canyon, were essential to the water and power development plan for the Upper Basin of the Colorado River system. The Green and Yampa rivers are part of that system. Since World War II, Bureau of Reclamation engineers have brought their proposal to the people of Utah and western Colorado. From the engineers' representations, the people in the region are convinced that these dams will provide the primary storage and diversion point for irrigation water; that they are needed to provide storage in the Upper Basin to meet apportionment of water to Arizona and California, under the Colorado River Compact; and that sufficient power will not be available except by construction of Echo Park dam. Because of these beliefs, the people of Utah, particularly the communities in the vicinity of the monument, are now clamouring for the construction of these two dams. The "western block" in House and Senate hears that clamour, and is ruled by it, instead of by facts.

The facts are: 1. all information released up to now indicates that water for central Utah has been programmed to come from Flaming Gorge dam to be constructed upstream from the monument; 2. that Glen Canyon reservoir on the Colorado River is the one from which water will be released to states downstream under the Colorado River Compact, and this together with water from storage reservoirs upstream,



After leaving the turbulence of Whirlpool Canyon, shown in the distance, the Green River meanders across Island Park. All of these lowlands will be flooded if Split Mountain dam is built.

other than the two proposed for the monument, will meet the Compact agreement adequately; and, 3. that all the necessary power can be generated at dams already proposed as alternates, at sites other than those in the monument.

The Colorado River Compact provides that the Upper Basin states shall deliver to the Lower Basin states 75,000,000 acre-feet of water every ten consecutive years, and that 7,500,000 acre feet shall be apportioned each year to the Upper Basin states for consumptive use. This requires 48,500,000 acre feet of storage.

Clarifying the Compact, Commissioner of Reclamation Michael W. Straus wrote the author, September 19, 1950, in part as follows: "The 48,500,000 acre-feet of storage is our best estimate of the total amount of storage capacity which will be required to permit beneficial consumptive use of the 7,500,000 acre-feet allotted to the Upper Basin states, while at the same time complying with the provisions of Article III (d). In arriving at this amount of storage capacity, there must be taken into consideration such items as sediment deposition in the reservoir areas, net evaporation from the reservoir areas, operation of the reservoirs for multiple purposes, and similar items."

Because dam construction within any

national park or monument is a violation of the national policy of complete protection of primeval conditions within such reservations, those interested in defending the national park and monument system against commercial and engineering raids, have asked that the two dams be omitted from the Upper Basin program. (Let me emphasize: They are opposing *only two dams* of the *twenty or more* big projects proposed for the Upper Basin.) Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman, therefore, held a hearing on April 3, 1950, in Washington, D. C., so that both sides might express themselves concerning the two Dinosaur Monument proposals. The Secretary had agreed that as a result of testimony presented, he would decide whether or not the policy of the Department would favor the construction of these dams.

Officials of the National Park Service and representatives of conservation, nature protection and wilderness preservation groups spoke in defense of the long-standing policy of the National Park Service; while officials of the Bureau of Reclamation, mayors and representatives of chambers of commerce, and senators and congressmen from Utah and Colorado spoke for the dams. On June 27, Secretary Chapman's policy-shattering decision favoring the dams was announced.

Immediately following that decision, I made plans to go to Utah and Colorado to get, at first hand, the proponent's side of the story. Was all this talk about the need for water based on a real need? Why was there so much demand for power develop-

The spectacular mouth of Whirlpool Canyon, with its Douglas firs, is typical of the three great canyons of the Green, and strikingly different from the smooth-walled gorges of the Yampa.

Beyond Rainbow Park, the Green flows on to the entrance of Split Mountain Canyon. These lowlands and canyons will be inundated if Split Mountain dam is built.

ment in a region so sparsely inhabited?

I wanted also to visit Dinosaur National Monument to see for myself whether the area really contained a superb exhibit of nature as some said, or whether it was of inferior quality or perhaps essentially duplicated elsewhere in the park and monument system.

In six weeks, I travelled 3700 miles in the two states, and wherever there was opportunity, I talked with the people. They ranged from mayors and newspaper men to grocery store clerks. Conversations showed a great deal of confusion in the minds of the people regarding Bureau of Reclamation plans.

There was a general feeling that this is "a fight between East and West," to quote the local press. Actually, this problem, like dozens of others that have occurred during the past fifty years, is a matter of protecting a unit of the national park system, and therefore, the system as a whole. People from coast to coast, not just easterners, are striving to defend the monument.

Most people not in official positions thought there were only two dams to be built—the two in the national monument—and that from these would come all the power and water needed. According to the Bureau of Reclamation, these two dams are primarily for power development. Some

understood there were other dams planned for the Upper Basin, but the number of these dams varied from two or three to nine or so. The names of the proposed Glen Canyon and Flaming Gorge dams were familiar to a few. Actually, the Bureau has suggested over twenty projects for the Upper Basin alone. The Bureau admits that the exact number cannot be determined at this time.

In Utah's central valley, I found there is desperate need for more water. At Salt Lake City and southward to such towns as Nephi, populations are growing fast and industries rapidly expanding. At Nephi, in the summer of 1949, for instance, the mayor received up to sixteen telephone calls a day urging immediate action to get more water. Like the people of New York City recently, they did not have enough water for cooking and washing. No part of our country should remain under hardship like that, if it is humanly possible to remedy. Flaming Gorge reservoir will take care of this central valley need as the Bureau of Reclamation plans.

One central valley newspaper editor said he intended to write an article on the Dinosaur dams. Conversation brought out that he knew nothing about the subject except that the Park Service had expressed opposition to the construction of two dams,

Here the Green leaves Split Mountain Canyon and the monument to start its long journey to the Colorado River. On the horizon is the ridge of Blue Mountain.

In Split Mountain Canyon, where red walls tower above the Green, engineers propose to build Split Mountain dam. Looking north, this view shows the dam site at the last bend of the river in the monument.

which the people of his community thought they needed. He finally admitted he had to read up on it. The Bureau of Reclamation is not planning to bring water to the central valley from the Dinosaur dams, but from Uinta Basin streams, and this may be supplemented by water from Flaming Gorge dam. No one is opposing construction of Flaming Gorge dam. May I ask, how can people know the truth, if the men whose job it is to shape public opinion are themselves ignorant of the facts?

As for any understanding of the national policy governing the national parks and monuments, this I found almost wholly lacking everywhere. In the course of conversation with the mayor of a small Colorado town near the monument, I pointed out that, if these two dams do go in, the many pending threats to other parks and

monuments will receive impetus. He said he had heard of no other threats, and asked what they were. When I told him of the Army Engineers' scheme to build a dam that would flood 20,000 acres in Glacier National Park, and one that would fill the wonderful caverns of Mammoth Cave National Park, of the Bureau of Reclamation's plan to turn Grand Canyon National Monument and eighteen miles along Grand Canyon National Park's boundary into a reservoir by building the proposed Bridge Canyon dam in Arizona, of eight bills introduced in the 80th Congress to permit logging of Olympic National Park's incomparable rain forest, and so on, he said that he considered we had a strong argument against the Dinosaur dams. The general public simply is not informed about these things. Of course, Bernard DeVoto's article in a recent issue of the *Saturday Evening Post* has reached a fairly wide audience and has helped to create enlightenment. I am certain that if the public were aware of the constant efforts of exploitive interests to invade and destroy our wonderful national parks and monuments, there would be few if any such selfish efforts made, and the reservations would be forever secure.

At the nearby community of Vernal, in Utah, there is greater interest in construction of the Dinosaur dams than anywhere else. It is true that there are phosphate and asphalt deposits near by, and if power can be made available, these can be mined; but the huge dam planned for Flaming Gorge can provide adequate electricity. It is not generally known, even in Vernal, that from the Flaming Gorge reservoir, water will be distributed to the central valley, along with water from the Uinta Mountains, some of which will be diverted to Vernal and other communities in that part of the state.

A gas station attendant at Vernal summed up in one sentence all the conversations I had with people in that town. He said, "What we are interested in is a business boom."

In the West, undue emphasis has been given the potential recreational benefits anticipated from artificial lakes. The reservoirs that would flood Dinosaur's canyons are being compared with Lake Mead by some proponents. Reservoirs with fluctuating shore-lines provide good fishing in their first years, usually declining thereafter. Fishing on Lake Mead is diminishing today. How long could good fishing, the chief attraction at newly established reservoirs, be expected to last in the Dinosaur lakes? Most people who come to fish at such reservoirs are local people. They add no wealth to local coffers. On the other hand, consider the national parks and monuments —those superb, unmatched areas of primeval nature. They attract people from all over the country, and tourists leave their dollars. National parks are big business. Contrast this with the temporary character of money from dam construction, and the meager benefits that may accrue from reservoir fishing.

The Bureau of Reclamation has come bearing gifts and great promises of wealth. The people concerned should look this "gift horse" in the mouth. Those who advocate turning Dinosaur into a recreational area like Lake Mead should appreciate the fallacy of substituting secondary artificial recreation, that is available in many other places, for primary natural recreational assets that are unique. More than a hundred potential projects are outlined in the Bureau of Reclamation's Colorado River Report. These would convert nearly all of the canyons and valleys of the Colorado basin into a series of reservoirs possessing almost identical recreational potentialities. The Missouri, the Columbia, the Ohio and other big river systems are slated for the same treatment, while the Tennessee is already dammed. How much pulling-power will Dinosaur hold for tourists if it should comprise just two of literally hundreds of similar artificial lakes? If Dinosaur is left unspoiled, the unique canyons of the Yampa and Green will remain a superbly magnifi-

After passing through Flaming Gorge, Red Canyon, and across Brown's Park, the Green River enters Dinosaur National Monument here at the magnificent Gate of Lodore.

cent attraction to the people of every state. Such untouched scenic grandeur is becoming progressively scarce. For a fraction of the cost of the two dams, the Park Service could provide facilities to serve the public. When that has been done, the railroads, bus lines and air lines will advertise it and attract wealth to the communities. That the monument is not now ready for the general public and being advertised, is as much, if not more, the fault of the local people than anyone else. Since they are the ones who stand to benefit most in a financial way, and are eager for a business boom, why have they not long ago urged their representatives in Congress to provide the Park Service with funds to develop the area?

Officials of the Bureau of Reclamation are using every means to win local support for the Dinosaur dam sites. That dam construction there would wipe out an area that can someday become one of the nation's great national parks, and would endanger the future protection of the entire park and monument system, is of no concern to them.

In 1936, when the enlargement of Dinosaur National Monument was being proposed, the Bureau of Reclamation was not considering dams at Echo Park and Split Mountain, but rather had proposed a dam at Brown's Park at the north end of the

(Continued on page 154)

GUEST EDITORIAL

SAVE THE PARKS AND MONEY

The following appeared recently as an editorial in the Cleveland Plain Dealer. *Although it is the policy not to reprint articles in* NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, *it is felt that this piece reflects the views of many people outside the field of nature protection, and will therefore be of special interest to our membership.*

Here is a suggestion to members who want to contribute toward park protection: Write, or encourage to have written, editorials on this subject in your local newspapers.—Editor

THE *Saturday Evening Post* article, *Shall We Let Them Ruin Our National Parks?*, is exceptionally significant at this time.

In all times the question would be of broad public interest, for as the *Post* points out, the parks "were set aside to the sole end that they should be preserved as they are, that there should always be places where Americans could have the inestimable experience of untouched wilderness, unspoiled natural beauty and unmarred natural spectacle."

The parks under consideration are those wondrous and magnificent effusions of nature in the great West—Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon and all the rest that have filled travelers' souls with awe since the hardy pioneers first explored them a century and a half ago.

They are imperiled by reclamation and engineering projects cooked up by the Army Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation. The *Post* reveals that a reservoir threatens to undermine and bring down Rainbow Bridge. It informs the reader that government agencies contemplate building a dam which would transform the tempestuous Green River in Lodore Canyon into a lake 500 feet deep.

In all times projects of this sort, which are numbered by the hundreds, consume huge piles of taxpayers' dollars with results of doubtful value. Millions are spent, and the taxpayers get a lake where a few solitary souls may go fishing once in a while. When the planners bid to destroy our finest natural beauties besides, their projects become a public menace.

But to come down to the present moment, we find the administration in need of extraordinary revenues for military purposes. It is asking the people to make sacrifices. The people in turn are justified in asking the federal government to tighten its belt; and one place the government can save is in these varied programs mainly useful for giving federal agencies something to do.

The government can preserve the national parks and save money for the war at the same time by calling a halt to reclamation and engineering schemes which are not absolutely essential to the national welfare.

See *Shall We Let Them Ruin Our National Parks?* by Bernard DeVoto, in the *Saturday Evening Post* for July 22, 1950.

As explained in *This Is Dinosaur*, page 123, Field Representative Butcher went to Colorado and Utah to talk with the people there, and to explore the monument. To obtain additional facts, he interviewed officials of the National Park Service and Bureau of Reclamation, and studied the Secretary of the Interior's *Colorado River Report of 1947*, the Department's *Survey of Recreational Resources of the Colorado River Basin*, the transcript of the testimony presented at the Secretary's April 3 hearing, and other source material. Before publication, the article was submitted to several authorities to ensure accuracy.

MAUNA LOA ERUPTS AGAIN

By V. R. BENDER, JR., Park Ranger
Hawaii National Park

STONE STRUCTURES crumbled; water tanks collapsed, and buildings glided on their foundations, when Mauna Loa showed her restlessness on the afternoon of May 29, 1950, with a strong earthquake that jolted the 4300-square-mile Island of Hawaii. About three days later, Mauna Loa resumed volcanic activity along its weak southwest rift.

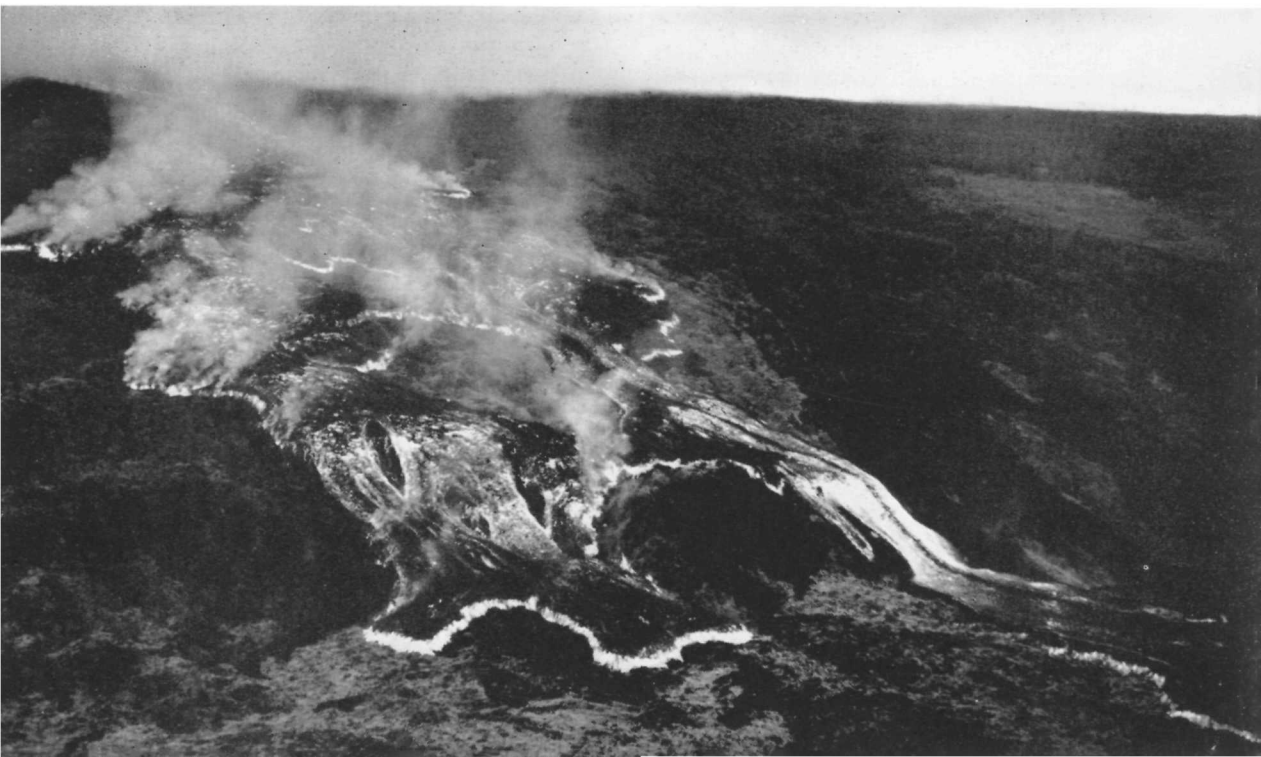
The outbreak of lava occurred shortly after nine o'clock in the evening along a crack two and a half miles long between the 11,000- and 12,000-foot levels of the mountain. A continuous tremor indicated that the lava column was nearing the surface. Heavy rumbling sounds caused by fountaining at the source were audible at park headquarters, twenty-two airline miles away.

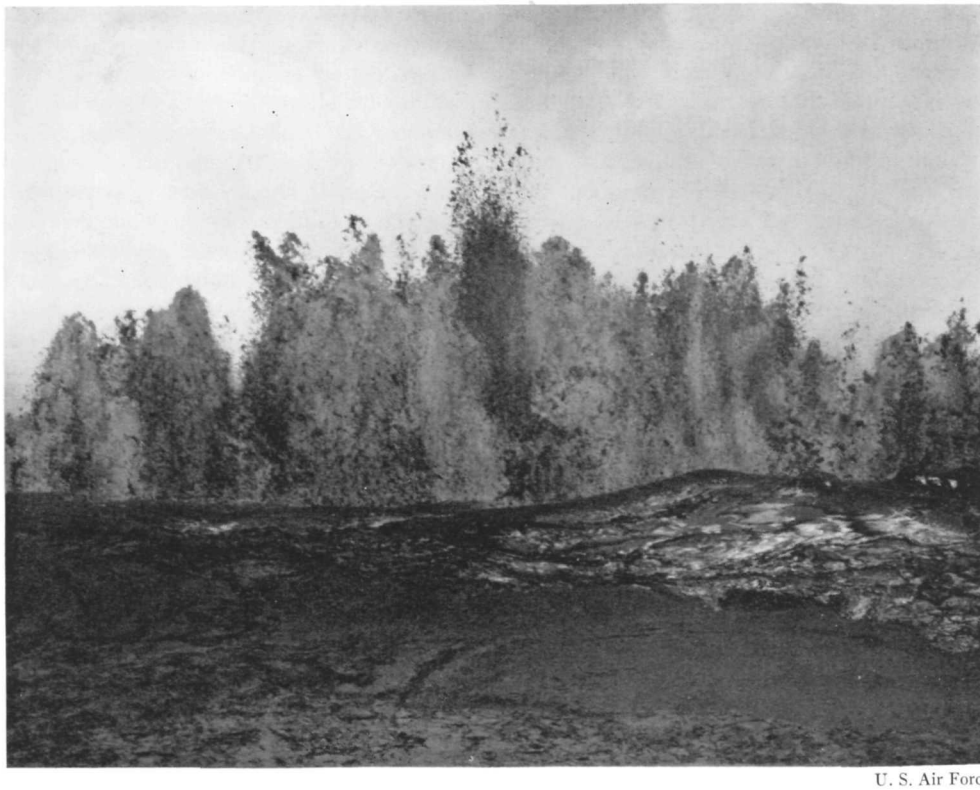
All along the fissure, an orange-red cloud reached almost two miles into the air. Wind currents caused the cloud to mushroom, taking on the aspect of an atomic bomb explosion. The glow outlined the graceful sloping form of Mauna Loa against the sky. Its illumination was strong enough to tinge clouds over the ocean, fifty miles to the south. Honolulu, 160 airline miles away, reported that the glow was visible from Diamond Head.

Fifty-five minutes after the initial outbreak, a small white cloud began rising on the southwest rift of the mountain, at an elevation of 8000 feet, revealing another source of activity. In an hour and a half, the activity along this fissure had progressed toward the summit to the 10,000-foot elevation, extending over a distance of seven miles. As a rule, this progression works toward lower instead of higher elevations. There was no activity other than fume extrusion between the 10,000- and

Fiery streams of lava pour down the slopes of Mauna Loa and onto the coastal plain before plunging into the ocean.

U. S. Air Force





U. S. Air Force

Along the rift rises a curtain of fire, with fountains nearly 300 feet high.

11,000-foot levels. The combined length of the two fissures was nine and a half miles.

The scene of the southwest rift from park headquarters was thrilling, as the fiery, swirling clouds reached high into the sky. It was at once terrifying and beautiful.

Less than four hours after the eruption began, lava from the lower fissure poured across the around-the-island highway and plunged into the ocean. On its way, it destroyed part of the small Hawaiian village of Hookena *mauka*. Twenty structures were burned by the stream of lava, including a church, post office, gasoline station and several private homes. Lyman P. Lincoln, 89, a cousin of the Civil War President, was almost caught in his home by the onrushing flow. Unaware of the advancing lava until the explosions in the forest above his home came within hearing distance, he and Mrs. Lincoln escaped through the rear of their home less than two minutes before the molten stream reached their front porch. The Lincolns were quoted the next day to the effect that it is miraculous they are alive. Except for their chickens, all of their possessions were destroyed.

The origin of this disastrous first flow was near the 10,000-foot elevation, or a distance of about fifteen miles from the ocean. The average rate of movement was nearly six miles an hour. This flow divided some distance up the mountain, early on the morning of June 2, causing a second flow to spearhead down the flanks. As spectators watched breathlessly, the new flow

moved into the Magoon Ranch home, transforming it into a mass of flames, and crossed the highway a mile and a half south of the first flow. Unlike the first, which consisted of highly fluid lava, the second was comprised of rough, slow-moving *aa* lava, which traveled at about 200 yards an hour.

Flying over the eruption, on June 2, I observed lava fountains playing as high as 300 feet. They were nearly continuous along the entire length of the lower fissure, a distance of seven miles. Floods of molten lava issued incessantly from the vents and plunged in numerous braided streams down Mauna Loa's flanks toward the Kona Coast. The upper fissure was inactive by this time except for fume extrusion. Instead of constituting one continuous crack, the lower fissure was made up of a series of smaller fissures, which roughly paralleled and overlapped each other. A pond of lava about a mile in circumference formed at the 8250 foot level. This pond was fed by numerous streams, and the liquid lava in it pulsated like porridge boiling in a kettle. Fortunately, the pond was well diked by the topography of the mountain and it absorbed tremendous quantities of lava that might otherwise have been diverted toward the villages below.

A third flow, largest of the three, severed the road and reached the ocean early in the afternoon of June 2. Although many times more dense than water, the molten lava in the main channel of this flow plunged down the mountain at almost twenty miles an hour. It was a river of liquid fire, flaming and roaring, burning trees and carrying along chunks of incandescent *aa* lava larger than automobiles. The sides of the flow were composed of slow-moving *aa* lava from which flared yellow-white flames. As the edges of the flow encroached upon the vegetation, the forest reverberated with explosions from lava-engulfed trees.

Observers saw this flow reach the ocean and form a billowy, swirling steam cloud almost 10,000 feet high. Shortly after the molten rock from this flow plunged into the sea, the ocean boiled for a considerable distance off shore. A small tongue of lava branched out from the third flow, on the afternoon of June 4, and wiped out the Ohia Lodge, a Kona Coast hostelry. Two days later, another tongue from this flow destroyed the lodge owner's home, a short distance from the lodge building, and stopped 200 feet beyond.

In company with Chief Ranger Frank A. Hjort, I visited the eruption source on June 3, after hiking twelve miles in eight hours. The vast pyrotechnic display seen from our camp 400 yards from the vent seemed fantastic. The jagged pattern of spatter cones along the rift was outlined vividly to form a setting like Dante's Inferno. Large quantities of sulphur dioxide in the fumes from the fissure caused our throats to contract and made swallowing and breathing difficult.

Geysers of liquid fire surged into the air as high as a hundred feet, as far as the eye could see along the rift. The ejected lava appeared yellow-white at the base of the geysers, then changed progressively to a yellow-red and dark orange-red at its maximum height. The ground shook continuously as the lava was forced to the surface. The sounds of escaping gases resembled greatly intensified locomotive steam exhausts. Explosions which roared around us were remindful of the noises of a battlefield.

Rivers of liquid rock poured from the vents and raced down the mountain. At one point near the rift, lava plunged over a steep slope at thirty-five miles an hour to form a spectacular double cascade of great beauty, 500 feet long and 200 feet wide. At another point the flowing lava in the cascade struck an obstacle in the channel, causing the stream to be diverted upward and outward into the air. The opportunity of seeing this cascade alone justified our arduous trip to the source. Chief Ranger Hjort and I returned to park headquarters after spending one night on the rift.

A second party, which visited the inferno after us, failed the first night to locate the food, water, and blankets dropped to them from an aircraft. A cave 400 yards from the vent area was utilized as a shelter against the cool mountain air, but this was not adequate to accommodate the entire group comfortably. Later in the night, one of the members of the party was found to be missing. To the relief of everyone, he was found sleeping in a bed improvised by kicking out the top of a still-warm but hardened shelly *pahoehoe* tube about six feet long and sixteen inches high. These tubes or folds are usually found near the vent areas. They retain considerable amounts of heat over periods of several days or even weeks. Everyone in the party took advantage of the lava bed idea and spent the remainder of the night without discomfort from the cold.

Dr. Gordon A. Macdonald of the U. S. Geological Survey staff, at Hawaii National Park, made heat measurements of the lava near the vent areas with an optical pyrometer. The average temperature of the newly-extruded lava was 1920°F. That the lava did not cool quickly is shown by the fact that its temperature was only 200° less at the point where it crossed the highway.

Activity in the rift ceased on June 23. The eruptions produced almost 500,000,000 cubic yards of lava in twenty-three days. The only other historic eruption comparable in terms of volume is that of 1859, which produced an estimated 600,000,000 cubic yards of lava in 174 days of activity.

Mauna Loa, the Colossus of the Pacific, has produced more lava in the past century than any other known volcano on earth. Comprising the largest single mountain mass in the world, it rises more than 30,000 feet above the ocean floor. This volcano has erupted at intervals on an average of a little more than three years throughout recorded history.

For an account of the 1949 eruption of Mauna Loa, see *Mauna Loa Erupts*, by V. R. Bender, Jr., in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1949.

HAWAII NATIONAL PARK PROTECTED FROM AXIS DEER

BECAUSE public opinion, both in Hawaii and on the mainland, was strongly opposed to the introduction of the axis deer onto the Island of Hawaii, Mr. Colin G. Lennox, President of the Hawaii Board of Agriculture and Forestry, has announced that the plan has been deferred indefinitely. The National Parks Association pointed out that there was grave risk in introducing an animal, near the boundaries of Hawaii National Park, that is potentially destructive to native plants, especially in the absence of natural checks. Mr. Lennox replied, "We all hold the Hawaii National Park as one of our most precious assets," and acknowledged the destructive effects of exotics on such a delicate community of plants and animals as exists on the islands.

The damage caused by feral goats in Hawaii National Park provided a signal warning of what might happen should these deer gain access to the area. Control of the goats has been and still is one of the most difficult problems confronting the park staff; and a bad situation could only have been made worse were another exotic herbivorous species to enter the park. Mr. Lennox also commented that elsewhere on the islands damage to native plants by domestic livestock has led the Board of Agriculture and Forestry to take positive action to protect the flora in its natural habitat.

The Board is to be commended for its willingness to consider the evidence that was presented, and to abandon a program that could have had serious results.

JACKSON HOLE SAFE AT LAST

By FRED M. PACKARD, Executive Secretary
National Parks Association

THE long and bitter controversy about Jackson Hole National Monument, which the members of the National Parks Association worked hard to defend, was finally settled when President Truman signed the O'Mahoney-Hunt bill, S. 3409, on September 14. With this action, the national monument becomes a part of Grand Teton National Park, and plans for its use as an integral part of the national park system, deferred for lack of funds until this dispute was resolved, can now go forward.

The new law incorporates all of the monument lands into Grand Teton National Park, except 6376 acres that are transferred to the National Elk Refuge and 2806 acres that are returned to the Teton National Forest. The Act provides equitable protection for the holders of present grazing permits in the area, and necessary access across park lands for their livestock to reach grazing lands outside the park. It assures fair compensation to Teton County for the loss of tax revenues on a diminishing scale over a period of years. The special provisions relating to the management of the elk herd remain as they stood when the bill was before the committees, and as they were analyzed in the July-September 1950 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, page 119. Previous withdrawals of public lands for park and recreational purposes adjacent to the national park are revoked; this refers to an early withdrawal in the Thoroughfare country south of Yellowstone, which has since been organized as part of the national forest system, so that the withdrawal is obsolete. The maintenance and operation of Jackson Lake for reclamation purposes is continued, but this activity does not affect the national park adversely. It is also provided that no extension or establishment of national parks or monuments in Wyoming may be undertaken except by express authorization of Congress.

The enactment of this law is an example of the way the most difficult problem can be settled amicably if the facts are studied objectively and emotionalism is not permitted to dominate the thinking of the parties to the dispute. During the 1930's, the proposal to enlarge Grand Teton National Park was under consideration by Congress, but failed of passage only because of certain legal factors concerning matters of taxation. In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt used his authority under the Antiquities Act to proclaim Jackson Hole a national monument. Certain members of Congress at that time seized the opportunity to level an attack on the administration by asserting that the President had exceeded his authority, that ranchers were to be thrown off their lands, that Teton County would be ruined, and a number of other charges founded more on political emotion than on the facts of the situation. Bills were introduced to abolish the monument. These actually passed both houses in 1943, but were vetoed. The popular press recognized the dispute as newsworthy, and innumerable articles presenting one side or the other, often with considerable vituperation, flamed across the country. Some may remember a newsreel depicting a noted movie actor charging across the flats of Jackson Hole "defending" his home against invasion by an iniquitous government. Actually, the actor owned one acre of land there, and leased land on which to graze his single cow. Popular hysteria was aroused, especially in Wyoming, to such a height that, in 1947, bills were again introduced to abolish the monument.

This was the period when the notorious land-grab by certain minority cattle interests became a serious national question, and the Jackson Hole issue was a part of that larger problem. The National Parks Association and other national conservation organizations were alerted to the seriousness of the basic situation, and marshalled their forces to defend the monument. After extensive hearings, it became evident that the attempt to abolish the monument would fail, and several compromise proposals were presented. Some of these appeared to be sound, but among them were suggestions that would have opened much of the monument area to exploitation and negated much of its value. The conservationists were willing to be reasonable, but they protested any settlement that would not produce the best results for the nation. In December, 1949, Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., presented 32,000 acres he owned within the area to the National Park Service, since it was clear that the national monument would be retained.

During the heat of this controversy, Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney of Wyoming had remained on the sidelines, except that he believed no appropriations should be provided for use in the monument until its proper status had been determined. He had a rider placed on the appropriation bills that prohibited such funds. In April, 1950, he and Senator Hunt of Wyoming presented calmly thought-out suggestions that they believed would settle the debate to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. While no public hearings were held on S. 3409, since exhaustive testimony had been gathered on the previous bills, full opportunity was given everyone to comment on the new proposals and to make recommendations about them. The National Parks Association approved the bill in principle, but made certain reservations regarding specific provisions, as stated in its resolution on page 116 of the July-September 1950 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. The bill was amended in committee in such manner as to meet all but one of the questions the Association had raised, and was enacted in that form. It is still believed that the section relating to management of the elk herd includes much detail that might well have been omitted. There is fear that it may be interpreted by some as a precedent for demands that gunning be allowed in national parks, although the committee report makes it clear that such is not the intention of Congress. In general, however, the new law is a satisfactory solution to a vexing problem. It may be considered a triumph of sound thinking over political maneuvering.

There are lessons to be noted in the manner in which this controversy has ended. In spite of the half-truths and inaccurate assertions that were made to inflame opposition to the monument, level-headedness and progressive thinking solved the problem. The conservation and nature preservation groups stuck to the facts in their discussions, and the integrity of their position is demonstrated by the end results. At times, the defense of the national monument seemed lost; but persistence proved its value. During the fray, some individuals showed a tendency to descend to personalities and to express rancor against people with whom they disagreed. This only slowed final and satisfactory action.

It is interesting that the press has generally ignored the enactment of this legislation, although it was violently concerned during the height of the controversy. It is a popular habit to criticize the government in such situations, especially when the problem continues for a period of years; but the very slowness of legislative procedures was one of the strongest safeguards the national monument had during the debate.

The successful conclusion of this difficult problem is a tribute to the soundness of a system of government under which all may present their views freely, so that their legislators may arrive at just decisions.

Britain Is Planning Her National Parks

By STANLEY BARON, Writer
London "News Chronicle"

IN the heat of midsummer, ten Britons set out on an important mission which, for sixty-five years, has been one of the more pacific subjects of United Kingdom politics—the creation of national parks.

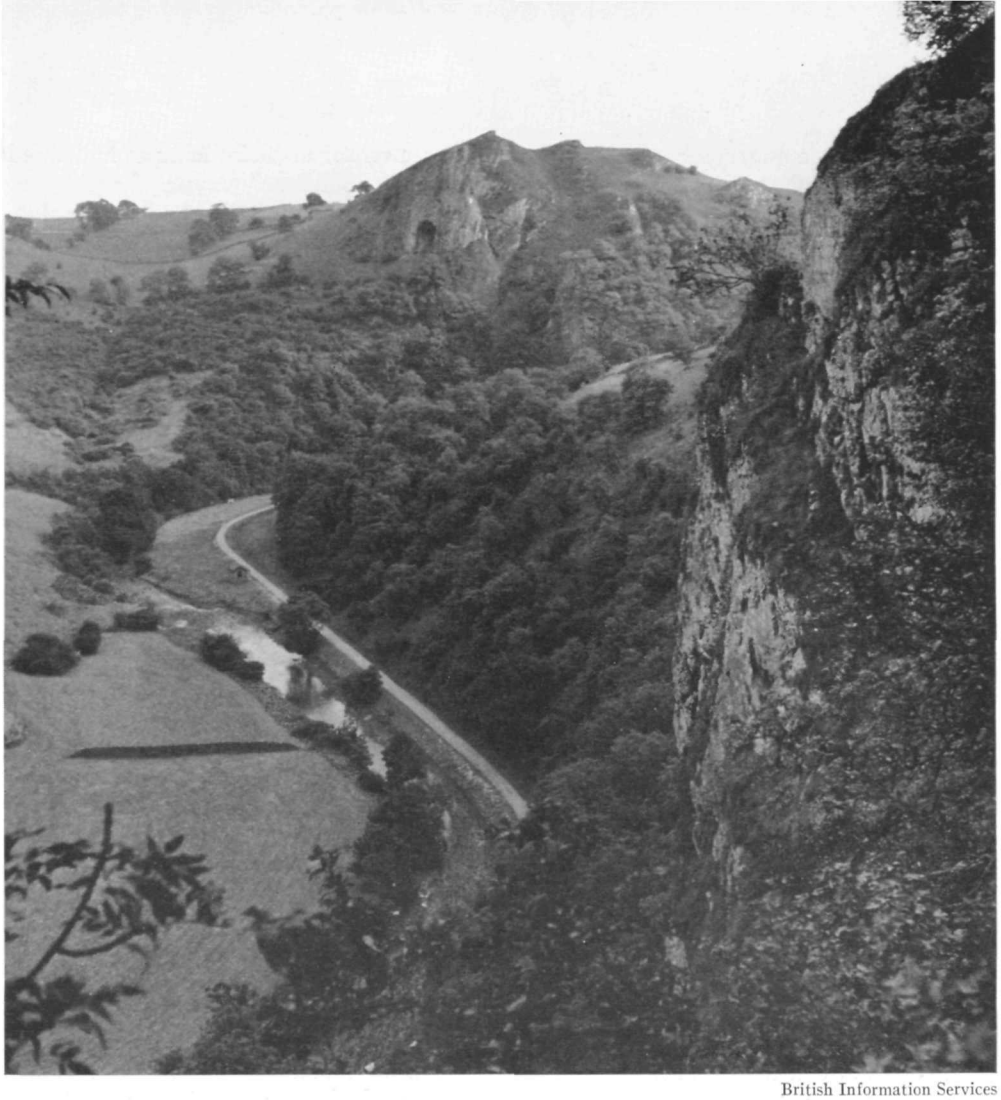
They were members of a commission set up by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning to take the first steps under the National Parks Act, which became law this year. These first steps are, of course, the designation of suitable areas in which the dreams of the pioneers of the national parks movement may be fulfilled. The commissioners' first visit was, most appropriately, to the Peak District, in the North of England.

Anglers of many nationalities know it better as that part of England in which the River Dove flows amid limestone hills and under lichenous cliffs. It is a well-mixed landscape with fine dales, several great ancestral houses such as Chatsworth and Haddon Hall and a magnificently wild patch of gritstone upland, known as Kinder Scout, topped by peat, bog and heather.

All this not-very-large district (it measures barely forty miles from north to south and even less from east to west) has a special virtue in addition to its own good qualities: all of it lies within fifty miles of a circle of great industrial cities in which nearly half the population of Britain lives and works. The inner ring alone includes Manchester, Sheffield, Derby and the Potteries towns, all of whom regard the Peak District as their own particular pleasance.

Hawes Water in the Lake District, Westmoreland, is one of northern England's favored recreational areas.

British Information Services



British Information Services

The scenic Peak District in the North of England was the first region visited by the commission of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning.

Besides the Peak, the National Parks Commission will soon complete surveys of the Lake District and of North Wales as far south as Cader Idris and the River Dovey. The expectation is that all three will become national parks in the full meaning of the term by the end of this year—certainly before fresh floods of overseas visitors arrive next spring. All this is the outcome of many debates, most of which came to grief over a problem peculiar to Britain. Our national parks never can be the same as those of the United States, for in a small country with a large population almost all available space plays some vital part in our economic and general way of life. A deserted mountain watershed has become a gathering ground for a city's water. An open moor like Dartmoor provides an ideal practice area for artillerymen in training. London's own surrounding commons and heaths, having been saved with great difficulty from the builder, are in danger of being taken for territorial infantry training.

The Peak District itself has been the

scene of limestone quarrying operations on such a vast scale that many felt most of its beauty and quiet would be lost before the National Parks Commission had had time even to schedule it.

In North Wales there are proposals for hydroelectric projects that at present are the subjects of bitter controversy. Even the Lake District, that almost sacred land of poets and climbers, has had and continues to have its alarms as industrial development spreads along the Cumberland coast.

All these demands are competitive, not merely with agriculture, afforestation and public amenity, but with what many believe should be a most important aspect of national parks—the conservation of wildlife. One of the chief headaches for the National Parks Commission (which will not, incidentally, govern the parks, but will merely advise the minister, who will in turn hand them over to the county authorities) is to discover how far such conflicts can be resolved.

The Lake District National Park area contains three national reserves and two geological monuments, for which the Nature Conservancy will be directly responsible. In addition, the whole national park area is recommended as a "scientific area," which means briefly that large tracts of country are of considerable scientific interest, and that the Nature Conservancy should be consulted if any measures are contemplated which might affect the status quo.

Some signs of the probable line of treatment may be deduced from development restrictions already being enforced in the three areas first being considered. It is too much perhaps to hope that quarrying will be stopped in the Peak District. What is more likely is better co-ordination ensuring that large areas are not laid waste, as so often in the past, by haphazard development. One of the big cement combines has recently been taking steps to mask the huge scars made by its workings. Scientific infilling at the mouths of quarries was one method; systematic afforestation and the creation of artificial lakes over disused claypits is another.

Ecologists will not be slow to see that, when such operations are carried out on a large scale, the pattern of wildlife in any given area may be greatly changed within a relatively short period. Deer have long disappeared from High Peak hills and forests. A century ago sheep replaced them as an obvious economic asset. The sheep themselves are now disappearing, though on the tops of Kinder Scout a few hardy creatures may be seen. It is in such matters that the Nature Conservancy will come into the picture.

To this organization will fall the task of anticipating events by warning of undesirable changes and of trying to correct damage already done. World War II showed that this may not be quite so difficult as it seems. In Scotland, for example, the native wildcat, a fierce and untameable creature, some three feet in length, is not, as some feared, extinct. Repressed as a pest by the keepers of deer forests, it multiplied fairly rapidly once their guard was removed.

A piece of good fortune for the park planners is that North Wales has recently been the subject of a fairly thorough ecological survey. The district could hardly have been better chosen, for it includes country of all types. River estuaries, a coast consisting of wide sweeps of sand often backed by extensive dunes, well-wooded valleys (including much of Wales' own natural tree, the sissile oak), grassland and alpine hill zones—all have their own special attendant wildlife.

This part of the country has also its models for dealing with that sometimes difficult creature, the human vacationer. Seven years ago the Forestry Commission (a semi-government organization responsible for the formulation and execution of Britain's planting policy) took what then seemed the bold step of creating forest parks. Within areas of ten to 20,000 acres the visitor is welcomed, instructed by liter-

ature and guides and provided with camping grounds having drinking water and sleeping lodges. Well-defined trails lead through the forest. The result has been a diminution instead of an increase of forest fires. It is a reasonable expectation that in the national parks of Britain the vacationer will do just as satisfactorily.

PANTHER MOUNTAIN DAM THREAT ENDED

THE struggle to prohibit construction of the proposed Panther Mountain dam in Adirondack State Park, New York, ended in victory last April when Governor Thomas E. Dewey signed the bill barring construction. For several years, the Adirondack Moose River Committee, of which your Association is a member, has worked to prevent dam building in the state park.

Panther Mountain dam, proposed by the Black River Regulating District to be built on the Moose River in the primeval southwest part of the park, would have inundated 4000 acres.

In February, 1948, the fight to prevent construction of the Higley Mountain dam, proposed to be built farther up stream, also ended in victory for the Adirondack Moose River Committee. At that time, however, Panther Mountain dam was being seriously considered. Defeat of the Panther Mountain project was far from easy; but it shows once again the power of the groups favoring wilderness preservation, when they unite. As with other engineering schemes, even though shelved, these dams will constitute a continuing threat. Both the Higley and Panther projects must be vigilantly watched to see that at some future time an attempt is not made to slip them through again. (See *Land of the Deer*, by Paul Schaefer, in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for April-June 1946; *Bill To Prevent Adirondack Dams Killed*, April-June 1947; *Adirondacks' Panther Mountain Dam*, April-June 1948; *Adirondack Dam Project Still Pending*, October-December 1948; *Panther Mountain Dam Must Be Stopped*, January-March 1949.)

A natural history association was formed at Shenandoah National Park last May. In a news release issued by the new association, Mr. Paul G. Favour, Jr., park naturalist at Shenandoah, and executive secretary of the association, said that the purpose was to "organize a natural history association similar to other such associations affiliated with various national parks. These associations, composed of government employees and other interested persons," he continued, "are voluntary, non-profit societies which cooperate with their respective parks in advancing the over-all programs of natural history interpretation."

Other park groups are today contributing much toward public enlightenment and appreciation of nature among park visitors, and it is indeed gratifying to know that a similar public-spirited organization is operating at Shenandoah. We wish the Shenandoah group the greatest success in the years to come.

Afield with Your Representative

Five national parks and ten national monuments in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Arizona were visited by your Field Representative Devereux Butcher during the summer. Accompanied by his wife and son on the six weeks' trip, his chief objectives were to talk with the people of Colorado and Utah concerning the dams proposed by the Bureau of Reclamation to be built in Dinosaur National Monument, and to visit and explore the monument. He wished also to expand his acquaintance with Park Service field men and the wonderful areas being protected by them. Mr. Butcher took hundreds of photographs in color and black and white, and members will have the pleasure of seeing many of the black and white ones in future issues of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE *and in new editions of his book* Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments. *A number of his Dinosaur Monument scenes taken this summer appear in this issue. The following is a short account of the first part of Mr. Butcher's trip:*

LOW CLOUDS hung along the mountains to the north and east. Separated from the main range, a symmetrical peak loomed dark, its top hidden in the gray. Its symmetry showed it to be a volcanic cone, and we knew at once that this was Capulin Mountain National Monument. As we approached, sun pierced the clouds, and presently Capulin Mountain's summit stood in the clear.

A road encircling the peak rises along the slopes in a spiral, terminating at a parking area on the west side of the crater rim. The road enables hurried visitors to enjoy the view and to peer into the tree-grown crater. But one must ask if this slight benefit to the visiting public is not overtopped by the damage to the mountain caused by the road. A mere engineering stunt, this road is resulting in serious erosion, which grows worse with each heavy rain. Deep gullies are eating into the road's outer edge, and slides are developing on the up-side. The road, too, is an unsightly scar that is visible from all sides. To remedy the erosion will be costly, and it *must* be remedied.

In a strong, cold wind, we walked the one-mile rim trail. Unlike the barren cinder cone of Sunset Crater National Monument, this one is covered with vegetation, the dominant trees being juniper and piñon pine.

At the near-by village of Capulin, I talked with Superintendent Homer J. Farr, who seemed much concerned about the erosion problem. At monument headquarters, Mr. Farr's daughter operates a curio shop, and here both of your Association's books are on sale.

From Raton, New Mexico, our route climbed over Raton Pass into Colorado, and west from Walsenburg through the beautiful Spanish Peaks country. Belond La Veta Pass, we descended to the semi-arid land of the San Luis Valley, the location of Great Sand Dunes National Monument. From afar, the dunes showed in a pale belt along the base of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. As we drew close, their grand contours and curving crests stood impressively a thousand feet above the valley floor, in sharp outline against the sky.

It was not until sunset time, however, that we realized the dunes' full splendor. At that hour, the slanting light reveals the depressions and ridges in a glorious pattern of rosy brilliance broken by deep shadows. Again, in the morning, we saw the dunes bathed in the first golden rays of the sun topping the blue wall of the mountains.

As with other Park Service areas, Great Sand Dunes is inadequately financed. This would be apparent to anyone who happened to see Superintendent Glen T. Bean operating the road scraper. Because there is not money enough to hire one laborer, Glen or his assistant ranger have to do this job. This deplorable condition exists at many Park Service areas today.

There is a tract of privately owned land in the monument, situated between the dunes and the base of the mountains. This contains, or did contain, a stand of ponderosa pine, which the owner has been logging and turning the once beautiful area into a spot of desolation—just another case of the eternal, crying need of a congressional appropriation to purchase private in-holdings before it is too late.

Continuing west and over the beautiful Wolf Creek Pass, we dipped again into New Mexico, this time to visit Aztec Ruins National Monument. Superintendent Irving Townsend very kindly and courteously took us through the ruins. The thrill of seeing any of our prehistoric Indian ruins can hardly be expressed in words. They stimulate the imagination in a way that nothing else can. Unlike many of the great ruins, Aztec had not been seriously vandalized before excavation, and a wealth of artifacts was discovered here. When the Indians departed, hundreds of years ago, they carefully sealed up all the doorways. A number of these have been opened, so that visitors can go through; but several are still sealed up, and no one knows what treasures may lie hidden there. Would it be, perhaps, a good idea to leave those rooms sealed?

The work of stabilizing the ruins was in progress. This is being done to prevent further rapid deterioration by weather and other causes. It is extremely important work.

Going by way of Shiprock, we travelled north along the west escarpment of Mesa Verde. This side of the great mesa presents a striking scene with its sheer, light yellow cliff, hundreds of feet high, crowned with a dark forest. The mesa's north side is less precipitous, and at its east end the park road climbs up onto the mesa's top. An erosion condition has developed along the steep part of this road, that makes maintenance difficult and expensive. If and when a proposed highway from Arizona's Monument Valley is built and passes to the south of Mesa Verde National Park, the north entrance may be given up for one to the south.

Superintendent Robert H. Rose proudly explained the park's new gravity water supply system, which had been put into use two days before our arrival. Formerly, water was pumped from a well and a spring inside the park to an unsightly corrugated iron catchment basin. These are now being abandoned.

Ranger Van Cleve took us to Square Tower House, Sun Temple and to several of the early pit houses, one of which was in process of being excavated. Ranger Van Cleve has excellent ability to help visitors understand the story of the cultural development of the prehistoric civilization that long ago existed here.

To explore the magnificent village called Cliff Palace and the large Balcony House ruins, we joined ranger-conducted tours. The Park Service shows outstanding skill and ability in its management of these trips; and I should like to say that Mesa Verde is one of the most efficiently administered parks in the system. Congratulations to Superintendent Rose and his entire staff.

Mesa Verde's museum is perhaps the finest in the park system. It deserves the attention of every visitor who is eager to learn the story of Mesa Verde's ancient people.

Concessioner Ansel F. Hall showed us the kindest courtesy during our stay at the park. It was my pleasure to have several talks with him. For twenty-five years, Mr. Hall was a member of the National Park Service, and for the past fifteen years he

has served as Mesa Verde's concessioner, operating Spruce Tree Lodge and cabins. Needless to say, he understands national park policy and is in sympathy with it. Would that there were more concessioners like Mr. Hall. Your Association's two books were on sale at the lodge and museum.

Our route continued northward, and at Red Mountain Pass, climbed to over eleven thousand feet above sea level. Rain fell heavily there, and as we again reached the low country, the sun came out. Looking back, we could see the range we had climbed over. It was snow-patched, somber, a line of jagged spires combing the sky.

East from Montrose, we came to Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument. The black sheer-walled gorge is an astonishing sight. At its east end, one can look almost straight down a depth of two thousand feet to the Gunnison River. The canyon's rock is Archean—the same kind you see in the inner gorge at Grand Canyon. Ranger Larry Quist and his wife accompanied us on a photographic tour along the south rim. Dominant vegetation here is sage and juniper, while on high, shady ledges below the rim, Douglas fir lends its beauty. Cottonwoods and boxelders grow along the river, adding a bright touch of color to the dark depths. The monument needs funds for improving roads and for additional picnicking and camping facilities.

We wished time would allow a side trip to explore Grand Mesa. All morning, en route to Grand Junction, that huge table land stood temptingly ahead and to our right. We were told that it is covered with a conifer forest and dotted with lakes—an amazing contrast to the surrounding semi-arid country.

At Grand Junction, the road turns left and crosses the Colorado River, passes through the city dump and enters the magnificient red standstone country of Colorado National Monument. We can only hope that the Grand Junction city government will recognize the incongruity of having a dump at the entrance to a national monument, and that before long something will be done about it.

Colorado National Monument protects part of a high canyoned escarpment. Climbing to the tree-clad summit, the road winds along the rim for twenty-two miles, with breath-taking views at every turn—massive walls, strangely eroded columns and weird bands of rimrock. Far beyond and below is the green Colorado Valley paralleling the escarpment.

We had spent most of the day seeing the monument, and it was not until the latter part of the afternoon, when we reached the checking station and headquarters, that we met a Park Service official. This is another case of insufficient funds to enable the Service to do a thorough job. There should be a checking station at the east end, and a ranger on duty there all day, as well as at the west end, to answer visitors' questions, offer advice and information, give out copies of the Service's circular on the area, and to check all cars for guns.

At headquarters, we met and talked with Superintendent Russell L. Mahan. On this hot, dry day, we had worked up a big thirst, and Mr. Mahan's invitation to come to his house for cold drinks was welcome.

Colorado is used principally by the local people for week-end recreation. The area, like Black Canyon, Great Sand Dunes and Capulin Mountain, deserves greater nationwide recognition. All of these areas contain outstanding exhibits of the forces of nature, all are scenic, particularly Colorado, and they are worth going far out of your way to see.

The Mount San Jacinto tramway decision is still pending, although the U. S. Forest Service has submitted its report to Secretary of the Interior Chapman. There may be something to report to you in our January-March issue. (See page 112 in the July-September 1950 issue.)

At the Nature Preservation Battlefronts

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York 28, N. Y.—The Dinosaur National Monument in northwestern Colorado and adjacent Utah takes in a scenic portion of the canyons of the Green and Yampa rivers. It is proposed by the Bureau of Reclamation that two dams be built within the monument, to be known as Split Mountain and Echo Park dams, and, as a consequence, submerge a substantial portion of the canyons within the monument, thus destroying, in large measure, the principal reason for the monument's having been established. Representatives of your Society and other national conservation groups appeared at a hearing in early April, in Washington, in opposition to the building of the dams. There are other dam sites elsewhere in the general region that could be used without invasion of the monument.

This is one more instance evidencing the apparent lack of consideration by the Bureau of Reclamation for the interests of other bureaus concerned with conservation of natural resources. By the time it advises those other agencies of its plans, those plans are already worked out and the ground prepared for effective support of them. The agencies concerned with protection of natural resources in the public interest are therefore put in the position of initiating their opposition with two out of three strikes already called on them. The Committee on Conservation Advisory to the Secretary of the Interior has been advising and doubtless will continue to advise on this problem as long as it exists. A greater percentage of the American public must come to realize that its long-term interest lies in the maintenance of the integrity of the national park and monument system, and make its views known to its representatives in Congress. —JOHN H. BAKER, *President*, writing in *Audubon Magazine*, July-August, 1950.

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY, 1840 Mintwood Place, N. W., Washington 9, D. C.—Dinosaur National Monument: Can anyone honestly claim that our national park system is big enough for [the time] when our population will be greater? Can anyone doubt that we should keep what we have? We had all felt a sense of security in the national park system. The fact that the Bureau of Reclamation has now demanded a national monument has shaken our confidence in the stability of government institutions. The Bureau went to the blueprint stage and far beyond, without having reached an agreement with the National Park Service. It took the drastic step of reaching an agreement with three states without the knowledge of the National Park Service. We must conclude that it was the Bureau of Reclamation that passed final judgment on the integrity of the national park system. It was, however, the distinct duty of the Bureau to respect the purpose of our national park system and to work closely with the Service. The country is not happy about the planning by the Bureau in this instance. —OLAUS J. MURIE, *Director*, at Secretary Chapman's April 3 hearing.

HAWK MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY ASSOCIATION, 767 Lexington Avenue, New York 21, N. Y.—A vast number of people know not what the word conservation means, and all their lives long will never read a book, or enter a university to find out. Such are the people who make up the majority of visitors to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. Widely known as the "first sanctuary for the preservation of birds of prey," Hawk Mountain received prompt recognition. It has had newspaper publicity and publicity by radio. Articles have appeared in magazines (see *The Epic of Hawk Mountain* in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1950). It is shown on the official maps of Pennsylvania. People unknown to conservation circles visit it by hundreds. (A thousand came on one October Sunday in 1949.) These are, for the most part, those not reached through other channels of education, country people, farmers —conservative, tradition-bound, slow to think new thoughts. Their first question is the one that most quickly unlocks the whole subject of conservation, the oft-repeated one, "What good is a hawk?" Once make a man understand something of the balance of nature, and he is on his way to understand the value

THIS IS DINOSAUR

(Continued from page 136)

monument. The Presidential Proclamation of 1938, establishing the canyons as part of the monument, includes a specific reservation for this Brown's Park dam. It is a matter of record that the Bureau of Reclamation did not propose to build the other two dams at that earlier date, that they did not make an investigation of the presently proposed dam sites until 1942, and that, so far as has been determined, the first correspondence between the Bureau and the National Park Service concerning the Echo Park and Split Mountain sites was written in 1943. It has been asserted that Dinosaur National Monument is subject to the authority of the Federal Power Act because of the Brown's Park reservation in the 1938 proclamation. Mr. Horace M. Albright, a former director of the National Park Service, president of the American Planning and Civic Association and a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association, submitted the following testimony concerning the Federal Power Act at the Secretary's recent hearing. His evidence read in part as follows:

Congress by its legislation does not contemplate invasion of these national parks and monuments and it is against the policy of Congress to plan and construct these Echo Park and Split Mountain dams in Dinosaur National Monument. When Congress had the Water Power Bill under consideration just after the first World War, powers were proposed for the Federal Power Commission that would authorize dams, reservoirs, etc., in national park and monument areas. The bill passed both Houses of Congress with this broad power included in it . . .

Congress, on March 3, 1921, amended the Federal Water Power Act to provide that thereafter no permit or other authorization shall be granted for reservoirs or other works for storage or carriage of water within the limits as then constituted of any national park or national monument without specific authority of Congress. The language of the amendment is comprehensive and absolute, and its meaning clear. In any event, all possible doubt as to the purpose of the Act would be resolved by its legislative history. In calling up the bill in the House, Representative Esch stated (Congressional Record, 66th Congress, 3d session, vol. 60, part IV, p. 4204): "Mr. Speaker, the object of the bill is to modify the Federal Water Power Act so as to eliminate from its provisions national parks and national monuments. When this Act was originally passed we supposed we had sufficiently safeguarded national parks and monuments so that there would not be constructed therein any water power or reclamation projects. . . The Secretary of the Interior had great doubt as to the policy of giving to a commission control over national parks and monuments in the matter of water-power development. . . An understanding was reached whereby the bill was to be introduced at this session eliminating the parks and monuments from the operation of the Federal Power Act, and this bill carries out that understanding."

Since the 1921 Act was, by its terms, restricted to areas embraced within national parks and national monuments on the date of the Act, it was necessary, until 1935, to include in proposed legislation for establishing or extending national parks or national monuments a provision to prohibit the Federal Power Commission from granting power licenses therein. This is no longer necessary. When the Federal Water Power Act was amended by the Federal Power Act in 1935, the definition of the "reservations" to which the Act was to apply was amended to exclude national parks and monuments, thus removing these areas from the authority of the Federal Power Commission with respect to the issuance of power licenses, without regard to the date of their establishment. The intention of the Congress, by this amendment, to afford unlimited protection to all national parks and national monuments from encroachment of power development, is made undeniably clear by the legislative history. In the report (No. 1318, 74th Congress) accompanying the bill, S. 2796, which became the Federal Power Act of 1935, it is stated (page 22): "The definition of the former term ('reservations') has been amended to exclude national parks and national monuments. Under an amendment

to the Act passed in 1921, the Commission has no authority to issue licenses in national parks or national monuments. The purpose of this change in the definition of 'reservations' is to remove from the Act all suggestion of authority for the granting of such licenses."

In an opinion by the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, dated December 5, 1939, he held: "Any attempt to preserve this authority in the Commission by specific provision in the national monument proclamation would be ineffective since the authority of the Commission has been prescribed by Congress and cannot be extended by provisions in an executive proclamation of this character."

It is true that the above-mentioned opinion of the Solicitor was not promulgated until almost a year and a half after the Dinosaur proclamation was issued. However, it is my understanding that the Department of the Interior has consistently taken the position, since the enactment of the amendatory Federal Power Act in 1935, that the Federal Power Commission is precluded, by the plain terms of that Act, from exercising any authority whatever within the national parks and national monuments, and that no further legislative protection for these areas is necessary.

To the people of Utah and Colorado, friends of the national parks would say, by all means get your water and power. Your need is obvious, and you have every right to have that need fulfilled; but be careful you do not wipe out primary existing national values at the same time—values that, if preserved in the national monument, will provide a never-ending source of business to the neighboring communities. Insist that the Bureau explore alternate sites thoroughly for you. Above all, go into the monument. Visit Round Top, Pat's Hole, Harper's Corner, explore some the Yampa, Split Mountain and Lodore canyons. Compare the area with other parks and monuments, and know what is at stake.

Dinosaur National Monument, in the writer's opinion, is second to no other area of the national park and monument system in its magnificence of scenic grandeur; and its unique scenery is duplicated nowhere else in the system. If the two dams are not built, I would recommend that the area be redesignated a national park and given a name like Green and Yampa Canyons National Park or Lodore National Park. I am convinced the area will become one of our most famous wilderness reservations; and when visitor access and accommodations are provided, will prove a lasting gold mine to northern Utah and Colorado. People in the local communities are in a strong position, acting through their representatives in Congress, to see that the Park Service receives the necessary appropriation to open the area to visitor use; and the local communities should be assisted by the friends of national parks from coast to coast to see that this is done.

CHARLES G. WOODBURY BECOMES PARKS ADVISOR

Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman has announced the appointment of Mr. Charles G. Woodbury, Vice-President of the National Parks Association, to membership on the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments.

The Advisory Board is made up of leading citizens who have a thorough background on matters pertaining to national parks. It advises the Secretary and the Director of the National Park Service on questions of policy in the administration of these areas. In addition to his long service to the National Parks Association, Mr. Woodbury is a member of the Council and Executive Committee of the Wilderness Society and of the Board of Directors of the National Audubon Society. He served on the Concessions Advisory Group appointed by Secretary Krug, in 1946, to study the Department's policies and procedures in regard to national park concessioners.

THE PARKS AND CONGRESS

The 81st Congress to October 1, 1950

Nearly 1500 bills were introduced into the 81st Congress on subjects relating to conservation, nature protection and the preservation of historic sites. The following report summarizes this legislation, and includes bills reported during the past two years in *The Parks and Congress.*

H. R. 934 (Murdock) **H. R. 935** (Patten) **S. 75** (McFarland) To authorize the construction of the Bridge Canyon dam on the Colorado River. **S. 75** passed Senate; no action taken by House Committee on Public Lands.

H. R. 1254 (Smathers) **H. R. 4029** (Peterson) **S. 285** (Holland, Pepper) To authorize acquisition of lands for the Everglades National Park. Public Law 340.

H. R. 1389 (Le Fevre) **S. 728** (Butler) Provides for acquisition of private lands within the national park system. No action taken by House Committee on Public Lands or Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 1662 (Tollefson) Authorizes the National Park Service to acquire the properties and facilities of the Rainier National Park Company. Public Law 800.

H. R. 3440 (Hill) To authorize acquisition and addition to Rocky Mountain National Park of certain lands needed for the development of an adequate entrance road to the park. Public Law 263.

H. R. 3574 (Hill) To provide for purchase of private lands enclosed by Rocky Mountain National Park. No action taken by House Committee on Public Lands.

H. R. 4116 and **H. R. 7934** (Phillips) To reduce and revise the boundaries of Joshua Tree National Monument. **H. R. 7934** became Public Law 837.

H. R. 5472 (Whittington) Authorizes construction, repair and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors. Public Law 516.—The bill was amended to prohibit use of funds so authorized to build Mining City dam in Kentucky, as recommended by the National Parks Association.

H. R. 5507 (Angell) **S. 1901** (Johnson) To extend federal protection to the bald eagle in Alaska. Passed House; no action taken by Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 6153 (Mansfield) Provides for construction of the Glacier View dam on the north fork of the Flathead River in Montana. No action taken by House Committee on Public Works.

H. R. 7339 and **H. R. 7982** (Marsalis) To transfer Holy Cross and Wheeler national monuments, in Colorado, to the U. S. Forest Service. Public laws 648 and 652.

H. R. 7524 (Bennett of Florida) **S. 3286** (Pepper) To provide for protection of the key deer of Florida. Passed House; on the Senate Calendar awaiting vote when Congress reconvenes in November.

H. R. 8513 (Bennett of Florida) To create a National Conservancy of the United States. No action taken by House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

H. R. 8980 (Granger) **H. R. 9053** (Bosone) **S. 3839** (Thomas) To authorize construction, operation and maintenance of the Colorado River storage project and of certain other reclamation projects. No action taken by House Committee on Public Lands or Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.—The projects to be authorized include the Echo Park dam in Dinosaur National Monument; Split Mountain dam is to be included in a later authorization request. The National Parks Association and other groups are opposing construction of these dams, and will recommend amendments prohibiting them, when new legislation is introduced into the 82nd Congress.

H. Con. Res. 11 (Mack) **S. Con. Res. 5** (Cain) To establish a joint congressional committee to study the lands included within the Olympic National Park. No action taken by either the House Committee on Public Lands or the Senate Committee on Insular Affairs.

S. 1473 (Gillette) To implement the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere. No action taken by Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

S. 1583 (Hendrickson) To provide for establishment of Island Beach National Monument in New Jersey. Passed Senate; no action taken by House Committee on Public Lands.

S. 3409 (O'Mahoney and Hunt) To establish a new Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming. Public Law 787.

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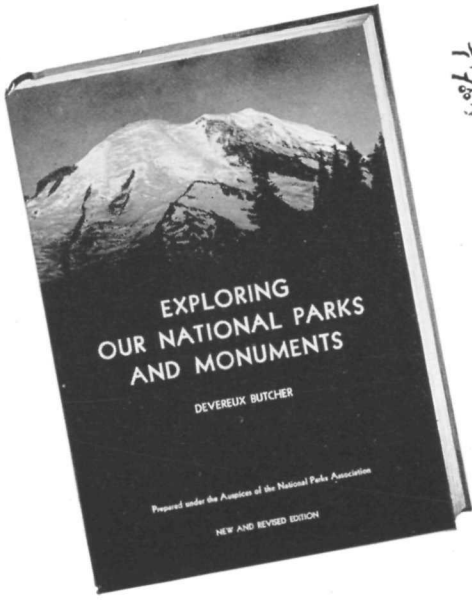

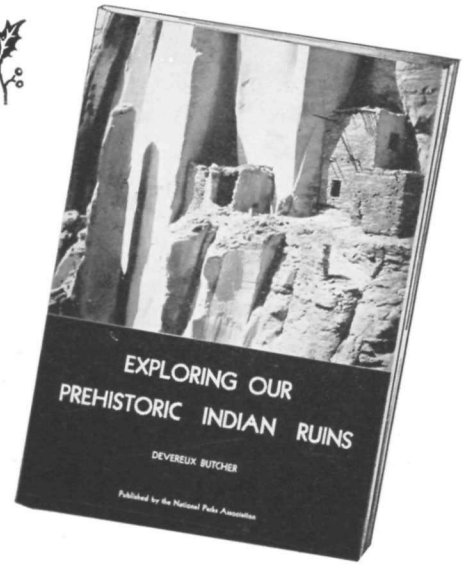

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Why the National Parks Association

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 forests, 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.

ALTHOUGH FEW IF ANY NATIONAL PARKS
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