

180-Publicity No bulletins were issued during the month, but a large volume of publicity is finding its way into the papers from the committee which is putting on the celebration of the opening of the new Death Valley-Mount Whitney Highway on October 29th, 30th and 31st.

200-MAINTENANCE, IMPROVEMENTS AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

210-Maintenance Maintenance operations were at a minimum due to the absence of cloudburst and serious road damage. Oiling operations were nearly completed on the main Panamint road connecting Wildrose Canyon with Death Valley by way of Emigrant Junction.

240-Improvements to Approaches to Park The new highly scenic and modern Death Valley-Mount Whitney road section being constructed by the State of California is not broken through for its entire distance and grading should be completed within a month. The District Engineer advises that funds have been allotted for immediate paving of the new section.

300-ACTIVITIES OF OTHER AGENCIES IN THE PARK

311-Public Operators Further alteration of the Furnace Creek Inn building was begun early this month; a cellar is being dug underneath the main dining room, and when completed will serve as bar and cocktail lounge.

400-FLORA, FAUNA AND NATURAL PHENOMENA

410-Ranger and Naturalist Service Ranger - Two rangers were on duty throughout the month, occupying the Emigrant and Wildrose stations. Acting Chief Ranger Williams acted for Senior Project Superintendent Goodwin during his absence early in the month. Routine daily patrols of main routes through the valley were made. Ranger Doudna was detailed to a week's patrol and inspection of the Burro and Quartz Springs area in the northern part of the Monument. Three feral cats and one purported "mad" dog were killed by Rangers. A never ending supply of house cats seem to spring from somewhere in the desert region and apparently thrive in the heat. The Texas Oil Company's experimental fleet of cars were convoyed through the Monument July 26th and it is my personal observation that the trip showed up weak spots in all the cars, none of them performing the smooth, trouble free style as advertised. Travel registration by CCC enrollees was supervised by the Rangers as was the sanitation detail. Naturalist - Park Naturalist Don Curry spent the greater part of the month in the Berkeley office working up museum plans, colony of slides and other matters of educational value.

460-Birds On July 19th, a Lesser Scaup Duck was picked up at the Stovepipe Wells Hotel in the exhausted condition. After a days ministrations by the caretaker there, the revived bird departed. Humming Birds are quite numerous in this region, being noted all up and down the Panamint Mountains. They have been observed building nests, laying, setting and educating the young. They seemingly have little fear of the observer and it has been possible to approach within a few inches. A pair of Golden Eagles have been observed frequently in the neighborhood of Tucki Mountain.

470-Animals Four Nelson Bighorn rams were seen in the northern end of the Monument, and numerous signs observed there and elsewhere during the month. Another animal, seen at a distance, was reported by the observer to have been of slighter build than Bighorn, possessing spike horns and a prominent white rump-patch. Further investigation of this animal is to be made immediately.

500-USE OF PARK FACILITIES BY THE PUBLIC

510-Travel A 12% increase of travel over July, 1936, was recorded, bringing the seasonal total to 47,028 people, an increase for the year, to date, of 19.1%.

Following is a summary of travel figures for the month:

Southern California	55 cars	118 people
Northern California	25	61
Out of State	129	396
Foreign	1	4
Totals	<u>210</u>	<u>579</u>

Note that out of state travel comprised 68% of the total travel for the month. Cars were registered from 32 States, the District of Columbia and Canada.

530-Important Visitors Dr. Munz, Professor of Botany, Univ. of Southern California, July 6th; Deputy Chief Engineer Dr. I.I. Hughes, USBPR, with Engineer Mayo, July 8th to 10th; Asst. Supt. D. J. Tobin and General Forman Hugh Parkes of Sequoia, July 10th; Major Louis H. Thompson, Commander L. A. District CCC, July 27th.

600-PROTECTION

610-Police Protection July 24th, citations to appear before Judge Montgomery, Jr, were given to John Kennedy and Herb Kennedy, Indians. The men were charged with driving without license and operating an improperly licensed car. John Kennedy had been previously warned. A group of Indians were evicted from the Monument utility area in Death Valley for trespassing. A small fingerprint outfit was received from Special Agent Hansen of the Los Angeles office of the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

630-Accidents None Reported.

660-Sanitation Sanitation activities were supervised by the Rangers.

900-MISCELLANEOUS

The test fleet of Texaco Oil Company and Goodrich Tires, consisting of fourteen cars of various makes and a personnel of about fifty persons, was met at Darwin by the writer, Acting Chief Ranger Williams and Ranger Doudna. They were conducted through the Panamint Valley and over Townes Pass into Death Valley where they made headquarters at Death Valley Junction. While no serious difficulties were encountered,

it was noteworthy that modern cars are now designed for pavement driving in normal temperatures and many delays were encountered on the long grade to the summit of the Panamint Mountains. The cars driven by Ranger Williams and the writer with their special desert equipment, did not give the slightest trouble and used no extra water or oil on the entire trip.

Respectfully submitted,

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