

Announcing the 1951 Wilderness Outings SEE PAGES 5-14



# SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*February  
1951*

# Miscellany

**YOUR VOTE NEEDED ON AMENDMENTS.**—One of the most important actions of the February Board meeting was the approval and endorsement to the membership of the proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of the Sierra Club. The original Articles were so well drafted by the club's founders in 1892 that only one revision has ever been necessary before—that was in 1942, to provide for perpetual existence of the corporation, instead of the fifty years to which it was limited by existing law at the time of incorporation. Now, however, some changes should be made in both Articles and By-Laws, and the proposals must be voted upon by the membership. Members are urged to send in their ballots; amendments to the Articles require affirmative vote by a majority of the membership, not merely of those voting. Your ballot will reach you soon.

**CORRECTION.**—We have learned that from the time artificial storage was impounded at Gem Lake by the completion of a concrete dam at the outlet of the lake in 1917, this artificial storage was never completely emptied until the season of 1950; only on rare occasions is the water level drawn down below the crest of the dam before September 1, near the end of the ordinary tourist season. This schedule is maintained because the storage is required to meet

power demands through the winter months when the flow of Rush Creek would otherwise be very low. The drawdown of 1950, made only after serious consideration by the owner's engineers and operators through the previous season, was required to afford an opportunity to grout certain cracks in the underlying rock which were permitting leakage to the outlet tunnel. Thus it was unfortunate to use pictures of this dam on page 10 of the January *SCB* as an indication of the normal appearance of this reservoir during the recreation season.—Ed.

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COVER: Albicaulis silhouette. By the editor.

**THE SIERRA CLUB**, founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of the mountain regions of the Pacific Coast. Since these resources receive best protection from those who know them well, the club has long conducted educational activities, under the committees listed below, to make them known. Participation is invited in the program to enjoy and to preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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# Sierra Club Bulletin

VOLUME 36

FEBRUARY, 1951

NUMBER 2

...TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE PRIMEVAL MOUNTAIN SCENE...

## For the February Record

### *You vs. a Sixth Column*

The word of challenge from President Lewis F. Clark in the January monthly was a word of warning too. We remember the things that happened during the last war, and know what can happen the moment some persons think they can make something from a national emergency. This call for vigilance is being echoed among all conservation organizations; the *Outdoor News Bulletin* of the Wildlife Management Institute, from which we have quoted before, expresses somewhat the same warning:

"With America drifting dangerously close to the vortex of a third world conflict, a sixth column of speculators, profiteers, and exploiters is beginning to stir. Since this column ostentatiously waves the shining banner of patriotism it will require utmost vigilance on the part of leaders and public to separate its members from the sincere patriots who want only what is best for their country. . . .

"The black marketeer and hoarder are two well-publicized types, but there are others . . . who seek to devastate the natural resources of the country and undo in a fortnight, for a quick profit, the labors of generations. . . . The pressure upon our natural resources will be of unprecedented strength, and too many may lose sight of long-term values as we come face to face with short-term emergencies. . . .

"The public lands, perennial targets of the exploiters, already are under heavy attack in the name of patriotism and the na-

tional emergency. The people and elected representatives must decide if wool, beef and wood produced beyond the safe productive capacity of the land are worth the future cost in terms of floods, silted reservoirs, the loss of water for irrigation, and later shortages of wood, wool and beef. They must decide whether or not national parks and monuments are to be sacrificed as damsites for the benefit of single communities interested only in construction booms.

"The coming years will call for extreme caution and vigilance on the part of a conservation minded public and for outstanding statesmanship on the part of lawmakers."

### *Guest Audience*

This issue of the monthly *Bulletin* is being distributed to members of the faculties and administration of the University of California and Stanford University. Fifty-nine years ago the campuses at Berkeley and Palo Alto contributed notably to the list of charter members of the Sierra Club, and today the several compuses of the two universities are still well represented in the roster of the club. We hope that this issue will suggest that the representation ought to be still better, and can enjoyably be so, in the trying and good times ahead.

In those good times, we hope that many in the guest audience will have a chance—and help perpetuate the chance for others—to travel among the Sierra peaks which now bear the names of many of their illustrious forebears, men who helped preserve the wilderness that brightens our summers.

# Letters

University of Washington, Feb. 19

EDITOR—The photograph in the January issue was indeed a surprise, quite a pleasant one [see below] . . . The picture required two years to make; the exposure was started three minutes before midnight on December 31, 1936, and ended four minutes after the New Year had begun. I had made an earlier fifteen-minute exposure which was not satisfactory, so the New Year's timing was strictly accidental!

ARTHUR E. HARRISON



• To photographer-engineer-skier Harrison our thanks for this information. It is amazing to learn that any part of the edifice is still so recognizable after fourteen years of remodeling.



San Francisco, Jan. 20

EDITOR— . . . The following lines, written by the late Frank S. Smythe, bring to a close the brief preface to that intensely interesting book of his, *The Mountain Vision* . . . : "To climb a mountain is to tread not only the heights of Earth, it is to adventure to the very boundaries of Heaven. Few can there be who, having climbed and reached the summit, have not at one time or another gained just such an emotional experience! . . . An appropriate space for the insertion of these lines might be that following the excerpt of the Club's purposes, ". . . to explore, enjoy, and protect the natural mountain scene."

At this same time, may I take the opportunity of congratulating the Board . . . for the high standard consistently maintained in our Bulletin; not only in its Annual editions, which are always par excellence, but also in the welcome monthlies which keep us so well informed on the all too many pressing conservation problems today affecting our wilderness areas . . .

LIONEL S. MAWBY

• Thank you. We don't as a rule approve of editors devoting space to their bouquets, but this monthly is getting extra wide distribution and we're happy to use your words to express what we're trying to do with club publications.



Club de Exploraciones de Mexico  
Mexico, D. F., Feb. 10

EDITOR—

I read in the Sierra Club Bulletin of December 1950 . . . that Mr. Chester Versteeg claims that Tulainyo is the continent's highest . . .

There is an old Volcanic Cone known as the Tzinantecatl or Nevado de Toluca and in the crater there is a lakelet whose . . . water surface has an altitude of 14,010 feet or 1,145 feet higher than the Tulainyo mentioned.

Its length is 914 feet and its width is 700 feet and though this does not reach the dimensions of a lake as defined by Versteeg [0.1 square mile] I believe that there is no larger surface of water in the United States at a higher altitude than this, or any other spot on the continent . . .

There are also several tarns on the Iztaccihuatl and one is the crater of Popocatepetl, all of which are possibly higher . . .

OTIS McALLISTER

• Mr. Versteeg, did you know of this body of water when you wrote the specifications for a lake?

NORTHERN ANNUAL DINNER.—The northern annual reunion and dinner dance will be held Saturday at 7:00 P.M. May 5 at Claremont Hotel, Berkeley. The reception will begin at 6:00 P.M.

According to Edward H. Grubb, chairman of the committee, the annual dinner should have a threefold interest for all members. It is held the same day as the organization meeting of the Board of Directors and provides an opportunity to meet the new officers on the day of their election. Secondly, it enables members to become acquainted with leaders of summer outings, to renew friendships from last year's Outings, and to formulate plans for the coming summer. And, in addition, the event provides an opportunity for all members to enjoy an interesting program of speakers, motion pictures, and dancing.

Reservation cards will be mailed next month. It is not too early, however, to circle the date on your calendar.

Reservations will be \$4.25.



# Announcing the 1951 Wilderness Outings

For members and would-be members—  
26 weeks of wilderness magic

IT'S ABOUT time now to think of respite from the darkling plain, to be mindful of the help which can still come from the hills—just as it has come for ages past. Perhaps “help” isn't the totally right word, but we'll stick with it. Help is exactly what a great many people feel strong need of these days, and we submit that there is a bountiful store for those who seek it in the high hills of the Sierra sky-land.

This year—its golden anniversary year—the Outing Committee plans the fullest series ever of trips into the wilderness—six weeks of High Trip, six of Base Camp, eight of Burro Trips, four of Knapsack Trips, and two in the saddle. If none of these is to your liking, committee members will gladly try to help you plan a trip of your own. The outings are for members of this club or like clubs, but this need not discourage non-members. For the membership of the Sierra Club consists in large part of those who joined in order to go on one of the outings—and who remained to go again and again and to participate in the good work of the club; the club has gained strength from welcoming those who like high trails. Applicants for membership are eligible for the trips.

## Special request

We have a special request to make of those of you who know the wilderness country to be visited by the outings we are about to describe: This year do your best to introduce new people—from eight years to 80—to the wilderness. They can use its help, and vice versa. The outings were started, as



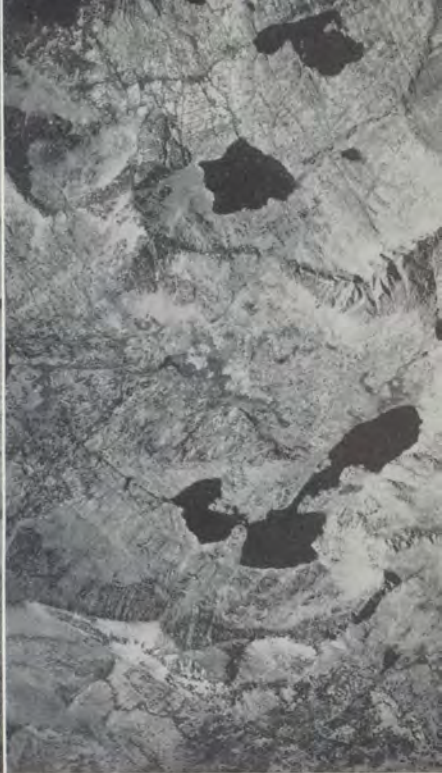
ASPENS IN HIGH TRIP COUNTRY. By William Hail

we've so often said, to get people into the mountain wilderness, to enable them to explore and enjoy it, and thus know well the importance of protecting it. The wild, beautiful places you have learned to cherish are going to need lots of help in the next few years—all you can spare and that of your friends too. Let's think now of getting into the mountains to see these places, to enjoy the peace of them, to watch others enjoy them, and to see if we can't figure out how to make sure that the forest primeval, and the meadow and lake and stream primeval, is here to stay!

[Further general information about each type of club trip is given in the Member's Handbook (\$1; free to membership applicants), which also contains an annotated list of outing equipment. The club office can answer questions not answered here or in the Handbook.]

D. R. B.





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GRINNELL CREEK AND LAKES, headwaters, Mono Creek, Sierra National Forest. c. 1:50,000. This is a three-dimensional strip, and it's time for your eye exercises again (see *SCB* for May, 1949). Anyone with two good pupils  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches apart, 10 minutes' time, and great perseverance can stand the mountains in the center panel on end with the unaided eye. How? Let your eyes drift to the infinity position, as in daydreaming,

until the two black dots (or stars) become four. Slowly move the page in and out until the center two merge and become sharp (this part is hard; your eyes *can* focus on something close while they are aimed at infinity, but they don't automatically know that you want them to). Then slowly look up into the picture and experience acrophobia in your easy chair.

The first time, we'll grant you, is tough. With practice,

★ ★

however, your eyes will stand in for a stereoscope, and the three-dimensional coverage of most of the High Sierra is at your command.

Incidentally, the first period of the High Trip will camp at the brink of the hanging valley of Grinnell Creek, at the south (left) side of the picture.

The south panel and the south center panel make a stereo pair as do the north panel and half.







advantages; but they also have freedom-consuming, onerous camp chores and can get into the doldrums socially speaking. High Trips don't.

All in all, this year's trip is a little more strenuous than last, except for the first week. Last year's was the easiest on record. Nonetheless there will be enough exercise to keep your appetite up; those who show signs of flagging appetites will be urged out on more side trips.

There'll be plenty to do—natural sciences to study in their habitat; mountaineering, rock-climbing and mapreading instruction, fishing, photographing, campfire entertainment, the moving-day circuses wherever the mules and packers are. . . . And there'll be plenty *not* to do for those who want a quiet place in the half shade, where the only ringing sound you'll hear is the quiet tinkle of the stars against the bell-like air.

## CAMPSITES

### First period—July 8-21 Mammoth to Little Lakes Valley

[The easiest of the periods—43 miles in all, longest move (split), 9 miles, all others 7 miles or fewer. Crosses Duck, Silver, and Mono passes. Four of the campsites new to the High Trip.]

**Purple Lake** (10,000 ft.). Reached via Duck



RELAXATION is where you find it! Sketch by Milton Hildebrand. Photo by Cedric Wright (1940)



Pass from Mammoth Lakes, this is a campsite 1947 High Trippers will remember with pleasure, nestled at the lower end of a friendly but seldom explored lake basin. A fine place to acclimatize.

**Tully Hole** (9,600). This is the campsite at the head of Cascade Valley we had hoped to come to via McGee Creek Pass (hopes didn't work out), four or so miles to the east. A good chance to look over the headwaters of Fish Creek, to see if it is well named.

**Silver Divide** (9,900). Past Lake of the Lone Indian and over Silver Pass is a spectacular campsite the 1947 High Trip went by too quickly. From here knapsackers will probably choose the high-country route to the next campsite—

**Grinnell Creek** (9,600). This name shows on no maps, but has been proposed in honor of the late Joseph Grinnell for the stream (and lakes) tributary to Mono Creek and opposite Second Recess. Jim Harkins, our Sierra-wise chef, says it is one of the most beautiful spots in the mountains—the mouth of a hanging valley overlooking the magnificent Abbot group.

**Fourth Recess** (10,000). Praises of this, the highest of the recesses, are still being sung by base campers of a few years back. The Mills glacier to study, more peaks to climb, fascinating loop trips into Third Recess, Pioneer Basin, Mono Mesa, then out over Mono Pass to Little Lakes Valley.

### Second period—July 22-August 4 Mono Recesses, Bear Creek Humphreys region

[The longest period—58 miles in all; longest move, 14 miles. Crosses Mono, Selden, and Piute passes. Two split moves. Three of the campsites new to the High Trip.]

**Fourth Recess** (10,000). Those going for the first four weeks will stay over at this spot and greet the second two-weekers. See above.

**First Recess** (8,400). The jumping-off place for the longest move of the summer, and the best place this year from which to explore Second Recess and its lakes. In 1947 90% of the people took the First Recess shortcut to Bear Creek and we recommend it again for a 5-mile saving and spectacular views.

**Seven Gables Meadow** (9,900). Our own name for a campsite under a peak which is not very high but which is one of the Sierra's most beautiful. There is wonderful country to explore from here, especially the East Fork of Bear Creek. There is no point in sparing the energy, for the next move is an easy one to

**Senger Creek** (9,600), on a bench high



PURPLE LAKE, on the first two weeks.

By William Hail

above the canyon of the South Fork of the San Joaquin. Here we lay over and get ready for the next big jump—a split move down into the canyon and up to the east to

**Hutchinson Meadow** (9,500), storied center of operations in the wonderful upland lying west of Mount Humphreys (13,986)—within a six mile radius there's a peak and a lake for each person in the party! Then out over Piute Pass to North Lake.

### Third period—August 5-18 Evolution Group and the Palisades

[Three miles shorter than the second period. Longest move, 12 miles. Two split moves. Crosses Piute, Muir, and Bishop passes.]

**Hutchinson Meadow** (9,500). Those going for the last four weeks will hold over here and greet the third two-weekers. See above.

**Evolution Meadow** (9,100). A chance to look over Glacier Divide, which you will have passed so quickly, from the easier side, with good views across to the LeConte Divide. Good country for relaxing.

**Darwin bench** (11,100). Another name we made up for the purpose to describe a campsite-on-the-brink at the lower end of Darwin Canyon. The club has never camped here before and may never again, but the management guarantees that this once will be worth it for the spectacle alone, not to mention the headstart over Muir Pass.

**Muir Pass** (12,059). Not a required campsite, but in 1939 some fifty members chose to start a day ahead of time (by knapsack) and spend a night around the Muir Shelter. None has regretted it.

**LeConte Canyon** (10,000), under the precipices of Black Giant and Langille Peak, at the beginnings of the grandest canyon in the Sierra.

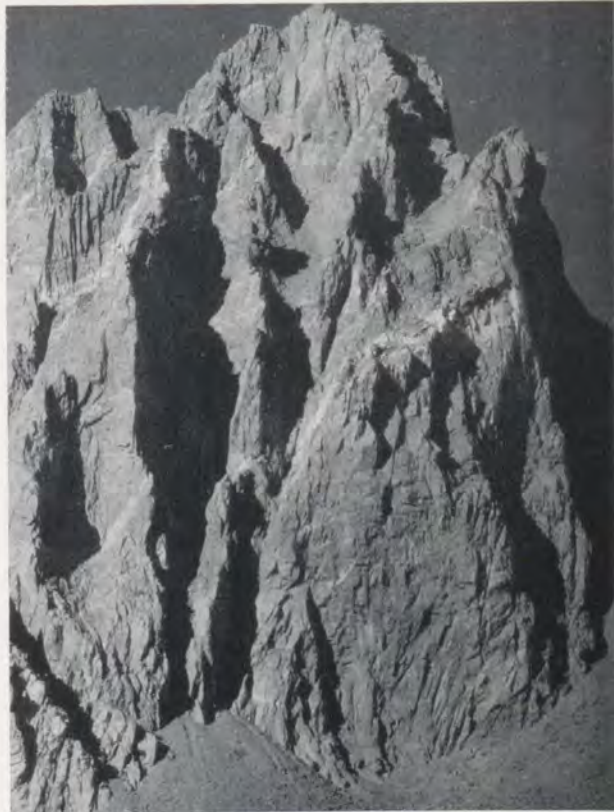
**Dusy Basin** (10,800). Across from the Black Divide and under the ruggedest portion of the Sierra Crest—Agassiz, Winchell, and the Palisades. Then out over Bishop Pass to South Lake.

### COMMISSARY

Once again, the commissary crew will be essentially the same as last year's: the trip will be led by Dave Brower and Pat Goldsworthy; Jim Harkins and Paul Kaufmann will have the cooking in hand; Toni Bristol, Bob Golden, Jane Goldsworthy, Charlotte Mauk, Don Scanlon, and Ted Williams will be principal logisticians; Bob Brown, Al Carpenter, Mary Colby, Ben Elkus, Mar-



MOUNT WINCHELL (below) on the third two weeks.  
By Ansel Adams



tha Hayne, Polly Minor, Ed Ornitz, and one or two others as yet uncommitted will round out the crew. Dr. Ruth Pillsbury will probably find the crew of some assistance—four of them are medical students!

The Mount Whitney Pack Trains mule strings will be under the able direction of Bruce Morgan, assisted, we hope, by all last year's packers.





AT A HIGH TRIP CAMPFIRE.

By Don Levy

The commissary crew on any moving trip has to be large—it takes manpower to make and break camp—but it is never large enough. As long as there's a High Trip there'll be ample opportunity for volunteer wielders of ax, shovel, and hotcake-or-trout turner!

We have sought but have not found escape from the cost-of-living index and have therefore set the deposit at \$68 per two-week period, \$50 for children under 14 (but check with the management to see how far under they can be and still be likely to get along). The increase over last year's figure is our best estimate of what will cover the increase in cost of your food by then and the doubling which has already taken place in cost of off-season feed for our mules.

Whether this seems high or low to you we don't know—we've had reactions both ways. In any event we wish it were lower, but don't see how it can be. The saving grace is that it now costs so much money to live at home that you can't lose by taking the high-country vacation you owe yourself (and family). After all, man isn't granted too many mountain summers in which to travel; little is to be gained, and much lost, in letting one slip by unused. D. R. B.

## Saddle Horse Trip



The 1951 Saddle Trip, August 20 through 25, will be a circle ride from Whitney Portal to Carroll Creek via Whitney Pass, the summit of Mt. Whitney, Crabtree Meadows, Rock Creek, Army Pass, Cottonwood Lakes and Golden Trout Camp.

A riding trip will appeal to many club members, whether they have had previous riding experience or not. Seeing the Sierra from a saddle offers the Sierra enthusiast many attractions, to wit: (1) The scenery can be enjoyed continuously—the mounts worry about where to walk. (2) Riding is less tiring than walking. (3) Riders are allowed 50 pounds of dunnage. (4) More country can be covered than in "footburning." (5) Excellent opportunity is afforded to learn riding and horsemanship. (6) The party is relatively small in size.

### What the Trip Is Like

Riders start out soon after breakfast. There is no attempt to keep riders in close formation on the trail. They ride at whatever pace and with whom they like. Usually, however, all riders are bunched at noon for rendezvous with the lunch mule. The pack trains pass riders during the lunch hour so that dunnage is available for fishing, reading, boudoir-making, etc., by the time the riders reach camp.

Previous riding experience, though helpful, is not at all necessary. Guides and packers will always lend a hand. Any person in good health can enjoy the trip, but it is not recommended that those expecting a "soft" trip should apply. The high cost is made necessary by the small size of the party, and is not an indication of luxury alone. Riders are expected to help with camp chores on a friendly volunteer basis just as on all club trips.

The trip will be organized and led by Bruce Morgan, club member, manager of Mount Whitney Pack Trains, High Trip packing



head, and past Saddle Trip leader. Limit, 20 riders.

### Itinerary

The party will leave Carroll Creek Pack Station early the first morning and ascend the spectacular east escarpment of the Sierra to Golden Trout Camp, through verdant Cottonwood Creek Meadows to Cottonwood Lakes Basin.

The following day they will ride up the east side of Army Pass just south of Mount Langley, where they will see the dramatic view of the desert ranges to the east, and descend to a camp near Rock Creek Lake.

Following a day in camp with side trips to Siberian Pass, Upper Rock Creek, and the beautiful hidden bench meadows of Cow Parlor Canyon, riders will go through forest and meadow country over Guyot Pass to a camp in the tamarack groves near Crabtree Ranger Station.

There will be a day in camp with good fishing and many side trips possible, including Wallace Creek and Lake, Crabtree and Hitchcock Lakes, and lower Whitney Creek.

Then the ride up Whitney. Riders will lunch on the summit, from which they will see the unforgettable panorama of the High Sierra, the Great Western Divide, Owens Valley, and the desert ranges flanking Death Valley. Final afternoon ride will be down the spectacular new Mount Whitney Trail to Whitney Portal Pack Station. At the last night's roadhead camp for the 1939 Saddle Trip, the party enjoyed a display of the Northern Lights. We'll try to repeat!

Although as much as 50 pounds of dunnage is allowed, "packer's headaches"—i.e., odd objects such as suit cases, satchels, wicker fish creels, or collapsible bathtubs, will be frowned upon. Riders able to play musical instruments, however, may have them transported in addition to the 50-pound limit; but consult the management first. Riding boots are comfortable, but not necessary; denim waist overalls or equivalent are both comfortable and necessary.

IKE LIVERMORE

## Burro Trips

This year's Burro Trips complete coverage of the John Muir Trail by the chasers of the Burro. Approaching from the east side near Bishop, trips will be from Sawmill Pass to Bishop Pass, with alternate trips in reverse.

Approximately eight days of travel is planned, with camps at Sawmill Pass, Twin Lakes, Bench Lake, Upper Basin, upper Palisade Lake, Grouse Meadows, and Dusy Basin. From layover camps opportunity will be provided to climb the 14,000 footers—Split Mountain, Middle Palisade, North Palisade, Thunderbolt Peak, and Mount Sill.

The basic purpose of the burro trips is to enable members to learn to cook, pack stock, and plan trips of their own. The trips are a coöperative enterprise where everyone is expected to share work in camp and on the trail. Moving days require travel as a group.

Only those in good physical condition should consider this trip as there is no easy way out once the trip begins. Actual mileage is not great but the extra duties can add up to a long day. Choice of activities on layover days makes the trip hard or easy.

Layover days and some of the moving days will provide ample time to fish, photograph, hike, or just plain loaf.

Leaders for the four trips are, in order leading, Ned Robinson, George Templeton, Harry Abraham, and Bob Braun.

GEORGE TEMPLETON



SIERRA  
FRIEND.  
By  
Henry Timby





## Base Camp

The 1951 Base Camp will be located near timberline on the east face of the Ritter-Banner-Minaret range, about six miles, by good trail, from the roadhead at Agnew Meadow. The setting for the camp suggests a scene from Switzerland with a background of glistening glaciers plastered against a dark crest of serrated pinnacles.

The east side of this range, being readily accessible to the John Muir Trail, is well known for its rich contrasts in color and form as well as for its sharply indented crestline. But the trailless west side is relatively unknown, though equally scenic. The southern tip of the range is perhaps the most spectacular of all, having been deeply sculptured into precipitous canyons and turreted peaks by the confluence of the two branches of the mighty San Joaquin glacier.

### Exploration Planned

It is our intention to explore all sides of the range and, to do this, it will be necessary for us to deviate from the usual pattern of Base Camp procedures. The new innovations will include:

1. Camp will be open for six weeks. Members will be permitted to register for as many weeks as they wish—even for a single week at a small additional cost. However, since the program of activities will be graded to the acclimatization of the members, it is suggested that attendance should start with the first, third or fifth Sundays.

2. During these two-week periods, the organized trips will be scheduled so that members will get both a general acquaintance with the area as a whole and then make an intensive exploration of at least one of the adjacent spectacular sections.

3. To accomplish this, three sets of trip leaders will be provided: one for the easier hikes to near-by points of interest, another for the glaciers and mountain climbs, and the third for overnight tours into the other watersheds. The added leadership will include Cliff Younquist, Merle Wilson, Ned Thompson, and Morgan Cuthbertson.

4. The overnight trips (of 4 to 5 days) will include one to a stub camp on King Creek under Iron Mountain, a knapsack trip through the labyrinth of canyons in the headwaters of the North Fork of the San Joaquin River, and a circle tour to the Rush Creek basin. Consult the schedule below for your preference as to dates.

Pack animals will be used for these trips; persons wishing to take part may do so for an additional charge for stock and packing.

5. A regular nature study program will be conducted with the following possible naturalists scheduled: John Thomas Howell, Enid Michael, Ledyard Stebbins, and Peter Raven. Also it will be possible for every member to explore and study at least one living glacier.

### Commissary

Otherwise all of the regular routine of the Base Camp will be followed as in the past. Dean Curtis will supply the famous menus and handle the pots and pans for part of the time, with Ned Thompson substituting during his absence. Bob Thompson





## MINARETS AND UNNAMED LAKE.

By Cedric Wright

will be in charge of the mechanics of the camp and see that it is run efficiently. Oliver Kehrlein will attempt to boss things when and if needed. Pete Friedrichsen will guarantee the wood supply. Our medical needs will be properly cared for under the direction of Dr. Pierre Walker, Dr. Ernst Wolff, and other doctors to be appointed later.

Tents will be available at \$7.50 for two weeks. No reduction for one week. Saddle horses will be provided in or out at \$4.00 a trip. As the supply of tents and horses is limited, reservation should be made as early as possible.

### Tentative Schedule

Study the following tentative weekly schedule of activities and make your selection accordingly:

July 1: Near-by pothole lakes; Banner balcony and glacier.

July 8: Iceberg Lakes, Minaret Glacier and Clyde Minaret. Stub camp: Rosalie Lake, King Creek, Iron Mountain, Anona and Fern lakes amphitheatres, Granite Stairway, Cargyle Meadow, Minaret Lake.

July 15: Volcanic Ridge, Triassic fossil beds, North Minaret Notch, North Minaret glacier.

July 22: Minaret Col, South Minaret glacier, Ritter-Banner glacier, Banner Peak summit. *Knapsack trip*: over South Minaret glacier and notch, Dyke Creek, gorge of the North Fork of the San Joaquin, Bench Canyon, crossing crest between Mounts Davis and Rodgers, Island Pass, Thousand Island Lake, and Garnet Lake.

July 29: Banner balcony and glacier, circle tour to Garnet Lake and the pothole lakes below it.

August 5: Rosalie Lake, east peak of Volcanic Ridge, Ritter glacier and summit. *Circle tour*: Garnet Lake and Creek, San Joaquin Peak, Agnew Pass, Gem Lake, Rush Creek, Marie Lake, south face of Mount Lyell, Island Pass, Thousand Island Lake, and Garnet Lake.

OLIVER KEHRLEIN



## Knapsack Trips

The purposes of the Knapsack Trips are to visit and explore isolated mountain areas away from trails where stock cannot go, and to follow a route where good fishing and spectacular scenery can be expected and where there are some peaks for those who like to climb. Several layover days are provided for individual hobbies. The trips are designed for those who like the freedom of knapsacking and who are strong enough to carry their personal gear and camp equipment plus food between caches. Food and camp gear amount to about 15 pounds for each person.

Considerable cross-country travel is necessary and this can sometimes be somewhat of a scramble. But there is no reason why anyone, man or woman, in good physical condition cannot have a good time on a Knapsack Trip, provided he can keep his personal gear within the authorized 15-pound limit.





It is not recommended, however, for those who have not completed something considerably more strenuous than the minimum required by any of the other Sierra Club trips, unless the individual is confident of his strength and physical condition.

The Sierra Knapsack Trip will start at Giant Forest and end at Cedar Grove. The tentative route is via Kaweah Gap, Nine Lakes Basin, Kern-Kaweah River, Kaweah

Basin, Lake South America, Harrison Pass, and East Lake.

The out-of-state Knapsack Trip will be a loop trip near Lake Chelan, Washington, starting and ending at Gilbert. The tentative route is via Twisp Pass, North Fork of Bridge Creek, Maple Creek, Lake Ann, and out over Washington or Coppey Pass.

Reservations are limited to 20 for each trip.  
E. R. MCKENZIE

## General Information

Outings are open only to members of the Sierra Club or similar clubs. With the exception of children under 12, all members of a family must be members of the club. Applicants for membership are eligible.

Since the trips are at high altitudes and fairly strenuous, all persons must be in sound health, and a *physical examination is strongly advised*. Those intending to go should take some local walks and climbs to get into condition. Shoes that are to be worn in the mountains should be used and checked on these preparatory trips.

Those who do not have lightweight equipment would do well to begin acquiring it, for overweight can only be carried by individual advance arrangement with the packer.

Transportation is usually by private car.

### Deposits and Deadlines

The Sierra Club outing is a coöperative enterprise and each person partaking of the benefits assumes his share of the responsibilities, both financial and for help on the trip. The deposits listed will probably cover the expenses; *full deposit is required* with the reservation (see table).

**First come, first served. Get your reservation in early.** It will cost you only \$2 if you find you can't go and notify the Outing Committee *one month* before your particular trip period starts. That much time is necessary to permit changes in food purchases, packing arrangements, etc. Because of the additional expense involved in making last-minute changes, a charge of \$5 will be made for reservations or cancellations made less than one month before your trip. There can be no refund if you cancel within 5 days of the start of your trip unless you find a replacement.

### Reservation check list

- 1) Remit to "Sierra Club."
- 2) Include names and addresses of all persons for whom reservations are made.
- 3) Specify trip and period wanted (by name and number or date).
- 4) Please state whether transportation to roadhead is desired or can be provided for others whose names the office may suggest.
- 5) For Burro or Knapsack trips, please give age, sex, and (briefly) relevant experience.
- 6) For Saddle Trip, please give height and weight too.

Outing	Starting dates for each period	Total deposit	Dunnage limit (lbs.)
HIGH TRIP	1: July 8, Mammoth Lakes	\$68 per period; \$50 for children 14 or under	30
	2: July 22, Little Lakes Valley		
	3: August 5, North Lake		
BURRO	1: July 1; 2: July 15;	\$46 per period	25
	3: July 29; 4: August 12		
KNAPSACK	1: July 8, Giant Forest	\$38	15
	2: July 30, Lake Chelan	\$43	15
SADDLE	August 21, Carroll Creek	\$95	50
BASE CAMP	Weekly, starting July 1	\$22 (children, \$17) per consecutive week, plus \$5 if one week only	30



## Muir Trail Trips Scheduled

The north- and southbound trips along the John Muir Trail in 1950 were so successful that Joseph C. Wampler, veteran High Tripper, is scheduling his trips again for the summer of 1951. The northbound trip leaves Whitney Portal July 15 and arrives in Tuolumne Meadows August 10; the southbound trip takes from August 11 to September 8. In each direction the trip is divided into four approximately equal periods, available in various combinations. In general, the trip follows **High-Trip** procedure in moving, **laying over**, and **assisting** with camp duties, but guests travel nearly twice as far per week. The cost is approximately \$15 per day in the saddle, \$8 per day on foot. For further details, write Joseph C. Wampler, 1940 Hearst Avenue, Berkeley 9.

## Canoe Tours in Europe

Canoe tours of 26 days on the Moselle, Rhine, and Lower Neckar Rivers in Germany, and the Loire in France, are offered this summer for those fortunate enough to be able to go.

The party will be met in Paris, conducted throughout the tour and returned to Paris. The cost of \$475 per person covers all tour expenses—transportation by first-class rail and private bus, best accommodations, meals, boats, equipment, and guides. Accommodations will be varied (alternately camping, village inns, first-class hotels in large towns). The route takes in beautiful scenery, interesting medieval towns, and fine old castles. The two-seater faltboats are easy to handle and very stable. The canoeing starts on an easy river and becomes progressively more interesting.

Three 26-day trips, 10 persons per trip, leave Paris May 29, June 26, and July 24. For details write Jack Griffith, Box 475, San Carlos, Calif.

## Yosemite Field School

The Yosemite Field School offers men and women intensive, varied training in the presentation of natural and human history to the general public. It gives practice in the

techniques of interpretation—on nature walks, with groups of children, before camp-fire audiences, and in museum lectures. It takes up related matters of museums and libraries, and considers the organization and functions of the different departments within the National Park Service.

Outstanding and one of the oldest among such schools, the Yosemite Field School has been held each summer in Yosemite Valley since 1925, except for the war years. There are day trips to other parts of the park, and towards the end of the session, a trip to the High Country. Work uses Yosemite materials, but emphasizes basic principles and techniques that apply to interpretive work in all national and state parks, all nature, youth and conservation groups, and all levels of formal schooling.

Applicants must be college graduates or show accomplishments equivalent to a college degree, and among other requirements, must be in good physical condition. Owing to limited facilities, only twenty students at most are selected for each session, the proportion of men to women usually being four to one. Application blanks are sent upon request. Write to the Director of the Yosemite Field School, Yosemite Museum, Yosemite National Park, California.

## Danger Spots



What do the numbers on the map above mean to you? Answers on page 16.



## Danger Spots

### EXPLAINING THE MAP ON PAGE 15

1. *Dinosaur National Monument*.—The spectacular and colorful canyons in Dinosaur National Monument would be submerged by dams proposed by the Bureau of Reclamation. Should Congress pass enabling bills, they would destroy the protection given to our parks and monuments by the Federal Water Power Act, which expressly prohibits construction of dams and related developments within these public preserves. Alternative sites serving the same purposes are available outside the monument. Congressmen must be made to know it is the will of the people that our parks and monuments, set aside for preservation of their unique features, be spared such invasion.

2. *Mount San Jacinto State Park*.—Roughly half of southern California's limited resource of alpine terrain is here. The area was specifically dedicated in 1931 as a wilderness park. Yet a proposed aerial tramway from Palm Springs to the mountaintop park would bring such a concentration of sightseers as to destroy the primitive qualities now appropriately enjoyed by trail travel. The promoters' first application for a right of way across intervening federal land has been denied, but other attempts are already under way. Enlightened public opinion will help defend the primitive area.

3, 4, 5. *Calaveras Grove, Butano Forest, Dillwood Sequoias*.—Majestic sequoias, now in private ownership and threatened by lumbering operations, should be acquired for park purposes, so that they may be continuously enjoyed by the public, now and in generations to come. Preliminary negotiations are in progress for acquisition of Calaveras and Butano, but further funds are urgently needed. People must be helped to understand the distinction between irreplaceable specimen stands and renewable commercial timber crops, so that they will support the raising of funds—by gift or by appropriation—for preservation of priceless, 3,000-year-old groves.

6. *Mount Dana-Minarets Wild Area*.—A ruggedly beautiful area of high scenic value, adjacent to Yosemite National Park, is threatened by mining activity. The mineral

deposits are of doubtful worth, but under existing laws holders of the claims may build access roads across the wilderness, carry on mining operations, and—once the claims are patented—use their holdings for whatever commercial purpose they wish. We need laws that will strengthen protection of dedicated wilderness against inappropriate and destructive uses.

7. *Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon National Monument*.—The Bureau of Reclamation includes Bridge Canyon Dam (silt life, 37 years) in its Comprehensive Plan for the Colorado River—a dam that would inundate part of Grand Canyon National Monument and extend into the park. And the proposed Kanab diversion would remove from the Park all but a trickle of the river that formed the canyon, and which should remain a part of this great natural display. Such projects must not be permitted in preserves intended for transmission “unimpaired [to] future generations.”

8. *Kings Canyon National Park*.—Long-range plans for development of power from the Kings River properly include many sites on the main stream and its North Fork. Much of the Middle and South forks, however, lies within Kings Canyon National Park, and no development on these portions ought to be contemplated. Even so, some proposed legislation and continuing studies by municipal agencies have not yet excluded damsites in the park. Legislators should be urged not to pass any bills which fail to give full protection to parks.

9. *Glacier National Park*.—A long valley in the western part of Glacier National Park is covered with beautiful forest and contains nearly all the winter range for moose and deer in the park. A proposed dam would flood all this valley, destroying both forest and feeding ground. Public opinion caused removal of this project from plans of the Army Engineers, but a subsequent bill was introduced in Congress directing the Engineers to proceed with construction. Alternative sites are available outside the park. Our Congressmen must be told that the public still values national parks.



## Mr. Drury's Departure

The ousting of Newton B. Drury as director of the National Park Service raises some issues of importance to many millions of Americans. The sudden loss of an outstanding public servant is bad enough; the vague atmosphere of mystery surrounding his departure is worse.

Mr. Drury has been called "one of the ablest and strongest officials and one of the most resolute and courageous defenders of the national interest" in the century-long history of the Department of the Interior. Invited to head the National Park Service more than a decade ago by then Secretary Ickes, he has with vigor and determination fought to preserve the integrity of the park system in the spirit of the basic laws of 1916.

In the absence of any other satisfactory explanation, there has been widespread apprehension that Mr. Drury has been dropped at least partly because of his adamant resistance to efforts to invade the national parks and monuments for extraneous purposes, of which the most immediate and most destructive is the supply of water and hydroelectric power through the construction of giant dams. One of many cases in point is the proposal to build two giant dams within the confines of the Dinosaur National Monument in Colorado and Utah. These dams are conceived—primarily as power-producers—

as part of the billion-dollar Upper Basin project of the Colorado River. Construction of at least ten major dams is involved; but these two are the only ones within the confines of a national park or monument, and they have therefore elicited the bitter opposition of virtually every conservation organization in the United States. It might be different if the two sites selected were the only practicable sites; but the fact is that there are alternate sites that, while possibly not quite so desirable in certain respects, would have the overwhelming merit of leaving untouched for posterity one of the country's most magnificent scenic wilderness regions. Mr. Drury was a leading opponent of the Dinosaur project, but was overruled some time ago by Secretary Chapman.

Whether Mr. Drury's views on these matters was in fact one cause of his ouster, we do not know. But we note that in the Interior Department's annual report, released only a day or two ago, he warned that the national park system is endangered by the "constantly growing demand for commercial utilization" of its natural facilities. The dam-builders certainly have their value; but they must not be allowed to ride roughshod over every other legitimate interest of the American people.

—*New York Times*, Feb. 14

## Wilderness Conference to be Held in Berkeley March 30-31

"How can we promote wise use of our primeval recreational areas?" is the theme of the Wilderness Conference, to be held at the Claremont Hotel in Berkeley on Friday and Saturday, March 30 and 31, 1951.

In two days and an evening of varied sessions, users and administrators of primitive lands will meet to discuss many aspects of wilderness protection. This is the second of the biennial conferences sponsored by the Sierra Club in order to bring together those who share an interest in wilderness affairs but who seldom have the opportunity to meet and talk over their mutual problems.

Although the first conference, held in 1949, referred specifically to the High Sierra

wilderness, it is recognized that problems of our recreational lands—particularly the primeval lands—are the same everywhere, and a glance at this year's topic headings shows that they are of national significance. Among the most timely are "Wilderness and Mobilization" and "Conflicts in Land-Use Demands." In discussing these subjects, conference participants will attempt to evaluate the demands that may be expected for non-wilderness uses of our parks, monuments, and wilderness areas, and will seek possible ways of resolving the conflicts without sacrificing dedicated recreational lands. Spokesmen for water- and power-development agencies, stockmen, and wildlife manage-



ment groups have been invited to attend the conference, both to clarify the proposals of their own agencies and to learn more about the point of view of those whose aim is to keep the wilderness wild.

Other topics will include such items as accessibility and buffers, long-term administrative goals, and how to get a greater number of people to appreciate and help in the protection of wildland preserves. Each of these subjects may be expected to give rise to lively discussion.

Plans call for the introduction of each topic by a speaker who will outline the problem, point out some of the conflicts involved, and suggest lines along which a solution may be sought. The topic will then be opened for general discussion, under the guidance of a chairman who will see that all views are presented, yet keep the talk from straying from the subject. A specially appointed committee for each topic will summarize the discussion and draw up recommendations.

Among introductory speakers and discussion chairmen who have accepted assignments at press time are Lawrence C. Merriam, Regional Director, NPS; Eivind T. Scoyen, Superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks; A. Starker Leopold, of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California; Sam Davis, President, High Sierra Packers' Association (Western Unit); John W. Spencer and P. A. Thompson, recently retired as Regional Foresters

(Inter-mountain and California regions, respectively), USFS; Richard L. Boke, Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation; Al T. Spencer, Secretary, California Woolgrowers' Association; Luther T. Hoffman, Regional Administrator, Bureau of Land Management; Walter L. Doty, Editor of *Sunset*; Millard M. Barnum, Assistant Regional Forester, USFS; Lowell Sumner, Regional Biologist, NPS; Carl P. Russell, Superintendent, Yosemite National Park; William A. Dill, Biologist, Division of Fish and Game.

A feature of the Conference will be a dinner and program to be held at Zerikote's, on Lake Merritt, on Friday evening. The keynote speaker is to be Howard Zahniser, of Washington, Executive Secretary of The Wilderness Society and Editor of *The Living Wilderness*. Following his talk (which is by no means to be confused with the garden variety of after-dinner speech), color pictures of wilderness trail travel will bring outstanding scenic areas to the screen.

Both the daytime meetings and the evening program are open to all who wish to attend. Advance registration for the daytime meetings (no fee) is desirable; advance reservations for the dinner (moderate cost) are essential. Information may be obtained by addressing Wilderness Conference Committee, Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4.

C. E. M.

## Conservation Week Observed March 7-14

State-wide observance of California Conservation Week will begin, as always, on Luther Burbank's birthday (Arbor Day), March 7. Schools and organizations throughout California unite in planning special programs to focus attention on year-round conservation work, and to impress ever greater numbers of people with the need to "Keep California Green and Golden."

Conservation Week is sponsored annually by the California Conservation Council, founded by Miss Pearl Chase of Santa Barbara. Miss Chase, who has been President

of the Council for 15 years, was recently succeeded by Mr. Aubrey Drury, Executive Secretary of the Save-the-Redwoods League. Miss Chase and Mr. Drury point out that conservation work goes on throughout the year, but that this special week enables civic-minded groups everywhere to bring their work to public attention and to enlist aid in their campaigns for better appreciation and protection of California's rich resources. Information may be obtained from the Council at 912 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara.



## Conference Stresses Resource Management

The students moved out and the conference moved in, and for parts of three days the delegates swarmed through Wheeler Hall, at the University of California, in Berkeley. They met in general sessions to hear addresses, and they met in smaller sections to hear symposiums and to take individual part in subsequent discussions, and they visited exhibits and displays. And when the conference ended on Saturday noon they were saying to one another, "How I wish more people could have been here!"

The occasion was the Second Regional Conference on the Conservation of Natural Resources, on January 25-27, and delegates came by invitation from educational and conservation circles in twelve counties around San Francisco Bay. Cosponsors were the State Department of Natural Resources, the State Department of Education, and the University, and the excellence of the planning was apparent in the smoothness with which the whole conference ran.

The opening address of the conference was given by Samuel H. Ordway, Jr. (of the Conservation Foundation, New York), who pointed out the necessity of so using our natural resources as to increase production and lessen waste, and to assure continued yield through sound management. The following evening Stanley A. Cain (of the School of Natural Resources, University of Michigan) gave the second general address, in which he tried to indicate (without being unduly gloomy) that overpopulation may become increasingly serious. He stated a belief, however, that scientists could solve the problem of photosynthesis (and thus of food production) as well as they solved atomic fission—if they could apply themselves to it with the same sense of urgency. Finally, in the closing address, William S. Rosecrans (Chairman of the California State Board of Forestry) showed that resource problems are man-made ("they began with the domestication of animals"), and that we must learn to correlate land uses and recognize the interdependence of different resources; he also declared that conservation work will be fully effective only when carried out by *individual* assumption of leadership, rather than by

imposition of governmental requirements and controls.

The symposiums which made up the daytime sessions dealt with four of our "renewable" resources: soil, water, forests and wildlife. The necessarily limited coverage of these fields served as much to emphasize their complexity as to bring home their interrelationships.

One feature of the conference was perhaps a commentary on the times: It left many people with the feeling that the emphasis had been overwhelmingly materialistic. There were but two or three passing references to any spiritual values. To be sure, Stanley Cain stated his hopes for development of a concept of conservation as a social ethic, and for the adoption of conservation practices dictated by the mores of society. But throughout the meetings there seemed to be a grim preoccupation with food production.

Maybe it is later than we think. We would still prefer, however, to believe that children of another century may look forward to more in life than a dismal scurrying for the bare necessities—and that our century can yet do something to assure them the occasional luxury of a primeval forest, an undisturbed mountain top, an unscarred meadow, a free-soaring bird, and a white-water river.

### *Pearl Chase Honored*

At the opening of the Regional Conference in Berkeley, Miss Pearl Chase was presented with a citation and award in recognition of her many years of devoted work in furtherance of conservation education in California. The presentation was made by General Warren T. Hannum, Director of the State Department of Natural Resources, who referred to the work of the California Conservation Council, founded by Miss Chase to coordinate education efforts of the various conservation agencies and to sponsor the annual Conservation Week. Miss Chase, in her acceptance, said that she received the award as a symbol for all conservation workers, and urged continued cooperation between schools, public and private groups.



## An All-Purpose Ski Binding, at Last

By JOEL H. HILDEBRAND

THE EVOLUTION in ski bindings to provide the firm attachment of the heel to the ski necessary for present-day downhill technique has led to bindings and boots with which cross-country travel is no longer efficient and pleasurable, and few skiers even attempt it. The crowd stands in line awaiting turns at ski lifts while near-by terrain of supreme beauty is deserted. The skier is hardly to be criticized for this restriction in his range, because he can no longer have both downhill running and touring with equal efficiency and has made what is, for most, a natural choice.

Now I have no objection to a person's having his fun according to his own tastes, but to invite attention to other ways of having fun can be a true service. I am confident that a considerable proportion of our "slope-dopes" could learn to enjoy touring and take pride in possessing the necessary skill if they could have the proper equipment and the essential knowledge.

But today it is not solely a question of fun. Our very national existence requires that men be able to travel under a variety of conditions, some in the air, some on and others under the sea, some in trucks and tanks and some on snow. The Arctic, Alaska, northern Canada, may be future battlegrounds. But very few of our downhill racers are prepared for the kind of going required of ski troops, and this could become a serious gap in our national safety. Ski organizations should give serious attention to developing skiers who can go anywhere, under all conditions of terrain and snow and weather; skiers who can set and keep a compass course; who can camp in the snow; who know winter rescue work; who have the all-round skills prescribed, for example, in the National Ski Association's Ski-Mountaineering Test.

The first essential is a safe binding, easily

adjustable to either touring or downhill running. This has been a difficult problem to solve and only this year have I seen what seems to me a sufficiently adequate solution. It is the invention of Francis Whitaker, a Sierra Club member, who operates "The Forge in the Forest" at Carmel, California. The construction of the binding is shown in the illustrations. Two flat bars run along the sides of the skis under the foot. Their forward ends are pivoted under the toe of the boot on screws driven in laterally. Their rear ends are fastened together by a flat bar on top of which a heel plate with turned-up edges is pivoted. The heel of the boot is held firmly onto this heel piece by straps attached to metal loops fastened to its turned-up edges. The long, inside strap is wrapped around above the heel, back above the instep, and again over the heel to the buckle attached to the short strap coming up from the outside edge of the heel plate.

A safety toe release, such as the Anderson-Thompson or the Berlenbach "Ski Free," is mounted in front of the position of the boot toe, and a cable holds the boot against it.

The heel plate and the side bars rise with the boot when one is touring, but the heel can be firmly anchored for downhill running by sliding forward a short plate screwed into the ski behind the heel assembly, as shown in the illustrations. The toe release there shown is the "Ski Free."

I have used this combination this season for all kinds of travel and find it very satisfactory. The shift from free heel to anchored heel is simple, the toe release functions equally well under both conditions, and the cable tension can be light, permitting a much lighter, flexible sole and a less costly boot—an important item with the cost of good downhill boots what it is.

It takes more than a binding, of course, to equip a skier for touring. He must have







SKI-TOURER'S DELIGHT NEAR ALTA PEAK, SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK.

By Francis Whitaker

several varieties of combination climbing and running wax, and know how and when to use each, a difficult matter, these days, because nothing but lacquers and speed waxes are demanded and dealers stock few if any of the more versatile waxes. Most skiers do not realize that a wax which climbs well may also run down hill as fast as a downhill-only wax. One day last March, on spring snow, I had "Swix Blue Klistor" on my skis and could climb straight up a  $15^\circ$  slope because the plastic wax became rough when climbing from the coarse "corn" snow, but on sliding downhill it smoothed out rapidly; after I had gone fifty feet I could keep up with skis coated with fast lacquer, and that has not been the only instance of the sort.

Next, the tourer needs a rucksack with contents appropriate to the particular tour,

suggestions for which can be found in the *Manual of Ski Mountaineering*. And finally, for all but very short easy tours, he should have mastered the various maneuvers which make up the Third Class Test, with particular attention to those parts most used in touring, such as slideslipping, step turns, and the one-step and two-step strides, not to mention the ever-reliable stem turn.

Thus equipped, the skier with an eye and a soul for the glories of winter landscape can range far and wide, picking his course, enjoying variety and adventure, happy that he has learned how to spend at least some of his skiing hours away from ski tows, chair lifts, packed slopes, and wild men. If you enjoy both as long as you have reasonable safety too, Francis Whitaker's binding can open the way and make you grateful to him.



## Butano Forest—Final Campaign Launched

Many a *Bulletin* has run off the press since the last progress report was made on acquisition of Butano Forest as a state park. This does not mean that there has been no progress, but rather that progress has been in terms of preparation for the next phase of the acquisition program. Recounting these preparations would not have made lively reading.

With the extensive coverage given by the press, most club members are now aware that the State Park Commission accepted San Mateo County Memorial Park and Mount Madonna Park as matching property toward purchase of the Butano. The mechanics of this transaction are that the value of these two parks was determined by a survey and the cash equivalent of this value released from the State Beaches and Parks acquisition fund for purchase of the Butano. The value of the two parks was \$485,000 and the State Park Commission is currently negotiating for the purchase of a portion of the Butano with this money—enough, it is expected, for 1,500 to 1,600 acres.

With this portion of the acquisition program accomplished, the Butano Forest Associates decided that an additional 1,000 acres should be acquired to provide the es-

sential nucleus of the area. Initially, 4,000 acres were sought, but circumstances have forced a curtailment of this goal. The 2,500-acre nucleus contains the heart of the Butano, however, and its acquisition will provide a beautiful park. It is estimated that the additional 1,000 acres will cost about \$300,000. The Butano Forest Associates plan to raise \$150,000 by public subscription, to be matched by the State Park Commission, thus providing \$300,000 for the purchase.

Butano Forest Associates has organized a subscription campaign, whose chairman will be Richard Elkus, President of the First National Bank of Redwood City, and whose campaign manager will be Lee E. Ranck. These are top-flight men who, with the cooperation of the Butano Forest Associates, will be able to put this campaign over.

This is a clean-up campaign to bring to a successful conclusion the work of many people over many years, whose persistence will bring enjoyment to millions. It is hoped that Sierra Club members will respond to this final drive for funds. To a lumberman, these redwoods are worth \$6 per 1,000 board feet. What are they worth to you?

J. R. B.

## Snowfall—The Sad Story

According to the State Division of Water Resources report, "Water Conditions in California as of February 1, 1951," the snowpack exceeds normal above 8,000 feet in the northern watersheds (upper Sacramento) and above 10,000 feet in the southern watersheds (upper San Joaquin). Below these elevations, as skiers know all too well because most of the skiing developments are lower, the depth of the snow pack isn't much to write East about. Most of it has run out the Golden Gate. The sad story of what might have been, if only the winter storms had had the decency to arrive at a reasonably low temperature, is written in the following very brief excerpt from the many pages of the Division's sad statistics,

Watershed	Precipitation by Feb. 1 (% of normal)	Snowpack on Feb. 1 (% of normal)
Feather .....	170	75
Yuba .....	205	75
Tuolumne .....	185	70
San Joaquin .....	180	65
Kings .....	180	60
Kern .....	140	40
Los Angeles .....	50	0

As things now stand, the snowpack has distributed itself to disadvantage in two respects: there is too little at moderate elevations for moderate skiing, and there is too much at high elevations to promise an early opening of high passes this summer. *Moral:* Take up ski mountaineering.



# Planning Summer Trips in the Western Mountains?

Here are some books which may help . . .

## For the Trail

### STARR'S GUIDE

to the John Muir Trail and the High Sierra Region. 1951 edition, completely revised, with a new removable map. More information to the knapsack-ounce than ever before. 144 pp., paper, \$2; cloth, \$2.75.

### GOING LIGHT — WITH BACKPACK OR BURRO

Contributions on the lure and lore of hitting the trail by David R. Brower, Lewis F. Clark, Elizabeth Cowles, Alex and Joel and Milton Hildebrand, Mildred Jentsch, Stewart Kimball, Louise Hildebrand Klein, Richard M. Leonard, and Bestor Robinson. Illustrated. Approximately 128 pp., cloth, \$1.75. (May)

## For Climbing

### CLIMBER'S GUIDE TO THE HIGH SIERRA

Preliminary edition—Sawtooth Ridge, Ritter Range, Palisades, Yosemite Valley, Whitney region, Evolution Group and the Black Divide, Kings-Kern Divide, Clark Range. Approximately 120 pp., paper, \$2.

### MANUAL OF SKI MOUNTAINEERING

The chapters on Mountaineering Routes, Rock Climbing, and Snow and Ice Climbing are pertinent to summer travel in the West; those on Warmth, Shelter, and Equipment are of great value to persons expecting to travel in snow and cold, winter or summer. Contributions for the most part by authors of *Going Light*. Illustrated. 226 pp., cloth, \$2.50.

## For Camp Reading

### LeCONTE'S RAMBLINGS

through the High Sierra of California by the University Excursion Party. A delightful account of high-mountain travel in 1870—pioneer days in the Sierra. Illustrated. 170 pp., paper, \$2.

### JOHN MUIR'S STUDIES IN THE SIERRA

An extraordinary record, in the example of Muir himself, of what an untrained Sierra traveler can see and understand if he keeps his eyes and mind open. Introduction by William E. Colby. Illustrated. 136 pp., boards, \$2.50.

*At your bookstore, or order from*

SIERRA CLUB • 1050 MILLS TOWER • SAN FRANCISCO 4



## Yosemite Observes 100th Anniversary

A significant milestone in the fascinating history of Yosemite National Park is the approaching 100th Anniversary of white man's effective discovery of Yosemite Valley in the spring of 1851.

On March 25, 1851, Major James D. Savage and a part of his Mariposa Battalion of volunteer cavalry composed of miners and other early settlers entered Yosemite Valley over approximately the route followed later by the Chowchilla Mountain Road and the old Wawona Road over Inspiration Point. The party, consisting of two companies under the command of Captains John Boling and William Dill, camped that night near the foot of Bridalveil Fall at a site now marked with a bronze plaque commemorating the expedition, and especially honoring Dr. Lafayette H. Bunnell, participant and chronicler of the event.

The following day the camp of the discovery party was moved to the mouth of Indian Canyon near the present Yosemite Museum, and the day was spent in exploring the valley. Only one Indian, an aged squaw, was found left behind by her fleeing tribesmen. Nothing was accomplished by the first expedition in the way of subduing the Yosemite Indians, but in May 1851, Captain John Boling and his company revisited the place, established camp in the valley, made forays against the Yosemite Indians and succeeded in capturing a large part of the band on the shores of Tenaya Lake, after which the Indians were taken out and placed on a reservation on the Fresno River.

In the fall of 1833, the J. R. Walker party crossed the Sierra Nevada from the east; undoubtedly some of its members looked

down into the valley from a point near the top of Yosemite Falls. However, the effective discovery and exploration was not accomplished until years later with the coming of the Mariposa Battalion.

So important is the part that Savage played in the history of the Yosemite that a California Centennials Commission plaque referring to the story of Savage and his dealings with the Indians will be erected this spring near the site of one of the Savage trading posts—the confluence of the South Fork and Merced Rivers on the All-Year Highway.

### *All-Year Highway Bulletin*

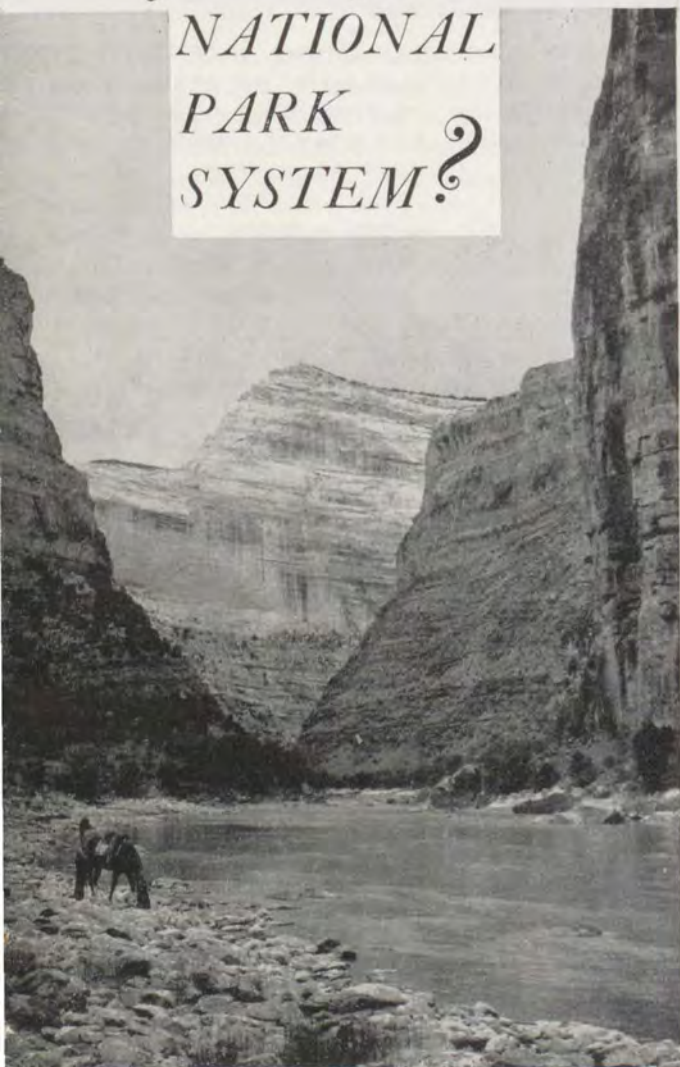
Damage to the All-Year Highway within Yosemite National Park which was caused by the floods of last November is being rapidly repaired, according to Superintendent Carl P. Russell. A considerable amount of repair work needs to be done at Windy Point, between the Park boundary and Arch Rock. The road is being cut back into the cliff, and much blasting is necessary. Therefore the road is closed between 1:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. daily (Monday through Friday) until further notice.

MASS MOUNTAINEERING—The new Soviet technique of assaults in mass seems to be spreading. Thus we learn from the evening newspapers of October 10, that an attempt to climb Popocatepetl was recently made by a party of no less than 5,000 climbers. This was evidently no rash undertaking, because the death rate was kept as low as 0.04 per cent, whilst the total casualty rate was only 0.84 per cent. Such figures compare favourably with those in many common epidemics.—*The Alpine Annual, 1950*



*Will You DAM  
the Scenic Wild  
Canyons of Our*

*NATIONAL  
PARK  
SYSTEM?*



YAMPA CANYON, DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT

*BILLS NOW IN CONGRESS WOULD  
MAKE A RESERVOIR OUT OF THIS  
CANYON—AND AT YOUR EXPENSE!*





HERE IN ECHO PARK—AT THE HEART OF THE NATIONAL MONUMENT WHICH PRESERVES THE MAGNIFICENT CANYONS OF THE YAMPA AND THE GREEN—STEAMBOAT ROCK STANDS 800 FEET HIGH AT THE MEETING OF THE RIVERS. THE PROPOSED ECHO PARK RESERVOIR—470 FEET DEEP—WOULD FLOOD THIS ENTIRE AREA AND SUBMERGE ALL OF STEAMBOAT ROCK EXCEPT A SMALL ISLAND AT THE TOP. *YOU CAN STOP THIS!*

**YOU ARE BEING ASKED**, through your representatives in Congress, to allow the Bureau of Reclamation to build dams in our national park system.

Will you allow this?

Or will you join with other conservation-minded, public-spirited citizens to protect our national park heritage against this dam-building invasion that now threatens?

Your answer is important. *Action is urgent.*

We are now facing—immediately—a controversy over very specific dam proposals in the Dinosaur National Monument's magnificent Yampa and Green River canyons in northwestern Colorado and northeastern Utah. The Secretary of the Interior himself has already added his support to the Bureau of Reclamation proposal. Bills to authorize the proposal have been introduced in Congress.

If dams are permitted in this unit of the national park system, other areas will then be in grave jeopardy also. Threatened right now, in fact, are Glacier, Grand Canyon, Kings Canyon, and Mammoth Cave National Parks.

On the other hand, if the people of America now turn back this threatened invasion, by reaffirming in Congress the sanctity of the areas that the Nation has dedicated for preservation, the whole national system of parks, monuments, wilderness, wild, primitive, and roadless areas can be safeguarded more surely than ever before.

This is a test case. The issue we now face marks a crisis in the whole history of wilderness preservation in the United States. It concerns all of us.

**OUR NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM** preserves the outstanding scenic resources of our wild unspoiled America . . . the crown jewels of our democratic nation . . . the most beautiful, most magnificent, most awe-inspiring scenes of outdoor America.

The American people, through Congress, have clearly expressed their will that these superbly precious parts of our native landscape should be preserved, unimpaired, unchanged, uncommercialized—held sacred for the inspiration, education, health, and enjoyment of generation after generation.

Throughout the Nation this preservation policy is endorsed and supported.

**YET OFTEN** some of those who live near one of the great areas dedicated for preservation see—or are *persuaded* that there is—an opportunity for exploitation which, they argue, should be excused as an exception for just one area which is in their locality.

So it seems now, with those people of the Upper Colorado River region who favor exploitation of the majestic canyons of Dinosaur National Monument for their reservoirs and power plants . . . who want also the chance to help spend the \$206,400,000 (and more) that the federal government would pay for the Dinosaur dam construction.

The people of this region have been urged so to use these canyons in the National Monument by the federal Bureau of Reclamation, which in its zeal for a stupendous reservoir and power program has emphasized local interests at the expense of the



national welfare. These people have been misled.

It is a sorry story.

A chain of events has now committed the United States Department of the Interior to the exploitation of one of the most superb of all the areas that the Nation has entrusted to its guardianship.

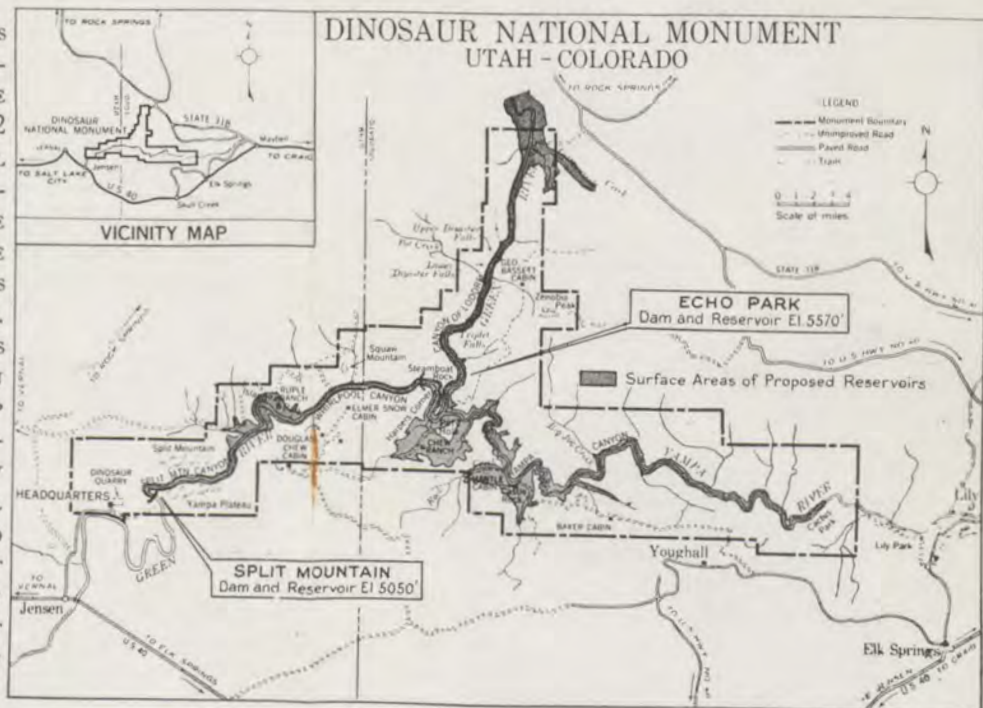
A sorry story, indeed, for it must now be climaxed by a rebuke from all the conservation-minded people of the nation to a conservation-minded Secretary of the Interior who is in the extraordinary position of sponsoring the destruction of an area for which, by law, he is the guardian.

The people of America must themselves write the ending to this story.

You can help. You can write to your congressman and to your senators. You can write them to *DELETE ECHO PARK AND SPLIT MOUNTAIN* from any bills authorizing dams, and furthermore to *ADVOCATE AN AMENDMENT TO PROTECT OUR NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM* from all such invasions.

Congress should reaffirm the sanctity of the areas the Nation is preserving and should prohibit the use of any water development funds for dams or other engineering works inside the Dinosaur Monument.

OUT OF 27 DAM SITES MAPPED BY THE RECLAMATION BUREAU IN THE UPPER COLORADO BASIN 2 ARE IN THIS NATIONAL MONUMENT. BESIDES OTHER SITES ALREADY IN THE BUREAU'S PROGRAM, THERE ARE 10 ALTERNATE SITES FROM WHICH TO CHOOSE. GEN. U. S. GRANT III SHOWS FROM THE BUREAU'S OWN DATA THAT ONE GROUP OF 3 OUTSIDE THE MONUMENT—DESOLATION, NEW MOAB, AND BLUFF—WILL PROVIDE MORE POWER AND MORE STORAGE AND COST \$59,400,000 LESS THAN THE ECHO PARK AND SPLIT MOUNTAIN DAMS WITHIN THE MONUMENT.



THE CANYONS of the Yampa and the Green are superb and unique—the magnificent 2,000-foot-deep Canyon of Lodore; the deep sculptures of Whirlpool Canyon and Split Mountain Gorge; and the great gorge of the Yampa, more than 1,600 feet deep, twisting through colored rock around unnumbered bends, loops, and ox-bow curves. All these are unlike anything anywhere else in the national park system.

“Highly spectacular, beautiful, and of great variety,” America’s dean of landscape architects, Frederick Law Olmsted, called them.

“Not only spectacular, but in several respects unique, and the finest of their kind in the whole of America,” said Frank M. Setzler, head anthropologist of the Smithsonian Institution, after a boat trip down their turbulent streams.

“There is no other place just like it,” said National Park Service Director Newton B. Drury at a hearing on April 3, 1950, called by the Secretary of the Interior. “But,” he added, “there are other places where the necessary dams may be built.”

And so say the conservationists of America:

This canyon-plateau wilderness is too precious to the Nation to be desecrated by dams.



SUCH DAMS AS ARE NECESSARY do not have to be located within the national park system. The pressure generated by the Bureau of Reclamation and those others who want the dams in the Dinosaur Monument came from people who had been given FIVE WRONG IDEAS.

1. *WRONG IDEA NO. 1.—Utah people were led to believe that the proposed Echo Park dam would be the primary point for storing water and diverting it to central Utah for irrigation.*

The fact is that the diversion to central Utah will come from another reservoir—Flaming Gorge. The fact is that equal amounts of water for local irrigation can be impounded equally well at other sites.

2. *WRONG IDEA NO. 2.—Colorado and Utah people were led to believe that Echo Park dam is needed to make sure the upper Colorado basin states can afford to let 7,500,000 acre-feet a year flow on down the Colorado into the lower basin states—as they agreed to in an interstate compact.*

The fact is that water storage more than adequate for meeting the requirements of the interstate agreements will be provided by another reservoir—Glen Canyon, with still others planned upstream.

3. *WRONG IDEA NO. 3.—People in this region were led to believe that unless the dams at Dinosaur are built the power and water to be provided by these dams will not be available in the upper basin states.*

General U. S. Grant III, formerly with the U. S. Army's corps of engineers, now president of the American Planning and Civic Association, proved at the April 3 hearing—from the Bureau of Reclamation's own data—that there are substitutes which will actually provide more storage and more power, at less cost.

4. *WRONG IDEA NO. 4.—The Bureau of Reclamation has claimed that the proposed reservoirs in the Dinosaur Monument would create additional recreation facilities.*

The fact is that substitute dams in other locations will create many such additional recreation facilities for the region. And the use of these alternate sites will leave the monument undestroyed; its IRRE-

PLACEABLE AND UNIQUE RESOURCES will then remain unspoiled, for the inspirational, educational, and recreational benefit of the entire Nation and future generations. WE CAN HAVE THE UNSPOILED MONUMENT AND THE ADDED FACILITIES TOO.

5. *WRONG IDEA NO. 5.—The people of the Colorado River region were led to believe that it will cost more to get as much power and water storage somewhere else, instead of in the monument.*

General Grant, on the contrary, demonstrated from estimates made by the Bureau of Reclamation itself that dams at alternate sites can be built for less money and built to provide more power and more storage of water.

The dams in the monument—Echo Park first, Split Mountain later—are estimated to provide 6,735,000 acre-feet of water storage and 1,386,000,000 kilowatt-hours of power a year. These two dams would cost \$206,400,000.

Three of the alternates available—Desolation, Bluff, New Moab—are together estimated to provide 7,865,000 acre-feet of water storage and 1,567,000,000 kilowatt-hours of power a year. These three dams would cost \$147,000,000.

That means that these alternates would provide 1,130,000 MORE acre-feet of water storage and 181,000,000 MORE kilowatt-hours of power annually. They would cost \$59,400,000 LESS.

*And using them would preserve the monument!*

Proponents of the Echo Park and Split Mountain dams claim that using the alternate sites would involve evaporation losses larger than at the reservoirs they want. Hard as it is to believe, to avoid these somewhat vaguely determinable losses (which can be compensated for in any case) they are asking the federal government to violate an irreplaceable area of the national park system and sacrifice the possible economic advantages of the proposed alternatives.

*The hard fact is that the Bureau of Reclamation—despite the laws safeguarding the national park system from such dams—has already made site surveys in the national monument and has done other preparatory work (including propaganda) to such an extent that it does not want to make similar studies of alternate sites.*

**O**UR WILDERNESS TREASURES need not be sacrificed. They *can* be saved. Indeed, only a precious few such areas are left. Less than 1 percent of our land area is being so preserved!

You can help by writing to your congressman and senators. Express your interest. Tell them, *DELETE ECHO PARK AND SPLIT MOUNTAIN* from any bills authorizing dams. Also, *ADVOCATE AN AMENDMENT TO PROTECT OUR NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM*, to be added to *any* bill authorizing dams.

*Congress can force* the dam builders to respect the sanctity of our parks and wilderness reservations.

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