



SIERRA CLUB
BULLETIN

February
1952

Miscellany

High Trip in Reverse. Word is just out that the High Trip itinerary, announced in the *SCB* previously, has been turned about: July 13, in over Kearsarge and out over Sawmill; July 27, in Sawmill and out over Bishop, via Bench Lake and Cartridge Pass; August 10, in over Bishop and via Muir Trail to Sawmill Pass. Per period, \$78 (\$60 for those under 14). Full details next month.

The office suggests that we quote from the California Historical Society *Notes* the following apt remarks concerning ballots: "May we remind you all, once again, that nothing but the ballots should be included in these envelopes, for they are not opened until [election day]. We love our members dearly, and are always pleased at the surprising number of ballots which are returned, but we hate to find that a check for dues, or an order for books, has been sitting lonely and forlorn among the ballots, undeposited or unfilled. So if you all will please sign the enclosing envelope, and send only a ballot therein, our lives at the office will be simpler and happier."

It takes a long time, but machinery is moving toward acquisition of Calaveras South Grove and some of the Beaver Creek sugar pines for a state park. State and Federal governments are working together, the Pickering Lumber Corporation (owner of the grove) has coöperatively refrained from cutting in areas under consideration, and negotiators may be able to announce a purchase price before too long.

Of course the price will be high. This is no more favorable time for buying virgin forests than for building homes—and for the same reason. It will not be easy to raise the funds that must match the State's cash outlay and

the Federal Government's contributions. But the necessity of raising them is known to all who have visited South Grove. Frederick Meyer's article (coming next month) not only emphasizes the importance of keeping South Grove unimpaired, but also underlines the need for straight thinking in all park problems.

New regulations of the National Park Service forbid the "feeding, touching, teasing or molesting of any bear, deer, moose, buffalo, bighorn (mountain sheep), elk, or antelope." Previously the rule applied only to bear. Park Service officials say the ban has been enlarged to protect visitors at the parks.

"There are instances too numerous to mention where supposedly 'tame' wild animals turned on their benefactors," the officials remark. Despite the justice of this action, some thick-skinned old Sierrans may wish the wild-life had been allowed just a brief annual open season on benefactors, perhaps around the fourth day of July or the first Monday of September.

Stanford University, January 29
EDITOR—In the November *SCB* you wonder where photo coverage of parts of the Southern Sierra can be obtained. There is a map entitled "Aerial Photography of the United States" (June 1949 edition). This map uses five colors together with patterns to show sources of the photos, but it shows a complete blank in the Sequoia Park Region.

This index map is available from the Map Information Office, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington 25, D.C. For photos of a specific area it might be faster to write that office specifying exactly what coverage is wanted, and they will furnish the specific information on where photos may be purchased.

FRED KELLEY

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

For the February Record

Daniel Tachet

Members of the Sierra Club who were on the main Sierra Club outings between 1921 and 1938 will learn with sorrow of the death on January 11, 1952, of Daniel Tachet, who was the chef during those years and who endeared himself in the hearts of all. It was Judge Tappaan who recommended him. "Dan," as everyone affectionately called him, was so faithful and reliable and such a fine outdoor cook that, as long as he presided over the preparation of those meals—so all-important to hungry hikers—his very presence was a source of great relief to the Outing Management.

Dan was born at Peissy-Satigny, a suburb of Geneva, Switzerland, September 21, 1871. He came to America in the late 1880's with a group of Swiss who settled around Roswell, New Mexico. About 1890 he went to Los Angeles. He married Francisca Echa-verria, who passed away in 1941. They had three children, Albert, Edward and Consuelo (Mrs. Charles Shaw). The two sons assisted him on several of the outings. He was head chef at El Tovar of the Grand Canyon, at the California and University Clubs in Los Angeles, and other important institutions.

He loved the Sierra and often said that his days in the mountains with the Club were among the best and happiest of his life. He has left many devoted friends, who through all these years have continued to appreciate his fine qualities.

WILLIAM E. COLBY

Addition to Monument

The remnant of a prehistoric lake containing rare fish has been added to Death Valley National Monument, according to an announcement by the National Park Service.

Devil's Hole, in southwestern Nevada, is a unique pool inhabited by a peculiar race of desert fish found nowhere else in the world. It is a remnant of a prehistoric chain of lakes which once formed the Death Valley lake system. The Hole is about 50 feet long and contains clear, warm water ranging from a few inches to 10 or 15 feet in depth. The fish (*Cyprinodon diabolis*) evolved after gradual drying up of the lake system isolated the fish population from the ancestral stock common throughout the region.

The Devil's Hole area is 47 miles from Monument headquarters at Furnace Creek Ranch—the last eight miles by primitive trail—and is a detached unit of the Monument.

New Park Area

The State Division of Beaches and Parks has recently completed negotiations for the purchase of land on Mount St. Helena, to be developed into the Robert Louis Stevenson Memorial Park. Work on the park is to commence in 1953; however, the plans for such work have not yet been announced. Three hundred and twenty-two acres of the park were acquired from the Piner-Cooper estate, and 40 acres are to be donated by Norman B. Livermore of San Francisco and Calistoga.

—*California Out-of-Doors*, Jan., 1952

The Johnson Bill

To prohibit dams in national parks . . .

Sierra Club members are frequently asked to write letters to legislators or other public officials protesting action or contemplated action on the conservation front. It has often been commented that these protests are a negative approach and that we should try to find a positive approach. Instead of fighting last-ditch battles we would better try to prevent the war.

We now have at hand a project that requires positive support rather than opposition: House of Representatives bill 5023, introduced by Leroy Johnson, Representative from District 3 in California.

H.R. 5023 would prohibit the construction of dams in national parks and monuments. It's as simple as that; but the hitch is that the bill was introduced on August 1, 1951 and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, where it has been gathering dust ever since. Our task is, first, to help to pry it loose from this committee and, second, to marshal support for its continued progress through the legislative labyrinth.

Successful passage of the Johnson bill will halt these dam projects—as fast as “Harry S. Truman” can be written at the bottom of the bill—so it is well worth our effort to get

this measure rolling toward the President's desk.

To accomplish this, Sierra Club members should first of all write to their own Representatives, asking them to prevail upon the Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to hold hearings on this bill. Then if there is time, drop a line to the Chairman of the Committee, John R. Murdock, to let him know how vitally necessary it is to speed this legislation through this Congress.

The text of the Johnson bill is short and pleasant reading. There's no fine print limiting the scope of the bill. It just says, “No dams.”

Here's the full text:

H.R. 5023

A BILL to prohibit the construction, operation or maintenance of any project for the storage or delivery of water within or affecting any national park or monument.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in order to carry out the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (30 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C., 1936 edition, secs. 1-4), which expressly requires that all national parks and monuments be administered so as to conserve the scenery and the natural and

The California Delegation in the House of Representatives, 82nd Congress

Below is a list of California Representatives in Washington, D.C. It will help you to identify “your Congressman,” if you don't already know who he is. (If you are not sure which district you are in, telephone your local newspaper or Chamber of Commerce.)

You'll need to know his name for those letters supporting the Johnson and Tackett bills.

<i>District</i>	<i>Home Town</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Home Town</i>
1. Hubert B. Scudder (R)	Sebastopol	13. Norris Poulson (R)	Los Angeles
2. Clair Engle (D)	Red Bluff	14. Samuel W. Yorty (D)	Los Angeles
3. Leroy Johnson (R)	Stockton	15. Gordon L. McDonough (R)	Los Angeles
4. Franck R. Havenner (D)	San Francisco	16. Donald L. Jackson (R)	Santa Monica
5. John F. Shelley (D)	San Francisco	17. Cecil R. King (D)	Los Angeles
6. George P. Miller (D)	Alameda	18. Clyde Doyle (D)	Long Beach
7. John J. Allen, Jr. (R)	Oakland	19. Chet Holifield (D)	Montebello
8. Jack Z. Anderson (R)	San Juan Bautista	20. Carl Hinshaw (R)	Pasadena
9. Allan Oakley Hunter (R)	Fresno	21. Harry R. Sheppard (D)	Yucaipa
10. Thomas H. Werdel (R)	Bakersfield	22. John Phillips (R)	Banning
11. Ernest K. Bramblett (R)	Pacific Grove	23. Clinton D. McKinnon (D)	San Diego
12. Patrick J. Hillings (R)	Arcadia		

historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations, the construction, operation or maintenance of any dam, reservoir, power plant or other project for the storage or delivery of water within, or which by reason of its location may adversely affect, any national park or monument is hereby prohibited.

SEC. 2. The provisions of section 1 of this Act shall not apply to any project constructed, operated, or maintained as an incident to the administration of any park or monument or to projects now being constructed, operated, or maintained within such areas.

SEC. 3. All provisions of law inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

JOHN R. BARNARD

The Tackett Bill

Again there is opportunity for positive action in support of the Tackett Bill, H.R. 565, which would supply badly needed funds for establishment and maintenance of recreation facilities in the national forests. In the absence of regular and adequate appropriations for these purposes, allocation of forest receipts seems to be the only means of providing funds for work too long neglected.

It is not necessary to describe here the overcrowded and unsanitary conditions in inadequate forest campgrounds, nor to review the repeated appeals for realistic recreation appropriations. Most readers are familiar with the desperate overuse that led to closing of the Bass Lake Camp last year, have seen the dangerously neglected wilderness trails, and know how badly the back country needs patrolling rangers. They may remember that experiments have been made with collecting use fees in a few test campgrounds, but that results were not generally satisfactory; they will recall that Owens Valley residents and visitors (including the Sierra Club) made voluntary contributions to a camp maintenance fund. And all who have read the *Bulletin* for the last few years know that they have been asked repeatedly to write to their Congressmen urging better appropriations.

This time a campaign is under way to legislate for the necessary funds. The move already has the support of organizations such as Sierra Club and of agencies such as the California County Supervisors' Associa-

tions; it needs, also, the support of individuals.

Unfortunately, the campaign is not very well advanced. This bill, too, is languishing in committee, where it has been ever since it was introduced more than a year ago.

You can help by writing *as an individual* to your own Representative, requesting his support of the effort to assure adequate funds for Forest Service recreation administration. You can help further if you write to The Hon. Harold D. Cooley, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives, urging that H.R. 565 be brought out of committee so that the House can act on it.

This is the bill:

H.R. 565

A BILL relating to the disposition of moneys received from the national forests.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the fourteenth paragraph under the heading "Forest Service" of the Act of March 4, 1913, as amended by section 212 of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (U.S.C., 1946 edition, title 16, sec. 501) is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: "Ten per centum of all moneys received from each national forest during each fiscal year shall be available at the end thereof to be expended by the Secretary of Agriculture for the development, maintenance, and operation of national forest recreational resources and areas, including wildlife resources."

November Board Meeting Held at Los Angeles

THE REGULAR year-end meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club was held

November 10, 1951, in the Law Library of the Southern California Edison Company.

The meeting was attended by all Directors except Ansel Adams, excused because of illness. Also present were representatives of all chapters except Atlantic and San Francisco Bay. Dale E. Doty, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and Eivind T. Scoyen, Superintendent of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, were present as guests.

Appreciation

In recognition of the great contributions she had made to conservation over a great many years, and in appreciation of her energy and determination in carrying out so many projects directly in line with the purposes of the Sierra Club, the Board unanimously elected Mrs. Jean McDuffie an Honorary Life Member of the Sierra Club.

Aspen Valley, Yosemite

Among the serious concerns of the meeting was the contract entered into by the National Park Service authorizing cutting of timber within Yosemite National Park in order to permit the Service to acquire private land at Aspen Valley. The Conservation organizations had not been advised of the contemplated action, although it is generally considered that such a problem would be presented to them in advance; it is a dangerous precedent for the Service to exchange or sell timber in Yosemite or any other park in order to acquire other land or to obtain operating funds. The Council of the Wilderness Society, meeting in Great Smoky Mountains National Park in late October, 1951, had learned that the decision to make the exchange had been approved in Washington without further consultation with conservation groups. A resolution of protest from the Council had been dispatched immediately to Conrad Wirth, Associate Director of the Park Service, but he replied that the contract had already been entered into and that no change could be contemplated.

Bestor Robinson now pointed out that although the Bureau of Reclamation frequently wished to hold its plans confidential, the Secretary of the Interior had directed the Bureau to make available to conservation agencies, on request, any information desired by them. It was agreed that the Sierra

Club request that the Secretary of the Interior apply to the other agencies of the Department, including the National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service, the same policy of freedom of information.

Assistant Secretary Doty stated that he agreed with this request, and that the principal problem, from the point of view of the Secretary's office, is to determine when a particular issue is of sufficient importance to be of real interest to the conservation groups. He agreed with the feeling of the Board of Directors that conservation agencies' request for information in connection with the Aspen Valley dilemma had made it advisable for the National Park Service to obtain the advice of conservationists before taking action on this problem.

Zoning in the National Parks

It was agreed that the Sierra Club urge the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service to take action to apply the zoning powers of the Secretary of the Interior to all land within the boundaries of the national parks coming under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior.

A Bill to Support

The Directors approved in principle Congressman Leroy Johnson's bill, H.R. 5023, to prohibit the construction of dams within the national parks, and urged support of the bill from the Sierra Club membership (see text of bill, page 4). Director Robinson expressed the legal opinion that the bill would have the practical effect of eliminating from Grand Canyon National Park and Glacier National Park the reclamation reservations which had been made in the organic Acts establishing those parks. It was of course recognized by the Board that even should H.R. 5023 be passed, later bills expressly authorizing dams (such as Echo Park dam) within the National Park System would serve as amendments or exceptions to H.R. 5023. Nevertheless, the bill was considered a strong and valuable restatement of the present policy of Congress, and an effective, positive action to take in connection with the present controversy over dams in national parks.

Richard Leonard outlined to Assistant Secretary Doty, who has responsibility for public land matters within the Department of Interior, the Sierra Club's point of view with respect to the San Jacinto tramway project. The officers of the Club were authorized to file a brief with the Bureau of Land Management, opposing the exchange of the south half of Section 12 of Forest Service land, if an application for exchange is made to the Bureau.

Wildlife Problems

There is a bill now before Congress to give protection to the tiny Key deer that are nearing extinction on the Florida Keys. The Sierra Club agreed to support the National Wildlife Federation, the Wildlife Management Institute, and the National Audubon Society in their program to obtain protection for these animals.

The Directors opposed the opening of Game Refuge 4-D in the Santa Rosa Mountains until a careful study has demonstrated that opening is not likely to harm the mountain sheep for which the refuge was established.

Forest Recreation

The Tackett bill, H.R. 565, which provides a fixed annual appropriation of 10 per cent of National Forest receipts to be used for recreational facilities within the forests, has been strongly supported by the County Supervisors' Association of California. It was agreed that the chapters of the Sierra Club be requested to work out with their members individual support for the principle of the bill. (See page 5.)

Also delegated to the chapters was the Clean Camps Campaign, to instruct and inform the public concerning the necessity for maintaining clean conditions in our wilderness areas and to obtain public support for such a program.

Mountain Problems

The Sierra Club supported the action of the Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme in protesting the proposed construction of a tramway or funicular up the Italian ridge of the Matterhorn.

The question was again raised of naming peaks in the Sierra Nevada for prominent members of the Sierra Club. The matter was referred to the Committee on Nomenclature for an early report on policy and for recommendations on specific names that have been proposed and previously referred to the committee.

Guymon Cabins

Chairman Jerry Zagorites of the San Diego Chapter outlined the generous offer of E. T. Guymon, Jr., to give to the Club, in memory of his father, the late E. T. Guymon, two fine cabins at 6,000 feet near the crest in the Cleveland National Forest in San Diego County.

The officers of the Club were authorized to accept the gift of the property on behalf of the San Diego Chapter, although without commitment to maintain and own them indefinitely. The grateful appreciation of the Sierra Club was expressed to the donor. It was decided as a matter of policy that the management and maintenance of the cabins be turned over to the San Diego Chapter, subject to the general supervision of the Lodge Committee of the Club.

Scope of Club Activities

Director Alex Hildebrand's excellent report on the scope of Sierra Club activities and his suggested policy guide were referred to an early meeting of the Board of Directors in San Francisco (subsequently set for February 9, 1952), to consider this matter as the principal business of the meeting.

Roadside Beauty

Although by a divided vote, the Directors passed a motion to support the California Roadside Council, the American Planning and Civic Association, and like organizations in a program for protecting roadside beauty in areas within the jurisdiction of the Sierra Club, and to delegate action to the chapters of the Club.

Outing Report

The report of Richard M. Leonard, as Chairman of the Outing Committee, concerning the 1951 trips of the Club, showed

a surplus from the year's operations. The leader of the Base Camp wished to refund to the members of the 1951 outing a substantial part of the surplus remaining from that trip. The matter was referred back to the Outing Committee for decision and report to the Directors.

The resignation of Leonard as Chairman of the Outing Committee (since December, 1936, except for war service) was accepted. H. Stewart Kimball, long a member of the Outing Committee, leader of burro trips and doctor on several high trips, was appointed as Chairman of the Committee, effective immediately.

Far West Ski Association

Wayne Mann, formerly Chairman of the Ski Mountaineers Section of the Southern California Chapter, reported again to the Board the desire of the members of that Section to have it join the Far West Ski Association. Arthur B. Johnson was appointed to explore the matter and report back to the Board at a later meeting. It was the strong sense of the Directors that any action in joining the Association must be such that a member of any chapter of the Club could participate in FWSA activities as a member of the Sierra Club. It was made clear that a section of a chapter could not join on its own initiative.

Chapter Representation

The question was brought up by Robert H. Geisler, Chairman of the Loma Prieta Chapter, of the desirability of electing a member of the Board of Directors from that chapter, it having grown to one-fifteenth of the membership of the Club. It was pointed out that in the sixty years of Sierra Club history the Board had never been elected on a geographical basis. The principle was rejected by the membership of the Club at a decisive election in April, 1946. Chapter chairmen are invited to all meetings of the Board and are authorized to participate in

all discussions. They receive a travel allowance to attend distant meetings in order to facilitate their presence and thus assure adequate representation from each chapter, no matter what its size. (An exception is recognized in that it is financially impractical to pay an allowance for representation from the Atlantic Chapter.) Moreover, Chapter chairmen also receive information distributed to the Directors and Honorary Officers, and are ex officio members of the Conservation Committee of the Club. The activities of the Sierra Club consist first of all in its conservation work, which is on a national scale and requires representation on the Board of Directors by persons fully acquainted with national conservation problems. Local activities are conducted on a chapter basis, and each chapter is fully represented in connection with such activities and is essentially autonomous with respect to them, within the limits of Club policy.

Mitchell's Caverns

The Riverside Chapter reminded the Board of the pending proposal to acquire Mitchell's Caverns in the Providence Mountains of the Mojave Desert for a state park. The Board again expressed its support for this project, and reaffirmed delegation of authority to the Riverside Chapter not only for gathering facts and presenting them to the Directors for necessary action, but also for initiation and stimulation of a fund-raising campaign in San Bernardino County.

Membership

The Secretary reported that even after dropping delinquents on October 31 the Club had increased in membership to 6,996. The election of new members on November 1 brought the total to more than 7,000.

The next Board meeting was set for February 9, 1952, in San Francisco.

RICHARD M. LEONARD,
Secretary