

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*February
1953*



MILESTONE COUNTRY, SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

Cedric Wright

Announcing the
1953 Wilderness Outings

SEE PAGES 6-15

Miscellany

One-third of the strength of the Sierra Club today (and maybe more) comes from members who joined to see the country visited by a summer wilderness outing—and who remained in the club to help preserve that country.

This *SCB* tells all about the 1953 outings. If you can think of someone who knows little about either the club or the outings, it may help to pass this number along. We'll send you another free if you're keeping a complete file.

On the job for conservation on the Pacific Coast is the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, of which the Sierra Club is a member. The Federation is currently conducting a campaign to enroll individuals as associate members to add weight for the fight to protect and extend the West's park and forest preserves. Dues of one dollar a year also bring the Federation's *Western Outdoor Quarterly*. Applications may be sent in care of the Sierra Club.

Conservationist Honored. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to conservation, Carl D. Shoemaker received the Department of the

Interior's Conservation Service Award at a dinner given in his honor at Washington, D.C., in January. Mr. Shoemaker retired as conservation director of the National Wildlife Federation on December 31. In 1951, one of conservation's greatest honors, the Aldo Leopold Memorial Award and Medal, was conferred upon him by the Wildlife Society. Although Mr. Shoemaker has retired as conservation director for the Federation, he will continue to act as a consultant for that organization, and as editor of the Conservation News Service for the Natural Resources Council of America.

Perhaps the first hiker to complete the length of both the Appalachian Trail from Maine to Georgia, and the Pacific Crest Trail from Canada to Mexico, is Martin D. Papendick. He wrote Bob Hendricks of the Appalachian Trail Club that his experience in 1951 on the Appalachian Trail helped a great deal in his success in covering the route along the Cascades, Sierra Nevada, and Coast Ranges in 1952. Leaving the International Boundary July 6, he took 149 days to traverse the Pacific Coast states.

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

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NUMBER 2

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

For the February Record

What Good Is an Elk?

Ever had that one thrown at you? How did *you* answer it?

That happened to me one night recently when I explained to a friend that Dr. Olaus Murie was perhaps the outstanding authority on elk in this country today.

"But why?" the friend wanted to know. "What good are they?"

I thought I had the answer on the tip of my tongue, but it took two good days to come up with it. Here's what I (eventually) replied—and if you can do better, I'd be delighted to hear from you:

"You wondered what good are the elk," I said, patiently. "I could reply that they are beautiful, which is obvious, or that they provide meat, which really is unimportant, or that they were here first, which is irrelevant. Let me explain why I feel that the elk are important and what difference it would make to me—and to you, whether you realize it or not—if they or any other creature cease to exist by the hand of man.

"Man is not a separate creation. He lives in an ecological niche. You cannot escape that fact by ignoring it, or by not knowing about it. We are in our niche, and we'll stay there until the end of time.

"We are human beings, but we are more than that. We are bits of creation within a masterpiece like flakes of paint on a da Vinci or notes from the page of a composer. We are not the only bits. Every animal and bird, and blade of grass and spider, and cloud and sea and dune is also a bit of that creation masterpiece.

"When any part is destroyed, any species driven to extinction, a bit of creation is lost and the masterpiece is therefore less perfect.

"If you would destroy forever the Sermon on the Mount, or scrape a yard of plaster from the Michelangelo ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, or eliminate irretrievably the part for violins from your favorite symphony, the damage to the masterpiece would be obvious, wouldn't it?

"The irreparable damage to the masterpiece of our world would be as decided if the buffalo or elk or whooping crane or giant redwoods should follow the great auk or the bumbling dodo into their particular Valhalla."

DAN L. THRAPP
in *Southern Sierran*

Fireside Mountaineers

A ski terrain survey is being organized by the Winter Sports Committee, and more man- or woman-power is needed to complete this armchair job. The only requirement is an interest in studying over USGS topographical maps of potential ski areas. The committee is comparing some 500 aerial winter photographs with the corresponding topographical maps and summarizing, in detailed tabular form, a number of qualities considered of importance in the evaluation of new winter sports areas. The rapidly increasing popularity of skiing makes it imperative that the Sierra Club keep as well informed as possible on California's resources in this field.

If you can help, drop a card to Richard H. Felter, in care of the Sierra Club.

Conservation Outpost

—In the 83d Congress

Not since 1932 have the Presidency and Congress been simultaneously in Republican hands. From a conservationist's view, we are entering a period of uncertainty, for, regardless of one's political affiliation, cognizance should be taken of the possibility that the new administration may take a less enthusiastic view of some conservation matters which we favor than did the Democrats.

This observation should not be mistaken for pessimism because the new administration has not yet been tried and found wanting. It is rather to lay the background for appraising the general outlook on problems in the unfinished business file and for new legislation.

Our information to date on various legislation issues shapes up like this:

Forest Service receipts.—The Tackett bill to earmark 10 per cent of Forest Service receipts for recreation in national forests was blocked in the House Committee on Agriculture last year by one person from the West who testified at hearings on the bill and was influential enough to delay action so that the measure died with the 82nd Congress. Rep. Tackett, a Democrat, did not run for reelection, so another Congressman has been found to introduce a similar bill. Rep. Howard Baker of Tennessee has introduced H.R. 1972, which would annually earmark 10 per cent of Forest Service receipts, but no more than \$5,500,000 annually, "for the development, maintenance, and operation within the national forests of facilities and areas for public use; to improve and maintain wildlife habitat on the national forests; and to provide for adequate safety, sanitation, and health in connection with uses of the national forests."

This appears to be an improvement on the Tackett bill, but it will still have the opposition of the Bureau of the Budget, which insists that all income should be turned in to the Treasury and expenses covered by appropriations under control of Congress. The Sierra Club has supported legislation to earmark Forest Service funds because efforts to obtain adequate appropriations to

maintain trails, campgrounds and other facilities for public use have failed.

Dinosaur National Monument.—Senator Watkins introduced legislation in the 82nd Congress to authorize certain dams on the Upper Colorado (S. 3013). Included in the bill was Echo Park Dam in the Dinosaur National Monument. You will recall that Secretary of the Interior Chapman originally approved this dam and Split Mountain Dam also, after hearings in April, 1950. In the interval since these hearings, conservationists have been able to present such compelling arguments against these dams that Secretary Chapman recently stated that he disapproved of these dams until it could be shown conclusively by the Bureau of Reclamation that alternate sites were not feasible or economical. We do not know that the new Secretary, Douglas McKay, will endorse this policy, but at least the policy has been set.

In line with the theory that the best defense is a good offense, Rep. Leroy Johnson of California has introduced into this Congress a bill, H.R. 1037, to give national park status to Dinosaur National Monument. Precisely, the measure would abolish the monument and create the Green River Canyons National Park. The area in the new park would be the same as in the monument except for an area of about 10,000 acres at the extreme northern tip of the monument, known as Brown's Park, which would be held out for reclamation purposes. This area already is subject to a Reclamation Withdrawal issued in 1904.

While we should not overestimate the chances of this measure's being passed, likewise we should not underestimate its importance as a show of strength which serves notice on those who would destroy Dinosaur that it will not be relinquished to the Bureau of Reclamation without a fight.

Dams in National Parks and Monuments.—LeRoy Johnson introduced a bill in the 82nd Congress which would have prohibited the construction of dams in national parks and monuments. It was aimed at the Echo Park and Split Mountain dams proposed in Dinosaur National Monument, but its passage would have added to the security of the entire national park system.

This bill was not considered by the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, partly because it was introduced by a Republican into a Democratic Congress. However, Rep. Johnson has again introduced his bill, this time into a Republican Congress, which possibly may be more responsive. The measure is H.R. 1038, introduced on January 6 and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

Ownership of Tidelands.—This problem is of particular interest to conservationists in California because 70 per cent of the royalties derived by the State from tidelands oil production have been used to support the California State park system in the past. Since the Supreme Court declared that tidelands are federal property, these royalties have been held in escrow pending final settlement of the dispute.

The decision whether the tidelands are state or federal property is not one to be settled solely on conservation or recreation criteria; but if the Congress and present administration decide to return them to the states, it may mean much to the California State park system. As a starter, there is \$27,000,000 now in escrow which would be available for use for maintenance and acquisition of state parks. However, Californians will do well to watch the tidelands issue because even if it is resolved in favor of the state, the California Legislature must allocate these funds to the Division of Beaches and Parks and there are other groups seeking to divert these funds to other uses, such as for highways.

County Road to Muir Woods.—Rep. Scudder has reintroduced in this Congress a measure to transfer the approach road to Muir Woods National Monument (in Marin County) from county ownership to federal ownership. The bill, House Joint Resolution 77, provides that the road shall become a part of the Monument and shall be designated as a national park approach road.

—In the State Legislature

Two measures of the utmost importance to conservationists have been introduced in the State Senate.

The first, Senate Bill 69, would permit construction of public highways across state

parks. The text of the bill is brief, so we will quote it in full:

Section 5012 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

5012. The Director of Natural Resources, upon application by the proper authorities and on such terms and conditions as the State Park Commission may prescribe, may grant easements for public highways over and across state park lands under the jurisdiction of the department and the State Park Commission: *provided, however, that where application is made for a state highway, the easement shall be granted and shall be free from terms or conditions.*

This measure was introduced by Senators Abshire of Sonoma County, McCarthy of Marin, Busch of Lake and Mendocino, Way of Humboldt, and Coombs of Napa and Yolo.

Notice the last few words of it. They make it mandatory that the State Park Commission grant easements for state highways across state parks when such easements are requested. Passage of this bill would pose a serious threat to state parks. *Such total disregard of State Park values is extremely dangerous. Moreover, it would be an utter breach of faith with thousands of people throughout the nation who have contributed millions of dollars for preservation of these areas. All club members are urged immediately to write their state Senator and Assemblyman requesting full protection for our State Park System.*

The second measure, Senate Concurrent Resolution 19, would permit hunting in state parks. The preamble of the bill notes that California has some undeveloped state parks, that many of these parks abound in game birds and animals that increase annually, that these birds and animals should be harvested annually. Therefore, the bill concludes, "the State Park Commission is requested to adopt and put into effect a policy of permitting the hunting of wild birds and mammals in so much of the areas in the State Park System as it is possible to permit without unduly affecting the use of such areas for park purposes."

The bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, where hearings will be held on it this spring.

J.R.B.

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 welcome.

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.

Transportation is usually by private car.

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 fees listed will probably cover the expenses; the management reserves (but has seldom exercised) the right to levy small additional assessments.

Payment Plan

A \$5 RESERVATION FEE (per person per trip period) holds your place for you until the DEADLINE DATE. We hope this will help you to help us plan ahead by speeding your reservation along.

DEADLINE DATE for reservation and full payment is one month before the date that your particular trip starts.

The TRIP FEE (see table) may be sent in with the reservation fee or at any time up to the deadline date. The trip fee must be paid by the deadline date or the place will not be held for you if there is a waiting list. If reservations are made or trip fees are paid after the deadline date, the trip fee is increased by \$5.

REFUNDS. The reservation (overhead) fee is not refundable. The trip fee is refunded in full if you cancel a week (or longer) before your trip-period starts; after that there can be no refund unless your place is filled.

Check list

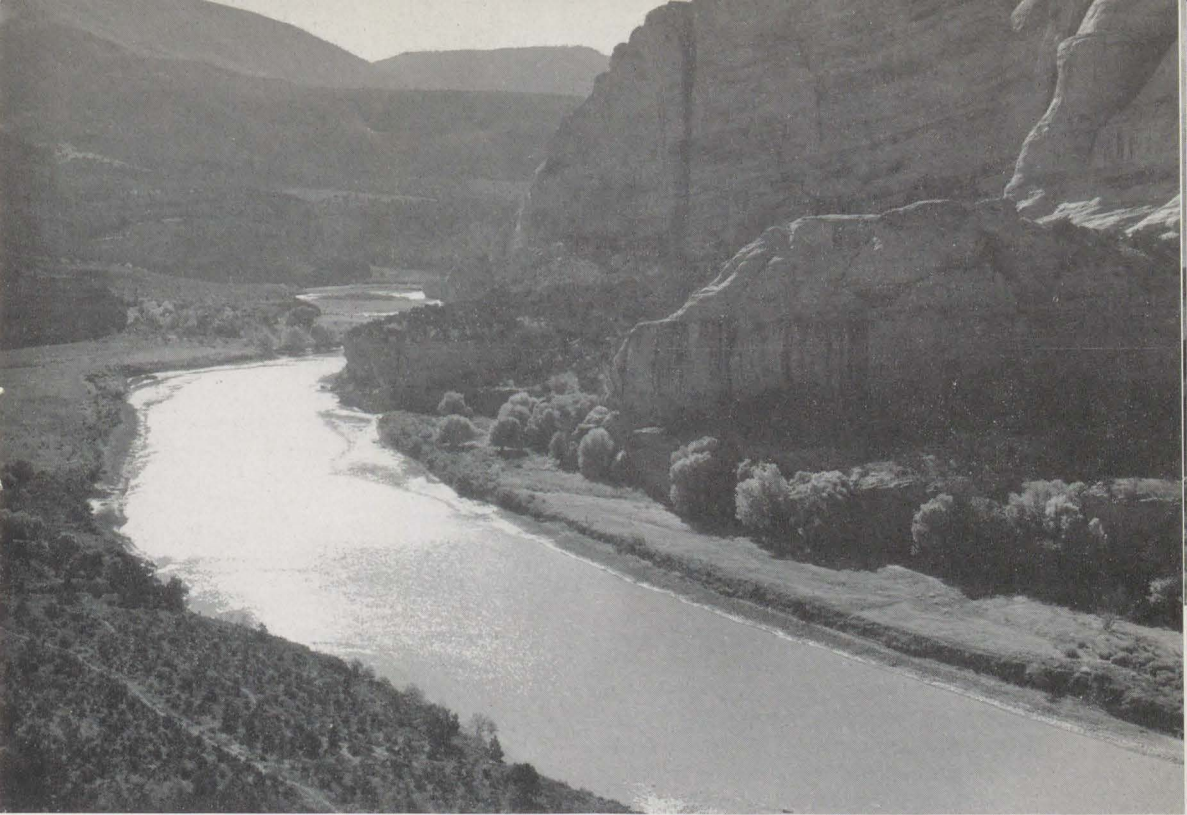
When making reservations please:

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 by number or date).
- 4) Let us know whether transportation to roadhead is desired or can be provided for others whose names the office may suggest.
- 5) For Burro, Family Burro, or Knapsack trips, please give age, sex, and (briefly) relevant experience of all participants.

Trip details will be sent you later.

Outing	Starting Dates	Trip fee	Dunnage
DINOSAUR	June 26, Vernal, Utah	\$55*	25 lbs.
HIGH TRIP	1: July 12, Carroll Creek 2: July 26, Onion Valley	\$77 per period; \$62 for children 14 or under*	30 lbs.
FAMILY BURRO	1: July 26, Bridalveil Mdw. 2: August 9, Bridalveil Mdw.	\$120 per family*	300 lbs. per family
BURRO	1: July 12, North Lake 2: July 26, South Lake 3: August 9, North Lake	\$45	25 lbs.
BASE CAMP	Vermilion Valley: 1, July 12; 2, July 19; 3, July 26; 4, August 2; 5, August 9; 6, August 16	\$35 (children \$25) per two-week period; \$20 for a single week*	30 lbs.
KNAPSACK	Sierra: July 12, Northern Yosemite Colorado: August 11, Durango Trinity Alps: June 27	\$37* \$37* \$18*	15 lbs. 15 lbs. 15 lbs.

* Please add for each period the nonrefundable \$5 reservation charge. (This charge covers two consecutive weeks of Base Camp.)



THE YAMPA RIVER IN CASTLE PARK

Martin Litton

Announcing the 1953 Wilderness Outings

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

The purpose of any of the Sierra Club Outings today is to acquaint people with wilderness country, just as it was when Will Colby greeted the first Sierra Club campers at Tuolumne Meadows in 1901. Nine years before, John Muir and his associates laid the cornerstone for a Sierra Club devoted to the preservation of mountain wilderness, predicting that the person who actually had enjoyed the high, wild places would be most concerned about their protection. Sixty-one years have passed and we know they were right. Outings are still going strong; the club itself is going stronger still, in good measure because of them.

There's great variety in the Outings now—greater this year than ever—each type of outing unique in the means it affords to enter beautiful wilderness and to leave wilderness beautiful.

The Knapsack Trips are the most spartan. Some food caches are laid for the knap-

sackers, but they carry everything else and help themselves around camp. They are the most independent of mountain travelers and are easiest on the mountains.

Burro Trips cost a little more because there are burros on the payroll—one to help carry each two person's food and equipment and to keep those two people more or less close to the trail. A club trip provides good training for subsequent private burro trips. The Club's *Family Burro Trip* is especially valuable in showing parents who love mountains how to persuade their children to share their love.

The High Trip costs far less than similar trips conducted privately, but is most expensive of the club outings, owing to the size and cost of the crew of mules and men required to make the frequent moves that give the trip its special appeal—a chance to cross fine horizons, to pause to explore, and to do both with relatively carefree, load-

free days provided one likes to walk the trails. The age range—seven to seventy!

Base Camp is probably the easiest way of all to enjoy the wilderness; it is inexpensive because only two moves are made—in and out. One permanent camp, staffed with cooks and leaders of various activities, is established; all food and equipment is packed in and Base Campers are free to seek out the last intimate near-by detail.

The River Trip is a new undertaking this

year, with a special purpose. The interest shown will determine how often similar trips should be scheduled. Some of America's most colorful wilderness canyons will be run with minimum exertion.

—*The Outing Committee*: H. Stewart Kimball (C), Herbert L. Breed, Bob Braun, David R. Brower, Alfred R. Dole, Patrick D. Goldsworthy, Clifford V. Heimbucher, Oliver Kehrlein, Richard M. Leonard, George Templeton, Cliff Youngquist.

The Forty-eighth High Trip

Two two-week periods starting July 12. Along the Muir Crest—Miter Basin, Crabtree Meadows and Mount Whitney, Milestone Bench, Center Basin

For three years in a row, now, the management has missed a mile in trying to set up High Trip periods that would be equally appealing. The miss has meant that not only the periods, but the budget too, have been out of balance. So this year we look forward bravely to perfect balance; all possible variables have been removed, and both periods will cover the Sierra crest between Kearsarge and Army passes. The choice will lie between whether you want the sun and snowscape at your back or in your eye as you travel from camp to camp! The first period starts at Carroll Creek, the second at Onion Valley. Both are limited to 125.

Campsites—all-time favorites

Miter Basin. The beauties of this glacial basin, close under Mount Langley and the crags of LeConte, Mallory, and Irvine, fascinated High Trippers in 1946 and kept Base Campers busy for four weeks in 1949.

Crabtree Meadow. A campsite surpassed

by few and indispensable as a jumping-off point for ascents to what California has that Colorado would like most, and from the summit of which we expect many of the hardier type to watch sunrise and sunset.

Milestone Bench. This won't appear by name on any map, but High Trippers who stayed here in 1948 are still talking about it—especially the leader, who alternately calls Milestone Bench and Darwin Bench the most beautiful in all the Sierra. Here the campfire is foreground for sunset on Williamson, Tyndall, Barnard, Russell, Whitney, Muir, and Langley—seven of the highest. And right at hand, a beautiful meadow, timberline bedsites, rock-coved lakes, and Table Mountain and Milestone to catch the sunrise.

Center Basin (circa). The few of us who camped in Center Basin last summer agreed that this is part of the great country of the High Sierra. Beautiful peaks encircle an alpine land of forest, meadow, and stream.



MILESTONE
SILHOUETTE

Cedric Wright

TULAINYO LAKE
AND MOUNT WHITNEY

*Fairchild
Aerial Surveys*



Handsome Center Peak all but crowds us out of camp, yet doesn't intrude at all.

Little Cottonwood (for northbound passengers only). The first night's stop at Little Cottonwood Creek makes Miter Basin a reasonable two-day trip for all and is our concession to the slow disintegration of footburners that the automobile has brought about—early-day High Trippers would have romped the entire distance in a day.

Kearsarge Lakes (for southbound passengers only). This is so alpine that you'd hardly expect that the High Trip could camp here, but Pat Goldsworthy proved we could last summer. We would like to repeat last summer's sunsets here, omitting only the rain that made them. Kearsarge Pinnacles echo the morning call's every single note.

The moves

From Carroll Creek to Miter Basin, or vice versa. Ike Livermore has always pointed out that this move provides a wonderful appreciation of the eastern escarpment of the Sierra. We'll agree with him and not dwell on the subject any longer except to say that the inbound trip will start pleasantly early. Army Pass is crossed on the second day in, the last day out.

Miter Basin to Crabtree Meadow. Down Rock Creek, across strange Guyot Flat, and up Crabtree Creek to the first campsite with a good view of Mount Whitney. There is an alternate for knapsackers—a contour route that just misses the summit of Whitney.

Crabtree to Milestone. One of the most beautiful day's travel in the Sierra, crossing Wallace and Wright Creeks, Tyndall Creek, the headwaters of the Kern, and a final steep but short pull up to the bench above the Milestone camp that was traditionally sought in the old High Trip days. This is a long day, but well worth every foot of it and remarkably free, as High Trip days go, from ups and downs. Knapsack side trips should take in Tulainyo Lake (see photo) and, for those who will tread lightly, Kaweah Basin—the "Last Citadel."

Milestone to Center Basin. High point of the move is 13,200-foot Foresters Pass, as amazing a piece of trail engineering as you'll find in the Sierra—with a chance to observe the striking difference in timberline character between the Kern and the Kings watersheds. Knapsackers looking for a change may choose the route via Lake South America, Harrison Pass, and Vidette Creek.

Center Basin to Onion Valley. A few miles on the John Muir Trail, then the ever-favored eastern approach over Kearsarge Pass. Here again there's a short cut for those who'd prefer a little vertical distance to a lot of horizontal, beautiful trail. There's even a short cut on the short cut. The Kearsarge approach is one of the easiest—and we hope that our fond plan for balanced periods is not blasted by a clamoring for the easier way in. We should not want to attach a stigma to one group as opposed to another, but there are those who would suggest that

to come in over Kearsarge is a sign of weakness, while to come in over Army Pass combines the virtues of determination, resourcefulness, and free enterprise.

What the trip is like

The High Trip formula has not changed through the ages. Mules, persuaded by the crew of packers, carry the load—food, dunnage, commissary equipment. Skilled hands organize camp and prepare appetizing mountain meals. Members carry their minimum noontime needs, choose their own pace, companions, and route to the next campsite, being provided such leadership as they need. We move a day, rest a day or two, move again, and so on. Part of the fun is in watching mountains, part in watching people—from children not yet in their teens on up to old hands who don't remember their teens any longer—as they react to mountains. The mountains themselves are big enough to provide solitude galore.

There's always plenty to do—natural sciences to study *in situ*, mountaineering and climbing instruction, fishing, photographing, lots of live music, campfire fun, moving-day circuses wherever the mules and packers are—and always plenty *not* to do for those who want a quiet place in the half-shade.

The commissary crew will be nearly the same as last year's, led by Dave Brower and Pat Goldsworthy. The Mount Whitney Pack Trains strings will be under the able management of Bruce Morgan. As long as there's a High Trip there'll be ample opportunity for volunteer wielders of ax, shovel, and hotcake or trout turner.

The Cost

The total cost will be \$82 per period, \$67 for children under 14. (Check to see how far under is likely to work out. As a clue, Ken and Bob Brower, at 7½ and 6, made

out beautifully last year, as the manager has never missed a chance to attest.) This, for those who budget such things, amounts to \$3.73 per week between now and trip time, if our arithmetic is right. We have assigned the subcommittee on finance and rationalization the task of proving how much you can save by getting away from lowland temptations to spend money on unessentials such as telephone, gadgets, and gas—and by going on the High Trip instead. D.R.B.

Burro Trips

This year the Burro Trips will base at North Lake and South Lake and cover the Magic Circle—over Piute, Muir, and Bishop passes, some of the best the Sierra has to offer. About seven travel days and six layover days are planned in several possible combinations since no exact itinerary is contemplated. For we have learned not to plan exactly about burros and snow.

Probable campsites are: Golden Trout Lake, Hutchinson Meadow, Darwin Bench, LeConte Canyon, Dusy Basin, and Muir Tarns. No previous mountaineering experience is necessary for enjoyment of a burro trip. Indeed, it is assumed that no one can tie a bowline, bake with a reflector oven, or throw a diamond hitch. Ample opportunity is provided to learn by doing, so that Burro Trip graduates can conduct small, inexpensive trips of their own. All are expected to share in camp work and in care of stock on the trail; however, one can plan to have part of most afternoons free as well as the layover days for enjoyment of his favorite pastime—fishing, photography, mountaineering, loafing, or whatever.

The trips are limited to a congenial group of 22 people, 13 burros, and 1 horse. We had 100 per cent attendance last year, with an increasing proportion of repeaters, so early sign-up is indicated. Trips will be under veteran leadership. GEORGE TEMPLETON

HIGH TRIP TRANSPORTATION
(IN 1953 BURRO TRIP COUNTRY)

Cedric Wright



Down the Yampa and Green Rivers through Dinosaur National Monument

Green River Canyons Outing

Magnificently colorful wilderness canyons, effortless and safe drifting down parts of the Yampa and Green rivers, camping on parklike canyon floors, a congenial group with common purpose, a chance to see at first hand unique country that needs the protection of the newly proposed Green River Canyons National Park—all this is combined in a new venture this summer on the part of the Outing Committee. Steve Bradley, member of the Sierra Club, Director of Denver's Winter Park, and author of *Folboats Through Dinosaur* in the 1952 *Sierra Club Bulletin*, is completing plans and arrangements for the trip and is the committee's choice for leader. Bus Hatch, who is rapidly gaining renown as *the* expert of these waters, will be the water-borne packer and captain of the river boats. The trip is limited to fifty members.

We will take to the river at Lily Park on the Yampa, gateway to Dinosaur National Monument. There will be six days on the river, including two half-day layovers, and all but a lucky few will pull out at Rainbow Park, immediately before the Split Mountain run.

What you will see

The Yampa is a canyon of unique magnificence. You enter it dramatically through a deep stone passageway. Its early features are characterized by terraced layers of multicolored stone on the horizontal, V-cut

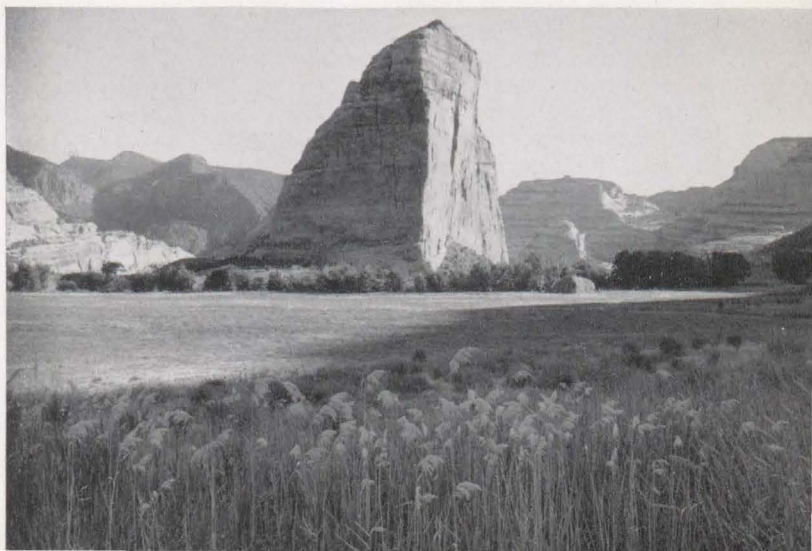
with few vertical walls. At Harding's Hole it changes; the vertical walls begin, flesh-colored stone, tremendously thick, sculptured in every conceivable fashion. The walls below Castle Park become immense and sheer. Echo Park is the climax, in a sense, and the end of the light stone and corridor-type canyon. Below Echo Park all the landscape changes as you pass over and through Wild Mountain Fault, a magnificently graphic example of the great forces along a fault line. Below this the canyon changes, the water becomes fast and deep in places, the canyon is a great V-cut affair again, the river is straighter, no longer meandering slowly as it did in the Yampa. This continues all the way (about 30 miles) to Rainbow Park—fast water but no nasty rapids. Campsites will probably be Anderson's Hole, Harding's Hole, Castle Park, Echo Park, and Jones Creek.

What the trip is like

A typical day on the river would be somewhat like this: breakfast and packing chores (central commissary, of course) would be complete and the party in boats by nine. There would be a morning swim in the river, perhaps; next a stop at an attractive lunch spot; then back on the river at one for a two-hour-or-so run to the next campsite. The river does the work for 110 beautiful miles. The physical requirements? Each person must, to survive, exert himself enough to keep on breathing; an invalid could make the trip. Minimum age recommended, nine.

STEAMBOAT ROCK
AND ECHO PARK

Philip Hyde



The boats are 7-man, 10-man, and possibly a few 12- or 14-man rubber life rafts—ponderous, but very stable, generally comfortable workhorses. Bus Hatch and company know the boats, the river, the canyon, and what novice river runners need.

Beginners who have any apprehension about any of the faster stretches of water will be able to walk around. Beginners who have been through say that none need be walked around.

Extras

Small boats (kayaks and folbots) will be acceptable providing that the people who will handle them convince the management that they have enough experience and partake of all responsibilities. Advance arrangements must be initiated when reservations are placed. ¶ Intrepid people wishing to add the exciting extra day's run (limit, fifteen) through Split Mountain should so state when making reservations. The additional cost, probably about \$10. ¶ If enough interest is evinced, a preliminary three-day trip can be arranged for as many as fifteen on the Upper Green—not recommended for armadas. The preliminary group would then join the main party at Lily Park.

Approach

Transportation to Vernal will be by private car (the club office will assist in coordinating this) or by bus, rail, or air. The committee will arrange for a chartered bus (approximate round-trip cost from San Francisco, \$40 for 35 persons) if enough members are interested.

Potential Sierra Club river rats are reminded that this Green River Canyons trip does not have years of Outing Committee experience behind the running of it; the committee's announcement, necessarily made far in advance of final plans, may well be even farther from a perfect prediction than the usual attempt to forecast the last details of a Sierra outing. The committee finds ample reason for optimism, however, in the extensive combined experience of Bus Hatch, dean of river men, and of Steve Bradley, from whose fund of knowledge—and manner of expression too—most of this part of the announcement has been drawn.

Base Camp

The Base Camp in Second Recess will afford another ideal vacation spot from which to explore thoroughly all the famous glaciated canyons and recesses of the Mono Creek watershed. Ambitious members will now have an opportunity to poke around in the many recesses - within - recesses which abound in this superlative wonderland.

The Base Campers will enter from the west side via Shaver and Huntington Lakes and the historic Mono Hot Springs. A newly constructed road will enable them to start their hike at the upper end of Vermilion Valley, whose reddish floor will probably be seen this year for the last time, as a prospective dam will soon turn it into a reservoir.

After a short distance along the John Muir Trail under the Vermilion cliffs, we will ascend Mono Creek, past panoramic Outlook Point, and reach our camp at the 9,000-foot contour in a hanging meadow under Mount Hilgard's buttressed amphitheater. The Second Recess is perhaps one of the most perfect examples of a hanging glacial valley in the Sierra. It is broad and sunny, with a scenic backdrop including Hilgard, Abbot and Mills to the south, and McGee Creek crest to the north.

To enable the members to enjoy all of the spectacular features of the region, a comprehensive program of activities will be scheduled, from which each may pick and choose according to his whim and ability. Special programs will be scheduled for extended periods of four weeks and six weeks, covering the watersheds to the north and south, for those who can remain longer, and wish to see everything.

However, the customary basic principle of Base Camp will prevail: You may loaf, or "play hard"—which ever appeals to you, from day to day. No activity will be obligatory, all will be available, each with an experienced leader in charge.

Three types of activities will be regularly scheduled: (1) A leisurely program in which everyone can participate. (2) A more strenuous one, with extended hikes, climbs, and glacial explorations. (3) Overnight trips for knapsackers into adjacent watersheds.

UPPER MONO
RECESS COUNTRY

James MacBride



Take it easy and do much

For those who prefer to keep busy while taking it easy, the regular in-camp programs will include sessions in camp technique, mountain first aid, map reading, rock climbing, ice-and-snow technique, botany, geology, glaciology, bird study, and astronomy.

Picnic hikes will be made to the lakes along Mills Creek, up Laurel Canyon, into the Hilgard amphitheater and to the Gabb Glacier, and with a longer trip we can revisit our Shangri-La Base Camp site of 1946 in the Fourth Recess and also visit the lakes and garden meadows of the Pioneer Basin.

A near-by 11,600 foot "Grandma's Nubbin" will provide aerial views of the First and Second recesses and an extensive panorama of the Sierra crest, the crimson peaks of the McGee country, black Volcanic Knob, and the adjacent glaciated domes and peaks.

For the fishermen there are over 50 lakes within reach and miles of streams.

Lose weight on seconds and thirds

For the more strenuous, off-trail trips will be scheduled into each of the nine main recesses—each with its tumbling cascades, photogenic lakes, and glacier-carved headwalls. Few people have visited all nine of these recesses and no one has ever dared pronounce which is the most beautiful.

For the climbers there are a score of peaks within sight of camp. Near the crest

there are seven 13,000-footers, some with an easy and a sporty route. The map still shows some peaks for which no ascent is of record. Special knapsack climbing camps will be established: one at Lake Italy, for Hilgard, Gabb, Mills, Dade, Abbots, Bear Creek Spires and several unnamed peaks; another at the head of Laurel Canyon, for Red and White Mountain and the four nearby unclimbed summits; and another from which the Pioneer group can be climbed.

Knapsacker's paradise

Those who like short knapsack trips will find the Base Camp a high, convenient starting point for the Mono backcountry and a convenient center for all of the spectacular areas in the northwest portion of the Mount Goddard Quadrangle. We suggest the following tours and will schedule them tentatively pending definite selections in camp:

1) During the first session—Granite Park via Gabb Glacier and Lake Italy. After a visit into the rugged Royce Amphitheater,



circle around the southeast face of Bear Creek Spire into Little Lakes Valley and return via Mono Pass (about 40 miles).

2) During the second session—North Fork of Mono Creek, Silver Pass, Lake of the Lone Indian, Tully Hole, Virginia Lake, Dorothy Lake, Bloody Mountain, Red Slate Mountain, McGee Creek Pass, and return by Hopkins Basin (about 40 miles).

3) During the third session—Starr's route from Mono Creek to Evolution Creek, via Lake Italy, Hilgard Creek, over to the unnamed basin into French Canyon and Hutchinson Meadow, down Piute Creek with a return by the John Muir Trail or cross country to Sally Keyes Lake, Marie Lake, and Bear Creek (about 70 miles).

Those interested in glaciers are requested to bring their ice and snow equipment.

In charge of each activity and trip will be an experienced leader, who will try to make it as interesting and easy as possible. Among those who have signified their willingness to lead are: Oliver Kehrlein, Cliff Youngquist, Morgan Cuthbertson, Peter Friedrichsen, Ned Thompson, Bill Wallace, Bill Evans, John Carlson, Ed Breitweiser, Ben Mason, and Carl Miller. Our popular camp naturalist of the last two years, Peter Raven, will again be in charge of natural sciences, and when not too busy collecting for the Academy of Sciences, will lead trips.

Our medical needs will be attended by our good friends and members who have taken such good care of us for so many years: Drs. Ernst Wolff, Leona Bayer Wolf, Gordon Langsdord and others to be appointed later.

The menus which have made Base Camp famous will be provided by our chef of previous camps, Ned Thompson. Peter Friedrichsen will again supervise the smooth running of our camp lives.

Owing to the uncertainties of snow conditions, Base Camp will start one week later than usual. Single tents will be available for those reserving them in advance and there will be larger tents, at reduced rates, for men and for women. Horses may be rented by those preferring to ride into and out of camp. There will be a photographic competition this fall, so bring plenty of film.

CLIFF YOUNGQUIST

Knapsack Trips

Three seldom-visited wilderness areas will be explored by the Knapsack Trips.

The Sierra trip will make a great loop among remote headwaters of the many streams feeding the Tuolumne River, starting and ending at Tuolumne Meadows. In this extensive region, far from any road and troubled by only a minimum of trails, the fishermen can try for the lunker trout in the lakes, Benson, Rodgers, Neall, Peeler, McCabe. The climbers will be able to try their skill on Volunteer and West peaks, on Slide Mountain and Crown Point, on Matterhorn Peak and the awesome Sawtooth Ridge, on Stanton Peak and Shepherd Crest. Everyone will be able to ascend Mount Conness. The blue water, the jagged peaks, the green hemlock and fir forests of this northern wonderland will invite the photographer's lens. Here, also, is your chance to enjoy the finest of all mountain sleeping quarters, a bed on the soft needles under a hemlock tree, a treat that is rare south of the Tuolumne. We will follow some of McClure's original routes which he blazed in 1895 and which are now no longer maintained as trails.

The trip will cover 14 days, of which six are layover days. Fully one-half of the mileage will be cross-country, and camps will be far from the usual camping places.

The Rocky Mountain trip will knapsack among the Needle Mountains of southern Colorado, a Forest Service Wilderness Area with twenty-five peaks over 13,000 feet and three, Eolus, Windom, and Sunlight, over 14,000 feet. The region is rugged, yet with great, gently rolling ridges and valleys carpeted with a green sod quite unfamiliar to Sierrans. For hikers there are innumerable easy climbs and far views. For ardent climbers there are mountains of varying difficulty within a very few miles. Snow fields here and there make beautiful glissades. The meadows are splashed with flowers, and among the rocks of the passes the great blue columbine of the Rockies blooms. Marmots, conies, chipmunks, squirrels and grouse make ready subjects for the camera. Red fox, gray fox, weasels, birds of many kinds, and porcupines can be seen.

The trip will be ten days long with five or

six layover days to explore and climb, or just loaf. The route will cross the Continental Divide over Hunchback Pass at the head of Elk Creek, then go down Vallecito Creek, a stream abounding in fish. A trail leads upward beside the plunging cascades of Johnson Creek, a tributary of the Vallecito, to remote Vallecito Basin, then over Columbine Pass to Chicago Basin, and down Needle Creek to the trail's end.

A novel feature of the trip is the narrow-gauge railroad ride with which it begins and ends. The Denver and Rio Grande Western has 46 miles of track between Durango and Silverton over which the little cars wind along the cliffs and shoreline of the Animas River at a leisurely pace. (Rail fare extra.)

Since the group will not meet in Durango until Tuesday afternoon, August 11, you will have three or four days in which to make the trip from California, seeing the many sights as you go. Close to Durango are Arches National Monument, Mesa Verde National Park, Box Canyon Falls at Ouray, and the spectacular Ouray-Silverton road. Driving distance, 1200 miles each way.

A one-week knapsack trip is being offered this summer to the Trinity Alps, northern California, for those who prefer their mountains in smaller doses. The Trinity Alps is a region of glaciated granite which resembles the Sierra Nevada so strongly that it is often called "The Little Sierra." Peaks 8,000 to 9,000 feet high rise over mountain meadows and stocked glacial lakes. The area, in common with most of the Coast Ranges, is rugged. The trip will be from Saturday, June 27, to July 4.

The Colorado trip will be led by Kyle Corson and Oscar Carlson, and the Sierrans by Bob Braun and John Ricker.

Though not really difficult, these trips are considerably more strenuous than the others conducted by the Outing Committee. Each person must be in good enough physical condition to carry his own gear plus some food and community gear, a total of 25 to 30 pounds. The knapsack trips are not recommended for those who have not had some previous experience with this mode of travel. The week-end knapsack trips of the local chapters provide an enjoyable way of gaining this experience.

BOB BRAUN

Family Burro Trip

The Family Burro Trip is being offered again this year as an opportunity for families to learn how to pack into the wilderness with their children. Two trips are being planned to go into the region south and east of Yosemite Valley around the Clark Range to Ottoway Lake and the surrounding region. This is a delightful and colorful area with many streams and lakes in high country. The trails in this region can be traversed easily by most youngsters of 4½ years up. Plenty of layover days are being planned, especially early in the trip, to enable everyone to acclimatize himself and to make the most of the opportunities for learning packing technique, fishing, swimming, loafing, and playing.

As was done last year, each family will provide their own food to suit their own taste, and will be expected to do their own cooking. Each family going on the trip may bring a total of 300 pounds, divided between food, clothing, and camping gear. Three burros will be assigned to each family to carry the load. Since there will be 100 pounds on each animal it will not be possible for small children to ride. Families thinking of going on one of these trips should carefully evaluate the stamina and self-reliance of their younger children before deciding to bring them.

There is no arbitrary limit as to how young a child may be to go on one of these trips. However, experience has shown that both parents and children are more apt to enjoy the trip if none of the youngsters is under 4½.

Advice on food and equipment suitable for such a trip and packing instruction will be arranged for by the trip leaders as soon as the member families are known.

The first trip will start Sunday, July 26, and end Saturday, August 8. The second trip will run from August 9 to 22.

Families going on one of these trips should have considerable camping experience. Actual experience with animals, though not necessary, is desirable. Reservations will not be accepted after the dead-line date before the start of each trip.

AL DOLE

Chamber Favors Private Ownership of Resources

Washington.—The U.S. Chamber of Commerce went on record recently as favoring private ownership of government-owned natural resources. It called upon big business, farm and taxpayers' groups, and state and local chambers, to pressure Congress into granting such transfer. These natural resources would include national parks and forests and government-owned dams.

Chamber President Laurence F. Lee outlined detailed plans for turning billions of dollars of these natural resources over to big business groups so that they can be developed "profitably." He told the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association that the way for business to take over is to have Congress suspend all federal land acquisition while figuring out ways of transferring property to private ownership.

Primitive Area Revisions

The Forest Service has provided the Sierra Club with advance notice of primitive areas which are to be considered for boundary revision and reclassification. This informal notice has been given to afford interested members the opportunity to visit and study the areas ahead of such formal consideration as may be scheduled.

The following areas are scheduled for study in 1953: Salmon-Trinity Alps, Trinity National Forest; Caribou, and Thousand Lakes Valley, Lassen National Forest; Hoover (around Saddlebag Lake), Inyo National Forest; Agua Tibia, Cleveland National Forest.

If the above areas are examined as scheduled, the following will be studied in 1954: High Sierra, Inyo and Sierra national for-

ests; Mount Dana-Minarets, Inyo and Sierra national forests; Desolation Valley, Eldorado National Forest; South Warners, Modoc National Forest.

McKay to Address Wildlife Conference

From the Wildlife Management Institute's *Outdoor News Bulletin* we learn that the new Secretary of the Interior, Douglas McKay of Oregon, is to serve as featured speaker at the opening of the 18th North American Wildlife Conference to be held in Washington, D.C., March 9 through 11. Those attending the conference will have an excellent chance to learn about the views of the man who for the next four or more years will have charge of the national programs affecting public lands, migratory water fowl, and related natural resources. The Sierra Club will be represented at the conference.

Crowds in the Parks

Areas administered by the National Park Service were visited, in the year ending September 30, 1952, by 41,516,664 people. Visitors to the Parks (16,974,420) and Monuments (6,655,010) accounted for 57 per cent of the total and the 1952 figure was almost double that for 1941, the last pre-war year, and for 1946, too.

ENERGY IS WHERE YOU FIND IT

On one square mile at noon in southern Arizona, the sun exerts 50 per cent more energy than that being generated at Grand Coulee Power Plant—an untapped source of power. This, with apologies to California, might be borne in mind before plans are made to use up all the best dam sites.