

# SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*March  
1954*



*ASPEN COUNTRY, HIGH SIERRA*

*Cedric Wright*

**Wilderness Outings, 1954**

SEE PAGES 10-24

**Firing Begins on Dinosaur**

SEE PAGES 25-30

**Dinosaur Newsletter**

CENTER SECTION

# People You Know

Sierra Club members were recipients of 12 of the 36 honors presented to conservationists at the annual conference of the California Conservation Council. At the dinner held at International House in Berkeley on January 19, Honor and Merit Awards for 1953 were presented by the Council. In a turning of the tables, *Pearl Chase*, founder and moving spirit of the Council, was awarded a bronze plaque by the California Forest Fire Prevention Committee "for outstanding public service in the field of forest fire prevention and conservation in general."

Other Sierrans receiving Honor and Merit Awards were cited as follows:

*Adrienne (Mrs. Owen M.) Bradley*, Executive Secretary of the Calaveras Grove Association: "Dedicated to her particular project, nevertheless a fine worker and supporter of the entire field. Her talks and color-slides and movie programs have been a tremendous feature in the advancement of conservation education."

*David R. Brower*: "Writer, photographer,

dedicated conservationist; master of the written word who has, through its power, touched into life the latent conservationist in many a reader; for more than a decade a leader of mountain trips on which the significance of wilderness is revealed; Editor of *Sierra Club Bulletin* since 1946; a member of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club from 1941 to 1953, since then its Executive Director."

*Lewis F. Clark*: "Long-time explorer and protector of mountain wilderness; photographic recorder and interpreter of natural beauty; since 1933 a Director of the Sierra Club, of which he has been President and Vice-President and is now Secretary; scientist and sensitive artist who combines the qualities of both in his work for preservation of the inspirational resources of our land."

*Bestor Robinson*: "Vigorous mountaineer who has long helped direct the activity of the Sierra Club in exploration and enjoyment of the mountain scene, especially in winter; formerly President of, and now in his sixteenth year as a member of the Board of Directors of, the Sierra Club; since 1949 a member, and now the Chairman, of the Advisory Committee to the Secretary of the Interior."

*Helen (Mrs. Joseph F.) Verdi*: "Devoted worker of implantation of a conservation ideal in our youngest citizens; a member of the Conservation Committee of the Sierra Club and Chairman of its Committee on Conservation Education; lover of beauty who helps others see and appreciate what is all around us; lighter of her little candles where others complain of the dark."

Additional Sierra Club members honored were: *Dr. Margery Anthony, John Ripley Forbes, Grace and Harry James, Oliver Kehrein, and Dr. Paul T. Wilson.*

Officers of the club who have received awards in past years include:

*Camilla Anderson, John R. Barnard, Phil S. Bernays, Harold C. Bradley, Harold E. Crowe, Frank Kittredge, 1952.*

*Ansel Adams, Newton B. Drury, Richard M. Leonard, A. Starker Leopold, Charlotte E. Mauk, 1951.*

*Arthur H. Blake, Francis P. Farquhar, Mrs. Duncan McDuffie, 1949.*

*William E. Colby, Walter A. Starr, 1948.*

*Frederick Law Olmsted, 1947.*

*Joel H. Hildebrand, Duncan McDuffie, Ray Lyman Wilbur, 1946.*

**THE SIERRA CLUB,\*** founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of mountain regions. Participation is invited in the program to enjoy and preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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\*Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.



# Sierra Club Bulletin

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MARCH, 1954

NUMBER 3

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

## For the March Record

### *From the Makalu Climbers*

We of the California Himalayan Expedition wish to express our sincerest gratitude to all those members of the Sierra Club and friends who have contributed most generously of their services and money, making possible the successful departure of this expedition. We are mindful of the obligations we have assumed and of the trust that has been placed in us.

The ten team members are William Dunmire, Richard Houston, Fritz Lippmann, William Long, Dr. Bruce Meyer, Nello Pace, William Siri, Allen Steck, Lawrence Swan and Willi Unsoeld. With the advice of the Advisory Committee, Will Siri was designated expedition leader, with Nello Pace as deputy leader. It is anticipated that a deputy climbing leader to assist in coordination of operations on the mountain will be selected in the field. Regrettably, Ansel Adams, Alfred Baxter, and Fletcher Hoyt will not be accompanying the expedition.

Through Air Force support, nine members are departing by air for Calcutta, by way of Tokyo, on February 18. Willi Unsoeld is to join the group by commercial airline in Calcutta March 3.

R. G. Ayres, representative of Abbott Laboratories in Calcutta, has most graciously consented to insure the safe disposition of the expedition cargo upon its arrival in Calcutta and to contract for train transportation to Jogbani. Through the kind offices of Mrs. J. Henderson, honorary secretary of the Himalayan Club, the 175 porters necessary to transport the food and equipment are to meet our group at Dharan for the

three-week approach march to base camp in the Barun Valley.

The group plans to arrive at base camp April 1; to reconnoiter routes to the summit during April, and to launch the assault during May, prior to the onset of the monsoon in June.

Fritz Lippmann

### *What, No Postcards?*

No postcards. *This* will be the principal announcement of the Sierra Club Annual Dinner and Dance (Northern California) to be held on Saturday, May 1, at the Hotel Mark Hopkins in San Francisco.

Chairman Bob Schallenberger emphasizes the personal touch in preparations for this year's event. Members who have attended past dinners will be asked to "host a no-host table." This is not as ghostly as it sounds, but is intended to encourage new attendance. Members of the Board of Directors will also be table hosts.

Speaker of the evening will be Judge Robert W. Sawyer, of Bend, Oregon, a strong supporter of national parks and wilderness, former newspaper editor, highway commissioner, eminent jurist, and a principal speaker at the recent Midcentury Conference on Resources for the Future, Washington, D.C.

This is the only function of the year at which Northern California members can meet their friends from all activities at the same time. Here they will see their companions of summer outings, Sunday hikes and climbs, week-end camping trips, and all the rest. The setting will be spacious, in two

of the hotel's newly decorated ballrooms: Peacock Court and the Room of the Dons. Cy Trobbe's orchestra will make dancing a pleasure. There will be a program of films and color slides—glimpses of areas to be visited on 1954's outings, and of the 1952 expedition to Peru.

The atmosphere will be festive, but not formal. Dark business suits are suggested for the men, and short formals or cocktail dresses for the ladies. Tickets, \$5.75 per person, may be obtained from the Sierra Club office early in April.

Chapter publications will carry further announcements and details. Don't miss May Day at the Mark.

### *Gateway to Nature*

"Gateway to Nature," an exhibit of photographs and art to show "our scenic areas and wildlife, their scarcity, their value to us, and the need to protect them—through examples of beauty from Marin County and the National Parks," is on display during March and the first half of April at the San Francisco Junior Museum. Adults, including Sierrans, need not be ashamed to join the groups of school children, Scouts and other youngsters who will visit the exhibit, for it includes some of the best landscape photomurals ever made, as well as other first-rate interpretations of the natural scene.

Presented by the Conservation Education Section of the Sierra Club's Bay Chapter, the exhibit is largely on loan from the County of Marin, which displayed it at the 1952 and 1953 Art and Garden Fairs and at the California Academy of Sciences. Additional material has been borrowed from the Ross Valley Camera Club and individual photographers and artists. Ray Strong and Robert Haydon, who designed the original exhibit, have helped to arrange the present displays.

Features of "Gateway to Nature" include large photo-murals of the Golden Gate, the redwoods and other scenic subjects, by Ansel Adams and Pirkle Jones; Marin County "habitat displays," with large color transparencies and black-and-white landscape scenes, bird sculptures by Toshio Asaeda, and close-up photographs of Marin wildlife; a collection of rocks and minerals; and a

portfolio of Ansel Adams' pictures of the National Parks.

School classes and youth groups are being invited to tour the exhibit at the Junior Museum. After mid-April it will be moved to museums in the East Bay and possibly the Peninsula. Upon its return to Marin County, it is hoped that much of it will become the property of a new junior museum in San Rafael. (More about the Conservation Education Section on page 8.)

### *First Chapter Council*

Twenty Sierra Club leaders assembled at the Berkeley home of Marjory Farquhar on the evening of December 12, following the day-long meeting of the Board of Directors, to inaugurate what may become a club institution, the Chapter Council. Although President Dick Leonard and Executive Director Dave Brower were welcome guests, this was a meeting of representatives of all the chapters, and the topics discussed were of primary interest to those who conduct Sierra Club affairs in their home communities.

Mrs. Farquhar, whose work in creating the uniform by-laws has made her familiar with chapter problems, presided over the informal discussions and will continue to be the director-in-charge of the Chapter council. Many questions about club procedures and methods of communication were put to the officers present, and they were freely answered. The conferees had a unique opportunity to share down-to-earth reminiscences, worries and practical ideas concerning chapter publications, public meetings, funds, membership, committee personnel and local conservation activities.

Chapter representatives who attended were: *Angeles*, Parker Severson; *Atlantic*, Merritt Kastens; *Kern-Kaweah*, Jerry Ganapole; *Loma Prieta*, Warren Lemmon; *Los Padres*, Kathleen G. Jackson and Richard Everett; *Mother Lode*, Gene Serr; *Riverside*, Charles Marshall; *San Diego*, Lucius W. Johnson, Jr.; *San Francisco Bay*, Robert P. Howell and Fred Gunskey; *Tehipite*, Dana Abell and Kathryn Lehane. Others present were Secretary Lewis F. Clark, Directors Arthur B. Johnson and Charlotte Mauk and Membership Chairman Francis Whitaker.

## Mostly About Your Parks

Plans and problems of State Parks and National Parks were foremost on the agenda of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club at the quarterly meeting in San Francisco on December 12, 1953.

All the directors were present, as well as Executive Director Brower and Honorary Vice-Presidents Drury, Farquhar (for a short visit), Hildebrand, Huber, Starr and Wright. All ten chapters were represented, and chairmen of the following club committees participated: Cicely Christy, Committees; John R. Barnard, Conservation; Alfred Weiler, Library; Laurence Burnley, Lodges and Lands; Francis Whitaker, Membership; and Arthur H. Blake, Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs Co-operating Committee. Other members present were Herbert Maier, Associate Regional Director of the National Park Service; C. Edward Graves, newly appointed Western Representative of the National Parks Association; Dr. Edgar Wayburn, President of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs; Fred Gunsky, editor of the monthly issues of the *SCB*, and a number of members from San Diego and Portland as well as the Bay Region.

Newton B. Drury, as Chief of the California Division of Beaches and Parks, discussed among other park items: the definite plans for the Park Commission to take over

### Drury

the Tupman Elk Reserve as a park unit, providing the State Attorney General approves wildlife management arrangements; the increasing difficulty of obtaining matching funds for park areas; the re-study, as an outcome of a joint hearing with the Fish and Game Commission, of the boundaries of proposed park areas along the Colorado River; and the reiteration of positive opposition of the Park Commission to public hunting in state parks. After discussion it was evident that the matter of public hunting on state lands requires much more study, and re-emphasis was given to the importance of getting the hunting fraternity to be collaborators and

friends in the preservation of the natural scene.

Mr. Drury also outlined the status of the Division's five-year program in case the portion of the tidelands oil money earmarked for state parks and beaches becomes available, and in case it does not. New projects for possible state parks include the Hearst San Simeon castle and 300 surrounding acres, three key areas and three small areas around Emerald Bay at Lake Tahoe, and additional land at Point Lobos. He expressed optimism regarding a plan for routing U.S. Highway 101 around the state park redwood groves.

Bestor Robinson, chairman of the Advisory Committee on Conservation to the Secretary of the Interior, reported on the committee's two-day meeting in Washington, mentioning as some of the high lights: the great help as a committeeman of General Warren Hannum, former director of the California Department of Natural Resources; the adoption of the major recommendations

### Robinson

of a field committee regarding disposition of Bureau of Reclamation withdrawal lands along the lower Colorado River as wildlife refuges and state parks; indication of a more conciliatory attitude by the Bureau of Reclamation for wildlife preservation (as long as this does not interfere with the building of dams!); more realistic examination of the economic factors of reclamation projects; and of course the awaited decision of the Secretary in regard to Dinosaur. This led to a long discussion of what the Sierra Club and its collaborators could do to preserve the Dinosaur National Monument, in case Secretary McKay should recommend building dams in the Monument.

The discussion brought out that proposals to build such dams must pass two stages; first, approval for the project; second, appropriations. The latter may be the tougher. It was agreed that both stages must be fought with all our strength, and that there

can be no relaxation. If we lose we have far more to lose in the future; if we win we will strengthen our position for the future.

Brower showed "Wilderness River Trail," a movie taken of Dinosaur National Monument last summer by Charles Eggert, Martin Litton and Nathan Clark. In Kodachrome, edited by Eggert and Brower, it was in next-to-final form with a magnetic sound track. (See details on this film in *SCB*, February 1954).

The Executive Director reported on his trip to Washington to represent the club at the Mid-Century Conference on Resources for the Future (December 2-4). It was felt that his attendance had been well worth while, as in several of the sessions he was the only spokesman for preserving examples of our natural scene, as against the assumption that maximum exploitation and industrial production are the only goal. He was also able on this trip to make many contacts regarding the protection of Dinosaur.

C. Edward Graves, on behalf of the National Parks Association, spoke of the decision of the Federal Power Commission in the Namekagon River controversy as being an important verification of the principle of preserving natural values. (For details, see *SCB*, December 1953).

Herbert Maier, of the National Park Service, described the solution of the Hidden Valley ski development in Rocky Mountain National Park. Instead of a vast ski development with all the appurtenances that would have materially changed the appearance of the Valley, a relatively small development comparable to Badger Pass is now contemplated. Conrad Wirth, Director of the Park Service, made this a matter of personal concern, and the board commended his solution. In this connection, the subject of zoning in the national parks was again considered. Mr. Maier said the Park Service will issue a tentative program as a start, for study by interested organizations.

President Leonard explained a proposal which was being considered by a committee of the State Legislature, to set up a "California Federal Land Commission" for the purpose of disposing of private interests cer-

tain Forest Service lands that are presumed to block natural and normal growth of communities. As the proposal stands, it could be a dangerous land grab. This brought up the real problem of Forest Service land that is checkerboarded with private holdings, and a discussion followed on the procedure of exchanging lands, and other ways of solving such problems. It was agreed that the Sierra Club would not oppose in principle a change in the law to permit the Forest Service to sell land which the Service deems necessary for needed expansion of cities and towns.

Among the pleasanter items was the announcement from the Forest Service that the White Mountain Natural Area had been established. (See report of October meeting in *SCB*, December 1953).

Turning to matters within the club, a total active membership of 7,884 was reported, as of November 1, 1953, with an increase of 8.7% over the previous year. Applications would raise this to more than 8,000, and the

## Growth

number delinquent in dues was less than the previous year. With a growth better than 8%, perhaps our concern should be not whether we are growing enough, but whether we are growing too fast for assimilation of new members. The consensus was that present procedures of sponsorship serve a purpose, and do not hamper a steady, healthy growth.

The Board learned with deep regret of the death of Ralph Mocine of Los Angeles, long a loyal and effective member working in the interests of the club's conservation program.

The next meeting of the Board was set for February 27, 1954, at the San Francisco headquarters. Detailed minutes of the December meeting are available at the club office.

LEWIS F. CLARK,  
*Secretary*

Every mountain-litterer  
Makes my feelings bitterer.

—edb

## ... and Gladly Teach

First fruits of several months of work by the San Francisco Bay Chapter's new Conservation Education Section are now on display in the Bay Area. They include a set of 42 color slides with prepared commentary on what conservation means, photo-and-text exhibits on Mount Tamalpais and Dinosaur National Monument, a teaching unit in mathematics for the seventh grade (using illustrations from conservation subjects), and a photographic and art exhibit devoted to scenic areas and wildlife (see p. 4).

The first issue of the group's newsletter, just out to a small number of educators and others who can use it, emphasizes the intention to appeal chiefly to a youthful audience:

"We want to make people, especially young people, aware of basic attitudes of appreciation and careful use of parks and scenic areas, to bring to their attention the scarcity value of what is natural in their midst, and to promote their adherence to a code of good behavior toward the land and its life."

To accomplish this, members of the Conservation Education Section have set out to create or acquire visual aids of several kinds. Duplicate sets of color slides will be loaned to school teachers, scoutmasters and others who work with youth activity groups. The accompanying script will make it unnecessary, in many cases, to send a Sierra Club speaker. Photo-and-text displays have been designed for a uniform, portable size (five feet high by five feet wide, in three folding, 20-inch panels) so that they, too, can be lent with a minimum of work.

The Dinosaur exhibit is a window display

—explanatory text with some of Harold Bradley's pictures—added to the section's program because of the current emergency. Other subjects for black-and-white display panels, in addition to Mount Tamalpais ("The Mountain Everyone Loves"), will be Mount Diablo ("This Park Needs to Grow"), the scarce wild country of the United States ("Is There Still Wilderness?"), local man-made parks versus natural areas ("What Scenery Is Natural?"), and do's and don'ts of the outdoors ("Handle With Care").

It is no secret that the Sierra Club harbors a variety of high quality professional talent. The new section has succeeded in persuading a number of talented people to give time and energy to this project. Artists, photographers, publicists, teachers and organizers have gone to work eagerly to start what promises to be a continuing, popular Bay Chapter activity, keyed to this part of the club's purposes:

"... to educate the people with regard to the national and state forests, parks, monuments, and other natural resources of special scenic beauty and to enlist public interest and coöperation in protecting them."

The Conservation Education Section was organized by the Bay Chapter's Conservation Committee, of which Fred Gunsy is chairman. Chief of the section is Arthur Schulz. Among those who have helped to produce the early results of the project are Marian Beck, George Brereton, Mary Chamberlain, Barbara Cross, Ted Grubb, Mary Knox, Harry Lieberman, Steve Miller, Wilma Nuotio, Walter Rivers, Henry Saddler and Helen Verdi.

### *Report from the Conservation Committee*

## First Aid Caches, State Parks, Giveaway?

The Southern section of the Conservation Committee, under the chairmanship of Joe Momyer, discussed at a recent meeting a suggestion that first aid caches be placed in the San Gorgonio Primitive Area (in San

Bernardino National Forest) for winter emergency use by skiers.

The Committee felt that this need would not be pressing in most wilderness areas, but in San Gorgonio, where winter use is very

heavy, one or two first aid caches would appear to be valuable.

There is danger, of course, that these caches might be used as an excuse for more extensive invasions of the wilderness, but this may be avoided if it is definitely understood that they are essential to public health because of heavy public use.

The Committee decided that the need for these caches is pressing. If placed carefully they would not be in serious conflict with wilderness policy, especially if they are so constructed as to be removable in summer.

At its December meeting, the Committee continued its discussion of state parks (recreational vs. scenic). There was general agreement that the best way to assure a reason-

## State Parks

able balance between scenic and recreational parks is to undertake an inventory of what we now have in the way of scenic areas in the state park system and also determine which additional scenic areas deserve park status. With a factual basis such as this, the Sierra Club will be better able to determine which areas should be recommended for addition to the state park system and the urgency of acquisition.

The Committee adopted the following classification for state parks and will ask the chapters to carry out the inventory of established parks and potential additions based on this classification.

### CLASSIFICATIONS FOR STATE PARKS

#### A. Scenic and Recreational

##### 1. Completely Scenic

May include picnic or camping facilities to the extent necessary to facilitate the enjoyment of the natural scene. (Example: Point Lobos State Park Reserve—Mt. San Jacinto State Park)

##### 2. Predominantly Scenic

Includes picnic and camping facilities as well as other recreational facilities in keep-

ing with the natural scene. Developments are never permitted to destroy the natural beauty which the park was first created to protect. (Examples: Big Basin State Park—D. L. Bliss State Park)

##### 3. Predominantly Recreational

Primary attractions are the recreational facilities. Park is set in natural surroundings that are attractive, but not of high scenic beauty. (Examples: Morro Bay State Park—Stinson Beach State Park)

##### 4. Completely Recreational

Generally such parks are at the site of a low altitude body of water or at a sea shore adjacent to a metropolitan area. Mass recreation prime objective of such parks. (Examples: Turlock Lake State Park—Santa Monica Beach State Park)

#### B. Historical Monument State Parks

Examples: Sutter's Fort and San Pasqual Battlefield State Parks.

The Committee's attention has been called to a recent directive by Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay to the Director of the National Park

## Giveaway?

Service ordering a study of existing national parks and monuments to determine which areas "do not meet the basic requirements of a national park system *under current philosophy*." (Italics mine.)

There are areas under National Park Service administration which probably should be administered at the state or local level. Millerton Lake, east of Fresno, is an example. However, we understand that the study team is eyeing not only places like Millerton Lake, but also Olympic National Park.

Nothing can be done at the moment, but the intent and motive will become clearer in the months to come. We must be watchful of the high-level lack of appreciation demonstrated in Dinosaur. We want no one to try to "alter the scenery, without destroying it" in Olympic or Kings Canyon, or any National Park.

JOHN R. BARNARD, *Chairman*  
*Conservation Committee*



## How to Use the Tidelands Money

*On March 15, 1954, the Supreme Court of the United States upheld the Act of Congress awarding proprietary rights in offshore lands to the states. Seventy per cent of offshore oil income is authorized to be spent for beaches and parks. As the time nears when the State's impounded royalties must be appropriated, it is valuable to know the recent views of the first chairman of the State Park Commission, William E. Colby, our Honorary President.*

November 3, 1953

To the Joint Legislative Committee on Impounded Funds from Tide and Submerged Lands, State of California:

Dear Sirs:

It is with extreme regret that I am unable to attend in person today but when one passes the age of 78 he does not do all that he would like to do.

For nine years (1927-1936) I was chairman of the State Park Commission then just created by the legislature. That experience together with the opportunity to observe the parks since I resigned from the commission, enables me to present, in brief, two or three points that seem pertinent to your inquiry.

First, the people of California are intensely interested in their state parks as is evidenced by the overwhelming popular vote they gave to the \$6,000,000 bond issue for the purchase of new parks in 1927. This bond issue carried by a vote of some 3 to 1. A few years later a referendum popular vote on a plan to invade State parks for the purpose of drilling for oil was defeated by a similar overwhelming vote. I cite these instances to show that the people of the state value their parks and the state park system and are wide awake to these values.

Another point worth making is that lands which were purchased with the proceeds of the \$6,000,000 bond issue and which were matched by \$6,000,000 more from private and other sources, have increased enormously in value. In some instances the redwoods purchased, for example those of Bull Creek and Dyerville flats on the Eel River, are worth at present day stumpage values three or four times what was paid for them twenty

years ago. From the investment standpoint alone they have proven to be gilt edge investments.

However, their commercial value as timber is insignificant compared to their value to the state in stimulating travel to enjoy their outstanding attractions. This dollar value is great today but is continually increasing and will continue to increase to the end of time. Trees cut down and turned into lumber have a transitory value but the value of those unrivalled forests if left standing brings in perpetual return.

Far greater than the timber value or the travel value of these lands, is their inspirational value. This lasts for all time, and its influence on public thought and life and happiness is immeasurable. It is a part of the highest form of education. I once was fortunate enough to be present at a conversation between John Muir and James Bryce when the latter remarked to Muir that our parks and the inspiration of the great outdoors that the parks are created to preserve in their rarest form, had more influence on mankind and youth in particular than whole libraries of lawbooks and statutes designed to correct their shortcomings. In this, Muir wholeheartedly agreed.

In the acquisition of additional park lands, before it is too late, and in the caring for these acquisitions both past and future, tide land monies cannot be put to better account and made to work for all time to greater advantage for the people not only of the State of California but also that of the visiting hordes from other states and countries who will be drawn to California by these priceless possessions.

WILLIAM E. COLBY

## Vital Statistics

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

Since the trips are fairly strenuous, a *physical examination is strongly advised*.

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 assessments.

### Payment Plan

A \$5 NONREFUNDABLE RESERVATION FEE (per person per trip period) holds your place until the DEADLINE DATE. We hope you will help us by sending your reservation early.

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 (we hope) 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.

CHANGES IN RESERVATION. A charge of \$1.00 will be made to cover costs of any change in reservation from one trip to another.

REFUNDS. The reservation (office overhead) fee is not refundable. The trip fee is refunded in full if you cancel a WEEK (or longer) before your trip 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, and ages of those under 18.
  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 committee 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 fees	Dunnage
HIGH TRIP	1: July 4, Mineral King	\$80* (\$70* for children 14 or under)	30 lbs.
	2: July 17, Mineral King	\$80* (\$70* for children 14 or under)	30
	3: August 1, Tetons	\$45* (\$35* for children)	30
	4: August 9, Glacier	\$90* (\$80* for children)	30
BASE CAMP	1: July 4, Bear Creek	\$37*	30
	2: July 18, Bear Creek	\$37* (\$32* for children 14 or under)	30
	3: August 1, Bear Creek	\$37*	30
	4: July 18, Whitney	\$45*	25
	5: August 8, Three Sisters	\$35*	30
DINOSAUR	1: June 13, Yampa	\$60*	30
	2: June 21, Yampa		
	3: June 29, Yampa		
	4: July 7, Lodore	\$60*	30
	5: July 15, Lodore		
KNAPSACK	1: July 3, Kings	\$38*	15
	2: July 11, Trinity	\$19*	15
	3: July 31, Yosemite	\$19*	15
	4: August 10, Wyoming	\$33*	15
	5: August 15, Mineral King	\$19*	15
BURRO	1: July 11, Onion Valley	\$46*	25
	2: July 25, Onion Valley		
	3: August 8, Onion Valley		
FAMILY BURRO	August 1, 15, Tuolumne Meadows	See page 16*	

\* Please add, for each period and person, the nonrefundable \$5 reservation fee.



THE KAWEAHS FROM LITTLE (FIVE?) LAKES

Cedric Wright

## Wilderness Outings, 1954

**For members, old and new—a choice of 23 trips**

Again this summer, Sierrans will travel far and wide in an expanded program of wilderness trips. Much of the country will be new to us, and there is great variety in the experiences offered. Each type of outing is unique in the means it affords to enter wilderness, live there for a time and let it enrich your body and spirit, and then leave it as beautiful as when you came.

The purpose of the Sierra Club outings is to acquaint people with mountains and wild places. That has been the purpose since 1901, when William E. Colby led the first such group into the Yosemite high country, as a natural development of John Muir's idea that those who have enjoyed mountain

wilderness will be most concerned to protect it.

*Knapsack Trips* are the most spartan. Some food caches are laid, but knapsackers 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. There is one burro to help carry food and equipment for each two persons, who in turn help keep track of the burro. A club trip provides good training for subsequent private burro trips. The *Family Burro Trip* is valuable in showing parents how to persuade children to share their love for mountains.

The *High Trips* cost far less than similar trips conducted privately, but are the most expensive of the club outings, owing to the size and cost of the crew of mules or horses and men required to make the frequent moves that give these trips their 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 activities, is established. All food and equipment is packed in

and Base Campers are free to follow their inclinations.

The *River Trip*, first undertaken last year, has a special purpose. You can enjoy a unique kind of travel in a little-known scenic wonderland for whose continued existence the club has become a leading champion. Some of America's most colorful wilderness canyons are run on these trips with minimum exertion.

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

## Forty-ninth High Trip

Two two-week periods starting July 4 and 17. Mineral King, the Great Western Divide, and the Kaweahs; Forester Lake, Lost Canyon, Nine Lakes Basin, Little Five Lakes, Moraine Lake

Move a day through the Sierra sky-land, rest a day or two in an alpine spot, then move on to new horizons. Let the mules carry the heavy load while you sport a light knapsack, help a little while skilled hands set up camps and mountain banquets. Enjoy the mountains and watch others enjoy them, setting your own pace, traveling with whom you will, sauntering out into high open space, where spring has just come in July, to soak in its quiet beauty. Climb a peak, fish a stream, or help hold a meadow in place all day if you'd rather. Then, at night, throw

another log on the fire—and another pine cone out from under your bag.

That's the high High Sierra the way the High Trip takes it in, essentially as it has been doing since the century began.

Almost anyone can enjoy the high world this way, if his legs will do what they were built to do without groaning too audibly. No one has yet discovered a better exercise than walking, and this is an inspiring way to rediscover how great the rewards can be. Eighty-year-olds have done it, and six-year-olds—but if you're within four or five years



HIGH TRIP  
CAMPFIRE

*Cedric Wright*



HIGH TRIP PACK-  
TRAIN COMMANDER  
BRUCE MORGAN  
AND FRIEND

Cedric Wright

of either extreme, you might check first to see how well this year's itinerary is likely to get along with you.

### The places you'll stop at:

*Mineral King* (7,831), still one of the most charming of primitive road ends in the Sierra—and it ends quite a road—with a few Giant Sequoias to see en route. No shuttling of cars will be necessary. Walking starts and ends here.

*Forester Lake* (10,300), east of Franklin Pass, a scenic little lake with a fine panorama of high peaks, high above Kern Canyon, with well-watered open meadows at hand, and timberline.

*Lost Canyon* (10,400), one of the jewels of the High Sierra — one of the pleasantest of surprises for those who haven't seen it before. Fine peaks surround it, and the highest peaks in the range parade along the eastern horizon.

*Nine Lakes Basin* (10,400) is in the open sky-land country where, if you like to imagine things, you feel the timberline fox-

tail pines are happy to have your company. From here, side trips to Precipice Lake (which Ansel Adams made famous with one photograph), Hamilton Lakes, the Kaweahs —Black, Great, Red, and Mount. Or down Big Arroyo, over by knapsack to Kaweah Basin, or to Moraine Lake (if it's not scheduled for your two weeks).

*Moraine Lake* (9,900), kingdom of reflections, where the Sierra is quietest, and just a Clark crow's flight from a place with perhaps the happiest name of all—Sky Parlor Meadow. Here, too, is Chagoopa Plateau, country the great glaciers spared, the better to show you what they could do in the Kern when they really tried.

*Little Five Lakes* (10,500). If there were Indian legends for this country, one of them would have to go like this; when the Great Spirit had built the high wall of the Kaweahs, he searched all around to find where he could look upon them best. When he found that spot, he ran just the right-sized stream through it, put just the right number of trees exactly where they should be to

BRUCE MORGAN  
AND TWO FRIENDS

Cedric Wright



leave room for just the right number of little lakes—fifteen. Then man came along and named the place, but before he had learned to count above five.

### Itinerary

*First two weeks (July 4-17):* Cross Franklin Pass (July 5) to Forester Lake; pass Little Claire Lake and Soda Creek to Lost Canyon; past Big Five Lakes and up Big Arroyo to Nine Lakes Basin; back to Little (Five) Lakes; out to Mineral King via Blackrock Pass or via the 1949 route past Columbine Lake and over Sawtooth Pass.

*Second two weeks (July 17-30):* Cross Sawtooth Pass (July 18) to Lost Canyon; past Big Five Lakes to Little Five; up Big Arroyo to Nine Lakes Basin; along the High Sierra Trail to Moraine Lake; in and out of Big Arroyo and up Soda Creek to Forester

Lake; out over Franklin Pass to Mineral King.

NOTES: The second two weeks start and end one day early to give people and equipment time to head for the Teton and Glacier High Trip.

The commissary crew will be nearly the same as last year's, led by Dave Brower and Pat Goldsworthy. The cost is up slightly owing to the need for deadheading our mules across the Sierra to Mineral King—but you won't notice it at all if you've been budgeting, since the last trip ended, 25c a day for the chapter in your life entitled "High Sierra, 1954." Further rationalization supplied upon request.

*Lead-with-chin Dept.* This is the summer in which we shall not be troubled by rain in the High Sierra. California is sending all its summer rain east to alleviate a rumored shortage in Utah.

## High Trips to the Tetons and Glacier

For the first time in history the Outing Committee will sponsor this year an out-of-California High Trip in addition to and immediately following the Sierra trips. We will visit Glacier National Park, as in 1937, but in addition will spend a week in the back country of Grand Teton National Park and stop for a day in Yellowstone.

It is planned that participants can go either on the Teton trip or the Glacier trip, or both. Each is planned so that it is a complete outing in itself, the Glacier trip following the Teton, but the Committee recommends that if possible members attend both, since each park offers different attractions and the two are relatively so near.

Transportation will be by private car. Chartered bus can be arranged to include the two trips together for \$100.00 per passenger, providing 35 persons desire it. Let the Committee know if you do.

### Teton Outing

As it is a two-day auto trip to Teton, the first meeting will be at dinner Sunday, August 1, at *Spring Lake campground* just north of Jenny Lake. The next morning we leave civilization for a six-day trip that will com-

pletely circle the Grand Teton. That night camp will be made at *Lake Solitude*. Hikers may travel either of two routes: Cascade Creek or the more colorful Paintbrush Canyon. A layover day at Solitude will enable us to explore the glacial cirque in which the lake lies, reminding one of the High Sierra. On the third day a move will be made to *Alaska Basin*, a wide open timberline basin lying west of the Grand Teton. The next day, a layover, can be spent exploring The Wall, Snowdrift Lake, or easily climbed Table Mountain from which a superb view of the whole Teton Range is obtained.

The fifth day will see the party camped either at the headwaters of *Death Canyon* or at *Forget-Me-Not Lakes* if the route is open. The upper reaches of Death Canyon are reputed to have some of the best flower gardens in the Park. Those in the party who must travel a long way home that week end can go out directly to the road from Alaska Basin. The main party will do so on the sixth day, reaching the road at *White Grass Ranch* and embarking immediately for camp that night in Yellowstone Park somewhere near Old Faithful Geyser Basin, about a two-hour drive.



THE TETONS AND THE SNAKE RIVER

Ansel Adams

This Saturday night will be the last camp for the Teton group. Those persons going on to Glacier now have two days to get there—ample time to see the Geysers and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, then drive to *Many Glacier campground*.

### Glacier Outing

The first meeting of the Glacier Park trip will be at dinner on Monday, August 9, affording three days' travel time for new members coming from California. The next morning we set out for ten days of back country wilderness travel in northern Glacier Park, passing through Ptarmigan Tunnel to *Elizabeth Lake* the first day. We lay over here before moving on to *Stoney Indian Pass*, said by many to be the most beautiful pass in the Park. Camp will be made on one of the benches below the pass, surrounded by waterfalls and flowers. We stay two days to explore Sue Lake, Shepard and Chaney glaciers. Mount Cleveland can be climbed

from this camp. Over *Stoney Indian Pass* to *Waterton Lake* and a few miles up *Olson Creek* will bring us the next day to *Janet Lake*. On the following day we cross *Brown Pass*, skirting the head of *Bowman Creek* for a four-day camp at *Hole-in-the-Wall*. This area is the most remote in the whole park and is the center of a spectacular group of peaks, glaciers, and deep canyons. *Boulder Pass*, *Agassiz Glacier*, and *Kinnerly* and *Kintla Peaks* lie to the west, *Canada* to the north, the main crest of the *Continental Divide* to the south.

The final day of the trip, Thursday, August 19, retraces to *Waterton Lake* where a launch ride takes us to *Canada* and autos. A car shuttle will be arranged from here to our starting point at *Many Glacier*, 50 miles by road.

This outing is planned as a typical High Trip with the exception that *Rocky Mountain packers* prefer horses to mules. The hiking distances, elevation changes (at a lower

altitude), dunnage weights, commissary delights, campfires, and camaraderie will be nostalgic to Sierra veterans. Perhaps more rain can be expected, although recent Sierra summers have assumed Glacier Park propensities; but come equipped.

The Committee strongly recommends pre-

paratory reading from two handbooks which can be obtained from the Park Service: *Teton Trails, a Naturalist Guide to Grand Teton National Park*, Museum Bull. No. 1; and Ruhle's *Guide to Glacier*. Also the U.S. G.S. maps, Teton 1:62,500, 1951; and Glacier 1:125,000, 1938.

## Burro Trips

The three trips will start at *Onion Valley* near Independence and will go in over the easiest pass in the area, Kearsarge Pass, and layover at *Bullfrog Lake*. From there, the first two trips will go to East Lake. The next few days will take us down *Bubbs Creek* to *Kings Canyon*, up through *Paradise Valley*, along Woods Creek to Rae Lake and into nearby *Sixty Lakes Basin*, a remote and beautiful spot. Then out over Glen Pass and return. Trip leaders will be Ned Robinson, George Templeton, and Jim Barrett, in that order.

The last trip will turn south through *Center Basin*, over Foresters Pass, past the famous fishing lakes—Wright, Wallace and Wales—and the big 14,000-foot mountains. Camp will be made at the base of *Mount Whitney* from which all can make the climb. Then south to Rock Creek and out over Army Pass to *Carroll Creek*.

Each trip will have about seven travel days and six layover days. No exact itinerary can be contemplated with burros. In this spectacular country, each layover day will provide lake or stream fishing and nearby

mountains to climb or contemplate. The party is limited to a small, congenial group of 22 people, 14 burros and 1 horse. No prior experience is necessary for enjoyment of a burro trip. Indeed, it is assumed that you cannot tie a bowline or throw a diamond hitch. You learn by doing, and graduates should be able to find and pack the stock, bake with a reflector oven, and acquire the other tricks that make possible a small, inexpensive private trip.

All are expected to share in camp work and care of stock on the trail; however, one can plan to have part of most afternoons off as well as the layover days for his favorite pastime—fishing, photography, mountaineering, or whatever.

## Family Burro Trips

Family Burro Trips (August 1 and 15) will go south from Tuolumne Meadows over the Sunrise trail and the upper Merced Canyon trail into the Merced Canyon. Return to Tuolumne Meadows will be over Vogel-sang Pass. This route is easy enough for children, with interesting side trips for some of the adults on layover days.

This trip is planned to enable parents and their children to enjoy the mountains together and to learn how to plan such trips for the enjoyment of all members of the family. Each family has two or three burros, brings its own food and equipment, and cooks as a family unit. This is often more satisfactory for children than a central commissary. The trip is planned for four families. A more detailed description will be mailed to those who are interested.

*Cost*: \$65 for two parents or for 1 parent and one child. \$20 for each other child up to three; all others free. Add \$5 reservation fee per family. Both trips are full; waiting list only.

### Outings Previewed

You can meet the leaders and learn more about the trips if you're in Berkeley on Wednesday, April 28, at 8 p.m. (If you live several hundred miles from Berkeley, there'll be other opportunities.) At that time an educational program, "Preview of Summer Outings," will be presented by the San Francisco Bay Chapter at the Whittier School, Lincoln and Milvia Streets. There'll be many color slides, and Outing Committee members will answer your questions.

**IMPORTANT:** The date of this program has been changed from that in the Bay Chapter *Schedule*. There will be *no* local educational program on April 14.





A PRECIOUS GEM NEEDS A SETTING. ECHO PARK HAS BOTH

Martin Litton

*Dinosaur Newsletter, March 25*

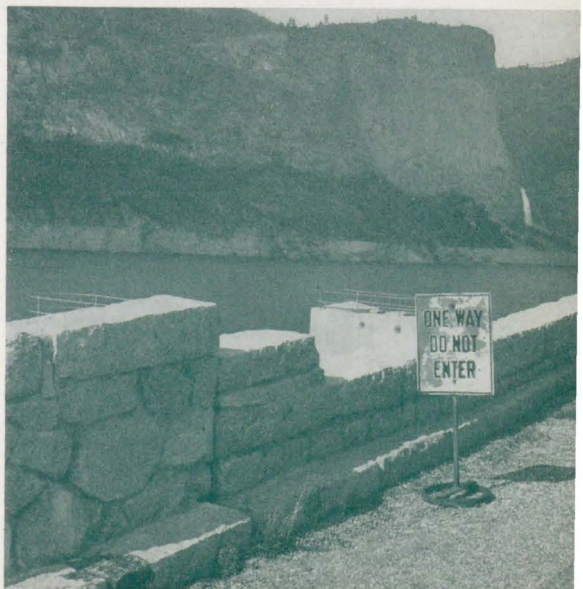
## A Great National Park?—or Two Wasteful Dams?

On March 20, President Eisenhower approved Secretary McKay's recommendation that Echo Park dam be built in Dinosaur National Monument as part of the Upper Colorado Storage Project. Full text of the approval, and the Bureau of the Budget's statement, isn't available yet. The news stories talk of "needed water-resource and power development" and the "strategic location" of Echo Park dam.

In any event, the defense of the National Park System moves to Congress, where we have long expected the battle to be fought. And Congress, ever since the National Park Service was created in 1916, has supported the system.

True, we had hoped for better. The President, in his State of the Union message January 7, had promised to "protect and improve the national parks, monuments . . ." We believe he has been badly misadvised and that his first official action on a national-park matter now brings one step closer the gravest threat to the National Park System since its creation. That threat could have been pushed back instead. There is ample reason, in the adverse reports of the Army,

the Department of Agriculture, the Federal Power Commission, the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Park Service, and conservation organizations all over the land, for pushing back the threat. If alternate sources are needed at all for Echo Park's 6,460,000





acre-feet of storage and 200,000 kilowatts of installed power, the Bureau of Reclamation certainly has not proved there aren't any, and competent engineers have pointed out that the Bureau's own figures show that there are alternatives.

We are forced to infer that the Department of Interior, upon whom the President must rely for staff work in matters of this kind, has itself been taken in by the would-be self-perpetuating core of the Bureau of Reclamation, upon whom Interior must rely for *its* staff work. And the main office of the Bureau of Reclamation has gone along with the figures of its Salt Lake Regional Office, which have been termed "vague and uncertain," "unsound," "preliminary," whose data "fall far short" of what is needed, and

whose arithmetic has been demonstrated to be appallingly inaccurate on evaporation loss, alleged to be *the* critical item.

You have to search hard to try to find out how such a jumble can be approved by higher and higher echelons. There seems to be only one conclusion: political considerations have been thought more important than logic. Either or both of the following considerations may be governing: (a) there must be bacon for Upper Basin Congressmen to bring home or someone else takes their seats in a tight race next November, or (b) the private-power curse, result of McKay's action in Hells Canyon and on Rural Electrification, must be compensated for. And it seems to have been concluded that a gargantuan and premature Upper



← **SUMMIT**, elevation about 5,760 feet, rises 700 feet above the Green River.

*Source of figures:* U.S. Department of the Interior, whose chief says Echo Park dam "would alter but not destroy" the beauty of Dinosaur's canyons!

← **HIGH WATER LINE** (5,570), just a suggestion of the total damage to the canyon.

← **"MEAN HEAD"** (5,525) of the reservoir would expose 10,000 acres of stained, dead landscape. Level would fluctuate.

**LOW WATER LINE** (5,375). Below this, 1,000,000 acre feet of dead storage that would fill with silt in less than 100 years if not rescued by upstream dams or soil conservation.

← This would probably be the level if such a dry decade as 1931-1940 hit the Storage Project. It would expose 33,000 acres of dead landscape. Notice, in the Hetch Hetchy photograph, what grows on a dead landscape: nothing for the naked eye to see, not even lichens; little if any microscopic life.

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## Which Shall It Be?

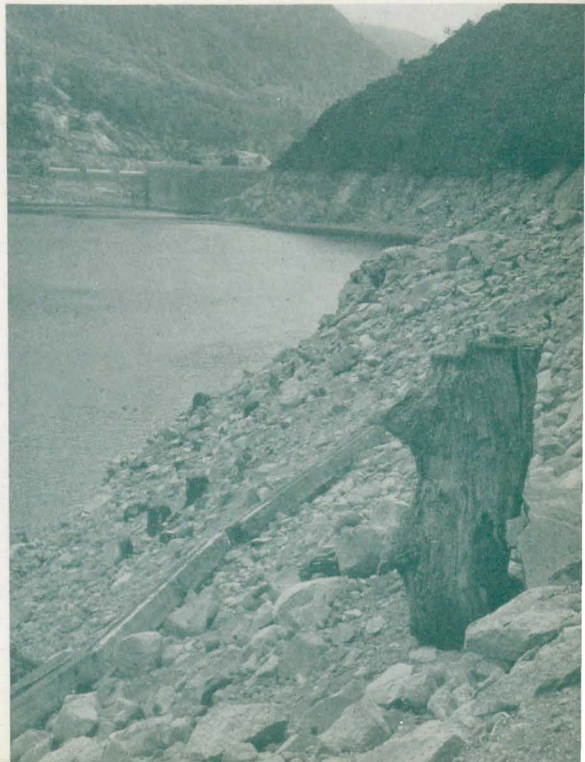
Steamboat Rock, in Echo Park, can remain one of the world's wonders, together with the great, unequalled canyons above and below it . . . Or it can be flooded to the tip, and the living space drowned in a fluctuating reservoir such as the one that killed the Yosemite-like beauty that was Hetch Hetchy's.

Colorado Storage Project will please more people than will be displeased by an unnecessary invasion of the National Park System and the destruction of the primary value of one of the finest parts of the System. It has apparently been concluded also that conservationists will settle for a consolation prize—\$21,000,000 to pretty up a fluctuating Echo Park lake.

We are advised that the President has not been informed of the controversy or the issue. Advisors have shunted your letters and wires off to the Department of the Interior.

Whatever the motives, the President has been misled into reversing, on March 20, what he had promised on January 7 to do.

We believe the vision of January still exists and will become clear again as soon





WILDERNESS RIVER TRAIL—THE YAMPA AT CREST

Martin Litton

as the President is allowed to know how much the people value their Park System.

The main opportunity nonetheless lies in Congress's continuing its traditional role of protecting the National Park System, a role in which it has been aided by every administration since Lincoln's.

It is up to conservationists to point out what the Bureau of Reclamation would not make clear:

1. Dinosaur dams would destroy the best of Dinosaur, needlessly.
2. We can afford an unimpaired National Park System.
3. The United States can have *both*—needed water and power development, plus the natural, enjoyable beauty of Dinosaur.

4. Echo Park dam, as former Secretary Chapman says, "absolutely is not necessary."

5. Even if Dinosaur weren't much to lose—it is a great deal to lose—the precedent would be extremely dangerous. It is meaningless to deny that it would be a precedent; history could never erase it.

Until you can see for yourself—and can afford the time to dig into the record—we ask you to accept and act upon the consensus of conservationists who have done both.

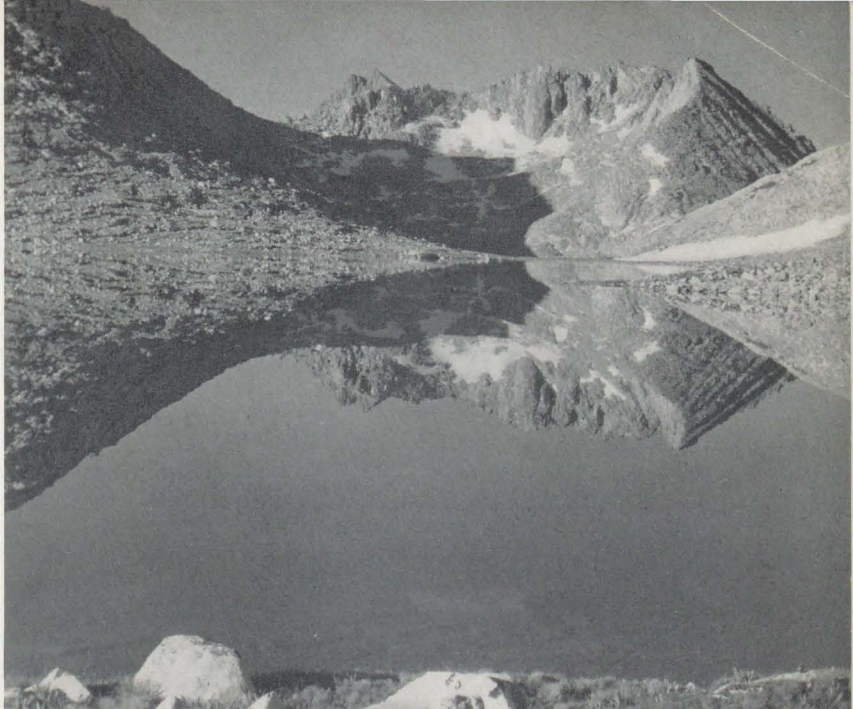
There is probably rejoicing today in the Utah chambers of commerce—prospects of a huge federal expenditure even though a park dies. It need not die. You and your Congress can relieve it.

## PARKS FOR THE FUTURE

As our steadily increasing population, which we are reluctantly becoming mature enough to recognize for its potential jeopardy to our way of life, progressively trims our budget of natural resources, we shall have to seek a real solution if we are to balance our budget. Seek, or have poverty forced upon our children's children. The question, then, is this: Shall we use up the last one percent of land set aside in parks and wilderness and then seek a natural-resource solution, having postponed the reckoning a few decades? Or shall we seek sooner, and arrive at a solution with parks still on hand, for whatever they can contribute to the future of a culture?

## LAKE ITALY

Oliver Kehrlein



## Five Base Camps

There will be five Base Camps this summer. Two new ones will be added, to enable more members to see and enjoy more scenic wonders. Besides the three regular camps on Bear Creek, there will be one on Crabtree Creek near Mount Whitney and another at the foot of the Three Sisters in Oregon.

Fundamentally, all five will follow the pattern of programs which have proved popular, and the old principle of "doing as you please when you please" will prevail. However, an innovation will be tried this year. Each camp will schedule as an extra attraction a particular type of activity, so that members can select their camp and get the most out of their vacations along the lines they like best. Expert leaders will be provided in each field.

Thus the first Bear Creek Base Camp will have an added appeal to members who wish to climb and thoroughly explore the unknown upper basins of the watershed. The second camp will have a special appeal for families, with an organized program for children. Children's rates will be reduced \$5.00 per child for this particular camp. The third camp will concentrate on overnight cross-country knapsacking. The Crabtree-Whitney

camp will have a double purpose: to explore and photograph beautiful Crabtree canyon and to provide the opportunity for members to climb all of the peaks from Whitney to Williamson. The Three Sisters camp will be for those who want new scenery and climbing among the volcanoes and glaciers of the Northwest.

### Bear Creek—July 4-August 17

This camp will be set up on *Bear Creek* about nine miles from the end of the road out of Mono Hot Springs, with three sessions of two weeks each. The scenic beauty of Bear Creek is well known and has often been described, especially its garden meadows and shaded forests, but few have followed it through its contorted box canyons and up into its forks and branches, each ending in a chain of alpine lakes nestled in some glaciated amphitheatre.

The best known of these is the Hilgard Branch ending in famous *Lake Italy*. A stub camp will be set up near its outlet so that members can spend plenty of time on this long, rock-bound lake surrounded by Bear Creek Spire and Mounts Hilgard, Gabb, and Julius Caesar. From here they will be able

to visit the spectacular but rarely seen *Hilgard Amphitheater* with its high fluted walls.

Another stub camp will be established in *Seven Gables Basin* so that everyone can see the fantastically shaped V Lake and peer along the ragged backbone of the bristling *Pinnacles*. Another unusual and accessible feature near camp is *Volcanic Plateau* with its many evidences of recent and ancient volcanism. From here one gets a breath-taking panorama of *Mono Creek Valley* and of the many-colored peaks that surround it.

An organized trip will be made past Marie Lake to *Selden Pass* and thence to a scenic outlook point from which can be seen the Evolution Group of peaks and many miles of the Sierra Crest. Return will be made via *Rose Lake*, largest and most beautiful lake of the area.

There are over a dozen peaks near camp for which no ascent is on record. One will be reserved for each session of camp so that everyone can achieve a "first ascent."

The stub camps will also serve as bases for those desiring to explore the upper basins and some of the 13,000-foot peaks—one of which is still on the unclimbed list. Interesting climbs include Seven Gables, Gemini, Turret Peak, The Pinnacles, Tombstone, Royce, Merriam, Senger and Hooper and a host of unnamed peaks. During the first session a special climbers' camp will be set up for those desiring to attack the Sierra Crest from Mount Humphreys to Four Gables.

One proposed knapsack trip for the third session will be via *Lake Italy*, over the old Indian and shepherders' trail south of Julius Caesar to Granite Basin. Thence to Pine Lake, over Pine Creek Pass and down French Canyon to *Hutchinson Meadow* and return by Piute Creek, the South Fork of the San Joaquin and back into camp over *Selden Pass*. Another suggested knapsack trip (partly described in *Starr's Guide* on page 64) follows the East Fork of Bear Creek past V Lake to the col west of Peak 13,242 (new map), thence down the chain of lakes to *French Canyon*. The return can follow Piute Creek as previously described or cut back up the stream west of the Pinnacles and down the South Fork of Bear Creek.

The regular corps of Base Camp leaders will include Oliver Kehrlein, Cliff Young-

quist, Bill Dorris, Jim Koontz, Bill Evans, Bill Wallace, Scudder Nash, etc. Peter Friedrichsen will officiate over camp details as well as lead trips. The famous camp menus will be provided again by our expert chefs, Dean Curtis and Ned Thompson, with Elizabeth and Jeff Smith on the sidelines. Peter Raven will cover natural sciences, and our medical needs will be supplied by Dr. Richard Rihn.

### Three Sisters—August 8-21

This will be a new venture for the Sierra Club, and we are indebted to the Mazamas and Obsidians (both of Oregon) for their advice and leadership on the trip. Al Schmitz (Sierra Club and Mazamas) has climbed all peaks in the area and is assistant leader.

Camp will be set up on the shores of *Green Lakes*, five miles' hike from *Sparks Lake*, the end of the road and 27 miles west of Bend, Oregon. We will be surrounded by volcanic peaks, lava flows, cinder cones, obsidian cliffs and all sorts of weird and grotesque manifestations of volcanism. In addition there are seventeen live glaciers—some of them showing many of the majestic features of a northern or Swiss ice field.

Martha Darcy, who managed the Three Sisters Outing of the Mazamas, described the Green Lakes campsite as follows:

"Green Lakes lie cradled in a little valley with the symmetrical bulk of *South Sister* rising sheer to the west, and the rugged line of *Newberry Lava Flow* skirting the south side. On the east rises a massive, jagged pile of volcanic rock, appropriately named *Broken Top*."

From the summit of *South Sister* (which all members will be able to climb), she describes an extensive panorama: to the north the other Sisters, Mounts Washington, Three Fingered Jack, Jefferson, St. Helens, Adams, Hood and Rainier; to the south, Diamond Peak and Mounts Thielsen, McLoughlin and on a clear day Mount Shasta. In the immediate foreground the thimble-like cone of Devils Peak, the fantastic array in Devils Garden and a myriad of colorful lakes. She also writes of a great stream gushing forth from the base of a lava flow to feed a garden-like meadow colored with orange paintbrush, blue lupine and fragrant white orchids.

*COLLIER GLACIER,  
BETWEEN NORTH  
AND MIDDLE OF THE  
THREE SISTERS.*

From *Top o' the Valley*,  
by Schillios.



And here follow a few suggestions for color camera fans: "Be sure to shoot the internal structure of Broken Top, where glaciers have exposed the scoria of red, purple and black, alternating with yellow, brown and orange lapilli tuffa."

"Also get pictures of the ice-covered lake in the summit crater of South Sister," and "don't miss the deep blue-green crevasses and the thundering ice-falls on Collier Glacier—the largest glacier in Oregon."

It is extremely fortunate for us that we will be assisted on our climbs of these glacier-covered peaks by experts from the Mazamas and Obsidians. From these experienced ice-and-snow men we will learn new techniques in mountain climbing which will stand us in good stead on future outings in the north. All who anticipate climbing over the glaciers should bring their own crampons and ice axes.

The proposed program for all members in-

cludes visits to the unusual volcanic features, visits to several glaciers and the ascents of Bachelors Butte, Broken Top and South Sister. The more difficult climbs will include North Sister, Mount Washington (a miniature Matterhorn), and Three Fingered Jack—described as a citadel of pinnacles.

Our own leaders will include Oliver Kehrlein, Al Schmitz, and Jim Koontz. Our cook will be a chef from the Southern Pacific Railroad dining car service, and our medical needs will be cared for by our good friends and fellow Base Campers, Drs. Ernst Wolff and Leona Bayer.

**Whitney—July 18-31**

The trail to this camp will start at *Whitney Portal* and go over *Whitney Pass*, 13,600 feet. It is suggested that only those physically able to cross this highest trail-pass in the Sierra should enroll for this camp. Horses will be available for those who feel they



*THREE SISTERS  
AND BROKEN TOP  
FROM BACHELOR  
BUTTE*

*Donald G. Onthank*

cannot make it on foot. For those who expect to participate in the climbing program, it is suggested that they harden themselves well in advance, as the schedule will be a strenuous one. Two preparatory weeks in Bear Creek Base Camp will do this perfectly, and transportation from one to the other can be arranged.

*Crabtree Creek Valley* has been variously described as "the forgotten valley," the "daintiest valley in the entire Sierra" and a "miniature Yosemite, as it might have appeared before its lakes had been filled in." Some of the sculptured features in this canyon resemble the famous Half Dome, El Capitan and Sentinel Rock of Yosemite, and the Gorge of Despair in Tehipite Valley. The lakes are indescribable and just as hard to photograph. One of them has a batik pattern on its shelving bottom, while others vary in color from pale blue to deep purple. Since nothing has been published, so far, on this unique canyon, it is hoped that a well-written article and some fine photographs will emanate from this year's camp.

The climbing parties will establish two subsidiary camps: one on *Wallace Creek* for the climbs of Mounts Russell, Barnard, Tunnabora and Carillon, and for a close study of Tulainyo Lake (the highest lake in North America); the other on *Tyndall Creek* for climbs of Williamson, Tyndall, and Trojan.

Our last night will be spent on the summit of *Mount Whitney*, where all members

will have a chance to witness a fabulous sunset and sunrise from the highest point in the United States. Everyone will be given the opportunity of climbing *Muir Peak* as the group leaves Whitney.

Our leaders will be Oliver Kehrlein, Jim Koontz, Hervey Voge and Peter Raven. Ed Breitwieser will be in charge of commissary; Dr. R. Lenel will care for our medical needs.

### About All the Camps

All camps will be limited in number of participants—the Bear Creek Camps to 167 for each session, and 75 each for the Whitney and Three Sisters Camps. Members under 17 will not be allowed on the Bear Creek outing, unless accompanied by and camping with a parent or guardian.

There will be a color slide contest this fall with gold stars awarded by the judges. Winning slides will be shown at reunions.

Saddle horses will be available as follows: Bear Creek, \$6.00 each way; Whitney-Crabtree, \$17.50 each way. Commissary tents can be rented at the Bear Creek Camp for \$7.50 per tent, and space in the men's and women's squad tents for \$2.50 each. Please make reservations in advance, as not many tents are available. Excess dunnage will be packed to the Bear Creek Camp at 50 cents for each ten pounds; no extra dunnage permitted at Whitney Camp.

Final instructions and suggestions will be mailed to each member early in June.

THE TWIN SUMMITS  
OF MOUNT RUSSELL  
(center) FROM  
WHITNEY

*Cedric Wright*





# The River Trips

For the second year, the Outing Committee offers a chance (we hope not the last) to see the remarkable *Green* and *Yampa* canyons in Dinosaur National Monument. This unique area, threatened with inundation by the proposed Echo Park Dam, is unrivaled for its unique scenic and geologic interest. An outstanding success among the 1953 outings, the river trips through Dinosaur National Monument are being repeated, with the addition of two more which will start from the *Gates of Lodore* (on the Green River) instead of Lily Park (on the Yampa). Those of you who have travelled the Yampa will thus be able to see new scenery for the first part of the trip.

The five six-day trips will start on June 13, June 21, June 29, July 7 and July 15 from Vernal, Utah. The trips of July 7 and July 15 are scheduled to commence from the head of Lodore Canyon on the Upper Green, while those beginning on June 13, June 21 and June 29 will take to the river as they did last year at Lily Park on the Yampa River. The camping spots on this trip will be *Harding Hole*, *Castle Park* (Mantle's Ranch), *Echo Park*, *Jones Hole Creek* and out at the west end of *Split Mountain Gorge*. This year all trips are scheduled to traverse the fast and rugged Split Mountain Gorge, at the mouth of which a bus will return the group to Vernal where the trip began. For the trips that

start down Lodore Canyon the first two camping places will be announced later.

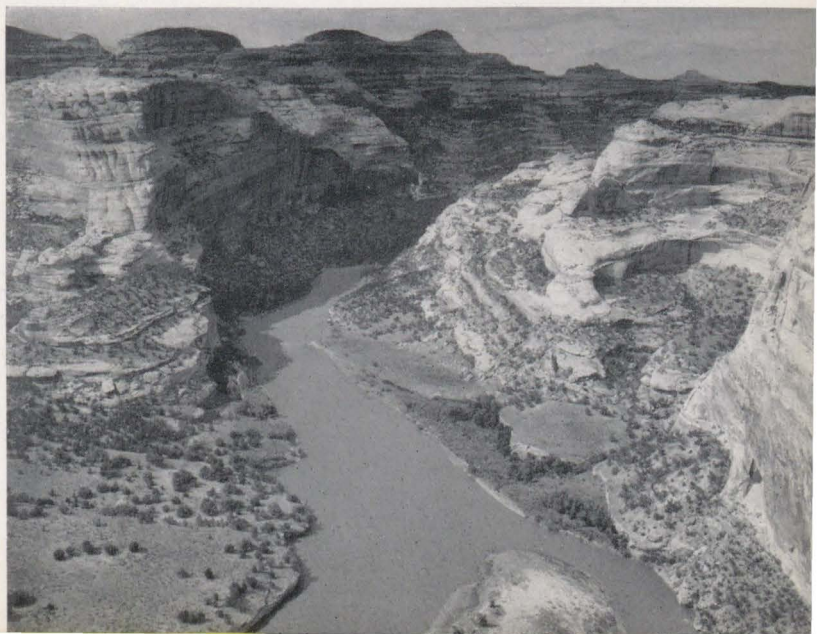
Bus Hatch, the acknowledged expert of these waters, will again be the water-borne packer and captain of the river boats. Each trip is limited to fifty persons.

## What You Will See

From the brief description in the *SCB*, February 1953, we repeat: 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

CASTLE PARK AND  
THE YAMPA RIVER

Philip Hyde



rapids. Finally, the trip climaxes with the exciting run through Split Mountain Gorge.

By contrast, the wild canyon of Lodore is the real culmination of Dinosaur's grandeur—to use the phrase of Martin Litton. Scooped out of deep red rock, it is as different as can be from the pale storybook gorges of the Yampa. On its narrow floor lush vegetation crowds right to the very edge of the water. Forests of pine, maple and Douglas fir cover the cool slopes, venturing out onto every ledge where trees can gain a foothold.

### What It Is Like

The river trip is designed to combine the qualities of minimum exertion with maximum opportunity for enjoyment of the environment. Save for the first two days the time actually spent on the river is short, permitting ample opportunity for exploration, photography, fishing, swimming, or just being lazy. A typical day on the river would, of course, start with breakfast. Packing chores would be completed and the party in the boats soon after nine. There may even be time for a morning swim in the river. On

all but the first two days lunch would be served at our destination, otherwise back on the river at 1:30 for a two-hour-or-so run to the next campsite. The river does the work for all 80 miles; there are no physical demands whatever. An invalid may go. The minimum age recommended is eight.

### Equipment, Extras, Private Boats

The party will generally travel in 10-man, 14-man and possibly larger rubber life rafts provided by Bus Hatch. They are dependable, stable and generally comfortable workhorses. Privately owned small boats (kayaks and folbots) may be brought along provided the management is convinced of your ability to handle it in all types of water.

The trip will begin at Vernal, Utah. Transportation to Vernal should be privately arranged (via air, bus or U.S. Highway 40). At Vernal a bus will be provided to take the party either to Lily Park, Colorado, or to the upper Lodore Canyon, depending on which trip you take. Cars may be left in Vernal to be picked up at the end of the trip. Meals start with lunch on the first day.

## Knapsack Trips

In response to last summer's enthusiastic turnout of knapsackers, five trips are planned for 1954. These will be spaced at intervals through the summer and will vary from one to two weeks in length. Some will be fairly easy, others will be strenuous, but all promise the best in wilderness enjoyment.

### North Fork of the Kings

The season will start with a two-week trip through the watershed of the North Fork of the Kings River. This is the first time we have visited the area, so it is wide open for exploration. Starting at *Dinkey Creek* the route will follow trails through woods and meadows, to emerge suddenly at Scepter Pass into the rolling granite and blue lakes of *Blackcap Basin*. A trailless route over the *Le Conte Divide* leads just as suddenly into the rugged and towering high country at the foot of Mount Goddard, then over the *Goddard Divide* to the remote and little known lakes of Goddard Creek. *Martha Lake, Hell-*

*for-Sure Pass* and *Red Mountain Basin* will be high spots on the return trip. Blackcap Mountain, Red Mountain, and Mount Goddard are among the peaks available to climbers. This is a trip full of contrasts and new scenes that will delight the photographer as well as the climber. Leader: Bob Braun.

### Trinity Alps

We shall enter the mountains for this one-week trip via Trinity Alps Resort and the *Stuart Fork, Emerald Lake* and *Caribou Lakes* will furnish campsites for the layover days, and we will have an opportunity to climb the highest mountain in the area, 9,000-foot Thompson Peak, and to study its glacier. As we remarked last year, the Trinities are a region of glaciated granite dotted with blue glacial lakes and lush meadows. There are two layover days planned for exploring the high country, climbing, fishing, or for whatever you like to do best. Leader: Larry Williams.

## Yosemite

If you have been missing the joys of high-country knapsacking because you don't feel you know enough about it to try, here is your opportunity to take the leap. The one-week Yosemite trip is designed for outdoor enthusiasts who have had only limited knapsacking experience. If you are able to do 10 or 12 miles per day of lowland hiking without discomfort and are in normally good physical condition, you need have no qualms about a high-country knapsacking trip. Printed instructions issued when you sign up for the trip will help you to assemble adequate gear; then, if you keep within the prescribed weight limit, you need have no worries about being able to carry the pack—in fact, you'll be surprised how soon it becomes part of you! Besides, over half of our food is being packed in to a midway cache. Other doubts about trail and camp routine will resolve themselves at campfire and in everyday practice.

Consider what you will miss if you hesitate: The *minimum* that you will get out of the trip will be intimate wanderings through the beautiful forests and canyons of Cathedral and Echo creeks and of Maclure Fork of the Merced River and Lyell Fork of the Tuolumne, within continual sight of the peaks of the *Cathedral Range* and for a long way directly across the Merced Canyon from the *Clark Range*. Most of this will be on good trails, with only short and easy cross-country travel; two full layover days are assured. Leader: Jim Skillin.

## Wyoming Wilderness

The historic and beautiful *Wind River Range* of the *Bridger Wilderness Area* in Wyoming is the destination of the out-of-state knapsackers. We will be on the crest of the Rockies where the scenery is superb and the fishing a dream. Bridger, John Fremont and Kit Carson knew this region well.

The mountains tower between 13,000 and 14,000 feet. We shall be hopping from one beautiful lake to the next throughout the entire trip. Fish are so big and so plentiful that we shall never want for a fish fry. Elk, deer, moose and mountain sheep abound in the higher regions. Bring your soft-soled shoes and plenty of film.

We'll be in this wonderful mountain land for ten days, and also can visit nearby Yellowstone and the incomparable Grand Teton National Park before and after the trip. Leader: Kyle Corson.

## Mineral King-Sequoia

The season will end with a visit to Sequoia National Park, the land of the storied Golden Trout. This is the first time a trip has been offered so late in the summer, so we'll have the pleasure of seeing golden late-season colors, new flowers and clear, placid waters.

If it's mountain climbing you like, you will have your choice of the best peaks of the rugged *Kaweah Range*. If you want isolation there is opportunity to leave the beaten trails and follow the leader over footpaths to secret mountain lakes and recesses. If you like just loafing, there are two layover days for it. So load up your cameras and gather your fishing tackle. We want to show you beautiful *Columbine Lake*, and the Golden Trout of *Big Five Lakes*, of *Little Five Lakes* and of *Nine Lakes Basin*. After seeing *Moraine Lake* and its impressive setting, we will head back to Mineral King via *Big Arroyo*, *Soda Creek* and *Franklin Pass* at the end of our week. Leader: George Fogle.

## A Word of Caution

Though not really difficult, these trips are considerably more strenuous than the others conducted by the Outing Committee. Each person must be in good physical condition to carry his own gear plus some food and community equipment, 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 chapters are a good way to gain this experience.





● ● ★ ★

*MINERAL KING HIGH SIERRA IN 3-D.* Lost Canyon, Sawtooth Peak, and environs, Sequoia National Park, scale 1:50,000. This is a three-dimensional strip, and it's time for your eye exercises again. Anyone with two good pupils  $2\frac{1}{2}$  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 day-dreaming, 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.

The south panel and the south center panel make a stereo pair as do the north panel and half (which show that it was gusty at Big Five Lakes).

Incidentally, a High Trip and a Knapsack Trip will travel through this country. Lost Canyon camp will be just about in the center.

## Firing Begins in Dinosaur Fight

*Executive Director David R. Brower went to Washington in January to attend the House committee hearing on the Upper Colorado storage project, which includes the controversial Echo Park dam proposal. He represented the Sierra Club and the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs. The February SCB gave you the Dinosaur story prior to the hearing. This brings it almost up to date.*

THE HEARINGS on the Upper Colorado storage project before the House Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation ran from January 18–28, omitting only Sunday, the 24th. The first two and a half days were given to testimony by the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation, supporting the project. There was some confusion here: Interior was supplying information at the Committee's request on three almost identical bills, HR 4443, 4449, and 4463, which called for five dams, whereas Interior had recommended to the President only the Echo Park and Glen Canyon units plus some participating projects, and could not officially support even these before Congress because the Bureau of the Budget (for the President) had not yet given its opinion. The Interior witnesses were closely cross-examined by Congressman John P. Saylor of Pennsylvania, who in this hearing emerged as a new champion of the National Park System.

The remainder of the first week was given to statements by various senators, representatives, witnesses from Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah, almost all in favor of the project, although Colorado witnesses from opposite sides of the Continental Divide were in severe disagreement. Two witnesses for conservation appeared — Congressman Leroy Johnson (California) and Michael Petruska (New York); they came to testify about a principle and had a fairly rough time at the hands of some committee members in cross-examination about details.

The second week started with witnesses from New Mexico and a minor controversy between New Mexico and Texas about who should have what water.

At 10:30 Tuesday morning, the conservationists presented their first chief witness, General U. S. Grant, III (American Planning and Civic Association) who spoke about general park principles, introduced into the record statements of other engineers pointing out major flaws in the project, and then described in detail various possible alternatives for the Echo Park and Split Mountain sites.

Next main witness was Joe Penfold (Western Representative, Izaak Walton League), who made clear that the principal beauty of

### Water Loss?

Dinosaur would be destroyed, not just altered, by the proposed dams (the opposition has been laboring hard to persuade the committee that Dinosaur would be improved); Penfold's most devastating presentation pertained to water loss: he showed how absurd it was to be worried about an alleged loss of 100 to 200 thousand acre feet claimed for the alternate sites, when the Colorado River states were losing 23 million acre feet of water a year through wasteful irrigation methods.

I was the third witness, one of my chief purposes being to show, by citing the Sierra Club river outings, that Dinosaur was neither inaccessible nor its rivers treacherous, but that its beauties could be enjoyed by people of all ages by river as well as by automobile with minor improvement of access roads. I also endeavored to show how wrong Secretary McKay was when he claimed that the dams would not destroy Dinosaur's park values.

Then, using Undersecretary Tudor's figures from his testimony January 18, I point-

ed out several major errors in Mr. Tudor's arithmetic. The hearing adjourned for the day in the middle of my testimony; when I resumed next morning, a Reclamation engineer (Mr. C. B. Jacobson, Salt Lake) was on hand to check my checking. Three basic Reclamation errors which could not be denied were that Mr. Tudor, in claiming a loss of 165,000 acre feet per year for one of the alternatives (a higher Glen Canyon Dam), had (1) neglected to subtract the 95,000 acre feet of evaporation from the superseded Echo Park and Split Mountain sites; (2) made a 51,000 acre-foot error in computing the new evaporation; and (3) claimed that the alternate dam would have to be 15 feet higher than necessary. From his figures and formulas it could be shown that the evaporation from an alternate that would save Dinosaur was not 165,000 acre feet *more* per year, but would actually be 20,000 acre feet less than at Echo and Split Mountain. The Reclamation Engineer succeeded in confusing the committee enough to cover up part of one of the errors by making a claim which is controverted in Reclamation's own figures. Correction of his error is being made part of the record.

The next witness was Fred Packard, of the National Parks Association, who skil-

### Park Principle

fully stressed the legal and historical aspects of the principle involved. Many other witnesses followed, - two of them having come to the hearing at their own expense to testify as individuals — Stephen Bradley (Boulder, Colorado) and Dr. David Bradley (Hanover, New Hampshire). One conservation witness, presumably upset by frequent interruptions of his testimony by committee members, was considered by the committee to be too belligerent and was excused from the witness stand and his testimony deleted.

Immediately after the hearing the club film, "Wilderness River Trail," was shown to those who remained, including three committee members—Aspinall (Colorado), Regan (Texas), and Mrs. Pfost (Idaho).

The most vocal members of the committee, excepting Mr. Saylor, seemed obviously to favor the building of Echo Park dam; a

large part of the time allocated on a fifty-fifty basis to conservationists was taken up in questions by these committee members, which amounted more to statements of their beliefs than to questions. By persistent and consistent following of a certain line of questioning, several members of the committee indicated that they were advocates of Echo Park (Miller, Harrison, D'Ewart, Aspinall, Dawson, Regan, Berry, and two regular visitors, Senators Bennett and Watkins (Utah)). Mr. Dawson (Utah) repeatedly asked conservation witnesses two questions: Have you been to Dinosaur? Have you polled your membership? And if you had been the Dinosaur, why didn't you go sooner?

It was urged upon the committee that experts from the Corps of Engineers, the Department of Agriculture, and the Federal Power Commission should testify before the committee. General Grant was requested to suggest the names of individuals who should join him before the committee in executive session.

*At this writing no one can predict what the committee will do. There is some feeling that the whole project will be held up unless Echo Park dam is deleted. The Bureau of the Budget has not yet made known the Administration's views on the project. There were indications that the Senate would hold hearings on its bill (S. 1555) soon regardless of what the House did. The feeling was expressed that if the bill were recommended to the House of Representatives with Echo Park Dam still in it, it would never pass on the floor. The Utah papers are optimistic, but so are the conservationists! One committee member thinks the committee won't decide before May or June.*

### Present Estimate Of the Situation

1. If the committee recommends the project including Echo Park dam, conservationists will need to carry the campaign vigorously to the floor of the House, where many members still do not understand the controversy fully — to protesting conservationists they send a mimeographed letter by Mr. Dawson (Utah), author of one of the bills that would dam Dinosaur. Or they send the

form letter that Secretary McKay's office mails to those who protested to President Eisenhower. Congressmen doing this seem to have investigated no farther than to ask the proponents of the project if they are for it. More about the Dawson and McKay letters on pages 28 and 29.

2. If the committee deletes Echo Park dam and recommends the rest of the project, an attempt will probably be made to restore Echo Park by amendment from the floor. So we should still urge Congressmen to investigate for themselves.

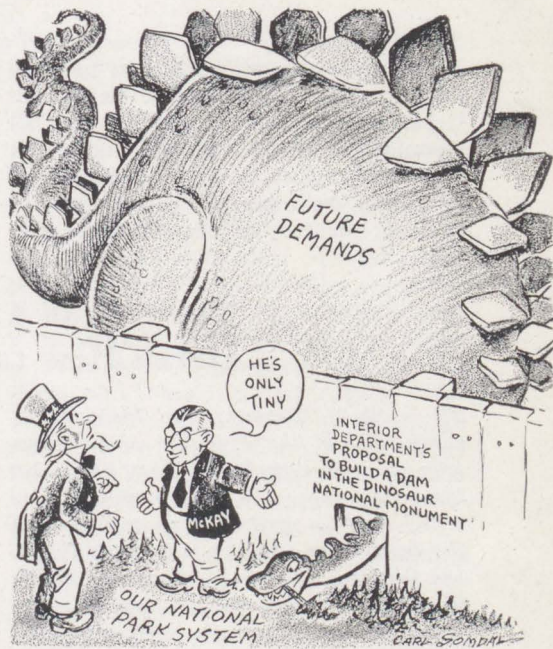
3. Chances that the Senate will delete Echo Park dam are poor. But the House may nullify Senate action.

4. Current guess is that the Bureau of the Budget, in spite of serious flaws in the project already pointed out by the Corps of Engineers, Federal Power Commission, and the Department of Agriculture, will authorize the Department of the Interior to present its plan to Congress. Inasmuch as Interior has already supported the project before the House Committee and Secretary McKay is publicly urging Echo Park dam, the function of the Bureau of the Budget here seems academic. Should the Bureau rule the project financially unfeasible and the methods of accounting unacceptable, this would nevertheless be a serious set-back to the project. However, in spite of this type of objection by the Budget Bureau on the Frying Pan-Arkansas project in Colorado, Interior is still strongly advocating that project.

5. If the House and Senate should authorize the invasion of Dinosaur, the bill would still require the approval of President Eisenhower, who has said, "We shall continue to protect and improve our national forests, parks, monuments and other natural and historical sites."

6. If the President should thus reverse himself, authorization would be complete—except that if subsequent legislation were to create a Dinosaur National Park with full protection, the later act, being specific, should have precedence.

7. While authorization would be a severe blow to conservationists, no actual damage could be done until Congress appropriated the money. Mammoth Caves National Park is not yet damaged by the authorized Min-



CARL SORDAL in the Fresno Bee

ing City dam, for which Congress has appropriated no funds.

## Local Interests and Secretary McKay

Writing in the January-February *Outdoor America*, William Voigt, Jr., has this to say: "... in the dying days of the Truman government, former Secretary Chapman of Interior sent over his recommendation as to water development in the Upper Colorado River Basin with Echo Park Dam deleted.

"Secretary McKay pulled back that recommendation. He told one group of conservationists that he would heed the desires of the political powers of Utah and Colorado. He sent one of his top assistants to Dinosaur last summer to take a personal look at the area—and to hear what local interests had to say. Now McKay appears to have made up his mind that placating the Senators and Representatives of the two states and the business community of Vernal, Utah (which would benefit temporarily from the payroll spending of the construction crews) is more important than safeguarding the National Park System.

### *Strange chronology*

"McKay's announcement was made on December 12. On December 8 his Interior Department Advisory Committee on Conservation, of which the writer has been a member for five years, met with McKay and brought up the subject of Dinosaur. McKay was noncommittal. He said nothing to indi-

cate that his mind apparently had already been made up."

It is now known from testimony at the hearing that on November 30, eight days before being noncommittal to his Advisory Committee, Mr. McKay approved Undersecretary Tudor's recommendation that Echo Park dam be built.

## **You'll Read These Arguments— Here's How to Answer Them**

*The mail to Congress, the Interior Department, and the President about Dinosaur has been very heavy. They know that the people care. The dam proponents are trying hard to spread the impression that the people who care about the Park System and Dinosaur don't know what they're talking about. It is important that every conservationist who has already protested should let his congressman—and the Administration—know that the McKay and Dawson letters contain arguments which are not valid:*

1. *"The Dinosaur bones are safe."*

Correct—but this was never the issue. The answer implies that the monument is in safe hands. Conservationists are talking about the canyons, not the bones.

2. *"This problem has received careful consideration."*

There is no evidence to show that any new data about evaporation, alternative sites, or other critical matters were available to Interior. Who made the new basic studies, if any? Were any independent engineers and conservationists asked to check anew into this proposed encroachment of the Park System? The study appears to amount to a single opinion superimposed on material already available, and used now to reverse the previous Secretary's request, December 4, 1952, that the project endangering the Park System be given further study.

3. *"The beauty of the Monument will be by no means destroyed."*

Although Harper's Corner and Limestone Ridge rise 2500 and 3370 feet above Green River, the highest and steepest walls average less than 900 feet; Steamboat Rock is approximately 700 feet high. The maximum

reservoir depth here is 500 feet. The average depth in the Yampa arm is 250 feet; in the Green River arm, within the Monument, it is more than 350 feet (at high water).

The "mean head" is 45 feet below the maximum, indicating a planned fluctuation of about 100 feet. The reservoir would destroy the living space, just as a reservoir only 100 or 200 feet deep would destroy the living space of Yosemite Valley. At its average drawdown, Echo Park reservoir would expose more than 10,000 acres of terrain drowned by the high-water level, its beauty silted over, its vegetation destroyed, plus all the life dependent upon that vegetation. If a dry decade required use of all the reservoir's active storage, the 200-foot drawdown would expose more than 33,000 acres (51 square miles) of dead landscape.

The Park Service did not understate when it advised that the effects of Echo Park and Split Mountain Dam would be deplorable.

4. *"With reservoirs, a greater attraction to more people."*

A sheer guess, dismissing the distinction between reservoir recreation and National Park preservation measures required by law. Lake Mead, close to Southern California population centers, attracts two million plus per year, most of them to see man's biggest dam and reservoir. Hetch Hetchy, not so situated (neither is Dinosaur), and a much more beautiful reservoir, receives 1/1000th of the use of Yosemite Valley.

Dinosaur is just being made known. Travel to it is increasing very rapidly. Potentially tens of thousands can see it inexpensively and safely by taking the river trail; and with minimal road improvement,



still more thousands can see such places as Rainbow and Island parks, Castle Park, Echo Park, Harper's Corner, etc.

5. *"Too little water—too much evaporation. We need all the water for the full economy of the region."*

The U.S. Geological Survey says of the evaporation study that: "Estimates are based on very meager data as to evaporation of free water surfaces and transfers of data from remote areas in the case of natural losses from the stream. Detailed investigations have not been made . . ." McKay's claim that sparing Echo would cost 100,000 to 200,000 acre feet per year more evaporation is a guess. According to Tudor's formulas and figures it is fantastically wrong; one of the feasible alternates would evaporate less than Echo Park (if Reclamation's basic data are correct).

How full is the "full economy" McKay wants to develop if we must arrive at that full economy without a National Park System? The Colorado River states are losing more than 20 million acre feet of water a year through wasteful irrigation methods. California is the most wasteful.

6. *"The river trip's a risk, out of financial range of the ordinary tourist."*

Risk is relative; it would be risky to run the river in poor equipment without experience just as it is risky to drive on the highway in a jalopy piloted by a novice. Skiing is risky, and reservoir swimming and boating, and bathing at home. The river is as risk-free as life itself if ordinary precautions are taken. Old people, children, and cripples can enjoy this wilderness experience safely. They have done so.

River-trip cost is about \$10 a day, including food, well within an ordinary tourist's range.

7. *"Sheer walls preclude roads into most of the scenic areas."*

Access is easily possible to Castle Park, Echo Park, Rainbow Park, Island Park, Lily Park, Gates of Lodore, Split Mountain Gorge, Harper's Corner, Round Top. Trails can make other points accessible and the river reaches many more still.

8. *"Interior proposes a large expenditure to develop recreational potential."*

A multimillion-dollar lock on the barn

after the horse is stolen (or drowned). The proposed expenditure equals 75 per cent of the entire 1955 Park Service budget just for this one area.

9. *"Substantial loss in electric generating capacity would result."*

Tudor testified that the alleged loss from evaporation was the only reason for even considering Dinosaur, and McKay admits power loss can be replaced by steam "at some increased cost." The increase in cost is questionable. The trend across the nation is away from hydro-power and toward steam, and steam costs are coming down. Before there is a market for all the storage project power, oil shale and atomic energy may have completely changed the picture, leaving the federal government with a white elephant (Dinosaur?) on its hands.

10. *"The dam wouldn't be a precedent because of a Park Service promise."*

Significantly, Interior has consistently avoided the "promise" argument, which is misleading. The presidential proclamation enlarging Dinosaur provided a Reclamation withdrawal at Brown's Park (since abandoned) extending four miles into the northern tip of the Monument on Green River. That is all. Mr. McKay himself has said: "If I say you can do something on this desk, that does not mean you can do it anywhere in the room." No authorized promise was made; the arguments pro and con were resolved in the proclamation. The Echo Park reservoir would be 200 feet deep at Brown's Park, above which would lie 55 per cent of the reservoir's storage potential (about 12 per cent of the Echo reservoir's maximum acreage would be in deep canyons—the rest out in the open).

In any event, a precedent is a precedent—that which goes before. If local interests, hungry for profit, can invade Dinosaur, there will be a similar lineup, at the borders of most of the other parks, of exploiters well armed with plausible statistics, charts, tables, and experts' reports. Projects are right now in the files to flood portions of the following National Park System areas: Glacier, Grand Canyon, Mammoth Cave, Kings Canyon, and Yellowstone. Conservationists can well insist that every Secretary of the Interior keep his thumb in the dike.

## The Basic Question

In 1963 the Colorado River Compact of 1922 is up for re-allocation. There should still be time for the adequate study needed. The Department of Agriculture, the Corps of Engineers, the Federal Power Commission, the U.S. Geological Survey and many others have all raised important questions about the project urged by Reclamation. If these questions have been answered, the public is entitled to know when, by whom, and how thoroughly. There is as yet no evidence of these answers. Over and above these technical questions, important as they are to the nation, is the conservationists' basic question: Why is the Secretary of the Interior not defending the National Park System as the law requires?

**The issue which remains after all the statements and counter-statements is this: Shall we keep our National Park System or not? If we don't, we have let down those who saved the system for us as well as those for whom we should be saving it in our own turn.**

D.R.B.

## February Footnote

The 12-page *Bulletin* you received last month was a persuasive, well-designed presentation of "Trouble in Dinosaur." You may be surprised to learn how quickly it was put together, and you ought to know that, in final form, it was produced by one man's high talent and hard work. The man, of course, was Dave Brower, your dedicated Executive Director and former editor. The February *SCB* was all his.

A Dinosaur issue had been in the making for several months. At one time a magnificent critique of the Upper Colorado storage plan and its threat was prepared by Martin Litton; fully illustrated by his camera, it nearly saw print. But the right time and the decision what to publish were matters of strategy. Events in Washington marched on. More than one new version of the text was scrapped. Then came Secretary McKay's Echo Park Dam fiat; the Sierra Club's mobilization plan was rushed into the January *SCB* and that issue was run off and circulated. The decks were cleared.

Dave knew that the House reclamation subcommittee would open its hearings on the Upper Colorado project on Monday, January 18, and he knew that he would have to be in Washington then, prepared to say his piece. It had also become evident that if there were to be an up-to-date *Bulletin* to tell the Dinosaur story to Congressmen as well as to our members and friends, no one else could now do the job. In the midst of conferences on tactics, long-distance calls, and a mounting pile of mail. Dave rewrote his February copy and reshuffled the fine Martin Litton pictures. Monday, January 11, he stayed up with the job all night. Tuesday the rough text was okayed and retyped. Wednesday there was a final polishing, the layout was planned, photos went to the engraver. Thursday the type was set at Gillick's in Berkeley, where Otto Jeschien and the crew dropped other work to concentrate on this emergency. At 5 p.m. Friday, Dave was checking page proofs; pressmen worked through the night. Gillick's is normally closed on Saturdays, but five men worked at printing, binding and preparing copies for shipment. At 4 p.m. Saturday, the first 5,000 copies of the February *SCB* were on their way, via air freight, to Baltimore for distribution through The Wilderness Society. Dave was on his way, too, and we hope he got some sleep over Utah.

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After Dave Brower had spent a week and a half in Washington and finally said his piece to the House committee, he headed for home. The effect of his testimony in opposition to that of the giant Bureau of Reclamation is indicated by this Western Union message from Howard Zahniser, Executive Secretary of The Wilderness Society:

WASHINGTON, D.C., JANUARY 29

I HAVE NOT SEEN GOLIATH TODAY BUT DAVID IS ON HIS WAY TO WHAT SHOULD BE RETURN IN TRIUMPH. SALUTE HIM WELL. HE CERTAINLY HIT THE GIANT BETWEEN THE EYES WITH HIS FIVE SMOOTH STONES. SEE FIRST SAMUEL 17TH CHAPTER 40TH VERSE AND PAGES NINE AND TEN OF DAVE'S DINOSAUR STATEMENT. WE ALL THANK THE LORD FOR THE SIERRA CLUB. CONGRATULATIONS.

ZAHNIE

## TV Challenge

Those who saw Dr. Tom Groody's "Battle of the Dinosaurs" on his "Science Laboratory" program (KRON-TV, San Francisco, January 29) realize what a powerful factor television can be in our struggle for conservation of America's scenic wonders. Our printed word often reaches only those who are already sold. The new medium goes out and persuades a vast public which knows nothing of these problems.

Dr. Groody showed his audience, vividly and thrillingly, with film provided by Martin Litton, what the Green and Yampa rivers are like and what will be lost if Dinosaur National Monument is destroyed.

Unquestionably Dr. Groody and other TV producers will welcome and use any good motion picture film we can provide. Sierra Club members have been shooting scenes of this caliber and many useful sequences are probably buried in the cans. Many more will be taken this summer.

If you have good film, color or black-and-white, of outstanding scenes in the Sierra or examples of conservation problems anywhere, will you send some of it in to the club office for review? If you have a movie camera, will you keep this purpose in mind when you travel through the mountains this year?

The television producers don't necessarily want beautiful scenes of placid or tumbling waters, nodding flowers or sunsets. They seek pictures that tell a story or pose a problem, and, of course, pictures that have action. Before-and-after scenes, for instance—men felling a magnificent redwood followed by a view of a cut-over mountainside. Men fighting a forest fire followed by a stark panorama of Simpson Meadow. Camping and fishing scenes in a deep, wooded valley, followed by views of a similar valley inundated by a reservoir.

These are but a few suggestions. If a dozen movie photographers in the club would put their artistry and imagination to work, we could compile a library of sequences that would be invaluable for television.

OLIVER KEHRLEIN

## Almanac

March 25, 1870

**B**IRDS, BATS, and butterflies in fervent motion. Cloud on Tissiack. Snow-slides from Dome like falls. Waterfalls striking louder notes. Spring! . . .

JOHN MUIR, in his journal

### *Pines above the snow*

Acts of creation are ordinarily reserved for gods and poets, but humbler folk may circumvent this restriction if they know how. To plant a pine, for example, one need be neither god nor poet; one need only own a shovel. By virtue of this curious loophole in the rules, any clodhopper may say: Let there be a tree — and there'll be one.

If his back be strong and his shovel sharp, there may eventually be ten thousand. And in the seventh year he may lean upon his shovel, and look upon his trees, and find them good.

God passed on his handiwork as early as the seventh day, but I notice He has since been rather noncommittal about its merits. I gather either that He spoke too soon, or that trees stand more looking upon than do fig leaves and firmaments.

The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away, but He is no longer the only one to do so. When some remote ancestor of ours invented the shovel, he became a giver: he could plant a tree. And when the axe was invented, he became a taker: he could chop it down. Whoever owns land has thus assumed, whether he knows it or not, the divine functions of creating and destroying plants.

I have read many definitions of what is a conservationist, and written not a few myself, but I suspect that the best one is written not with a pen, but with an axe. It is a matter of what a man thinks about while chopping, or while deciding what to chop. A conservationist is one who is humbly aware that with each stroke he is writing his signature on the face of his land.

Excerpts from Aldo Leopold's  
*A Sand County Almanac.*

## Along Many Trails

The famous Muir locust at the University of Wisconsin has been felled. Because of the part it played in the incident that opened to John

### Muir Tree

Muir the world of botany and sent him "flying to the woods and meadows in wild enthusiasm," everything possible was done through the years to preserve the tree. Seeds from it have been germinated and planted on the Madison campus and in the arboretum in Muir's memory. But university officials finally decided that the tree, with its cabled limbs, was dangerous and that further efforts to extend its life were useless. The wood from the tree will be made into mementos of John Muir.

In *Son of the Wilderness* Linnie Marsh Wolfe describes the incident that made the locust famous:

"Among the influences of John's university years that shaped his destiny, one of the most important was ushered in by his fellow student Milton S. Griswold.

"On a morning in early June 1862, the two friends stopped to chat under a locust tree . . . near the northwest corner of North Hall. Griswold . . . pulled down a blossom and began to expound its close relationship to the pea, the bean, and the vetch. . . . John suddenly became deeply interested—so much so that on the following Sunday when Milton brought out a mass of plants for classifying and pressing, he joined him on the green. . . . In less than a week he had a Wood's *Botany*, and from that time on, the two friends explored together the creeks, bays, bogs, and woods about the Four Lakes of Madison. John had ferret eyes for the smallest blossom. 'He would plunge out of a thicket with a new flower in his hand, shouting, 'Oh, Griswold, see here. Isn't this a beauty? How tiny it is. But see how wonderful!'"

" . . . he had always been 'gey daft' about flowers, but hitherto it had been their individual beauty that delighted him. Now that he had the key to their myriad co-ordinations, he

felt new vistas of understanding opening before him—glimpses of a universal pattern."

Just to confuse Weldon Heald, who does long-range snow forecasts, the *Mugelmoos* suggests precipitating smog and using the resulting deposit to ski on. This way, Southern Sierrans will be able to ski on powder all year round and Weldon can spend more time running his ranch.

It is claimed that skiing in precipitated smog will be quite comfortable—it will brush off one's clothes and won't melt down the back of one's neck. But just wait until all Southern Californians start schussing the smog slopes fast enough to fall forward. They'll have to learn to be very close-mouthed skiers!

This year, for the fourth successive time, about a dozen individuals will be guests on Sierra Club summer outings. The Morley Fund Committee (Boynton S. Kaiser, chairman) is again making selections under a broad interpretation of

### Morley Fund

Mrs. Evelyn Morley's bequest: "to defray the expenses of taking as guests, on its annual pilgrimage, persons who could not otherwise afford to go, giving preference to professors or teachers." (See *SCB*, March 1952.)

About half of the recipients of Morley Fund grants during the past three years have been Americans, the rest foreign exchange students or teachers, from countries ranging from Switzerland to Japan.

Some donations from generous club members have increased the Fund and made it possible for still more guests to join the outings. The Committee will welcome further contributions. It also hopes to establish a pool of equipment which can be used by the guests in years to come, and would be grateful for gifts of sleeping bags, packs, ground cloths and similar items.