

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*April
1954*



CRYSTAL RANGE, DESOLATION VALLEY

Steve Miller

State Park Survey
Big Trees Saved

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People You Know

Walter L. Huber, an honorary vice-president of the Sierra Club, was recently named President Eisenhower's adviser for the Arkansas, White and Red River basins survey. The assignment is said to be without precedent in Federal water resources planning. A past national president of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Walter will assist the inter-agency committee in completing an integrated river basin report.

The Summer 1953 issue of *The Living Wilderness*, containing Dr. Olaus J. Murie's lectures on "Wild Country as a National Asset" (see November 1953 SCB) has been reprinted in a larger edition. For copies, at 50 cents each, write to the club office in San Francisco.

George W. Mason, president and chairman of the board of Nash-Kelvinator Corporation, has announced winners of the first annual \$5,000 Nash Conservation Awards. Top awards of \$500 each were presented to ten professional workers for outstanding contributions to the

field of conservation of natural resources. Medals were awarded to ten individuals for acts of good citizenship in fostering better conservation methods.

Winners included several Westerners. In the professional class are:

J. Burton Lauckhart, Seattle, Chief Game Biologist, Washington State Game Department, for development of a progressive system of game management that has greatly increased the "take" of deer, elk, game birds and other species through controlled "harvesting" of game, and improved habitat.

Charles A. Rindt, of Portland, Oregon, USFS Forester, for important contributions to forestry practice, including development of techniques for long-term tree seed storage and cold storage of nursery stock.

In the amateur class are:

Russell Z. Eller, advertising executive of San Marino, California, for work as Volunteer Coordinator of the USFS Fire Prevention Campaign since 1942, and specifically for his work in creating the "Smokey Bear" symbol.

Julian E. Heppler, business man of Ogden, Utah, for successfully organizing local community action to halt soil erosion and thus reduce floor damage caused by quick run-off of rain from gullied land.

Wayland D. Hand, professor of German and folklore at the University of California at Los Angeles, is compiling a standard collection of California popular beliefs and superstitions. He seeks the support of all people interested in the state's history and popular antiquities—high country or low—and says a postcard addressed to him at U.C.L.A., Los Angeles 24, will bring free of charge a prospectus of the project and a checklist of several hundred superstitions representing all categories of popular belief.

Dr. Joel H. Hildebrand, an Honorary Vice-President of the Sierra Club, has been chosen president-elect of the American Chemical Society, to take office in 1955. Dr. Hildebrand, professor emeritus at the University of California and internationally known chemist and educator, has served the Sierra Club as president, vice-president, and director. A former manager of the United States Olympic Games ski team, he was one of those who, by establishing winter sports as an activity of the club, helped make the High Sierra accessible to members in winter.

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

A Club Project: State Park Survey

One of the Sierra Club's major projects this year is a fact-finding survey of the existing state parks in California and of scenic areas that should be brought into the state park system. Many club members will take part—chapter officers, conservation workers, participants in chapter and club outings, and especially individuals who travel up and down the state and feel strongly about their own favorite scenic and recreational areas. All of these should be guided by Jack Barnard's letter to chapter chairmen. Here it is.

FOR A NUMBER of months, the Club Conservation Committee has been discussing California State Park matters with particular reference to a balance between recreational parks and scenic parks. The discussion was prompted by the realization that, for a number of reasons, acquisition of park areas by the State of California in recent years has been directed more toward the recreation type than the scenic type. Probably the most important single factor causing this trend was the 1945 directive of the California State Legislature to the State Park Commission to balance the state park system by acquiring more recreational-type parks. The intent of the Legislature was more than clear when it allotted to the Beaches and Parks Acquisition Fund \$15,000,000 for beach parks and \$5,000,000 for inland parks.

No one should make the mistake of concluding that the Sierra Club or its Conservation Committee is against recreational parks. There is a pressing need for them and their attractions ease the load on the more fragile scenic areas. However, there are plenty of proponents of recreational parks—but who will speak for the scenic areas if we don't? If the remaining areas in California of high scenic beauty are to be preserved, it must be the Sierra Club and other similar conservation organizations who must plan and work to achieve park status for these areas.

After careful consideration, it was the consensus that a "protest" to the State Park Commission would serve no useful purpose but that we must (1) gather information on the existing state park system; (2) determine what scenic areas remain that should be brought into the park system and how this can be accomplished; (3) use the resulting report as the basis for an acquisition policy, and (4) make the report available to the State Park Commission if that seems desirable.

In order to turn out a comprehensive report we are asking each chapter to be responsible for a section of California. To simplify your initial preparations, we have laid down some "ground rules" which you should find helpful.

Procedure

1. Classify existing state parks in your assigned section according to the classification attached as Appendix I. (See *SCB*, March, page 30.) Besides naming the state park, please note its area in acres, when it was acquired as a state park, and the type of park (forest, beach, lake, etc.) Historical state parks should be listed only.

2. The Division of Beaches and Parks Five Year Program includes a list of areas "In Process of Acquisition" and "Under

Consideration," as revised in December 1953 (to see this list, consult your chapter chairman). The areas in your section which are included in this list should also be classified according to Appendix I in as much detail as Item (1) above.

3. Aided by careful study, field trips and discussions, determine which "Scenic" and "Predominantly Scenic" areas in your section should be brought into the State Park System. Include in this list areas that were previously listed under Item (2) unless acquisition is already assured and time and red tape are all that remain before final acceptance.

The determination of areas suitable for acquisition is obviously the most important task in the entire study. Because of this, a very complete analysis of each area should be undertaken. We suggest that the following information be secured:

Name of area.

Approximate acreage involved.

Map delineating possible boundaries.

Description of terrain, explaining why area is of state park calibre.

Present ownership.

Discussion of possibilities for acquisition, touching on value, prospects for matching funds or property and local sentiment. If tidelands oil royalties become available for park acquisition purposes, we should know beforehand which areas deserve high priority because of imminent possibility of use for other than park purposes. Consequently, any conditions should be noted which suggest that prompt acquisition is desirable.

4. Each chapter should send its completed report to the Club Office by September 30, 1954.

General Observations

1. Do not include in this study additions to existing state parks unless the acreages involved are substantial or the area is unusually desirable.

2. Any chapter can, and should, comment on areas outside its assigned section if it has some special information on or interest in such areas.

3. The promise of tidelands oil royalty

funds for state park acquisition has stimulated many groups to propose for state parks "areas" which have no place in the state park system (notable example: Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco). If you have any of these "notable examples" in your section, it might be well to enumerate them and document the arguments against acquisition.

4. We suggest that you print in your chapter paper full details of this project to enable you to enlist all people and sources of information and to make the final report a success.

5. If field trips, which will be a necessary part of this project, can be worked in as part of chapter activities (local walks program) the interest in the project will be automatically widened.

JOHN R. BARNARD,

Chairman, Conservation Committee

Three Sisters Camp

The previously announced program for the Three Sisters Base Camp (August 8-21) will be changed slightly to enable members to visit and enjoy two unusual volcanic features situated just outside the Wilderness Area.

Members will assemble according to the original schedule on Sunday at the Sparks Lake campsite, a quarter of a mile west of Fall Creek Trail take-off. They will camp there for two days and leave for Green Lakes on Wednesday morning.

On Monday all members will visit the Green Lava Fields (largest in the area) and climb Bachelor Butte. This solitary cone provides a spectacular panorama of the surrounding sea of volcanic material.

On Tuesday, they will drive to the Paulina Mountains and explore the famous Newberry Crater under the expert guidance of Virilis Fischer.

While this change will shorten our stay at Green Lakes by two days, all of the scenic features on the regular schedule will be visited, including the explorations of the Lewis, Prouty and Collier glaciers and the climbs of Broken Top and the South, Middle and North Sisters.

OLIVER KEHRLEIN

Calaveras South Grove Is Now Safe

Governor Goodwin J. Knight announced on April 10 that a \$1,000,000 gift from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to the Save-the-Redwoods League, and through the League to the California State Park Commission, has assured the preservation as a state park of the impressive primeval forest in Calaveras South Grove of Giant Sequoias.

Chairman Joseph R. Knowland of the California State Park Commission and President Arthur E. Connick of the League told the Governor that Jackson Hole Preserve, Inc., a Rockefeller corporation, had pledged the gift to be matched with state funds. The announcement was authorized by Laurance Rockefeller, president of the corporation.

The proposed park contains a thousand of these giant Sierra Redwoods as well as superlative stands of sugar pine, ponderosa pine and other species. The \$1,000,000, together with other gifts of land and money from the federal government and from individuals and organizations through the Save-the-Redwoods League and the Calaveras Grove Association will, when matched with state funds, make possible the payment of \$2,800,000, the price agreed upon for the purchase of 2,155 acres from the Pickering Lumber Corporation of Standard, California, and Kansas City, Missouri. A purchase agreement at the \$2,800,000 price, negotiated with President J. C. Rassenfoss of the lumber company by Director DeWitt Nelson of the Department of Natural Resources, and Newton B. Drury, Chief of the Division of Beaches and Parks, was approved at a directors' meeting of the Pickering Lumber Corporation in Kansas City on April 9, and has previously been approved by the State Park Commission.

"The Rockefeller gift," Governor Knight said, "is a magnificent one, and the people of the State of California, as well as of the nation, are its beneficiaries. It is noteworthy that Mr. Rockefeller, in 1927, with a gift of \$2,000,000, made possible the purchase of the Bull Creek-Dyerville forest of Coast

Redwoods and its addition to Humboldt Redwoods State Park. In 1931 he gave \$2,000,000 to save the sugar pines in Yosemite. Mr. Rockefeller's generosity has also made possible the addition of several million dollars' worth of property to the National Park System.

"The Calaveras South Grove is one of the finest of its type, and with the North Grove and intervening forest lands will make up a state park of over 5,000 acres. All who have contributed may well feel proud of their part in the achievement."

Director Nelson of the Department of Natural Resources stated that the Pickering interests had been most cooperative in dealing with the state, and had modified their logging plans over the past several years in order to make possible the preservation of the area as a park. "The stumpage involved is of prime quality, particularly the sugar pine, and is undoubtedly of great value to the company for commercial purposes. The price to be paid by the state and contributors is several times what the property could have been bought for a generation ago, but it is in line with official appraisals."

The Save-the-Redwoods League, of which Arthur E. Connick is president, Frank W. Wentworth, vice-president, and Aubrey Drury, secretary, for many years has campaigned for the preservation of the Calaveras South Grove, in company with the Calaveras Grove Association of Stockton, of which Stuart Gibbons is president and Mrs. Owen M. Bradley is secretary.

(For list of contributors to the Calaveras purchase, see page 15.)

Calaveras Acreage

	Date	Acres
1. North Grove	1930-33	1961.5
2. Corridor Lands from U.S. Forest Service	April 1952	1200
3. South Grove (Pickering)	1954	2155
	Total	5316.5

Dinosaur: Our Most Important Battle

The vital problem of Dinosaur overshadowed all other items on the agenda of the Board of Directors at their quarterly meeting in San Francisco on February 27, 1954. The whole morning session was given over to the discussion of the best ways and means to carry on what was termed "the most important battle the club has ever been in."

Brought to the attention of those present were the numerous articles which have been published or will soon be published in the *National Geographic Magazine*, *American Forests*, *Harper's*, *Pacific Discovery*, *Pacific Spectator*, *Sunset*, *The Living Wilderness*, *National Parks Magazine*, *Life Magazine*, and others, all giving important publicity to Dinosaur. Executive Director Brower reviewed the most recent happenings (much of which has appeared in the March *SCB—Ed.*).

Bestor Robinson stressed the fact that the issue here is not just Dinosaur National

Opportunity

Monument; there is an opportunity that may never recur—to teach the dam builders (if we win in Congress) a lesson they will not forget—that is: not to propose building dams in areas that have been set aside as a part of a system of national parks and monuments. This lesson might well carry over to the wilderness areas of the national forests. He suggested that the conservationists should concentrate their fire—not try to cover all bases at once.

Considerable discussion ensued over the question as to the possibility of the "higher Glen Canyon Dam" being built as an alternative, and what would happen then. If it is built, what happens to the Rainbow National Monument? Should we recommend it be built to a higher level to compensate in active water storage for water lost "by not building Echo Park Dam?" Is any dam in Glen Canyon really necessary?

It was agreed that we should not depart from our primary thesis of protecting the

National Park System. A motion was carried that the Sierra Club does not oppose the construction of dam or reservoir projects presently proposed in the Upper Colorado River Basin *outside of National Parks and Monuments and established Wilderness Areas.*

U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service matters occupied a good part of the afternoon session. President Leonard

Forests, Fires

observed that despite budget cuts there is generally more budgetary flexibility with emphasis on keeping within major categories. It had been emphasized that local beneficiaries should carry a greater part of the expense burden, and it was noted that the contribution of local counties in California to the U.S.F.S. budget was about equal to the contribution of the federal government in the recreational field.

Supervisor Rickel, of Los Padres National Forest, spoke of the fire situation and the growing awareness of local civilian groups toward participation in fire control measures. More money is spent for presuppression activities. Oliver Kehrlein mentioned a special cost analysis project in one of the national forests in northern California, in which it was estimated that a modest increase in the number of lookouts under the presuppression program could stop many fires which would otherwise cost, after they had started, three times as much to stop as the cost of the preventive program. After some discussion, a motion was carried favoring an increase in the Forest Service funds for presuppression measures for fire control.

It was reported that the controversial Timber Exchange Bill (H.R. 4646), generally regarded by conservationists as bad, had been defeated, although unfortunately more California representatives were for it than against it. A substitute measure, H.R. 7683, the Metcalf Bill, was discussed and referred

to the Conservation Committee for study.

The matter of the Three Sisters Wilderness Area was reviewed again by Dr. Wayburn, president of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs. The matter is still undecided, although the Federation, the Wilderness Society, and the Sierra Club have protested the reduction of boundaries.

National park questions centered chiefly in Yosemite, with consideration of the unfortunate discontinuation of the Yosemite Field School. It was stressed that many of its graduates have done excellent work in the natural history field, and its lack would hamper the work of state conservation education groups who have drawn on it very successfully for personnel. It was agreed that the Directors affirm the recommendation of the club Conservation Committee in urging the N.P.S. to seek ways and means of continuing the Yosemite Field School with emphasis on the interpretive program.

LeConte Lodge, for many years the only museum and library in the Valley, came up for discussion as Superintendent John Preston had asked for

Exhibits

the use of the Lodge for a children's museum to be operated by the Park Service. It was felt instead, that the Sierra Club should carry on a program such as suggested by Ansel Adams: to present to visitors an exhibit which would demonstrate vividly the place of parks and wilderness areas in the whole conservation picture; to begin with a series of panel exhibits which might be used for this purpose, and, as suggested adjuncts, increased library facilities, an exhibit of mountaineering techniques, an automatic slide projector, etc. It was finally agreed that the expense should be incurred, and Honorary Vice-President Walter Starr generously offered to raise the necessary capital for the installation of Adams' exhibits. A motion was carried accepting the generous offer of Mr. Starr, and authorizing the Lodge Committee to proceed with the project, subject to the general supervision of the Executive Committee, on the presumption that the necessary permission will be granted by the National Park Service.

Two new committees were announced—one to study appropriate ways of protecting the valuable rare manuscripts and paintings of the club, some of them recent gifts from Mr. Colby; the other an historical committee which will accumulate historical pictures of Sierra Club activities and outstanding persons.

The next meeting, which will be the annual organization meeting, was set for May 1, 1954, in San Francisco. Detailed minutes of the February 27 meeting are available at the club office.*

LEWIS F. CLARK, *Secretary*

* Fourteen directors were present: Adams, Bradley, Clark, Crowe, Farquhar, Hildebrand, Johnson, Kehrlein, Kimball, Leonard, Mauk, Momyer, Nilsson and Robinson. Frank Kittredge, recovering from a serious operation, was excused. Also attending were: Executive Director David Brower, Honorary President William E. Colby, and Honorary Vice Presidents Walter Starr and Francis Farquhar. Nine of the ten chapters of the club were represented, and six club committees. A number of other members attended, and the following outside organizations were represented: U.S. Forest Service by Mr. L. A. Rickel, Supervisor of Los Padres National Forest; National Parks Association by C. Edward Graves, Western Representative; Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs by Dr. Edgar Wayburn, President.

Directors Elected

Directors of the Sierra Club elected for the year beginning May 1, 1954, are: Ansel Adams, Harold C. Bradley, Lewis F. Clark, Harold E. Crowe, Marjory B. Farquhar, Alex Hildebrand, Oliver Kehrlein, H. Stewart Kimball, Frank A. Kittredge, Richard M. Leonard, A. Starker Leopold, Charlotte E. Mauk, Joseph Momyer, Einar Nilsson and Bestor Robinson.

The one new director, Leopold, is Associate Professor of Zoology at the University of California, author of many articles on conservation of soil, water and wildlife, and a member of the Conservation and Natural Sciences committees and the Editorial Board. His special interest is wildlife ecology and management.



January 23, 1954

Hon. A. L. Miller, Chairman
House Committee on Insular and Interior
Affairs
Washington, D.C.
Dear Sir:

In relation to the current deliberations of your Committee concerning the proposed Echo Park Dam in Dinosaur National Monument and related matters.

I have devoted several months, in official collaboration with the Bureau of Reclamation and with the National Park Service to personal field-study of that region; and I ask to have the following brief statement of my conclusions included in the record:

1. The canyons of the Yampa River, with-

in the Monument, are, in their natural condition, of very great *scenic*, *scientific*, and *recreational* value, and as such are of great potential value to the people of the United States as part of the National Park System.

2. The construction of the Echo Park Dam as proposed, by submerging those canyons deeply and converting them into still-water reservoirs would not merely *impair* those values but would essentially destroy them; and would establish a precedent for diverting other parts of the National Park System to uses absolutely contradictory to those wisely prescribed by the Congress in the Act of 1916 creating the National Park Service.

3. Other sites are available for providing



Steve Miller

the required water-storage, outside of the Monument, and at lower estimated money cost; the only valid objection to these alternative sites is that they may involve more waste of water through *evaporation*; how much evaporation is not reliably known.

I strongly urge that the construction of the Echo Park Dam should not be authorized until *after* the probable loss by evaporation from these alternative sites has been thoroughly and conclusively investigated, and impartially weighed against the great losses of *scenic* and *recreational* values that are certain to result from the construction of the Echo Park Dam.

Respectfully submitted,
FREDERICK LAW OL MSTED

Dams and Desolation

SOME well-meaning people don't know what we are talking about when we say that dams destroy natural beauty. They reply that an artificial reservoir might "alter" the scenery, but not really damage it. We have pictures to tell our story.

Last month, for example, in the green center section of the *SCB* you saw grand old Steamboat Rock, in Dinosaur's Echo Park, with arrows pointing ominously to the high water line, "mean head," and low water line on its flanks if reclamation engineers drown it with a dam.

In the annual magazine number of the *SCB*, to appear soon, you'll see the perished beauty of Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park, reproduced in a series of photographs made by J. N. LeConte before the City of San Francisco mistakenly pushed through Congress its demand for a dam site there. Another picture in last month's green section showed the ugly, dead shoreline of today's fluctuating Hetch Hetchy reservoir.

At left is an example of another kind of damage. In Desolation Valley Primitive Area, near Lake Tahoe, the bare skeletons of trees haunt the shores of a storage reservoir, mutely testifying that even little dams truly "alter" the natural scene. Below, Millerton Lake, behind Friant Dam—fluctuation again.



Himalayan Expedition at Base Camp

Our friends of the California Himalayan Expedition were reported in the daily press (April 20 is the latest dispatch we have seen) to be completely settled at their 16,000-foot base camp at Barun Khola, on the side of Makalu. Will Siri had written a news release some days before, which he sent by runner to Joghani, on the Indian-Nepalese frontier. It was relayed via New Delhi.

At the time Siri wrote, the Bay Area climbers were still preparing to send reconnaissance parties to explore the east and west faces of their 27,790-foot goal.

All members of the party were reported "in the best health and humor." April was to be an intensive period of exploration and acclimatization. The actual attempt to climb Makalu was to be made in May.

Personal letters from the Californians, the latest dated some weeks before the news dispatch, told of incidents of the approach march: rain, porters, Sherpas, flimsy bridges across the rivers, collecting wildlife specimens and—"still no sight of Makalu!"

Clearly, *SCB* readers will have to subscribe to a newspaper for the duration of the expedition if they want the latest word (and then they'll have to plead with the editor to print it!) But we have asked Will Siri to send us something special for you in the next monthly. In the long run, you may be sure, Sierrans will get the full story of this highest adventure.

Men from Everest

At intervals during the Everest team's tour of the West Coast, Sierran climbers had opportunities to meet Sir Edmund Hillary and Messrs. Charles Evans, James Morris and George Lowe. Following emergency invitations, a special, "meet-the-visitors" meeting of the Sierra Nevada Chapter of the American Alpine Club was held at the Berkeley home of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Farquhar on the evening of March 9.

While the climbers talked climbing, the Himalaya "widows" of members of the Makalu team compared notes with Lady Hillary.

The morning after this gathering, Leigh Ortenburger and I had brunch with Lowe and Hillary and exchanged ideas on equipment design problems. It was established that although my sleeping bag was too tight for Hillary with his shoes on, the quality of the local gear was comparable to that of the splendid products used on Everest.

The Farquhars were most generous with their hospitality, and the climbers lavish with the limited time available to them during their crowded tour. If you have not seen the movie "Conquest of Everest," do so.

A. W. BAXTER

Afloat and Ashore

Hiking, riding, camping, ski mountaineering, rock climbing—all of these are in the Sierra Club tradition. But haven't we been neglecting an outstanding part of the natural scene, the rivers?

In Dinosaur National Monument it has been clearly demonstrated that the Yampa and Green provide a unique and enjoyable means of access to an area that cannot be reached otherwise. Looking around, we discover that all over the world there has been an upsurge of interest in small paddle craft (folboats, Canadian canoes, kayaks) and their use both for river touring and for the sport of running white water. Clubs have been formed, techniques have been studied and skills have been developed. Here is the key to a special thrill, the wilderness river trip.

Then came the realization that there are thousands of miles of waterways navigable by these paddle craft here in California. They offer everything from the most violent white water to the quiet channels of the Delta.

Result: A River Touring Section has been launched in the San Francisco Bay Chapter. A training program is in progress (average attendance, 50) and a series of trips is planned this summer. If you're in or near the Bay Area, the RTS is putting on a program at the East Bay dinner meeting, Whittier School, Berkeley, May 12. There will be movies.

BRUCE GRANT



Steve Miller

WE ARE what we are, but how did we get that way? If we love mountains and the sea and the shore, if we have an eye for bird and insect life, if we spend half an hour posing a native flower for its color portrait, if we thrill to the physical and mental challenge of rock climbing—how did we get that way?

One answer is that somebody, back in our early years, took the trouble to introduce us to the beauty, wonder and challenge of experience out of doors. We may not remember his name or his face, but we learned something precious from him.

That something is what a Bay Area group of Sierrans is seeking to introduce to young people through fine photographs and other objects from Marin County and the national parks, in a current exhibit called "Gateway to Nature." (Contents of the exhibit are described in *SCB*, March 1954). Hundreds of youngsters now have looked at the pictures, bird sculptures, minerals, and other displays, and enough of them have lingered and

asked questions to make the exhibitors feel their effort was worthwhile.

What impresses the children most, it seems, is the series of startling close-up portraits of insects and small animals by Dr. Edward S. Ross and Dr. Robert T. Orr of the California Academy of Sciences. Dr. Orr's pallid bat, especially, with his sharp teeth bared, fascinates onlookers of all ages. This has a moral for Sierran publicists: If you want people to pay attention, combine wildlife appeal with your conservation information; the two are closely related, and one wins an audience for the other.

"Gateway to Nature," sponsored by the Conservation Education Section of the Sierra Club's Bay Chapter, was at the San Francisco Junior Museum from March 1 to April 25. It is now in the Youth Room of the Public Library, 14th and Madison Streets, Oakland, where it will remain through most of May. If the new San Mateo Junior Museum at Coyote Point is ready in time, the exhibit will be shown there until June 13.

State Park Fees

Service rates for picnicking and camping in California's state parks will be increased on May 1, 1954, as the result of a recent vote of the State Park Commission. Campers will pay \$1.00 a night, and picnic sites will be rented at 35 cents a car. The rate for trailer sites will be \$1.50.

Dr. Bryant Retires

Dr. Harold C. Bryant retired on March 31 as superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona. He was succeeded by Preston P. Patraw, who joined the National Park Service in 1922 and has held many posts in the Southwest.

Dr. Bryant is a Californian, and served the University of California and the State Fish and Game Commission before he joined the park service. He is a trained biologist. In 1920 he organized a nature education program in Yosemite National Park, later the Yosemite School of Field Natural History, which he directed.

Assistant Director of the National Park Service beginning in 1930, Dr. Bryant first

came to Grand Canyon as acting superintendent in 1939.

Marble Wilderness Area

The Marble Mountain Wilderness Area was established December 28, 1953, under the strongest protection available—Regulation U-1 of the Department of Agriculture. Acting Secretary True D. Morse approved the modification of boundaries of the former primitive area in the Klamath National Forest, and Regional Forester Clare Hendee has thanked the Sierra Club for its help in studying the problem. This is the first wilderness area in California to be established under Regulation U-1. Others, including the Salmon-Trinity Alps, are being studied.

Saving Our Wildlife

Wildlife Stamps are being distributed for the 17th year by the National Wildlife Federation. The 36 stamps in the new edition include color illustrations of 14 species of North American birds, five mammals, five fishes, seven wildflowers and two trees, the Red Admiral butterfly, a timber rattlesnake and the Anderson tree frog.

Meet the National Parks Association

The National Parks Association was organized in 1919, with Robert Sterling Yard as its first Executive Secretary. Its stated objective was: "To defend the National Parks and National Monuments fearlessly against the assaults of private interests and aggressive commercialism." This objective has motivated all the activities of the Association in the intervening years. Operating independently of government, it can help protect the interests of the national parks in many ways that would not be open to the National Park Service itself.

The Association functions through membership fees and donations designed to meet current expenses. It publishes the quarterly *National Parks Magazine*. Each issue has 48 pages and is well illustrated. Membership fees include a subscription to the magazine.

There are four grades of membership:

Annual at \$3 a year; Supporting at \$5 a year; Sustaining at \$10 a year and Contributing at \$25 a year. The Washington office is in charge of Fred M. Packard, Executive Secretary. Devereux Butcher is Field Representative and Editor.

In December of last year the Association felt that because of the rapidly increasing population on the West Coast and because of its proximity to so many of the national parks, a Western Office should be opened. The writer was appointed as the first Western Representative. Having long been a member of the Sierra Club, he is making a special effort to cooperate with it in every way in matters of common concern to both organizations. He will welcome correspondence from members and chapters of the Club. His address is Box 55, Carmel, Calif.

C. EDWARD GRAVES

A New Baker Bill, an Unwanted Highway

H.R. 1972, also known as the Baker bill, was intended to provide 10% of national forest receipts for recreation use in the national forests if it became law.

The measure has evoked adverse comment for a number of reasons, so Representative Baker has introduced in the House of Representatives a new version, H.R. 8225, which is designed to overcome these various objections.

The principal change is that under the new bill 10% (or not more than \$5,500,000 annually) of receipts from national forest operation would be set aside in a special fund in the Treasury which would then have to be appropriated annually by Congress.

Baker Bill

Under H.R. 1972 the money would have been automatically available. This change is intended to meet the objections of the Bureau of the Budget and the Appropriations Committees who look upon "automatic appropriations" with disfavor.

Another new feature of H.R. 8225 is the provision which authorizes the Forest Service to collect fees from the public for use of national forest recreation areas that have been improved (i.e., campgrounds). These funds would be directly available (without having to be appropriated) for further development, maintenance or operation of recreational facilities.

Both the old and new Baker bills are open to a serious criticism, namely that earmarking for public use (recreation) funds collected in part from other national forest multiple-use activities such as lumbering and grazing might set a precedent which would eventually lead each of the multiple-use groups to press for earmarked funds out of national forest receipts. Indeed, Senator Guy Cordon of Oregon has already introduced a measure, S. 3133, which would set aside ten per cent of the receipts from national forests for improvement of the timber stand through "pruning, thinning, burning, controlling rodents or other cultural

means of improving forest growing stock."

However, we are inclined to believe that the benefits to be gained from passage of the Baker bill, H.R. 8225, far outweigh the disadvantages of the Cordon bill and others like it which might follow. The steady deterioration of national forest campgrounds, sanitary facilities and other recreational facilities in the face of ever-increasing use of the national forests in summer and winter make it imperative that some remedial legislation (or adequate appropriations) be enacted.

Early last year a proposal was made by certain "improvement associations" for a new highway across Joshua Tree National Monument. The plan called for a highway from Twentynine Palms to the Coachella Valley. The National

Road vs. Park

al Park Service, after carefully investigating the proposed route and evaluating the impact of such a highway on the Monument, stated that it definitely would not approve its construction.

In January of this year, the Riverside Board of Supervisors passed a resolution asking the California Highway Commission to order an engineering survey of this proposed Blue Cut Pass route from Twentynine Palms to Indio. The Commission at its March meeting advised the Riverside Board of Supervisors that as a matter of policy the Commission would not authorize a survey of a road not on the State Highway System.

Undaunted, the proponents of this highway on March 25 had introduced into the State Legislature Assembly Joint Resolution No. 8 memorializing the Congress of the United States to take all steps necessary to authorize the construction of the proposed Twentynine Palms-Coachella Valley highway.

Ted Abeel, Sierra Club member from the Mother Lode Chapter, appeared before the Assembly Rules Committee at the scheduled

time for the hearing on the measure only to find the Committee had approved it during an evening session the previous night. Mr. Abeel protested so the Committee rescinded its action, listened politely to Mr. Abeel's presentation of the Sierra Club's position—and then approved the resolution again.

The measure has now passed both the Assembly and Senate. It does not need the Governor's signature. According to its terms the Chief Clerk of the Assembly must transmit copies of Resolution No. 8 to the President and Vice-President of the United States, the entire California delegation in Congress and the Secretary of the Interior.

It would not surprise us if a measure were introduced into Congress as the result of the action of the State Legislature. However, its passage and an appropriation for the highway will not come as easily as the victory in the State Legislature.

In the meantime the Sierra Club must marshal its arguments against the proposal. We are firmly of the opinion that roads in national parks and monuments should not be developed for the purpose of expediting the flow of through traffic. Joshua Tree National Monument was established to preserve a portion of desert landscape. The roads which provide access to the spectacular groups of Joshua Trees and other scenic features are properly designed for a leisurely pace at which the scenic attractions of this desert area are best enjoyed.

The existing road across the Monument probably should be improved to make it more comfortable for tourist traffic, but this the National Park Service already has in mind. These improvements, however, should conform to national park road standards for scenic roads rather than to convert the road into the high-speed highway being proposed by the Coachella Valley groups. A glance at a road map will reveal that this particular highway would not even be a connecting link for through north-south traffic, but merely a connection between two towns. One of these towns is a resort community and the other, Indio, a town whose traffic axis is primarily east and west. It appears

to us that the proposed highway is for local convenience and that little regard has been given by its proponents for the intangible values it would destroy.

JOHN R. BARNARD,
Chairman, Conservation Committee

Chapter Publications

The printed word—even when it is mimeographed, multilithed, or produced by any other mechanical process—is the most effective means of spreading information. From the Sierra Club's ten chapters now come the dozen publications listed below, lively newsheets which cover the local and club-wide scene:

Angeles, **Southern Sierran*
Angeles Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections, **Mugelnoos*
Atlantic, *The Argonaut*
Kern-Kaweah, *Kern-Kaweah Newsletter*
Loma Prieta, *Loma Prietan*
Los Padres, **The Condor Call*
Mother Lode, *Bonanza*
Riverside, *Palm and Pine*
San Diego, *Hi! Sierrans!*
San Francisco Bay, **Yodeler*
San Francisco Bay Conservation Education Section, *Bay Leaf*
Tehipite, **Tehipite Topics*

Most of these are issued monthly (*Yodeler*, semi-monthly), except for the summer period. Those starred are \$1 per year by subscription; the others are sent free to the respective chapter members. The fresh new *Bay Leaf* is a conservation newsletter, to be sent to teachers and youth activity leaders in and out of the Club.

Training Program

Hunter safety instructors recently attended the first classes in a new training series developed for the California Department of Fish and Game, and recognized by the State Department of Education as an adult education course. A state law, effective July 1, 1954, requires a boy or girl under 16 to pass a hunter safety course before receiving his first hunting license. It is expected that 40,000 youngsters will be enrolled in the course each year, and the adult classes are designed to train teachers for this purpose.

All These Contributed To Calaveras Victory

Among those who have contributed toward the Calaveras South Grove project, as listed by the State Division of Beaches and Parks, are the following:

Through the Save-the-Redwoods League, in addition to the Rockefeller gift: The Max C. Fleischmann Foundation of Nevada; Mr. and Mrs. Devereux Butcher of the National Parks Association, Washington, D.C., as well as many others.

Through the Calaveras Grove Association: Sierra Club, East Lake Garden Club, Moore Equipment Company, Warren Atherton, C. J. Tiscornia, Erving Martin, Aileen Browning Armstrong, C. M. Goethe, Hillsborough Garden Club, Native Daughters of the Golden West, United Steel Workers of America, C.I.O., Lions Clubs, California Garden Clubs, Inc., American Legion, Audubon Society, Soroptimist Clubs, Pan Aurora Club, Calaveras County Board of Supervisors, Sebastopol Flower Lovers, Coachella High School, Murphys Community Club, Exchange Clubs, Girl Scouts of America, African Violet Society, Stephens College Alumni, Tiscornia Foundation, Ladies Auxiliary of California Pioneers, Pasadena Study Club, Campo Seco Community Club, Pasadena Women's Civic League, Daughters of the American Revolution, Nutrilite Corp., Rotary Clubs, California Federated Women's Clubs, Nature Friends, Farm Bureaus, Business and Professional Women's Club, Kiwanis Clubs, Forty Planters, Mokelumne Hills Community Club, Ebbetts Pass Highway Association, Marin Conservation League, Boy Scouts of America, Campfire Girls, American Association of University Women, White Pines Community Club, Pomona College Alumni, Copperopolis Community Club, The Cauldron Club, Stockton Life Underwriters, Pasadena Shakespeare Club, San Marino Women's Travel Club, Frank A. West, Mrs. Hugh S. Cumming, Jr., Fred Turner, and contributions from schools and churches.

Contribution amounts were the following:

Land contributions: U.S. Forest Service (value) \$350,000; Save-the-Redwoods League (value) \$190,000.

Cash contributions: Save-the-Redwoods League, \$1,065,000 (from John D. Rockefeller, Jr., \$1,000,000); Calaveras Grove Association, \$65,000; from State Park Fund, to match land and cash above, \$1,670,000. Total purchase \$2,800,000.

Almanac

THE BRIGHT meeting of sky-flowers and earth-flowers ended. Snow-flowers, withered, have returned to the sky, as shortly will the violets and lilies return to the earth. I discovered the handsome long-spurred blue violet, cheerfully glinting forth upon a hillock in the meadow from decayed snow and weeds.

JOHN MUIR, April 6, 1870

WILDERNESS, especially in the high mountains, provides a favorable social and physical medium for initiating and maturing friendships. There you will meet with energetic, generous, good-humored men and women. You will share experiences which uncover mankind's more lovable traits. On a brief wilderness trip you will come to appreciate your companions more truly than you do many of your everyday associates.

For me, wilderness areas open many pathways toward full living. One is the exercise of physical abilities of a simple but stimulating order, as in hiking, talus scrambling, balancing over a stream on a log. The weary, but relaxed and resurgent, contentment at the campfire following a long day's trailing among the peaks is very nearly unmatched.

Another pathway is the opportunity to share mutual trust with a group of strangers, a trust that is rare these days.

We participate in the achievement of a community goal, like the pioneer settlers of our once limitless frontier. On a mountain trip we moderns, to a degree, re-experience the situations in which the core of Americanism was created, when our forebears learned to work for constructive ends as members of a group, in order to survive.

Still another pathway (and there are more) is the pursuit of beauty along mountain trails: the cataracts; the flowers; the meadows and lakes; the breathless climbs to even more breathless vistas over distant ranges; the twisted, vigorous pines of timberline; the overwhelming precipices; and, arching over all, the endless pageantry of restless mountain skies.

VANCE GUDMUNDSEN

Along Many Trails

In the Army we were taught that personal reconnaissance is the only means of gaining reliable knowledge of the terrain. Of course,

Challenge

maps, aerial photographs, terrestrial photographs, and the information one obtains from friendly natives are not to be despised, but personal reconnaissance is the last word.

We are naturally overjoyed when such an eminent figure as William O. Douglas, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, endorses this principle with respect to the old Chesapeake & Ohio Canal and its value as "a refuge, a long stretch of quiet and peace." His challenge to the editors of the *Washington Post* to hike the 189 miles of towpath with him and see for themselves is wonderful publicity for the cause of areas untouched by super highways, dams, aerial tramways, and other products of civilization. The only jarring note is the facetious way in which some of the news stories were handled, and the rediscovery by their writers of the cliché "hardy souls," who "tired but happy" have long since disappeared from our local club publications.

We wish now that Justice Douglas could have taken President Eisenhower on a personal tour of investigation of Dinosaur National Monument to convince him of its value as a refuge. The President, an Army man, must have learned about personal reconnaissance just as we did. It seemed like such a good idea that we wrote to the Justice and suggested that very thing. The President endorsed the Upper Colorado River Basin bill anyway. Fortunately the jurisdiction remains with the people and their Congress, who still have not ruled.

J. P. S.

Knapsackers and others seeking the less traveled areas where automobiles cannot follow will find an excellent trip-planning aid in a series of articles now appearing in *The Living Wilderness*. They are descriptions, state by state, of the 79 wilderness areas of our national forests,

prepared by Forest Service personnel and accompanied by photographs and specially drawn maps. The first appeared in the Autumn 1953 issue of the quarterly, and covered the three regions in the state of Washington: Mt. Adams Wild Area, Goat Rocks Wild Area, and North Cascade Wilderness Area. In the Winter 1953-54 issue, eight areas in the state of Oregon are described. The general information given about each area includes points of interest and wild life, availability of pack stock, and an explanation of the trail systems.

The Living Wilderness is the quarterly publication of The Wilderness Society, 2144 P Street, N.W., Washington 7, D.C. Memberships, including subscription, start at \$2.00 a year.

The West Coast Nature School has announced courses this summer at Lassen National Park (June 20-26), Yosemite National Park (June 27-July 3) and Asilomar (July 4-10). College credit is given, and cost is small. For information write to Dr. Gertrude Cavins, West Coast Nature School, San Jose State College, San Jose, Calif.

Attention, all burro wrestlers! If you are planning a private burro trip this summer, you'll be eligible to participate in an interesting literary contest. Mr. C. M. Goethe of Sacramento has donated

No Box Tops a prize of \$50.00 to be awarded the writer of the best burro trip article contributed to next year's *SCB* annual. Here are the conditions:

The essay may be any length; it must tell of a private mountain trip with burro or burros (not a club-sponsored outing) during summer 1954. Deadline for entries is October 15, 1954. Only one prize will be awarded. If no entry is considered suitable, the prize will be held for use in a similar contest next year. Judges will be the club's Editorial Board.

And no box tops! (But there's many a diamond hitch between you and that prize money.)