



AT LAKE EDIZA

Wilma Nuotio

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

June
1955

People You Know

LATEST Sierra Club mountaineer-author to appear in a national magazine is *Allen Steck*, whose "Terror on Makalu" was featured in the May 14 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*. Another member of last year's California Himalayan Expedition, *Nello Pace*, is operations director of the new high altitude laboratory to be erected by the University of California in the White Mountains in Mono County.

Weldon and *Phyllis Heald* are directors of the 5th Annual Southwest Writers' Workshop, to be held from June 20 to July 1 at Arizona State College in Flagstaff. One of Weldon's latest published appearances is his recipe for "High Sierra Sandwiches" in *Sunset* magazine's "Chefs of the West." Weldon maintains he has eaten these sandwiches (main ingredient, hard cooked eggs) on every one of his 500 mountain climbs since his first at the age of eight.

Ken Turner, Mother Lode Chapter schedule chairman, has made his annual resumé of trip attendance—an interesting review of what trips have proved popular in the past and a basis for future plans. Some of the special expeditions

scheduled for spring are *G. Ledyard Stebbins'* wildflower trip, *Duane Deakins'* outing to Lost City, near Copperopolis, and a ride on "The Skunk," the lumber company railroad from Willits to Fort Bragg.

Marion Lorraine Miles will be a ranger-naturalist in Yosemite National Park this summer, one of the small but growing number of

Election of Officers

At the annual organization meeting of the Board of Directors, held May 7 in San Francisco, *Alexander Hildebrand* was elected president and *Bestor Robinson* vice-president. Re-elected were *Lewis F. Clark*, secretary, and *Einar Nilsson*, treasurer. *Richard M. Leonard* was elected fifth member of the Executive Committee.

feminine wearers of Park Service forest green. Tehipite Chapter, no longer our youngest, has had its second annual banquet already, and has also elected its new Executive Committee: *Lillie Stanley*, chairman; *Bob Board*, vice-chairman; and *Joe Ginot*, secretary-treasurer. The other members are *Tom Cooper*, *Roy Dubisch*, *Fred L. Jones*, and *George Sessions*.

Bay Chapter snowshoers—The Raquetters—celebrated (?) the end of the snow season with a reunion of their seventy-five members; the River Touring Section held its annual Paddle Party; and the Knapsackers made their longest week-end trip to date. This was a twenty-six mile crossing of the Santa Lucia Range from Arroyo Seco on the east to the Coast Highway on the west, under the leadership of *Jean Morosco* and *George Baldwin*.

John DeWitt, *Barbara Fitzwilliams* and *Helen Verdi* set up the fine poster and photographic exhibits at the Wilderness Conference.

Mary Cochran is Yodelector *Barbara Tilden's* answer to almost five years of prayer—for a cartoonist. *Yodeler* is soon to issue its annual "Gourmet Guide." Another forthcoming Bay Chapter publication is a chapter handbook, now being compiled under the direction of *Mary Ditto*.

Hilary Crawford, Jr., is the newly elected president of the Tamalpais Conservation Club. Hilary and his wife Margery have the distinction of having been "introduced" by Sir Edmund Hillary; they happened to occupy adjoining seats at the Everest lecture in San Francisco in 1954, and that's how they met!

VIVIAN SCHAGEN

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.

DIRECTORS

Alexander Hildebrand	President
Bestor Robinson	Vice-President
Lewis F. Clark	Secretary
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*Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.



Sierra Club Bulletin

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NUMBER 6

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

Echo Dam *Would* Invade a Park

THOSE OF US on the park conservation side in the Echo Park dam dispute have been disturbed recently on receiving in the mail an excerpt from the *Congressional Record*, namely the March 28 speech by Utah Senator Arthur V. Watkins entitled "Echo Dam 'Invasion' Charge Is False."

One disturbing thing is that, although most of us had never written to Senator Watkins, he had access to a mailing list including our names; presumably the list came from the White House or the Interior Department.

More to the point, we are disturbed by the variety of lawyer's brief prepared by the Senator. In great detail and with premeditation, he seeks to nullify the intent and effectiveness of the presidential proclamation which in 1938 established the present boundaries of Dinosaur National Monument.

Senator Watkins, in a neat play of ideas, suggests that the power people are not invading the parks, but rather that it is we who are invading the power sites. Thus white is made to seem black, and black white, in this speech that helped shove the billion-dollar Colorado dam proposal through the Senate.

A Watkins Letter

On May 6, over the signature of Senator Watkins, a lengthy letter was sent to Richard M. Leonard, then President of the Sierra Club, repeating the declaration that Franklin D. Roosevelt really meant to preserve dam sites in Dinosaur when he set aside 200,000 acres to be administered by the National Park Service.

The letter refers to Leonard's statement that "all other withdrawals," except the specific reclamation site withdrawal at Brown's

Park, "were superseded by the Presidential proclamation."

"Since you make such a statement (says the Watkins letter) directly in contradiction to my documented statement that 10 power site withdrawals have been and are now in effect there, you surely must have documents or legal opinions to support such a contrary position."

After a series of references to evaporation losses as calculated by the Bureau of Reclamation, the absence of "precedent" or "threat" in placing a dam in a part of the National Park System, the water needs of 3,000,000 people, and the "overwhelming" Senate majority for flooding Echo Park, the letter concludes with a further challenge that Leonard "document" the Sierra Club's position.

Leonard's Reply

On May 16, Leonard wrote to Senator Watkins. Excerpts from his letter follow:

"General U. S. Grant III clearly and ably pointed out the legal maxim that the expression of the one is the exclusion of the other . . . It is unfortunate that whoever prepared the letter of May 6 for your signature felt impelled to quote General Grant unfairly out of context, and to ridicule the courteous, consistent, and effective statements in the several letters opposing your attempted presentation . . .

"The 'document' you request was fully cited by you, and in earlier sessions of Congress. The conclusive 'document' is the Presidential Proclamation of 1938 which settles and disposes of all the earlier correspondence, 'filings,' 'withdrawals,' etc., preserving only the *one* withdrawal at Brown's Park. Congress has the Constitutional power to overrule the Presidential Proclamation and at any time revive any one or more of the old power filings. Congress, however, established the National Park System in 1916 and for nearly forty years has consistently

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Directors Hold Annual Meeting

Possible changes in the organization of the Sierra Club, new publications, and conservation problems such as San Jacinto and Dinosaur, were among the items discussed by the directors at the annual meeting on May 7.

Officers were elected for the year (see Page 2), and all honorary officers were re-elected. Then three new Honorary Life Members were elected. Chosen for their outstanding services in conservation were: Arthur Connick, President of the Save-the-Redwoods League; Alfred A. Knopf, Chairman of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monu-

ments, and publisher of *This Is Dinosaur*; and Wallace Stegner, editor of *This Is Dinosaur*.

The educational exhibit "This Is the American Earth" was highly praised. This remarkable work was conceived by Ansel Adams and arranged by him and Nancy Newhall. It is planned for LeConte Lodge in Yosemite Valley. Mrs. Newhall was specially commended for her unselfish and inspired work. (See May *Bulletin*.)

A special study committee has given much thought recently to possible changes in the government of the Sierra Club. Walter Starr, (Continued on next page)

Still Belaying the Leader: Dick Leonard

THE SIERRA CLUB by its very nature attracts many members who are willing to serve, but few have given as much of themselves as retiring President Dick Leonard. Known as one of the outstanding conservationists of the United States, he has from his first association with the club contributed an inestimable amount of time, energy and ideas to further its work.

A native of Ohio, Dick's earliest excursions into primitive country were in the Quetico-Superior Wilderness. When his family came to California, he naturally became interested in the Sierra, which in turn led to his joining the Sierra Club in 1930.

His work in the club started with his or-

ganization in 1932 of the Rock Climbing Section of the San Francisco Bay Chapter. His interest in rock climbing has not been confined to organization—he is known also as a climber with an impressive number of first ascents and an excellent safety record, and as co-author of the definitive work on dynamic belays, "Belaying the Leader."

Twice Dick has succeeded Will Colby, first when in 1937 he was appointed chairman of the Outing Committee, and then in 1946 when he was elected Secretary. His tenure on the Board of Directors started in 1938, and was interrupted by his service in the United States Army from 1942 until 1946. Part of that service was devoted to research into and development of equipment and clothing for troops.

After the war, Leonard returned to the practice of law and to his Sierra Club work. His service in India and Burma and the conditions he observed there had convinced him more than ever of the need of sound conservation policies and greater efforts in his own country. At present he is a member of twenty-three conservation organizations, and has been a director of ten of them. He remains on the Sierra Club Board of Directors, and the club will continue to count on his wisdom, ability and enthusiasm.

J.P.S.

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN, JUNE, 1955



The New President

ALEX HILDEBRAND, the new president of the Sierra Club, is another one of the growing group of directors who came up through chapter ranks. This has become more common with post-war growth of the club than ever before. He is also the second president whose father (Dr. Joel H. Hildebrand) was a president before him; the other such pair was Clair and Francis Tappaan.

A native of California, Alex Hildebrand received his bachelor's degree in Physics from the University of California in 1935, a year after he joined the club. He went to work as an engineer for Standard Oil Company of California, and has worked for the company or its subsidiaries from here to Bahrain. At present manager of petroleum producing research, development and technical service of the California Research Corporation, a Standard Oil subsidiary, he lives in Whittier with his wife and children.

He is a member of the renowned skiing Hildebrand family which had such a profound effect on winter sports in the San Francisco Bay Chapter. He has served on the Bay Chapter Executive Committee, and



was its chairman in 1945-46. He has also been on the Winter Sports, Lodge, Clair Tappaan Lodge, and Conservation Committees, and has been a member of the Board of Directors since 1948. J. P. S.

Directors Meet

(Continued from Page 4)

chairman of the study committee, reported its findings and recommendations. Of special interest is one to create a Council of the Sierra Club. Each chapter would be represented in it, as well as each major committee of the club. The functions of the Council would be authorized by the Board of Directors. This representative body could greatly assist in managing the club by offering advice and recommendations to the Board. Many members would get valuable training by taking part in its activities. The Board approved the creation of such a Council.

Staggered terms for directors were also recommended. In essence the suggestion was to elect five directors at each annual election for staggered terms of three years each. For this the By-Laws would have to be changed. The annual slate, if such a change

were approved, would contain at least as many candidates as there are positions to be filled, plus any nominations by petition. The quota receiving the highest number of votes would be elected for terms of three years.

Growing interest in mountain climbing in the Grand Teton National Park led the Board to look favorably on a proposal to publish a climbing guide to the Tetons. Leigh Ortenburger, a young Californian, has climbed in the region and guided at the climbing school for a number of years. With the Directors' approval, the Editorial Board will consider publication of his guide.

The Sierra Club will work with the Save-the-Redwoods League to publish a collection of the Inez Mexia letters. The late Mrs. Mexia, a member of the club, was well known for her botanizing and plant collecting. Nancy Newhall will edit the letters.

William Losh, Executive Secretary of Trustees for Conservation, reported that the
(Continued on next page)

Trustees had received many contributions to the legislative fight to preserve Dinosaur National Monument—more than \$11,000 so far. Some 1,200 contributors from 41 states showed that the interest and support is widespread.

Dave Brower, Executive Director of the Sierra Club, also reported on Dinosaur. Since the Senate bill including Echo Park Dam in the Colorado River Project passed with more votes against it than expected, we hope that there is a better chance that the House of Representatives will not pass its corresponding bill. But, since the Senate approved the bill with Echo Park Dam, and since Secretary McKay has \$5,000,000 ready to start the construction—or destruction—the minute he gets the green light, we earnestly hope that Echo Park Dam will fail to pass this Congress.

The Board was cheered by the announcement that the Sierra Club will have two “official” representatives in Europe. For many years Francis P. Farquhar and Marjory B. Farquhar have helped the club in countless ways and have taken part in many outings and other activities. They are about to go abroad for an extended trip, so in recognition of their contributions to the club they were appointed our good will ambassadors to Europe.

LEWIS F. CLARK,
Secretary.

Summit Registers

The Mountaineering Committee has recently purchased six new summit registers of cast aluminum. They will be placed this spring and summer on the summits of Mount Shasta, Cathedral Peak, Half Dome, Clyde Minaret, Thunderbolt Peak, and Mount Ericsson.

The registers are of a modified design, slightly flatter than the previous aluminum box types. They are embossed with the Sierra Club emblem and the name of the peak on which they will be placed. Summit registers such as these are works of art, and the Mountaineering Committee hereby expresses recognition and gratitude to Kasper Caspersen of the Los Angeles Chapter, for a job superlatively well done.

Current information on the condition of

summit registers previously placed by the Club is normally conspicuous by its absence; should a register book be filled, or the container itself be damaged or missing, it is often years before the news reaches the Mountaineering Committee. It is requested that any such information be forwarded to the committee in care of the Sierra Club, San Francisco.

RICHARD IRVIN

Information Service

A new organization with much promise is the Conservation Information Service, organized last fall at Claremont. Sierran Bill Henderson is president, and the membership includes people from 20 or more groups, among them Audubon chapters, the Ramblers, Roamers, Izaak Walton League and even rod and gun clubs.

The Service was formed for two purposes. It will gather and publish information on conservation problems, making this available to interested groups and individuals, and it will maintain files on current and past issues, to help those in need of information on specific conservation problems.

The CIS has begun publication of a mimeographed news sheet, the “Alert,” which started with a circulation of 450 copies and now runs 750. It also has grown from eight pages to 16. Frances Reed of Claremont is editor and Dr. Walter P. Taylor authenticates most items.

Group subscriptions are \$10 and individual subscriptions \$2. Those interested should write Bill Henderson, 1152 W. Picacho Drive, La Habra.

Outdoor Federation To Meet at Idyllwild

Southern California member clubs will be hosts at the annual convention of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs over the Labor Day week end, September 3 to 5, at Hidden Lodge, Idyllwild. In addition to the business meetings, many recreational activities are planned. For reservations (adults \$11.00, children under 12, \$5.50) write to Forrest Keck, 306 Edgerton Drive, San Bernardino, Calif.

Echo Dam Invasion

(Continued from Page 3)

protected it against exploitation such as you are advocating. We do not expect that this long-standing 'precedent' of protection of the National Park System will be broken by Echo Park dam—a precedent of exploitation for the future . . .

"You say that 'the Bureau of Reclamation maintains that evaporation losses per acre-foot of water stored at Echo Park would be less than at any other major storage site . . .'

"The Bureau's own figures once again show that the Bureau's arithmetic is incorrect.

"Glen Canyon is a major storage site. If Echo Park's average active storage (at year 75) as used by the Bureau in its evaporation calculations is transferred to Glen Canyon, there will be less loss per acre-foot stored.

"This will aggregate about 10,000-acre-feet saving per year compared to use of the Echo Park site, and 18,000 per year if Split Mountain is also eliminated.

"This time the Bureau erred by adding 1,500,000 acre-feet more active storage at Glen than it eliminated at Echo. And the Bureau is still using a higher evaporation index at Glen than its own recent research justified.

"We . . . wish to emphasize . . . that the Bureau has not demonstrated the need for all this storage at the present time. Water conservation storage to fulfill the requirements of the Colorado River Compact will not be needed, as can be shown by the Bureau's own figures, for thirty years. The full 23,000,000 acre-feet of 'Compact' storage will not be needed until the year 2030. Neither Echo nor Glen are needed at this time, and it is hard to see, in any realistic evaluation of the prospect, how power revenues from these costly projects can hope to pay back an appreciable part of their cost when coal power is already cheaper, and atomic power can be expected to be at least that cheap within twenty years.

"Moreover such overexpanded plans as the Bureau now forces upon you are extremely wasteful of water, and will lose the upper basin some 500,000 acre-feet of water per year that we do not believe the upper basin would choose to lose if it could force out the facts and force down the high-pressure promotion.

". . . We admire immensely your splendid record in Congress. We hope that you can influence planning for a sound project that will not adversely affect the National Park System.

Respectfully,

RICHARD M. LEONARD."

Almanac

WHAT TO DO—or not to do—in a democracy, in order to perpetuate for the public of today and tomorrow, in undiminished freshness, the perishable qualities of its own property?

That was the delicate problem to which the Point Lobos Advisory Committee addressed themselves. Observing trends elsewhere in the same field, they determined to escape if possible some pitfalls into which others had fallen, to avoid some fetishes that had been set up in the administering of public lands; to resist the pressure of *scenic showmanship* which measures success in revenue or attendance; of *recreational enthusiasm* which considers that piece of level land wasted which is not teeming with citizens engaged in healthful and innocent outdoor sports, regardless of their appropriateness to the site; of *virtuosity*, the aim of which is to "paint the lily" or remake nature's design in keeping with the preconceived notions of well-meaning individuals or groups, for the glory of themselves and their techniques—or merely to satisfy an itch to monkey with a landscape; of *made-work projects*, exulting in new-found resources, more designed for expenditure of money than expenditure of thought; of that *pseudo-democracy* complex which holds that if a piece of property belongs to the public, they have an unalienable and limitless right to use it, even if they use it up.

Extreme as some of these things sound, they all represent tendencies that have lessened the real value of public properties grouped loosely under the term of "parks." This has not occurred through any lack of efficiency in operation on the part of those in charge. It has been largely due to the absence of a clear-cut realization of policy and purpose in administering natural areas.

NEWTON B. DRURY,

Point Lobos Reserve

(California State Printing Office, 1955)

Nothing could be worse than the fear that one had given up too soon and had left one effort unexpended which might have helped the world.

JANE ADDAMS

Along Many Trails

FROM TIME to time Sierra Club climbers have been asked to assist in the rescue of injured or stranded persons from cliffs. They have also rescued animals and have searched steep terrain for missing persons. These activities have now been organized into a Mountain Rescue Service in the San Francisco Bay Area. The new organization is intended to supplement the rescue work of public agencies when the special skills of class 4, 5, or 6 climbing are required.

Members of the Rescue Service are volunteers. They are mostly members of the Rock Climbing Section of the Bay Chapter. Although they cannot undertake prolonged or general search operations, they are glad to offer their special abilities when they are really needed. To prepare for this work they have arranged a communication system, have surveyed the experiences of other rescue groups, and have practiced various rescue methods on local cliffs.

If a public agency, such as the National Park Service in Yosemite, requires help for a rescue, the first step will be to call one of twelve contact points. After receiving necessary information, the person at the contact point will call

one of thirty climbers. The climber will proceed to collect a rescue team of about five men, and they will hasten to the site.

The Rescue Service has been organized by the Mountain Rescue Committee, under the Mountaineering Committee. Chief organizers have been A. W. Baxter, Jr., chairman of the Mountain Rescue Committee, Ronald A. Hahn, and Larry Williams. Training has been carried out by the Bay Chapter Rock Climbing Section, of which Robert L. Swift is chairman.

At present only the Bay Area has an organized Rescue Service. Groups in the Loma Prieta and Angeles chapters are quite active, however, and it is expected that when these and others, such as the Tehipite and San Diego groups have completed their programs, a state-wide service will be available.

One of the first responsibilities of rescue groups will be toward Sierra Club climbers. However, it is expected that the safety record of our climbers will be good, and that very few rescues of them will be necessary.

HERVEY VOGEL,
Mountaineering Chairman

Keeping the Mountains Clean

Bob Braun, club knapsack chairman, shows all the cans used by 25 people during the 14-day Kings River trip he led last July. The total number of cans was 108; carried out burned and smashed, they weighed 15 pounds—weight per person, 0.6 pound.

The cracker box is the container used by one backpacker to carry out his share of the burned cans. Bob holds approximately one person's load, while the pile contains all the rest of the cans for two weeks for 25 people.

"The most important part of any plan to keep the mountains clean," says Bob, "is to stress menu planning, that is, to show people how to eat well with fewer cans. Note there are no bottles!"

