

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*December
1955*



CALIFORNIANS AT CAMP II ON MAKALU

Allen Steck

HIMALAYAN CLIMBING
WINTER SPORTS

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People You Know

AT LAST! A "Sierra Group" of the Sierra Club. Its first meeting, on an Indian summer day in October, was near the home of *Elisabeth Crenshaw* on Lake Tahoe. Members and friends came from Carson City, Reno, and other Nevada and California localities. Among them were *Homer Angelo*, *Grace* and *Nancy Bordewich*, *Lucille Petty*, *Richard Hanna*, *Andy Crofut*, *Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Houghton*, *Olga Reifsnider*, *Phyllis Hay* and *R. C. Rosenberg*. It is particularly fitting that *Dick Hanna*, a grandson of John Muir, is a member of this group.

Polly Dyer and *Wheaton Smith* represented the Mountaineers and the Sierra Club, respectively, at the Columbia Basin Interagency Committee meeting at Spokane on recreation problems of the Northwest. Pacific Northwest Chapter celebrated its first birthday in November with a dinner in Portland under the direction of *Al Schmitz* and *Virlis Fischer*, with U. S. Senator *Richard Neuberger* the guest speaker.

Ben and *Grace Cummings* were hosts to the

Atlantic Chapter's meeting at their home in Suffern, New York. *Charles Eggert* came from upstate New York to show some of his fine movies of Dinosaur and Yellowstone; *Al* and *Alberta Gerould* traveled from Philadelphia; *Tom Jukes* showed a Sierra High Trip film.

Tehipite Chapter loses two of its most active conservationists with *Fred Jones* moving to Sacramento, and *Dana Abell* going to Dartmouth College for teaching and research in biology. Dana's challenging article, "Are We Really a Minority?," which first appeared in *Tehipite Topics*, has now been reprinted in *The Living Wilderness*. The chapter paper has started a series of articles on the High Sierra—the first one by *Maury Hunt*, on the Cirque Crest country.

Harold Russell, handling Education and Entertainment for the Mother Lode, has revived the annual "Slide Night" which gives each photographer a chance to show his ten best slides from his summer vacation. *Frieda Klumdt* and *Marie Wiedmann* led a Delta boat trip from Stockton which gave 118 Mother Lode, Loma Prieta and Bay Chapter members a delightful and restful cruise.

Loma Prieta artists *Kay Ward* and *Vicky Lloyd* had paintings on exhibition at the Santa Clara County Fair. *Jim Peabody*, assistant leader of the Yosemite Knapsack Trip, played a leading role in San Jose Theater Guild's production of "Born Yesterday." *Bill Bancroft*, who's led a lot of rainy trips, and was one of those who was stormed out on last year's attempted ascent of the Grand Teton, this year was one of the three who successfully tried again in the group of nine Sierrans who made the top.

The Bay Chapter's annual meeting—this time at Camp Alice Eastwood on Mount Tamalpais—was well attended and a great success. *Randal Dickey* substituted ably as chairman for *Bob Howell* (who was on a business trip in Central America); *Wes* and *Hasse Bunnelle* produced an excellent lunch which featured Son-of-a-Gun Stew; *Lelia Crouch* and *Al Glenn* climaxed the meeting with a vivid description of what a series of disastrous fires such as those in the late summer of 1955 means to Forest Service headquarters.

Marin hikers miss *Henry Saddler*, Chief Ranger at Mount Tamalpais State Park, who

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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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DECEMBER, 1955

NUMBER 10

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

A Victory for the National Parks

Our long fight to protect Dinosaur National Monument, and with it the National Park system, sometimes felt a bit lonely. The opposition, who wanted so badly to dam the Yampa and Green at Echo Park, said in fact that we were nothing but a little band of river runners with wild ideas. But we won friends and influenced people, and now see who's joining our side—the Upper Colorado lawmakers themselves, and Secretary McKay!

It looks as though we've won.

Before we take victory for granted, however, let's review the events of the red-letter month of November and think a little.

First there was a meeting in Denver of a "strategy committee," including Senators from Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming and Utah's two members of the House. These gentlemen assembled on November 1 to face up to a hard political fact: they couldn't get an Upper Colorado Storage Project authorized by Congress unless they silenced the opposition of park conservationists. And the only way to do that was to drop their demand for an Echo Park dam.

Concluding their meeting, the strategists did resolve not to try to reinstate Echo Park dam in the bill (HR 3383) from which it had been deleted. The catch here, for us, is that Representative Wayne N. Aspinall of Colorado, author of the bill, was conspicuously absent from the discussion. What would he do?

Maybe it doesn't matter now what Mr. Aspinall does. On November 29, in Washington, the Secretary of the Interior conferred with the executive committee of the Council of Conservationists, among them

the Sierra Club's David R. Brower. The Secretary, it appears, gave the *coup de grace* to Echo Park dam.

Mr. McKay said the Interior Department had taken note of the November 1 resolution by the Upper Basin Congressmen.

"It does seem clear," he continued, "that the passage of an authorization for the Upper Colorado Project in the next session of Congress may be accomplished as a result of the agreement to exclude Echo Park . . .

"In the interests of getting the Upper Colorado Project started, the Department will acquiesce in this action.

"In line with this position, the Department will give further study to the Project for the purpose of recommending substitute units in lieu of Echo park."

Later, the Secretary told the group that he now considered the Project feasible without a dam at Echo Park.

What more can we ask? A number of things: the carrying out of an alternative plan for storing the water, so that an Echo Park dam need never be built; protective wording in the law to prohibit building any project dam or reservoir in a National Park area; generally, an understanding of the need for wilderness and natural preserves and a determination to protect such parklands from invasion in the future.

Meanwhile, November was a month for which we can give thanks. To Dave Brower and his colleagues who have led the campaign, and to others including the occasional contributors of time, money and letters to the right people, we hereby convey the thanks of Americans, present and future, who will enjoy the benefits of a great wilderness park and a National Park system whose fate is still inextricably tied to that of Dinosaur.

New Honor for Brower

David R. Brower, executive director of the Sierra Club, has been elected chairman of the Natural Resources Council of America, which he served last year as vice-chairman.

The Council comprises more than 30 nation-wide organizations devoted to sound management of America's natural resources, with an estimated membership of more than 2,000,000. The Sierra Club is one of these organizations.

Brower succeeds Lowell Besley, executive director of the American Forestry Association, as chairman. Other Council officers for the current year are:

Charles C. Callison, conservation director, National Wildlife Federation, vice-chairman; C. R. Gutermuth, vice-president, Wildlife Management Institute, secretary; and Harry E. Radcliffe, vice-president, American Nature Association, treasurer.

Ski Association

California and Nevada club members may once again take part in the Far West Ski Association (FWSA) program and list their affiliation as "Sierra Club." Following an absence from formal circles of organized skiing for the past eight years, the Sierra Club applied for affiliation with the FWSA November 9, and the application was acted upon by the FWSA Directors on November 12.

The Sierra Club was affiliated with the old California Ski Association from 1936 until 1948, when the CSA became the FWSA and changed its by-laws to require that all members of affiliated clubs must also be members of the FWSA (*SCB* Sept.-Oct. '48).

In a movement to strengthen organized skiing in the far west, National Ski Association President Al Sigal and FWSA President Wes Hadden led the effort to drop the 100% requirement from the by-laws, and in discussions with Sierra Club officers and Winter Sports Chairman John Linford, they cleared the way for large-membership organizations to participate once again.

Club skiers who are already members of the FWSA and who wish their cards to read "Sierra Club" instead of "unattached" should request this change through the club office in San Francisco. Those who wish to join the FWSA and obtain the many benefits of dual membership should forward their applications to the club office. FWSA annual dues are \$2 (associate membership for a spouse is \$1.25) and the racing-card fee, for those who wish to compete in sanctioned events, is \$1.50.

Bernard DeVoto

An outstanding spokesman for the conservation movement, Bernard DeVoto, died November 13 at the age of 58. Author of many books, including scholarly histories of the western frontier and its exploration, DeVoto wrote the "Easy Chair" essays in *Harper's Magazine* from 1935 until his death. In that monthly department, he delivered powerful arguments for park and wilderness preservation as well as for other phases of natural resources conservation.

DeVoto, an honorary life member of the Sierra Club, had won the Pulitzer Prize and other awards. He was pre-eminently a civilized man who spoke up for civilized values when he felt they needed defending. In his consistent championing of park and wilderness protection, he stressed the importance of opportunities for outdoor experience and recreation in the life of modern America.

Although his influence will long be felt, DeVoto's distinctive, emphatic voice will be very much missed.

An Eastwood Biography

Of great interest to many members of the Sierra Club will be the full length biography of Alice Eastwood, which is to be published on December 15 by the California Academy of Sciences.

Alice Eastwood's Wonderland; Adventures of a Botanist was written by Carol Green Wilson, and the book designed and printed by Lawton Kennedy. All proceeds will go to the Alice Eastwood Hall of Botany. The book may be ordered direct from the California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, at \$5.25.

Himalayan Climbing

Some of the year's main achievements

The ascents of Kangchenjunga (28,168) and Makalu (27,790) are outstanding among the climbing achievements of 1955. Thought by many to be the most difficult of the 8,000-meter peaks, Kangchenjunga fell with apparent ease. As with Mt. Everest, a new route was followed that had been pioneered by a major reconnaissance in the preceding year.

Kangchenjunga and Makalu were climbed by large, powerful climbing teams using improved lightweight oxygen equipment, but no one will deny that it was the excellent weather which ultimately brought the summits within reach. Actually on many of the higher peaks, the final climb to the summit would most likely be improbable without oxygen, for valuable time would be lost. Only Cho Oyo, Nanga Parbat and Annapurna (7th, 9th, and 10th highest) have been climbed without relying on oxygen equipment. Because of this, and the adventuresome spirit of the groups that went to these peaks, many will agree that these three ascents occupy a class all their own: the Class V ascents of the Himalayas as opposed to the "direct aid" oxygen ascents.

Prior to 1950 it seemed that only a rare mixture of a lot of improbable occurrences would conquer an 8,000-meter peak. And now, only six climbing seasons later, seven of these peaks are climbed. Is it chance? Possibly a new ingredient, or a combination of both?

It is worth noting that Nepal only recently allowed mountaineering expeditions to travel in her country, and that five of the seven peaks climbed were approached through Nepal. Another important factor is the equipment used on the mountain, which is continually improved to provide more comfort to the climber. The climber, though, still seems to be the same: willing and able to stand large amounts of physical punishment; idealistically wanting nothing for something; ambitious, persistent, unshaven and, unfortunately, human.

The following survey was compiled from

newspaper reports and notes in climbing journals.

Mt. Istoru Nal. Hindu Kush.

On June 8, Tim Mutch and Joe Murphy of the American Alpine Club climbed Istoru Nal (24,242) in the Hindu Kush range near the border of Afghanistan. Five camps were used, the last two being set up without aid of porters. Istoru Nal is the highest summit reached by Americans with the one exception of Minya Konka (24,900) in West China.

Chogo Lungma district. Karakoram.

A five-member team of German mountaineers from Frankfurt attempted a reconnaissance of the Chogo Lungma region that lies northeast of Nanga Parbat. They completed the ascent of Pyramid Peak (24,500) on July 5.

Hushe Valley region. Karakoram.

The Harvard Mountaineering Club expedition to the Hushe Valley, close by the southern side of Masherbrum (25,660) was highly successful. Many peaks of about 20,000 feet were climbed, but peaks K6 and K7 (23,890 and 22,900) were reportedly too difficult to attempt. The group, headed by Harry Francis of Ohio, was accompanied by scientific as well as climbing personnel.

Dhaulagiri. Central Nepal.

A four-member Swiss-German team led by Martin Meier of Munich reached an elevation of about 26,000 feet on Dhaulagiri (26,811), following the route used by the 1954 Argentine party. They carried six tons of equipment using 200 porters and 14 Sherpas.

Himalchuli. Central Nepal.

Tragedy came to a six-man party traveling to Himalchuli (25,750), composed of British residents from Kenya. The attempt was abandoned due to poor weather and the accident that led to the death of A. Firmin, a professional photographer and joint leader of the expedition. Firmin fell while traversing a talus slope during a reconnaissance,

breaking his thigh. The rescue was begun immediately, but the injured man died before reaching Pokhara.

Jugal Himal. Central Nepal.

A singular expedition of three Scotswomen, led by Mrs. Monica Jackson, attempted ascents in the Jugal Himal, located northeast of Kathmandu. The three, members of the Ladies' Scottish Climbing Club, together with four Sherpas and 30 porters, traveled for seven weeks, crossed two icefalls for a peek into Tibet, and climbed a 22,000-foot peak on the way.

Annapurna VI. Central Nepal.

Another German party of five made a successful attempt on Annapurna VI (24,688) at the headwaters of the Marsyandi River. The peak was previously attempted both by H. W. Tilman and a Japanese group. Hans Steinmetz, the leader, reported that on May 30 three members of his team reached the summit after a very difficult climb.

Makalu. Eastern Nepal.

It is almost unbelievable that 15 men should reach the summit of an 8,000-meter peak on three consecutive days, yet the French accomplished this feat during their ascent of Makalu (27,790) this year. Their assault retraced their reconnaissance route of 1954 to the Col between Makalu 1 and 2, and from there crossed out onto the north face, eventually reaching the top via the northeast ridge. Nine tons of gear were taken into base camp, three tons eventually reaching Camp 3 at 21,000 feet. The greatest technical difficulties were met between Camps 3 and 5 (the latter on the Col), where nearly half a mile of fixed ropes were set up. Oxygen was used above Camp 3. On May 10 all was ready at the Col camp. As reported by the Paris magazine *Match*: "Franco and Magnone, accompanied by five Sherpas, arrived at the Col in the afternoon of May 14. The weather conditions were perfect. Couzy and Terray have left the two Sherpas in a state of exhaustion [at Camp 6], brought on by mountain sickness. . . . [later] . . . Couzy and Terray radioed that they will bivouac at 25,591 feet adequately sheltered from wind and avalanches.

The meteorologist announces good weather for the entire area. On May 15, Magnone and Franco, and their Sherpas climb toward the seracs of Camp 6. At 12:30 the distant cries resound . . . Makalu has capitulated."

Following this ascent by Couzy and Terray, the other six members of the team together with seven of their Sherpas reached the summit on May 16 and 17, for two additional ascents.

Kangchenjunga. Sikkim.

An expedition, supposedly a reconnaissance party for a more elaborate attempt in 1956, won the greatest prize of all this year by climbing Kangchenjunga (28,168) located on the border of Sikkim and Nepal. Led by Dr. Evans of the 1953 Everest party, the group, with 300 porters, Sirdar Da Tensing and his team of Sherpas, put two men on the top on May 25 and 26. Oxygen equipment prepared the way to the top and was used above 23,500 feet.

Dr. Evans was faced with a unique problem on this ascent: how to climb Kangchenjunga and still hold to his promise to the Sikkimese Buddhist officials that he would not: (1) allow his climbers to go beyond a point where the remaining route to the top was assured; and (2) desecrate the summit. And so Brown and Band, and later, Streather and Hardie, stopped a respectful five feet from the actual summit. The route followed the Yalung glacier to the southern face of the peak.

Lhotse. Eastern Nepal.

The International Himalayan Expedition to Lhotse (28,028) worked toward completing an Everest region map (scale 1/50,000). The leader, Norman Dyhrenfurth, said the group climbed to 26,500 feet on Lhotse but did not reach the summit. The route followed the Khumbu glacier up and over the Lhotse face to the South Col (about 26,000).

Ganesh Himal. Central Nepal.

Raymond Lambert, Eric Gauchat, Mrs. Kogan and Paul Gendre succeeded in climbing Ganesh Himal (24,450) on October 24. Gauchat was killed in a fall during the return from the peak.

ALLEN STECK

Preview of 1956 Summer Outings

Here's the stuff that dreams are made of, a bit of solace for the winter solstice: tentative plans for the Sierra Club's summer outings in 1956. None of this is so definite you could stake everything on it just yet, but the Outing Committee has been astonishingly accurate in its preliminary announcements in the past.

The committee's chairman, Dr. H. Stewart Kimball, makes these provisos:

"Some of the dates are sure; some only tentative at this time as final arrangements with the Services and the packers have not been made; but we are sure of the places."

For full details of the 1955 outings, which generally apply to the coming season, see *SCB*, April 1955.

Important note: Do *not* attempt to make reservations now for the 1956 trips. Reservations will not be accepted until after March 1, 1956. Watch your *Bulletin* for later information.

High Trips

The Sierra High Trip will loop from Carroll Creek to Kearsarge and back, including Mt. Whitney. Dates: July 16 to 29, July 30 to August 12.

A ten-day trip will be made into the Needle Mountains north of Durango, in Colorado's San Juan Rockies. The journey will begin and end with trips on the last narrow-gauge passenger railroad in the West. Dates: July 3 to 12.

In the Teton range of Wyoming, a favorite trip for two years will be repeated, with some changes in camping places and the addition of a one-day trip down the Snake River from Jackson Lake to Moose. Dates: August 13 to 21.

Base Camps

Three two-week periods of the Sierra Base Camp will be held on the upper reaches of the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin, just below Emerald and Thousand Island lakes. Peaks within easy reach will include Ritter, Banner, Davis, Rodgers, Lyell and Maclure.

Children will be welcome, and there will be a special rate for those under 14. Dates: July 1 to 14; July 15 to 28; July 29 to August 11.

Wilderness Base Camp, patterned after the Milestone Camp of 1955, will be set somewhere in the vicinity of Bench Lake. Dates: July 15 to 28.

The out-of-state base camp, scouted this year by Oliver Kehrlein and Al Schmitz, will be set up in the Glacier Peak Limited Area of Washington. The scouts were most enthusiastic about the tremendous scenery. The Glacier Peak area boasts more living glaciers than any other in the United States, and is now in the conservation limelight because of boundary revisions. Dates: August 6 to 18; August 20 to September 1.

River Trips

Five trips are planned in Dinosaur National Monument, following the pattern of former years. Starting dates: June 18 and 26, July 5, 14 and 22. There is a possibility of an additional trip before June 18.

One Glen Canyon trip is planned, in the same style as last year's, for ten days starting June 18.

Note: The River Trips and San Juan High Trip are scheduled so that a river trip may be included by those who take the San Juan trip, either before or after it.

Burro Trips

Three trips, of two weeks each, will be based at Tuolumne Meadows and routed variously from there. Beginning dates: July 8; July 22; August 5.

Family Burro Trips

In 1955 the family trips really took hold, and five families plus the leader family cooperated on each trip for a fine outing. In 1956 two trips will be held in August, somewhere in Kings Canyon National Park.

Knapsack Trips

A two-week trip will be held in the Sierra, region to be decided, July 7 to 21.

(Continued on Page 15)

Ludlow Ski Hut

Living memorial to an ardent Sierran

October 9, 1955 found a group of hard-working volunteers applying the finishing touches to the Ludlow Hut and its unique "Throne." The Hut was completed seven work week ends and 236 man-days after ground breaking, July 25, 1955; a record minimum in time and energy.

Second in a prospective chain of three or four ski touring huts between Highways 40 and 50, the Ludlow Hut is located on U.S. Forest Service property 200 yards due east of the outlet of Richardson Lake—approximately six miles west of Chambers Lodge on Lake Tahoe. The present Benson Hut on Mt. Anderson, and the prospective Bradley Hut near Squaw Peak, with a possible hut north of Echo, complete the chain. Future interim shelters might be constructed if use warrants.

Bill Ludlow, for whom the Hut is named, was an ardent Sierra Club member whose love of skiing, in general, and ski touring, in particular, was matched by his love of the Tahoe area that he had known summer and winter for most of his 23 years. He lost his life while serving as a second lieutenant in the Army Engineers during the Korean conflict. A Ludlow Hut was the idea of Bill's family and mountaineering friends; the financing the result of the generosity of Bill's friends and family, together with the Sierra Club which matched the privately donated funds; its design the product of

many minds, particularly Ed Nickel and C. M. Texdahl; its construction the result of the hard work of the host of friends that Bill claimed, together with many Sierra Club members who had not had the pleasure of his friendship; and its perfection the result of inspiration derived from the Ludlow family. Especially praiseworthy are Bill's many college fraternity brothers, neither skiers nor Sierra Club members, but who, nonetheless, generously donated their time.

Number One slave driver in charge of the operation was Ned Robinson, ably assisted by Bill's father as supply officer. Mr. Ludlow was not only instrumental in obtaining building materials at advantageous prices, but also ran the refreshment and newspaper "concession" every week end at the Hut site. John Corgiat, Bob Texdahl, Merritt Robinson and "Old Pro" Bestor Robinson were also present on most of the seven work week ends.

The ease and rapidity of construction is attributable to three factors: one, the fact that the work week ends were planned considerably in advance and on specified dates; two, the possibility of getting a four-wheel-drive truck to the site with all materials—this is considered indispensable for all future operations—; and three, the expenditure of a small sum of money to have the "A" frames pre-drilled and pre-cut.

Statistically, the Hut has inside dimen-



*Four Robinsons
set the pace
in construction:
Ned, Bestor,
Merritt, Warren*

For ski tourists and winter travelers, the Ludlow Hut is a link in the Sierra Club's chain between Highways 40 and 50



sions of 20'x25' at the ground floor, with a second floor or sleeping shelf also provided. Rather than install bunks, thereby effectively limiting the capacity of the Hut, sleeping is on the second deck shelf (consequently air mattresses are necessary). The exterior is finished in asbestos shingles donated by the company for which Bill Sr. works. These shingles are not only fireproof but blend in beautifully with the surrounding landscape. Interior walls are likewise of

fireproof asbestos painted a pleasing yellow that adds warmth to that provided by the wood stove.

To those of us who knew Bill, or came to know and admire his family in this project, the Hut is more than another link in a chain. It is, as Bill Sr. prefers to call it, "a living memorial."

The next project is the Bradley Hut near Squaw Peak. See you there.

NED ROBINSON

Ski Tests Measure Your Progress

What wind is to the sailor, gravity is to the skier, and the good skier *controls* the speed imparted by gravity and can maneuver in all kinds of snow. The essential elements of controlled skiing are described in the Sierra Club Ski Tests (*Club Handbook*, 1955 edition), graduated from novice to expert. Similar standards have been adopted by the National Ski Association. The tests are designed to give the skier a gauge to measure his progress, and to establish standards of technique for downhill skiing and for touring.

The prime result of passing the fourth class, third class, or ski mountaineering test is the indication that the skier is ready for tours of these classifications. Usually fourth class is enough, but some tours are definitely more technical and strenuous. Sometimes even the "easy" tours are complicated by storm or accident. Therefore at no time should a skier attempt a tour calling for skill and stamina beyond his own ability.

The ski tests are administered by the

Winter Sports Committee, which appoints as judges members with ability and interest in skiing. The judges are also selected for their availability at the ski areas. Before asking to be tested, skiers should prepare themselves by instruction and practice, out of consideration for the judges who give their time. A list of judges will be posted at Clair Tappaan Lodge. Test cards and printed descriptions of the tests are available at Tappaan Lodge, north, and from the Chairman of the Ski Mountaineers Section, south. When a test has been completed, the judge will send the completed card to the Ski Test Committee. The card will be added to the permanent file and a certificate will be sent to the skier tested.

John Linford, as Chairman of the Winter Sports Committee, has written to each chapter requesting lists of proposed ski test judges. Each week end at Tappaan Lodge, a blackboard will bear the names of available judges and grades to be judged, with further notes on tours, races and classes for the week end.

PHILIP FAULCONER

Lodge at Norden

Every facility for winter sports fans

The new winter season has begun. Early skiers are already shussing the slopes and forecasters are predicting a colder winter, which means deep powder snow—so wax up and join the fun!

Preparations have been completed at Clair Tappaan Lodge to help you have your best ski season yet. A new warming hut at Signal Hill is in operation to provide more comfort. New lockers have been added at the Lodge for safe and proper storage of skis.

Ski tourers have a brand new destination in the Ludlow Hut at Richardson Lake, nearly midway on the route of the Sierra Crest Trail being developed between Highways 40 and 50. It should make a pleasant short tour (4th class).

Our new neighbors at the Donner Ski Ranch have installed a new chair lift, supplanting the old T-bar, and the Sugar Bowl has been busy with lodge improvements, too. Squaw Valley, of course, is progressing with extensive plans for the 1960 Olympics.

For people who have never been to Clair Tappaan Lodge, we should explain that it is

our own Sierra Club lodge at Norden, near Donner Summit on Highway 40. The building is large and spacious, accommodating 150. The Lodge is operated by and for Sierra Club members and their guests, exclusively. It is ideally situated for winter sports, at the hub of some of the finest ski terrain and facilities in the country. Squaw Valley, Slide Mountain, Sugar Bowl, Ski Ranch, Soda Springs—all within short driving distance—operate double chair lifts. Near at hand is our own 1,360-foot rope tow on Signal Hill. Increasing popularity of Signal Hill has made possible the new warming hut at the base of the tow.

Facilities at the Lodge include dormitory accommodations for most, with a few cubicles available for families. There is a big Lodge room for folk dancing on Saturday evenings, with a massive fireplace for those who don't dance. Meals are provided from a central commissary and are served family-style in the large dining room, which doubles as our theater when slides or movies are shown.

Rudy Talso is resident manager, and he

What You'll Pay to Stay at the Lodge

<i>American Plan</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Guest</i>
<i>Basic rate, 2 or more days of consecutive units* (4 per day)</i>	\$4.00 per day	\$5.00 per day
Week end: 8 consecutive units	8.00	10.00
7 consecutive units	7.50	9.25
6 consecutive units	7.00	8.50
5 consecutive units (minimum reservation, 5 units)	6.00	7.50
Full week: 28 consecutive units	25.00	30.00
Mid-week: 20 consecutive units (Monday through Friday)	18.00	22.00
* A unit is a breakfast, lunch, dinner, or night's lodging.		
Transportation via chartered bus, round trip	6.00	6.00
Signal Hill Ski Tow, all day	1.00	1.00
<i>Reservations are made at the Sierra Club office, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco. Full payment is required. Cancellation charges will be applied as follows:</i>		
Cancelled Tuesday (or before) prior to week end		\$.50
Cancelled Wednesday prior to week end		1.00
Cancelled Thursday prior to week end		2.00

No refunds will be made after Thursday, except by special action of the Lodge Committee in unusual circumstances.

*Clair Tappaan Lodge
suitably decorated
—Peter Royce's
photo, our contest
winner last year*



will be assisted this year by Gil and Lotte Clark. Gil will operate the ski tow, while Lotte will take charge of the kitchen.

Each member and guest at the Lodge assists in its operation by performing small chores from the work sheet.

Because of the growing popularity of the Lodge, it is necessary to make reservations at the Club office in San Francisco. Reservations may not be made earlier than 30 days before the desired week end. Members must accompany their guests, and may make reservations for them on any week end except New Year's and Washington's Birthday, when the capacity of the Lodge is taxed by members' requests.

Transportation is usually by private car, arranged personally (no phone calls, please) through registers at the Jim Davis Sport Shop in Berkeley and at the Club Office in San Francisco. Public transportation is available via Pacific Greyhound to Norden.

The Lodge Committee has again made arrangements for chartered bus service to the Lodge, beginning the week end of January 7 and 8, and continuing each week end as long as there are enough customers. This is a through service which starts at the San Francisco terminal each Friday at 6:15 p.m., stops for passengers at the S.P. depot in Berkeley, leaves there at 7 p.m., and arrives at the Lodge about midnight. The bus returns Sunday, leaving the Lodge at 6 p.m. and arriving in the Bay Area between 10:30 and 11 p.m. JAMES MULHOLLAND

Camera Contest

We want good pictures of winter sports activities, and we've made a deal with Clair Tappaan Lodge to encourage you to take them. As we did last year, we're offering a prize.

The Sierran who submits the best black-and-white picture (or negative) of skiing, snow camping, snowshoeing, or any winter sport anywhere in the Sierra, will receive a free week end at the Lodge.

Enter as many pictures as you wish—but remember it's *action* we want, with a Sierra snow background.

These are the rules:

1. Prints or negatives must be received at the Club office in San Francisco no later than March 1, 1956.
2. Send enlargements of approximately 8x10 size, or negatives of any size. Negatives will be returned if you enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Winning picture becomes the property of the Sierra Club.

Snow Forecast

Our snow crystal gazer, Weldon F. Heald, who has gone off to live in Tucson, Arizona, sent us this forecast to bring his remarkable series of accurate snowfall guesses up to date:

Soda Springs, near Donner Summit, should have a total snowfall this winter of 420 to 425 inches. Last winter the Weather Bureau recorded 334 inches there.

Park and Forest Issues Discussed

Many park and forest problems, as well as matters of Sierra Club business, were discussed at an eight-hour meeting of the Board of Directors held October 15 in Los Angeles.

The Ludlow Memorial Hut, near Lake Tahoe, has been completed, stocked with wood, and made ready for winter use. From land clearing to wood storing, the job was accomplished in the brief period of one summer by approximately a dozen work parties.

The President announced that the Mountain Rescue Service organizational plan had been put into effect in Northern California, and that the service can be expanded as experience permits.

Among other internal topics considered were the proposed new Club Council, further development of the Policy Guide, and suggested changes in Library policy.

On National Parks

Horace Albright, an Honorary Vice-President of the Sierra Club, former Director of the National Park Service and a member of the President's Advisory Committee on National Parks and Historic Monuments, spoke on the Dinosaur issue. He felt that the Sierra Club had done a magnificent job in helping to educate the public on the man-made perils that threaten the Monument.

A discussion of the Dinosaur strategy ensued. It was agreed that, although the Sierra Club would show firm opposition to any invasion of the National Parks and Monuments, it would not oppose any sound reclamation project that does not threaten areas of the National Park system or dedicated wilderness and wildlife areas.

A most interesting report from the National Park Service was the review by Sam King, Superintendent of Joshua Tree Na-

tional Monument, of the objectives of "Mission 66." He had just returned from the Superintendents' Conference in the Great Smokies, and although he could not give details he was able to outline the general plan. It is set up to estimate the volume of visitors and the accompanying major problems that will be faced by the Park Service between now and 1966, and to envision all the tools needed to meet this challenge.

Park Service administrators are giving top priority to study and development of this ambitious program in a way that would be consistent with the objectives of the Park Service under the original laws for preserving park areas and monuments. In regard to roads, the aim is to complete the road systems in accordance with the present master plans, which are intended to reveal natural beauties and not to expedite through traffic.

The initial planning phase of Mission 66 does not go into detail. It was understood that when the second phase of implementing plans has been submitted to the Bureau of the Budget, the public may be permitted to examine the details. Discussion brought out the view that the Park Service should work with the conservation groups if it wants public support, that such groups could not be expected to support plans they had no part in developing and which they knew little about.

On National Forests

Earl Bachman of the regional office of the U.S. Forest Service gave a most encouraging report on Forest Service matters.

The new mining law, although not all that might be wished, is a big step in the right direction. The Forest Service plans to follow through with enforcement of the law, and hopes to finish the cleanup job in ten years.

The Pellisier Flat area in California's White Mountain Range, a high plateau with steep western canyons and outstanding flora and fauna, is being considered for special designation. Bill Henderson, speaking for

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Sierra Club's Board of Directors will be held on Saturday and Sunday, January 7 and 8, in Berkeley.

the Desert Peak Section of the Angeles Chapter, described it as the proposed "White Mountain Wild Area," and urged that it be given some type of wilderness protection.

The "Calaveras Scenic Area" designation has been given to a plot adjoining the Calaveras South Grove. It contains many fine sugar pines. Under a law passed long ago, which authorized this purchase, it is possible to prescribe that there shall be no mining in this area; the only development will be for trail access. The Forest Service was commended for applying this U-3 classification, which it is hoped may be used elsewhere on other small plots of notable scenic value.

In the Mt. Shasta recreation area, the Forest Service has decided to encourage development of ski recreation facilities around Panther Meadows. In Mr. Bachman's opinion, this would in no way affect the Sierra Club's property. Local proposals for ski tramways north of the road in the Sand Flat area were disapproved.

The recent controversy regarding the cutting of trees in the Deadman Creek area has proved to be a blessing in disguise, as it has resulted in the establishment of a more affirmative Forest Service policy in the administration of recreation areas. There will be specific stipulation concerning trees to be removed to avoid infection. Before cutting, representatives of the Sierra Club and other interested groups will be invited to look over the area of marked trees in advance of timber sales.

Changes of boundary and land exchanges have benefited certain forest areas from the recreational standpoint. In the Cucamonga Wild Area, land trades have been arranged which will result in 100% public ownership. In the Desolation Valley Wilderness Area, arrangements have been completed to acquire the last 40 acres of private land. In the Yolla Bolly Forest in Northern California, progress has been made toward boundary changes that will result in good wilderness terrain and eliminate private holdings. Beneficial enlargements are proposed in the Mt. Dana-Minarets Wild Area. And, thanks to the 150% increase in funds for public use in California, the Forest Ser-

vice can better protect wilderness areas and do much-needed cleanup work.

A problem now confronts conservationists as a result of the proposed reclassification of the Glacier Peak Primitive Area in the northern Cascades. It is proposed to reduce the size of the existing "limited" area here, coincidental with its reclassification under the U-2 Wilderness category. Dr. Edgar Wayburn described the surpassing beauty of this country and said we have an opportunity to investigate and submit recommendations ahead of the final classification.

On State Parks

William Kenyon, in charge of maintenance and operation in the southern district of the Division of Beaches and Parks, discussed problems in his territory. The desert parks in southern California constitute the larger part of the total state park area, and chief among the enemies of these parks are the people who want to get government land, commercial enterprises, mining claims, and cattle grazing. The desert parks are the only ones in which prospecting is permitted.

The desirability of continuing the matching fund principle in the acquisition of state park lands was discussed. Finally it was agreed that as a matter of policy the Sierra Club would recommend legislation authorizing the State Park Commission to waive matching fund requirements on any project of sufficient importance that in their opinion would warrant such action, and to the extent that the Commission determines that such matching funds do not appear to be available; further, that the Commission be authorized to advance the priority of approved projects where substantial matching funds are available.

LEWIS F. CLARK,
Secretary

Jean H. McDuffie

Jean Howard McDuffie, widow of Duncan McDuffie, died early this summer. With her husband (who was a Director of the Sierra Club for many years, and also served as President), she was active in supporting the conservation policies of the Club and the Save-the-Redwoods League. Her will leaves the Club a generous bequest, the exact amount not yet determined.

Books in Brief

Recent publications for your reading list

Thousands of books are published each year. A few dozen would seem to be of particular interest to a wide range of Sierra Club membership, and we try to focus attention on these with reviews in the *SCB*.

Probably many members who do not now review books would like to do so. Special knowledge or particular interest in a given field is a help, but not a prerequisite. Good judgment and an ability to separate the grist, describing the book accurately for others, are more important.

You won't get to keep the books you review, for they must be returned to the Club library. But you will have the privilege of reading and studying them and telling others of your findings. Would you like to try it?

If so, jot down your particular interests and send your name and address to:

DAN L. THRAPP
11529 Starlight Ave.,
Whittier, Calif.



Winter time is book-catching-up time, unless you are one of those ski mountaineers, and there have been a number of interesting publications of late. Several are quite reasonable in price. Here are some we thought you might like to know about:

FORESTS OF CALIFORNIA. Documents Section, Printing Division, State of California, Sacramento, 147 pages. 60 cents plus sales tax. Illustrated publication covering all phases of forest utilization and conservation; especially designed for students, teachers, and you.

FORESTRY HANDBOOK. Ronald Press Co., 15 E. 26th St., New York 10. \$15. Eight years in preparation, 145 experts contributing, 1212 pages and 23 well illustrated sections; everything from aerial photography to silviculture to wildlife management.

THE STORY OF LAND. Soil Conservation Society, 1016 Paramount Building, Des Moines, Ia. 20 cents. The reasons human welfare demands that waste of productive land be stopped.

AN EVALUATION OF THE RED FOX. Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Ill. A new look at an old friend. Free.

NOW IS THE TIME TO HARVEST. Department of Fish and Game, 926 J Street, Sacramento 14. A pitch for new deer hunting regulations. We don't agree, but you may. Free.

OUR WILDLIFE LEGACY. By Durward L. Allen. Funk & Wagnalls Co., 153 E. 24th St., New York 10. \$5. This you should see, buy, read, remember and keep. All about our wildlife, what has happened to it and what is going to happen to some more of it if we don't keep awake.

SEEING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE IN Our National Refuges. By Devereux Butcher. Prepared under auspices of Defenders of Furbearers, 2140 P Street, Washington 7, D.C. Paperbound, \$2.50; clothbound, \$5. Beautiful collection of photographs, plus aids for learning more about our wildlife refuges and the tenants thereof.

GEOLOGIC HISTORY OF THE YOSEMITE VALLEY. Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C. \$5.25.

THE SOUND OF WHITE WATER. By Hugh Felsburg. Charles Scribner's Sons, 597 Fifth Ave., New York 17. California has almost everything, but it lacks canoe country. This novel will tell you about that and make you unhappy until you learn to shoot white water.

D. L. T.

But One Photographer

Our apologies to Executive Director Dave Brower, who was the sole photographer of the Club's latest conservation film, "Two Yosemite." In our September issue Phil Hyde was mentioned as collaborator; he was along, but as actor; Dave handled the camera.

Outings

(from Page 7)

An eight-day beginners' trip, in Emigrant Basin and northern Yosemite, will be conducted July 28 to August 5.

There will be a two-week trip in the Trinity Alps, starting from Dedrick and knapsacking around Mt. Thompson, August 4 to 18.

The out-of-state trip will go to the Glacier Peak Limited Area in Washington, knapsacking around Glacier Peak. This outing will be held jointly with the Mazamas, and will be based at the Sierra Club's base camp. Approximate dates: August 20 to 30.

Finally, there will be a one-week trip in the Sierra, region to be decided, August 25 to September 3.

Northern Special

A three-week knapsack trip will go into the northern St. Elias Range of Alaska and Canada, on a somewhat more expensive and rugged scale than the usual Sierra Club outings. Experience and qualifications of applicants will be screened by the committee. Dates: late August and early September.

People

(from Page 2)

has been promoted to a new post at Weott in northern California.

Helene Glass was shocked to find Fujiyama even more littered than any mountain area she'd seen at home; she's now on a new job at Everett, Washington. *Eleanor Shaw's* Napa Valley hike drew a record crowd of 135, who wandered through woods and vineyards, visited the old Schram winery, and lunched in an abandoned orchard with figs, grapes, prunes, plums and apples at hand for all.

One of the summer Base Camps had an unusual musical treat—*Ian Begg's* bagpipes. Strange reveille! VIVIAN SCHAGEN

Almanac

ONCE AGAIN, I set down the core of what I continue to believe. Nature is a part of our humanity, and without some awareness and experience of that divine mystery man ceases to be man. When the Pleiades and the wind in the grass are no longer a part of the human spirit, a part of very flesh and bone, man becomes, as it were, a kind of cosmic outlaw, having neither the completeness and integrity of the animal nor the birthright of a true humanity.

HENRY BESTON,
The Outermost House
(Rinehart & Company, Inc.,
Copyright 1949).



NOW THE SHARP DIVISION of work from play and the natural from the supernatural has turned holy days into holidays, and the compelling restlessness and ugliness of towns has made holidays an occasion for escape from home. So there is this new form of mass migration . . . a flight from a man-made world too hard, dirty and hideous to allow its inhabitants to rest, to lie down on the ground or to dance upon it, to turn back to their surroundings for refreshment. Three hundred years ago how impossible it would have seemed that England should be cumbered with towns built as an escape from towns . . . the sea itself grasped after with iron piers. If the migrations have largely defeated their purpose by spreading more hardness and a new ugliness, at least the resorts are clean, and human beings can find [room] to stretch their bodies on the sand.

Elsewhere in the country, as has already appeared, crowds make for wide views, for wild country, for unusually dynamic manifestations of nature or ancient manifestation of man, feeding themselves while they may on something which they most urgently need, some nourishment quite lacking in urban existence.

JACQUETTA HAWKES, *A Land*
(New York: Random
House, 1951).

Along Many Trails

WHEN THE FIRST blasts of winter strike the skier, his heartbeat is quickened. His thoughts then drift to the crest of the skier's world, which to him may be a long traverse of a virgin basin, the joy of wood-running in deep powder, exhilarating climbs over slopes and country available only to the tourer, or the fast turn on a light fall of fresh, glistening snow. It is this same first wintry blast that brings the Winter Sports Committee from its summer hibernation into the realization of the season at hand. This hibernation was not the lot of Ludlow Hut Chairman Ned Robinson and those who faithfully followed the construction to completion in phenomenal time. Winter trips to the new Ludlow Hut will be just one part of the many-sided winter sports activity.

It is with the hope that more of our members will participate in the scheduled winter touring program that Bert Tolbert is presenting a list of tours scheduled for the coming season in the northern area. These trips will provide touring opportunities for skiers from 4th class through advanced, will improve their skiing technique, and will take advantage of the presence of test judges who will be scheduled on most of the trips. It's also a chance to enjoy the fellowship that only touring can give. Maybe you want winter camping, or perhaps a day tour is more to your liking. In any case your desires will be fulfilled.

An item of note from the minutes of the last Winter Sports Committee meeting is the official presentation of the first class pin to David R. Brower for an award originally presented in 1942. Phil Faulconer, while going through the ski test archives, found the pin, and cornered the happy recipient. When you see a skier with a small star on the pin in the place of the green, red, or yellow of the fourth, third and second class skiers, respectively, remember this is a first class skier. In addition to being a second class skier he has received this special award for either (1) completing an extensive

touring record over a number of years, demonstrating superior ability as a ski mountaineer, or (2) having participated and placed in international race competition.

Let your eyes wander through the following list of tours and set aside one or two at least by writing the dates in your date book now. We don't want to miss you and you don't want to miss the fun.

Ski Touring Schedule

- Dec. 31, Jan. 1-2—Mt. Shasta (Alpine Lodge); strenuous.
- Jan. 7-8—Peter Grubb Hut; easy.
14-15—Bill Ludlow Hut; easy.
22-23—Castle Peak Basin, ski touring and camping for beginners.
28-29—John Benson Hut; moderate.
- Feb. 4-5—Dodge Ridge to Burst Rock; easy, snow camping.
11-12—Peter Grubb Hut.
18-19—Ostrander Lake Hut; moderate-to-tiring.
25-26—Desolation Valley, ski touring and camping; moderate to strenuous.
- March 3-4—Bill Ludlow Hut; easy.
10-11—Norden-Benson Hut-Squaw Valley; moderate to strenuous.
17-18—Mt. Lassen, ski touring and camping; moderate to strenuous.
24-25—Pear Lake Hut (Sequoia Park); strenuous.
31-April 1—John Benson Hut; moderate.
- April 7-8—Desolation Valley, ski touring and camping.
14-15—Ostrander Lake Hut.
21-22—Mt. Lassen, ski touring and camping.
28-29—Mt. Shasta, ski touring and camping.

JOHN A. LINFORD,
Winter Sports Chairman