

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

February
1956



MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN, WINTER

Hal Roth

**IN THIS ISSUE: Directors, New Council,
Proposed Changes in By-Laws**

People You Know

LIFE MEMBER *Irma Weill* of Bakersfield was honored at the second annual awards banquet of the Bakersfield Principals Club recently for her contributions to education. She was lauded by a spokesman for the Board of Education for "unselfish community endeavor," work with many worthwhile organizations, pioneering a new method of education, social service work and occupational therapy labors. She is well known to Sierra Club people.

The *Condor Call* of the Los Padres Chapter has just discovered, via State Senator *Jack Hollister* (a new member) that the condor has no call. If he had one he might be objecting to the new road—not, it is said, for public use—through the so-called condor refuge to the Topa Topa Damsite on Sespe Creek. You can depend on *Don Teague*, *Kathy Menhinick*, and others of Los Padres to keep an eye on this development. The *Condor Call*, incidentally, has been printing some of the best conservation reporting that has come to our attention. A good sample is the letter on pages 5 and 6 of the *Call* for November. This one is from *George Roskie*,

resource staff officer of Los Padres National Forest, and explains in some detail the problems faced regularly by the Forest Service. It also contains some good suggestions.

Among new members of Kern-Kaweah is *Robert A. Fisher*, who is director of research at Pacific Yeast Products in Wasco.

Shiprock (New Mexico) was climbed for the seventeenth reported time, during Thanksgiving week end, by *Ray Van Aken*, *Fred Martin*, *Frank Hoover* and *Don Wilson* of the Angeles Rock Climbing Section. Because of the remoteness of the "four corners" country, Don reported, conditioning consisted of lots of food and little sleep. Cold hands were the principal initial difficulty, but with the work they warmed up and the top was reached at 2 p.m. "Shiprock is a nice mountain," Wilson reported. "As a rock climb it suffers from overuse. It was studded everywhere with rusty pitons. A large number of bolts has been added to the three that the original Sierra Club party used for protection. The first ascent was accomplished by fine climbing and route finding. Those who have followed have reduced the problems to play." (For those who want to look back, or those who have joined us in recent years, that first Shiprock party was composed of *Dave Brower*, now our Executive Director; *Bestor Robinson*, now Vice-President; *Raffi Bedayn*, and *Johnny Dyer*—in 1939).

San Diegans, according to *Roscoe A. Poland*, are concerned right now over the future boundaries of Anza Desert and Borrego State Parks, and Torrey Pines park right next door. The old, old problems of encroachment.

Chess Woods, on a nocturnal approach to a Palomar Canyon campsite, fell in a spring and temporarily passed from sight. Fortunately it was a hot spring. People on the trip reported that the canyon contains about 2500 *Washingtonia filifera* palms. Plenty of firewood, warm pools for bathing, and terrific scenery. *Omar (Khayyam) Conger* is an ambling packtrain for the San Diego Chapter. He not only packed his own gear into the canyon, but two bedrolls for other folks. Maybe he was practicing—he is the new chairman of the Rock Climbing Section down that way.

George Otto Paul Bauwens, honorary chairman of the Angeles Ski Mountaineers, died in a Kanab, Utah hospital with a ruptured appendix complicated by heart attacks. He was a pioneer skier on two continents, making his

(Continued on Page 15)

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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Published monthly except July and August by the Sierra Club, 2061 Center Street, Berkeley 4, California. Annual dues are \$7 (first year \$12), of which \$1 (nonmembers, \$3) is for subscription to the *Bulletin*. Entered as second class matter at Post Office, Berkeley, under act of March 3, 1879. All communications and contributions should be addressed to Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4.

*Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.



Sierra Club Bulletin

VOLUME 41

FEBRUARY, 1956

NUMBER 2

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

Our Own '56 Election

Ballots for the annual election of directors of the Sierra Club will be in the mail next month. When you receive yours, you'll find that you have two additional decisions to make, a "Yes" or "No" on two important amendments to the By-Laws.

Here is an explanation of these proposed changes, which are the result of long study and deliberation by a special committee and have been unanimously recommended by the Board of Directors. They will become part of the Club's official rules if they receive affirmative votes from two-thirds of those casting ballots.

Note: The current By-Laws appear in full in *The Sierra Club: A Handbook* (third printing, 1955, pp. 113-120).

Amendment No. 1

This amendment would establish the Sierra Club Council, a new group charged with duties in the government of the Club. Informally, such a Council has been in the making for several years. It originated in a suggestion that representatives of the chapters, while present at meetings of the Board of Directors, might improve their liaison and their contribution to the work of the Club if they held additional sessions of their own. Such sessions have been held in connection with several Directors' meetings, and useful discussions have taken place.

The current proposal is to expand the Council to represent the Club-wide committees as well as the chapters, and to make the new body an official one with certain important functions delegated by the Board

of Directors. The emphasis would be on "internal" affairs of the Club and ultimately the Council would take over much of the detail of such affairs, freeing the Board for policy-making in conservation and other "external" matters.

Already, pending the vote on this amendment, an interim Council has been organized. A report of its second meeting is on Page 11.

A significant aspect of the Council idea is its provision for broadening the experience of committee and chapter officers in the general work of the Sierra Club. Not only will this put the operation of the Club on a more democratic basis; it will also improve the opportunities for "new blood" and bring forward candidates to challenge the directors at elections in the future.

The text of the amendment:

Add the following new article:

ARTICLE X-a

"Section 1. The Sierra Club Council is hereby established. Its membership shall consist of

"(a) One representative appointed by each of the following Committees: Conservation, Editorial, Lodges and Lands, Membership, Mountaineering, Outing, Winter Sports, and such other Committees as may be authorized by the Board of Directors to appoint a representative.

"(b) One representative appointed by the Executive Committee of each Chapter.

"Each representative shall serve at the will of the appointing committee. Each such committee is authorized to appoint an alternate representative to serve in the absence of its representative.

"Section 2. No director shall be eligible to serve as a member of the Council.

"Section 3. The Council shall have power to elect a chairman and other officers of the Council and, subject to control by the Board of Directors as the statutory governing body of the Club, shall have power to recommend to the Board of Directors or appropriate committee on any matter affecting the Club, to act upon matters delegated to it by the Board of Directors, and to establish its rules of procedure."

Amendment No. 2

The Board of Directors has 15 members; at present each of the 15 seats is filled by annual election for a term of one year. The proposed change would establish three-year terms, with only five seats to be filled each year.

Advantages of such a plan for any organization are well known. Longer terms and staggered elections would help to insure for the Board its continuity, stability and experience. At the same time, candidates would come under closer scrutiny by the voters, who would be choosing five from a slate of seven or a few more, instead of 15 from a slate of 25.

In order to make the transition from the present election procedure to the new one, there is a provision for apportioning the terms of the directors to be elected this year. The 15 directors chosen this time would serve for one, two or three years according to lot. Then, beginning in 1957, the voters would elect five directors each year.

As for the nominating procedure, except for the difference in numbers the only change proposed is to discontinue nominations by chapter executive committees. Instead, the new Sierra Club Council, representing the chapters and committees, would be empowered by the amended By-Laws to make recommendations to the Nominating Committee. As before, any 50 members of the Club could place a name on the ballot by petition.

The text of the amendment:

Add to Section 2 of Article IV at the end of said section:

"At the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the election of directors in the year 1956, the directors elected in that year shall determine by lot the terms for which each of the directors is elected as follows:

"Five directors for a term of one year.

"Five directors for a term of two years.

"Five directors for a term of three years.

"Upon expiration of such terms of office each director shall be elected for a term of three years and five directors shall be elected at each annual election."

Effective immediately following the 1956 election of directors, Section 1 of Article XIII is amended to read:

"Section 1. The Board of Directors shall, at least two months before the annual election, provide for the appointment of five members of the club, no one of whom shall be a director, to constitute a Nominating Committee; and two members of the club as alternates. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate for directors for the ensuing term at least seven candidates. The name of any member proposed in writing to the committee by any fifty members of the club shall be added to the ticket. All members of the club in good standing are eligible for nomination. Six weeks before the annual election the Nominating Committee shall file its report with the secretary of the club, the names arranged in an order determined by lot. A ballot containing the names of the nominees in the order presented by the Nominating Committee shall be printed and mailed to each member of the club at least four weeks before the date of election. This ballot shall have two blank spaces for convenient insertion of additional names."

Television Program Helps Conservation

On the air for Richfield Oil since January 31 is a new television series, "The Mayor of the Town," with a refreshing approach to the "commercial" spots. They are non-commercial, and publicize conservation subjects.

Having opened with a talk by DeWitt Nelson, head of California's Department of Natural Resources, the series will present a different conservation leader each week. During the week of April 24, Alex Hildebrand, President of the Sierra Club, will be televised.

The program is seen on 13 stations in California and one in Yuma, Arizona, but on different days and at different times. The station in San Francisco is KGO-TV (Thursdays, 10 p.m.) and in Los Angeles KTTV (Wednesdays, 9:30 p.m.).

By-Law Changes

Preventive medicine to keep us strong

The changes in by-laws which the Directors unanimously recommend to the membership are the outgrowth of a long, hard look at the Club which the Board undertook in October 1953. Lewis Clark's minutes of the discussion fill many pages, all good reading. A few excerpts may help supply background for what the by-law changes are trying to do. We'll leave them anonymous.

"Since its founding in 1892," one speaker said, "the Club has been guided by the principle that what we would conserve we must first appreciate—hence our purpose to explore, enjoy, and protect. How do we measure up to the ageless formula for measuring human growth, that we should increase in wisdom, stature, and favor?"

"How much should we try to grow? Can we increase in stature without compromising either our wisdom or our favor with the public? We see around us many examples of the concept that a thing is better if it is bigger. But this holds a danger. We are aware that we could spread ourselves too thin. A physician knows what happens in a human being when the thymus doesn't quiet down at the proper age—perhaps it's like what happened on an evolutionary scale to the dinosaurs."

To which one answer came: "The dinosaurs died because of lack of brains, not because of size. The only problem of size so far as the Sierra Club is concerned is the ability of the Club to organize effectively."

"As we tend to develop more chapters over the country," another man asked, still with an eye on the dinosaur, "will we develop accessory brains?"

And from one of the Honorary Vice-Presidents came the further caution: "Be careful to avoid developing the Sierra Club into a federation of clubs; the strength of the Sierra Club has been in its unity."

The outcome of that October discussion was the decision to let the Club keep growing and to place no arbitrary geographical limit on growth. Moreover, a committee on reorganization of the Club was appointed, with Honorary Vice-President Walter Starr

as chairman. The committee was not seeking to cure troubles so much as to try to preclude them.

In the last analysis, what the Club can do and do well depends entirely upon people—the members—and what they can prepare themselves to take on and perform wisely. If a park is threatened by logging, someone who knows the park is needed to surround himself with a small group who have the time and skill to do the staff work for the Conservation Committee, the Board of Directors, and the Club as a whole. Work is entailed—rewarding work, of course;—there's no shortcut, no special magic which allows the Club to succeed in any other way.

Thus the new Sierra Club Council is proposed to make room for more people to help out in positions of opportunity and responsibility, to make the most of both by staying on the job long enough to learn the ropes.

Staggering of the terms of the Directors, the second by-law change, is the best method so far advanced for assuring that the Board will have enough new blood and at the same time have enough continuity. Members of the Club have a right to feel overwhelmed when confronted with 25 or more names and the need to select 15. They are handicapped in the careful review they should like to make. It can be all too easy to whip through and check off the names that may have been most in the public eye or public print, whereas the real need, in the future of the growing Club, is to make sure that the Board contains the best possible balance of experience, talent, leadership, and promise, all adding up to effectiveness. With seven or eight names to consider and five to choose, the members would have three times as much time to study the candidates' qualifications. Maybe they'll take still more.

The two changes complement each other. The Council can train candidates, and the staggered Board can use them. The Committee on Reorganization and the Directors think there is much to gain in the long run. It's your decision, for your Club.

DAVID R. BROWER

Policy Decisions by the Directors

An intensive two-day session of the directors of the Sierra Club took place on Saturday and Sunday, January 7 and 8. Meeting at the Claremont Hotel in Berkeley, they covered external and internal affairs more thoroughly than the usual one-day meeting has allowed.

Discussions of conservation matters concerned both the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service. The principal items in this field that the directors acted upon were briefly these:

- Recommended that the Park Service undertake a study of the Lehman Caves-Wheeler Peak area of Nevada to determine the desirability of establishing a national park there.

- Stated their belief that religious edifices in national parks and monuments should be (a) situated only in developed areas; (b) scenically unobtrusive; (c) architecturally appropriate to the natural setting.

- Approved the proposal of the Executive Director that the club sponsor publication of a projected book on the Olympic National Park, with special emphasis on the importance of wilderness forests.

- Urged that there be included in the Federal Highway bill a provision that no highway under this act shall be constructed in any national park, national monument, wilderness area or wildlife refuge established under Federal law, without the specific authority of Congress.

- Recommended to the Forest Service the establishment of a proposed White Mountain (Pellisier Flat) wild area in accordance with the presentation developed by the Southern California section of the Conservation Committee of the club, and that the Forest Service consider a boundary suggested in the presentation.

Decisions on Club policy in regard to other conservation matters were made, and consideration was given to allied subjects. The directors took action as follows:

- Endorsed the proposal by the Clare-

mont Colleges to establish a conservation education program.

- Supported in principle legislation that would prevent the development of the Beaver Marsh-Clear Lake wild area for power purposes.

- Agreed that the Sierra Club would join the International Union for the Protection of Nature.

Among the items covered on internal affairs were a few in recognition of special service or other contributions; committee appointments, and delegation of the functions of the Sierra Club Council. Action was taken on the following:

- Elected Harold C. Bradley a patron member of the Sierra Club, in recognition of his immeasurable contributions to the club for many years in wisdom, tact, knowledge of conservation, time, money and energy.

- Expressed appreciation of the action of a majority of the members of the Sierra Ski Club in offering to donate their interests in their property to the Sierra Club, commending those responsible for the successful transfer of the property, and deep appreciation to James Hutchinson, charter member of the Sierra Club and moving spirit in the Sierra Ski Club, for his major part in making this gift possible.

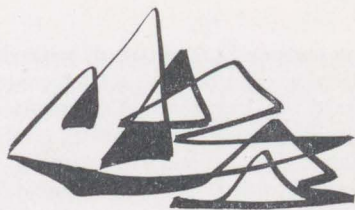
- Assigned the responsibility for the administration of the Sierra Ski Club property to the Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee.

- Expressed gratitude to Edward Grubb for his contribution toward the acquisition of a reference file of photographs, especially pertaining to "troubled areas."

- Delegated to the Sierra Club Council Committee (Interim Council) the coordination of local information and educational activities in accordance with the Council Committee's proposals, with the understanding that these activities will be governed by existing rules with respect to club policy.

LEWIS F. CLARK,
Secretary

The Book Program Is Growing



The Sierra Club's book program is, in a way, part of the Club's endowment. The program was able to attain its present scope through the generous bequest of Ynes Mexía, part of which went into a publications fund in 1950 to assist one of the Club's original purposes—to publish authentic information concerning mountain regions. Costs have been kept low, distribution has been excellent, and the fund has grown nicely.

New for Spring

Three new books and three new printings are announced for the Club's spring publishing program. The new titles are *A Climber's Guide to the Tetons* (due in June), *Belaying the Leader: An Omnibus on Climbing Safety* (March), and *How to Hunt Glaciers with a Camera* (May). The new printings coming up are *A Climber's Guide to the High Sierra* (2d printing), *Going Light—with Backpack or Burro* (4th), and *Starr's Guide to the John Muir Trail* (6th).

Nor was last year an idle one. A new edition (the third) of *The Sierra Club: A Handbook* was published, as was an attractive booklet, *A Climber's Guide to Pinnacles National Monument*. And while the Club was not the publisher of *This Is Dinosaur: Echo Park Country and Its Magic Rivers*, the Club had a hand in it from beginning to end.

Take all these titles, add a few others that the Club has long carried, combine with the back files and reprintings of the *Sierra Club Bulletin* as well as a few outside titles of special interest to the membership, and you have the Sierra Club's book program.

One thing we haven't had for a long time is a detailed list to help members and friends know just what we have. We think they are good books to own. There is a lot of pleasure and information in them for you, or for the less fortunate people among your friends who don't know as much about mountains as you do. Almost all the material has been

drawn from experts in the Club, and these people do seem to get around. Booksellers carry most of the books. The club office (1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco) has all of them.

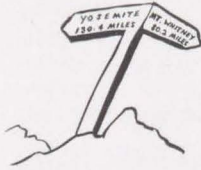
Sierra Club List

A Climber's Guide to the Tetons. By Leigh Ortenburger, who has a first-hand acquaintance with most of the known handholds and footholds in the Teton Range, America's favorite climbing ground. Skillful description of the routes, varying in difficulty from scrambles through flowers, huckleberries, and talus to ordeals on such places as the North Face of the Grand. Beautifully illustrated with maps, diagrams, and photographs. About 200 pages, cloth, \$3. Due in late June.

Belaying the Leader: An Omnibus on Climbing Safety. Contributions by Morgan Harris, Richard M. Leonard, May Pridham, Will Siri, Charles Wilts, and Arnold Wexler which have appeared in the *Sierra Club Bulletin* between 1942 and 1955. The article "Belaying the Leader" was itself reprinted five times. This time other articles have been included of timely interest to mountaineers who wish to grow old gracefully or at all. We've added the Little Gem Catalog of climbing and skiing equipment for a light touch, and a footnote on Adjectives for Climbers for perspective. 96 pages, paper, \$1.35. Due in March.

How to Hunt Glaciers with a Camera. By Arthur E. Harrison. There are few mountain travelers who have not been fascinated by the goings and comings of glaciers—and curious enough about them to collect data, however informally. The scientists have had to turn to the travelers again and again for help, which has not been nearly as helpful as it could have been had the mountain trav-

elers possessed a modicum of method in their collecting. This booklet, a Club contribution toward the International Geophysical Year in 1957, gives in nontechnical terms a few pointers that can make nonscientists' glacier photos a primary source of reliable data for the future. Price (no more than \$2) and publication date (about May) to be announced later. But you can get your camera ready now.



Guide to the John Muir Trail and the High Sierra Region. By Walter A. Starr, Jr. This is the Club's hardy perennial, now in its 22d year and 6th printing, and right up to date. If you plan a trail trip anywhere between Sonora Pass and Olancha Peak—anywhere, that is, in the High Sierra—this is a must. And the price is low enough to make it easy to keep a late edition on hand. Includes a big 3-color map in back pocket. The book fits a pocket, too. 144 pages, paper, \$2.

A Climber's Guide to the High Sierra. Edited by Hervey Voge. The book, a memorial to William Shand, Jr., covers cross-country routes, campsites, and mountaineering routes from northern Yosemite to southern Sequoia, worked out by several generations of climbers and explorers. Routes to some 750 summits are described, with maps and notes on approaches, camping, trails, and topography. Descriptions of rock climbs in Yosemite Valley and Kings Canyon included. Historical background with names and dates of first ascents. Illustrations and sketch maps. 316 pages, cloth, \$3.

Going Light—With Backpack or Burro. Edited by David R. Brower. Tells how to get along on wilderness trails, chiefly in the West. Chapters on wilderness traveling and camping in general, food and cooking, equipment, map reading, mountain medicine, on children in the wilds, and on the art of burro persuasion. Contributions by Lewis F. Clark,

Elizabeth Cowles, Alex Hildebrand, Joel H. Hildebrand, Milton Hildebrand, Mildred Jentsch, Louise H. Klein, H. Stewart Kimball, Richard M. Leonard, Bestor Robinson, and the editor. As the title suggests, it is a lighter-hearted but informative treatment of technique and equipment. But it is more. There is a universal chapter, with a psychological twist, that ought to be in the hands of all couples either member of which is more enamored of mountains than the other. 166 pages cloth, \$2.



A Climber's Guide to Pinnacles National Monument. By David Hammack. Within the compass of about four square miles in the Coast Ranges south of San Jose is an amazing array of tricky rock climbs on the crags that give Pinnacles National Monument its name. Not much less amazing are the names present-day rock climbers have bestowed on the crags while struggling with the temperamental rock. 20 pages, map, illustrated, 50¢.



Manual of Ski Mountaineering. Edited by David R. Brower, with contributions for the most part by the authors of *Going Light*—the Club's prewar Winter Sports Committee. Chapters on mountaineering routes, rock climbing, and snow and ice climbing were added to incorporate lessons learned in mountain training in World War II. The earlier chapters on warmth, shelter, and equipment are of continuing value to people expecting to travel in the snow and cold, winter or summer. The lore of ski mountaineering.

eering itself has remained a constant, and provides a way to add new dimensions to a winter's ski experience—and stretch the ski budget too. 256 pages, illustrated, cloth, \$1.75.

This Is Dinosaur: Echo Park Country and Its Magic Rivers. Edited by Wallace E. Stegner, with contributions by Eliot Blackwelder, David Bradley, Alfred Knopf, Robert Lister, Otis Marston, Olaus Murie, Joseph Penfold, and the editor, with many illustrations (8 in color), chiefly by Philip Hyde, Martin Litton, and Harold Bradley. This is a beautiful book about a beautiful canyon country that almost went under—a constant reminder of the parklike magnificence to be enjoyed in Dinosaur, and of the vigilance that can keep preserving it. An ideal introduction or memento for riders of the wilderness river trail. Cloth, \$5.



Ramblings through the High Sierra. By Joseph LeConte. A delightful account of high mountain travel in 1870—pioneer days in the Sierra—that has never lost its freshness. Illustrated. 170 pp., paper, \$2.

John Muir's Studies in the Sierra. Introduction by William E. Colby. The glacial history of the Sierra Nevada through the perceptive eye of the foremost Sierra explorer. An extraordinary record of observations that led to an untrained Sierra traveler's confounding the geologists of his time. 136 pages, illustrated, boards, \$2.50.

The Sierra Club: A Handbook. Edited by David R. Brower. A pioneer conservation force; its contributions and its scope. Illustrated by Ansel Adams. 1955, 128 pp.; paper, \$1.00.

Sierra Club Bulletin

Described as "that model of all mountain periodicals" by Ronald Clark in *The Splendid Hills*, the *SCB* has been published since 1893, a year after John Muir and his col-

leagues joined together to form the Sierra Club. For more than half a century it has told of the battle to protect the wild and beautiful places of the nation—and of the enjoyment those places have brought to the people who have sought to climb, to ski, to explore, to photograph, or just to relax there.

Separate annual magazines: 1906–1955, paper, \$2; cloth (1951–54), \$2.50.

Complete set, 1893–1954 and index, original edition, bound, \$375.

Complete set, unbound, \$225.

Complete set, unbound, but with 1950 edition of vols. 1–5, \$135.

Available only in sets: Jan. 1913, 1914, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1928.

Subscription: 10 issues, including annual magazine, \$3.

Fifty-seven-year Index—1893–1949. By George Shochat and Dorothy H. Bradley. *Sierra Club Bulletin* magazine numbers up to 1949—the whole 3½-foot shelf of them—have been made accessible in this compilation. Separate listings of contents by volume, authors, reviews, names, and subjects. 144 pp., paper, \$3.75; cloth, \$4.50.



Volumes One to Five—The First Thirteen Years. The first five volumes of the *Sierra Club Bulletin* (1893–1905), absent from most collections and long hard to get, are now available at a reasonable price, reprinted by offset and beautifully bound.

The main stock of these early *Bulletins*, of which comparatively few were printed, was lost in the San Francisco Fire. All persons wishing to refer to them since, either as Californiana source material or for recreational reading, were hard put to find the old numbers, even in libraries. If found they were usually behind glass or wire—some 1,850 pages of excellently presented historical and scientific material and turn-of-the-century mountaineering adventure, pertaining chiefly to the Sierra, together with 224 pages of illustrations, the originals of which

have long since vanished. In addition there are several hundred pages devoted to notes and correspondence, reports, sketch maps, and reproductions of photographs.

Price for the set, five volumes, more than 2,000 pages including illustrations, reprinted by offset, in silver-stamped red buckram, \$32.50 (per volume: I, \$10; II-IV, \$7; V, \$6).

Books from Other Publishers

(which booksellers should order direct)

A Sand County Almanac. By Aldo Leopold. Remarkable, luminous, inspiring sketches about the dilemmas of people who cannot live without wild things and wilderness, wherever they may be. Two copies are in order—one to lend, the other to refer to constantly. (Oxford.) 226 pages, paper over boards, \$4.

Round River. Edited by Luna B. Leopold. Some of the most moving and important conservation essays by Aldo Leopold, interspersed with parts of his journals, reflections, and observations, mostly on hunting, which record the source of his growth as a great man and conservationist. (Oxford.) 173 pages, cloth, \$3.

California Place Names. By Erwin G. Gudde. The story of more than 5,000 names of California, giving their origin and evolution, including the principal Sierra place names. (Univ. Calif. Press.) 462 pages, cloth, \$10.

Marin Flora. By John Thomas Howell. A Manual of the Flowering Plants and Ferns of Marin County, California. Identifies 1,452 species and varieties. Illustrated. (Univ. Calif. Press.) 322 pages, cloth, \$4.50.

Up and Down California in 1860-1864. Edited by Francis P. Farquhar. The Journal of William H. Brewer. From the scientist's remarkable letters to his family about California's resources, mountains (the High Sierra especially), cities, and people. (Univ. Calif. Press.) 583 pages, cloth, \$6.50.

The National Parks: What They Mean to You and Me. By Freeman Tilden. The story, highly and well praised, of the scenic and scientific areas of the National Park System. (Knopf.) 324 pages, paper, \$1.

Death Valley. Ansel Adams's spectacular photographs of Death Valley, many in color, with text and guide by Nancy Newhall. Two maps. (5 Associates.) 55 pages, paper, \$2.50.

The Incomparable Valley. Edited by Fritiof Fryxell. A Geologic Interpretation of the Yosemite, by François E. Matthes. Includes 24 photographs by Ansel Adams. (Univ. Calif. Press.) 160 pages, cloth, \$3.75.

The Sierra Nevada: The Range of Light. History, resources, and enjoyment of the Sierra. Part of the American Mountain Series edited by Roderick Peattie. Contributions by David R. Brower, Charles A. Harwell, Welden F. Heald, Idwal Jones, Oliver Kehrlein, François E. Matthes, Lester Rowntree, Richard J. Russell, Mary Tressider. Introduction by Donald Culross Peattie. Illustrated. (Vanguard.) 398 pages, illustrated, cloth, \$5.

Birds and Mammals of the Sierra Nevada. By Lowell Sumner and Joseph S. Dixon. With Records from Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Primarily written, in nontechnical language, for those who visit the Sierra; wider in scope than any previous work on the subject. Describes 167 birds, 65 mammals. 45 photographs and 8 color plates. Life zone map. (Univ. Calif. Press.) 484 pages, cloth, \$7.50.

Reprints

Magnificent Katmai. By Lowell Sumner. The unfolding story of a great wilderness in transition—Katmai National Monument. 24 pages, 34 photographs. 50¢.

Yosemite: The Story of an Idea. By Hans Huth. An account of the changes in the American attitude toward nature that led to the creation of Yosemite as a national park. 32 pages, 25¢.

The Three Lakes and How They Were Named. By Clarence King. Verse and letters written in 1870, introduction by Francis P. Farquhar. Text and facsimile cover in two colors; photographs. 12 pages, 7 photographs, 50¢.

Hetch Hetchy—Once Is Too Often. By Robert K. Cutter. Yosemite's tragic parallel to the threat to Dinosaur National Monument. 8 pages text, 23 photographs (1 in color), 25¢.

Wild Country as a National Asset. By Olaus Murie. The Isaac Hillman Lectures given by a gifted wilderness writer: I. "God Bless America—and Let's Save Some of It!" II. Wild Country Round the World. III. Beauty and the Dollar Sign. (The Wilderness Society.) 32 pages, 50¢.

Sierra Club Council

*Interim organization
already at work*

An interim organization that will become the Sierra Club Council, when the By-Laws are amended under a current proposal (see Page 3), held its second meeting at the Claremont Hotel in Berkeley on January 7. Director Nathan C. Clark presided and some 25 members were present, many as official delegates of their chapters or committees. Crystal Karstens of Riverside Chapter acted as secretary.

The Council, taking the place of the earlier Chapter Council which had convened in connection with meetings of the Board of Directors, first met at Angeles Chapter headquarters in Los Angeles on October 16, 1955. At that time the agenda included questions concerning the relationship of the Club Conservation Committee to chapters and budget, chapter size and boundaries, Council meetings and self-finance, San Francisco and Los Angeles rent, and annual dinners.

The Berkeley meeting opened with a discussion of the scope of the Council. It was pointed out that the Board of Directors will remain the final authority in governing the Club, but that the Board may delegate any matter to the Council for recommendation or action. The directors, who have long had more items on their calendar than they have time to consider, desire to delegate many "internal" Club subjects to the Council. Eventually, the Council will act in place of the Board in affairs concerning the organization and growth of chapters, committees and the Club generally. Meanwhile its recommendations will be useful to the Board.

The interim Council then discussed methods of publicizing the coming election and the two proposed amendments to the By-Laws. Questions about the 4,700-member Bay Chapter—its geographical boundaries, whether it is "too big" and the affiliation of members in adjacent areas—were referred back to the chapter. Division of costs for the San Francisco and Los Angeles offices, between the Club and the local chapters, was discussed and referred to the chapters for a report. A question about the Club's apparent promotion of commercially organized

outings, by listing them in schedules and describing them at meetings, resulted in a resolution that "free advertising" be discontinued and that any listing clearly identify the trips as not sponsored by the Club.

A considerable part of the meeting was devoted to a proposal by Fred Gunsky, editor of the monthly *Bulletin*, that a workshop conference be held by the Sierra Club on the subject of information and education activities. Many agreed that conservation education programs in the chapters need encouragement, and that individual members who volunteer to work for Club and chapter publications, youth leadership, speakers' bureaus, visual aid projects and the like, would learn a good deal from each other and from material that could be shared at such a conference. Among its tangible results might be a simple "question and answer" policy guide for Sierra Club editors and speakers, and an inventory of chapter and Club information and education materials.

Outcome of the discussion was a request to the Board of Directors that the Council be authorized to promote the Club's information and education activities by holding a two-day workshop conference in the Bay Area, with travel expenses allowed for a delegate from each chapter (except the Atlantic). On the following day, Chairman Clark obtained favorable action on this request, and appointed a steering committee to make arrangements for the conference, which will be held in April.

State Tax Deduction

California income taxpayers may deduct from their 1955 State of California income tax returns any contributions they have made during the year to Trustees for Conservation.

The California Franchise Tax Board has so notified Trustees for Conservation. Application for similar status for Federal income tax purposes has been made but to date no ruling has been received from the Treasury Department.

Warming Hut

Solid comfort on Signal Hill

SKIERS making their first hike up the Sierra Club's Signal Hill this season are surprised to find a cozy new warming hut at the bottom of the ski tow. It was constructed this past summer, was fully initiated by Old Man Winter himself during the Christmas storm, and is expected to welcome tired skiers for many seasons.

Every project has a beginning, and the seed of this one was planted during the winter of 1953-54 by two very wet skiers. They were trying to find space in the old warming room to dry off a little and get rid of their chills. While eating their lunch standing, both envisioned the same solution, something cozy but big enough for everyone to sit down. This thought wasn't new, but George Homsey and Don Weaver, being architects and not afraid of structures, decided to see what could be done. They approached the Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee and found that some funds were available from the operation of the tow. They were given the go-ahead to do the designing and to estimate the raw-material cost.

An initial committee was formed consisting of George, Don, Bob Shepperd and Bob McGillicuddy, co-managers of the ski tow, and Bob McAndrews. The designs began in the clouds but were soon placed on earth when thought was given to the actual construction. The hut had to be designed to be built in one summer with unskilled volunteer labor.

THE FIREPLACE, after being located in all likely spots in the building, finally came to rest at the south end. The design had almost jelled by the summer of '54 and the lodgepole pine trees were selected and cut so as to season for a year. George and Don, with the help of the committee and anyone that might have visited them at the time, constructed a model that was brought to the Lodge on New Year's Eve of 1954-55. It succeeded in its purpose of inducing

people to volunteer for work by signing an accompanying register. More than 100 members eventually worked on the hut.

During the first part of 1955 the committee was expanded to include Art Benson, Don McCluskey, Don Huber, Jean Kearney, Sue Hart and Marie Gummerson. At this time a construction time and manpower schedule was worked out. Transportation was organized through a central point, and questionnaires were sent to each person who had signed the register.

The first work party began June 11-12 and the structure was essentially completed 20 week ends and approximately 600 man- and woman-days later. The high points of the construction were raising the first "A" frame, closing in the north wall, closing in the south end with windows, finishing the south rock wall, and building the first fire in the fireplace. The rock wall at the south end, supporting the windows, and the fireplace stack contain approximately 55 tons of rock and mortar. Those gathering rock from the area soon learned that there seem to be three different types of igneous rock in the area, all heavy. The most prized rocks were parallel-sided pieces of exfoliated granite. Most of the rock came from within a half mile, but toward the last a few choice pieces of granite were obtained from slides east of Donner Summit.

THE FRAMEWORK of the hut contains five long "A" frames set on ten rock and concrete piers. The roof sheathing and flooring are 2x6 "T and G," and the roof is covered with aluminum donated by the Kaiser Corporation. The floor is 20x40 feet and the ridgepole is 30 feet above it. Many stools have been donated so that there are enough seats even on very crowded days.

The real work-horses of the project were George Homsey and Rudy Talso's Jeep. The first drove relentlessly, and the latter was driven without mercy. Toward the end it was popular to talk of naming the building Homsey Hut. The sturdy Jeep pulled to the site ten logs, approximately 90 tons of rock, all the lumber, and many bags of cement and yards of sand and gravel, not to men-



SIGNAL HILL WARMING HUT

George Homsey

tion such things as lunch-time lemonade. The following members, along with those already mentioned, accounted for 400 of the 600 work days: Bob Crandall, Louise Dunlap, Alex Dzoghi, Bob Frick, Ray Helm, Don Huber, Stan Klein, Eric Kirschner, Anne and Peggy Kjellstrand, Dan Lee, Marian McDonald, Jim Mulholland, Tracy Nor-

ton, Jim Nicklos, Herb Rubin, Don Rebein, Frank Shoemaker and Hank Schwarz. However, without the other 200 man-days, completion would have been impossible in one summer.

Come sit by the fire.

BOB MCGILICUDDY
Warming Hut Committee

Ghost Forests

What is destroying lodgepole pines?

Insect infestations in park and forest wilderness present a question to those concerned with preservation of natural areas. Do we want the trees unharmed, or the cycle of biological events unaltered? The following article, prepared by the Forest and Range Experiment Station of the U.S. Forest Service, gives the facts about such an infestation. The authors' conclusions are not necessarily those of the Sierra Club.

One of the severest insect outbreaks on record in Yosemite National Park has killed trees on thousands of acres of lodgepole pine forests in the upper Tuolumne and Merced River watersheds, but research workers of the U.S. Forest Service have made considerable progress in finding ways to combat the outbreak, according to Dr. George M. Jemison, director of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station of the Forest Service.

Nearly 50,000 acres have been affected since the outbreak started about 10 years ago. Most severely damaged in Tuolumne watershed are the pines around McCabe Lake and Conness, Dingley, Delaney, and Cathedral Creeks; in the Merced watershed, at Cathedral and Tenaya Lakes and Forsyth Basin.

Until recently lodgepole pines surrounding Tuolumne Meadows have escaped attack. In 1955, however, the insect invaded these stands, with highest concentrations of insects in trees near Soda Springs.

Causing all the trouble is an insect known as the lodgepole needle miner (*Recurvaria milleri* Busck.). In the adult stage it is an inconspicuous gray moth, about one-fourth inch long. Every odd-numbered year the moth flies, mates, and lays its eggs during July and August. In September, minute larvae—or caterpillars—hatch. It is the larvae that actually damage the trees.

Each larva bores into a lodgepole pine needle. During the next 22 months it feeds on the needles, boring lengthwise through at least five needles before it changes to a

pupa, from which the adult moth emerges to start a new cycle. When needle miner populations reach outbreak proportions, countless millions of larvae attack the foliage of lodgepole pine forests.

The mined needles turn yellow and die. Over the years of the current outbreaks thousands of trees have been defoliated. Many were killed; others were weakened and these fell easy prey to other forest pests, especially the mountain pine beetle (*Dendroctonus monticolae* Hopk.). Such a combination of needle miners and bark beetles swept parts of Yosemite Park 30 years ago, and in many places ghost forests of lodgepole pine snags still stand in testimony to the effectiveness of this "one-two punch." Entomologists conducting surveys of insect attacks report no signs that needle miner populations were declining in 1955.

Hopes have been raised that man can intervene instead of waiting for the epidemic to run its natural course. Since 1954, the Division of Forest Insect Research of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station has been conducting an intensive study of the insect and control methods. With the cooperation of the Park Service, forest entomologists set up field headquarters at Tenaya Lake in 1954 and at Tuolumne Meadows in 1955. There they have learned new facts about the biology and habits of the beetle. They have tested a number of new insecticides and narrowed the list of possible ones to two or three compounds that show great promise.

The biology of the lodgepole needle miner has been studied many years, but previous efforts to develop control methods proved fruitless because of the lack of satisfactory insecticides and practicable methods of application. Refinement of airplane and other spraying techniques, and development of new types of insecticides in recent years, have made the picture more hopeful. Several years' research may be needed to perfect the knowledge that will insure complete success in coping with the insect.

Scoyen Goes To Washington

Eivind T. Scoyen, Superintendent of the Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks for many years, has been appointed Associate Director of the National Park Service. He took over his new post, as second in command to Director Conrad W. Wirth, in Washington on February 5.

The new Associate Director has spent a lifetime in the national parks, having been born in Yellowstone, where he had his first job as a water boy in 1913 and became a ranger in 1919. He has served as superintendent at Zion and Bryce and at Glacier, as well as at Sequoia-Kings Canyon, where he began his first tour in 1938.

Scoyen, a good friend of the Sierra Club who has participated in the Wilderness Conferences and attended many directors' meetings, was honored by the Club at a dinner in San Francisco on January 26.

People

(from Page 2)

first pair of skis in 1905. He also was a pioneer foldboater. Recently he had grumbled that when he tried to introduce that sport in 1935 or 1936 he "could not find a soul, excepting *Phil Faulconer*, who dared go along. Now they all crowd into rubber pontoons and drift down the Stygian River not knowing what comes next, waiting for the next meal at the camping place."

Peter Raien of Long Beach has a lot of trouble getting climbing partners because he is 68 and his friends of equal years would rather play cribbage. Pete made the 26-mile round trip between Whitney Portal and the summit in 12 hours' hiking time recently, and wants to know whether anyone his age has beaten this mark.

A desert painting trip (not a trip to the Painted Desert) is in the new Angeles Chapter schedule, according to *Mary Galton*. It will take place this month with artists and teachers on hand to help neophytes. *Patricia Meixner* and *Lee Owings* would like to know whether what they saw in the White Mountains, on the saddle between Boundary and Peak 11,235, really was a flying saucer—and if it wasn't, what was it?

DAN L. THRAPP

Almanac

ALL WINTER long the world lies encased in its hard sheath. Frost is fastened upon the earth, the trees are brittle shells, the river acquires a plating of ice. Men likewise button themselves up in thick clothing, hiding limbs and torso. Woodchucks and chipmunks make their own graves and lie in them. Everything takes on an outward petrification, the earth and its creatures each dwelling in its own coffin. You cannot touch life anywhere, only its casing. This is a time for theory and hypocrisy, for imagined sin and affected virtue among men, a time to find fault in words and to reform the world on paper, a time for cleverness and scholarship, a time for vanity. Man makes himself at home on the earth like a flea in the ear of a sleeping dog, ordering matters to suit himself. Then spring comes, the casing melts off, and the living body of the earth is exposed to the sky for anyone to see and touch. Life slowly flushes and fills it.

The mathematicians reckon that spring begins March 21, but the mathematicians are a month behind the season the year around. For those who observe the first signs, spring comes earlier than others know. Before the end of January, while the scenery remains desolate and the sun leaves no warmth, the first sparks are already being enkindled in the breasts of songbirds. As I left my home at daybreak, January 22, under a cloud rack becoming visible, in a dead tree across the street a cardinal was singing *cue-cue-cue-cue-cue-cue*, rapidly, all in one pitch and without variation. Up to that moment, for many silent months, I do not recall that my mind had been occupied with other than the indoor thoughts of the hive.

LOUIS J. HALLE, JR.

Spring in Washington (New York: William Sloane Associates, 1947)



Mountain climbers rope themselves together because there's safety in numbers—also it keeps the sane ones from going home.

The Wall Street Journal

Along Many Trails

BEFORE the big winter storms, the California Forest and Range Experiment Station of the U.S. Forest Service had announced a new research project: "How California can wring more water from the snow that blankets the mountains each winter."

The station then activated its Teakettle Creek Experimental Forest, on Patterson Mountain in the North Fork of the Kings River, east of Fresno. Purpose is to measure snowfall and stream flow in the virgin fir forest for the next few years. Meteorological observations also will be made in other places. Later, experimental logging will be undertaken to determine how timber may be cut in certain patterns to reduce melting of snow in winter, prolong the spring melting, and increase annual runoff.

Meanwhile, the rains came. We are probably safe in guessing that the Teakettle boiled over, although precipitation may not have been excessive that far south.

When the facts are available, we hope to survey the effects of the recent floods on California's wild regions. Yosemite Valley, we know, suffered considerable destruction of roads and "improvements." Muir Woods National Monument was closed because of landslides and flooding.

Newton B. Drury, Chief of the California Division of Beaches and Parks, issued a preliminary estimate of more than \$1,000,000 damage to state parks. This included the undermining and toppling of many big redwoods in Humboldt State Park, flooding and silting of campgrounds, and severe damage to roads and utilities.

All the parks, we are told, will be open again before summer.

Philip Hyde's photographs of Dinosaur National Monument will continue to be on display during February. For the first two weeks of the month they will be in the San Francisco State College Library; for the second two

weeks, in the Fresno State College Library. The exhibit is a joint project of the Sierra Club and the National Parks Association.

CLAIR TAPPAAN LODGE, at Norden, has already received many requests for accommodations during the Winter Olympics scheduled to be held at nearby Squaw Valley in 1960. In reply to these requests, the following letter has been prepared. We hope you'll take it for *your* answer and spare the committee unnecessary correspondence.

Dear Member:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding reservations at Clair Tappaan Lodge during the 1960 Winter Olympics.

We are aware that many of the lodges in the area are now placing reservations for that period, and we understand that Squaw Valley itself is already sold out. However, we are not concerned with accommodating the public as we anticipate that Clair Tappaan Lodge will be available only to members at that time.

Although we anticipate a tremendous demand on the Lodge, we do not expect to take reservations much more than six months prior to the events. We feel that this is necessary in order to give everyone in the Club an equal opportunity to place reservations.

The Lodge, as you know, charges rates that are based on the current cost of operations, and we're sure you can see that we have no idea what prices might be in 1960. We don't feel it would be fair to encourage members to make blind reservations so far in the future.

All we can say for the present is that you should watch your *Sierra Club Bulletin*, which will carry announcements about the plans of the Lodge. You may rest assured that the Lodge will be made available to all members on an equitable basis.

Sincerely,

JAMES MULHOLLAND
Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee