



MUSTAGH TOWER (see Page 3)

Vittorio Sella

# SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

September  
1956

# People You Know

THE Angeles Chapter library's renovation has been completed, according to Chairman *Beverly Waltman*, and sealed offers were accepted for the old bookcases, which prompted *Doc Atkinson* to comment that "every little bid helps," although at this writing the winners have not been named. Yours truly was appointed (by default) to head the Angeles Chapter Conservation Committee for the remainder of the year, and the only comment we can think of is, "Help! Help!"

*Roscoe Poland* reports that the San Diego Chapter had scheduled a third annual clean-up at the Laguna Mountains in mid-June, but it didn't come off because too many were away, and so it will be re-set for the fall. And what's this about *Jerry Gallwas* and other rock climbers practicing on Guymon Lodge's stone chimney during a work party? Also sighted at this were reportedly *Omar Conger*, *Glen Conklin*, *Dick Sheffield*, *Andy Smith*, *Dave Medved*, *Jon Sanford*, *Ronnie Homuth*, and maybe some others.

Everybody in Santa Barbara is proud of

**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.

*Kathy Jackson* for getting herself elected chairman of the Sierra Club Council for its inaugural run. A fine choice.

Rock climbing patriots celebrated the Fourth of July (at least 67 of them did) by a non-British climb (using pitons, that is), of Mt. Pacifico. Most of them were beginners and all got sunburned. *Glen* and *Muir Dawson's* bookstore is handling the long-anticipated "Climber's Guide to Tahquitz Rock," edited by *Chuck Wilts* and *Don Wilson*. Fifty pages, it describes 46 routes (that's on one rock?!), and costs \$1.25.

The state's most difficult 14,000-footer, North Palisade, was climbed for the first time this season by *Frank Meyers* and four companions. They met *Herb Steiner* and *Don Keller* from Berkeley on top, but it was too cold to chat much. Twenty-six Sierrans climbed Mt. Whitney by the mountaineer route early in July, while *Wally Tinsley*, *Steve Wilkie*, *Ed Gammon*, *Dick Skultin*, *Worthie Doyle*, *Si Ossofsky*, *George Wallerstein*, *Frank Hoover* and *Lito Tejada-Flores* climbed the east buttress. The east face route was climbed by *Harvey Hickman*, *Victor Rutishauser*, *Joe Gurley* and *Barbara Lilley*.

A work party at San Antonio ski hut in June spotted a fine band of bighorns, the patriarch of which had horns turning in nearly a full circle.

Origin, purposes and activities of the Club were explained for "Margie" over the radio during an interview from San Diego recently. It featured *Ivy Foster* (and who knows more about it than she?), *Jane Collard*, who told of scrambling over glaciers and such, and *Omar Conger*, who expertly described rock climbing.

The *Roy Gorins* visited Niagara Falls on their vacation, but not for the usual reason, and we don't think Roy tried to climb them, either.

Kern-Kaweah Chapter has a teen-age group taking responsibility for the mailing of *The Road Runner*. *Heather Tate* and *Miggie Burtner* are among those who have taken charge.

Angeles Chapter's plans for a San Jacinto film are going ahead with completion of a script by *John Dunkel* and appointment of *Ed Robinson* as production manager. Film is needed on that area and activities in the vicinity, and if you have any, write to *Jim Gorin* or Ed about it.

DAN L. THRAPP



# Sierra Club Bulletin

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NUMBER 7

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

## Directors' Meeting in Yosemite

YOSEMITE's fatal beauty and related park problems will be the principal items under discussion at the Directors' meeting in Yosemite Valley during the week end of September 22-23. The meeting, to be held at LeConte Lodge, will begin Saturday noon. However, the directors have been urged to arrive earlier if possible, perhaps a day or so in advance, to become more familiar with the situation in the Valley.

All who plan to attend will make their own living arrangements.

Fortunate and wise directors we have, who make it their duty to visit the Valley at this somewhat serener time of year, when the rush of tourists is over, the freshness of fall is beginning, and perhaps the aspens are beginning to turn golden on the upper slopes.

### Chairmen on the Job

Sierra Club chapter and committee chairmen for the current year are as follows:

#### *Chapters:*

Angeles: Ruth Aiken  
Atlantic: Charles Eggert  
Kern-Kaweah: Genevieve Schumacher

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### *The Cover Picture*

The cover picture of the Mustagh Tower is by the great Italian photographer, Vittorio Sella, and is reproduced from a display print in the Frederick H. Morley Memorial Collection of the Sierra Club. According to newspaper reports, a French expedition ascended this formidable Himalayan peak in July.

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Loma Prieta: Walter P. Ward  
Los Padres: James B. D. Barrett  
Mother Lode: Michael J. Gugliemetti  
Pacific Northwest: Dr. Patrick D.

Goldsworthy

Riverside: Marjorie E. Billings  
San Diego: Glen Conklin, Jr.  
San Francisco Bay: Randal F.  
Dickey, Jr.

Tehipite: Robert R. Board

#### *Committees:*

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Editorial Board: August Frugé

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Arthur H. Blake

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Visual Education: Charlotte E. Mauk  
Wilderness Conference: George L. Collins and George S. James  
Winter Sports: John A. Linford

## Lodge Credit Policy

A growing problem is facing the Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee with the accumulation of many small accounts of long standing in the credit records of the Lodge, many of them dating back several years. These dormant accounts retard the efficiency of the reservation office in processing current reservations and thus have been a source of hidden cost to the Lodge.

In an effort to meet this problem and establish a policy for the future of these credit records the Lodge Committee has formulated the following program:

1. Credit accounts will be maintained for a period of three years from the last entry date, and will be considered current accounts for that period.

2. Accounts which have remained dormant for more than three years will be forfeit to the Lodge as a donation and will be closed.

3. Accounts will be reviewed each spring.

4. The above procedure to become effective December 1, 1956.

5. Work party credits will remain non-refundable, and the Lodge Committee urges that they be used within a year of their accumulation.

The Lodge Committee recognizes that this procedure may appear to be confiscatory; however, that is not the intent. It is for this reason that the grace period between now and December 1 is extended for those who may wish to inquire about their credits and possible refund or use. Inquiries should be directed to the Treasurer, Lodge Committee, Clair Tappaan Lodge, Norden, California, with a self-addressed, stamped card or envelope.

The above action is in accord with the operating procedures of the Lodge in attempting to keep expenses low, with the savings attained making possible the continued low rates to members.

JEAN KEARNEY  
*Secretary, CTL Committee*

## Avenue of the Giants

A \$600,000 check was presented to the State Park Commission last month by Arthur Connick, President of the Save-the-Redwoods League, as half of the purchase price of the Avenue of the Giants on the Redwood Highway. It was announced that the Pacific Lumber Company had agreed to the sale.

## Columbia Basin and the Future

A SERIES of five public hearings was held during July by the Corps of Engineers on the revised status of the Columbia River Development Report first presented to Congress in 1949. The revision was directed a year ago by resolution of the Senate Committee on Public Works. Various government bureaus, such as the Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs have contributed to these hearings, the result of which will be a "revision of the revision" and a further series of hearings in 1957.

The Sierra Club was represented at two of the 1956 hearings (in Missoula, Montana, and Spokane, Washington) by Executive Di-

rector David R. Brower, who urged that agencies charged with Columbia Basin water development should give careful consideration to planning for the preservation of the Basin's scenic resources. He expressed the hope that all groups might work together to ensure that the needs of progress will be met without sacrifice of the region's unique qualities—qualities which cannot be put together again once they are taken apart.

After an explanation of the purposes of the Sierra Club and reference to the wide membership of conservation organizations in the Natural Resources Council of America, Brower continued:

**We are witnessing a change in the American temper—witnessing a mature realization,**

in the nick of time, that we must vigorously and dynamically support the preservation of our scenic resources and especially our living wilderness. This doesn't mean that we're building a breed of people who don't like man's handiwork; it's just that people are discovering that even the most civilized man needs places where he can appreciate what God's handiwork is like unaided by man. People are recognizing that we cannot forever continue to multiply and subdue the earth without losing our standard of life and the natural beauty that must be part of it.

These are further excerpts from Brower's statement at the hearings:

The Sierra Club believes that the flood-control and power-development needs in the Columbia Basin can be met without jeopardy to important scenic and wildlife resources. There should be optimum use of damsites which do not imperil these resources, no matter whether public or private agencies or a combination of both build on the acceptable sites. These sites should be developed fully enough to meet the over-all flood-control requirements with a minimum number of structures. There should be proof that there is no alternative course of action before irrevocable damage is inflicted upon the important scenic and wildlife resources. We consider not in the public interest in the long run, and therefore oppose, any dam or reservoir proposal which would adversely affect a national park or monument or duly designated wilderness area.

Here is a summary of conservationist reasoning:

1—It is clear, in the Columbia Basin, that there is not enough flood control now.

2—Remedial action can take four forms:

- a) Flood insurance. This still requires legislative pioneering; it will not save lives.
- b) Evacuation of flood plain by zoning to prevent new construction or replacement of present structures.
- c) Upstream watershed management. This is good conservation in any event, but not effective in controlling the big floods.
- d) Flood-retarding structures—midbasin dams and lower basin channel improvement. This action has strong engineering and political backing.

3—To protect scenic resources from flood-control action we must concern ourselves with the effects of dams.

4—The Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation agree that a Main Control Plan is needed, and eventual storage of 20-30 million acre-feet can be presumed.

5—Scenic resource needs should be integrated with this flood-control need.

6—Whenever water storage is provided, someone's special interest will be damaged.

7—The first projects authorized should be those causing tangible damage which can be reimbursed with money; e.g., at a cost in dollars, railroads and highways can be rerouted, power generation can be substituted for, and farm land can be replaced in kind.

8—The very last to be authorized should be those projects causing damage which no amount of money can replace. This would include national parks and wilderness which man cannot duplicate.

The Columbia Basin is an especially good area in which to initiate a Scenic Resources Review—a comprehensive plan for adequately protecting now, with an eye to the long-range future, an optimum reservation of the Basin's scenic resources of parks, wilderness, and wildlife and their tangible and intangible values for public use, enjoyment, and education.

The plan would consist of a coöperative inquiry by many agencies to develop answers to five basic questions:

1—What are the present uses of these scenic resources?

2—How great are the needs likely to be in fifty years?

3—On what lands can these needs be met?

4—What alternatives exist for conflicting uses?

5—How many resources for which there are no substitutes in kind be protected best?

*We believe that the best possible answers to these questions should be sought out before irrevocable decisions are made. Adequate answers are not now available. The nation has immediate need for a broad perspective such as detailed answers to these questions could provide. We believe such a long-range interagency study can be conducted within the framework of present law.*

# Basic Thinking On Conservation

A stimulating "guide to discussion," *Concepts of Conservation*, is the latest publication of The Conservation Foundation in New York City. Text of the 48-page booklet is concerned with "some basic ideas regarding man's relationship to nature and the maintenance of prosperity now and in the years ahead."

There are valuable reading lists and a list of 16 mm. films and film strips for use in conservation education. Copies of the booklet may be obtained from the Sierra Club office in San Francisco for 25 cents each.

The Nature Conservancy, with headquarters in Washington, D.C., has recently issued a number of interesting *Information Bulletins*. Available from the Conservancy, 4200 - 22nd Street, Northeast, Washington 18, D.C., they include:

No. 18, "\$80,000 for Conservation," about a successful fund drive for the creation of an Audubon nature camp in Wisconsin;

No. 19, "Natural Areas for Schools";  
No. 20, "The Forest Is a Classroom," telling of a natural preserve used as an outdoor research laboratory by the University of Minnesota;  
No. 22, "The Natural Area Situation, 1955-56," a 20-page summary which includes a reference to our own "Conservation Review" (*SCB*, January).

## World Organization

The name of the International Union for the Protection of Nature, of which the Sierra Club became a member this year, has been changed by vote of the world organization's General Assembly, which met in Edinburgh, Scotland, June 20-28.

Revised name of the IUPN is "International Union for Conservation," short for "International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources." We'll call it the IUC.

A news release says the delegates at Edinburgh felt that "protection of nature" suggested a sentimental attitude, an attempt to defend nature *against* man, rather than to conserve, *for* man, and wisely use, the world's natural resources. The latter view has been the Union's since its inception in 1948.

Professor Roger Heim, of the Paris Museum of Natural History, is IUC President, and United States members of the executive board are Ira N. Gabrielson of the Wildlife Management Institute and Richard W. Westwood of the American Nature Association.

## Keeping Alert

Spots to watch in the Far Western regions of the U.S. Forest Service: (1) Cannell Meadows in Sequoia Forest, where the Service is proceeding with pre-arranged timber sale plans despite widespread objections by local citizens, as well as by national groups including the Sierra Club; (2) the Three Sisters Wilderness Area in Oregon which is still awaiting final decision on reclassification; (3) the superb wilderness of the headwaters of the north fork of the San Joaquin (Sierra National Forest) which is threatened increasingly by road development, power withdrawals, logging and mining; and (4) Glacier Peak Limited Area in the Cascades of Washington, a great and exciting wilderness which is being studied for reclassification.



"You mean this *isn't* the Sierra Club's  
Beginner's Trip?"

# Almanac

BY SEPTEMBER, the day breaks with little help from birds. A song sparrow may give a single half-hearted song, a woodcock may twitter overhead en route to his daytime thicket, a barred owl may terminate the night's argument with one last wavering call, but few other birds have anything to say or sing about.

There is a peculiar virtue in the music of elusive birds. Songsters that sing from top-most boughs are easily seen and as easily forgotten; they have the mediocrity of the obvious. What one remembers is the invisible hermit thrush pouring silver chords from impenetrable shadows; the soaring crane trumpeting from behind a cloud; the prairie chicken booming from the mists of nowhere; the quail's Ave Maria in the hush of dawn.

ALDO LEOPOLD, *A Sand County Almanac* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1949)

RESOURCES seems a concrete enough word when you first look at it. It refers to things like soil fertility, oil reserves, water power. These . . . can be calculated. There are certain obvious difficulties — different people, for instance, may arrive at quite different figures for the oil reserves of the world. But the real difficulty turns on the fact that the meaning of resources is relative rather than absolute. We can see this easily enough if we look into the past: the resources of the area covered by the United States had one meaning for the pre-Columbian Indians; they have a quite different meaning for our contemporary industrial economy. We have seen the meaning of uranium as a resource change in the past few years. If there have been such great changes in the past, how can we look toward the future? The Sahara desert would have no place in a current list of the major resources behind human economy, but what if we come to depend primarily on solar energy for power?

MARSTON BATES, *The Prevalence of People* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1955)

Now on TV!

## "Mayor of the Town"

*Starring one of America's great actors, Academy Award-Winner*

## THOMAS MITCHELL

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<b>FRESNO</b>	
KMJ-TV 24	Sundays 6:30 PM
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	
KTTV 11	Wednesdays 9:30 PM
<b>SACRAMENTO</b>	
KCRA-TV 3	Thursdays 7:00 PM
<b>SALINAS</b>	
KSBW-TV 8	Saturdays 8:30 PM
<b>SAN DIEGO</b>	
KFSD-TV 10	Mondays 7:00 PM
<b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	
KGO-TV 7	Mondays 8:00 PM
<b>SAN JOSE</b>	
KNTV 11	Fridays 9:00 PM
<b>SAN LUIS OBISPO</b>	
KVEC-TV 6	Tuesdays 8:30 PM
<b>SANTA BARBARA</b>	
KEY-TV 3	Sundays 6:30 PM
<b>STOCKTON</b>	
KOVR 13	Mondays 8:30 PM
<b>YUMA</b>	
KIVA 11	Mondays 9:30 PM

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## Bulletin Board

*The 84th Congress:  
what it did, didn't*

**T**HE HARD-WORKING 84th Congress had a record 18,939 measures introduced during its two sessions in 1955 and 1956. Of these, 851 were enacted into public law, and a number of them are of interest and concern to conservationists. On the plus side are the following:

**The National Park System was strengthened** by the approval of Mission 66, which allows constructive planning to meet fast-expanding needs and which authorizes a record (and realistic) budget for the next ten years.

**Four new units were added to the National Park System** (two National Military Parks, one National Park, one National Monument).

**The inclusion of Echo Park Dam in the Upper Colorado River Project was decisively defeated**—a crowning conservation victory.

**Certain mining claim abuses of the out-moded mining laws of 1872 were corrected** by enactment of Public Law 167. This law separates mineral rights from surface claims and enables a cleanup of many spurious claims—a major step forward.

**The Fish and Wildlife Service was given recognition and elevated status** by passage of the Bonner-Magnuson bill. This creates an Assistant Secretary of Interior in charge of fish and wildlife, establishes two separate bureaus for commercial fisheries and for sport fishing and wildlife.

**Legislation spelling out comprehensive objectives in "soil, water, forest and wildlife conservation" was enacted.** This includes payment to farmers for restoring grasslands.

**The fight against the pollution-destruction of vital water resources was aided** by passage of the Blatnik bill, which strengthens the Public Health Service in dealing with

problems of interstate water pollution, and appropriates funds for cities and states to control local water pollution.

**Appropriations for conservation of natural resources were increased to a new high.** The National Park Service was voted \$68,020,000 for the fiscal year 1956-57, 52 per cent above the previous year. The Forest Service received \$106,898,500 for 1957, compared to \$93,828,414 for 1956. The Fish and Wildlife Service got \$23,516,500, an increase of 33 per cent. And the Soil Conservation Service received \$17.5 million for its small watersheds program, as well as \$12 million for flood protection.

**The omnibus rivers and harbors "Christmas tree" bill, passed by Congress at the last moment, was vetoed by the President.** This holds off authorization of Bruce's Eddy Dam on the north fork of the Clearwater River in Idaho, which was included in the bill. The dam is opposed by conservationists because it represents one-sided planning and is potentially destructive of important fish and wildlife resources.

On the negative side:

The following were introduced, but did not reach the floor: a bill to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System, sponsored by Senator Humphrey along with eight co-sponsors in the Senate, and by Representatives Saylor, Metcalf, Reuss and George Miller in the House; the bills to create a National Park out of the Dinosaur National Monument, introduced by Representatives Saylor and Aspinall.

*All of these measures will probably be re-introduced early in the next Congress. We can hope that the 85th Congress will act on these and other important problems still to be considered.*

EDGAR and PEGGY WAYBURN