



LOST CANYON, SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

*Cedric Wright*

# SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*September  
1957*

# People You Know

**B**EST READING of the year in chapter papers appeared in *Tehipite Topics* (George Ballis is its new editor): Dana Abell's letters from New Hampshire—a thoughtful Westerner's detailed and sensitive impressions of New England countryside and customs, the people around him, and the Appalachian Trail.

Emily Haig's secluded beach home on Hood Canal was the setting for a Pacific Northwest Chapter executive committee meeting. Her delightful flower garden is a small plot carved from the jungle of the Olympic rain forest.

Vice-chairman Fred Lorenz of the Mother Lode is spending a year abroad—mostly in Britain—working and traveling on his sabbatical leave. Ruth will have a vacation, and son Erick starts his college career in Scotland.

Sierrans who attended the annual Picnic Day on the Davis campus of the University of California also had the fun of a "traveling dinner" at the homes of three generous hostesses: Dora Hunt (refreshments), Clare McGee (main course), and Betty Robinson (dessert).

**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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John Whitmer and Bill Kyle of Loma Prieta have pioneered a new and "airy" route on "The Hand" in Pinnacles National Monument—and John left soon thereafter for travels in Canada and New Mexico.

Jane Tucker, now living in Boston, entertained Becky McSheehy from the San Diego Chapter by a joint ascent of Mt. Cardigan—all 3122 feet of it.

Toiyabe Chapter has elected its first executive committee: Homer Angelo, Dr. J. E. Church, Elisabeth Crenshaw (vice-chairman), Harry Ericson, Peg Frazier, Bob Gaw, Les Gould (chairman), Bill Long, and Olga Reifschneider (secretary). Olga has discovered a new species of mimulus, which has been named for her.

Helen and Ted Waller spent some time this summer mountaineering with their three children in the Chamonix region of France. Helen was one of 200 persons selected by the Council on Student Travel in New York to conduct its Travelers' Recreation Information Program, providing shipboard classes in 20 languages on nine regular trans-Atlantic liners.

Among retiring faculty members of the University of California at Berkeley was Caroline W. Coleman, associate supervisor of physical education, who is an authority on ski safety.

Ruth Morgan McEvoy received an honorary degree from Wayne State University (Michigan) "for her leadership in developing the function of the volunteer worker in social and civic services." She has been a Sierra Club member since her first High Trip in 1938, and accomplished effective work in the Detroit area in support of the Dinosaur campaign.

Kay and Ivan Tarnowsky have organized a nucleus of campfire "pepper-uppers" for Bay Chapter car-camping trips, and Julie Bidou is giving ukulele lessons to the group.

One of the 100 Bay Area Boy Scouts who attended the National Jamboree at Valley Forge in July was Kit Goldsmith, eldest son of Carolyn and Dick Goldsmith of Mill Valley.

Bay Chapter Chairman Randal Dickey has been appointed to the Committee on Natural Resources and Interior Affairs of the American Bar Association Section of Administrative Law. As the *Yodeler* points out, there are more than twice as many words in the title as there are members of the committee, so it should count as a real honor.

VIVIAN SCHAGEN



# Sierra Club Bulletin

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

## What's Wrong with SB 1,000?

Of all the conservation bills to pass the 1957 California State Legislature and to be signed by Governor Knight, none has more long-range significance than SB 1,000. This is the so-called "omnibus" park bill which appropriates \$7,569,281 for the acquisition and development of a dozen State-Park-Commission - approved projects, including the expansion of Mt. Tamalpais State Park by the acquisition of the Dias Ranch and other portions of Frank's Valley. With the final pattern of land-use solidifying with almost frightening speed here in California, legislation like this assumes immeasurable importance.

At first glance, SB 1,000 is a splendid bill — a monument to a far-seeing legislature and governor. It is the product of a tremendous amount of work, much of it our own. (One of its most important components started out life as the familiar AB 325 by McCollister of Marin, the Sierra-Club-sponsored Mt. Tamalpais expansion bill.) SB 1,000 sprang from the ashes of AB 3, the

Assembly's omnibus park bill, just two days before the close of the 1957 legislature, as a result of concerted last-minute efforts by many conservationists both inside and outside the legislature. It passed the Assembly unanimously, the Senate 28-2. Interest in SB 1,000 started out high, and has remained so; thousands of people have inquired about its fate. When Governor Knight signed it into law, rejoicing was great.

But it was short-lived. The wording of SB 1,000 reads: "The appropriation . . . shall be expended . . . next in order of priority after the appropriation made for beaches and parks by the Budget Act of 1956 [the Five Year Plan]." It also reads: "The appropriations made by this act shall be available for expenditure until June 30, 1961." This is the date of expiration for the Five Year Plan.

Does this coincidence of dates cancel out the vitally important acquisition funds made available by SB 1,000? Does it nullify the good work of our legislature, our governor, and thousands of interested conservationists?

Opinions vary, even within the Division of Beaches and Parks. By one interpretation, SB 1,000 should supersede the 1957 Division budget, since its appropriations come "next in order" after the appropriations of the Budget Act of 1956; but the 1957 Division budget is already being spent. By another interpretation, the \$7,569,281 can not be touched until all of the funds appropriated by the Budget Act of 1956 have been used, and by that time SB 1,000 would have expired.

*(next page)*

## 1959 Conference Plans Under Way

Under the efficient leadership of George James, the Sixth Biennial Wilderness Conference is already being planned. It will be held on March 20-21, 1959. The exact location is still to be announced, but it will be somewhere in the San Francisco Bay area. This is a gathering which grows larger at each conference, and choosing a suitable meeting-place presents a number of problems.

Clearly this was not the intention of the legislature, nor the governor. Newton B. Drury, Chief of the Division of Beaches and Parks, has therefore requested a formal ruling on SB 1,000 from the Attorney General. Assemblyman McCollister has also offered to introduce at the next legislative session "a new bill eliminating any delaying language."

Meantime, Mr. Drury tells us that the Division of Beaches and Parks will proceed actively toward the acquisition of as much land in Frank's Valley as the \$1,000,000 tagged by SB 1,000 for Mt. Tamalpais will purchase. With such acquisition on a "now or never" basis in Marin, this action cannot begin too soon.

We, in turn, must keep our representatives aware of our interest and concern in SB 1,000, for we cannot afford to have it die by default.

PEGGY and EDGAR WAYBURN

## Young Sierrans Chosen For Student Program

Three Sierra Club members from the San Francisco Bay region are among the fifty-two high school and college students who had summer training jobs in the national parks under the new program of the National Parks Association (see *SCB*, February 1957). They are Keith R. Conning of San Francisco (a life member), Dirk Moeller of Ross, and John Sharsmith of Albany, all seventeen years old. With groups of fifteen, they spent three-week sessions in Olympic National Park, working 24 hours a week on maintenance, improvement, and construction of nature trails, maintaining their own field camp, and receiving instruction in technical phases of outdoor living.

The National Parks Association has expressed great satisfaction with the caliber of students who applied for training under this program. Purposely, very limited public notice was given; even so, twice as many applications were received as there were billets to be filled. Three-quarters of those selected came from Pacific Coast communities; the others were from the East or Middle West.

## Dinosaur Park Dilemma

"The ghost of Echo Park dam," the National Wildlife Federation warns, "has appeared in a bill introduced by Senator Gordon Allott of Colorado to give national park status to Dinosaur National Monument."

Unlike the Saylor and Aspinall bills which the Sierra Club and other national conservation organizations have supported, the Allott bill contains what could be termed a "time-bomb section" allowing the Secretary of the Interior to report to the President and the Congress on the "suitability of reservoir and canal sites within Dinosaur National Park for development under the [reclamation] laws."

This section would in effect cancel the conservationists' achievement in the recent Colorado Storage Project fight—the agreement of the project's sponsors to drop Echo Park dam, or any similar invasion, and to provide in the Project Act that "It is the intention of Congress that no dam or reservoir constructed under the authorization of this Act shall be within any national park or monument."

National conservation organizations believe the Allott bill dangerous until it has been reintroduced without the objectionable section. No other Senators took opportunity to co-sponsor the Allott bill as it now stands, and key conservationist members of the House have warned against it.

The present Allott bill is backed by the Council of Conservationists of New York City, which is no longer the same group it was when the Echo Park controversy was resolved. Last January three members were abruptly dropped from its Executive Committee—J. W. Penfold, Conservation Director of the Izaak Walton League of America; Howard Zahniser, Executive Secretary of The Wilderness Society; and David Brower, Chairman of the Natural Resources Council of America. Ira N. Gabrielson, President of the Wildlife Management Institute and known widely as "Mr. Conservation," resigned shortly thereafter.

D.R.B.

# Council's Year

## *Anniversary Meeting Clarifies Scope*

THE meeting of the Sierra Club Council on its first anniversary, the week end of May 4-5, gave every indication that this part of the organizational life of the club has become in one year not only a useful but a necessary one. With Kathleen Jackson again as chairman, the same officers as before, and almost the same membership as last year, there will be a valuable continuity in thought and action. And there will be plenty of both thought and action—as has already been said, "It is an articulate group and uninhibited in expressing its opinions."

To gain a clearer idea of its functions, the Council adopted a statement of scope, which gives in general terms the purposes for which the Council was formed and shows the types of activities of the Council which may contribute to these purposes. Summarized, the purpose of the Council is to increase the strength of the club, to provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas within the club, to advise the Board of Directors on matters concerning the internal organization and functions of the club, to recommend on any club matter, and to act on any matters requested by the directors.

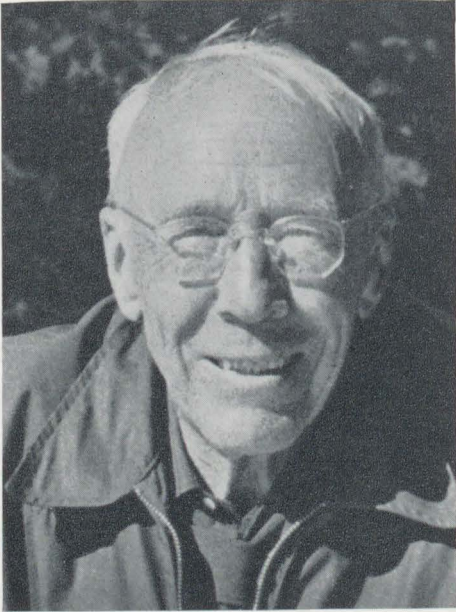
The topics for Council consideration on which the Council may be expected to act can be listed in order of their importance: (1) Those items delegated by the Board for decision and action. (2) Items referred by the Board to the Council for study and recommendation. (3) Items introduced by Council members where authority to act resides in a group represented by the Council—not for decision or action by the Council. (4) Items originated within the Council to request later action by the Board.

Recommendations of the Membership Committee concerning procedure, etc., were accepted, but referred to the various chapters for discussion and report. Complete uniformity is obviously not practical because of the different sizes of the chapters. Chapter election dates, fiscal years and executive committee terms were considered—there is almost as much variety in these as there are chapters, but it was agreed that fiscal years

should coincide with that of the club. Chapter budgets and how they should be spent came in for discussion. It was also agreed that the Council recommend to the Board of Directors that Council representatives and chapter and committee chairmen receive copies of the proposed club budget at the time it is made available to the Board. In this way the committees and chapters would have a better understanding of the financial condition and operation of the club, and be better able to make intelligent requests of the Board. The value of chapter procedure books for executive committees was pointed out. After discussion on proposed changes of the boundaries of the Toiyabe Chapter, the question was referred to the Boundary Committee and the Toiyabe Chapter for future determination. Chapter publications, the size of the Bay Chapter, chapter memberships in other organizations, the Library, the necessity for expanded club headquarters, conservation education, chapter stickers, pins and emblems were among other subjects covered. It was agreed that the Council recommend to the Board that there be a representative on the Council from the club Insurance Committee.

TWO very helpful projects are in the making: the club's policy guide, a ready reference on the directors' actions through the years, which is again being brought up to date, and a "public relations primer" of which William Losh has made a first draft.

It was suggested that the Council recommend to the Board and the club Visual Education Committee that a movie be prepared on the Sierra Club, its purposes, activities and ideals. Roy Dubisch was appointed to prepare a monthly press release on Council activities, to go to each chapter publication. Two have already appeared in chapter papers, and these articles will keep the chapters cognizant of what the Council is doing. As has been pointed out, some of the smaller chapters feel very far away from the center of club activities, and the Council is theirs to help make them feel nearer.



HAROLD C. BRADLEY  
*Sierra Club President*

## Executive Committee: How It Works

Although a corporation is an artificial body with immortal, perpetual life, it must still rely upon mortal, experienced humans to set the policy for the organization. A board of directors with very few members runs the risk of insufficient breadth of experience. The Sierra Club has preferred a relatively large number of directors to gain the advantage of a variety of experience in the increasingly complex conservation problems of our modern civilization. This, however, brings us onto the other horn of the dilemma; it is difficult for 15 busy people to meet often enough to handle all the problems that arise, particularly those that are somewhat emergency or routine in nature. Consequently, Article X of the Sierra Club By-Laws was adopted many decades ago:

"Section 1. An Executive Committee, consisting of the President, the vice-president, the secretary, and the treasurer, each ex-officio, and one other member of the Board of Directors chosen by the board, shall have power to act for the Board of Directors in cases of emergency

or when it is impracticable to convene the board.

"Section 2. The Executive Committee shall serve as a committee on finances, on legislation, and on public relations, and on such other matters as the Board of Directors may specifically delegate to it."

Wherever possible the Executive Committee, during the past ten years, has preferred to have full Board of Directors' discussion on all matters of broad policy. While the Executive Committee has met approximately twice as often as the Board of Directors during that period, it has tried to restrict its business to financial matters such as the budget, which take far more time and detail than should be required of the full board, many routine matters such as appointments of committees and internal organization matters, and, finally, conservation matters that are somewhat of an emergency nature and require fast action before the next meeting of the full Board of Directors.

Such a committee needs more than usual continuity in its membership in order to avoid fluctuations in policy, and to be able to obtain the advantage of past experience. Under Sierra Club custom of rotation of the responsibility of office there have been changes in the Executive Committee at least every two years. This year three of the five members are on the Executive Committee for the first time, but two of the committee have served on it in one capacity or another for nine years and eleven years.

RICHARD M. LEONARD

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Editor:

I am an Italian Fulbright Research Fellow at the University of California and a member of the Club Alpino Italiano (Padova Branch).

Kindly invited by some of the members of the Sierra Club, I took part in the ski touring trip to Mt. Shasta in May.

I enjoyed it so much and appreciated not only the fabulous Mt. Shasta but also the interesting activities and the friendly members of the Sierra Club. Without a doubt, during those two days, I did not even miss my Alps and Dolomites! With my best thanks, please accept my appreciation. I would be very happy if one day I could repay this courtesy to Sierra Club members who may visit my mountains in Italy.

GIANFRANCO DAL SANTO

# Organization Meeting of Directors

Meeting in Berkeley, California, on May 4th, the Board of Directors as usual had a lively day trying to cover the agenda.

Alexander Hildebrand, retiring president, reported on the growth of the club (from 9,000 to 12,000 members in the past two years), the complications this brings, and our increasing responsibilities. The Board expressed its appreciation of his exceptionally competent services during his presidency. Harold Bradley, our new president, then took over the chair.

Now that the Sierra Club Council is doing the spadework on many of the internal affairs, more time can be given by the directors to conservation problems. However, a number of items were considered and reports from Council findings given. Among those in the process of study on which it was felt further information was necessary were the Library, beginning with the chapter and lodge libraries; safety on hikes and outings; education and communication; and whether chapters could join other organizations.

The report of David Brower, Executive Director, revealed the extent of the club's conservation activities, and his own work as the club's representative. Contact with other conservation organizations as well as a sensitive tune-in to the brainwaves of Washington, D.C., entailed seventy meetings on his various eastern trips, personal calls on congressmen, civic leaders and editors, attendance at the North American Wildlife Conference, and several visits to the Pacific Northwest to help further the work of conservation groups there. He was prepared to represent the club in Washington, if authorized by the Board, at congressional hearings on bills proposing an Outdoor Recreation Commission to study and report on scenic resources in the United States. The Board authorized him to present the club's views.

Some of the more important actions taken by the Board were:

- Authorized the president to appoint a committee to study and recommend ways to develop a special conservation fund, to be done in coordination with the Council.

- Agreed to augment the Sierra Club's contribution next year to the important but sadly under-financed International Union for Conservation, by at least twice the club's present contribution. Also agreed to develop a joint recommendation among conservation organizations in this country to urge to the State Department that the United States become a national member of the I.U.C.

- Urged, with respect to dams and reservoirs having significant values for flood control and irrigation, but involving destruction of wildlife or scenic values, that no decision be made until full analysis of engineering and economic factors involved is completed, including alternatives, and until reasonable opportunity has been given for presentation and weighing of the scenic, wildlife and recreational values against the potential economic gain.

- Accepted with gratitude the offer of Mrs. Stuart B. Avery of Massachusetts to contribute a generous sum toward the production of a color motion picture film of the Northern Cascades region in Washington.

- Referred to the Conservation Committee for further study the question of the boundaries of the proposed Glacier Peak Wilderness Area.

- Endorsed the policy statement of the National Wildlife Federation on the Anti-Pollution Bill, a measure of great importance to wildlife conservation.

- Recommended to the Forest Service an augmenting of Sierra Nevada Wilderness Reservations—particularly in parts of the Sierra National Forest, the proposed area to be established as a new Wilderness Area or to be incorporated in existing Wilderness Areas.

- Adopted a policy statement regarding scenic protection of highways, urging that so far as possible scenic highways should be planned to exclude advertising structures (including billboards) which are incompatible with optimum enjoyment of rural and natural roadside vistas.

H.T.P. and L.F.C.

## Bulletin Board

ON THE national scene, a resounding conservation victory took place when the House voted down, 363 to 23, a \$500,000 Senate-approved planning fund for Bruce's Eddy Dam.

• The Outdoor Recreation Resources Survey bill, passed by the Senate, is bogged down in the House, probably for the rest of the current session . . . the National Wilderness bill has aroused considerable interest and is ahead of schedule, there having been good hearings both in the House and the Senate.

Because a dam at Bridge Canyon, Arizona, would back water 27 miles into the Grand Canyon National Park and Monument, the club has asked the Federal Power Commission to deny Los Angeles the application for studying such a dam.

The club is joining other national conservation groups in opposing Spruce Park Dam. Proposed for the North Fork of the Flathead River (adjacent to the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area), this dam would destroy irreplaceable wildlife values.

• The Senate Public Works Committee has killed for this session the Neuberger-Gore bill which would limit billboards along the contemplated new 40,000-mile Federal highway system.

In California, conservationists have chalked up three decisive victories with the passage by the legislature of AB 32 (Lowrey), AB 2,925 (Shell) and SB 1,000 (Sutton). Governor Knight has signed all three bills.

AB 32 is the significant bill providing for a much-needed recreational resources review in California.

AB 2,925 raises the ceiling on annual ex-

penditures for State Parks from \$7,000,000 to \$12,000,000.

SB 1,000 is the all-important omnibus park bill which appropriates, among other vital monies, \$1,000,000 for enlargement of Mt. Tamalpais State Park. This bill needs watching, for the ambivalent wording has already brought divergent interpretations (see page 3).

Other California items: SB 524 (Berry), the club-opposed bill providing for a highway bridging Emerald Bay, was referred back to committee for further study, effectively delaying action on this project for another two years . . . the same fate befell the club-sponsored San Jacinto bill, which would dissolve the Winter Park Authority . . . SB 886 (Dilworth), adding two new members to the State Park Commission on a regional basis, was passed by the legislature and signed by the governor.

EDGAR AND PEGGY WAYBURN

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In the course of the 2½ billion years that life has existed on earth an enormous number of living organisms have evolved. Each present-day species and each of its local races or strains has become through evolutionary processes uniquely adapted to a specific set of local living conditions and each has developed special attributes. The ability of nature to mold organisms in this way to virtually every set of climatic and other living conditions has produced plant-animal communities capable of occupying almost every spot on the earth's surface. In a very real sense each of the living organisms that make up these widely diverse communities represents a unique end-product of a 2½-billion-year period of development and should be looked upon as a precious biological element of potential value to man.

RICHARD H. POUGH