



STARR KING CREEK

by Ansel Adams

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*June
1958*

Let's Plan Some Undevelopment

EVEN our sparsely populated neighbor to the north has its wilderness problems, and recognizes them. Here is the foresighted view of one newspaper:

British Columbia now has plenty of undeveloped wilderness areas. But what it needs is a couple of parks that are undeveloped because we planned them that way.

This is pointed up by the sad tale of the Dawson Creek couple who returned the other day from a flying fishing trip to an isolated lake in the Rockies. Their attempt to get back to nature's solitude was thwarted when two passing pilots in three days spotted their camp and dropped in for a chat.

"There's no privacy any more, not even in the wilderness," the man complained on his return.

There is definitely a place for such privacy, for the man who feels occasionally he must really get away from it all. With the stresses of modern life increasing, such lonely therapy is going to come into ever greater demand. Victoria's conservation and recreation department ought to provide for it now.

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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Two or three areas, even existing parks such as Strathcona on Vancouver Island or what's left of Tweedsmuir to the north, should be earmarked as no-development, wilderness areas. Run one or two roads to their fringes, designate one or two lakes, no more certainly, for light-plane landings, and stop right there. No roads inside the parks, no cabins, no picnic sites, no nothing. It's so beautifully inexpensive, costing nothing.

There are such parks now, but only a few and not in B.C. There is Quetico-Superior straddling the eastern Canadian-U.S. border, which you cannot even fly over. There is Algonquin Park in Ontario. If you want to go anywhere in its 3,000 square miles you go by canoe and on foot, the old-fashioned way. And 300,000 people a year do go the old-fashioned way.

Ontario had to drive out roads, hotels and private cabins. B.C. can have its permanent wilderness by the stroke of a pen. We must have it. For one of the things we must conserve is the capacity of the human spirit to rejoice in wild nature. That capacity is being interfered with today by passing pilots dropping in for tea. Think what the situation will be 20 years from now.

Unless we prevent it.

VANCOUVER Sun

Signs of the Times

In Koala Park in Sydney, Australia:

**BRUSHFIRE WARNING
CHAPERONE YOUR CIGARETTE
DON'T LET IT GO OUT ALONE**

On Philadelphia trashbaskets:

**HEY THERE, YOU WITH THE
TRASH IN YOUR HAND!**

On the Esplanade in Sydney, Cape Breton (Nova Scotia):

**LOITER BUT NOT LITTER,
REST BUT NOT MOLEST,
ENJOY BUT NOT DESTROY.**



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

Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of

Your Wilderness!

The Wilderness Bill climbed another rung toward final enactment with the introduction on Wednesday, June 18, of a "clean" bill by Senator Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota (S. 4028) and Representative John Saylor of Pennsylvania (H.R. 13013). This step was taken in both houses, simultaneously, for the convenience of the respective Interior committees. The new bills embody the further improvements brought about since the wide dissemination of Committee Print No. 2 of the Wilderness Bill after its recent introduction into the *Congressional Record* by Senator Richard Neuberger of Oregon.

Hearings have already been held in both houses of Congress. The clean bill embodies improvements suggested by the executive agencies. The wilderness legislation is now believed by the sponsors to be ready for conservationists all over the country to make the final effort to get the bill enacted before the 85th Congress adjourns.

Prompt help needed

Two years and one week elapsed between Senator Humphrey's introduction of the first Wilderness Bill and this latest step forward. In that time the purpose of the proposal and the means of accomplishing it have been disseminated in detail more widely than any other piece of legislation. The proponents and sponsors have been candid and open in their ends and means. They have taken great pains to seek out suggestions—from the agencies, from organizations, from individuals—and to incorporate all that

would clarify and put to work a national wilderness preservation policy.

It hasn't been easy. The very complexity of the ways various categories of lands are set aside and handled has prevented the Wilderness Bill from being a simple piece of legislation. Complication led easily to misinterpretation and to needless opposition early in the bill's history. The misinterpretation does not seem to have been entirely accidental. All the clichés that have habitually been aimed at progressive moves toward preservation were tossed at this one. And individuals who compulsively oppose nouse, now, of any resource they wish to feel free to use up now—such individuals still oppose the bill, in spite of the reasonable modifications made to assuage reasonable fears. It still has limited appeal in the chambers of commercialism; the values of wilderness to commerce are too subtle for them.

The values of wilderness are not subtle to the man who knows them. They are clear. They relate to as real a reality as man has anything to do with—the earth he stands

A Correction

The new secretary of the Sierra Club Council is *Walter Ward* of Los Gatos (not *Wilfred*, as listed in the *May Bulletin*). *Walter* has been chairman of the Loma Prieta Chapter, and has also served as its treasurer and as chairman of its conservation committee. (*Wilfred Ward* lives in Berkeley; he has been chairman of the Natural Science Section of the Bay Chapter for several years.)

on, or stood on before the pavement got so thick he forgot the feel of it and his ultimate dependence upon it.

This is not to review the meaning of wilderness to Sierra Club members, but to remind them that they know it well, and need to work vigorously in its behalf in every spare moment in the next few weeks. Nearly ten years' effort has led to the step Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Saylor took June 17. Just a few more rungs, before Congress adjourns, and the Wilderness Bill will have climbed to the top, to become one of the most important conservation achievements of the century. Apathy won't lift it an inch. Caring and action will.

D.R.B.

Chairmen of the respective committees on

Interior and Insular Affairs are: Hon. James E. Murray, Senate Office Building, and Hon. Clair Engle, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Association Asks Park Protection in Cascades

At its annual meeting in May the National Parks Association voted: In recognition of its outstanding scenic and wilderness recreational qualities, the Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association urges that the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service enter mutually into discussions aimed at insuring the protection of the North Cascades region of north-central Washington as a national park.

Knapsackers Can Still Choose

There is still room on many of the summer knapsack trips; perhaps an unusual number of Sierra Club members are painting the porch or are off to Europe for the summer. If you are not one of these, and have been considering a knapsack outing this year, there is ample time left to take advantage of one of the finest selections of trips scheduled in many seasons.

On July 19 one of the new small and congenial member-planned trips will sample the high lake basins of the North Fork of the Kings River region, while a second party, made up of Southern California area members, goes into the country at the headwaters of the Kern River, ready for eight days of spectacular views from high peaks and passes.

True alpine wilderness awaits those who favor a change of climate in the Salmon La Sac country of central Washington. This promises to be an easy and leisurely outing, although one which presents an unusual variety in the beauty of its scenery. Just right weather-wise, too, between July 28 and August 8.

There are two knapsack trips tailor-made for those of you who like the pleasures and

surprises of the unknown. In mid-August, you will have an opportunity to see the widely talked about Wind River Range of Wyoming, with the extra mobility which the backpacker enjoys. You name it—it's there: granite expanses, lakes, streams and meadows, and the peaks of the Continental Divide.

In many ways the trip with the greatest allure, particularly for those who want to remain nearer home, yet get away from the beaten path, is the Deadman Creek outing scheduled from August 16 to 24. Here is the ideal way to see and cover some of the finest although least visited country in the Kings-Sequoia Park region.

Knapsacking offers a satisfying flexibility and freedom of travel, and affords a close comradeship with fellow hikers whose wandering spirit has risen above the abundant creature comforts of home. There is no better way to see the mountains and to do it with less impact on them, and on your budget. If you have not given serious thought to a knapsack trip this summer, why not?

Details of all trips will be found in the March *Bulletin*. Note: The Northern Yosemite trip (Aug. 9-17) has been canceled.

Tanganyika Topics

EDITOR:

As I am planning to climb the four highest peaks on the African continent in January 1959, I was interested in the article in the April *Bulletin* about placing Sierra Club registers on Kilimanjaro.

Kilimanjaro in Tanganyika has two peaks: Kibo, 19,340 feet, the highest peak in Africa, and Mawenzi, 16,896 feet. While Kibo has no technical climbing difficulties, and rope is not even needed, the great majority of climbers either turn back at Kibo Hut (16,000) or at Gilman's Point (18,635), which is at the rim of the crater. Due to altitude, few climbers are able to struggle on for a mile and a half around the rim of the crater to the real summit, Kaiser Wilhelm Spitze (19,340). While this is only 705 feet higher than Gilman's Point, some of the best climbers in the world (including even Tilman and Shipton, the two great English climbers, on their first attempt in 1930) have been turned back near the top, because of mountain sickness. Only a few Americans have climbed to the real summit of Kibo.

There is a very large double crater at the top of Kibo, and while it is only three degrees south of the equator, the upper part of the mountain is covered with glaciers and has a perpetual snow cap.

Mawenzi (16,896), which is about seven miles from the rim of the crater on Kilimanjaro, is considered a difficult rock climb and not many climbers attempt it.

Mount Meru (14,979), near Arusha, is about seventy miles from Kilimanjaro. It is covered with a primeval forest, which is inhabited by some of the most ferocious wild animals in Africa.

Mount Kenya, about 150 miles north of Nairobi, and almost on top of the Equator, has two peaks: Batian (17,058) and Nelion (17,022), the second and third highest peaks in Africa. The Mountain Club of Kenya might be interested in having Sierra Club registers on Mount Kenya. These peaks are far more difficult to climb than Kilimanjaro. As Tilman has written, "On Kenya is to be found climbing at its best. There is no



AX NELSON PLACES REGISTER
ON MOUNT MERU

easy route up it . . ." It has everything a mountain should offer—hard clean rock, glaciers and fantastic views. It would be a real mountaineering achievement to sign a Sierra Club register on top of Kenya. Only one American has ever climbed one of its peaks.

Although Mount Kenya has been closed to climbing for some time, on account of the Mau Mau, I have finally received permission from the Provincial Police to climb it next January.

JOHN D. GRAHAM

All of the four Sierra Club registers (made by Kasper Casperson of the Angeles Chapter) sent to Africa have now been placed, according to Ax Nelson, president of the Kilimanjaro Section of the Mountain Club of East Africa. Ax writes, "We offer complimentary half-rates for use of our huts on the 35-mile grind to the summit of Kibo to all Sierra Club members who become our guests. Chris, my son, and I hope to help others finish tripling our 16,000-ft. Kibo hut accommodations by August. We need room sometimes for 20 climbers and 30 or more porters and guides!"

Late Word on Outings

A mid-June check of sign-ups for summer outings announced in the March *Bulletin* shows that while there are still places on Sierra High Trip 1, the second part of that trip is filled and has a waiting list. However, high-trippers can find room on either Wind River outing, and bold experimenters are welcome on the High-Light Trip.

Al Baxter is ready to start for Peru with his group of Andean adventurers; Fred Eissler's Clean-up Work Party for the Sierra is complete. A few more people can be squeezed in on the last week of the North Cascades Special, and on the first Base Camp (the other two Base Camps are filled). Burro-trippers can still be accommodated on all except trip 1b (and one more family can join the first Family Burro Trip).

Any additional enthusiasts would swamp River Trips 3 and 4, but they can now choose between the second Salmon River Trip, starting August 3 (see the May *Bulletin*), or Glen Canyon.

Knapsackers, offered this year a program of wide variety, are apparently making decisions "with all deliberate speed." The additional article on page 4 should help.

6th Wilderness Conference

"The Meaning of Wilderness to Science" will be the theme of the Sixth Biennial Wilderness Conference, to be held at the Fairmont, San Francisco, March 20-21, 1959.

Dr. Robert C. Miller of the California Academy of Sciences, conference chairman, in his announcement of first plans, states that there will be three parts to the conference. In the first, men from the natural, medical, and social sciences will speak and answer questions relating the scientific meaning of wilderness to the people who own and use it. The conference will then consider methods of administering wilderness to protect its continuing contribution to science and people. Finally, there will be recommendations, relating to the question: Where do we go from here now that we have (or are about to have) a National Wilderness Preservation System?

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6th I.U.C. Assembly

The Sierra Club will be represented at the Sixth General Assembly of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, Athens, Greece, September 10-24, 1958, by Dr. Walter P. Taylor of Claremont, California.

As a long-time resident, off and on, of California, a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, and a former biologist for the Fish and Wildlife Service, Dr. Taylor is not unknown to Californians. From the occasion when he met John Muir, Taylor has been intensely interested in nature and nature protection.

Taylor was a charter member of the American Society of Mammalogists and of the Wildlife Society, of both of which he has served as president. He is also a longtime member of the Ecological Society of America, and various other scientific organizations, including the California Academy of Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. During his residence in southern California in recent years, he organized and directed the Claremont Conservation Conference.

In the summer of 1957 Dr. Taylor was a member of the faculty of Murray State College, Kentucky, under the auspices of one of the National Science Foundation's Summer Science Institutes. The present year he has been serving as Distinguished Visiting Professor of Zoology at the Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. He is on leave as a visiting professor from the Claremont Graduate School and La Verne College.

Mountain Talk

MEN to match the mountains are not common, but names to fit the peaks and canyons are indeed a scarce commodity. The discoverers and mapmakers are no better able to set off the spectacular in words than you and I, back from a trip and trying to tell the home folks about it.

Names on the land are nevertheless a fascinating study, as readers of George Stewart are aware. Francis Farquhar, in his *Place Names of the High Sierra*, gives us an opportunity to select between the names that seem to strike just the right note, and those that merely distinguish one place from another.

Even the prosaic names often have historical or human interest. Dusy Basin and Lembert Dome commemorate pioneers who had significant roles in the high country. Dinkey Creek was named for Dusy's "little dog, Dinkey, that was torn by a bear in that neighborhood." There is gallantry, of course, in the scattering of Florences, Marions and Elizabeths on our maps.

Tenaya Lake, Pohono Trail and the Kaweahs represent another group of names, entirely appropriate, derived from the tongues of the Indians who enjoyed the Sierra long before English was spoken here. Sing Peak and Tunemah Trail remind us that not only Caucasians came after the Indians.

Some names are for the members of exploring and surveying parties: Whitney, Goddard, Gardner, Davis, Brewer, King. Others are for mountaineers who made the country famous: LeConte, Muir, Clark, Parsons, Colby.

There are descriptive names, like Red-and-White Mountain; poetic names, like Lake of the Fallen Moon; memorial names, like Mount Starr King.

To my taste the most apt and inspiring names in the High Sierra were given by Theodore S. Solomons, charter member of the Sierra Club and pioneer of the idea and route of the John Muir Trail. Starting in 1892, for five summers, Solomons investigated and photographed the region of the high peaks. The young enthusiast was in pursuit of a trail route, as close to the main crest as possible, to enable travelers to take

pack animals all the way from Yosemite to Kings River Canyon.

It was in 1895 that Solomons and a companion reached the headwaters of the South Fork of the San Joaquin. Here they found a group of giant peaks that had remained unnamed. Solomons, trained in the earth sciences and the classics, had the imagination to meet this challenge.

The peaks he named the Evolution Group. Individually they were Darwin, Haeckel, Wallace, Fiske, Spencer and Huxley, for theorists and interpreters of the new scientific concepts which had revolutionized knowledge of the earth and of life.

BEFORE he reached Simpson Meadow, Solomons and his fellow-knapsacker traversed Disappearing Creek, in the Enchanted Gorge, lying between Scylla and Charybdis—all named by him at this time. When he left for Alaska two years later, he had written a number of articles and prepared maps on which he coined still other names.

It is the Evolution summits, however, which bear witness to Solomons' genius for naming. Together with the peaks named for Agassiz, Dana, Lyell and other 19th-century scientists, and such happy inventions as Saurian Crest, they provide a clue for those of us who seek a frame of reference in which to tell what the Sierra is.

Why did the mountains mean so much, suddenly, to those who "discovered" them in the time of Muir, Clarence King and LeConte? Perhaps because the quality of revelation flowed in the fresh experiences of educated men who were seeing the world created before their eyes, as they took in the view from the peaks.

Nothing could be more fitting, in any case, than the name of Charles Darwin on the lofty, bare plateau, nearly 14,000 feet above the sea, dominating glacier-carved Evolution Basin and the wild places in which biology is an open book.

When our insight equals that of Solomons, not so long ago in the high country, there will be minds to match our mountains.

FRED GUNSKY

Bulletin Board

● *Marked items urgent;
individuals can help*

The Wildlife Management Institute led in obtaining a highly important amendment to the new Alaska statehood bill, recently passed by the House. This amendment provides that administration of Alaskan fish and wildlife resources would not be turned over to the new state until the Secretary of the Interior has advised Congress that the Alaska State Legislature has made adequate provision for a sound fish and wildlife program.

- The substitute Omnibus River and Harbors Bills (H.R. 12700, S. 3910), designed to meet the objections which caused the President's veto of a recent, similar measure, still includes an authorization of over \$1,000,000 for planning studies for Bruce's Eddy Dam on the Clearwater River, Idaho. The Sierra Club continues its opposition to such a dam as being needlessly destructive of wildlife, scenic, and recreational values.

- S. 3898, introduced by Senator Paul H. Douglas (Ill.), and sponsored by Neuberger (Ore.), Morse (Ore.) and Murray (Mont.) would authorize acquisition of some 3,500 acres of unique and scenic land on the southern shore of Lake Michigan (between Ogden Dunes and Dunes Acres) to be established as the Indiana Dunes National Monument.

- Action is still pending in Congress on the Wilderness Bill and the revised and improved versions were introduced June 18. The Recreation Bill has cleared Congress and awaits the President's signature. It passed both houses without objection.

At a recent Forest Service public hearing, the Sierra Club supported strongly the Service proposals for reclassification of the

Bridger Primitive Area (in Wyoming) to the Bridger Wilderness Area.

- Fate hangs in the balance for one of the largest remaining undeveloped areas in the west—over 1,000,000 acres of the Kern Plateau, California. As long ago as 1937, the Sierra Club favored inclusion of much of the High Sierra region south of Sequoia National Park to the southern boundary of Sequoia National Forest in a Kern Primitive Area. In 1956, this potential was breached by a Forest Service timber sale in the southwestern portion. On June 13, 1958, the Service held an advisory hearing at which the club opposed construction of another timber access road into the center of the remaining wild country—piecemeal invasion.

- With the signing of the California State Budget for 1958, Governor Knight authorized funds for the Omnibus Park Bill passed by the 1957 Legislature. This bill provides for the acquisition of vitally needed park lands, such as areas adjacent to Mt. Tamalpais State Park. Acquisition will not begin until the State Park Commission gives priority to the various projects. Interested citizens should write the Commission, stating their views.

The concept of regional park planning for urban and suburban areas is gaining momentum in California. In the San Francisco Bay area, citizens are making efforts to coordinate recreational planning and land acquisition with adjacent counties where land is available. Such regional planning will play an important role in the California Outdoor Resources Review program, recently launched.

EDGAR AND PEGGY WAYBURN