# March 1959 C L U B B U L E T I



It's absolutely essential that man...should leave a margin, a sanctuary, where some of life's beauty can take refuge and where he himself can feel safe from his own cleverness

-ROMAIN GARY in The Roots of Heaven

Wilderness Outing Program for 1959

# People You Know

For some good but hidden reason, more Sierra Club members are wandering farther afield in their search for new beauty spots, wilderness camping and adventuring. Some go to Europe, some to South America, a few to Canada and even Alaska—and many, many of them go to Mexico.

Eleven who made the latter trip recently included Bud Bingham, Bill Sanders, Andy Smetko, John Shinno, Peter Hunt, Barbara Lilley, Charlotte Parsons, Vern Jones, Freda Jensen, John Robinson and Bud Bernard. It took three

cars to transport them and theirs.

To avoid tangling with Montezuma's Revenge they cooked their own meals, and so conserved their strength that the entire group climbed Popocatepetl, 17,800 feet, with much of the way up a steep, powdery snow slope. They had to walk around the upper reaches to attain the crater lip. Then, after recovering, they moved on to Ixtaccihuatl, 17,343, found a guide whose other client had decided against the climb, hired said guide and all but two reached the summit.

Just to round out the trip, all of the group except Barbara (who already had done it), climbed Orizaba, 18,700 feet and reported the best part of it was a 3,500-toot glissade on the way down.

Conservation Committee Chairman Bob Bear of the Angeles Chapter organized a tree-planting expedition to Charlton Flats during Conservation Week, and about 100 showed up—not all Sierra Club members, however. But many Jeffrey and Coulter pines were planted in an area the Forest Service swears will never be logged. Time will tell, but probably not our time. It will take 40 years for the trees to grow to a respectable height.

COVER: Wind River country, Wyoming. A High Trip and a Knapsack Trip will visit this area (see pages 5 and 13). Color photo by Philip W. Faulconer.

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.

Tom Amneus, new chairman of the Angeles Chapter, reported on the January Directors' meeting and aroused considerable interest down here on the always-challenging problem of despoliation of the rather fragile southerly mountain areas through creation of roads and trails. New roads threaten virtually every part of the southern mountains, although often not directly. Tom is a Boston boy, but a Californian since 13 when he moved—with his parents—to San Diego. He is a structural engineer by trade.

Conservation Education Committee Chairman Betty Southam, Miss Pasadena of local Sierrans, evolved awards of merit for school children participating in the Conservation Week program.

One of the best known mountaineeringphotographer teams in the club, *Niles* and *Louise Werner* are spending three months in Europe after flying there via the SAS Arctic route

The Natural Science section presented a vividly illustrated program one Friday night on chaparral plants typical of the Sonoran reaches of southern mountains. Then, to give meaning to it, they led a field trip up Sunset Ridge Riding and Hiking Trail, pointing out for the uninformed the various species of plant life enroute. Jess Machado led the hike and had prepared a large map of California illustrating the places where certain types of vegetation could be found. Walter Engle said that the Section, having now shown the desert and chaparral regions, will present other programs on the coastal sage, stream woodlands and pine woodlands, to give non-specialist Sierrans a rounded picture of their habitat.

DAN L. THRAPP

# Letters

Sierra Club:

I have a fundamental worry about what I see of wilderness conservation efforts. That is whether it isn't quixotic to a large and growing degree, in view of the smallness of the segment of the population with means enough ever to hope to see a wilderness—and the fortunate few are going to become proportionately fewer as the nation's population swells to 228 million (1975) and over 300 million (2000)—to expect to interest an effective part of the population in preservation of what must appear, in one important sense, as playgrounds for the wealthy. I write with some feeling, appalled by the prospective price of any extensive camping ventures for my family of five.

Yes, the wilderness areas left to us *must* be protected. But, if we're to get widespread public support for the effort, we're going to have to answer satisfactorily the average man's question, however unspoken: "What's in it for me and my family?"

And, how can we permit 300 million people to enjoy enough of the wilderness to have personal interests in preserving it without destroying it in the process? Not literally 300 million, of course; but you get my point.

GUY HOLMAN Wilmington, Delaware

• Below is one member's suggestion of what could be done to gain public support. The Club wants *your* ideas.

Sierra Club:

Although I enjoyed the January Bulletin very much, I agree with Dorothy Gibbs' letter that an article in LIFE or some other national magazine would help a great deal, as your Bulletin reaches mostly those people who are already on your side. Since we can't make editorial decisions for LIFE magazine. I thought I'd suggest trying to buy advertising space. Perhaps something like your picture of clearcut forest on page 8 in the January SCB, or one of campers picking up trash such as on page 5. I realize that this would cost a tremendous lot of money, but even once

would do a lot of good and would impress those people most in need of education on these matters.

I must admit that pro-wilderness as I am I have been swayed by those paintings of a clear-cut forest with deer and eagles in the fore-ground. Just imagine what people who have never seen the Sierra might conclude. An ad like that can undo a lot of less convincing talk by conservationists.

I further suggest starting a fund to pay for such an advertisement and I would immediately contribute to it, as I think would many others.

> A MEMBER New York

Sierra Club:

If any other club members would like current information about the Himalaya regions, I might be able to supply it as I'm on a two-year assignment here. My actual work involves a geologic study of the structure of the Himalaya, and the area I've chosen is the Garhwal region, which includes the peaks of Kamet, Nanda Devi, Nanda Kot, Trisul, Maikoli, etc. At this moment we are working the Almora area and see all of these peaks every day. Later in the season we'll pack in with porters toward the Kamet area. Since the monsoon doesn't affect that region much, we'll be able to work through until August.

The literature on mountaineering in the Himalaya tends to slight the beauty of the lower regions. It is a hiker's paradise, with beautiful stands of open pine forest (much like the ponderosa pine forests of the Sierra), thousands of excellent trails leading in all directions, charming little villages every few miles, glades and glens like those of Mt. Tamalpais, and always the background of the snowy range.

So far we've studied the geology in Kashmir, in a long stretch of the Indian Himalaya, in Nepal, in Sikkim, and even at one point crossed over into Tibet. It's an interesting assignment and I'll be happy to pass on any information to anybody interested in the area.

JAMES F. SEITZ

TCM, c/o U. S. Embassy New Delhi, India

# Sierra Club Bulletin

NUMBER 3

... TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE NATION'S SCENIC RESOURCES ...

#### Wrights and Hutchinson Honored

# Actions of Board at January Meeting

AT THE January 17 meeting in San Francisco the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club acted as follows:

#### Internal Affairs

- Accepted with deep regret the resignation (from the Board) of Lowell Sumner (who felt the office incompatible with his position with the National Park Service), and expressed appreciation for the large contributions he has made through sound judgment and professional insight into conservation problems.
- Elected Clifford Heimbucher to complete Sumner's term (to May 1961).
- Elected as Honorary Vice-President James S. Hutchinson, a charter member and a lifelong contributor to Sierra Club progress. He had held important offices in the club's early years; had worked on exploration and mapping of the Sierra Crest and was one of those who pioneered the route that became the Muir Trail; and achieved some notable first ascents and helped initiate mountaineering as a sport. A leader, with his brother Lincoln, in forming the Sierra Ski Club-the first group to recognize the recreational potential of skiing in the Sierra and to develop it in the Donner Summit region—he helped gather together a distinguished group which remained active, summer and winter, for a quarter of a century. His generous advocacy and tireless effort resulted in turning over to the Sierra Club the Sierra Ski Club Lodge-(now known as Hutchinson Lodge) and its valuable reservation of 67 acres.
- · Elected as Patron Members Mr. and Mrs. Cedric Wright, in recognition of Cedric's sensitive interpretation through photography of the esthetics of the Sierra Nevada and of his generous donation to the club of his extensive collection of negatives of the Sierra, and in recognition of Rhea's loyal encouragement and own love of the beauties of the
- · Commended and thanked Honorary Vice-President Walter A. Starr for a fine report on the status of High Sierra trails, for his advocacy of an adequate but not overdeveloped trail system, and for making knowledge of these trails available through up-to-date reissues of Starr's Guide to the John Muir Trail.

- Commended the Library Committee—particularly Richard Pitman and Wesley Noble -for extraordinary devotion of time, energy, and industry toward developing a vital program for the library.
- Appropriated funds of \$800 (outside the regular budget) for library bookbinding, and of \$500 (from the Conservation and Memorial Fund) for organizing and properly filing and storing the Wright negatives under supervision by Ansel Adams.
- · Approved a project of the Kern-Kaweah Chapter for publication (under the auspices of the Editorial Board) of a vacation guide to the Mammoth Lakes area of the High
- Studied a number of proposed changes in the By-Laws as recommended by the By-Laws Committee, all of which it approved for submission to the membership in the coming annual election.

#### Conservation and Public Matters

· Approved in principle the report submitted by a special committee (Nathan Clark, chairman) with respect to road standards for national parks, and provided for making copies of this report (when revised and completed) available to interested parties, including expressly organizations coöperating

with the Sierra Club in concern for roads in national parks.

- Expressed the belief that it is in the public interest that there be a strong California State Park Commission with policy-making powers sufficient to protect and develop the State Park System.
- · Stated the view that the Sierra Club is sympathetic to the preservation of the natural beauty of an adequate part of the Golden Gate shoreline as a long-range plan, and requested the Conservation Committee of the San Francisco Bay Chapter to coöperate in study and recommendation of a plan for achieving this goal.
- Supported the position of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Monuments, and Historic Sites in recommending that the National Park Service have no more than an advisory role in the construction of parkways unless the roads are within national park
- · Expressed support of the principle that Federal agencies are best equipped to manage certain types of lands, and declared that if lands of the public domain now administered by the Bureau of Land Management are transferred to the National Forest Preserve, National Forest lands best suited for recrea-(Continued on page 18)

# Club Members to Vote on Directors, Changes in By-Laws

THE Nominating Committee is submitting I to the membership the following list of candidates (in the order determined by lot for the ballot) for the five positions on the Board of Directors to be filled at the election on April 11: Polly Dyer of Auburn, Washington; \*Charlotte E. Mauk, technical editor. of Berkeley; Thomas Jukes, biological chemist, of New City, New York; \*Nathan C. Clark, engineer, Los Angeles; Charles Wilts, professor, Pasadena; Bestor Robinson, attorney, Oakland; \*William E. Siri, biophysicist, Richmond; and George Marshall, economist and editor, Los Angeles. Those starred are incumbent members of the Board whose terms expire this year. (The other incumbent, Harold E. Crowe, while he is making a

successful recovery from a heart attack suffered early this year, must forego the activity that would be involved if he should remain with the Board.) Background material on each candidate is included with the ballot mailed to all club members.

Terms of the other Directors end as follows: in April, 1960-Ansel Adams, Elmer C. Aldrich, Lewis F. Clark, Edgar Wayburn, R. Clifford Youngquist; in April, 1961: Harold C. Bradley, Clifford V. Heimbucher, H. Stewart Kimball, Richard M. Leonard, A. Starker Leopold.

Members are also asked to vote on various amendments to the club By-Laws, the purposes of which are set forth in supplementary material accompanying the ballot.



ZUMWALT MEADOW

by Cedric Wright

# The 1959 Wilderness Outings

In A few short days the first river boat splashing into the Colorado River will mark the beginning of the 1959 program of Sierra Club Wilderness Outings. We're starting early this year, for Glen Canyon has a limited life span as a scenic resource (see Sierra Club Bulletin, November, 1958).

As winter snows melt, hundreds of Sierra Club members scattered through California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah and British Columbia will begin walking mountain trails and floating down wilderness river canyons. Underlying this wide-ranging program of wilderness outings is a concept developed by John Muir and Will Colby at the turn of this century. Colby and Muir recognized that wilderness can be preserved only in proportion to the number of people who know its values first hand. Since 1904 the Sierra Club Outing program has provided thousands of first-hand experiences with wilderness mountains and rivers of the Western Hemisphere.

While this year's trips will be confined to the North American continent entirely, it is hoped that the program will meet the varied needs of our well-traveled membership. In addition to the traditional types of club outings, 1959 plans include new country combined with old techniques, and vice versa.

New areas to be explored are the Clearwater River of Idaho, Oregon's Rogue River, and the Chiwawa River, gateway to the heartland of the Cascades. And we are revisiting Washington's Olympics after a long absence.

The Wilderness Threshold Trip (see page 15) will provide families with young children an opportunity to "get away from it all" together—but not too far away for a quick return to civilization if that should become necessary.

A mountaineering knapsack trip in British Columbia's Coast Range, led by Allen Steck, represents the opposite end of the broad spectrum of our 1959 Wilderness Outings.

Last year's innovations, the High-Light Trip and the Clean-up Work Party, are repeated in different surroundings. Base Camps vary their program with a North Cascades outing and a new Back-Country Camp, in addition to the three regular Sierra camps.

High Trips follow the traditional pattern of four weeks of carefree, load-free trail travel in the Sierra Nevada, and add a return to Wyoming's Wind River country and a three-camp special in the Cascades.

Knapsackers, the most independent mountain travelers, have their choice of seven trips, in or out of California, planned for beginners or for the more experienced.

Burro trips for families or for individuals, and river trips for everyone, complete the list.

In the pages which follow you will find your invitation to a rich and rewarding experience, to fulfill your vacation plans.

THE OUTING COMMITTEE H. Stewart Kimball (Chairman)



# The High Trips

Sierra Nevada and Wind River

HIGH TRIPS of today and of bygone years have three important elements in common: people, mules, and country—big country. Mixed together in varying proportions these three ingredients always produce a new and worthwhile wilderness experience.

Oldtimers can tell us wonderful tales about the long, dusty journey to the mountains by rail and wagon. We cover those miles quickly today, and eat different foods, but modes of back-country travel have changed little during the past half-century. The High Trips proceed through the trail country at a leisurely pace, moving camp about every third day. Trail distances between camps vary from seven to twelve miles. On moving days, after an early call for breakfast, supplies and dunnage are loaded on pack stock. Trip members move from camp to camp on foot. High Trips are open to adults and teen-agers (who must be accompanied by adults responsible for them).

A commissary crew prepares meals and assists with moving-day operations. Layover day activity can be strenuous or not, depending upon your mood. While the country at hand usually entices all but the most lethargic into an exploratory climb or walk, each layover day will provide extraordinary opportunities for spontaneous loafing.

We do, however, invite your help in running the machinery of the trip. Your toolsan axe, a shovel, a spatula or vegetable peeler; a shoulder and match at campfire time; a pencil for a skit and spirit for a song; friendly advice for those who want to know about their wilderness environment; a sharp eye to insure that where we go we leave no sign; an attentive ear to the club's reason for sponsoring the trips, and conservation's need. A group as large as ours could wrench the solititude from the mountains, but by keeping the mountains foremost we have also kept them big enough to absorb our numbers into a mountain tranquility not too often disturbed by mountaineering and managerial yodels.

On split moves: High Trip logistics in the Sierra are necessarily different from those in other ranges which grow more feed for mules. Therefore, camp must be split for any moves greater than seven miles.

#### High Trip 1—Elizabeth Pass—Roaring River Country—July 5-18

Starting from Wolverton in Sequoia National Park on July 5, we shall make the trip

EARLY RISERS by Cedric Wright over Elizabeth Pass into the Roaring River country, then out to Zumwalt Meadow near Cedar Grove via Avalanche Pass. Camps along the way will include Bearpaw Meadow, Lone Pine Meadow, Deadman Canyon, Cloud Canyon and Sphinx Creek.

#### High Trip 2—Sixty Lakes—Glen Pass Country—July 19-August 1

Our second period begins at Zumwalt Meadow in Kings Canyon on July 20. We will move up the Kings to our first camp in Paradise Valley. Successive camps will be on Woods Creek, in Sixty Lakes Basin, at Charlotte Lake via Glen Pass, and at East Lake. The High Trip will return to Zumwalt Meadow on August 1.

The country through which both trips will travel offers many opportunities for knapsack excursions away from the main group. There will be an ample supply of light foods and knapsack equipment, so if you are interested in such activity don't forget to include a sizable knapsack in your equipment list, one large enough to carry your sleeping bag and a small amount of food.

# Wind River Mountains—Bridger Wilderness Area—August 18-27

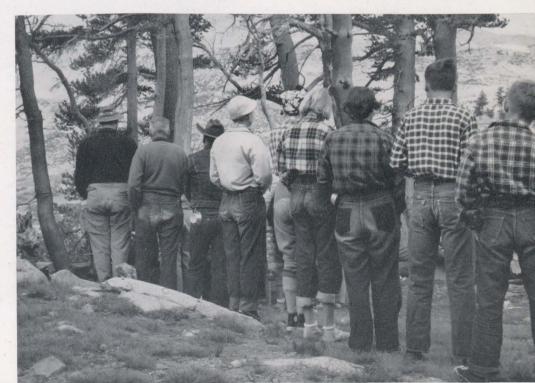
The Out-of-State High Trip will again explore the high climax country of the Wind River Mountains, one of the more spectacular of the many ranges that make up the Rocky Mountain chain. (And if west central Wyoming seems remote or inaccessible to the Southern Californian, note this: from Los Angeles to Pinedale—the jumping-off

place for Wind River trips—the highway mileage is 25 miles shorter than from San Francisco.)

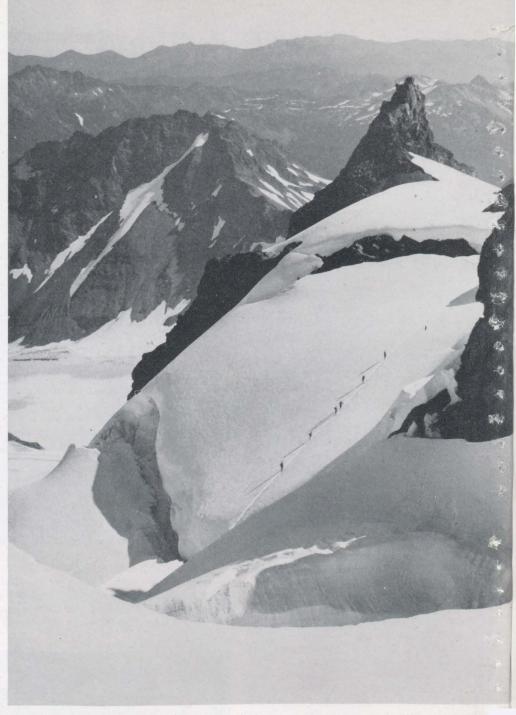
You will find the Wind River Mountains an area of unusual beauty. There are great granite peaks (the highest is Gannett Peak—13,785 feet) and also the more typical flattopped peaks of the Rockies. Around them are forests of fir and spruce, and carpets of flowers (at their best in August) in the parklike meadows. Fishing is unsurpassed in the multitude of high basin lakes and the streams of deep glaciated canyons. There are still some big game animals, and you may be lucky enough to see mountain sheep or a band of elk.

This is a region of great significance in the history of the Old West, the time of the westward movement across the plains and mountains to the Pacific Coast and especially to Oregon. A little pre-trip reading would greatly enhance your appreciation of the Wind River Range, known to the fur trappers of the 1820's and 1830's, and there are dozens of histories, journals and novels from which to choose. John C. Fremont, whose explorations opened up the Oregon Trail by the discovery of South Pass at the southern end of the range, penetrated to the heart of the Wind Rivers in 1842 and climbed the mountain now known as Fremont Peak.

The starting point will be the roadhead at Elk Heart Camp, about 20 miles northeast of Pinedale above the head of Fremont Lake. Camps will be made in Bald Mountain Basin and at Island Lake. This latter camp will be the base for climbs of Fremont Peak and other 13,000-foot peaks of the area. Some of the lakes and streams will have a thin milky whiteness from the fine grindings of the glaciers on these peaks. Other camps will be situated in the high country to the west of the crest of the Wind River Range, where there should be fabulous fishing.



Three
Wilderness
Outings
in the
Pacific
Northwest



#### One in the Olympics...

VIEW FROM MOUNT OLYMPUS

 $by\ Alfred\ Schmitz$ 

Olympic Outing—Blue Glacier, Mt. Olympus, Olympic Beach Strip—August 10-22

An outing to Olympic National Park has been overdue for some time; this year we'll make amends by visiting a few of the most famous of scenic spots, including the lowest and the highest points in the park.

This will be a combination trip including trail walking with the help of a packer, some lakeside loafing, knapsacking ventures into some little-visited country, climbing over the Northwest's deepest glacier (620 feet of ice) and over snow domes to the highest peak, Mt. Olympus (7,954), a hike through the incomparable rain forest, and a knapsack trip along the 28 miles of wilderness beach made prominent last year by Justice Douglas's hike.

All this, in a tightly planned package, is offered provided there is willingness to reduce duffel to 20 pounds and also a willingness to assist in the cooking of meals. Attendance limit is set at 30. Good physical condition is imperative; however, anyone who can make the three-day knapsack trip along the beach should have little trouble in

the high country. The climb of Mt. Olympus (not at all difficult by technical standards) and visit to Blue Glacier should be done by everyone; for this trip ice axe and crampons are required.

The leaders will be Al Schmitz and Stan and Dottie Foss, all of Portland. Yes, no cook is along for the well-planned meals, but a hired pot washer will do most of the dirty work.

Duffel limit 20 pounds. Starting point Sol Duc Hot Springs. All meals are included from Monday morning, August 10 to Saturday morning, August 22.

#### ... and Two in the Cascades

#### Cascades Base Camp—Cascade Pass— July 8–17

Approaching the Cascade Crest from the west through Marblemount, our cars will be left at the road end on the North Fork of the Cascade River. A walk of 6 miles will take us over Cascade Pass (5,500') to our Base Camp, high on the watershed of the Stehekin River.

Dunnage and supplies will be transported from the roadhead by pack stock and our timberline camp will operate in the traditional Base Camp manner, with meals prepared by a commissary staff. A few horses and tents will be available through special arrangements with the management.

If you've seen the Sierra Club's 30-minute color and sound movie, "Wilderness Alps of Stehekin," this trip needs little further description. If you haven't seen this film, make an effort to do so before planning your vacation.

This area of the Northern Cascades offers extraordinary opportunities for the glaciologist, botanist and rock climber as well as providing the optimum setting for the "ubiquitous mountain watcher."

Of special significance to those wishing to broaden their knowledge of nature's interactions are the steep verdant slopes of the Cascades country. In one afternoon a small boy will be able to think up questions about this country which would take a lifetime of scientific investigation to answer. Nowhere else in the United States can we expect to find the combination of active glaciers, wildlife populations, and well-developed forest

GLACIER PEAK

by Alfred Schmitz



communities which lies between the valleys of the Cascade and Stehekin Rivers.

#### Cascades Three-Camp Trip—Buck Creek Pass, Image Lake, Lyman Lake—July 27-August 8

Popular requests to visit the most scenic areas surrounding Glacier Peak stimulated the planning of this year's Northern Cascades outing; it will therefore be a moving trip—on the order of a High Trip, with three campsites of several days' duration each.

We'll meet at Trinity, a defunct mining settlement near the end of the road, about 25 miles north of Wenatchee Lake. From here the packer will take our duffel the nine miles up to Buck Creek Pass, a good campsite with outstanding views of Glacier Peak only five air miles away across the Suiattle Valley. The three-day layover will permit many exploratory trips, and the ascent of Glacier Peak will be in prospect.

The next several days' stop will be at Image Lake, one of the most scenic spots in the Northwest. A knapsack trip is offered from here to Canyon Lake, Totem Pass and Ross Pass.

Then we'll move over Suiattle Pass and Cloudy Pass to Lyman Lake, one of the largest and prettiest of mountain lakes, fed by melt waters of close-by Lyman glacier. Visits to this large glacier, an easy climb of Mt. Chiwawa and North Star Mountain, and a knapsack expedition into Holden Lake with a climb of Mt. Bonanza, Washington's highest non-volcanic peak.

Return to Trinity will be cross-country over Phelps Pass, while the pack train will take the duffel over the regular trail route.

With weather in a coöperating mood (the last two years in the area were sunny, dry and warm) this outing should furnish an outstanding opportunity to see some of the beauty spots concentrated in the Northern Cascades. It offers fine trail trips, limitless knapsacking, climbs from easy to difficult over rock, snow or ice (depending on your preferences), and always wonderful views.

The packers will again be our own Ray Courtney of Stehekin, assisted by Jack White, last year's successful team. Duffel limit is 30 pounds, and no excess weight can be taken; however, musical instruments are free of tariff restrictions. Riding stock is available for rental at \$50 per horse for the outing. Since there are no rental tents you must bring your own; a lightweight one, or a tarp, will be adequate.

Leader will be Al Schmitz, and Al Caldwell will again be in charge of the kitchen.

Trip fee will include all meals, from breakfast on Monday, July 27, to breakfast, August 8.



TILDEN LAKE

by Cedric Wright

# High-Light!

#### High-Light Trip—Benson Lake, Jack Main Canyon, Tilden Lake—July 18-31

The experiment of last year—the High-Light Trip-developed so much enthusiasm that there is no doubt that this innovation is to become a regularly scheduled outing. It appeals to those who enjoy a medium-sized group (limited to 50), who like to have their grub and dunnage packed for them (the mules do this), and who enjoy mountain cookery and their turn at commissary chores. In effect the trip is a combination of Knapsack and High Trip techniques. Two packers with mules transport the dunnage bags, the gear, and food. (Personal dunnage maximum is 20 lbs.) Work crews, foodstuffs, and food preparation are patterned after Knapsack Trip operations.

Last year the group voted its preference for moving every other day, and this mobility makes accessible an area seldom visited by the club. The region chosen for this year is northwestern Yosemite National Park, an area noted for long, open glacier canyons, meadows, streams abounding with fish, and numerous lakes. In addition, those intrigued by history will be able to follow the route of one of the region's earliest explorers; see "Explorations among the Cañons North of the Tuolumne River" by Lt. N. F. McClure, in the Sierra Club Bulletin, Vol. I, page 168, January, 1895.

Starting at Hetch Hetchy dam we stop at Tiltill Valley the first night, then on to Tilden Lake, Benson Lake, and Peeler Lake, with a day's stop at each. Then, if McClure's path can be scouted out, we go to the head of Jack Main Canyon, dropping down to see Tilden Lake again, and out to Hetch Hetchy via the Beehive.

The group will meet for dinner Saturday evening, July 18 at the Forest Service Middle Fork Campground seven miles from Hetch Hetchy, drive to the dam the next morning, leave the cars there and return to them on Friday, July 31. Tom Cunningham and his outfit will again be our packer.



MOUNT HUMPHREYS

by Albert Marshall



# Sierra Base Camps

Sierra Base Camps 1, 2 and 3 - Piute Creek-July 12-25, July 26-August 8, August 9-22

This year the route to Base Camp will take us over Piute Pass at an elevation of 11,423 feet. To many this will mark a new high in experience as well as altitude, for it has been ten years since we have camped on the distant side of a major Sierra pass.

The trip begins at Art Schober's North Lake Pack Station, about twenty miles west of Bishop by the Lake Sabrina road. Our trail follows up the North Fork of Bishop Creek, passing through some delightfully scenic country. For several miles we wind upward among the pines and aspen, then emerge into a part of the canyon that is contrastingly red-hued from the sedimentary rocks of Mt. Emerson. A little farther on we skirt the shores of Loch Leven and Piute Lake, perhaps pausing in the vicinity for a trailside lunch.

In the summit country, the trees dwindle out as we start the final pull to the pass, and if its early in the season, there may be a patch of snow to play in. Humphreys Basin spreads out below us—a wildly beautiful domain of granite. In the mid-distance, where the forest begins and Piute Creek starts its

drop down the canyon to and beyond Hutchinson Meadow, lies our destination.

When you reach the 10,000-foot level you will find the tents of Base Camp pitched here and there on a sunny slope. Scattered trees and greenery give an inviting appearance to the campsite, and enhance the vistas of the surrounding mountain scenes. Down one side spills Piute Creek in a long, foaming cascade. Westward out over the timbered canyon, Pilot Knob and the Pinnacles come into view, silhouetted on the distant horizon. And back over our shoulder, the turreted bulk of Mt. Humphreys rises majestically—a truly dramatic picture when bathed in the pink light of an alpenglow!

Glacier Divide, extending out from the main crest, forms the natural southern boundary of this basin country. Muriel Peak and Mt. Goethe are its principal summits, but there are a number of others reaching close to the 13,000-foot contour. In nearly every canyon that probes back into the divide is a string of alpine lakes, and perched in cirques above are several small glaciers, the most prominent of which is Goethe Glacier. This mountainous area, so readily accessible, will provide interesting destinations for hikers and climbers.

A contrast to granite terrain may be experienced by heading downstream through the pines and flowered, grassy places to Hutchinson Meadow. In the three-mile stretch our stream gradually turns into a serenely flowing river. From Hutchinson Meadow you may climb Pilot Knob for an all-encompassing view, or turn northeasterly to explore the extent of French Creek Canyon.

At the foot of Mt. Humphreys, the plateau-like basin is studded with lakes. The largest is sprawling Desolation Lake, famous for the giant-sized golden trout that inhabit its waters. Most of this summer's lakes have been planted with this elusive species. If you are a good fisherman, you'll be sure of catching them one place or another.

Climbers will find plenty of peaks within range of camp, principally along Glacier Divide, but the culminating trip will be the ascent of Mt. Humphreys, just 28 feet short of 14,000 in elevation. This is a rather difficult climb and will naturally be limited to those with sufficient experience. If you plan to join our mountaineering ventures, bring your ice axe and crampons.

During each session a grand loop knapsack trip will be scheduled, setting out perhaps across Humphreys Basin to the headwaters of French Creek Canyon and returning by way of Hutchinson Meadow. A trip to the

south is also possible.

As a highlight of the outing, an overnight outpost camp will be established at some distant scenic area. This will be an extra-fare trip for those participating, with a pack train carrying the food, equipment and 15 pounds of each member's personal gear.

#### Many Activities

A variety of camp and trail activities will be scheduled, but according to our tradition, the decision whether to participate is always yours. At times you may prefer to set out on a random trip with just three or four friends, or to enjoy your solititude while fishing or photographing. But some of the organized trips will surely appeal to you, for they will range in character from ambles to scrambles and rock climbing, and in difficulty from easy to rugged.

To those who would like to broaden their enjoyment of the mountains, instructions will be given on such subjects as rock climbing, snow technique, first aid, photography, map reading and perhaps trout fishing. A camp naturalist will be on hand to identify the flora and fauna.

#### **Outing Details**

Base Camp's staff will include many of the same personnel who have served so capably in the past. Cliff Youngquist will be field manager for the first and second periods, and Hobey Holbrook will be in charge of the third period. Jerry Gallwas will be our cook and Mike Loughman will be campmaster.

Base Camp will operate for three two-week periods, the first opening on July 12. Attendance will be limited to 160 members per session. Everyone should come prepared to stay his full

# Back-Country Camp

# Back-Country Camp—McGee Creek, Evolution Country—July 19-August 1

The Evolution country is considered to be one of the grandest, most scenic regions of the Sierra—but because of its remote location in the very heart of the range, relatively few people pass this way during the course of a season. And even fewer find time to conquer its peaks or to fully explore its isolated lake basins, so rich in natural grandeur. This summer, however, Sierrans may spend two wonderful weeks in this superlative country on our newly planned outing—Back-Country Camp!

We've found a perfect campsite high on McGee Creek, where the pines border a skyparlor meadow. From here you may look out over Evolution Valley to an impressive line of peaks on the Sierra Crest. And upstream a way you'll come upon a chain of alpine lakes, hung between The Hermit and darkrocked Mt. McGee.

Two days will be spent on the way to camp—starting with a 4-mile boat ride to the head of Florence Lake (fare included in your trip fee). Our route follows up along the South Fork of the San Joaquin, passing through spacious Blaney Meadows before reaching our overnight trail-camp, where we'll ren-

two weeks, for there will be no provision to take members out early.

Primarily because of the long trip in, it will be necessary to restrict children to those whose stamina is equal to an average six-year-old's. Those riding into camp must be capable of handling a saddle horse unaided, with parents responsible for their safety. Younger children may be brought in "piggyback" (or one may ride with a parent who is a qualified rider), all at the parents' responsibility.

Children not yet 14 will pay a special reduced rate. (Those 12 years of age or older must first join the club as junior members.) As in the past, teen-agers must be accompanied by a parent or an adult responsible for them.

Saddle horses for the trip to and from camp may be reserved at the rate of \$6 each way. Only a limited number of mounts will be available, so do not plan to ride unless it is necessary. Fifteen 9 x 12-foot umbrella tents with floors may be rented for \$15 a period, and ten 7 x 9-foot sidewall tents without floor at \$5 a period. Reservations for horses or tents should be made by postcard with Cliff Youngquist, 2818 Effie Street, Los Angeles 26, California, with payment to be made at the roadhead. These reservations will be honored in the order they are received until all horses and tents are taken.

McCLURE MEADOW by Cedric Wright

dezvous with the pack train. The following day we ascend alongside the mighty Evolution Cascades and continue on through verdant Evolution, McClure and Colby Meadows—then branch off the Muir Trail and head up McGee Creek to our campsite near the 10,200-foot contour. Although we'll cover 11 miles during the first day and 8 miles the second, the total gain in altitude is less than 3,000 feet.

At Back-Country Camp we'll live in simple fashion—getting along with the minimum of facilities and doing without the marginal benefits of excess dunnage. But you can count on hearty meals, and you'll be expected to help the cook prepare several of them and assist with the cleaning up afterwards!

A variety of trips will head out from camp in nearly every direction, and you may join the ones that appeal to you. Specially featured will be a series of two- and three-day knapsack trips, with a layover day spaced between each of them. At the same time a number of single-day hikes to interesting destinations will be undertaken. You will be encouraged to join these organized trips, but may conduct your own if you are properly experienced.

Among the places we are planning to visit are: Glacier Divide, with its sweeping view of the austerely beautiful Humphreys Basin; the high-lying Goethe Lakes; the chain of Darwin Lakes, presided over by two glaciers; Darwin Bench and its grand campsite; Evo-

lution Basin with its reflection lakes, and on up to Muir Pass and an overnight stay at the Muir Hut; the seldom-seen Ionian Basin and a look down the Enchanted Gorge; the Davis Lake Region; and, closer to camp, the string of McGee Lakes and the hidden lakes of adjoining basins.

Climbing destinations will include some of the principal peaks along this section of the Sierra Crest, named back in 1895 by member Theodore S. Solomons in honor of the noted philosophers: Darwin, Huxley, Fiske, Spencer, Haeckel and Wallace. The highest of this group is Mt. Darwin, 13,830 feet in elevation. Good climbs in the close vicinity of camp are The Hermit and Mt. McGee. The climaxing trip will be the ascent of Charybdis, the dark spire of ancient rock rising up from the wildest region of the Sierra.

Back-Country Camp represents a new version of Wilderness Camp, streamlined to further reduce impact on the wilds. Attendance will thus be limited to 55 members, with no provisions for rental tents or the use of saddle horses. The outing will be under the leadership of Scudder Nash, assisted by Carl Miller.

The hike back to Florence Lake will be accomplished in a single day—a rather long trip, but all downhill and mostly over a good trail. Our packers will be the Cunninghams of Mono Hot Springs, whose pack station is reached from Fresno via Huntington Lake.





Recently there has developed a considerable urge to return to the things which our fathers and grandfathers knew and enjoyed on wilderness waterways, to an appreciation of the beauty of line and function of boat and canoe with their quiet dip and swish of the paddle, and the lure of what lies hidden around the bend. There is also the challenge to pit our skill-not against other motorists in competition for the most advantageous position in the line of traffic, but against the currents and eddies of a fastmoving stream as it carries us past obstructions to its flow, past grotesque carvings of rocks and canyon, past weird piles of driftwood, through frolicsome and exciting rapids and into the more quiet stretches of river trails. Here we may unexpectedly come upon many kinds of wildlife-water birds and animals, and mountain sheep, elk, deer, and bear -many of them quite undisturbed by our quiet advance.

These joys of a wilderness river trip come to us without the distractions of the modern world. Music? . . . certainly! The sounds of running water, of wind in the trees, of bird songs and of voices around the campfire—yes, music of many kinds—the harmony possible because our passing makes only a slight ripple on the surface of the natural scene; truly a remarkable way to enjoy the undisturbed wilderness.

No one will ever write a song about the "dusty river trail," and when recalling a river trip no one will remember the discomfort of blister on heel occasioned by the too heavy pack and the long trek up to the pass. The river tourer ALWAYS travels down hill and sitting down!

For those inclined to more activity, particularly those who are fortunate enough to have their own foldboats, the exertion can be moderate to strenuous. Foldboats, kayaks, or canoes may usually be taken on any river by prearrangement with the trip leader, who will have the final word as to which rapids may be run by boaters of varying abilities.

# Rambling Down Western

Glen Canyon of the Colorado #1 and #2 —8 days on the river, one day's shuttle, leaving Kanab April 13 and June 23

Here is probably our last opportunity to enjoy this unusual river trip. The strange beauty of the side canyons with their grotesque carvings of wind and water and the eerie effects created by towering, overhanging sandstone walls enclosing a separate world, all contribute to the magic and emotional appeal of this adventure. It is impossible to adequately describe the grandeur of these canyons, of Rainbow Bridge, the spiritual quality of the Music Temple or the mystery of Hidden Canyon.

A paradise for photographers, Glen Canyon is a deeply eroded passageway full of brilliant colors, fanciful formations, prehistoric Indian ruins, pictographs and lost mines. At Moki Canyon there are steps cut up to the ancient dwellings, and at the Crossing of the Fathers one can see the sandstone steps by which the Jesuits descended.

If you haven't seen the Glen, by all means do so this summer. Other trips will be available for years, but this gem will soon be lost.

#### Dinosaur #1 and #2—Yampa and Green Rivers, 6 days each, beginning June 15 and June 22

For some years the backbone of the club river outings has been the trips through Dinosaur National Monument. The two earlier ones, the combined Yampa and Green, are more scenic and have more variety. They build up from a rather quiet beginning to a crescendo as we dash through Split Mountain on the last day. On the trip through Lodore Canyon the scenery, although not quite so spectacular or varied, is still superb.

The first and second trips will start at Lily Park on the Yampa. At the end of each Dinosaur trip, two buses will meet the group. One will return directly to Vernal with those pressed for time; the other will take us to the beautiful new museum building at Monument headquarters.

The Yampa flows slowly at the embarkation point, but picks up speed until the rafts bounce through riffles with a promise of things to come. First camp is made at Anderson's Hole, a pleasant site with an excellent swimming beach. The second day is fast water all the way, culminating with a thrilling ride through Big Joe rapid.

The third night is spent at Castle Park (Mantle's Ranch). Mantle's Cave and the Indian petroglyphs are worth visiting. After a run through Warm Springs rapid, found rather upsetting by some foldboaters, the next stop is Box Elder camp.

Then the party is on the Green and rushing through Whirlpool Canyon, where the scenery is as breathtaking as the rapids. The last night is spent at Jones Hole Creek, where there is trout fishing. From Jones Hole to Island Park the river has several short, fast rapids. Through Island Park and Rainbow Park the water almost stands still, as though pausing for breath before the final mad plunge through Split Mountain Canyon.

#### Dinosaur #3—Lodore Canyon on Green River, 6 days, beginning June 29

Trip 3 goes through Lodore Canyon, starting at historic Brown's Park. The water is smooth and somewhat lazy, but soon the Gates of Lodore stand open before you. The rafts slip quietly past the entrance and into the high, V-shaped Lodore Canyon. The first night is spent at Wade and Curtis, a magnificent spot with a good swimming beach. On the second day, after running a tricky rapid called Little Stinker, roaring waters warn of the approach of Disaster Falls. The leading boatman takes observations of this rapid before starting.

The next day, after camping at Pot Creek, the same procedure is followed at Triplet Falls. Just below this rapid is the best lunch spot and swimming beach in the entire canyon. The next rapid is the world-famous Hell's Half Mile, truly spectacular, through whose roaring white water only the boatmen ride the rafts. The night is spent at Rippling Brook, another delightful campsite.

After one more large rapid, the Harp, there is smooth water through magnificent scenery to Echo Park. From here the route is the same as for Trips 1 and 2.

# Rogue River #1 and #2—5 days each, beginning June 29 and July 6

The Rogue River of Oregon has a reputation for the unexpected as it churns its way through roadless, rugged country: Hellgate Canyon, mile-long Mule Creek Canyon, so narrow the river turns up on its side to get through, and brawling Rainey Falls where we take a thrilling hundred-yard dash down the fish ladder—an unusual ride to say the least.

From Illahee to Agness, for a distance of six miles, we come into brief contact with "the outside," the only road along the river in the entire trip.

There will be two trips of five days each from Galice just below Grants Pass to Gold Beach. The trip will be made in neoprene rafts. However, foldboats and kayaks are

YAMPA RIVER, Dinosaur National Monument by Philip Hyde

# River Trails

welcome, particularly from Illahee down, but special arrangements MUST be made in advance with the leader.

Good service by Greyhound to Grants Pass and Gold Beach mākes this trip particularly convenient for those who do not care to drive. Those who prefer to bring their own cars can make arrangements to shuttle.

Salmon River #1 and #2—River of No Return, 7 days on the river, one day's shuttle, leaving July 12 and July 22.

After our thrilling experiences in 1958, we return to Idaho's primitive Salmon River country. Again two trips are planned, each limited to 34 people.

The main Salmon is justly famous for its adventure, remote untouched beauty and the depth of the canyons through which it flows. Its tributaries reach up into one of nature's

largest primitive areas, while its canyon is deeper than that of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. As in Dinosaur, we will draw heavily on Don Hatch's proven ability to manage the big neoprene rafts as well as his experience in running this particular river. You will probably run more rapids per mile than is possible on any other trip planned.

We will travel approximately 100 miles from the junction of the Middle Fork and the main Salmon to the town of Riggins—seven days in all, which should give us ample time for leisure as well as excitement.

Clearwater, Lochsa, and Selway Rivers, Idaho—8 days, beginning August 5

This is a new type of river trip in what is probably America's largest remaining primitive area. It will be a joint venture sponsored by the Sierra Club and the American Whitewater Affiliation, an arrangement that should insure a successful, enjoyable wilderness experience for members of both. One reason this area has been chosen is the enthusiastic coöperation the people of Idaho gave to the Sierra Club last summer on the Salmon. A challenging variety of boating experience is anticipated.

It will be a base-camp type of trip so located that runs can be made on the Selway, Lochsa, Middle Fork and North Fork of the Clearwater. For those who would like to see the most remote headwater regions, a pack trip may be planned which will take them into what has been described as "honest-togoodness wild elk country, the best wild country left." This trip will accommodate boaters of various experience. If you have a foldboat or canoe, you will probably want to bring it. If river running is new to you, you will ride in the neoprene rafts.



# Knapsack Trips

Seven invitations to high adventure



F ALL MEANS of travel in the mountains, knapsacking offers the greatest freedom in the selection of route and campsite. Backpackers do not depend on the beaten path to point the way and may accept the challenge of the unknown. They also realize a feeling of added accomplishment and a special sort of comradeship, and with a little extra effort perhaps gain the most from the mountain scene while leaving the least evidence of their passing. Moreover, the cost is low. In general, Sierra Club summer knapsack trips are planned to accommodate twenty members in addition to leaders, but in some cases the number is expanded to forty and divided into two equal sections in the field.

#### Conditioning Is Important

There are no rigid age limits on the knapsack outings. Over the years members have included men and women ranging in age from mid-teens through the sixties. Of course, good physical condition is necessary for every applicant regardless of age. Backpackers on club outings should be able not only to cover the scheduled mileage but also to take advantage of optional side excursions. Prospective trip members should evaluate their willingness and ability to hike ten miles or more a day under high altitude conditions -sometimes away from trails, and carry packs weighing as much as 32 to 38 pounds. These trips, while not overly difficult, are not the place to "get back into shape" or to break in unfamiliar boots and other gear. It is not wise either to rely on well-worn clothing and equipment. Full enjoyment of a trip may be jeopardized for all when someone discovers too late that the demands of the outing are beyond his capacity.

#### Trips Stress Coöperation

All knapsack outings are planned and budgeted on the basis of group coöperation.

Each member is expected to carry his share of the community provisions as well as help with the work load. The trip fee covers food costs on the trail, and all group food and cooking utensils are purchased or provided by the club. Trip members, of course, furnish personal equipment (limited to 15 pounds exclusive of knapsack and frame) which they are to carry in addition to their equal share of community food and supplies. Occasionally, leaders will elect to arrange food caches, particularly in connection with longer trips, so as to lighten packs without sacrificing good eating.

For those new to club knapsacking trips or new to knapsacking, week-end outings offered by Sierra Club chapters or other hiking groups will provide helpful experience. Applicants are asked to submit a detailed résumé of their hiking and knapsacking experience to the leader of the trip of their choice. He is responsible for the success of the trip as a whole and has final authority on eligibility. The leaders welcome inquiries about the trips, conditioning, equipment, and other matters pertaining to knapsacking.

#### Silver Divide Knapsack Trip-July 18-25

Silver Divide is a western spur of the Sierra Crest, separating Cascade and Vermilion Valleys. Its crenelated ridges conceal a series of broad lake basins, cirques, high meadows, and timbered canyons. Fishing is reported to be excellent.

A circle tour is planned from the roadhead at Onion Meadow just below Lake Thomas Edison, beginning with beautiful Margaret Lakes and crossing to a series of timberline basins on the north slope of the main ridge. Where the divide meets the Sierra Crest, a layover will give climbers a chance at Red Slate Mountain (13,163) and Red and White Peak (12,850). The party will then explore the lakes of the southern slope and the North Fork of Mono Creek. A side trip gives a fine view of the famous Mono Recesses.

Distances between campsites are short (6 to 8 miles), to allow time each day for fishing and exploring. About half of the 40 miles to be covered will be cross-country, often over difficult passes, with the maximum climb in a single day about 2,500 feet. Leader: Jack Lowry.

#### Kern-Kaweah Knapsack Trip — July 25-August 8 (two weeks)

From Mineral King, this trip enters Sequoia National Park east of the Great Western Divide over Sawtooth Pass. On our route are Lost Canyon and Moraine Lake, before the scenic backdrop of the Kaweah Peaks, which will be our constant companions for two weeks. We plan to explore the Kern River to its headwaters in Milestone Basin, camping in Kaweah Basin and on the Kern-Kaweah River.

With fingers crossed we go over the Kaweah Ridge through "Pants Pass," hoping not to confirm its name by our own experience. Nine Lakes Basin and the Little Five Lakes are also on the itinerary.



KAWEAH PEAKS

by Don Levy

At the end of the outing we will have covered seventy miles, and climbed and descended about 18,000 feet with elevations ranging from 6,700 to 12,000 feet. Additional altitude may be gained by climbing any of the numerous peaks in the region—Sawtooth, the Kaweahs, Milestone, to mention only a few. The first day's climb of 3,700 feet is made easier by a food cache, and another cache at Junction Meadow will provide our needs for the second half of our stay in the grand Southern Sierra. Leader: Walt Oppenheimer.



#### Tatoosh Buttes (Washington) Knapsack Trip—August 1-15

Here is a new trip, with the appealing prospect of a thousand-mile jaunt into northern Washington and a view into Canada across a field of alpine flowers.

To the north and east of the fire-peaks of the area in which the Sierra Club is deeply interested, the Cascades fan out into a country akin to our Sierra, with granite and pines. Here, east of the rain forests, we will find our campsites in ponderosa pines, beside alpine lakes—with peaks enough for everybody to climb.

Between August 1 and 14, we will make a loop by trail (with more than half our load packed in to Big Hidden Lake by horses). After crossing Eightmile Pass we visit on a spur trip Tatoosh Buttes, a scenic gem of wildflower fields, take a side jaunt to the border via Sheep Mountain, and come out by Two Point Mountain and Billy Goat Pass. Distance is about 70 trail miles, and alpine elevations are below 8,000 feet in this latitude. Write for maps to Forest Supervisor, Chelan National Forest, Okanogan, Washington. Leader: Ed Richardson.

#### Trinity Alps Knapsack Trip—August 1-9

Enjoy eight days in the spectacular heartland of the Salmon-Trinity Alps Primitive Area with its ragged peaks, knifelike ridges, remote lakes and alpine gardens! We're planning a circle route beginning above Dedrick in the Canyon Creek region, enabling members to visit many highlights of the marvelous Trinity high country, which resembles the Sierra in almost everything but altitude. The trip includes Smith, Mirror, Emerald, Sapphire, Caribou, Grizzly and Canyon Creek Lakes, with views from Sawtooth and Thompson Peaks. Over half of the forty or more miles involved are off-trail.

Distances between campsites should be

short, but there will be a fair amount of climbing—nearly 12,000 feet during seven days on the move. One layover is scheduled at secluded Mirror Lake, high under the headwall of the Stuart Fork. This promises to be an exceptional treat for those who relish the challenge of cross-country hiking. Leader: Jim Watters.

# Cathedral Range Knapsack Trip—August 8-15 (beginners' trip)

Here is a fine opportunity for you to get well acquainted with the magnificent high country south of Tuolumne Meadows in Yosemite National Park, where elevations to be covered range from 8,600 to 13,000 feet. Although we will travel off trail for thirty miles of the total of some forty-two for the entire outing, distances between camps are to be held to four-and-a-half or five miles in most cases. Campsites, which will be reached by cross-country routes, are Budd Lake, Matthes Lake, Nelson Lake, Ireland Creek, and Upper Lyell Base Camp. For members with climbing ambitions Unicorn, Cockscomb, Cathedral, and Echo Peaks await them on the layover day at Budd Lake; later in the week Mt. Lyell may be climbed. A packer will meet the group about half way along, so no one should have to carry more than four days' food. While the outing has been planned with beginners in mind. there will be enough rugged and superbly beautiful mountain scenery in this littleexplored part of the Sierra to please and excite the most seasoned knapsackers. Leader: Paul Grunland.

#### Wind River (Wyoming) Knapsack Trip— August 15-29

Once again a trip is scheduled to take twenty fortunates into the lake-filled, historic Wind River range in west central Wyoming. You'll explore one of America's great remaining wilderness lands which is little changed from the day of the mountain man. From roadhead at Spring Park guard station members will travel north along some spectacular lake chains leading to Green River Pass at the crest of the Continental Divide. Two layover days should give fishermen ample opportunities and enable climbers to register atop Fremont Peak (13,730). We hope for a side trip to climb Gannett Peak, Wyoming's highest (13,785), and view two major glaciers from Indian Pass, the route used by early Mormon settlers. The return trail circles south by Island Lake from which we'll have a day of moderate cross-country travel. Hiking distances should average five miles daily and in all total sixty, between ele-

WIND RIVER RANGE, Gannett Peak seen over Titcombe Lakes Basin by Philip W. Faulconer vations of 7,500 and 12,500 feet. A packer will re-supply the party on the sixth day to hold pack weights to a comfortable level. Leader: Jim Peabody.

#### Humphreys Basin-Evolution Basin Knapsack Trip—August 29-September 7

Our roadhead at North Lake, southwest of Bishop, provides a fine perspective of the Evolution peaks to set the mood for what promises to be a memorable outing. We will cross the Sierra Crest through Piute Pass into the colorful expanse of Humphreys Basin and make camp at Golden Trout Lake. There should be good views of Mt. Humphreys (13,972) on the move across this desolate but lake-studded region into the contrasting greenery of French Canyon, where a layover day is scheduled. The more energetic members may be attracted to explore the upper reaches of Bear Creek's east fork. Back at Golden Trout Lake, by trail, we will pick up a food cache before climbing over Glacier Divide to Darwin Bench. Here will be our second layover day, offering ample opportunity for rewarding side excursions within Evolution Basin. The final camp is to be on Lamarck Creek, reached by an off-trail route over Lamarck Col which in all respects is the high point of the trip.

Total mileage is about 45, largely crosscountry with some 8,000 feet of climb spread well over the nine-day period. Leader: Len Walker.





#### HUNGRY PACKER LAKE

#### by James W. MacBride

# HERE'S MOUNTAIN FUN FOR INDIVIDUALS...

Sierra Clean-up Work Party Outing—Sabrina Basin, Dingleberry Lake, Hungry Packer Lake—August 8-15

If you have trudged to a high country lake prepared to rest for the evening in unspoiled alpine country, only to be greeted by a trail of rubbish strewn around the shore, you are more than ready to join this summer's Work Party. If you want to put in some good days for conservation and earn that feeling of satisfaction you gain from a job well done, you are deciding right now to come along.

The Sierra Club is recruiting thirty volunteers for the Clean-up Outing, August 8–15. The trip starts at Lake Sabrina, Inyo National Forest, twenty miles up the Middle Fork of Bishop Creek. Main camp will be in the vicinity of Dingleberry Lake, and the "operation clean-up" will extend to surrounding lakes, picturesquely named Bottleneck, Baboon, Fish Gut, Hungry Packer, Topsy Turvy, Moonlight (11,425). At the head of the Sabrina Basin towers the eastern escarpment of the Evolution Peaks, reputed to be "the grand crescendo" of the Sierra.

Besides cleaning up the accumulation of trash in the back country and sacking the indestructible cans for the packer to haul out, the crew publicizes the responsibility each camper has for burning and packing out the containers, glass and foil he brings with him. To restore and preserve the wild lands is a job for everyone if the high places are to survive the pressures of an expanding society.

Sign up for the can cavalcade! Enjoy

wilderness camping and promote a worth-while cause at the same time. Participants carry their own dunnage. Mules will bring in the food and central commissary equipment. Include with your application a total fee of \$10, which will be returned if all positions have been filled. \$6 of the fee are NOT refundable should you cancel your reservation. Send the application with a brief account of your hiking experience and physical condition to trip leader Fred Eissler, 348 Hot Springs Road, Santa Barbara, California.

Burro Trips 1a, 1b, 2, 3—Rae Lake, Bench Lake, Pinchot Pass—July 11-17, July 18-25, July 26-August 8, August 9-22.

In 1959, as in the past two years, the Burro Trips feature two one-week trips and two two-week trips, with an innovation on the first of the two-week trips. The one-week outings will commence on Saturday, July 11 and July 18, while the two-week trips will begin on Sunday, July 26 and August 9. Starting and ending the one-week trips on Saturday provides one additional day in the back country.

By popular request, this year's Burro Trips return to the east side of the Sierra, with Onion Valley as the roadhead for the first and third trip, the second trip starting at the foot of the Sawmill Pass Trail, and the fourth at the foot of the Taboose Pass Trail. A short car shuttle will be necessary. The one-week trips will visit such famous and beautiful spots as Bullfrog Lake (cleaner and prettier as a result of last year's clean-up

outing), Rae Lake and Sixty Lakes Basin. In addition, the two-week trips will be able to take in the spectacular country surrounding Bench Lake.

The exact route to be followed and the places to camp are determined by the group, though the route will probably follow the John Muir Trail with as many side trips and diversions as the group may wish to make.

As has been said in prior years, a burro trip is a moving experience for thirty-six kindred souls: twenty-two people and four-teen animals, including one horse for emergencies, if any. (Because less food is required to be packed on the animals, the one-week trips can accommodate twenty-six rather than twenty-two individuals.)

On the first, second and last trips, the packing, cooking and most other activities will be on a coöperative basis, with everyone doing his share of the camp chores. The third trip (which is the first two-week trip), incorporates a persistent request for additional staff to do most of the burro packing. This will free those participants who wish no responsibility for packing, at \$10 per person more than for the second two-week trip.

Half to two-thirds of the days of the trips will be spent in moving, covering six to twelve miles per day. Camp is made in the early afternoon to afford the maximum of fishing, climbing or loafing, depending on individual desires. On layover days one's time is completely his own for whatever activity he prefers. Leadership will be available for non-technical climbs.

# ... AND FAMILIES

Family Burro Trips 1 and 2—Middle Fork of the Kings and Bench Lake—August 2-15, August 16-29

Ten years ago, in August, 1949, the Family Burro Trip idea was bern. Dick Leonard, Stew Kimball, and Al Dole planned a trip to McCabe Lake that summer, to see if a family trip with burros would be feasible. Four families went that year—and they had a wonderful time. Now, you and your family can try out this idea. On the Family Burro Trips you will learn how to travel independently in the mountains with your children.

There is more to do than anyone of any age can finish, even when nearly half the days are saved for layovers. Youngsters can wade, build rock dams, float leaf boats, hunt tadpoles; teenagers like talking boy-girl stuff, snow fighting, loafing; adults seem to enjoy looking for rocks, fishing, hiking, taking pictures, or relaxing.

The final route will depend on the snow conditions on the high passes. However, we tentatively plan to repeat the 1958 route. Therefore the 1959 Family Burro Trips start again at South Lake (9,750), and will cover a total distance of about 50 miles. Each will cross Bishop, Mather, and Taboose Passes. We should camp in many delightful spots—Dusy Basin, Stillwater Meadow, Palisade Lakes, Upper Basin, and Bench Lake. A car shuttle will be arranged.

We suggest that families going on the trips plan to camp for a night or two at an elevation about the same as the starting point (South Lake, 9,750). This will help make the first day's climb easier for everyone. The trip is fun if children are six years old or more; though youngsters down to four-and-

by Fred Gunsky



a-half do well with somewhat more attention from their parents.

Five or six families normally take part in a trip. Each of them brings its own food and equipment and cooks as a unit. The leaders will provide lists of both food and equipment, and will be glad to answer questions and help you make your plans. Previous camping experience is highly desirable, but a knowledge of packing is unnecessary. One purpose of these trips is to show you how to pack and handle burros.

The first trip will leave South Lake on Sunday, August 2, and will arrive at Taboose Creek roadhead on Saturday, August 15. The second trip will start on August 16 and end on August 29. The rates will start with a base fee of \$96 (which includes the \$6 non-refundable reservation fee per family) for parents and one child. Each additional child will be \$20 more.



HAPPY DAYS

by Fred Gunsky

# Something New!

Wilderness Threshold Camps 1 and 2— Cora Lakes, Middle Fork of the San Joaquin—July 18-25, July 25-August 1

Are you dreaming of a back-country vacation for the family—a trip easy enough for little ones, simple enough for Mother to get some rest, in a spot of natural beauty unspoiled by crowds, yet an inexpensive trip?

That is what the Sierra Club hopes to provide in the new kind of outing planned for this July. It is a "do-it-yourself" project, yet not all by yourself, for there will be nine other families plus a leader family to share the load and the fun.

The plan is to establish a stationary camp about a five-mile hike from the roadhead. Even the very young will respond to the adventure of hiking in to their wilderness camp,



BENCH LAKE

by Jerry Havner

when the distance is not too great for their endurance, yet far enough for the solitude and scenery we seek.

Beautiful Cora Lakes, at an elevation of 8,400 feet in the region of the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin, will provide varied interests for all the family. Within hiking distance of camp are Sadler and Isberg Lakes and Sadler Peak. Personal dunnage supplied by each family to a maximum of 25 pounds per person, and all community gear and food (which will be planned and purchased by the club), will be packed by animals to camp.

Meals will be prepared and served in a central commissary by the families in rotation. Everyone will thus have a chance to gain experience in camp cooking. Most of the days will be free for exploring the trails and lakes, or taking it easy in camp. By sharing duties we not only learn but win freedom and fellowship, and keep expenses low.

Since the focus of this new type of outing is on the family, only family groups will be accepted, with special encouragement to bring all ages. The camp will be planned for a maximum of ten families plus one leader family, and will be held for two one-week periods from July 18 to July 25, and July 25 to August 1. Each family is limited to a one-week reservation until June 18, when any unfilled weeks will become available for families who wish to stay two full weeks. Any family wishing to be considered for a second week should so state on its application.

Rates will be based on a unit price of \$63 (which includes the \$6 non-refundable reservation fee per family) for parents and one child, with an increase of \$12 for each additional child in the family. Trip members are strongly encouraged to plan lightweight personal gear with emphasis on necessities, both to keep within the dunnage limit and to enjoy the spirit of basic living.

It is hoped that this new club outing will open the pleasures of wilderness camping to people who have hesitated to take small children or to venture out on their own, or who have simply wanted company. This is an opportunity for parents to share their love of the mountains with their children.

Leaders will be Larry and Helen Douglas.

# Mountaineering in British Columbia

Mountaineering-Knapsack Trip — Coast Range of British Columbia — August 3-21

The Waddington region of Canada's Coast Range is one of the more beautiful alpine areas of North America. Mt. Waddington (13,260) is the focal point of a wilderness complex of forested land, living glaciers, and rugged peaks that it will be a privilege to visit. Leading south from this highest peak of British Columbia to within six miles (and 500 vertical feet) of the beach of Knight Inlet is the 24-mile-long Franklin Glacier. A base camp will be carried (with some help from an air drop) to Ice Fall Point (about two days from the beach). This is a wellknown campsite that was used by three previous Sierra Club mountaineering groups in 1935, 1936 and 1955. Much of the area southeast of Ice Fall Point still invites original exploration. If your adventurous spirit is aroused, see the following for more on this general area: SCB: 1936, 1937, 1951; also various Canadian Alpine Journals, notably the 1933 issue.

Members will be selected on the basis of their past outing experience: those desiring-to join the group should be familiar with cross-country knapsacking in rough terrain, be of sound health, and be able to carry a reasonable amount of community equipment and food in addition to their own equipment. Packs will be no heavier than is normal for such wilderness travel, with the exception that you will have to save room for some mountaineering gear. If you are adequately acquainted with mountaineering, so much the

better, for an ascent of Mt. Waddington is quite possible, given the proper conditions of weather and party strength.

There will be opportunity for moderate mountaineering trips of varying exertion, depending upon the spirit and ability of the group. Leadership will be available for your introduction to basic mountaineering techniques.

The group will meet at Campbell River on Vancouver Island, where chartered aircraft will take us to the beach at the head of Knight Inlet. Campbell River can be reached by auto from Vancouver (via ferry to Nanaimo) or air transportation can be arranged directly from Vancouver to Campbell River.

Owing to the nature of this trip, the final cost will vary within certain limits depending upon the number of reservations: with 16 persons (the maximum) and a staff of four

# Caravan or Safari?

The Outing Committee is currently negotiating with the Department of State for authorization for a small party to spend three to four weeks climbing and exploring in the central Caucasus during the summer of 1960. Like the Mount St. Elias trip in 1956, the Andean trip in 1958, and the Mount Waddington trip this year, the Caucasus trip will be open to qualified applicants from the Sierra Club or other similar clubs.

Should it prove impossible to make arrangements for this trip, an alternative trip to the Ruwenzori Range in East Africa will be planned. Expressions of interest and questions should be addressed to Alfred W. Baxter, 115 Highland Boulevard, Berkeley 8, Calif.

guides the cost will be \$215. With 12 persons and a staff of three guides the cost will be \$230. (These figures include the \$6 non-refundable reservation fee.) All community equipment and food will be provided. Though the budget has been carefully prepared, the outing committee reserves the right to levy small assessments in the event of unforeseen expenses.

Reservation deadline will be June 1, at which time full fee will be due. Qualified persons belonging to other outing organizations are cordially invited to participate.

Leaders: Allen Steck and James Wilson.

MOUNT WADDINGTON by Allen Steck

# Procedure ....

#### Fees, Reservations

Early reservations will help us—and you. Some trips fill up very quickly, and late-comers may be disappointed.

A \$6 RESERVATION FEE (per person per trip period) holds your place until the DEADLINE DATE. THE RESERVATION FEE COVERS OFFICE OVERHEAD AND THUS CANNOT BE REFUNDED.

DEADLINE DATE for full payment is one month before the date that your particular trip starts.

The TRIP FEE (see table opposite) may be sent in with the reservation fee (this is preferable), or at any time up to the DEAD-LINE DATE. The trip fee must be paid by the deadline date; if it is not, and if there is a waiting list on your particular trip, the place cannot be held for you. Notify us promptly of any changes in your plans.

CHANGES IN RESERVATION. A charge of \$2.00 will be made to cover costs of any change in reservation from one trip to another.

REFUNDS. The trip fee is refunded in full if you cancel at least a WEEK before your trip starts. After that, there can be no refund unless your place is filled. (Remember, the \$6 reservation fee is NOT REFUNDABLE.)

#### When You Write

When making reservations, please:

- 1. Remit to "Sierra Club."
- 2. Include names and addresses of all persons for whom reservations are made, and ages of those under 18.
- 3. Specify trip and period wanted (by name and by date).
- 4. Let us know whether you wish transportation to roadhead or can provide it for others. This information will be given to the volunteer member of each outing who coördinates transportation. (The club office does not make transportation arrangements.)
- 5. For Burro, Family Burro, Wilderness Threshold, Knapsack, or Clean-up Work \* Party trips, please give age, sex, and (briefly) relevant experience of all participants.

#### Medical Precaution

As the danger from tetanus (lockjaw) is extremely great in accidents occurring wherever pack stock have been, members are strongly urged to be immunized against tetanus (or see that previous immunization is up-to-date).

# Places ....

# Prices ....

# People

Outing **	No. of Persons	Starting Date	Duration	Dunnage (Lbs.)	Starting Place	Res. Fee	Trip Fee	Total	Leader
HIGH TRIPS				(		(Non-			
Sierra No. 1		* 1 -		2.0	****	refundable)	\$86	\$92*	Bob Golden
Sierra No. 1 Sierra No. 2	135	July 5	2 weeks		Wolverton	\$6	3.	92*	Al Baxter
	* 135	July 19	2 weeks		Cedar Grove	6	86		
Wind River	120	Aug. 18	10 days	30	Pinedale, Wyoming	6	92	98*	Doug Powell
Specials									Charles and the control
North Cascades	60	July 27	12 days	30	Trinity, Washington	6	82	88	Al Schmitz
Olympic	30	Aug. 10	12 days	20	Sol Duc Hot Spr., Wash.	6	74	80	Al Schmitz
High-Light	50	July 18	2 weeks		Hetch Hetchy Reservoir	6	76	82	Stewart Kimball
BASE CAMPS									
Sierra No. 1	160	July 12	2 weeks	30	North Lake	6	59	65#	Cliff Youngquist
Sierra No. 2	160	July 26	2 weeks		North Lake	6	59	65#	Cliff Youngquist
Sierra No. 3					North Lake	6	59	65#	Hobey Holbrook
North Cascades	160	Aug. 9	2 weeks			6	54	60#	Phil Berry
Back-Country	- 55	July 8	10 days	30	Rockport, Washington				Scudder Nash
0	55	July 19	2 weeks	30	Florence Lake	6	79	85	Scudder Nash
KNAPSACK TR		,							T 1 T
Silver Divide	20	July 18	1 week	15	Lake Thomas Edison	6	22	28	Jack Lowry
Kern-Kaweah	20	July 25	2 weeks	15	Mineral King	6	42	48	Walt Oppenheimer
Trinity Alps	20	Aug. 1	1 week	15	Dedrick	6	25	31	Jim Watters
Tatoosh Buttes	20	Aug. 1	2 weeks	15	Winthrop, Washington	6	38	44	Ed Richardson
Cathedral Range	20	Aug. 8	1 week	15	Tuolumne Meadows	6	25	31	Paul Grunland
Wind River	20	Aug. 15	2 weeks		Pinedale, Wyoming	6	38	44	Jim Peabody
Humphreys Basin	20-40	Aug. 29	9 days	15	North Lake	6	26	32	Len Walker
RIVER TRIPS									
Glen Canyon No. 1	10	A 12	0 1	20	Kanab, Utah	6	79	85†	Lou Elliott
Glen Canyon No. 2	40	Apr. 13	8 days	30					Brick Johnson
Dinosaur No. 1—Yamp	40	June 23	8 days	30	Kanab, Utah	6	79	85†	
Dinosaur No. 1—Yamp	oa 50	June 15	6 days	30	Vernal, Utah	6	62	68†	Randal Dickey
Dinosaur No. 2—Yamp	oa 50	June 22	6 days	30	Vernal, Utah	6	62	68†	Monroe Agee
Dinosaur No. 3—Lodor		June 29	6 days	30	Vernal, Utah	6	62	68†	Monroe Agee
Rogue No. 1	25	June 29	5 days	30	Galice, Oregon	6	62	68†	Lou Elliott
Rogue No. 2	25	July 6	5 days	30	Galice, Oregon	6	62	68†	Lou Elliott
Salmon No. 1	33	July 12	8 days	30	Riggins, Idaho	6	82	88†	Gordon Bermak
Salmon No. 2	33	July 22	8 days	30	Riggins, Idaho	6	82	88†	Ned Robinson
Clearwater	40	Aug. 5	8 days	30	Kooskia, Idaho	6	65	71†	Oz Hawksley
BURRO TRIPS									
Burro No. 1a	26	July 11	1 week	25	Onion Valley	6	25.	31	Ned Robinson
Burro No 1h	26	July 18	1 week		Division Creek	6	25	31	Dean Meyer
Burro No. 2	22	July 26	2 week		Onion Valley	6	60	66	To be announced
Burro No. 3	22	Aug. 9	2 week		Taboose Creek	6	50	56	Tom Pillsbury
FAMILY BURR	-								
Trip No. 1	6 families	Aug. 2	2 week		South Lake		See pag	0 15	Jim Dodds
Trip No. 2	6 families	Aug. 16	2 week		South Lake		See pag		Dave Michener
			2 Week	S	Doddi Lake		oce pag	0.10	Dave Bilenener
WILDERNESS Trip No. 1					C. I.I. M.				
Trip No. 1	10 families	July 18	1 week		Soldier Meadow		See pag		Larry Douglas
Trip No. 2	10 families	July 25	1 week	25	Soldier Meadow		See pag	e 15	Larry Douglas
EXTRA SPECI	ALS								
Clean-up Work Party	30	Aug. 8	1 week		Lake Sabrina		See pag	e 14	Fred Eissler
Mt. Waddington, B.C.	16	Aug. 3	3 week	s	Campbell River, B.C.		See pag		Allen Steck
*On High Trips, \$10 1								ess for childr	
		- 11							

#### IMPORTANT

Sierra Club outings are open at regular prices to: members, applicants for membership, or members of similar clubs. Non-members may go on any of the outings for a \$15 additional fee (not charged for non-member children under 12 whose parents are members or applicants). Children 12 years or older must file application for junior membership.

Since the trips are fairly strenuous, a physical examination is strongly

A Sierra Club outing is a coöperative enterprise and each person partaking of the benefits assumes his share of the responsibilities, both financial and for help on the trip. While on the outing, each person is expected to volunteer part of his time and skills to help make the trip "go." Although there are commissary crews on some of the large outings, they are not expected to perform all the tasks necessary for the group. The coöperative effort makes it possible to conduct the trip at a lower cost than that of a strictly commercial enterprise—and outing members derive a lot of fun from helping out.

The fees listed will probably cover the expenses; the management reserves (but has seldom exercised) the right to levy small assessments.

Details about your trip will be mailed to you. Please keep individual questions to a minimum.

# Snowshoers Take a Second Look

A FRACTURED ANKLE on the first trip of the season made the Snowshoe Section of the San Francisco Bay Chapter stop and think. But when the second trip went out for a "casual stroll" that ended in an overnight bivouac without sleeping bags or food, it was obviously time for some soul-searching about the requirements of winter-travel.

The broken bone resulted from a fall snow-shoeing among large boulders only partly covered by snow. The "contact zone" between snow and rocks is always a danger point. In this case, so early in the season, not enough snow had fallen to pack in around the rocks, and a thin snow bridge was hiding a rather deep cavity below. Learning to steer clear of a suspicious boulder, the edge of a cornice, an avalanche slope, an icy traverse—any of a number of potential accident producers—is a matter of experience, and evidently this had to happen to prove that bones can be broken while snowshoeing.

The trip that got lost provides a good laugh now only because no serious illness or accident resulted. Briefly, twenty-six people went out from Pinecrest to have lunch on Dodge Ridge and return. The route had been scouted and involved just a short round trip of three or four miles. The day (January 24) was stormy with snow flurries and practically no visibility. Instead of following the morning's tracks back to Pinecrest, a loop route was selected. In so doing, the group was too far out on a limb by the time the leader realized they were misplaced. Since it was then too late to back-track, the only alternative was to find a sheltered spot, gather piles of wood before dark and wait it out. The next day Pinecrest was found and ravenous appetites were satisfied with dispatch.

Sounds simple—even could be fun. But we don't recommend your trying it. Suppose the weather had been really cold? Suppose damp clothing and lack of food had brought

Directors

(from Page 3)

tion, scenic, and wildlife-preservation purposes should be transferred on an equitable basis to the Department of the Interior for administration by the appropriate agency.

- Urged that the Secretary of the Interior take steps necessary to render the National Park Service completely independent of direct or indirect control over national park roads by the Bureau of Public Roads.
- Commended the Kern-Kaweah and Tehipite chapters for their good work in combatting propaganda for roads that would penetrate dedicated wilderness.

LEWIS F. CLARK

on a case of pneumonia or frostbite? Suppose the leader had lost his head, panicked and split the group in an effort to find a way back in the darkness? It could have been serious, and it certainly was far from comfortable.

These experiences have made the Snowshoe Section take a second look at its program. We always thought that snowshoeing, because it requires little equipment and no skill, was just a pleasant way of getting about in the mountains in winter. Now we've learned what a hard taskmaster the friendly Range of Light can become in winter weather. Every trip in the mountains in winter should be undertaken with the idea in mind that this may be the one on which you will get lost or break a bone. Always assume the worst, operate accordingly and, as a consequence, you may proceed with confidence that you are prepared to cope with any situation. Ninetenths of crisis-prevention is being aware that it can happen—and happen to you.

PHYLLIS LINDLEY

### **Book Reviews**

HAVASU CANYON, Gem of the Grand Canyon, by
Joseph Wampler. Berkeley, California, 1959.
Illustrations, map and bibliography. Paper-bound. 121 pages. \$2.00.

In the southwest corner of Grand Canyon National Park lies Havasu Canyon to which Joseph Wampler has taken so many groups of people. Now he has written a guide and information book about Havasu illustrated with sixty-two of his own photographs, chiefly black and white. Dr. Harold C. Bryant, former superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park, has contributed a chapter on birds; Weldon F. Heald has written the chapter on flowers and plants. In addition to flora and fauna the book covers geology, mining, climate, trails, trips and the life of both the early and modern Havasupai Indians. In fact if you have been, are going, or merely want to dream about Havasu, this pamphlet could be just your meat.

Desert Voices, a descriptive bibliography by E. I. Edwards. The Westernlore Press, Los Angeles, California, 1958. 215 pages. Photographs by Harold O. Weight. Index, three appendices: casual references, records of pioneer desert crossings, scientific and technical items. \$12.50.

This is no mere list of books about deserts. It is a comprehensive bibliography of the Mojave, including Death Valley; the Colorado which includes Borrego, Imperial and Coachella Valleys; and the high desert country. Only a few newspaper and magazine articles are included, but the books which Mr. Edwards has examined are not only described but evaluated. Here surely is an invaluable reference book for writers, travelers, scholars and all others interested in this section of the West.

A FLORA OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, by John Thomas Howell, Peter H. Raven and Peter Rubitzoff. The University of San Francisco, San Francisco, California, 1958. Reprinted from the Wasmann Journal of Biology, Vol. 16, No. 1. 24 photographs, 2 maps, index to families and genera. Paperbound. 157 pages. \$3.00.

A catalogue of all vascular plants that grow or have grown spontaneously in this area, whether indigenous or introduced. Popular names, if any, are given after the botanical names under which plants are alphabetized.

RAIN AND THE FEAST OF THE STARS, by Reiko Hatsumi. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1959. Decorations by Jeanyee Wong. 215 pages. \$3.50.

A delicate, sensitively written description of a girl's growing-up in a well-to-do Japanese family in Japan where ancient tradition was disappearing in a "medley of imported cultures." By no means a mountain book although one chapter does describe the conflict between Reiko's brother and father over the boy's passion for mountain climbing.

VIVIAN BRECKENFELD

#### Parc National du Silence

France is planning to set aside an area of 310,000 acres for a National Park to be known as Parc National du Silence. It is to be located near the Italian border in beautiful, rugged country in the Alps. Although there are a few partly protected areas such as the Camargue, it is the first time a project of this scope has been considered in France or, for that matter, in Europe.

The park will be made up of three concentric zones. The outer one will include hotels, cottages and stores, operating under restrictions to serve the people the park will attract. A second circular zone, more strictly protected, will be devoted to animal and plant conservation. No motor traffic will be permitted in this zone, and no buildings. Hikers and campers will be allowed to use it provided they comply with regulations. The inner zone will be true wilderness in which wild animals can roam freely without fear of man. To make doubly sure neither plant nor beast will be molested, only qualified students of zoölogy and botany will be admitted to this sanctuary.

L'Atlantique (Daily newspaper of the French Line)

# Mountain Talk

S OME people collect stamps, others old love letters. I collect campsites, or the memory of them. When I think back to the pleasures of mountain travel, it is often the setting of a night's bivouac that I remember best.

In the afternoon, if one is still on the trail, the pack grows heavy and certain visions arise from the midsection to preoccupy the mind: steaming cups of soup, crisp crackers, tasty mixtures in a pot. The source of these blessings is an imagined fire in its nest of rocks, a few yards from a tree against which the packboard is propped. Neatly unrolled beside it is a downy sleeping bag on a blown-up air mattress.

Not much later, on a good day, the gods of the mountains have granted these wishes. The fire is being fed from a pile of fat sticks; pots have been filled from the stream; bedrooms have been staked out; lemonade is being poured, and we nomads have become housekeepers once more.

The simplicity of these arrangements is one of the attractions of camping. The grand attraction, of course, is the place.

I think of a granite bench above a broad lake in Oregon's Wallowas, facing the towering backdrop of Eagle Peak. Our little party gathered from individual apartments in the rocky corridors as the sun sank and the October wind rose. The clouds, even the lonely geese on the lake, hinted snow. But the fire and hot drink were deeply comforting and there was time to contemplate the drama of the wild, half-alpine scene.

In contrast there was the commissary center of our family camp beside the creek in



Yosemite's middle elevations. It was July and the stream banks were flower gardens. Children came and went on errands of their own, while parents measured out the ingredients of a dinner triumph. All this was in a forest of tall firs, the land sloping up to high ridges. But the commissary on its little flat was open to the sun by day and the stars by night.

Then I remember a steep trailside camp in Emigrant Basin with its lucky find of a partly burned root for the evening fire, which reduced it to ashes during our hours of serious talk. The meadow site on the Little Sur whose rusty old stoves didn't prevent our enjoyment of steak and wine and hilarious nonsense. The dozen high lakes in the Sierra whose groves of pine or hemlock have given the illusion of shelter for nights of sleep or of wakeful exposure to the moon's passage. The perfectly appointed camp at Simpson Meadow, with its big stone fireplace and heavy-hewn table and benches, where we plotted an adventure off the trails.

And that was how we came to spend a night on the cottonwood island. Leaving the Middle Fork of the Kings (it was last August), we plunged into the tangle at the delta of its tributary, Goddard Creek, then crossed the creek on a log and climbed high along the east bank. Rocky, brushy, gully-cut, this was slow going. It was afternoon when we passed the mouth of Disappearing Creek.

We were inside one of the Sierra's deepest V-shaped canyons, with 12,000-foot peaks and 11,000-foot ridges overlooking the stream's notch thousands of feet below. There was scarcely a tree and not a level spot in sight. Halfway to the final climb toward the lake basin, however, we saw the clump of cottonwoods.

Tired and heavy-laden, we inched our way down the talus. The leap from the gravel bar across the swift water was almost too much to face, but suddenly we were ashore, wet feet and all, in our dubious haven.

Gus, prowling the few yards of living space, complained of the dank odor. The two Bobs, noncommittal, were already out of their boots. I said I liked the smell of good clean vegetable decay, and, being cook, set out the kitchen on an inconvenient hummock. When I came to claim the fourth bedroom I found it would have to be among ferns and roots, and was happy to have an air-mattress layer between the damp silt and my sleeping bag.

The sun was gone quickly. While food and hot liquids worked to restore us to humanity, the big fire was lighted inside a natural pit. Soon the four of us were ranged around it and we let the logs blaze high.

We speculated about bears, flash floods,

and other hazards, and wondered how it would ever be known if we perished there. But we didn't perish, and it was a good fire and a good camp and I think we all still have a proprietary feeling about that cottonwood island. Even Gus, who was talking about the dank smell as we left the gravel bar next morning.

I'd like to go back some time. Do you know what I mean?

FRED GUNSKY

#### William Denman

William Denman, a charter member of the Sierra Club and one of those who signed the club's original Articles of Incorporation, died in San Francisco on March 8 at the age of 86. He was a former Chief Judge of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and had had a long and distinguished career in fields of political reform.

Judge Denman's death leaves only two surviving of the 182 charter members who formed the Sierra Club in 1892: James S. Hutchinson, Honorary Vice-President (see page 3), and Louis Bartlett. Both are residents of Berkeley, California.

#### Knapsack Leaflets

The series of leaflets on Knapsack Camping published by the Outing Committee's knapsack subcommittee is being offered again to those interested in this type of travel. Packed with information for the beginner or veteran knapsacker, they have been prepared by experienced backpackers and are based on extensive knowledge gained through years of leading and planning for group knapsack outings and individual week-end trips. The following subjects on Knapsack Camping are covered:

Leaflet 1—Cross-Country Route Finding (revised 1959)—30c.

Leaflet 2—Personal Equipment (revised 1958)—30c.

Leaflet 3—Cooking Directions for Large Groups (revised 1959)—25c.

Leaflet 5—Menu Planning for Week-end Knapsack Trips—25c.

The four leaflets are available upon request to Betty Osborn, 150 Southwood Drive, San Francisco 12. The fee covers cost of printing and mailing.

#### Bulletin Board

On the California scene . . .

★ Two bills vitally affecting the State Park Commission have been introduced into the California State Legislature: S.B. 363 (Senator Nelson S. Dilworth and others) defines the Commission as a strong, policy-making board, with the Division of Beaches and Parks as the administrative member; A.B. 720 (Mrs. Pauline Davis and others) would limit the Commission to a strictly advisory capacity. Since it seems likely that both bills will pass their respective chambers, we can look for a conference committee to settle their diametrically opposed provisions. The Sierra Club Board of Directors is on record favoring a strong, policy-making State Park Commission.

At a recent conference between the State Highway Commission and the State Park Commission, it was decided to study further the problems of relocating State Highway 89 along the west shore of Lake Tahoe as an all-weather road. Geological studies sponsored by the Sierra Club suggest that a tunnel would make a high-level route around Emerald Bay not only feasible but possibly less expensive than a low-level route across the mouth of Emerald Bay.

Two new members of the State Park Commission have been appointed by Governor Pat Brown to fill recent vacancies. Will Rog-

ers, Jr. replaces Charles Kasch; and Joseph C. Houghteling fills the spot left vacant by Dr. Robert E. Burns. Both Mr. Rogers (from Santa Monica) and Mr. Houghteling (from Atherton) are newspaper publishers.

At the Sixth Biennial Wilderness Conference, held in San Francisco March 20 and 21, the vitally important interrelationship of science and wilderness was considered from many aspects. The Conference was attended by more than 300 people.

#### While on the national scene ...

★ Two additional hearings on the Wilderness Bill (S. 1123) were scheduled by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, the first to be held in Seattle, Washington, on March 30; the second to take place at Phoenix, Arizona, on April 2. These hearings delay moving the Wilderness Bill out of both the House and Senate Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs.

★ There have been widespread protests to Congress regarding the proposed Forest Service timber access road from Kennedy Meadows to Beach Meadows. This road would effectively prevent the establishment of any large-scale Wilderness Area on the Kern Plateau (in southern California). Congressman Harlan Hagan (14th California District) has replied by suggesting that authoritative scientific studies of the area be sponsored by interested parties.

Hearings by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on proposed dams and river developments for the Columbia River System were held in March. Several of the dams proposed by the Corps (Bruce's Eddy, Idaho; Penny Cliffs, Idaho; Wenaha Dam, Oregon; Long Meadows, Montana; Nine Mile Prairie, Montana; High Mountain Sheep, Idaho and Oregon, if built below the mouth of the Imnaha River) are strongly opposed by conservationists, because they would destroy important fish, wildlife and scenic resources. Alternate dams, which would inflict comparatively minor damage, are supported by the conservation groups. Important among these dams are Libby Dam, Montana: Paradise Dam, Montana; Knowles Dam, Montana (alternate to Paradise Dam); and High Pleasant Valley, Idaho and Oregon (or High Mountain Sheep, if constructed above the mouth of the Imnaha River).

Bills have been introduced in both the Senate and House to increase annual federal grants for construction of municipal sewage treatment plants. Senators Hubert Humphrey and Eugene McCarthy (both of Minnesota) have introduced S. 805, and Representatives John Blatnik (Minn.) and Melvin Price (Ill.) have introduced H.R. 3610 and H.R. 246 to increase annual authorizations from \$50 to \$100 million. The Humphrey-McCarthy and Blatnik measures (identical) would also set up an Office of Water Pollution Control.

EDGAR AND PEGGY WAYBURN

#### "Wilderness Cards from the Sierra Club"



Magic Mountain and wild gardens above Cascade Pass—surroundings for a Northern Cascade Base Camp, July 8–17. Photo by Grant McConnell.

The Forest Service proposal for a Glacier Peak Wilderness (see February *Bulletin*) ignores this climax park country of the American Alps.

#### Cards to help the Cascades and wilderness

The first ten Northern Cascades cards are now being distributed: two "junior jumbo" size (the covers of the January and February Bulletins), and eight of regular size, the third of which we show here. The large size,  $10\phi$ ; regular size,  $5\phi$ . Less 30% on orders totaling \$5 or more (at list price), 40% on \$25 or more, 50% on \$50 or more, 60% on \$250 or more. Beyond that—bring in your own transparencies and maybe we can start a new series. All excess over cost goes to conservation. Order from your chapter or from Mills Tower.