

SIERRA

April 1959

CLUB BULLETIN



ALDO LEOPOLD: Recreational development is a job
not of building roads into lovely country,
but of building receptivity into still unlovely human minds . . .

Bridge Game at Emerald Bay PAGE 3

People You Know

HOW'S THIS for keeping busy? *Ray Reel*, of Loma Prieta Chapter, is still in Vienna, and over the year has gobbled up international science conventions, taught a Bible study class, worked with the Boy Scouts and the Masonic Lodge, organized an international ski club, attended the FIS World Ski Championships at Bad Gastein, bicycled here and there, and kept up with his folk dancing!

In Mexico for a recent holiday were *Don* and *Lynda Woods*, but bad weather kept Don from doing much climbing.

Elmo and *Elizabeth Robinson* are spending six months in Los Alamos, New Mexico, where Elmo will be pastor of the Unitarian Church.

Toiyabe Chapter has welcomed home *Bill Long*, back after eighteen months in the Antarctic. *Bob Craig* has written from New Zealand, en route around the world. *Stephanie Godwin* is recovering from major surgery. Eight Toiyabees attended the Wilderness Conference in San Francisco in March.

Bonanzans *Win Dick* and *Cindy Heacock* have struck a vigorous life in our new state of Alaska, with bears, wolves, and frozen water pipes only a part of it. Win's access to town is via a 16-foot skiff navigable only in calm weather.

New prexy of the Yuba-Sutter Mineral Society in Marysville is *Jim Lague*.

Del Eberhardt, who has transferred out of Mother Lode Chapter, should be a new face appearing in the Pacific Northwest.

Atlantic Chapter members are all becoming famous:

Nancy Newhall is co-editor of a new book,

COVER: *Emerald Bay, Lake Tahoe.*
By *Ansel Adams*

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.

DIRECTORS

Harold C. Bradley	President
Nathan C. Clark	Vice-President
Lewis F. Clark	Secretary
Richard M. Leonard	Treasurer
Charlotte E. Mauk	5th Member, Executive Committee
Ansel Adams	A. Starker Leopold
Elmer C. Aldrich	Bestor Robinson
Harold E. Crowe	William Siri
Clifford V. Heimbucher	Edgar Wayburn
H. Stewart Kimball	R. Clifford Youngquist
Randal Dickey, Jr.	Chairman, Club Council
David R. Brower	Executive Director
August Frugé	Chairman, Editorial Board

MONTHLY BULLETIN STAFF

Vivian Schagen	Editor
John P. Schagen	Associate Editor
Doris Brown	Dorothy Otto
Fred Gunsby	Dan L. Thrapp
Charlotte E. Mauk	Peggy Wayburn

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

"Masters of Photography," which describes the work of eighteen outstanding photographers, including, of course, *Ansel Adams*, some of whose mountain pictures are reproduced.

Charles Eggert has delivered a manuscript on the Colorado River to the publishing firm of *Alfred A. Knopf*.

Fortune magazine has denoted *Tom Jukes'* discovery of antibiotics' ability to stimulate growth as one of the "scientific triumphs of the fifties."

The *New York Times'* conservation editor, *John B. Oakes* (an honorary life member of the Sierra Club), has taken ten months' leave of absence to study and travel abroad under a Carnegie grant. Among the guest columnists during his absence have been Senator *Richard L. Neuberger* of Oregon, and *David Brower*, club executive director.

Cedric Wright presented a wonderful exhibit of his mountain photographs in Lafayette, and later in March at the Wilderness Conference in San Francisco. The inimitable *Cedric* was himself present at the Lafayette showing.

Dr. Bob Cutter is making a thorough revision of the Equipment Check List which will be supplied to participants in the club's summer outings. The exhaustive treatment it is getting may bring it up to near *Bulletin* size, but it will certainly be complete!

The *Yodeler* is running a series of biographical sketches of some of the Bay Chap-

ter's well known active members. In the limelight so far have been *Randal Dickey, Jr.*, *Lou Elliott*, and *Larry Williams*. Staff member *Erwin Blodgett* has a reporter's knack for capsule portraits.

Bay Chapter hike attendance reached what must surely be a record on *Adolph* and *Pete Meyer's* Bear Valley trip (from Olema to the coast) on March 15. A total of 204 people were checked through the gate of the Tevis ranch, but they were soon spaced out along the winding road, and were widely scattered on the beach at lunchtime.

Dick Monges has suggested that there is a fine opportunity for occasional Conservation Education exhibits on such trips, where a large group (many of them visitors) could absorb a little information and instruction along with food and sunshine.

Yodeeditor *Howard Frohlich* is retiring after nearly six years on the job. His successor has not been chosen—guest editors will handle the next few issues.

The Annual Dinner (Northern Section) had a record attendance of nearly 500 Sierrans and friends, under the capable chairmanship of *Claudia Owen*.

Charlotte Leschke is making up a Scypper roster, which has nothing to do with river touring, but is a group which will plan and organize Sierra Club Youth Program activities in the Bay Area for club members aged 14 to 18.

DORIS BROWN

Letters

Sierra Club:

Hearing David Brower's speech before the City Club of Portland here two weeks ago was one of my more enlightening auditory experiences this year and I wish at this moment to tell you what an impact it made on not only me but some of my attendant friends as well. Being myself a wanderer of the Cascadian wilderness areas, I was all the more interested.

It is difficult to explain to people, mostly living in the lowlands of the East and having no idea whatsoever of the character of a primitive or wilderness area, the real material and spiritual benefits derived from this sort of bastion of Nature. There is more to "public welfare" and "economic benefit" than the lowering of power rates through more and more dams, and the general, unbridled exploitation of timber and minerals. Ease of living is not commensurate with one's enjoyment of living. Therefore, the circulation of the film of the Stehekin Alps is a grand measure to show and explain this concept of wilderness preservation. I believe every state should have a chance to see it in one way or another. At the present, I am corresponding with friends of mine in the Wisconsin Conservation Department and Izaak Walton groups to see if they would like to borrow this excellent film.

In this society and age of diminishing ideals and integrity, it seems that genuine devotion to Nature in her unsullied state is all the more worth engendering and preserving. In mountaineers, for instance, one sees this trend of idealism, for their aesthetic rewards are all the harder to achieve. So it is with that increasing group of people who, as Mr. Brower puts it, "don't wish to bring their environment with them" and shoulder pack to strike off for the wilderness.

Once again, my warmest thanks to Mr. Brower for speaking so passionately and effectively on a subject that is dear to many of us who live in the shadow—or rather the sunlight—of our beloved Cascades.

GUIDO RAHR, JR.

Vancouver, Washington

Sierra Club:

During the last year I have been an *Oakland Tribune* newspaper boy from which I have made a good sum of money. I couldn't think of anything better to do with it than to secure a life membership with the Sierra Club.

My parents have been active members for a good many years and I am already a regular member.

ROBERT LOUIS ELLIOTT
Oakland, California



Club Recommends High Level Route

Bridge Game at Emerald Bay

MOST CALIFORNIANS know the natural beauty and grandeur of Emerald Bay at Lake Tahoe. Probably there are not quite so many who are familiar with Bliss State Park which adjoins Emerald Bay along the Tahoe shore to the north, or with Emerald Bay State Park to the south. In this wonderful natural setting the people of the state are now confronted with a serious problem of highway improvement. State Route 89, the existing highway on the west side of Lake Tahoe, was closed for almost all of the 1956 season by a major rock slide at Emerald Bay.

A local group, including business interests at the south end of Lake Tahoe, seized upon this closing as an opportunity to advocate a "low level" route which would bridge the mouth of Emerald Bay and slash through the two adjoining State Parks with some six miles of new highway. The damage to the scenic grandeur and recreational value of these areas would be irreparable. Consequently there is strong opposition to such a solution of the problem. The alternative solution—substantial improvement of the existing route around Emerald Bay—is favored by those who wish to preserve the natural beauty of the area.

Just what would the low level bridge and highway do to Emerald Bay and Lake Tahoe?

In the first place it would put across the mouth of Emerald Bay a large man-made structure of concrete or steel a quarter of a mile in length and some fifty feet above the

Lake Tahoe already has lost considerable of its natural charm as mushrooming and uncontrolled construction have turned some parts, particularly at the south end, into a miniature Reno. To further sacrifice Tahoe shoreline to development, even if only the intrusion of a new highway, appears to be a high price to pay for the moderate convenience of an all-year road on the west lakeside (there is already an all-year road along the eastern shore of the lake).

If at all possible, we would hope an alternate to the low level highway can be found. What can be saved now of the natural glories of California is all that will be saved.

JOSEPH C. HOUGHTLING

(Newly appointed to the California State Park Commission by Governor Edmund G. Brown)

From Big Sur to the Northway (proposed for the Adirondack Forest Preserve) and in the Sierra from Emerald Bay to Tioga and Mammoth, conservationists are deeply concerned about what is happening to scenic resources owing to what has been termed "the tyranny of the automobile" in the San Francisco *Chronicle*. The highways become ever wider, straighter, more numerous and more crowded, splintering cities, driving mass-transportation facilities toward the brink (and over it), consuming an enormous share of public funds while other public needs—better schools, better pollution control, redevelopment, park and wildlife needs, building friendship overseas—are forced to languish for lack of funds. The highways are very rough on parks and have sociological

implications that are as yet only vaguely understood; they are fatal to wilderness.

Bureaus that have big budgets to expend on construction can amass almost irresistible political power. In this field some of the most important conservation battles may be in the making, for flooding is flooding whether it be by the highway builder's concrete or the fluctuating waters of reservoirs. In and out of national parks, the destruction of natural beauty and of a chance for quiet solitude may race too rapidly for the conservationist force to overtake it unless this becomes one of the first economies in government spending, leaving the citizens a chance to weigh whether pavement really merits the high priority that has been given it.

—D.R.B.

water. Just north of the mouth of the Bay is a low wooded peninsula about one-half mile long. This would be practically obliterated by a highway fill.

For some two miles north of this fill the highway approach would have to be gouged out of virgin shoreline along a steep four-hundred-foot bank. A beautiful hiking area with one of Lake Tahoe's most interesting trails would be ruined. Even more significant, however, is the fact that this portion of the highway would require very substantial cuts and fills which would be an eyesore from nearly all the rest of Lake Tahoe.

The two State Parks would be bisected. The proposed route would cut right through the middle of campgrounds and campsites. Bliss Park, one of the most popular in the whole state, would never be the same. These parks were acquired by the state to a large extent through private donations of land and funds made for the purpose of enabling the people of the state to enjoy them as parks forever—not for the purpose of providing a right-of-way for a highway.

These factors certainly justify the opposition to the bridge and low level route which has been voiced by the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club, by the State Division of Beaches and Parks, by the Save-the-Redwoods League and other conservationists and conservation organizations, by many local

property owners and by hikers and campers throughout the state.

What are the reasonable objectives of highway improvement on State Route 89? The existing highway is closed each winter by snow. Although the present need for an all-year highway is not acute when considered in relation to the highway needs of the state as a whole, we must recognize that ultimately Route 89 should be open the year round. Another objective is, of course, to avoid any recurrence of the rock slide. Finally, there is the objective of improved highway grade and alignment to improve facility to travel.

With these objectives in mind let us consider the two alternatives—the bridge and low level route, or the improvement of the existing route. Improvement of the existing route would include a re-routing of the highway at the south approach to Emerald Bay, avoiding the switchbacks to provide a highway with a reasonable grade without hazardous curves. At Emerald Bay where the rock slide occurred, construction of a tunnel under the present slide area is feasible. Some additional tunneling will probably be necessary on the north slope of Emerald Bay in order to avoid snow slides and provide a safe all-year route.

The state highway engineers, actuated by their usual desire to provide the shortest and

Emerald Bay (cont.)

straightest route, have favored the low level route. In their report to the State Highway Commission of December 10, 1958 they concluded that there was no reasonable solution to the winter snow removal problem on the upper route. Dr. Parker Trask, consulting geological engineer retained by the Sierra Club, has now demonstrated that the highway engineers were wrong. The snow removal problem can be obviated by additional tunneling. On March 19, 1959 the Highway Commission and the Park Commission held a joint meeting to consider the problem. The two commissions by unanimous vote agreed that further study of the problem was essential, and further study was authorized and is still under way.

In the meantime proponents of the low level route have not been inactive. Notwith-

standing unsuccessful attempts at the 1957 and 1958 legislative sessions, the local Tahoe group is attempting again at the 1959 session to secure legislation which would force the low level route on the Highway Commission, the Park Commission and the people of the whole state. This attempt is being made through Senate Bills 146 and 147, and Senate Concurrent Resolution 13, all introduced recently by Senator Swift Berry of El Dorado County.

The two bills are still pending in the Senate. More attention has been centered on the Concurrent Resolution, which got through the Senate before opposition was organized, and is now pending in the Assembly. It should be defeated. Both the Highway and Park Commissions are giving the matter further study. Certainly the Legislature should not attempt to pre-judge the question before all the facts are in.

One important phase of the problem on

which studies are only in a preliminary stage is the question of comparative costs of the two routes. It is probable that the out-of-pocket expense to the state of constructing the lower route would not be as great. But the value of the Park property along several miles of Tahoe shoreline, which the low level highway would appropriate, would make up the difference.

A straight line is the shortest distance between two points, and there can be no question that for those who are in a hurry the low level route would be faster and about two miles shorter. This is the only real argument which the proponents of the low level route have. All else is attempted rationalization. Is the prospect of saving a few minutes in the trip from Tahoe City to Stateline worth the irreparable damage to Emerald Bay and the Parks which would be involved?

DAVID C. DUNLAP

Student Conservation Program Continues

The National Parks Association announces that the Student Conservation Program will continue for its third summer in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, and in Olympic National Park, Washington.

This volunteer conservation-education work program provides an opportunity for high school boys, college and graduate men and women to assist the National Park Service in exchange for first-hand experience with conservation practices and organizations. Although no salaries are offered, and no tuition is required, room, board, and supervision are provided. Application forms may be obtained from:

The Student Conservation Program
National Parks Association
1300 New Hampshire Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Selections will begin April 1 and will continue until all openings are filled by the best qualified applicants.

Seventeen college and graduate men and women, nineteen years of age and over, will

work as assistants to professional personnel and have field trips and talks with the conservation agencies and authorities in the region of Grand Teton National Park. Three of these students will assist in scientific research and live at the Jackson Hole Biological Research Station under the auspices of the University of Wyoming, which offers academic credit for the experience. Fourteen of the students will assist the Park Biologist and the Engineering, Interpretive, and Protective Divisions of the Park and will live with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Nelson at their 95 Ranch near Park Headquarters.

In Olympic National Park two students working for graduate degrees will be able to undertake two independent research studies on a grant basis under the guidance of the Park Naturalist and their respective colleges.

High school boys, fifteen years of age and over, will construct trails and rehabilitate over-used areas in the mountain and ocean regions of Olympic National Park, under the experienced supervision of Mr.

and Mrs. John D. Dolstad. Each of the two groups of fifteen boys will be in the park for three-and-a-half weeks: June 29 to July 22, and August 2 to August 26. Educational and recreational activities include talks on outdoor and conservation subjects by park personnel and members of conservation organizations in the Northwest, as well as exploration of the park.

The Student Conservation Program is sponsored by the National Parks Association, a private, non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D. C., which publishes *The National Parks Magazine*. Among the endorsers and financial supporters of the program are:

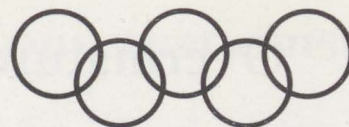
American Nature Association
The Bennington (Vt.) Garden Club
California Conservation Council
The Conservation Foundation
The Desert Protective Council
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs
Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont
Franklin P. Dunbaugh Memorial
French Broad River Garden Club
Foundation, Inc.
Garden Club of Allegheny County (Pa.)
Garden Club of America
Garden Club of Wilmington (Del.)
Honolulu (Hawaii) Garden Club
Merck Family Fund
National Parks Committee of Garden
Club of America
New York Zoological Society
Old Dominion Foundation
Piedmont (Calif.) Garden Club
Seattle (Wash.) Garden Club
Sierra Club
The Wilderness Society

*Young conservationists
at Olympic National
Park*

by Martha Hayne



Logistics for Winter Olympics



THE VIII Olympic Winter Games will be at Squaw Valley, California, February 18 through 28, 1960. The Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee wishes at this time to obtain uniform and complete information from all members who wish to apply for accommodations at the Lodge, Hutchinson Lodge, or Josephine Bradley Hut.

COST: The Committee intends to charge normal winter rates at the two lodges. Any increase will be no more than necessary to cover expenses incurred as a direct result of the Olympics period demand. A charge of not more than \$2.00 a night will apply at Bradley Hut. Only at Clair Tappaan do the

rates include meals. Transportation and Games tickets are additional. You will be asked to post a reasonable deposit and will be given a final date for full payment. Credit may be used at the two lodges.

CAPACITY: Clair Tappaan Lodge will accommodate 142 exclusive of its staff. Hutchinson can handle about 20, and Bradley Hut about 25. Some consideration will be given to those willing and able to snow-camp.

MEMBERSHIP: Do not expect space to be available for non-members. (A 12-year-old may become a member.)

ACCOMMODATIONS: Clair Tappaan Lodge will operate in its usual manner, with central, club-provided commissary. Hutchinson Lodge and Bradley Hut will operate on a "ski-tour" basis. The participants will provide shares toward a single group commissary at each place. Third-class ski touring ability will be required of those staying at Bradley Hut.

APPLICATIONS: The Lodge Committee will make an allotment of the available space and will establish waiting lists based on the questionnaire that follows. If the number of applications is more than we can accommodate, there is a possibility that amount of work party participation will be used as a basis for selection. The questionnaire is your application. Attach a separate but similar form for each member of your family or party. Any of your group who could accept a reservation alone should answer "yes" to question 12. Olympic Games tickets are already on sale.

REPLY: Each form or attached group of forms must be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Copy the questionnaire if you'd rather not clip your *Bulletin*.

TO: CLAIR TAPPAAN LODGE COMMITTEE
 WINTER OLYMPICS RESERVATION QUESTIONNAIRE
 DEADLINE: June 30, 1959

1. Name
2. Address.....
 City..... Zone..... State.....
3. Sex..... 4. Can you use a high upper bunk?.....
5. For what days do you apply (within Feb. 18th through 28th)?.....
6. Olympics ticket application number.....
7. Preference: a. CTL..... b. Hutchinson..... c. Bradley.....
 d. Snow camp at b..... or c..... and provide own food.
8. For Bradley Hut applicants: can you pass the tour requirements of the
 3rd class ski test?.....
9. Estimate of work party participation:
 a. Number of seasons.....
 b. Approximate number of week ends per season.....
10. Do you feel that work party participation should be given weight or assigned
 priority in the disposition of the lodge and hut space for this particular
 period?.....
11. How many are in your party?..... (Are similar forms attached?)
12. If one or more of the others in your party do not get a reservation can you
 accept one alone?.....

Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and send this questionnaire or a reasonable facsimile to
 Sierra Club: CTL Committee
 Olympics Reservations
 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4, California.

Summer School with Ansel Adams

The Ansel Adams Photographic Workshop, sponsored by Best's Studio in Yosemite Valley, is scheduled for June 11 through June 22, 1959. The Workshop is open to both amateur and professional photographers and will be conducted personally by Ansel Adams, internationally known for his magnificent photographs of Yosemite and the natural scene.

The Workshop is not a "school" in the accepted sense of the word. It is designed to assist participants to work out their various problems through lectures, discussions, print criticism and practical work in the field.

Included in the ten-day session will be a detailed description of the zone system, photography by natural light, interpretation of the natural scene, techniques of black-and-white and color photography, use of the Polaroid Land camera and materials, print criticism (members bring their own work for this), and field trips in and around Yosemite Valley, the High Sierra and old California mining towns.

Tuition for the Workshop is \$100.00. Reservations will be made for participants upon registration. For further information write 5 Associates, Inc., 131 - 24th Avenue, San Francisco 21, California.

"Overmature Timber" or Essential Component?

*A scientist looks at the elements
of a forest's life cycle*

Sauk River Wilderness Forest, Northern Cascades

Philip Hyde



THE forest floor is diverse in aspect. Mushrooms, the bodies of dead and decomposing plants and animals, fallen logs and broken stumps are . . . integral parts of the stratum, each with its closely-knit food chain, activity pattern and successional pattern." So W. C. Allee and co-workers wrote in 1949: The tree, through all stages of its life, from the young seedling to the rotting log, supports a changing series of animal communities.

The richest stages with respect to animal populations are those of the dying trees and rotting logs, which provide homes for many forms of life: nesting birds in holes in the trunks of old trees; small mammals and snakes under the logs, salamanders under bark of rotting logs, worms, and a great number of insects (as high as 155 different species in one tree hole have been counted). These dying and fallen trees and rotting logs of species or individuals which are giving way to younger trees in the forest are essential natural components of the forest, providing many of the diverse habitats to be found in mature forest, and their absence leaves major artificial gaps.

These considerations must be kept in mind when the concept of "overmature timber" is considered. If this concept has meaning, it is only in relation to arbitrary definitions of the function or purpose of forest in our society. In land classified for sustained timber harvest, aged Douglas fir trees are most certainly overmature and past their peak in economic wastage, inexcusable in areas established specifically for maximum timber production. "Overmature timber" has no meaning in areas established to maintain primeval and wilderness conditions, for the old trees and rotting logs are as much a part of the natural forest as are the moss layers, the seedling trees and the vigorous forest canopy trees. While biologically and economically sound for timber cropping, the forest without all of its layers and habitats is just about as useful as a Ladino clover pasture for scientific study of all aspects of mature plant and animal communities, for observing the forest as it was and is in the absence of great disturbance, and for preserving wilderness conditions.

—DR. BONITA J. NIELAND

Figures Support Northern Cascades Conservationists

While reading a new book not long ago we were impressed by some facts which we would like to call to the attention of foresters and the forest industries of Washington State. The book was *Timber Resources for America's Future*, published in January 1958 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture [the Timber Resources Review].

Washington State has 23.9 million acres of forest land, of which 19.5 million acres are classed as commercial forest area. This commercial forest area has a standing timber

volume of 510 billion board feet (315 MM b.f. of sawtimber and 65 MM cu. ft. of growing stock). The commercial forests have an annual mortality of 3.1 billion board feet from fire, insects, and disease. There are growth losses from this mortality of 1.5 billion board feet. Considerable additional volume loss can be attributed to the 2.94 million acres of nonproductive and poorly stocked commercial forest land.

To compare with the above figures are the values for wilderness recreation areas of

the State. There are nine Forest Service areas which have been reserved for wilderness recreation use. These areas have a total acreage of 1.72 million acres and a timber volume of 9.23 billion board feet. The Glacier Peak Limited Area, included in the above figures, has an area of 347,525 acres, and a timber volume of 3.67 MMb.f.

The new Forest Service proposal for a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area calls for an acreage increase to 422,925 acres; however, the forested valley corridors have been deleted from the proposal, thus reducing the timber volume by over half. The wisdom and logic of this gross reduction in the new Wilderness Area is certainly questionable when the following facts are considered:

1) The forest industries have available for use (a) 98.6 per cent of the State's standing timber volume; (b) 99.1 per cent of the State's commercial forest land; and (c) nonproductive and poorly stocked areas which are 1.7 times larger than the total wilderness recreation areas of the State.

2) The forest industries allow an actual growth impact loss in each three-year period of a timber volume equal to that on all nine wilderness recreation areas of the State. This is an annual loss which is 1.8 times greater than the total commercial timber volume now standing in the proposed Glacier Peak Wilderness Area.

The above facts raise many questions: If the forest industries cannot operate successfully with the resources now available, would sacrificing the little remaining high-quality wilderness be of any permanent value? Would not the 2.94 million acres of commercial forest land which is now nonstocked or poorly stocked be more productive for forestry than the 1.72 million acres of wilderness area? Is the Forest Service decision to log the forested valley corridors of greatest benefit to present and future generations of Americans or is it a benefit to the forest industries?

DON FAGER, M.D., *President,*
Wenatchee Alpine Roamers
From *NCCC News*, March 1959.

Kern Plateau Plea

Wait Until the Facts Are In!

[In 1956 the Forest Service, after an "advisory" hearing, sped through a decision to commit part of the Kern Plateau country to logging. At the same time the Service was supporting legislation to create the National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission; moreover, the Service was underwriting research on how it should begin to study adequately the future needs of national-forest recreation. There was no timber shortage. Conservationists urged the Forest Service to await the results of these studies before making irreversible moves. The Service decided to make the timber sale instead.

No timber has yet been cut on that sale. Apparently the lumber company felt no hurried need for logs. Why, conservationists still wonder, the great rush to sell it? And why now another hurry to invade undedicated wilderness of enormous value to recreation and watershed with more timber-access roads and logging? The Review Commission now exists. Public opinion in an "advisory hearing" was predominantly against the proposed action. The public may well begin to wonder if the bureau is taking advantage of its enormous discretionary powers.

The following statement by Harold Bradley, as president of the Sierra Club, is derived from a letter he wrote on the subject in late March.

—D.R.B.]

The final answer?

... Some of the questions raised can only be answered when adequate ecological studies of the Kern Plateau area have been made, and when the President's Recreational Resources Review has been completed. The Forest Service has of course made its own appraisal of the resource that it considers of major importance, namely the timber, and proposes to proceed with the cutting of it. Until the need for timber can be related to the need for keeping much of the area for its

recreational value and as wilderness, we contend that cutting of the timber, with the necessary timber access roads and the erosion that will result, is premature.

Our major concern therefore is to await the complete evaluation of this area, before any permanent alterations of the natural scene and its ecological balance is made. Since the creation of the Recreational Resources Review Commission and its implementation was made by Congress for the very purpose of permitting long-range land-use planning to be based on a complete inventory of the resources present, we assume that where there are competing and incompatible uses present the status quo will be kept until the facts are obtained. This is the attitude which conservationists, including the Sierra Club, must urge. There is no such emergency demand for timber that this area must be logged off at once.

A second point we would stress is that in this semi-arid region, water is probably of more value than timber—clear water. We have yet to see logging operations and timber access roads in steep terrain that do not result in erosion and mud-laden streams. Left wilderness or semi-wilderness, this area will continue to produce clear water. Disturb the soil and the forest cover and every heavy shower sluices mud into the streams and on down to silt up the reservoirs below. Lumbering operations in steep terrain are not compatible with pure water. Recreation is compatible. All the more reason therefore why the logging operations should be postponed until the data on which wise land management can be based are secured. . . .

Conservationists will appreciate any efforts to delay committing this area to what amounts to a single use until its values for recreation and pure water can be appraised by the Commission created for just this purpose.

H.C.B.

N.B. 10th Int. Div. Men!

Former members of the vaunted 10th Mountain Division will hold their first reunion in Denver at month's end and will unveil a memorial to the Division's 1,000 dead May 30 on Tennessee Pass. Club members who were 10th men, or who know some, please pass the word. Details at the club office.



BELLA COOLA in the

*Ascending Taleomey Glacier;
Mount Geryon in distance.*

It is reassuring to know that terrain exists where the devil's club grows a formidable seven feet and hornets' nests are trod upon at random at least four times during a hard day's hike of three or so miles. Such attributes of good wilderness are found in abundance in the Coast Range near Bella Coola, British Columbia, to which Dick Houston, Jim Wilson, Floyd Burnette and I can heartily attest. The Bella Coola Valley, which cuts eastward through the range some forty miles to the sea, is a delightful mixture of man and nature . . . with a modest amount of the former. The town of Bella Coola, located where the Bella Coola river flows into the sea, has fewer than 400 citizens, and is supported by fair-sized logging and commercial fishing operations.

Southward from the valley there is a region rich in all the qualities of wild mountain country: steep, forested canyons channeling fast-moving glacial streams; dense bush; pleasant alpine meadowland from which one may leisurely view active glaciers and rugged mountains. There are no trails. We chose an easterly approach, the Taleomey River, into the heart of this land.

As we climb across the last 100 yards of chaotic logging slash, the forest "wall" ahead looks gloomy and impenetrable. A soft rain is falling. Our packs, loaded with the usual combination of useful and superfluous gear, have been on but an hour, and it will take a

while before we are at all well acquainted with them. We slip across the boundary into the rain forest which is beautifully ancient and wild. In the flat light of a clouded sky our forest is alive with color. Great trees with grizzled limbs obscure the view around us; there is brush and small growth everywhere. Timber of all dimensions and stages of decay lies among the living things. And covering all surfaces there is the prolific rain-forest moss. Through this we must find our way.

Where possible, we travel on the gravel bars alongside the Taleomey river, which roars a frigid welcome at us. Where the river cuts close to the bank we return to the forest in search of game trails. Fresh signs of grizzly are seen and we use their trails, though not without some apprehension. We had not anticipated the hornets, who angrily resent our presence. Our encounters with them are painful affairs. The lead man invariably escapes as will the second, if he is agile enough. Woe to the third and fourth who must endure the main attack. By our campfires in the evenings, we watch the ravens glide among the hemlocks, firs and cedars . . . that mysterious bird that figures so prominently in the lore of the Northwest Indians who once flourished in these coastal regions. The sun does not emerge until the fifth day when we come out upon the moraine debris of the upper canyon. We can see the Taleomey Glacier now, as well as the rim of ice-clad summits above the forested canyon walls. We have earned but 15 miles.

The Taleomey proves to be a large glacier, but, like so many of its companions here, it lacks the proper nourishment. A day later as we walk out upon the icefield at its crest, we find that the mountains possess a number of their own glaciers and are rich in alpine dignity. We all climb Mount Ogre, the higher summit of Mount Jacobsen, and Hornet Peak, which we have named in honor of those "beasts" of the forest. On the last day, Jim and I decide, without much enthusiasm, to attempt Mount Geryon. Leaving camp at 3:30 a.m. we begin the traverse of the ice field. Alone in an icy world, with vague shadows of the peaks as our only companions, we search for a route through the crevassed areas. And then, suddenly, there are the Northern Lights. The dancing patterns of cosmic radiation pulsate from the horizon to the zenith; it is strange that such a visual display should be accompanied by such silence, and yet we would wish it no other way.

We remain there for some time, each caught in a confusion of thought on the mystical qualities of our universe. At last it seems wise to move on, for there is a long day ahead.

Dawn comes slowly, and before the morning is well advanced, the sun is oppressive. We ascend through an icefall, and cautiously

*Bella Coola Mountains;
Mount Waddington at
far right.*

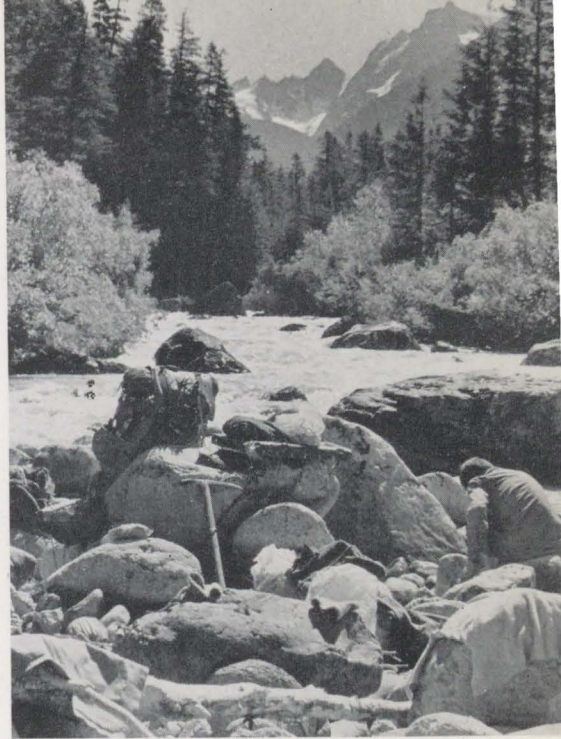
COOLA

ds of Canada's Coast Range

enter the head of the small cirque to the south of Geryon. Great masses of ice, curiously moulded by gravity and the elements, cling incongruously to the cliffs. Arriving at the bergschrund, we find its upper lip some 20 feet above us. Its surface is grooved by falling ice and stones. The collapse of an icicle high up on the rocks startles us so that no lengthy discussion is needed to abandon this place. We descend and find a route over the east ridge by cutting steps across an ice slope with a deep funnel in its center.

Jim comes over quickly and I suppose that he too thirsts for the trickle of water inside the funnel. Removing our crampons, we watch with that detached, fatalistic fascina-

tion of the mountaineer as a stone whirls down the funnel, gnashing at the ice. Here we are and there is the stone; and soon all is quiet. We are fortunate in having passed quickly by this watering place. The climb is without difficulty, though we do use the rope at all times. Except for the summit spire which is composed of steep, rotten rock covered with leafy black lichens, Geryon is fashioned of fairly sound, though well weathered, granite. From the summit, which we reach toward late afternoon, we enjoy a rare view of snow-covered peaks extending to the horizon in nearly every direction. The graceful pyramid of Mount Waddington is visible some 60 miles to the south. We retrace our



route to camp: only in place of the Aurora, a full moon looks down upon two contented mountaineers trudging across the glacier.

Our stay on the ice field is over and we must leave, for there is the long trek over to the Nusatsum watershed which leads northward toward the Bella Coola Valley. The weather is beautiful as we cross the alpine meadows that lie between the peaks. Alpine fir, many wild flowers, and quiet clear streams grace the countryside. In the fashion of good mountaineers we bathe in a cool lake, while on the opposite shore a flock of Canadian geese take their morning meal. Farther down the river the brush closes in and Jim decides to improvise on the ritual of the stream crossing: he initiates the "longitudinal stream traverse." With skepticism at first, later with pure enjoyment of the game, we follow him down the center of the stream, laughing at the heavy brush along its banks. It can be said of Jim that the sight of a stream makes the feet grow hot, for wherever there is water, he will find a reason to step in! We find a grizzly trail and are off again into the bush. In the gloom of a huge boulder I stumble upon a grizzly skull, for which Floyd readily finds room on top of his pack, thoughtfully declining the clavicle and pelvis which we unearth nearby. The sight of this grim skull with its huge incisors riding atop Floyd's pack encourages us to holler all the louder in order to warn the bears of our approach during the remainder of our travels down the Nusatsum canyon to the Bella Coola Valley.

ALLEN P. STECK

All photographs by the author.

Above: View up the Taleomey River.



Resolution 1

Wilderness as a Biological Resource

The biological sciences, especially those which emphasize relationships and interdependence of plant and animal life communities, are being recognized as of critical importance to the welfare of mankind and the nation. In order to evaluate life processes in areas where man has changed the face of the Earth, it is necessary to have a variety of areas still in their natural state for purposes of comparison—to serve as “benchmarks” with which to relate the effect of man’s activities on the plant and animal life on which his own life depends.

The destruction of life communities that still remain in their natural state, such as the wilderness portions of National Parks, National Forests, Wildlife Ranges, and other parts of the wilderness system, would be an irreparable loss to man’s understanding and survival.

Therefore, as an essential step in the program of preserving areas in their natural state, and to encourage the urgently needed biological-ecological research which must include work in such areas, we recommend the passage of the Wilderness Bill without further delay.

Resolution 2

Wilderness Research and Education

The proper use of all our public lands requires a better understanding, by administrators and lay citizens alike, of:

(a) The interrelationships of plants, animals, soil, water, and air;

(b) The effects of man’s activities on these interrelationships;

(c) The value of unmodified areas as gages of our progress toward the best possible utilization of managed lands.

This understanding can be gained only by long-term research, involving every branch of science, on areas that are deliberately reserved, unaltered, and by transmission of research findings to a large and receptive audience.

Because the most receptive audience may be found in those persons who seek publicly-owned lands for their recreational values, it is urged that each agency administering such lands undertake a large-scale program including:

(1) Research on the lands under its jurisdiction, or cooperation with appropriate agencies and institutions in the conduct of such research;

(2) Enlarged interpretive staffs whose members participate in, or keep in touch with, the results of research and are not burdened with irrelevant responsibilities;

(3) Utilization of all possible media—displays and exhibits, motion pictures, lectures, and informal individual contact—for the information of the public, so that citizens may appreciate, enjoy, take pride in, and seek to protect the lands dedicated to recreational and scientific uses.

To this end the agencies administering these public lands—especially the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service—should have budgets adequate to support both research and education of this type.

In addition, all other agencies (including universities) concerned with study and management of natural resources should be urged to

undertake or support further research on ecological problems affecting natural areas.

Resolution 3 *Outdoor Resources Review*

The *Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission* is just starting to inventory and evaluate our national recreational and scenic resources and to estimate future needs for them. At the very time this task is getting under way areas recognized as having high potential recreational value, including wild lands, are being opened to competing uses. It is obvious that if such areas are eliminated from future recreational use—of a wilderness type, or otherwise—by action prior to consideration by the Commission, the very purpose of the survey is thereby frustrated and defeated just as it begins to operate. Such contradiction could not, of course, have been intended by Congress when it passed the Act creating the Commission and setting up its task.

The Conference therefore urges all land-management agencies to safeguard from any untimely use for other purposes all such areas of potential wilderness designation and accordingly urges the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission to pay particular attention to the wilderness values of such areas. Examples of these areas include the Glacier Peak-North Cascades region in Washington, the recently eliminated portion of the Three Sisters area in Oregon, the Kern Plateau in California, and the proposed Great Basin National Park in Nevada. To provide an orderly and effective policy and program as a basis for recommendations regarding such areas of potential wilderness, as well as for the immediate protection of existing areas of designated wilderness, the Conference further urges the prompt enactment of the Wilderness Bill as an aid to the program of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission as well as for the other urgent and desirable purposes that make this a most important piece of basic legislation.

Resolution 4 *Shoreline Wilderness*

That the vulnerability of the wild shores of oceans and lakes is now being recognized is expressed in proposals to preserve such areas as the Olympic shoreline in Washington, representative sections of the Pacific Coast in Oregon and California, the Indiana dunes, and a portion of Cape Cod. The Conference urges upon Congress and the American people the importance of adding littorals that are still wild to our protected scenic and recreational resources.

The shoreline strip in its native condition represents a particularly valuable scientific asset, but is subject to rapid and destructive alteration by such activities as skin-diving and the taking of the littoral flora and fauna.

For protection of this valuable resource the Conference urges appropriate action for preservation of adequate shore areas, including not only the designation of suitable new preserves but also the extension of jurisdiction of the agencies administering existing shoreline parks and preserves beyond the present boundaries at high-tide line so that they may include an adequate portion of the underwater plant and animal community.

Resolution 5 *Alaska*

“Time still remains for the preservation of a few small fragments of primitive Alaska, but it is rapidly running out. If we do not persist more diligently in our efforts, assets of inestimable value will be lost.”

Recommendations:

(a) This Conference supports the establishment of the Arctic Wildlife Range and the Kuskokwim and Izembec Refuges. It views with grave concern the prolonged and seemingly unnecessary delay in submitting for congressional action the basic legislation which the Department of the Interior proposed in 1957 for establishment of the Arctic Wildlife Range. The conference urges the Secretary of the Interior to take early and specific action in this conservation proposal which he has endorsed and which has received widespread public support.

(b) Katmai and Glacier Bay National Monuments, of increasing value to recreation and research, should be given National Park status.

(c) Legislation is essential to protect such species as polar bear, walrus, wolves, and others, which will be unable to withstand the effects of increased hunting and destruction of habitat.

(d) Wilderness areas should be designated within both Tongass and Chugach National Forests. Establishment of the Tracy Arm-Fords Terror Wilderness Area including Endicott Arm, in southeastern Alaska, should receive priority.

(e) We respectfully urge upon the people of Alaska the necessity for giving the most careful consideration to the remarkable resources of wilderness and wildlife within the boundaries of the new state. We further request that, before developing any programs which might destroy these resources for all time, they make a careful long-range study of the potentials of these wilderness resources, both to the people of Alaska and to the nation.

(f) It is reported that an experimental plan calls for the atomic blasting of a harbor at Cape Thompson on the Arctic coast in 1961. This proposed “new” harbor will not be used as such; will have no specific purpose other than testing atomic power as a dredging tool. It is understood that this area has uniquely important biological qualities which have not been considered in planning the location of this experiment. Therefore, this conference protests the planning of such a project without full consideration of the results to the natural marine and shore communities affected.

Resolution 6 *Population Problem*

As wilderness is one of the first of the earth’s important natural resources to come into short supply as a result of world-wide human “population explosion,” the final destiny of all wilderness may hinge on this trend. This conference, recognizing that both economic standards and the quality of human living are at stake, accordingly recommends that research on human population problems be greatly increased and that social, governmental and other appropriate agencies give immediate and urgent attention to the development of desirable population controls.

IT WAS SCARCELY surprising that the more than 400 people who attended the Sixth Biennial Wilderness Conference, held on March 20 and 21 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco, should have urged passage of the Wilderness Bill.

It was to be expected they might offer a friendly warning to citizens of Alaska: Go slow in exploiting and destroying the wilderness resources now yours in such abundance.

And, since the general theme of the Conference was "The Meaning of Wilderness to Science," it was quite logical that the conferees should urge that the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and "other agencies, including universities" should spend more effort (and money) in utilizing natural wilderness laboratories for research.

But it was Dr. Raymond B. Cowles, professor of zoölogy at the University of California, Los Angeles, who pointed up the facts and made the extrapolations which made it proper for a "wilderness conference" to take a stand on a controversial matter.

"This month," he remarked during his speech on March 21, "the United Nations demographers have stated that the world's population has passed the 3 billion mark; at

this rate the next generation will exceed 6 billion and the subsequent generation 12 billion."

"At this rate." There is reason to believe the rate may rise before it levels off or falls. Control of epidemic infectious disease, control of infant mortality, and the dazzling standard of economic well-being which we Americans and a few other peoples enjoy, have still not made their full impact on all earthmen.

Dr. Cowles put it another way: Before our great-grandchildren grow up, the world's crop of children will equal or surpass the present population of the U.S.—about 170,000,000.

Said Dr. Cowles:

"The demand for invasion of wilderness sanctuary areas for water storage and power dams, for oil rights, for ores and forests and farmlands, now is but a gentle movement in comparison to what it will be with our predicted population of even 40 years hence.

"I suspect that nothing having the potentiality of satisfying the necessities in the broad sense, can even briefly survive the resulting hunger."

And again:

"The capacity to overwhelm beauty in nature is innate in excessive numbers of any animal. Man is no exception. We are ecologically out of balance with our world."

Because Dr. Cowles' medicine was so bitter, it could not fail to make a grim impression on the conferees. Many were shaken in their faith that human intelligence and good will will yet find a way to save that mysterious beauty we associate with the word "wilderness". But none proposed that the fight be abandoned because it seems at the moment hopeless.

* * *

Another Conference speaker, Dr. Stanley A. Cain of the University of Michigan's conservation department, took time out from his discussion of ecological islands to urge that conservationists abandon fruitless attempts to justify wilderness on economic grounds.

"The economic argument has never saved a single wilderness area. It cuts both ways. If you praise wilderness on an economic basis, if you praise it in terms of its dollar value, you put forth an argument you must surely lose," he said.

"You are in essence putting wilderness on the block to be sold to the highest bidder."

Instead, he urged, let conservationists defend the wilderness on grounds in which they really believe, and where facts and logic support them. "One either believes in wilderness or he doesn't," concluded Dr. Cain.

Daniel B. Beard, the superintendent of Olympic National Park, similarly urged his audience to face facts, even when they are unpleasant. For example, he pointed out that attempts to freeze wilderness in a kind of perpetual status quo are self-defeating. Item: The determined and often successful effort to eliminate wildfire in our national parks may be interfering in a serious way with the natural ecological evolution of these areas. It is well known that some species of plants, bushes, and trees do not reproduce in the absence of periodic burning.

[Preparation is under way of the *Proceedings* of the Sixth Biennial Wilderness Conference, in which all the papers and most of the discussion will soon be available separately.]

Passionate wilderness lovers would certainly wince but might conceivably be persuaded to let wildfire have its way in the wilderness, but how should they react to one remark of Dr. Luna B. Leopold, chief hydraulic engineer of the U.S. Geological Survey, to the conference?

"We may remind ourselves of the well-known fact," he said gently, "that selective cutting of forests increases water yield under at least some circumstances.

"The increase in water yield comes from decreasing transpiration by cutting some of the trees."

And this extra water is available not merely to farmers and power companies, but to all forms of life downflow from the "managed forest."*

Some conferees preferred to ignore the cold water, both literal and figurative, in favor of more familiar exhortations to fight the good fight for conservation. But the scientists invited to address the Sixth Biennial Wilderness Conference could not fail to make the essential point:

More scientific research is needed and must be carried out. We may be finally forced to manage both our population and our wilderness areas. Only science can show us how to do this without distorting or destroying both the human and the wilderness values we seek to save.

GEORGE DUSHECK

*One reaction: Water yield would increase still more if *all* the trees were cut, and all other water-transpiring vegetation were stripped off. The yield of silt and sediment would also increase—astronomically. Data on the long-range effects of watershed manipulation are too scant to permit sound appraisal of the results. Unmanipulated watersheds—wilderness—will be essential for purposes of comparison when such appraisal is sought.

D.R.B.

Resolution 7 Zoning

Increasing population pressures and the threat to wilderness from competing uses because of lack of adequate areas elsewhere better suited to these other uses require a zoning system to assure optimum use. The setting aside of land for use as wilderness is thus an essential part of the planning of land use and should be recognized as such. Furthermore, the preservation of wilderness should be recognized in the context of over-all land-use planning and zoning by appropriate governmental agencies.

Resolution 8 Land Restoration

Millions of acres of potential timber lands are not now producing, and the efficiency of timber production from available land resources is far below what is possible. Much grazing land, also, is far below full potential production because of past overgrazing and other denuding influences. Much forest land of greater efficiency in the use of such potential resources, including areas on the national forests and other public lands that were once productive but are now impaired, would aid the economy and would also tend to reduce pressure for commercial use of wilderness areas.

The conference therefore recommends that the Congress, the United States Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and other land-administering agencies be urged to put more emphasis on tree planting, reseeding, and other techniques for restoring maximum production on degraded lands available and appropriate for timber production, forage production, or intensive recreational use.

How Dense Should People Be?

of the coverage was generally poor, and of the headlines even poorer. Some people who scanned headlines were led to conclude that conservationists wanted to tax babies to save natural areas, or that they preferred wild animals to tame children; one irate letter writer was ready to have the professor consigned to a zoo! By what right were conservationists thinking about population anyway, especially wilderness conservationists?

There was indication that the word *population* was not the offender, but the word *control*. A semanticist or a public-relations consultant might have come up with innocuous phrasing—perhaps asking for research leading to “desirable limits of population density.” A *limit* is far more desirable than a *control*, being accepted and practiced in supermarkets and being accepted, at least, on highways. A *control* has regimentation in it; it is something someone else tells you you have to do. *Self-control* would be fine; no other kind.

But this is a great deal about words and too little about the ideas lurking behind the words. Assuming that control is something a reasonable population can impose upon itself, what do population control and conservation have to do with each other?

AT THE 1957 Wilderness Conference there was a memorable paper on population pressure by Lowell Sumner, reprinted in the 1957 annual *Bulletin* under the title, “Are Beavers Too Busy?” In the discussion period following Sumner’s presentation a Catholic father stated that there was need for discipline in all things. There is no discipline without control. Another comment in the same discussion period was that *death control*, which artificiality man gladly accepts, must be offset by man. But of course we don’t call the practice of medicine “death control,” and no one would want to stop it if we did. Whatever we call it, the success of man’s efforts to defer death confronts conservationists, in all their planning, with an insistent question that won’t lie down and play dead either: What to do about man and his numbers?

In fact, the population question enters almost every major conservation meeting. It was brought into the Wilderness Bill hearing in San Francisco by an opponent of the bill. It has been prominent in almost every conservation problem engaging the club. A club scientist who studied the question in Japan for many years as a government conservationist contends that in the last analysis an organization cannot have a conservation policy without having a population policy. He has reminded his listeners of the William Vogt story of the sanity test—the one in which the candidate, confronted with an overflowing sink, is classified according to

whether he reaches for the mop or the faucet.

Durward Allen put the problem in a formula for the North American Wildlife Conference in New York last March when, as Summarizer, he proved that

$$\frac{\text{Resources} \times \text{Culture}}{\text{Population}} = \text{Standard of Living}$$

But proof alone may not suffice. As conservationist Les Pengelly told the same meeting, “You can’t *reason* prejudice out of a person because it didn’t get in that way.”

Prejudice can hardly solve the vexing problem of human density. Reason can, unless man should hide his talent—the God-given ability to use reason. Reason has told him—he calls it an axiom—that when equals are multiplied by equals, the results are equal. When one side of an equation is multiplied by a number and the other side is not, the result becomes unequal. If you double the population five and a half times in a century in a fixed living space (as California has done), then each person has only *one hundredth* as much space and fresh air (and there is question about which of the two we’ll run out of first!).

In the last hundred years the population of California has doubled nearly six times. If this rate of growth continues, the state’s population will, by the year 2005, equal the present population of Japan.

One recent projection shows 600 million visits to the national park system *annually* by the year 2000; the Forest Service visits would be nearly *one billion*.

This is more than ten times the present visitation. Applied to Yosemite, the increase would mean 13,000,000 visitors per year by the time today’s preschool child has teen-age children.

Double the world’s population every three to five decades (man’s present rate) and each person’s and nation’s share likewise shrinks fast—of living space and of resources. Crowding increases tension; and tension, every civilized man knows, in itself brings peril—to the mental and physical health of individuals and nations.

Logic can tell you this. So does your heart when you see your six-year-old playing air-raid drill, lying prone with his arms protecting his head; or when you think of the good flow of genes, now passed to him, with who knows how much strontium 90 in his bones (and you remember that scientists are arguing about where the decimal point should go in measuring radioactivity’s hazard to man’s future, and still other scientists are in due humility asking humanists to help them put the lid back on Pandora’s box).

And now tension has triggered the super-



AS USUAL, the sixth of the biennial wilderness conferences, held in San Francisco March 20 and 21, voted upon recommendations derived from the papers and discussions. As in the past, the vote represented the sense of the meeting and binds no organization or individual.

Resolution 6 (see page 10) asked for research leading to “desirable population controls.” Of the two or three hundred people present at the time of the voice vote, three voted no.

The resolution came largely from a paper by Professor Raymond Cowles, UCLA zoölogist. Professor Cowles has a broad background in the study of population problems, has a family of his own, knows that his subject is controversial, and does not believe that controversy is something to shun.

He stressed what he described as the unprecedented hazard of uncontrolled human population. Wilderness, he felt, would be an incidental victim of the hazard—a hazard he likened to malignancy. He concluded:

“There is already grave doubt as to how long, even with the population stabilized at present levels, we can persist without destroying our resources and our security. If we are to save the patient—the biotic world, including man—our only hope would appear to be to emulate the physician, and learn to stop the multiplication of these randomly, wildly multiplying cells in order to save the patient.”

His paper did not say how this was to be done. His answer to a question from the floor mentioned the economic route—and it was this route, this subject, and *only* this, that was broadly covered by the press. Accuracy

Illustrations are from the pamphlet, “The Population Bomb,” distributed by the Hugh Moore Fund, New York.

sonic race to a point where one man (or at most, a handful of men), in a disturbed moment can drop the leash of the force that man has uncaged. A few blinding flashes can destroy all that mankind has dreamed in all its milleniums.

This helps explain the growing unwillingness to silently halve the coming generation's freedom rather than restrain some of this one's, the reluctance to give the future so bad a break.

Conservation is "humanity fighting for the future." Conservation organizations are concerned about resources, including all that the gifts of beauty, space, and serenity mean to mankind. Can they refuse to consider the greatest threat of all to these resources—the amassing of an unnatural number of people by unnatural means to decimate natural resources and to shrivel natural dignity?

MOST conservation organizations consist of individuals who share one common cause and perhaps two, but not all. The Sierra Club itself contains members of all the recognized colors; several of the creeds; Republicans, Democrats, and independents; management, labor, and retired; legislative, administrative, and judicial branches; almost all the professions; and probably all the ages, of both sexes, between 12 and 85, with a scattering in the still higher brackets.

They belong for what they share, most of them presumably thinking that wilderness is a good thing and hoping to get into it oftener—or that it will still be there for others as they remember it themselves.

They do not agree on everything. A teenage group would probably prefer to skip the conservation lecture and try to set a new speed record on a trail somewhere. Surely no teen-age eyes will scan these lines, especially those in our house! So it goes—that's the way the old handhold crumbles!

Members cannot be expected to agree on everything. What a monotonously lukewarm, vapid mediocracy we'd be if they did!

Moreover, they had better not agree on everything. For a tendency to insist upon unanimity is the same as insistence upon one man's being granted the right to veto what another man—or another 13,500 (our current count)—might want to do. If minorities that constitute the membership were to have veto power and exercise it, then the club program would bog. The members who make a living from logging might veto the effort to preserve trees in the Kern Plateau wilderness. Those who are in the construction business might veto the attempt to spare the Adirondack Forest Preserve from a highway. Steel men might veto saving the Indiana Dunes; mining men, the hopes of preventing strip mining at Image Lake; civil engineers, any reservation that could interfere with building a dam at Echo

Park; hunters, the prohibition of hunting in California state parks.

Insistence upon unanimity could thus probably assure a minimum of controversial action. It would absolutely assure an absence of program.

If, therefore, conservationists by and large believe that uncontrolled population expansion transcends all other threats to what they together are trying to conserve, we can hope that those conservationists who disagree will nevertheless stand ready to help the parts of the conservation program with which they *can* agree. The many should not trample the few; the few should not dogmatically thwart the many. Each group, when survival may be at stake, needs to think honestly and hard.

IN ANY EVENT, most of the people at the Wilderness Conference recognized the existence of a problem. They wanted to see something done—something desirable. Undoubtedly they excluded from the category of desirable controls such measures as war, famine, pestilence, and infanticide or selective cutting down of overmature individuals in order to make way for the thrifty young growth. Presumably they were not too happy about the effects of all the poisons being spread around man's range in order to prevent its being shared by competing species—the rotenone, DDT, 1080, heptachlor, lindane, parathion, and radioactive waste that seem increasingly to be associated with increased productivity, most of them poisons against which pests are developing immunity faster than man is.

For all these eliminations, the word "desirable" has latitude, and increased research can lead to an informed judgment about what should be desirable. Some astute people think that one of the most desirable and effective controls will be to expose as fallacy (and obliterate the billboards which proclaim it) the allegation, "Your future is great in a *growing* America!" and the not entirely unrelated boards which warn, "Protect Yourself from Fallout!" No environment we have heard of can withstand unalliated growth of a single species nor produce a human gene which can shield itself from unnatural radiation.

The contest is hereby declared open for slogans that do not confuse growth with progress, that will lead instead to a human ethic compatible with human environment. Here's an entry, and no prize asked or given:

*Not how dense the life
But how good the living!*

D.R.B.

Current Quotes

What about this "population explosion" which President Eisenhower considers just as challenging and threatening as the military power of the Sino-Soviet bloc and the fanaticism of international communism's conspiracy?

As the President told Congress in his message on the mutual security program: "As a result of lowered infant mortality, longer lives, and the accelerating conquest of famine there is underway a population explosion so incredibly great that in little more than another generation the population of the world is expected to double. Asia alone is expected to have one billion more people than the entire world has today."

Yes; it is difficult to grasp the immensity of this population explosion and few people are aware of it. Yet during 1957 and 1958 some 90 million people were added to the world's population. This is about equal to Japan's present population, and twice that of France.

—NEAL STANFORD, in *Christian Science Monitor*, March 21, 1959

* * *

The resources of the world should be used to raise the living standards of individuals rather than to support more individuals.

—A. STARKER LEOPOLD

* * *

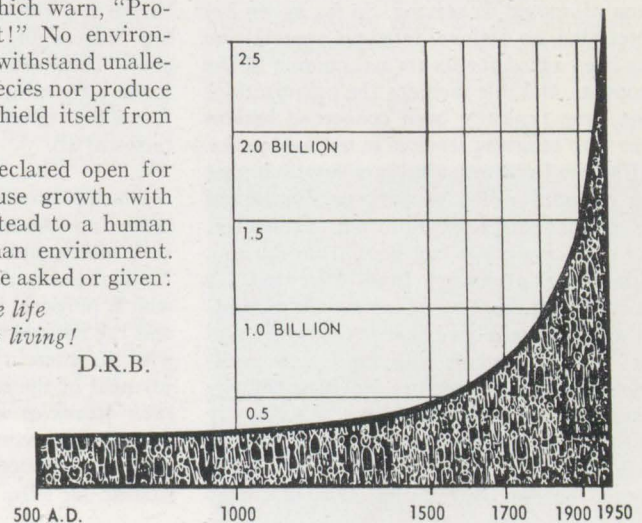
As recently as 1943, as a result of famine, the streets of Calcutta were clogged with over a million dead, while countless millions more starved to death in the provinces.

—PHILIP M. HAUSER, in review of "Urbanization in Asia and the Far East," Proceedings of UNESCO Seminar, 1956.

* * *

The population question is the basic problem of the world today, and unless we can solve it . . . no other major problem of our world society can be solved at all.

—HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK



Problem: People—More Current Quotes

Although the devising of means of human destruction continues uninhibited, frontal attack on the control of population pressure—difficult enough for technical reasons—is largely taboo. . . .

I am far less interested in guessing how thickly mankind can be amassed on this planet and still survive than I am in the optimum quality of experience for those who do.

. . . Why continue, not only to tolerate, but to sponsor reckless and irresponsible multiplication of human numbers? Why accede to the notion that in a world where millions are hungry and malnourished through failure to apply the knowledge we now have, industrial enterprise must concentrate so largely on the mass production of what a philosopher would consider toys for adults?

—PAUL B. SEARS, Chairman of the Yale University Conservation Program; past president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

* * *

It will be better to go after the basic cause of our population problems rather than fight a losing battle with the effects of them.

—CHARLES HJELTE, in *Colorado Outdoors Magazine*, Sept.-Oct. 1958

Elaborate Shrine Protested

Threat to South Rim Continues

The controversial Shrine of the Ages project—a multi-faith chapel of startling architecture that would encroach upon the South Rim of the Grand Canyon—is apparently being pushed again by local interests. Serious questions have been raised about its appropriateness for the religious functions it has been promoted as serving. So far as we can determine, no national religious organization has been asked for its formal opinion of the proposal, and this includes the organizations that have typically been concerned heretofore with religious services in national parks.

Conservation organizations have felt that the religious needs of park personnel and visitors should be served in the village area, and not a mere 200 feet back from the rim. Although a prolonged fund drive fell far short of the necessary financing, the promoters are said to believe that if they can build part of the structure with funds now available, the partial structure would encourage other donations to complete it. An enquiry of the Park Service Director revealed that no final plans have been submitted to Washington for approval. From Arizona comes

If the human race doesn't realize pretty soon that it must save itself from itself, the end will not be far off, and a particularly unpleasant one it will be, too.

—PAUL PALMER, Senior Editor,
Reader's Digest

* * *

Unless we can do something definitive about this problem, all of our economic benevolence, our technological advances and the great progress that has been made in medicine are not going to do civilization much good.

—ARNOLD J. ZURCHER, Executive Director, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

* * *

I think the population problem is really the world's number one puzzle—tougher and potentially more dangerous than even the danger of nuclear war.

—ELIHU ROOT, JR.

* * *

I can think of no field in which scientific research is more badly needed, or in which greater dividends in human welfare will attend success.

—H. L. KEENLEYSIDE, Director-General,
UN Technical Assistance Administration

word that groundbreaking is expected soon. Conservationists are hoping that the Secretary of the Interior's Advisory Board on National Parks, Monuments, and Historic sites can consider the proposal, and that citizens will be allowed to consider, through public hearings, the controversial nature of the shrine and widespread opposition to it before any irrevocable steps are permitted. They share Theodore Roosevelt's view that man-made structures should not intrude on the South Rim of one of the greatest scenic spectacles of all.

* * *

The [National Park Service] shall promote and regulate the [national parks] by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks . . . , which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same *in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired* for the enjoyment of future generations [emphasis added].—National Park Act of August 25, 1916.

Control by Poison?

More people require more food, and production of more food requires more technology—and poison—to reduce losses of food to competing species. The following is from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

In 1940, \$40 millions were spent on pesticides at the wholesale level; mainly on inorganic or botanical compounds. In 1955, the figure was \$275 millions, or 7 times the 1940 amount. It is estimated that by 1975, the figure will be \$1 billion. . . . The expanded use of chemicals has resulted from efforts to combat agricultural losses . . . and to meet health and comfort needs of an expanding population. . . . Some of the newer chemicals are much more toxic than DDT. *None of the newer compounds has been fully studied in the field* [emphasis added]. . . .

* * *

Commercial fishery problems arise principally through the disposal of radioactive waste products in the sea. There may be serious consequences if oceanic fishes are contaminated . . .

The investigations of the effects of [this] pollution on fisheries have been divided into two phases—the passage to man of concentrated amounts of radioactive materials in seafoods, and possible effects of the radiation from the accumulations on the seafood organisms themselves, which might affect availability for fisheries. . . .

What will be the danger if a nuclear-powered ship goes aground off Cape Hatteras, or if a nuclear-powered plane crashes in Chesapeake Bay? What is needed is "preventive biology"—anticipate the problem and study it before it occurs. To do this, we need men with a desire to learn—well-trained scientists, with vision to look to the future. In addition, we need the research facilities and the time to do the job since research is inherently slow and methodical.

* * *

If all our present power needs were now met with atomic energy, the United States would become uninhabitable in one year.

—STARKER LEOPOLD, Berkeley, April 1959

* * *

Radioactive waste.—In strontium-90 alone (this is only one of the many kinds of wastes), at the rate we are planning to develop atomic energy, by the year 2000 we will be developing on an annual basis [more than] you could dispose of by dilution with all the water in the whole world, including the glaciers.

—LUNA B. LEOPOLD, Chief, Division of Water Resources, U.S. Geological Survey, before Sixth Wilderness Conference

* * *

The atom will provide almost unlimited power and the sea almost unlimited food for an expanding population.

—Various mid-century optimists

Mountain Talk

AS LONG AGO AS 1902, readers of this *Bulletin* were being told the good news of "the snow-clad peaks of Trinity County." The writer was the beloved botanist Alice Eastwood, who with three male companions and an outfit of poor horses traveled from Redding to Canyon Creek via Weaverville, Junction City and Dedrick.

Those of us who rediscover the Trinity Alps from time to time are impelled to share our excitement with those who think there is only one Sierra. Miss Eastwood herself had been inspired to make the trip by the report of exploration in 1899 by Dr. C. Hart Merriam and Vernon Bailey, who found "un-

usual physical features, wildness and grandeur of scenery undreamed of."

Prospectors, cattle men, hunters and fishermen knew parts of the Salmon and Trinity high country well, of course, but naturalists and mountaineers came late. Individual parties camped in the glorious green meadows, fished the cold, dashing streams and rock-bound lakes, and more rarely reached the very steep ridges and 8,000-to-9,000-foot peaks. Among the few printed references are *SCB* articles in 1923 and 1936.

The Salmon-Trinity Alps Primitive Area, consisting of 285,432 acres in portions of the Trinity, Shasta and Klamath national forests, was set aside in 1932. Except for the Loma Prieta Chapter's week-long "high trip" in 1937, it was not until the present decade that organized Sierra Club groups visited the area. Bay Chapter knapsackers began almost annual three-day treks to Morris Meadows, the Canyon Creek lakes and other points about 1952. Climbers experimented with routes up Thompson Peak and Sawtooth Mountain.

In 1953 and the following year, Larry Williams led one-week knapsack trips into this compact alpine region—and demonstrated that cross-country hiking can be as

precipitous is the terrain that the net climbing distance will be 12,000 feet.

What will these side hill dodgers see? S. L. Berry, who was on Sawtooth with Miss Eastwood, wrote:

"From the top of this peak there may be had a view which for wildness and grandeur is not excelled by any seen on a trip to the Kings River Canyon and the mountain peaks at the head of Bubbs Creek. . . . (The scenery) is the same as that found in the High Sierra, with jagged granite peaks, knife-edge ridges, boulders, glaciated surfaces, high cliffs, beautiful lakes, and many waterfalls."

It is not all that dramatic, however. Approaching the high country, in this well-watered western range, one walks through the most delightful, fragrant wild gardens of azalea and dogwood, ferns and lilies. The pools below the falls and rapids are densely grown with large-leaved shrubs and dainty herbs and mosses. The forest is varied, the open places grassy and flowered. The streams sing.

Snow persists through the summer in the high altitudes and on shady slopes. Yet there are extremely dry exposures. Miss Eastwood, discriminating student of ceanothus, found the most abundant shrub of the region to be *Ceanothus velutinus*, "the most disagreeable brush to penetrate where there were no trails; for it grew so tall and so rank and with such unyielding stems."

Whether one has an eye for human history in the old miners' shacks and ore tailings, for natural history in the plentiful wildlife, or for scenic beauty in the truly alpine spectacle, this is mountain country rich in rewarding contrasts. There are trails, but not many of them intersect; traces of commercial exploitation, but these are picturesque in themselves; some over-used campgrounds, but many places for the adventurous to pioneer.

Sierrans who take this opportunity to explore the Trinity Alps may find as much to challenge and invigorate them in this smaller range as others do in the Sierra, the Cascades or the Olympics.

FRED GUNSKY

Book Review

ARCTIC WILD. By Lois Crisler. Harper & Bros., New York, 1958. 301 pages, illus. with photographs. \$4.95.

This is the vivid account of the eighteen months the Crislers spent in the remote Brooks Range of Alaska, to make a motion picture record of the lives of the caribou and if possible, of "their wild shepherds, the wolves."

No couple was ever better equipped mentally, physically and psychologically to do this. Not only had they a knowledge and love of wilderness (though not an arctic wilderness) and many years of experience photographing wild animals in their native habitat, but both Lois and Cris had a remarkable ability to understand and be *en rapport* with the animals they were studying and in whose land they were living. The long, dark, cold winter, the hardships to be endured, and the hard physical labor necessary for survival and for the success of the venture made it a far from easy assignment. There were times of anxiety for Lois—"How safety and beauty are tangled. With Cris safe I could see the beauty." There was the excitement of the arctic spring—"Everything came north at midnight . . . Little birds with new cries came." There were the dramatic moments of the great caribou migrations, the small joys of the unknown flowers of the tundra, the revelation of the wolverine, the amazing "lights."

All this was a background to the intense study of caribou and especially wolves, though not just the wild wolves and their interrelations with the caribou. The Crislers adopted two wolf pups whose growth and behavior Lois has noted in detail—a study which was carried further with the raising of a litter of five taken from wild parents. The Crislers loved their wolves and the wolves responded. It is a remarkable account, which Starker Leopold in his foreword says "probably includes the most meticulous and complete description of wolf mannerisms and behavior that has been written."

For the layman or the scientist, it is a captivating book, full of warmth, keen discernment and humor, revealing to the reader a living picture of arctic life.

HARRIET T. PARSONS

The charge is too often made that conservationist is a heavy and forbidding word, that conservationists tend to be one-sided, humorless, even rabid. We know this is not true, but we must prove it. Joy of life is the normal end of every creature, yet it is a rare thing to find. Let conservationists, who have found this joy in nature, so live their lives that others will be infected by their example and led to explore the infinitely intricate pattern of which we are but a part.

Garden Clubs of America Bulletin

challenging there as anywhere else in California. Henry Crall was the leader of a two-week back-packing party which, in 1956, made a complete circuit of the central peaks.

Now another skirmish with the rugged Trinity wilderness is being planned. On August 1, Jim Watters will lead a knapsack group from Dedrick to the Canyon Creek lake basin. Then, traveling cross-country and keeping to the ridges as much as possible, he proposes to go to Smith Lake southeast of Sawtooth, around to Mirror, Sapphire and Emerald lakes, up the switchbacks to the "Lost Valley" of the Caribou lakes, and finally, still staying high, over to Grizzly Lake for a climb of Thompson Peak. All this is to take seven-and-a-half days; so

EMERALD LAKE, Trinity Alps

by Fred Gunskey



Bulletin Board

In Washington, D.C.:

★ Now that additional field hearings on the Wilderness Bill (S. 1123) have been held in the western states of Washington and Arizona, the next step is to move this bill out of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. Both opponents and proponents of the bill have been extremely active. Unless the bill reaches the Senate floor at an early date, there will be little chance for its passage in this session of Congress.

Oregon's Senators Richard L. Neuberger and Wayne Morse are co-sponsoring a bill (S. 1526) to establish the Oregon Dunes National Seashore. This would be composed of two areas along the Oregon Coast, totaling not over 35,000 acres of land and water, and would be developed and supervised by the National Park Service as a recreation area. The southern unit would encompass about 32,000 acres between the mouth of the Siuslaw and Umpqua Rivers (some 23 miles of seacoast) while the other unit, about 7½ miles northward, would include the famous sea-lion caves.

(Sentiment continues to grow for a comparable National Seashore in California in the Point Reyes area, just north of San Francisco. Local groups are currently sparking the making of an economic feasibility survey of this area.)

A Northwest conservationist, Dr. Don Fager, has used Forest Service figures as a basis for questioning the wisdom and logic of boundaries proposed by the Service for a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area. (See page 7; see also February *SCB*, pages 10-15. Last February the USFS announced its proposal for a Wilderness Area that would partly protect about one-third of the scenic climax of the Northern Cascades; hearings are scheduled for Bellingham and Wenatchee in October.) Congressman Thomas M. Pelly of Washington has requested the National Park Service to conduct a comprehensive study of the whole area—to address itself to nineteen important questions which have not yet been adequately answered.

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson is asking congressional leaders for a greatly stepped-up program of management and de-

velopment of national forest resources to meet the need of our ballooning population. According to the Forest Service: "It is expected that these (national forest) uses will rise from the 68.5 million visits of 1958 to 130 million visits by 1969, with a continued rapid annual increase to a possible 600 million visits by the year 2,000."

Benson's long-range objectives ask that "(a) National Forest recreation resources will be so developed and managed that the kind, quality, and quantity of their development and maintenance will be sufficient to keep abreast of this tremendously increased demand; and (b) the wildlife habitat will yield a fish and game population adequate to meet the equally tremendous increase in sportsmen use."

Short-term objectives include completion of Part I of Operation Outdoors; rehabilitation of existing recreation facilities, construction of additional facilities; inventory and evaluation of recreation and wildlife resources; review of at least thirty of the remaining primitive areas for wilderness characteristics and possible reclassification; and development of wildlife management plans for all units and improvement of fishing facilities.

Secretary Benson will request appropriations to implement this program.

Election Results

At the annual election held on April 11, George Marshall of Los Angeles became a new director of the Sierra Club. The four incumbent candidates (Charlotte E. Mauk, Nathan C. Clark, Bestor Robinson and William Siri) were re-elected for 3-year terms.

All of the proposed amendments to the club's By-Laws passed with the necessary two-thirds majority. A tabulation of the votes appears below:

<i>Amendment No.</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
1	3735	125
2	3603	247
3	3643	199
4	3599	222
5	3673	153
6	3636	133
7	3494	338
8	2660	1243

On the California scene:

The California State Park Commission, under fire from several directions in the State Legislature, is reviewing its policies and will have recommendations within sixty days. The Commission is also asking for a "crash program" to obtain temporary park facilities and development of trailer sites, overflow facilities and primitive areas to meet the increasing demands on California's parks.

A flurry of bills to rearrange the wildlife population of California is being released in the current Legislature. A resolution for drastic control of the sea-lion population has passed the Senate and is before the Assembly Fish and Game Committee. This resolution (SCR 46) calls for reduction of the sea-lion population from approximately 20,000 to 5,000 animals, and for the use of indiscriminate depth-bombing to accomplish this, if necessary. Before the Senate Fish and Wildlife Committee is another resolution (SCR 40) which would establish arbitrary predator control without scientific basis. In the Assembly, ACR 96 would allow so-called "multiple use" of state parks, including grazing and hunting.

Already passed by the Senate, Concurrent Resolution 13 would lead to mutilation of the exceptionally beautiful California State Parks flanking Emerald Bay, for the construction of a low level highway. The resolution has received a "do-pass" from the Assembly Transportation Committee and is now on the floor of the Assembly. The Sierra Club continues its strong opposition to this measure, and urges further study of the high level route around Emerald Bay already deemed feasible geologically. (See page 3 for full account.)

A new unit—Plumas Eureka State Park—has been added to the California State Park system. Located ten miles southeast of Portola, the new park contains 5,600 acres of upland meadows, mountains and pine forests. Within it is the abandoned Plumas Eureka Mine, relic of gold mining days, which extends two miles into Eureka Mountain. The park is now open, and promises excellent camping and ample water.

EDGAR AND PEGGY WAYBURN