

SIERRA

January 1960

CLUB BULLETIN



. . . to those who love a world unspoiled by man;
and love man well enough to try to leave to future generations
some unspoiled fragments of that world.

RAYMOND B. COWLES
in Zulu Journal

Our Scenic Resources—in Review and Prospect

The Crisis in Open Land

WHAT MUST BE DONE if we are to keep this "America the Beautiful," the "Land of Opportunity"—the opportunity to enjoy the natural beauties of the country, its streams and ocean shores, its woods and great open spaces, its mountains and wildernesses? We know that while people are essentially gregarious they must be able to find privacy and solitude, preferably in the out-of-doors, if they are to mature physically and spiritually. Man's inspiration usually comes when he is alone. Edgar Ansel Mowrer has written: "So far in history people seem to have derived beauty chiefly from two things—nature, primitive or cultivated, and the nature-inspired products of man's own mind and hands. Where would they seek it, if a growing population should cover most of the earth with utilitarian devices and desecrate the remainder in the process?"

What is the over-all situation in our need for land and open spaces? At present there are over 170 million people in this country of ours. And the Bureau of the Census estimates that if the present rate of growth continues there will be 57 million more people in these United States by 1975, and if the trend for the past two decades continues, most of them will be living in and around our metropolitan areas.

As I see it, our immediate urgent need is to set aside a lot more land and water area for parks and recreation purposes in and around metropolitan areas, along the Federal Interstate and Defense Highway System and in what I hope will continue to be the more remote sections of the country.

We have plenty of land. The problem is determining and making the best use of it so that all our varied needs for a good life are adequately met. With the concentration of people in urban areas, this means there must be adequate lands set aside so that they can enjoy the benefits of outdoor recreation. Also it means the preservation of wilderness, inspiring natural features and scenery, and the preservation of significant historic sites and buildings.

The inadequacy of our parks today cannot be blamed on our not knowing the value of parks, but rather on a reluctance of many people to forego the possible commercial value of the land. When lands suitable for recreation are taken over for purposes other than forestry or farming, they become difficult, if not impossible, to acquire for public recreation purposes. Millions are cheerfully spent for new bridges, highways, yes,

and even for lodges and swimming pools in public parks, but, as a rule, only pennies are reluctantly allotted for acquisition of much-needed land.

Are people to be like ants spending their existence in structures of brick and concrete, steel and glass, and rushing back and forth in a maze of city streets or along the super highways, continually seeking something but not knowing what? I am sure all of us want something much better than that for our children and ourselves.

We need a wide variety of public recreation areas, ranging in kind and location from wilderness, usually in remote regions, to highly developed recreation areas near densely populated districts. We need to provide all segments of our present and future population with adequate non-urban areas near enough to their homes for frequent day and weekend use, as well as more remote areas for vacation use. We need, also to conserve outdoor resources outside designated recreation areas, through such measures as pollution control, zoning, and land management that adequately recognizes recreation values. To do this requires immediate action.

This age of new dimensions demands new dimensions in all the plans we make, and particularly for our plans for recreation. If we are to keep up with the American dream of perennial opportunity, we must see visions and plan big.

CONRAD L. WIRTH, Director
National Park Service

[Reprinted from "The Crisis in Open Land," published by the American Institute of Park Executives.]

THE SIERRA CLUB,* founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of mountain regions. Participation is invited in the program to enjoy and preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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COVER: Mount Jefferson, within the proposed Cascade Volcanic National Park, Oregon. By Philip Hyde.



A New Decade and a Last Chance

How Bold Shall We Be?

NEARLY everybody is quoting Allen Morgan's chilling statement, "What we save in the next few years is all that will ever be saved."* Young though he is, Morgan can make his prediction safely, for his time and ours is one of which this can be said: never have so few taken so much from so many—and so fast. The few is us. The many are the unnumbered yet to be born in all the time that may lie ahead for man, and who may remember us, if at all, as the generation which, in four short decades, outexploited all history and entered the fifth decade unsatiated.

We can accept Morgan's warning as the best possible exhortation toward saving enough in the new decade we are now entering. Or our response might be timorous and temporizing, an attitude of "What a pity, but that's the price of progress."

But progress, Aldous Huxley has said, is something else—not a loss of something that ought to be saved, but a "general improvement of organization."

The Sierra Club is an organization, which, if it progresses in the Huxley sense, can help keep to a minimum the kind of unnecessary progress that worries Morgan. Here we are with much experience behind us, the oldest organization in the land devoted primarily to the preservation of the national resource of natural scenery. We are starting out a new decade with an unprecedented fifteen thousand members—a doubling of membership in the last seven years—confronted with the prospect of ending this decade with forty thousand.

How are we to achieve a "general improvement of organization" so that we can carry our share of the burden that Allen Morgan places on conservation organizations?

It would be nice at a time like this to find an oracle somewhere, but it is hard to find what channel to tune to for oracles or even for apprentice astrologers. There may be some advantage in seeking out a few somewhat oracular statements from the past, to

*More than a year ago the late *Nature Magazine* attributed this to the Executive Vice-President of the Massachusetts Audubon Society as one of his favorite statements.

see if they can be brought to bear. They may not say much about conservation; after all, no one needed conservation, ever before, as much as we do now. But there may be a moral here and there for present-day conservationists; these quotes from the American past suggest, for example, that some of the qualities necessary for saving a country are also necessary for saving some countryside.

JUST two centuries ago Nathaniel Ames was beginning to dream of the first Independence Day. He wrote of "that fertile country to the west of the Appalachian Mountains . . . the garden of the world," and warned, "If we do not join heart and hand in the common cause against our exulting foes, we shall have no privilege to dispute about, nor country to dispute in."

He also addressed *us*—by name: "O ye unborn inhabitants of America! When your eyes behold the sun after he has rolled around for two or three centuries more, you will know that in Anno Domini 1758, we dreamed of your times."

Two centuries have rolled around, and here we are in our times, perhaps not quite so secure as his dream would have us. His dream has a century yet to run, a century



which, at the present rate of accelerating adulation of Growth, will put five people wherever there is one today (which will be rather difficult on the Lexington Avenue Express at 5:00 p.m.) and give us the Grossest Possible National Product—a situation so far beyond Ames's dream that we had better avert our glance and return to our history.

Back in 1771 Samuel Adams still wanted the dream and some action. He wrote:

"If the liberties of America are ever completely ruined . . . it will in all probability be the consequence of a mistaken notion which leads men to acquiesce in measures of destructive tendency for the sake of present ease."

Apparently he had already run into the tired, or the not-disinterested men who like to label the wakeful as extremists,* for he goes on to say:

"When designs are formed to raze the very foundation of a free government, those few who are to erect their fortune upon the general ruin will employ every art to soothe the people into a state of inattention and security. They are alarmed at nothing so much as attempts to awaken people to watchfulness; and it has been an old game, played over and over again, to hold up the men who would rouse their fellow citizens as "intemperate politicians, rash hot-headed men who would turn the world upside down."

Five years later—and Jefferson, a man who would not acquiesce, was drafting a document, the Declaration of Independence. Ames dreamed of our times, Adams exhorted in our behalf, Jefferson wrote the Declaration and our forefathers ratified it and acted—confident, I am sure, that the country would reach our time in good style. They were bold men, and I doubt that they researched the market in depth before they acted, or passed out questionnaires and conducted inventories in order to come up with a dynamic plan for their past. Rather, theirs was a boldness, in time, and if too much was saved, some could be relinquished later.

In our own way we are trying to make

*An extremist is a man who disagrees with you effectively.

sure that America doesn't have too many new, unnatural lines in her face on successive birthdays. The club has worked for new parks, for a Wilderness Bill, and for shoreline protection and endangered species. We also advocated a Scenic Resources Review, aimed at the year 2,000, which the Izaak Walton League steered into legislative form. We now have a National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission—and hope to persuade the commission to share one or two of our biases as it looks toward the year 2,000 and, more immediately, toward the year 1976 and America's 200th birthday.

That will arrive soon. It will be here the day my youngest, Johnny, grows up and is ready to vote. We all know that in spite of science, the future arrives faster than the past recedes. So the year 2,000 is practically upon us.

How vigorously are we ready to act for that time and those people, whose problems we shall not have to solve, even though we made them? People we now know and love *will* have to solve them then. How can we minimize those problems that 5th and 6th generation Sierra Club members will be facing shortly after the century mark of the club? How good is our policy and our understanding?

Let's stop looking ahead for a moment and look back—way back, to 351 B.C. Today's old bristlecone pines on White Mountain were merely overmature then, with hardly two milleniums behind them, and Demosthenes was writing:

"Shame on you, Athenians, for not wishing

to understand that one must not allow oneself to be at the command of events but must forestall them. You make war against Phillip like a Barbarian when he wrestles. If you hear that Phillip has attacked in the Chersonesus you send help there. If he is at Thermopylae you run there. And if he turns aside, you follow, to right and to left, as if you were acting on his orders. Never a fixed plan, never any precaution, you wait for bad news before you act."

Does this describe conservationists too, 2200 years later? Can we make a little more real progress by looking hard at our own methods? I think some excerpts from *Parkinson's Law* (Houghton Mifflin, \$3) can help our perspective:

[*On administrating*] Work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion.

[*On finance*] The time spent on any item of the agenda will be in inverse proportion to the sum involved.

[*On committees*] A committee is . . . not a structure but a plant. It takes root and grows, it flowers, wilts, and dies, scattering the seed from which other committees will bloom in their turn.

[*On importance of an executive*] It is measured by the number of doors to be passed, the number of his personal assistants, the number of his telephone receivers—these three figures, taken with the depth of his carpet in centimeters, . . .

[*On headquarters*] Perfection of planned layout is achieved only by institutions on the point of collapse.

[*On organizational paralysis*] "It would be a mistake for us to attempt too much."

Conservationists need to break all these laws, and can. In a recent *Harper's*, editor Russell Lynes suggests how—in some things he says about the *dilettante* in the old sense, "lover of the fine arts—the consumer, not the producer of them." Stretch the definition to include "lover of scenic beauty" and we'll be on a parallel track. "The dilettante," he writes, "is a man who takes the pursuit of happiness seriously, not frivolously, and he works at it. He is part sensualist, part intellectual, and part enthusiast. He is also likely to be a proselytizer . . . Whatever else he may be he is not lazy."

Then Lynes sums it up: "The function of the dilettante," he says—but let's substitute the word 'conservationist'—"is to encourage a high degree of performance, . . . to be an informed . . . critic, and to be a watchdog. He must be both an enthusiast and an irritant who will praise what measures up to his standards and needle producers into doing as well as they know how, and better. He is an incorrigible asker of hard questions. He keeps controversy in our culture alive, and if he is sometimes proved to be dead wrong, he is at least never dead on his feet. He is the want-to-know-why man and the traditional anathema of the know-how man."

This function, carried out with new energy by our replacements if we ourselves become fatigued, can assure that there will remain some "privilege to dispute about" and some beautiful "country to dispute in."

DAVID BROWER



It has been proposed to the United States Geological Survey that Peak 12,373 on the Mount Pinchot quadrangle be named Mount Cedric Wright, in honor of the late beloved interpreter of the mountain scene. One of his beautiful photographs shows this peak from a point on the John Muir Trail near Pinchot Pass. It is about a mile west of Colosseum Mountain, and is bounded on the north by Twin Lakes and on the south by Woods Lake Basin.

Board Adopts Policy Guide, Sets Budget

MEETING in San Francisco on December 5-6, 1959, the Sierra Club Board of Directors took action on a number of important conservation matters, adopted policy directives clarifying the club's role in national affairs and reaffirmed a resolution on its relations with governmental land-administering agencies.

In clarifying club policy, the Board reiterated that the Sierra Club would continue to support, vigorously and effectively, its basic public purposes for preservation of the scenic resources of the United States. The primary and major support of these purposes will continue to be through long-term scientific, literary, and educational efforts.

Although club publications were directed not to urge "action" with respect to legislative matters, it was pointed out that members could be reminded of their constitutional rights to write their legislative representatives expressing their views.

It was emphasized that the club, and all its chapters, are prohibited from participating in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

In another broad statement of club policy, the Board reaffirmed its stand taken last July 4-5 at Tuolumne Meadows. It believes the club can best serve its basic purposes by independence in its field of action through

- offering "coöperation with public officers in development of plans and policies in their initial stages" and

- urging "adoption of Sierra Club policies, and to that end privately or publicly" criticizing "public policies and actions in an objective and constructive manner."

To assist club representatives in specific application of broad policy lines, the Board adopted Alex Hildebrand's procedure guide for conservation administration. This important document sets forth the authority and responsibility of each agency of the club concerned with conservation matters.

Other internal matters taken up by the Board included approval of the largest budget in the club's history (\$208,000), increase in the Life Membership fee from \$100 to \$150, and a request that the Council report its recommendations on dues and admission fees before the May meeting of the Board.

Elected to Honorary Life Membership was Justice William O. Douglas of the United States Supreme Court, a staunch conservationist and author of many books. In another special election, Dorothy and Russell Varian (the latter posthumously) were elected Patron Members "in recognition of their great and frequent contributions to the objectives of the Sierra Club."

Conservation problems before the Board

were many and varied. Two state park projects received club endorsement and praise:

- *Golden Gate*—the scenic entrances to San Francisco Bay where the state recently announced its intention to create a new park partially from existing federal military holdings;

- *Bull Creek Redwoods*—upper watersheds are to be reforested and additional areas in the upstream canyons acquired in an effort to preserve redwoods in the lower section. (See pp. 11-12.)

Another state park project was again emphatically opposed: the proposed San Jacinto tramway and, specifically, the renewal of the contract between the San Jacinto Winter Park Authority and the California State Park Commission.

Several important Forest Service problems received attention. With the help of maps drawn by Robert Frenkel and David Simons, the Board

- approved in principle the Forest Service proposal to reclassify the Salmon-Trinity Primitive Area as a Wilderness Area, but urged certain boundary changes to give additional protection and unity;

- urged that not only the Alpine Lakes Limited Area, but also the Salmon La Sac and Mount Stuart areas not now included in the Forest Service "Limited" classification, be preserved intact until the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission makes its examination and report.

In other Forest Service matters, the Board endorsed the principles of the Sisk bill (H.R. 1142) to reimburse claimants for national park and forest service lands, and also Resolution No. 9 of the September 7, 1959, meeting of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs urging that the Forest Service "undertake an expanded program of acquiring private lands of high recreational and scenic value within the national forest boundaries . . ."

One of the chief points of issue made by opponents of the Wilderness Bill is this: the Act limits the use of extensive land areas for the benefit of a privileged few. In the transcript of the Portland hearing there is this statement: "It has been estimated that probably not more than one-tenth of one per cent of the citizens of our population is dedicated or hardy enough to take advantage of this type of recreation." Leaving out the dedicated, if only one-tenth of one per cent of the citizens of the United States is hardy enough to bear up physically under a wilderness outing, then God help this nation!

ERNEST SWIFT
Conservation News

The Cape Cod National Seashore and the Indiana Dunes proposals of the National Park Service received the endorsement of the Board, but the report of the Great Lakes Chapter on the proposed Ice Age National Monument was held over for further investigation.

With regard to the Simons recommendations for a Cascade Volcanic National Park (see *SCB*, October 1959), the Board suggested that a study be made by the Department of the Interior of the major crest regions and significant forest corridors of the Oregon Cascades from the Mount Jefferson area to the Diamond Peak area.

Also endorsed by the Board was the International Conference on National Parks, to be held in Seattle in connection with the Century 21 Exposition.

HOLWAY R. JONES
Associate Secretary

Conservationists, Oil Men, Meet With Secretary of Interior

The role of fish and wildlife in our present economy was explored in a January meeting between Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton and representatives of oil companies and conservation associations.

This was the second such meeting, the first having been held about a year and a half ago. The session was held in Secretary Seaton's Conference Room.

After a welcome by the Secretary, the discussions were launched by a series of remarks by oil company officials, each explaining what his company was doing in the field of conservation.

These explanations were followed by discussion of methods of expediting the exchange of information between the companies and the conservation groups.

David Brower, Ira Gabrielson, and Max McGraw were at both meetings; conservation organizations represented at both were, in addition to the Sierra Club, the Conservation Foundation, Izaak Walton League, National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Council, North American Wildlife Foundation, and Wildlife Management Institute.

Oil companies present at both, most of them represented by their presidents, were Continental, Humble, Phillips, Ohio, Richfield, and Standard of California.

Secretary Seaton, Under Secretary Elmer Bennett, and Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife Ross Leffler represented the Department.

A Letter from Secretary Seaton



A six-point "directive" to guide future progress of Mission 66, the long-range conservation and development program of the National Park Service, and to strengthen some of its features, has been issued by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton. His letter to Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth, which was read at the biennial Visitor Services meeting held recently at Williamsburg, Virginia, sets forth clearly and definitely the responsibilities of the Park Service in implementing the broad potentialities of Mission 66.

Dear Mr. Wirth:

As I have told you many times, the dedication and devotion to duty which characterize the service of the men and women who manage and protect the far-flung areas of the National Park System are deserving of warm praise.

Few programs in the Department have given me as much personal satisfaction as the Park Service's Mission 66. I was fortunate to be serving on the White House staff, with responsibility for Department of Interior matters, when you first presented the Mission 66 program to President Eisenhower and his Cabinet four years ago.

As we near the mid-point of Mission 66, it seems appropriate that we review the progress attained thus far and also outline the objectives which I hope you and your associates will pursue with redoubled vigor.

Mission 66 has provided the conservation movement of the entire nation with renewed vigor. It has inspired similar long-range conservation programs by other agencies.

Already, an unprecedented number of visitors are benefiting from the improvements which have been made to Park System facilities. Protection and administration have been strengthened. Visitor understanding is

being enhanced through the programs and facilities provided in new visitor centers.

The many steps being taken within the National Park Service, under Mission 66, to improve management and to provide trained and dedicated employees to replace those who will be lost through attrition are sound and forward-looking. Improved morale of the park ranger forces is certain to result from the establishment of a Division of Ranger Activities.

Another milestone was the establishment of the National Park Service Training Center. Through the training offered new employees the traditions and policies of the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service can be imparted quickly to them and in a manner guaranteeing a lasting impact.

In reviewing the fine accomplishments of Mission 66, I cannot, in fairness, overlook those of the park concessioners which have been planned and executed through teamwork with the National Park Service.

The Mission 66 program includes other important phases. It includes a survey of what might be termed "missing links" in the National Park System, as well as a survey to identify nationally important historic sites, and the completion of a National Recreation Plan. This latter should be of great value to the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission.

Americans will be forever indebted to the farseeing, unselfish and tireless individuals and organizations who made possible the start of the national park and other conservation movements in our country. Theirs was a difficult concept to sell in times when our nation appeared to have unlimited expanse and inexhaustible resources. How quickly the picture has changed! Today we find ourselves in the midst of a population "explosion," a greatly increased life span, increasing leisure time, and greater mobility of our people. The frontier is gone. There is stiff competition for land, for water, and for the resources of both. Such demands are intensifying with alarming rapidity. In the light of these developments on the national scene, there is every reason to believe that the next five or ten years constitute critical years if we are to add what we need to our heritage of scenic, historic, and cultural treasures for the use and enjoyment of the greater, and largely urbanized population of the future.

Because of the situation which America confronts in this respect, I ask you and your colleagues in the National Park Service to give high priority to a program of studying and identifying areas which should be pre-

served for the enjoyment and inspiration of all the people of America. These should include seashores, scenic mountain areas, prairie grasslands, places of national importance in our history, and other nationally significant types of areas. The important thing is that those places of high intrinsic value for public refreshment, enjoyment, and inspiration be quickly identified, and steps taken to protect and preserve them for this overriding purpose before they are irretrievably lost to other uses. Action on this problem I believe to be of transcendent importance.

In the years ahead, these are the directions in which I believe the National Park Service should move.

1. Develop a plan whereby a system of reserve areas may be recognized and protected, not necessarily for immediate use, but as a reservoir from which future generations may draw for needed parks and recreation areas.

2. Strive for the establishment of new national parks, monuments, recreation areas, and historic sites necessary to round out and complete the System and to meet the growing need for such areas at the national level.

3. Complete and put into effect studies, recommendations, and programs which have as their purpose the most efficient use of the Service organization, and the best possible training and career development of its personnel.

4. Strengthen efforts to encourage and assist in the establishment and development of adequate systems of state parks, and other public lands recreational opportunities.

5. See that management keeps clearly in view the importance of preserving true wilderness areas within the National Park System for future generations.

6. Keep uppermost in your minds the directive of the Congress when establishing the National Park Service in 1916: "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife 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."

So long as I am Secretary, I pledge the full support of the Department of the Interior to the successful accomplishment of these aims, and commend you and the National Park Service team for the tangible progress already so evident.

Sincerely,

FRED A. SEATON

Secretary of the Interior

Glacier Peak Hearing

Golden Triangle of National Parks Proposed

[The Glacier Peak Wilderness proposal of The Mountaineers was commended and the Region 6 proposal for the area termed inadequate in a statement at the hearing held by the U. S. Forest Service in Wenatchee, Washington, October 16, 1959, by David R. Brower, Executive Director, Sierra Club. Excerpts follow.]

THE SIERRA CLUB commends and supports fully the carefully studied proposal made by The Mountaineers for a Glacier Peak Wilderness. We are convinced that it will be to the lasting benefit of the State of Washington and to the nation as a whole to maintain this as the unspoiled wilderness heartland of a great scenic and recreational preserve in the Northern Cascades, in a land which, more than any other, deserves the name of the American Alps.

Region 6 proposal proves need for comprehensive study

We regret that the Region 6 proposal for a Glacier Peak Wilderness is so inadequate. The boundaries suggest that those who drew them are apologizing for the wilderness policy of the Forest Service rather than being proud of it. The proposal is in itself proof that the national interest requires that other

skills be brought into this controversy, to bring at long last a comprehensive study of the Northern Cascades unit that will assure a broad and long-range perspective. We urge that no irrevocable commitments be made until such a study has been achieved. We are in full support of the kind of enquiry requested last March by Representative Thomas M. Pelly of Washington. Mr. Pelly asked that 19 questions be studied, questions most if not all of which are beyond the scope or training, and perhaps interest, of the Forest Service. We regret that Chief Forester Richard McArdle has attempted to block this kind of comprehensive study.

We share the inference that is being forced on conservationists all over the country that the Forest Service does not dare see such a study made.

If such a study can only be effected by directive of Congress, we believe that the nation's conservationists will gladly exercise their constitutional rights to urge their Congressmen to introduce and pass the necessary legislation to get all the facts we need.

We are convinced that there is no more important challenge in scenic-resource conservation before the nation today than the challenge posed in the Northern Cascades in this, the last opportunity, to see that the

needs of all the nation and all the future are served here, and that the nation's primary scenic resource is not gouged for its stumpage and low-grade ores for short-term benefits and long-term deprivation.

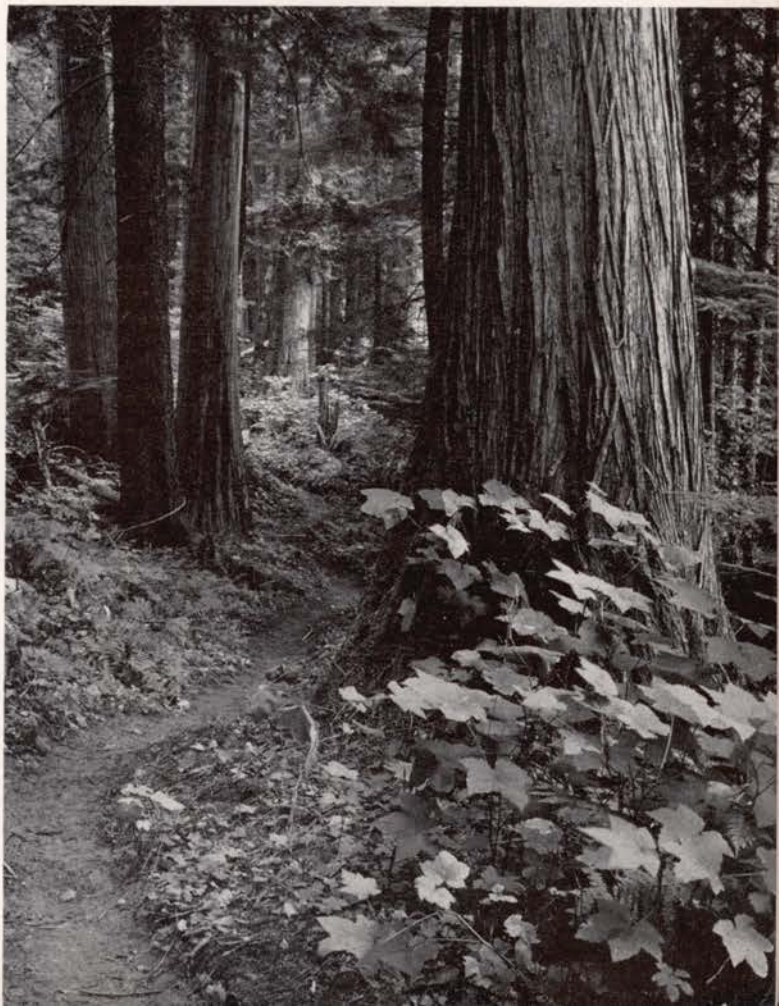
Sierra Club has made careful first-hand study

The Sierra Club has not reached its conclusions second-hand, nor out of fear of the government, nor out of blind faith that specialists in a given technology can best determine the long-range public interest, whether local or national. We have tried to see for ourselves. Our members first ventured into the area at the beginning of the century. When we saw the present controversy taking form, we began a four-year intensive study and also scheduled a series of ten wilderness outings. Some 500 people participated, ranging in age from 3 to 78, spending a total of about 4,000 man days in the area and nearly \$40,000 in the state in the process of doing so. We made a film on the wonders of the area, "Wilderness Alps of Stehekin," of which there are now 50 copies circulating throughout North America, in constant demand. Again and again we hear the remark, "I never knew Washington had such beautiful country!"

Land in conflict. The Suiattle forest corridor to the proposed North Cascades National Park can be, to the sawlog forester, a whole series of images: overmature, decadent, old-growth, stagnant, disease-ridden, or fire-hazardous; full of spike tops, cat faces, wolf trees, snags, or widow makers; it needs to be converted to managed forest speedily to minimize losses and to provide for multiple use. "Wilderness enthusiasts" who like it the way it is are "too greedy" in such a forester's eye and concerned only with "single use." Conservationists, with reason, disagree.

By David Simons

"... roads in these corridors will facilitate travel..."—Forest Service Region 6 proposal for Glacier Peak Wilderness, February 1959.



How much our members have spent in Washington has little to do with the case—unless someone wishes to insist that society exists to serve its economy, and that what doesn't bring in a dollar isn't worth saving. From some of the testimony I heard in Bellingham I would conclude that there are still a few people around who "know the price of everything and the value of nothing," as the old saying goes. Fortunately for Washington—such an attitude is distinctly in the minority, even in a hearing site so dependent upon the forest-products industry.

Club long in support of good forestry

We believe that the economy exists to serve society, and that our timber technologists should not determine public policy on the forests, but should carry out their part of the policy after the public has determined it. The Sierra Club has been concerned with good forest practice since the club's inception, and early-day leaders in the club played a considerable role in establishing the Forest Service. We do not, as one quipmaster would have it, bleed every time a tree is felled; nor do the Californians among us drift into rapture at the sight of big trees in Northwest forests. We have some fairly big trees of our own, and our tourist-trade promoters would rather have the world come to see them as they are than ship them to the world as lumber.

We know that most of the nation's forest land must be devoted to timber as a crop; that we must strive for sustained yield, but not think we have achieved it merely because we have named it as a concept. We laud the industries who are using the "tree-farm" concept, not as a public-relations gimmick but as actual practice on the forests. We hail the Department of Agriculture for having just called attention (*Seattle Times*, October 12) to the need of replanting 48,000,000 acres of forest lands in the next 10 to 20 years. But we lament the Department's concurrent opposition to an immediate step-up in federal expenditures for the purpose; we regret that the Forest Service has, according to the *Congressional Record*, allowed millions of dollars appropriated for this purpose by the Congress to go unspent—while it looks instead for more timber in the beautiful, unspoiled valleys of the Whitechuck and Suiattle and Agnes. While it proposes to let go to "multiple use"—meaning to let go to logging—the irreplaceable scenic assets of the virgin forests on Park Creek, the Stehekin Valley, up Bridge Creek, up Park Creek, along Thunder Creek. While it dooms a dozen places where a forest means all the difference between unspoiled beauty and unmitigated ugliness in the heart of one of the most extraordinary of all the places that make this land beautiful.

As I have tried to put it on another oc-

casional, we are not blindly opposed to progress; we are, however, opposed to blind progress. We consider it to be blind progress to attempt to destroy the opportunity to enjoy the unspoiled Northern Cascades before the world has yet had a fair chance to learn that they exist. We suspect that it is blind progress for anyone in this state to attempt to restrict the diversity of economy that is naturally evolving here, a diversity that can put the forest-products industries into a rightful place, not necessarily a dominant one. We do not see how it can be called "progress" to try to stave off a future which is rightfully yours, to try to fight off certain substitutes for lumber that people are inevitably going to prefer, at the expense of natural beauty that could be a perpetual economic resource—and a spiritual one too.

We think the world will be more grateful to Washington for what the coming diversity of industry will do than for what inertial tendencies will deny—for the 707s Boeing can put into the sky to make life more thrilling, rather than for the empty spaces the loggers will leave against the sky in their stubborn search in wilderness for dollars that can be found elsewhere.

"Golden Triangle of National Parks" could enhance state economy

There is a national—a world-wide—interest in what happens as a result of this controversy, this searching for the best answer for all the nation's future. It so happens that the northwest corner of the Northwest has a corner on some of the finest U.S. scenery. The Tacoma-Seattle-Everett metropolis of the future can be absolutely the most magnificent in its setting of any—especially if our government agencies should choose to cooperate and allow this area to be the center of a golden triangle of national parks, benefitting all the state. Or it can become an ugly sprawl, from Puget Sound to the sea of stumps in the Northern Cascades that need not have been.

The happier destiny will never come to pass, we submit, if this great region allows its future to be measured in board feet. The superb quality of Washington's scenery is Washington's good fortune, and it can so remain. We believe it will be the state's misfortune, and the nation's, if the present Region 6 plan is not vastly improved.

The kind of study Congressman Pelly has asked for will, I am sure, demonstrate that Washington's economy will gain from a timely preservation program. No non-Washingtonian wishes to impair this state's economy. If preservation of the state's beauty would indeed imperil its economy, we would fully support measures to compensate for this loss at national expense. We are, however, convinced that a bold program of

scenic-resource preservation will not impair Washington's economy, but rather will enhance it.

Real wilderness preservation key to state's future

At the heart of any scenic-resource preservation program, the very essence of it, is the setting aside of a truly adequate core of wilderness. Wilderness is the goose that lays the golden eggs. Protect it, and the gold keeps coming in perpetuity. In California, it is the wilderness core of our great national parks and monuments—all four and half million acres of it—that keeps people coming to California to see it. They wouldn't travel far to see just the residual stumps of our old growth coast redwoods and giant sequoias. They will travel far to see unspoiled forests and mountain scenery.

The kind of person who would measure the value of wilderness by the number of footprints he can count in it is, to say the least, not a very imaginative person. He is the kind of person, perhaps, who would try to compare Beethoven with Elvis Presley and prove it by last year's record sales, as a friend of mine put it.

This is the kind of person who might also say that the most important part of a city is the freeway, because more people travel there than anywhere else. He would probably also insist on cluttering as many Seattle vistas as possible with utility poles and

How much more of this in the "Program for the National Forests"?

Up the South Fork of the Stillaguamish River to Glacier Peak. How much more "roadside recreation" here? Such a promise pervades multiple-use releases and tree-farm advertising—but is a wan thing beyond the thin line of trees left in some clearcutting operations. Note clear-cut patch far up canyon, precommitting this approach to logging.

Harvesting of timber is necessary but probably not here. The hurry here is absolutely not necessary; and the adman's pretty words cannot hide the ugliness of destruction which this photograph, limited to two dimensions on a small page, cannot begin to convey. (DB). *By John Warth.*

There is need for . . . strong and aggressive programs to insure that all forest acres, which are needed so badly to satisfy public demands, are made fully productive in a multiple use sense without delay.

—CHARLES CONNAUGHTON, Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service, California Region, to Society of American Foresters, November 1959.

wires because that was the only economical way to power a city.

He is not the kind of person who will ever allow the most beautiful setting in the world to have developed in it the most beautiful city in the world. And he will oppose the concept of wilderness because he cannot measure it directly in his bank balance.

Wilderness is many things, things he will never appreciate because his talent for such appreciation was somehow maimed early. Above all, wilderness is a place where the evolutionary force, the creative force, the life force, or the Omnipotent Force—however you will have it—the place where this force has gone on uninterrupted by man and his technology since the beginning of life. There are precious few places where any sizable amount of wilderness is left. Washington is one of the few places, in all the world, where it is magnificently displayed, and where by accident or design there still remains to us the opportunity to save enough of it.

Forest Service urged to honor good work of its great men

We laud those men of the Forest Service who have contributed toward bringing down to us today the chance still to choose to save some of this irreplaceable resource for all the time yet to come, and all the children and children's children who will need it in that time to come. We praise the foresters who established the wilderness concept, who

were proud of it—men like Aldo Leopold and Bob Marshall who were willing to come out of the comfortable middle ground and to lead, lead the public into an appreciation of how important it is that wilderness always be there, whether they walk in it or just see it or just know about it. We hail the foresters who spread the realization that man does not live by bread alone, nor by forest products alone. We are in support of the foresters who will dynamically lead industry to understand that there are many ways to produce commodities enough for a growing nation, but that there are no ways to reproduce wilderness. As Wallace Stegner cogently observed: "... it has never been man's gift to make wilderness. But he can make deserts, and has." We praise the foresters who have the courage to put forward bold programs for preservation while there is yet time.

We cannot praise men who do less. We must speak out in opposition when there seem to be dangerous indications of a trend from Forest Service to Timber Service, when "multiple use" seems all too clearly to mean "timber production plus anything else that is compatible with stumps."

It is more fun being the good fellow, being cheerful and smiling, rather than being the critic. Where criticism is concerned, it is not more blessed to give than to receive. But if conservation is indeed humanity working for the future, if it is a realization that responsibility for the future now dwells

in us the living, and nowhere else, then we must be critical when there is just cause. The Region 6 Glacier Peak proposal is just cause for strong criticism. The Mountaineers' proposal is the good one, combined with the kind of comprehensive study that Congressman Pelly has requested and that has by no stretch of the imagination yet been conducted.

As Allen Morgan of the Massachusetts Audubon Society has said so well, "What we save in the next few years is all that will ever be saved." We need to start saving now. We would do well to remember, in our effort to save, the critically important warning of physicist J. A. Rush: "When man obliterates wilderness, he repudiates the evolutionary force that put him on this planet. In a deeply terrifying sense, man is on his own."

Conservationists have no more compelling task today than to make sure that there is no needless obliteration, no piecemeal-planned repudiation. The Northern Cascades provide an opportunity to demonstrate how to meet this compelling task. We urge the Forest Service to resume the good work of Aldo Leopold, Bob Marshall, and F. A. Silcox. We urge that the current proposal for a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area be given comprehensive reappraisal and that a new proposal be brought forth that will do justice to the memory of these great men.

I thank you for hearing what has not been easy to say.



The Tragedy of



1

BULL CREEK BASIN is a watershed lying a little inland from the coast in Humboldt County, California. Some 28,000 acres in area, it rises from 130 feet to 3,400 at its highest ridge. Its canyons are deep-cleft, its slopes steep. Its thin soils, derived predominantly from Franciscan sediments, are weak and susceptible to erosion.

This soil is also capable of supporting myriad varieties of plant life, and did until 1947. Before then, Bull Creek Basin was described as having "unbelievable beauty." Its canyons were shadowy with redwoods, its slopes plumed with Douglas firs. Maples and alder, dogwoods and willows graced the streambanks. And the streams! Clear and unspoiled, they tumbled from the canyons, down the hills to spread into placid waters that wandered over the flatlands. In these streams, the salmon leaped and the steelhead flashed—the fishing was among the finest in California. Bull Creek was, in fact, one of the best spawning grounds for salmon on the south fork of the Eel River.

But all of this took second place to the extraordinary grove of *Sequoia sempervirens* that towered on the flatlands of Bull Creek. Here soared some of the mightiest giants in the world, great somber trees reaching 300

and more feet into the sky. So magnificent was this redwood forest, a stand of some 8,000 acres, that people everywhere agreed it should be set aside to be enjoyed and marveled at forever. Thousands of people contributed, and in 1931, with the help of the Save-the-Redwoods League and the Rockefeller family, the State of California acquired some 9,400 acres, including the Bull Creek flats, for Humboldt Redwoods State Park, at a price—even then—of \$3,212,226. The grove of giants was christened the Rockefeller Forest, and California took great pride in owning this, perhaps the very finest of all stands of *sempervirens*.

THE REST of Bull Creek Basin stayed in private hands, and there was little, if any, public notice taken when logging was initiated on a large scale in 1947. Everyone is careful to say that this was not logging done by old-line companies; it was logging at its most irresponsible. It stripped the steep slopes, gutted the canyons, gouged the hills with skid trails and roads. The soil, denuded of its protective trees—which served a double purpose of anchoring the slopes and draining the subsoil—reverted to its basic instability, and became easy prey to the heavy

downpours the rainy season brings to this region. The sparkling waters of Bull Creek Basin grew dull and muddy; the streams burst their banks and spread ever wider. Soon the salmon and the steelhead were deserting Bull Creek.

The logging of Bull Creek Basin proceeded unnoticed. By 1954 more than fifty per cent of the watershed had been cut over. Between 1950 and 1955, fires completed the devastation of some 7,000 acres.

Then in the winter of 1955-56, great storms came, and with them the evidence that tragic damage had been done in Bull Creek Basin. For in this winter, Bull Creek went berserk. Fed by run-offs of the barren slopes, flooded by the torrential downpours, its power for destruction implemented by a vast load of sediment and debris, the wild and ravaging water of Bull Creek devastated everything in its 300-foot-wide path. This violent stream action was a direct result of the mutilation of upper Bull Creek watershed. There was no question.

In this one terrible winter, 420 giant redwoods fell, and the world grieved. But more distressing, every rainy season since then the toll has grown. Last year, 22 more trees from 310 to 340 feet in height were laid low. And



Bull Creek

Destructive forces set in motion by improper land use are far-reaching . . . and do not respect State Park boundaries. Now they are ravaging Rockefeller Forest, where grow the tallest trees known on earth.



2

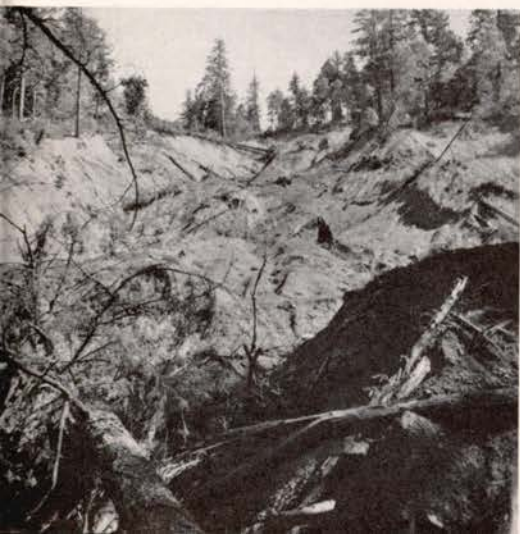


3

the banks continue to be undercut, the gravel continues to be spread, strangling the plant life along the streams. According to Charles A. De Turk, Chief of the Division of Beaches and Parks, there are still "hundreds of 300-foot redwoods within inches of destruction."

As an immediate short-term measure, the Division is attempting stream-bank stabilization along Bull Creek, designed to retard erosion and provide some protection in the most critical areas. But such protection is uncertain and temporary at best. Unless the basic conditions are changed, more and more of Rockefeller Forest will be destroyed.

4



Can these conditions be changed? The Division believes so, and has come forth with a bold, far-sighted proposal—to acquire the whole Bull Creek Basin, approximately 18,000 acres of logged-over land adjacent to Humboldt Redwoods State Park. The Division would then institute control of the entire watershed, reforesting where possible, building brush check dams and waterbreaks to divert the present run-offs, and encouraging natural regeneration. The cost is estimated at \$1,500,000, of which \$230,000 is now available in State funds. (The Save-the-Redwoods League has already promised matching funds.)

Bull Creek Basin can never again be the extraordinarily beautiful unit of our native scene it once was. But rehabilitated, it could support a great deal of recreational use. Miles of hiking and riding trails, good fishing, and pleasant campsites—all could be developed as the land healed.

Meanwhile, the moral is plain: scenic resources cannot be considered out of context with the land that supports them. Protection of a whole ecological unit of land is essential if there is to be valid protection of any part at all.

PEGGY WAYBURN

The Bull Creek Story In Pictures

1. Bull Creek before logging began . . . a gentle, unspoiled stream, 60 feet at its widest, which meandered through virgin woods and forests of exceptional delight.

2. Bull Creek today, a raging torrent as much as 300 feet wide in the rainy season. It carries a devastating load of debris to destroy everything within its path.

3. The denuded slopes above Cuneo Creek, showing roads and skid trails which cause large surges of surface run-off, excessive channel erosion, and eventual undercutting of slopes.

4. The logging practices that resulted in this enormous "slump" in the upper watershed of Bull Creek were common practice a hundred years ago. And they are still going on today.

Photographs—No. 1, Gabriel Moulin; Nos. 2-4, California Division of Beaches and Parks.

CONSERVATION IN 1959

Some Problems and Some Progress

Broadly Speaking . . .

IN 1959, the population of the United States continued to grow. The result was further demands for development of the American earth, and increasing use of facilities and resources already developed. In the face of these once undreamed-of demands and uses, our wilderness, long conceived of as limitless, continued to shrink.

ROADS cut ever more widely over the face of the land. With the great gashes still raw, more and more roads were projected and demanded. The people of New York State in 1959 voted to split their mountain forest wilderness with a north-south Thruway, which could have been located on the lowland along Lake Champlain. As the improved, high-speed Tioga Road neared completion, another trans-Sierra road was pressed for across Mammoth Pass. Freeways and park highways were planned for Atlantic and Pacific coastal areas. In a new program, the Secretary of Agriculture announced plans for some 400,000 miles of new or improved roads to be built within our National Forests.

As the bulldozers worked, more and more people began to wonder if we were road-happy. The *New York Times* voiced a meaningful question of the total disregard for overall land-use planning in the projection of our freeways. The people of San Francisco flatly turned down funds to complete their freeway system, which many termed "hideous." A proposed four-lane, high-speed freeway along the precipitous, beautiful mid-California coast was removed from the California State Highway Master Plan as a result of citizen protest.

The Sierra Club, long aware that roads can be the single greatest threat to wilderness, urged that careful thought and long-range study be given to the necessity and location of new roads, particularly where scenic values are involved. Specifically, the club opposed the Mammoth Pass Road as uneconomic and destructive of paramount wilderness values, and asked that alternate routes be used.

MOTOR BOATS swarmed on every accessible, attractive lake and river. People searched in vain for quiet mountain waters to which they could drive. As highways grew clogged with boat-trailers, demands increased for the "opening up" of new waters to accommodate this phenomenally popular sport.

In a first attempt to establish any control of motor-boating—boats may still be operated legally by two-year-olds in many states—California, along with several other states, enacted legislation requiring registration of all motor boats. National and state park services began to attempt to zone areas for boat use.

Meantime, the Sierra Club worked to insure protection for the few remaining wilderness lakes.

PLANES roared through our skies more and more. Mountaineers in remote, wild places froze at recurring "booms" . . . were they jets or avalanches? Chances were they were jets.

Those seeking a day or a night free from mechanical noises found it increasingly difficult to achieve.

URBAN SPRAWL spread wider and wider. More and more agricultural land felt the bite of the bulldozer, and hills where orchards

once flourished blossomed forth in row houses. California joined a notably few states in grappling with this problem by enacting legislation providing for the use of "scenic easements." This means that land now agricultural—or recreational (as golf courses)—may forever remain so, despite change of ownership, once the county has been deeded, or sold, its scenic easement. Of great advantage to large landowners is the fact that taxes on such land would be levied according to the scenic classification, despite a different sort of adjacent development.

INSECT CONTROL was a major concern of land managers in 1959. This year's continued drought brought widespread insect infestation to the trees of the far West. In an attempt to prevent spread of these infestations, the United States Forest Service stepped up its program of "sanitation" logging to take out "bug trees." The National Park Service removed "blow downs" in Yosemite National Park as a measure of insect control, and used aerial spraying in an attempt to check the needle-miner infestation of lodgepole pine in and around Tuolumne Meadows. With one hand, Congress voted \$4,000,000 for a crash program of fire ant control in southern states, involving the use of a highly toxic insecticide; with its other hand, Congress appropriated \$2,000,000 for the study of long-range effects of toxic pesticides.

This latter appropriation reflected the growing alarm felt by scientists, conservationists and plain citizens at the widespread contamination and destruction of plant and wild life, as well as domestic stock, caused by our present and, at times, seemingly indiscriminate use of pesticides. (In some southern states, as much as 90% of the birdlife was destroyed in certain areas of fire ant control.) Furthermore, some scientists were questioning the overall effectiveness as well as the side effect of mass insect control. There was a growing feeling that we were leaping without looking, and that more perceptive observation of the entire program was overdue.

TRAMWAYS made headlines once again. Newly proposed was the construction of an aerial tram in Crater Lake National Park. The ghost of a tramway up Mt. San Jacinto came to life again when California's Winter Park Authority petitioned to be reactivated.

In both instances, the Sierra Club joined with other conservation organizations in opposing these structures as being destructive of greater values.

USE, OVERUSE AND MISUSE of recreational facilities—both developed and undeveloped—continued to plague National Park and Forest administrators as well as state, county and municipal authorities. How could we possibly accommodate the growing mass of people seeking outdoor recreation?

In a year of surveys, this typically American tool was used to help solve this knotty problem. The Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (known, more simply, as ORRRC), set up by Congress in 1958 to survey our scenic and recreational assets, spent 1959 seeking to learn the recreational use pattern as well as the wants of the American people—both present and future—for recreational facilities. Its next step will be to evaluate our recreational resources.

More Specifically . . .

WHILE the major emphasis was on development in 1959, the year gave widespread evidence of other concepts percolating in the American consciousness. There was an increasing recognition of the importance of our esthetic and scenic—as well as economic—resources.

There was **GROWING AWARENESS** that these esthetic and scenic resources must be recognized and evaluated now, if ever, and that provision be made for their protection before they are lost to us for all time.

A prime example was the very live interest in the recreational and scenic values of our **COASTAL AREAS**. Sparked by a 1959 National Park study of the Pacific Coast (following an earlier, similar study of the Atlantic seaboard), perceptive senators and congressmen from all corners of the country this year introduced bills to preserve certain vital coastal areas, in imminent danger of being lost.

At year's end, none of these bills had been passed. However, particular attention was being given proposals for National Seashore protection (under the National Park Service) for (1) the Oregon Coast Dunes area, (2) the Point Reyes area, California, (3) Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and (4) Padre Island, Texas. The second session of the 86th Congress should see positive action on one or more of these—and perhaps on other—seashore protective measures.

In like vein, **DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT** was a concern of Congress in 1959. Three different bills, exemplifying three different approaches, were introduced to change the status of Dinosaur. Most controversial was Senator Gordon Allott's (Colo.) bill, S. 160, which contained a clause suggesting the possibility of constructing Echo Park Dam within a future Dinosaur National Park. Congressman Wayne Aspinall's (Colo.) bill, H.R. 6957, was concerned only with the revision and enlargement of the Monument boundaries. Congressman John P. Saylor's (Pa.) bill, H.R. 951, specifically forbade the possibility of a dam, provided for enlargement of the area, and gave the dignity of Park status to Dinosaur.

Seeking a compromise acceptable to all three, Secretary of the Interior Fred Seaton recommended amendments to bring these bills into agreement. Action may be looked for in this session of Congress.

Another example of public concern for scenic areas was the growing interest manifested in one of the most magnificent sections of the United States, until now known to relatively very few . . . the range of the **NORTH CASCADES**, lying largely in the Wenatchee and Mount Baker National Forests of Washington.

In 1959 the United States Forest Service proposal for establishment of a Wilderness Area in a segment of the North Cascades around Glacier Peak brought forth a sizable public reaction . . . both pro and con. It also brought into focus the Service's totally inadequate concept for the protection and use of an area that is the peer of any of our National Parks. At the Forest Service hearings in October, the majority of those testifying recognized the need for a different type of protection from that which the present laws and regulations of the Forest Service now provide.

Washington Congressman Thomas M. Pelly's request for a long-range overall study of the North Cascades area, with an eye to more adequate protection, was denied by the Forest Service. Consequently, bills directing the Secretary of the Interior to study the national park potential of the area have been introduced by Congressman Pelly and Congressman Don Magnuson, also of Washington. It is hoped that hearings will be held on these bills soon. Citizen support will determine the fate of these bills—and of perhaps our greatest single scenic resource, the North Cascades.

HOPES of wilderness proponents ran high as the 86th Congress entered the last days of its 1959 session in August. All signs pointed to the approval of the **WILDERNESS BILL** by the Senate Committee on Interior Affairs. But new, last-ditch road blocks were hastily erected by opponents and Congress recessed without taking action.

While professing a profound concern for wilderness, opponents of the Wilderness Bill exhibit a total misunderstanding of what the Bill would actually do. The facts are these: the Wilderness Bill helps assure our children the same amount of wilderness we now have set aside, but with congressional rather than bureaucratic protection; the Wilderness Bill would add no new land to our wilderness system; the Wilderness Bill would not change present administration of our wilderness. Early action on this highly significant bill has been promised for 1960 . . . with both pro and con groups expected to participate.

IN CALIFORNIA, other aspects of national conservation problems and progress were pinpointed in 1959.

Item. As interested citizens and alert government groups attempted to set aside choice scenic areas for recreational use, these areas were exploited economically. Notable examples occurred on (1) **MOUNT TAMALPAIS**: while surveyors staked boundaries for the enlarged park, Kent Canyon, an integral part of the proposed expanded area and one of the last virgin redwood canyons on Mount Tamalpais, was logged; (2) **POINT REYES**: as proponents of National Seashore status for this magnificent coastal area just north of San Francisco attempted to have significant studies of the region made, some of the finest forested portions were logged.

Item. Far-sighted park planning was given a boost by the California Division of Beaches and Parks. Plans were advanced for the establishment of a **GOLDEN GATE STATE PARK**, to include the scenic and historical lands flanking the Golden Gate. Another significant proposal called for reforestation and protection of the Bull Creek watershed in a last-ditch effort to save the Rockefeller Forest of giant redwoods in **HUMBOLDT REDWOODS STATE PARK**.

Item. The Division of Beaches and Parks, faced with expansion of its program to meet the enormous influx of people flooding the state, was also faced with a serious cut-back in its **OPERATING BUDGET**. Meantime, funds for the Olympic Games, which will last for just eleven days in 1960, have swallowed a total of over \$8,000,000 of State Park funds to date, with more to come. (The disposition of Squaw Valley following the Games is still problematical.)

Item. A pioneer study of recreation needs neared completion under the **CALIFORNIA PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN**. Expected to set the pattern for many other similar surveys—including ORRRC—the results of this study will be published early in 1960.

1959 WAS A YEAR OF PROGRESS, of stepped-up development, of increased management of natural resources, of construction, of destruction. It was a year of studies, of surveys, of vision. It was a year of increased awakening to vital conservation problems. It was a year of gains and losses. And some of the losses were great and irretrievable, and unnecessary.

To avert more losses like these, the Sierra Club in 1959 urged an **ADMINISTRATIVE MORATORIUM** on unclassified, unexploited lands of high scenic value where there is a present, or potential, conflict of use. Such a moratorium would allow the intelligent completion of our surveys and studies. It would allow for comprehensive and meaningful land-use planning, and for careful determination of the final disposition of our scenic assets.

Without such a moratorium, we and our children may have nothing left to decide about when we finally make up our minds.

PEGGY AND EDGAR WAYBURN



Man Becomes Major Geological Force

It is becoming rapidly apparent that automobiles are costing Americans far more than the monthly payments. The top of Carmel Hill—and a look at what we had and what we got, instead of a stoplight, in the name of safety—shows why some people think the god of highways, Concretus, has decided to let man play the role of Laocoön. California State Highway 1, in Mendocino County, shows why concern is growing for our coasts, and why member Fred Farr hopes that the superb reach south of Carmel will fare better, as pointed out editorially in the San Francisco Chronicle:



With the preservation of California's scenic and historic roads at heart, State Senator Fred Farr of Carmel is preparing a bill for the creation of a special category of highways wherein the prime and ruling consideration would be scenic, esthetic, historical and recreational value; the rapid flow of traffic on such highways would become secondary.

Senator Farr is actuated by fear that with the explosive growth of California's population and the resulting need for highway development many of the State's scenic routes are in danger of being developed into high-speed traffic arteries.

He would have such roads designated as "scenic highways," from which truck traffic and high-speed through traffic would be diverted to alternate routes, leaving the designated roads to the more leisurely traffic of tourists, sightseers and vacationists. The legislation would provide for advisory commissions of local citizens with which the Highway Division would consult before changing the character of roads that might be designated "scenic."

Senator Farr's immediate concern is with that section of Highway 1 that traverses his district between Carmel and San Simeon. This is the oceanside route through the Big Sur country, frequently pictured in national magazines and considered one of the most scenic roads in the United States. Senator Farr says this stretch has been removed from the master plan for freeways, but that it is still scheduled for improvements that would alter its character and impair its attractiveness. . . .

The proposal is one of extreme interest to Californians and one that well warrants the careful study that Senator Farr has requested it be given by highway officials, the Director of Natural Resources and the State Planning Officer.



Upper photos courtesy Lee Blaisdell Photo Service, Monterey; lower is Division of Highways photo by Wm. R. Chaney.

Water Policy and Paradise Dam

[Following are excerpts from a statement the club's executive director presented to the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs in a field hearing held in Missoula, Montana, December 15, 1959.]

THE SIERRA CLUB believes that the flood-control and power-development needs in the Columbia Basin can be met without jeopardy to important scenic and wildlife resources. There should be optimum use of damsites which do not imperil these resources, no matter whether public or private agencies or combination of both build on the acceptable sites. These sites should be developed fully enough to meet the overall flood-control requirements with a minimum number of structures. There should be proof that there is no alternative course of action before irrevocable damage is inflicted upon the important scenic and wildlife resources.

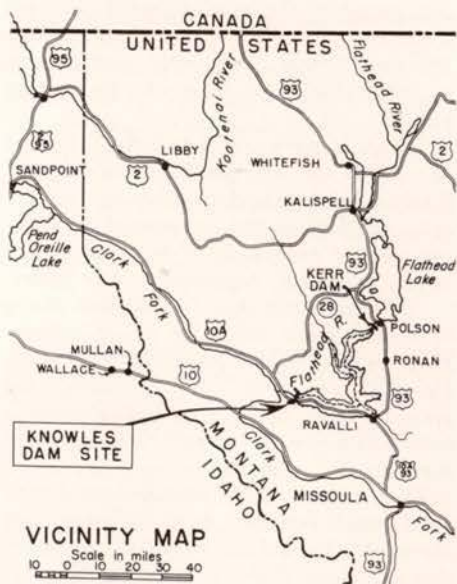
The club—and this is the general feeling in most other conservation organizations I know of—is in favor of sound water development. However, we consider it not in the public interest in the long run, and therefore oppose, any dam or reservoir proposal which would adversely affect a national park or monument or duly designated wilderness area.

Conservationists in general are feeling a growing concern about indirect peril to major scenic resources. For example, the Citizens' Committee on Natural Resources, Washington, D.C., voiced conservation opposition to what they were convinced is inadequate development in Hells Canyon. They are not concerned with the public vs. private power controversy. But they are concerned with the threat to major scenic and wildlife values arising from partial development in Hells Canyon. Nearly three million acre-feet of storage was blocked there. This has already led the Corps of Engineers to seek replacement storage on the Clearwater River, where conservationists are opposing the proposed Bruce's Eddy and Penny Cliffs dams. Likewise, apparently, the Bureau of Reclamation is seeking further control of the Upper Snake River in the tremendously important scenic country above the Narrows, in Wyoming, and in Grand Teton National Park and the Teton Wilderness Area—an effort which conservationists must oppose.

Conservationist thinking on the Columbia

Let me summarize conservationist reasoning here, so that you may understand it even if agreement with it may not be unanimous:

1. It is clear, in the Columbia Basin, that there is not enough flood control now.
2. Remedial action can take four forms:
 - a) Flood insurance. This still requires more pioneering; it will not save lives.



The Paradise site lies just below the Clark Fork junction. A dam here—much more so than the notably smaller one at Knowles, would save Glacier National Park (upstream) from dangerous pressure. From map by Corps of Engineers.

- b) Evacuation of flood plain by zoning to prevent new construction or replacement of present structures. This is uphill work, literally and figuratively.
 - c) Upstream watershed management. Practiced with care, this is good conservation, but won't control the big floods.
 - d) Flood-retarding structures—midbasin dams and lower basin channel improvement. This action has strong engineering and political backing. We accept it.
3. To protect scenic resources from flood-control action we must concern ourselves with the effects of dams.
 4. The Corps and the Bureau agree that to skim the flood crest from the Columbia River, we need a Main Control Plan, and eventual flood-control storage of 20–30 million acre-feet can be presumed.
 5. Scenic resource needs should be integrated with this flood-control need.
 6. Whenever storage is provided, someone's special interest will be damaged.
 7. The first projects authorized should be those causing tangible damage which can be reimbursed with money; for example, at a cost in dollars, railroads and highways can be rerouted, power generation can be substituted for, and farm land too.
 8. The very last to be authorized should be those projects causing damage which no amount of money can replace. This would include damage to national parks and wilderness which man cannot duplicate.

As things stand, in the Columbia River Basin, we seem still to need to provide about 15 million more acre-feet of usable storage

in the Main Control Plan. Conservation opposition has delayed about 2 million at Glacier View and we hope will continue to delay it indefinitely. Partial development plans seem to have blocked 3 million at the John Day and Priest Rapids sites; partial plans blocked nearly 3 million at Hells Canyon and may well block up to 3.5 if a run-of-the-river plant is built instead of a major storage structure at Paradise; moreover, the smaller development will add greatly to the pressure of major upstream storage in Glacier National Park, either at Glacier View or at Smoky Range. Conservationists will be forced to oppose both of them.

Paradise Dam important solution

Thus, to many conservationists, the solution would seem to be to assure full development at Paradise, Libby, and in the outleetworks improvement at Grand Coulee, saving the upper reaches of the Flathead in Glacier National Park, the Snake in and near Teton National Park, the Salmon and the Clearwater for scenic and wildlife resources, which will be in short supply by the year 2,000.

The Columbia Basin is an especially good area in which to make certain that we have a comprehensive plan for adequately protecting now, with an eye to the long-range future, an optimum reservation of the basin's scenic resources of parks, wilderness, and wildlife and their tangible and intangible values for public use, enjoyment, and education—and necessary water development.

Legislation has been introduced authorizing the construction of Paradise, the dam that promises to save a park—not by “making the park more beautiful,” to quote a line from the old Hetchy refrain, but by being far enough away from the park, and big enough to minimize the inundation of other acres of scenery and fertile land. Paradise was almost lost. We have reason, however, to look forward to a better destiny for a project of great promise.

In a country growing as rapidly as this one, we all face a special challenge that requires a careful review of our scenic resources. This will guide us, I think, toward a multiple use of our ever-more-crowded lands. But it won't put conflicting uses in the same place. To each its own place, and always a place for beauty.

America's scenic beauty is something very special. Much of it is still unspoiled. It is an important part of what man needs in life besides bread, that man will need still more than he does now, that he will choose to keep if we leave him that choice. Posterity has no vote except in us. Its people must live with what we decide upon now.

To quote Weldon Heald, “God Bless America—Let's Save some of it!”

The Road to Ruwenzori

(Not a motion picture)

Qualified mountaineers and backpackers are invited to apply for the Ruwenzori Expedition sponsored by the Outing Committee and to be led by Gail and Al Baxter. Trip members will meet in Kampala, Uganda, on July 18, and return there on August 12. The estimated cost per member of \$550.00 will include food, porters, community equipment, local travel and overhead.

The Ruwenzori Range, located on the boundary of Uganda and the Congo, is the source of the Victoria Nile and contains twenty glacier-clad summits over 14,000 feet.

The Baxters' address is 1620 Jasmine Street, Denver, Colorado (elevation 5,280 feet).

Mountain Rescue

"Mountain Rescue Services," a booklet published by the Sierra Club recently, announces a mountain rescue network established by the club and the Peace Officers' Association of California. It outlines procedure and services available through climbing groups, sheriffs' rescue units, and Navy and Marine units. Club member Walt Wheelock, a lieutenant in the Glendale Police Department, is chairman of the joint committee.

Since speed in dispatching units is of prime importance, communications are stressed. The use of the teletype network of California law enforcement agencies is suggested, sheriffs' rescue units are listed, and the addresses of technical rescue groups are given. The booklet, published with the assistance of the Francis Foley-Burl Parkinson Memorial Fund, is being supplied to all sheriffs' offices, to club chapters, and to any other agencies which can help in the work.



The Wilderness Bill

Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton is a matter-of-fact Nebraskan and no alarmist, but some words he recently used had an alarming ring about them. As Mr. Seaton put it:

"There is every reason to believe that the next five or ten years constitute critical years if we are to add what we need to our heritage of scenic, historic and cultural treasures for the use and enjoyment of the greater, and largely urbanized, population of the future. . . . The important thing is that those places of high intrinsic value for public refreshment, enjoyment and inspiration be quickly identified, and steps taken to protect and preserve them for this overriding purpose before they are irretrievably lost to other uses."

There literally is no time to lose. Fortunately some remedies, having already been thoroughly studied and discussed, lie immediately at hand. One of the most significant is the Wilderness Bill, which would establish for the first time as Congressional policy the preservation of federally owned wild areas in their primeval state. The bill would add no new lands to the Federal domain, but would merely give clear statutory protection to perhaps 55 million acres of America's finest unspoiled country that is already included as wilderness within national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other federally controlled areas.

The test of whether the Administration and Congress are really serious about establishing a base for permanent protection of America's last untouched areas will come in the next few weeks. The Senate Interior Committee is expected to report the bill early this session. Favorable action can and should be taken by both houses before adjournment on what may well come to be considered, along with the Antiquities Act of 1906, the Park Service Act of 1916 and a few other basic laws, part of the Magna Charta of American conservation.

—The New York Times, January 3, 1960.

Ancient bristlecone pines in the proposed Great Basin National Park, Nevada. Photos by David Brower.

Loma Prieta Chapter will be host for the Sierra Club's third biennial Information and Education Conference, sponsored by the club Council, which will be held Saturday and Sunday, April 2 and 3, 1960, at Jarvis Bishop Elementary School in Sunnyvale, California.

Leadership will be the conference theme; the announced purpose is to assist in the development of capable leaders for chapter outings by providing information on what a leader should know, and guidelines on how a leader should plan a trip and conduct himself when faced with emergencies and problems on a trip. Club-wide participation is anticipated.

Conference chairman Warren M. Lemmon is making preliminary plans; the final program will be announced later.

Two Magazines Combine

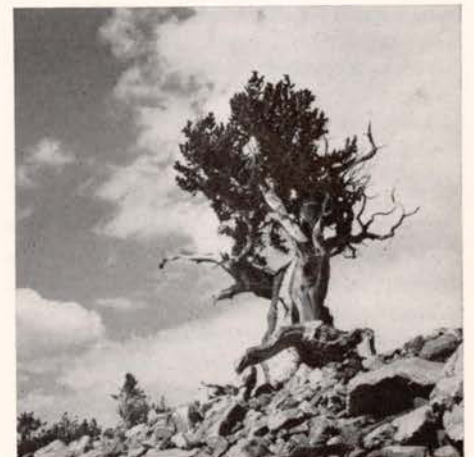
The consolidation of *Natural History*, published by The American Museum of Natural History in New York, and *Nature Magazine*, published in Washington by the American Nature Association, has been announced jointly by the Museum and the Association.

The new magazine will be under the direction of John Purcell, editor of *Natural History*, and will be published in New York. Richard W. Westwood, president of the American Nature Association and editor of *Nature Magazine*, will serve as a contributing editor, reporting on developments in the field of conservation as viewed from the nation's capital.

The combined publication will average between sixty-four and seventy-two pages—a considerable increase over the size of either magazine in the past.

Annual Dinner

The Sierra Club Annual Dinner (Northern Section) will be held at The Village, Columbus at Lombard, San Francisco, on May 7, 1960. Program details will be announced later by chairman Frank Hibbard.



Club for Cape Cod Park

[The Atlantic Chapter was asked to represent the Sierra Club at the Eastham hearing by the Senate Interior Committee December 9. Louis Di Paolo, of Tenafly, New Jersey, spoke on behalf of the club.]

In October of this year some 25 Sierra Club members from New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Jersey spent a weekend on Cape Cod for the express purpose of inspecting first hand the natural scenery in the proposed park area. For some it was a first visit to the Cape. For others it was an occasion to become reacquainted with the distinct charm and beauty of the Outer Beaches. For all of us it was the opportunity to enjoy a beach area not yet engulfed by the tide of commercial development so obvious on our Eastern shoreline.

One does not have to look especially hard to see the trend of population growth and economic development which is swallowing up our fine beach areas in the East at an alarming rate. Some of the statements yesterday developed Commissioner Foster's prediction that a National Seashore Park on Cape Cod is within a day's drive of 50 million Americans. A National Park here on the Cape is not an invitation to 50 million people to descend on this area. The invitation has already been extended by local Chambers of Commerce, by past summer visitors who encourage their friends to come to the Cape, and by the natives of this area who make visitors like myself feel welcome and at home in your communities. The State and Federal governments with their continually improving road networks have made Cape Cod accessible to 50 million Americans. The fact is plain, 50 million people may come to Cape Cod. The establishment of a National Seashore Park, however, will afford outer Cape towns the means of handling these visitors through adequate roads, police and fire protection, open beaches, and financial assistance.

It is all too obvious how beaches mean boardwalks and amusements to many commercially minded opportunists. Our people need open areas and wilderness near the sea to capture the spiritual refreshment that those moments near the ocean can provide.

If we fail to act now to preserve Cape Cod and its wonderful natural scenery then we fail the generations of Americans to follow. Cape Cod has been ours to enjoy but will be destroyed by our commercial attempts to improve it.

I am not a resident of Cape Cod and I know these hearings are being held primarily for the people of the Cape to be heard. But there are thousands of people like myself who have come to the Cape and have come to love all its charm. We like it the way it is just as you all do. This past summer in the intercoastal waters of Atlantic City, New

Jersey, I was appalled to see signs prohibiting the taking of shellfish because of the polluted waters—a result of over-development of the surrounding land area. This could easily become the fate of the Outer Beaches unless the protection of the National Park service is given them by National Park status. The economic pressures will be too great for one person or one town or one group of towns to resist. . . .

If we want to pass this heritage on to our children then we must act now to preserve the beauty of Cape Cod.

Atlantic Chapter members enjoyed an outdoor supper on Cape Cod—and knew that they liked it; but this and many other conservation decisions would be made indoors. The Senate Interior Committee (l-r, Richard Callahan, Chief Clerk; Rep. Hastings Keith, and Senators Frank Moss and Leverett Saltonstall) listens to Selectman Robert McNeece at Cape Cod Park hearing. Photos by Quinn.



DINOSAUR PARK PROGRESSING SLOWLY

[The following explains a further step toward the establishment of Dinosaur National Park.]

United States Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D.C.
November 3, 1959

Mr. David R. Brower, *Executive Director*
Sierra Club

Dear Dave:

Since writing you on August 14, 1959, acknowledging your letter of July 31, the Bureau of the Budget has cleared the Department's report on S.160 relating to the proposed Dinosaur National Park.

The provision in section 1 of the bill, to which your inquiry is directed, reads as follows:

"Nothing contained in this Act shall preclude the Secretary of the Interior from investigating, under the authority invested in him by the Federal reclamation laws, the suitability of reservoir and canal sites within Dinosaur National Park for development under these laws with a view to reporting thereon to the President and the Congress, but no such development shall be undertaken by the Secretary except under an Act of Congress specifically authorizing the same."

The Department's report on the bill recommends that this provision be changed to read as follows:

"Any portion of the lands and interest in lands comprising the Dinosaur National Park shall be made available upon Federal statutory authorization for public nonpark uses

when such uses shall have been found, in consideration of the public interest, to have a greater public necessity than the uses authorized by this Act."

Justification for the recommended change is stated in the report as follows:

"Although such a provision sets out what we believe to be an accepted proposition, which is that one Congress cannot bind a subsequent Congress from taking action, required by public necessity, to authorize the use of the lands for nonpark purposes, we feel that the suggested amendment more clearly states the desired intent. Identical language was recently approved by the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee in connection with the consideration of the bill to authorize the C. & O. Canal National Park, H.R. 2331."

We believe that the amendment suggested to the Congress will meet, to a large extent, the objections raised to the original wording of the bill.

Sincerely yours,
GEORGE W. ABBOTT, *Solicitor*

Conservationists are still troubled. C. & O. Bill language represents a step up in protection, for an area now unprotected.

Dinosaur, however, is protected by much fought-for language in the Colorado Project Act; Congressional protection stronger than the C. & O. language already exists, so the C. & O. formula would be a step down. These people look upon the Aspinall Bill, enlarging the existing monument but keeping its name, as the one to back now.—D.B.

New Titles Added to Sierra Club Book List

Since the Sierra Club was founded in 1892, publishing has been one of its most important functions. Well-illustrated *Bulletins*, and guidebooks, have made up the greater part of our output in the past. The publishing program is rapidly expanding. Several new titles, scheduled for publication in 1960, appear in this list of Sierra Club books, along with the "standard works" whose dependability and popularity has brought about regular reprinting.



General

This Is the American Earth

By Ansel Adams and Nancy Newhall. Foreword by David Brower. An extraordinarily beautiful book, eloquent in text and image, created from a superb exhibit that has won international recognition. The large format (10¼ x 13½) enhances the dignity and power of the illustrations (gravure) and of the striking typography (Centaur)—an impressive example of the highest quality in graphic art. Certainly one of the most important conservation books yet produced. 112 pages, 82 illustrations (10 doublespread). \$15.00

Portfolio III: Yosemite

By Ansel Adams. 16 signed original prints on 14 x 18 mounts, portfolio title and foreword in handsome typography, all in tie case. (March.) \$100.00

Wilderness Alps—The North Cascades

An abundantly illustrated story of the almost unknown portion of the State of Washington, containing what is probably the most ruggedly, livably alpine mountain region of the lesser United States. Contributions by Grant McConnell, Charles Hessey, William Halliday, and others; illustrations by Ansel Adams, Philip Hyde, David Simons, John Warth, and others. Large four-color map in pocket. About 200 pages, 8 x 11 (May). \$6.50

The Shining Mountains: Oregon's Volcanic Cascades

A beautifully illustrated account of Oregon's Lonely Procession, the great volcanic peaks that constitute the state's scenery of highest caliber and its greatest potential National Park. (July). \$5.75

Rambles Through the High Sierra

Joseph LeConte's charming story of the University Excursion Party, first published in 1875, republished in 1900, brought out again in 1930, and back in print once more, because it deserves it. Illustrated. \$3.00



Guidebooks

The Mammoth Lakes Sierra

A Handbook for Roadside and Trail, edited by Genny Schumacher—roadsides, flowers, mammals, geology, history, life zones, and back country of a fascinating part of the Sierra Nevada. 160 pages, illustrated, with maps. 1st and 2d printing, 1959. \$1.95

A Climber's Guide to Glacier National Park

By Gordon Edwards. Trails and routes to some of the most inviting high points of a great national park, illustrated with diagrams, sketch maps, and photographs. About 144 pages, illustrated (June). \$3.00

A Climber's Guide to the Teton Range

Descriptions of 250 routes in America's favorite climbing ground by Leigh Ortenburger, beautifully illustrated with photographs and with drawings by Eldon N. Dye. 170 pages, 1956. \$3.00

A Climber's Guide to the High Sierra

Cross-country routes, campsites, and mountaineering routes in the High Sierra and Yosemite Valley, ranging from northern Yosemite to the Whitney Region. 316 pages, illustrated, 1956. \$3.00

Starr's Guide

to the John Muir Trail and the High Sierra Region. 1959 edition with removable map. More information to the knapsack-ounce than ever before. 144 pages, paper. 7th printing. \$2.00



Natural History

The Meaning of Wilderness to Science

Contributions by Daniel Beard, Stanley A. Cain, Ian McTaggart Cowan, Raymond Cowles, Frank Fraser Darling, Luna Leopold, Robert Rausch, G. M. Trevelyan, and others; edited by David Brower, from the Sixth Biennial Wilderness Conference. Illustrated. (March). \$4.75

Matthes and the Sierra Nevada

By the late François Matthes, one of America's foremost topographers, edited and with a foreword by Fritiof Fryxell. Insights into land forms

and their origin by a man who, probably more than any other geologist, could open the eyes of the amateur to the reason for mountain architecture. About 144 pages, illustrated (June). \$5.00

John Muir's Studies in the Sierra

Muir's articles on the geology of the Sierra. What an untrained Sierra traveler can see and understand. Introduction by William E. Colby. 124 pages, illustrated, 2d printing (April). \$3.75

Glaciers and a Camera

By Arthur E. Harrison. About the contribution mountaineers can make to glacier studies, and the technique for contributing. 80 pages, illustrated (May). \$1.95



How-To's

Manual of Ski Mountaineering

Edited by David Brower. Chapters on mountaineering routes, rock climbing, and snow and ice climbing are pertinent to summer travel in the West; those on warmth, shelter, and equipment are of great value to people expecting to travel in snow and cold, winter or summer. 226 pages, illustrated. 3d edition (March). \$1.95

Going Light—with Backpack or Burro

Technique and equipment for traveling Western wilderness trails. Edited by David Brower. 166 pages, illustrated. 5th printing, 1958. \$2.00

Belaying the Leader

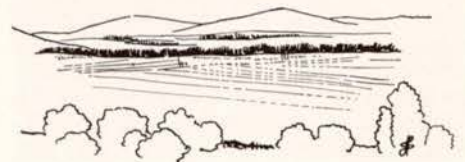
An Omnibus on Climbing Safety, for mountaineers who wish to grow old gracefully or at all. Richard Leonard et al. Illustrated. 2d printing, 1959. \$1.35

The Sierra Club: A Handbook

A pioneer conservation force, its contributions and its scope. Beautifully illustrated. 144 pages. 5th printing, 1960. \$1.00

Also—

Sound and color films on scenic-resource conservation; "Wilderness Cards from the Sierra Club"; Sierra Club Reprint Series; and the *Sierra Club Bulletin* (monthly since 1893, back files available; Volumes 1-5, 1893 to 1905, reprinted by offset, in red buckram, \$32.50).



Letters

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington 25, D.C.
January 4, 1960

Mr. David Brower, *Executive Director*
Sierra Club

Dear Dave:

I thank you for your letter of December 30 and for the news that I have been made an Honorary Life Member of the Sierra Club. That's a wonderful compliment that I deeply appreciate.

Please tell your people that it is among the very top honors that have come my way.

That's how I feel about you folks and your organization.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS



Nussbaumen, Switzerland
3 Jan. 60

DEAR MR. BROWER:

It is since I left Calif. 7 years ago that I met for the first time again a member: What a pleasure to see Will Siri here. We had a lot of discussions and interesting news. I suggested organizing a European Chapter of the Sierra Club. I think your Idea is very important. The wilderness of US is also our wilderness. We have here in Switzerland only one National Park, which has been recently attacked by water plant people and with success, sorry to say. If enough members are in Europe we could organize a Chapter. But I do feel right now very isolated from the Club. I hope I will get some more people from the club to see me.

URS HOESSLY



Government House Secretariat,
Bangkok

20th October, B.E. 2502 (1959)

MR. NATHAN C. CLARK, *President*,
Sierra Club, San Francisco 4, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Clark:

I am directed by the Prime Minister to communicate with you by extending his sincere appreciations for your enthusiastic support and congratulations as contained in your letter of 14th August 1959. As you well know, our effort in the conservation of forests and wildlife, will be patterned after the National Parks of USA., any public support and helpful suggestion from an important institution like the Sierra Club would indeed be most welcome.

You would also be interested to learn, I have no doubt, that a measure has already been accomplished to constitute 13 forest areas as National Parks. Four of the most important areas are also being singled out for immediate expedition to arrive at a fully operational basis as soon as possible. These four areas would also serve as object lessons where official administration and public interests can be interplayed, so that the best possible pattern for future implementation could be arrived at.

I would like also to inform you that in case of any further suggestion or information, the Ministry of Agriculture, which has the jurisdiction of this matter will be very glad to communicate with you or your club.

Yours sincerely,
NETR KHEMAYODHIN, *Major General*
Secretary General



Kampala, Uganda

Editor:

I have been calling on people connected with conservation officially and unofficially. The story is grim. Noel Simon (head of Kenya Wildlife Society—which deserves support, by the way), with whom we stayed in Kenya, says that in five years at the present rate of destruction the point of no return will have been passed for the plains animals (i.e., short grass animals). Another opinion is two years. Help and pressure from the outside are needed—badly.

GRANT MCCONNELL

• The Sierra Club is trying to help by supporting the International Union for Conservation and the International Committee on National Parks. We exchange publications with the Kenya Wildlife Society and will forward contributions.



Portland, Oregon

Editor:

Regarding the Annual: I save my copies and hope to have all of them bound one of these days when my ship comes in. I vote for continued publication.

I prefer not to see a revival of articles on outings; their appeal is limited and becomes dated too soon. The extended overall outing program does call for some sort of a historical record which could be published in the Annual. I suggest that the chairman of the Outing Committee write a synopsis of the various trips recording some vital statistics such as attendance, weather, special climbs, place and time, etc., and have this published yearly in the Annual. We do devote almost one entire *Bulletin* to outing announcements but rarely tell our people just what came of that activity.

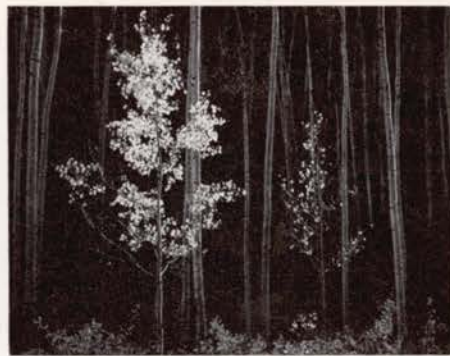
That goes for mountaineering activities also. I do not like the notes as they have appeared in our Annuals so far; they are written by too many differently constituted writers. Let the chairman of the Mountaineering Committee write a synopsis of the more important activities of mountaineering club members and have this appear in the Annual, to maintain the record.

Above all, I would like to see the publication of top quality black-and-white photographs continued and, if the shekels are available, expanded.

The good judgment displayed by Editorial Board in the choice of articles over the last years suits me just fine.

ALFRED SCHMITZ

• The Annual still seems to be here to stay— if the material keeps coming.—D.B.



ANSEL ADAMS

American Earth Doing Well

When some four years of effort have gone into a book project, the participants await public reaction with an anxiety that cannot be described by any phrase from our handy dictionary of similes. When it also involves an investment about equalling that of four years of publishing club books, the purseholders share the anxiety. And when a superlative is used boldly in a brochure that proclaims "the most important announcement the Sierra Club has ever made," the club itself could well be a bit anxious.

The preliminary reactions are arriving—and gratifying. Roger Hildebrand, Professor of Physics at Chicago, warned that we had really stuck our neck out. We replied that we would stand by the claim. So we were pleased by his next letter: "O.K. You win. It's just as good as you said it was." Owen Stratton, Professor of Political Science at Wellesley, wrote "It is a superb job in every respect." John Saylor of Pennsylvania calls it "stupendous." Justice William O. Douglas of the United States Supreme Court ordered three, and has described it as "One of the great statements in the history of conservation." We could go on, but we won't, except to quote still another Sierra Club authority with whom none will argue, Honorary President William E. Colby, who writes, "I find that 'it lives up to the brag,' as Emerson said after seeing Yosemite."

We don't know what the book will do upon formal publication in mid-February, but we know that 4,000 of the 10,000 copies printed have been sold, and hopes ride high—not only for *This Is the American Earth*, but also for the expanding, vital program of conservation publishing that is being made possible, indirectly, through this enormous contribution to the Sierra Club by Ansel Adams and Nancy Newhall.

The book's heralding is still a most important task. It is our most important publication by far. It stands a chance of achieving more for conservation than anything else we've done. Is there anyone who thinks it is not the most beautiful book ever produced in the United States or Europe? —D.B.

TFC Asks Nevada Park

[Following is the statement of Edgar Wayburn, as President of Trustees for Conservation, submitted for the Senate Interior Committee hearing in Ely in early December.]

I am Edgar Wayburn of San Francisco, President of Trustees for Conservation, a national non-profit organization devoted to the preservation of the finest remaining examples of our magnificent scenic heritage.

We believe that the Wheeler Peak-Lehman Caves portion of Nevada's Snake Range is such an area, and that the contemplated 146 square miles should be set aside and preserved in a natural state as a unit of the National Park System.

The concept of national parks originated in the United States. It has proved to be one of our most successful contributions to practical democracy, and it gave world-wide stimulus to nature preservation. A national park doesn't belong to any group, any locality, or any State—it is owned by all the American people. In fact, so valuable to the country have our parks become that they had 70 million visitors this year. Experts predict that this will increase 40 times by the year 2,000. Imagine a visitation of nearly 3 billion in 40 years! Can anyone seriously maintain that we are not in need of an enlarged park system?

At present we are falling behind tragically in providing additional national parks for our vastly increased future population. Furthermore, as the country is rapidly being

Hours in the woods . . . may be eventless. There is nothing to write home about except how the sunlight is green-filtered and cool with the breath of falling water; how the trail follows the stream up and up, over fallen logs, with the summons of the hidden waterfall luring you on. Or you may tell how, when you were thirsty, you drank from cupped hands at a spring bordered by trillium, and about the black bear that came begging as you ate your lunch at the broad rock table near the falls, and the chipmunks that gambolled in the pine needles at your feet. And yet such a letter home conveys the sense of a chain of life continuous and rich with the ages.

Monthly Letter, May 1959
The Royal Bank of Canada

developed and urbanized, opportunities for preserving areas of national park caliber are getting rarer each year. Other nations are showing much more foresight in this important matter than we are. For example, we have set aside in our National Park System less than one per cent of our area, while the national parks of New Zealand already total nearly six per cent.

The proposed Great Basin National Park is a superlative desert and mountain region which we should add to our National Park System while there is yet time. After intensive study for the past four years by qualified individuals, organizations and government agencies, the area is definitely considered to be of park caliber and to be of national significance. It is also representative

of the distinctive climate, vegetation, wildlife, geology and scenery of the Great Basin ranges.

This is a type of Far Western terrain not now exhibited within the National Park System. That alone should make the establishment of Great Basin National Park of compelling importance, for eventually we should preserve examples of all types of the original American wilderness.

So Trustees for Conservation earnestly urge that this grand portion of our scenic heritage be preserved intact for the education, inspiration and enjoyment of all the American people. We believe that only under the administration of the National Park Service can this outstanding area be properly protected, exhibited and interpreted.

Wilderness Cards from the Sierra Club



Springtime in late July on Cloudy Pass. A sea of ice pours from Glacier Peak, two-mile-high ancient volcano in the Northern Cascades of Washington, the American Alps. A wilderness trail drops down the Suiattle River to the Mountain Loop Highway and to Darrington, western gateway to an unsurpassed park-land. By Grant McConnell.

**Cards to help the Cascades and wilderness
2 sets for \$1**

The North Cascades series is now well known, and an Oregon Cascades series is being started, with the junior jumbo of Mount Jefferson, on this month's cover, leading off.

Prices: Jumbo, 10¢; regular size (adjoining), 5¢. A set contains 60¢ worth. Less 30% on orders totaling \$5 or more (at list price), 40% on \$25 or more, 50% on \$50 or more. All excess over cost goes to conservation. Order from your chapter or from Mills Tower.