

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

February 1960



We must be refreshed by the sight of inexhaustible vigor . . .
the wilderness with its living and its decaying trees
the thunder cloud and the rain . . .
some life pasturing freely where we never wander.

—Thoreau, *Walden*

*WILDERNESS
OUTINGS 1960*

pages 3-18

The Outings—*Plus ça change . . .*

Mountain trips the world over bear a certain intrinsic resemblance to one another; the lost trail, the bridgeless river, the firm-willed beast of burden, the camp-fire that will not burn,—all these are tribulations to test the qualities of the mountaineer as well in the Cévennes as in the Sierra. But there is one feature of a Sierra Club outing which tends to make it unique, a feature much derided by the doubting Thomas whom you wish to convert, much defended by you if you are a loyal Sierran,—namely the “crowd.”

It sounds rather alarming at first—to camp for a month with a party of one hundred and fifty persons, strangers for the greater part, gathered from all quarters of California and from distant points throughout the world, representatives of every profession, every science, every art, who have only one common bond, the love of nature. They are very queer-looking people too, some of them. . . .

You rashly decide that you don't care very much about making indiscriminate acquaintances. You have a few tried friends in the party, and, though they strongly resemble the other desperadoes, you have a comfortable remembrance that but a few days ago they were orderly and respected citizens, that they still possess bank accounts and have reputations to maintain. But soon you begin to realize that some of these old friends are not quite the companions you would have chosen for the woods. Your friendship is perhaps more superficial than you thought it, or is based upon some common interest which is absent here, and while it costs you something to admit it, they jar upon you. And then you discover that the unshaven gentleman in spotted khaki with a scratch on his nose has seen the same beauty and thought the same thought that you have, and you know he is a kindred soul, though you don't like to acknowledge the kinship.

As day after day passes, and you learn to waive ceremony and accept the easy comradeship of the trail, you find that the bearded ruffian is a learned scientist, the untidy girl in the strange bonnet is an artist of promise, and the neat man in khaki who quotes Shakespeare is one of the packers, and you begin to distrust your powers of discrimination. At last you make the discovery that you yourself look as queer as your neighbor. . . .

* * *

But, strange to say, even in this democratic society the aristocrats are sooner or later bound to appear. There is the aristocrat of cleanliness. On the dustiest trail, over the smokiest camp-fire, he is seen always fresh and immaculate. He must have been born clean, for he spends no more time in the washing of face and raiment than the rest of us do, and yet the result is so different! The proverbial leopard who cannot change his spots is bound by no more rigorous law than the aristocrat who cannot acquire any; stainless he is and stainless he remains by no fault—or virtue—of his own, but he is not looked on with favor by the spotted many.

There is the aristocrat of leg and lung, the “hiker,” so called, who walks up perpendicular cliffs like a fly, never misses the trail, and always reaches camp first. He is harmless, but is not generally loved, for he is a little overbearing and given to much talking of a certain catalogue of hours and distances which he keeps in his mind and calls his record.

Then there is the aristocrat of good-fellowship. He can hike too, if he wants to, but he knows that one hour of the trail is worth two in camp and that “to travel hopefully is better than to arrive.” He may come late into camp, but you may be sure he will come with a smile and be ready on the instant to help cook dinner or to carry half the dunnage-bags to their abiding-places for the night. He will cobble your boots for you, he will mend your clothes, and lend you his blankets when yours are lost; and though he will talk very little about it, his name will be found on the highest peaks and the trout will have reason to remember his rod. . . .

Short excursions of two or three days duration, lunches and teas with a dozen or more guests, are frequent and are a pleasant element in the social life of the camp. The little picnic parties, where five or six friends elect to spend the day in one another's company, are particularly delightful. You build a fire at lunch-time and have tea or soup or chocolate wherewithal to augment the commissary lunch, and sometimes, if luck attends the fisherman, you have trout.

There seems to be a prevailing impression that the entire club travels day in and day out in one indissoluble “gang.” Nothing can be further from the fact, for save when climbing a mountain you travel to suit yourself. You start at whatever hour you wish, walk alone or in company, and spend the whole day or a few hours in covering the distance. It is possible to travel all day without meeting a sign of a fellow Sierran save his footprints in the trail. And what a spell the forest weaves for you when you are alone! . . .

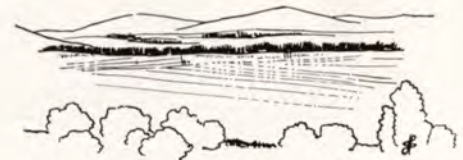
* * *

The Sierra Club has great and noble purposes, for which we honor it, but besides these its name has come to mean an ideal to us. It means comradeship and chivalry, simplicity and joyousness, and the care-free life of the open. You may have marred that ideal often by word or deed, for you are human and must needs carry your follies and weaknesses with you even to the woods; but you must be foolish and weak indeed not to bear home something of the strength and purity and beauty amongst which you have lived.

For a little while you have dwelt close to the heart of things. . . . And these things live with you long after the outing has passed and you are back in the working world, linger even until the growing year once more brings around the vacation days, and you are ready to turn to the hills again, whence comes, not only your help, but your strength, your inspiration, and some of the brightest hours you have ever lived.

The late Marion Randall Parsons wrote all this—and more—about the third outing (the 1905 Bulletin gives her full account). We are grateful that places still exist where the old things can still happen—to new people.

Her good work and that of others helped this come to pass—a debt we can repay by knowing these places ourselves, and assuring that the future will have a chance to know them.—D. B.



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

DIRECTORS		MONTHLY BULLETIN STAFF	
Nathan C. Clark	President	Vivian Schagen	Editor
Edgar Wayburn	Vice-President	John P. Schagen	Associate Editor
Charlotte E. Mauk	Secretary	Fred Gunsky	Charlotte E. Mauk
Clifford V. Heimbacher	Treasurer		Peggy Wayburn
Lewis F. Clark	Fifth Officer		
Ansel Adams	R. Clifford Youngquist	August Frugé	Chairman, Editorial Board
Elmer C. Aldrich	A. Starker Leopold	Randal Dickey, Jr.	Chairman, Club Council
Harold C. Bradley	George Marshall	David R. Brower	Executive Director
H. Stewart Kimball	Bestor Robinson		
Richard M. Leonard	William Siri		

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



"Only for the Hardy, Rugged Few"?

WE'RE NOT sure what Dr. Harold Crowe was up to nineteen years ago when the late Cedric Wright caught him role playing. Perhaps he had just been practicing on himself prior to becoming president of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. More likely it was a spoof of the old cliché, currently resurrected, that "wilderness is only for the hardy, rugged few."

After reading some recent testimony in opposition to various versions of the Wilderness Bill, and after being exposed to the all-out blasts of the "anti-wilderness lobby," we have been blinded by a flash of inspiration which we think is sure to revolutionize wilderness attitudes and travel habits.

The idea is simply to provide a prefabricated do-it-yourself wilderness experience in one convenient package at nominal cost. One important advantage of the Instant Vacation is that the purchaser, by applying the various accoutrements of the vacation package during his spare time, can enjoy a complete two-week vacation without any time off the job. We are so elated with these possibilities that we had a subcommittee appointed immediately to decide upon what each instant vacation package should contain and report its findings to the Outing Committee.

The report on this brilliantly conceived project is now ready, and we hasten to publish a few excerpts from the list of items for the Instant Vacation:

Essential

- a) Pants ripper
- b) Pants patch
- c) Pants patch ripper
- d) Finely ground charcoal for knuckles, knees and elbows
- e) Abrasive crystalline quartz sand for scuffing shoes
- f) Steel rasp for shredding backsides of trousers
- g) Super ultraviolet sunburn lamp
- h) Two snowblinder flash bulbs

Optional

- i) Soiled band-aids for use with the world's dullest pocket knife
- j) World's dullest pocket knife
- k) Super soup heater for intolerably hot soup
- l) Instant acting coffee cooler for intolerably cold coffee
- m) Pre-exposed roll of 35 mm. color film, including several out-of-focus informal portraits and several double exposures.

The total list covered 14 single-spaced typewritten pages and cannot be reproduced here. It is understood that compelling fiscal considerations and problems of tax status give the project a limited feasibility, even though the Outing Committee is expected to approve of the project in principle.

IN SPITE OF the failure of the Outing Committee yet to furnish Sierra Club members a vacation which costs nothing and takes no time to enjoy, we have planned an exciting program of wilderness outings for the first summer of the new decade.

We have tried to provide everything from "togetherness" to solitude; from leisurely family camping in the Sierra and Cascades to an extensive African expedition; from inertial drifting on the Yampa River to vigorous portaging in the Canadian canoe country. The total program affords a chance for individual members to gain insight on life forces at work in wild country. It gives opportunities to interpret these things for others, and to benefit from the therapy of wilderness as John Muir himself did. It provides opportunity for a unique social experience, and a chance to measure oneself against the constant yardstick of natural forces.

We urge both the uninitiated and our old timers to take advantage of these diverse opportunities for scenic exploration and enjoyment. And we offer the following pages as evidence that wilderness is something for *all* people to be enjoyed by *all* people—all who are willing to rediscover for themselves the wonderful capability of the human foot, or are glad that others are making the discovery.



THE HIGH TRIPS



WHAT IS a High Trip? It's camping, yes; but it's traveling too. This form of wilderness experience, pioneered by the Sierra Club, now has its followers and imitators, and we ourselves have developed a wide variety of other outings. But the High Trip is the base of all.

On a High Trip, the ground is your bed, a tent or a tarp your roof—but you live in luxury. Meals are prepared by the commissary crew; bedding and food are carried by the packtrain; and travel is through country you otherwise might never have the opportunity to see.

The trips move at a leisurely pace—never more than twelve miles per day—changing camp about every third day. On the morning of a move, duffel bags are packed and left for the mules, and trip members, after breakfast, follow their own pace on well-marked trails from camp to camp.

The 55th High Trip revisits one of the loveliest and least traveled regions of the Sierra Nevada, the northeastern section of Yosemite National Park. While this north-

ernmost end of the High Sierra cannot boast the great canyons and higher peaks of the Kings and Kern country, it has its own special and intimate charm.

Everything that goes to make up the true Sierra atmosphere is here—all on a smaller and more accessible scale. Although the passes are not quite so high, there are spectacular views all around.

The trip starts high this year; the first camp at roadhead is at nearly 10,000 feet. Take time to become acclimated before joining the group, and don't let the first day's move be your first hike of the year.

The High Trips will be led by Ted Grubb and Gus Benner. Louise Dunlap, in her third summer as High Trip Chef, will prepare the usual excellent meals.

High Trip 1—Virginia Canyon, Matterhorn Canyon, Benson Lake, Kerrick Meadow—July 10-23

The first High Trip group will meet at Virginia Lakes roadhead for dinner on Sunday, July 10.

After an early breakfast next morning, we move up through Virginia Lakes basin. This region is typically High Sierran, with great expanses of granite surrounding brilliant blue lakes. Climbing higher, the trail crosses a pass and drops down to Summit Lake, which drains to the eastern slope of the Sierra, while one of the headwaters of westward-flowing Return Creek starts just a short distance away from the other end of the lake.

The trail leads down to our camp beside the cascading waters of Return Creek. There will be opportunities to explore the slopes of Virginia Canyon, to climb Mount Conness and Shepherd Crest.

The next move to Matterhorn Canyon includes a sharp climb and a steep descent, a striking view to the south (Mount Lyell, Mount Ritter and Banner Peak beyond Tuol-

umne Meadows), and near Miller Lake one of the best swimming holes in the Sierra.

From Matterhorn Canyon we climb to Benson Pass through a varied terrain of forest and crumbling granite, then go down past Smedberg Lake to camp at Benson Lake. Piute Creek, a quiet stream with deep pools to lure the fisherman, enters the lake near our camp; there is a beautiful crescent of sandy beach close by, and great cliffs rise from the water's edge on two sides of this spectacular lake.

Next, the group will cross Seavey Pass, where veritable Oriental rock gardens are set among deep blue tarns and picturesque hemlocks, to camp in Kerrick Meadow. Many layover activities will be available here. Crown Point, a relatively easy scramble, offers a remarkable panorama.

An easy day's move then takes us to camp at The Forks. The last day's hike through The Roughs at times reminds us of travel in Switzerland's Alps, but Buckeye Creek roadhead will bring us back to reality—and California.

High Trip 2—Kerrick Bench, Slide Canyon, Matterhorn Canyon—July 24-August 5

Our second group will assemble at Buckeye Creek roadhead on July 24. Backtracking on the first-trippers' outward-bound trail, we will camp first at The Forks. The next move will follow the route to Kerrick Bench, one of the High Trip's "own" camps. Peeler Lake, under Crown Point, is an easy stop-over on the way to this camp. After a lay-over here, the trail leads across Snow Pass to our Slide Canyon camp. Sawtooth Ridge and Matterhorn Peak will be close at hand to lure ambitious climbers, and amateur geological sleuths might like to try to solve the riddle of the great slide from which the canyon gets its name.

Next we head for Matterhorn Canyon over Burro Pass, and then follow the first-two-weekers' trail in reverse, camping in Virginia Canyon and on the last day hiking up and out to Virginia Lakes roadhead.

Top: KERRICK MEADOW

Bottom: BENSON LAKE

by Cedric Wright



Three Cascade Specials

Three Sisters Special—McKenzie Bridge to the Skyline Trail—July 17-27

The first of our 1960 Cascade Specials will be a traveling trip in the High Trip tradition, tailored slightly and adapted to Oregon trails. Food, duffel and equipment will be packed by a veteran crew, and cooking will be done by the commissary staff.

From the roadhead near McKenzie Bridge, the party will walk a total of about 50 miles along the trails between five wilderness campsites. These will range from six to eleven miles apart, at elevations just under the 7,000-foot contour, which marks the tree-line in this country. The route will lead up the Olallie Trail to the first camp at The Potholes. Succeeding camps will be at Dillon Lake, Sisters' Mirror Lake, Linton Creek, and Obsidian Cliffs, all on the Skyline Trail. A layover day will be spent at each, plus an extra one at Obsidian Cliffs before going north to the McKenzie Pass Highway.

In addition to fishing, photographing, botanizing, zoölogizing and whatever it is the vulcanologists will do, the layover program will include climbs on the glaciers of the Three Sisters, and gentler activity on the slopes of the nearby relatives (i.e. Little Brother, The Husband, The Wife).

North Cascades Special—Lake Ann to Stehekin—August 1-12

To the north of Stehekin, in the headwaters of Bridge Creek, lies a part of the Washington Cascades which has so far been neglected by most of our outings into the North Cascades. Known for its drier climate and more open forests, its steep and rocky peaks carry no outstanding glaciers, nor are snowfields common.

The outing is designated as a "Special" because although neither High Trip nor Base Camp, it nevertheless embodies some of the qualities of both. This is the plan: We meet at Chelan, leave our cars and then travel by chartered bus 80 miles to the end of the Twisp road. From here our packer, Ray Courtney, will transport the duffel via our first camp at Copper Pass to Lake Ann. This is a delightful and isolated spot, justifying a stay of at least four days.

Stub camps will be arranged, such as to Washington Pass, which has its wilderness qualities jeopardized by a trans-Cascade road building project. Another extended camp will be at McAlester Meadows, a fine locale for exploring trips into the surrounding high country. Splendid views of the snow-and-glacier-covered Cascades can be seen from

this area, and on our way down to the last camp in the Stehekin Valley we shall see the glory of this mountainland. On our last day the boat trip on Lake Chelan will provide a fine climax.

Attendance is limited to 55 people. The trips between camps are easy, a total of about 35 miles. However, side trips, stub camps, climbs and exploratory scrambles will be arranged. All expenses are included in the trip fee except the boat fare from Stehekin to Chelan.

Leader will be Al Schmitz, assisted by Phil Berry, with Al Caldwell in charge of the kitchen.

Whatcom Pass Special—North Cascade Primitive Area—August 16-26

The third in our series of 1960 Cascade Specials will range into some of the most challenging North Cascade country. Says trip leader Phil Berry, "If you haven't seen the North Cascades, you haven't seen the finest alpine scenery in the United States; and Whatcom Pass and the Picket Range are best of the North Cascades."

The trip is planned as a base camp, with modifications providing enough mobility to penetrate the Primitive Area. The itinerary begins with boat rides across Diablo and Ross Lakes to the trailhead on Big Beaver Creek. The 17-mile hike to Whatcom Pass will take two days. There we will settle in at our permanent camp, a roomy, sheltered area on a high bench at 5,208 feet, the crest of the Cascades, with magnificent views east and west. To the south runs the Picket Range, an awesome array of the most climb-worthy summits in Washington. To the north lies gentler, easy-traveling country with a dozen medium-sized lakes and several peaks of moderate difficulty.

Trails run in three directions from camp, and hikers, botanists, geologists and glaciologists will all have plenty to do. Photographers will find subjects galore whether or not they climb mountains, and may be particularly busy on the 25-mile boat trip on Ross Lake (boat fare is included in the trip fee).

Animals and equipment will be available for optional overnight side trips.

Top: LAKE ANN G. F. Blackburn

Middle: THE HUSBAND Philip Hyde

Bottom: VIEW NEAR WHATCOM PASS Al Kirnak





Sierrans Go to Quetico

Quetico-Superior Canoe Trip—Robinson, Sarah and McIntyre Lakes country, Minnesota—September 6-14

If the accompanying photograph doesn't tell the whole story, we hasten to inform our members that a new chapter in Sierra Club outing history will be written this year.

Through fortunate circumstances, we have been able to collaborate with famed author, guide and conservationist Sigurd F. Olson in arranging a Sierra Club outing in Minnesota's Quetico-Superior country. Sig has agreed to lead the trip provided we don't put our pet mule into a canoe; and we caution all members against doing this in view of the growing scarcity of both canoes and pet mules.

From Ely, Minnesota, the itinerary provides a loop trip across Basswood Lake into the Robinson, Sarah and McIntyre Lakes region just north of the Canadian border.

Travel between lakes requires portages averaging $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in length, and trip members must have sufficient stamina to carry 50 to 75 lbs. over these distances. Each participant will do his share of the camp cooking and commissary chores, and will provide a portion of the propellant force necessary to move the canoes along 100 miles of wilderness shoreline.

The trip is limited to twenty-two persons, so we may not be able to provide for all those who would like to be among the first to take this Superior vacation, unique among Sierra Club offerings. Our next best suggestion, along the lines of the Instant Vacation (see page 3) is to refer readers to Sig Olson's two recent books about the Quetico country, *Singing Wilderness* and *Listening Point* (Alfred A. Knopf, New York). Both are available from the Sierra Club. (The illustration above is from *Listening Point*.)

THE High-Light Trip formula has enabled congenial-sized groups of Sierra Club members to enjoy coöperative trail trips in California's Sierra Nevada during the past two outing seasons. The 1960 program will again provide this opportunity, and in addition, extend our trips into Idaho's Sawtooth country and to the San Juan Wilderness of Colorado.

The High-Light Trips are traveling trips on which a packer carries the food, dunnage, and commissary equipment, while trip personnel walk from camp to camp free of any load except for individual trail items. The party, limited to 50 persons, is divided into several work crews which alternate the daily cooking and necessary camp chores. They are assisted by a small leadership group. As the logistics call for reduced packing weights, the personal dunnage is limited to 20 lbs., the foodstuffs are of the lightweight type, and heavy commissary gear is avoided.

About the Dunnage Limit

With modern lightweight equipment readily available, squeezing your duffel bag down to 20 lbs. should prove to be no chore at all. Our advice is as follows:

Pack duffel bag in traditional manner as if for a 30-lb. High Trip or Base Camp. Then, remove one extra pair trousers, one extra pair underwear, one spare towel, all heavy reading material, and one pair heavy shoes. Substitute: one swimsuit, one extra bar soap, and one small paperback novel. Wear heavy shoes on trail and pack lightweight shoes in dunnage. Re-weigh bag and begin rationalizing as the remaining 5 lb. overage is stuffed into the backpack. If 5 lbs. stretches your rationalizing power too far, consult the Outing Committee check list.

Sierra High-Light Trip 1—Horse Corral Meadow, Silliman Crest—July 17-24 (one week)

The first period of the Sierra High-Light



Not Sierra Club procedure—even thirty-five years ago. (Robert L. Lipman photo, SCB, Vol. XII, No. 3).

LIGHT TRIPS



THE WHALEBACK

by Cedric Wright

Trip will stretch office-softened muscles slowly with an easy warm-up week crossing the Silliman Crest. Trip 1 overlaps Trip 2 by one day so that those who wish to stay on the trail for a full three-week period may do so without returning to Horse Corral.

From Horse Corral Meadow we climb to J. O. Pass to camp nearby at Jennie Lake; thence to our second camp at Ranger Lakes via Silliman Pass. We descend Sugarloaf Creek to our final camp of the first period. Those who must leave the trip will have a moderate walk back out to Horse Corral.

Distances between camps are short and elevations range between 7,650 and 10,000 feet during the first week.

Sierra High-Light Trip 2—Horse Corral Meadow to Copper Creek via Colby Pass and Foresters Pass — July 23-August 5 (two weeks)

While the first week is still in progress, two-weekers will assemble at Horse Corral Meadow for dinner Saturday, July 23, and join the three-weekers at Sugarloaf Creek the next day. We shall travel two days in a row, spending the ensuing two layover days under the Whaleback in Cloud Canyon. Our route then continues to Gallats Lake via Colby Pass, and after a layover we move to

ALICE M. ABEEL



Milestone Creek. The great panorama of 14,000-foot peaks will detain us here for two days and allow our packers to move the food cache across Foresters Pass (13,200). We descend Bubbs Creek, stopping overnight at the East Creek junction and coming out to the Copper Creek roadhead on Friday, August 5, in time to shuttle.

San Juan High-Light Trip—San Juan Wilderness from Durango, Colorado, via the DRGW railway—June 27-July 8

It is time to revisit the San Juan Mountains in Colorado, an area thoroughly enjoyed by the 1956 Colorado High Trip. We found this area so appealing that we promised to return. An additional feature, not found on any other trip, is the exciting narrow-gauge train ride from Durango up the rugged Animas River Canyon to our first camp at Elk Park, and the last day's return from Needleton.

From Elk Park we ascend Elk Creek, cross the Continental Divide to Bear Town, then go over Hunchback Pass, down Vallecito Creek, up Johnson Creek to Timberline Basin, across Columbine Pass to superlative Chicago Basin ringed with 14,000-foot peaks, and finally descend Needle Creek to the railroad.

This is an 11-day trip on the trail—12 days if you count the first day on the railroad. The scenery is a combination of sharp, rugged, granite peaks, open Rocky Mountain vistas, rolling highlands of fields filled with wildflowers, cold rushing streams, and even abandoned mines and mills.

The trip will be conducted in the now familiar "High-Light" style. The party, limited to 50, will divide into commissary groups, aided by a small leadership core. Joe Hotter, our able packer, will this year carry us forward on alternate days, giving us a layover at every camp with an additional day at Chicago Basin, the climbers' favorite.

We board the train at Durango at 9 a.m.

Monday, June 27, and reach our camp at Elk Park by noon, early enough to stretch our legs, start the acclimatization process (elevations vary from 8,000 to 12,000 feet), and weigh in the 20-lb. limited dunnage. The first meal will be served that night. Those who are early enough on the trail the last day can flag the up train to Silverton and then return when it leaves there a few hours later, reaching Durango at 6 p.m.

Those wishing to look at a map will need the Needles Mountains, Colorado, quadrangle.

Sawtooth High-Light Trip — Sawtooth Wilderness Area, Idaho—August 16-26

The Sawtooth Wilderness offers an optimum environment for a new wilderness outing in the Sierra Club's 55-year-old program. Established as a Primitive Area by the U.S. Forest Service in 1937, this unique alpine region ranks high among our native scenic resources. The Outing Committee has scouted this country for two seasons.

The trip starts from Redfish Lake near Stanley, Idaho, on August 16. Immediately after shuttling our cars and weighing dunnage we travel by boat to our overnight campsite at the head of Redfish Lake. Traveling and laying over on alternate days, we will make successive camps at Cramer Lakes, Benedict Creek, Spangle Lakes, and Alice Lake. The trip will end at the Petit Lake roadhead August 26.

Trail distances range from 7 to 11 miles and average campsite elevations are at 8,500 feet. Fishing in this country is excellent and Sawtooth Crest provides ample high-quality climbing and exploration. Leader Doug Powell and Outing Committee Chairman Stewart Kimball will combine their talents to provide an enjoyable 11 days.

Maps of the area are available from the Regional Forester, Ogden, Utah, and from the U.S. Geological Survey.



SIERRA BASE CAMPS

Sierra Base Camps 1, 2 and 3—Midnight Lake—July 10-23; July 24-August 6; August 7-20

See you at Midnight for dinner! Midnight Lake, that is! Most of us who frequent the High Country eventually decide that one spot in particular is our favorite—the one we most often recall in our springtime daydreams. If we have been up on the Middle Fork of Bishop Creek, inevitably that is the favorite spot. Base Camp was at Dingleberry Lake in 1950, and those who made the trip are still talking about it. Give them half a chance and they will tell you that the Middle Fork is next to Paradise. Finally, after ten years, those of us who have missed the Middle Fork or wish to return will have that opportunity.

The Middle Fork defies description. All of the conventional superlatives have been applied too often to lesser places. They won't do for the Middle Fork. It is big country and at the same time it is compact. Peaks and ridges have been rough-hewn by the several glaciers and stood up on end. Lakes and meadows have been stacked one on top of the other, in between. It is rugged scenery and yet it is scenery on an intimate and friendly scale that even the "pre-amblers" may enjoy. It is a chaotic, anomalous country that taxes the imagination and excites the spirit of adventure.

The Middle Fork is lake country. Dingleberry, Topsy Turvy, Moonlight, Echo, Hungry Packer—to name but a few. You can

see them all in a few hours' hike, but you will want to experience them individually. Each has a personality of its own. Dingleberry is an idyllic spot; you'll want your lunch and swimming suit and a leisurely approach. Topsy Turvy must be Nature's idea of a joke; you will see it but you will not believe it. Moonlight requires a bit of time; it's capricious, even moody, but it rewards richly those who are patient. Echo is spectacular in its setting of sharp crags and gleaming snowfields. Hungry Packer? Well, a few inveterate collectors of mountain lakes claim that Hungry Packer is the most beautiful lake in the Sierra, but you will have to see it for yourself! And there are still Blue, Baboon, Sunset, Drunken Sailor, Blue Heaven, Hell Diver Lakes, Fishgut Lakes and Schober's Holes.

About a half an hour above Dingleberry up under the massive eastern wall of Mount Darwin is another lake. This is our objective, Midnight Lake, and it is famed above all others in the basin for its trout. They are big and plentiful and smart, but they won't bite on just anything, or if they see you first. A hundred yards below the lake begin the Midnight Terraces, a remarkable series of benches and shelves that descend by gradual steps to a lovely sky parlor meadow and a reflecting pool. The Terraces are complete with granite sundecks, sandy-floored bedrooms, grassy living rooms and generous clumps of albicaulis for seclusion. All share an immense panorama down forested can-

yons and across the Owens Valley to the ageless White Mountains. It seems that Nature herself laid out this Base Camp site. It is spectacular and it's spacious, and at the same time it's a friendly, sunny spot perfect for those easy-going days in camp. And the hiking, climbing, fishing, photographing, swimming and just plain meadow-browsing are all superb close to camp.



When the urge hits to see the country, and it will often, there are a dozen different directions to go. We have already mentioned the lakes—the obvious goals for the hikers and fishermen. But there is a lot in between them. The Middle Fork is luxuriantly green country. It is full of sunny garden spots and shady forest retreats, foaming cataracts and clear trout pools. All of this is sandwiched in amazing profusion between countless glaciated, granite ribs and promontories, each of which affords a provocative and different panorama. It is almost impossible to hike in a straight line, but if you like to wander, meeting a surprise at every bend in the stream and at the top of every rise, then the Middle Fork is your kind of country.

If you like the high places, then this is your country too, whether you are a summit view collector or an ardent technical rock or ice climber. It has a high mountain backdrop perhaps equaled but certainly not surpassed in the Sierra. Mounts Darwin, Haeckel, Wallace, lovely Picture Peak and the Clyde Spires all present imposing faces

BASE CAMP KITCHEN
by Cliff Youngquist

HUNGRY PACKER LAKE
by James W. MacBride



Clean-up Work Party

South Lake to Bishop Pass Area, August 13-20



That man came, saw, and tossed his trash along the way! You have seen where he went, and camped beside his tribute to Sierra grandeur—assorted chunks of foil and glass and the ever-present tin can.

Wilderness, where signs of man should not dominate, is the proving ground of personal responsibility, which means if you take in a can you should bring it out again. (And never stuff trash behind the rocks or dig up the flowers to plant your rubbish.)

For three summers, volunteers on the club's annual clean-up parties have been demonstrating this message. Along with Park and Forest Service crews they have collected the back-country litter for the packer to haul out, hoping that the wide educational publicity of this small effort will encourage the camping public to practice good wilderness manners.

Again this August, thirty volunteers will restore some of the Sierra's best scenic

country, along a chain of lakes in the huge amphitheater formed by the Inconceivable Range and Mounts Goode, Johnson, Gilbert, Thompson (13,494) and Mount Agassiz, a major peak of the Palisades group. The clean-up hike begins at the South Lake roadhead, twenty miles up the South Fork of Bishop Creek.

You are invited to enjoy wilderness camping and promote a worthwhile cause at the same time. Participants carry their own duffel. Mules will bring in the food and central commissary equipment. Include with your application a total fee of \$10, which will be returned if all positions have been filled. \$6 of the fee are NOT refundable should you cancel your reservation. Send the application with a brief account of your hiking experience and physical condition to trip leader Fred Eissler, 2812 Panorama Place, Santa Barbara, California.



Photos by Alice M. Abeel

toward the Middle Fork. On the southern flank of the basin stand glacier-hung Mounts Powell and Thompson, whose eastern approaches, in our opinion, offer some of the finest and least explored mountaineering possibilities in the Sierra Nevada. There are many challenging routes, but there are many moderate ones for those who like to climb a spectacular mountain by routes which do not require a rope.

For the glacier enthusiasts there is the Powell Glacier, which probably is the most active in the Sierra, and a truly remarkable body of ice. It is at once actively eroding its enclosing cirque and busily burying itself under its own huge moraine. A visit to the Powell Glacier promises to be a fascinating and thrilling experience. Would-be climbers and amateur glaciologists must provide themselves with the appropriate equipment and climb only with an organized party.

Many Activities

Base Camp offers a full schedule of camp and trail activities, with a program of organized hikes and climbs for all ages and abilities, under competent leadership. The decision whether to participate is always yours. At times you may prefer to set out on a random trip with just three or four friends or to enjoy a reasonable amount of solitude while fishing or photographing.

You may wish to broaden your enjoyment of the mountains through instructions that may be given on such subjects as rock climbing, snow climbing, map reading, mountain safety and first aid, fly fishing, botany, geology, etc. Just ask the management and we will try to organize something interesting on subjects of popular choice.

Outing Details

Cliff Youngquist will be the field manager for the first and second periods, and Hobe Holbrook will be in charge of the third period. Mike Loughman will, we hope, be serving again as campmaster. The staff will include many of the same young men who have served so capably in the past.

Base Camp will operate for three two-week periods, starting on Sunday, July 10. Attendance will be limited, so get your reservation in as early as you can. Everyone should come in prepared to stay the full time because there will be no provision, except at your own expense, to go out early. This trip should not be too difficult for children whose stamina is equal to an average six-year-old's. Those riding into camp must be capable of handling a saddle horse unaided, with parents responsible for their safety. Younger children may be brought into camp by "piggyback" (or one may ride with a parent who is a qualified rider), all at the parents' responsibility.

Children not yet 14 will be charged a special rate, reduced by \$10.00. (Those 12 years of age or older must first join the club as junior members.) As in the past, teen-agers must be accompanied by a parent or an adult responsible for them.

Saddle horses for the trip to and from camp may be reserved at the rate of \$6 each way. Only a limited number of horses will be available, so do not plan to ride unless it is necessary. Fifteen 9x12-foot umbrella tents with floors may be rented for \$15 per period, and ten 7x9-foot sidewall tents without floor at \$5 a period. Reservations for horses and tents should be made by sending a postcard to Cliff Youngquist, 2818 Effie St., Los Angeles 26, California, with payment to be made at the roadhead. These reservations will be honored in the order that they are received until all horses and tents are taken. Casual knapsackers are welcome to join the party at the rate of \$5.50 per day.

MOUNT POWELL AND POWELL
GLACIER by James W. MacBride





CANOE RIVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

by William Patton

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

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

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

river tourer ALWAYS travels down hill and sitting down!

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

At the end of each Dinosaur trip, two buses will meet the group. One will return directly to Vernal with those pressed for time; the other will take us to the beautiful new museum building at Monument headquarters.

Dinosaur #1—Flaming Gorge, Lodore through Split Mountain—9 days, beginning June 6

Those familiar with the well-established trips down the Yampa and Green rivers will be quick to note the addition of Flaming Gorge and Red Canyon. To newcomers we can enthusiastically point out that this combination is perhaps the ideal sought by many river tourers.

We will drive out of Vernal over a very scenic road through the Uinta Mountains to Hideout Flat, our put-in spot on the Green River. After a short run of about six miles we arrive at Carter Creek tributary, a beautiful trout stream. Here in the pine country surrounded by high mountains and red cliffs we will make our first camp. A layover day will give the fishermen an opportunity to try their skill; hikers will enjoy this green coun-

River To

try, a sharp contrast to the canyons of red sandstone which characterize the lower part of the river.

The following morning we continue on down to Skull Creek where a good campsite provides kayaking and swimming in front of camp. A hike up Major John Wesley Powell's route to the summit brings us to Green Lakes and more trout fishing amid the pines.

At Ashley Falls Rapids, just above the damsite area, we take our boats out and shuttle about thirteen miles around construction. This will be an entirely different type of adventure, with an opportunity to see a major dam being built.

After the trip through Brown's Park, an area extremely rich in outlaw history, we approach the Gates of Lodore for the second phase of our trip. We continue through the magnificent canyons of Lodore to the junction with the Yampa at Steamboat Rock, through Whirlpool Canyon and on down to the take-out spot after Split Mountain. This should prove to be an especially interesting trip with considerably more variety than we have enjoyed in the past: mountain scenery, canyon scenery, hiking, fishing, swimming, the thrill of the rapids—all in one package. Since the contract for cutting the timber in the upper canyon has already been let, this will be the last year this trip will be available.

Dinosaur #2—Yampa and Green Rivers, 6 days, beginning June 20

Trip #2 starts at Lily Park on the Yampa, which flows slowly at the embarkation point, but picks up speed until the rafts bounce through riffles with a promise of things to come. First camp is made at Anderson's Hole, a pleasant site with an excellent swimming beach. The second day is fast water all the way, culminating with a thrilling ride through Big Joe rapid.

The third night is spent at Castle Park

ABOVE THE YAMPA RIVER
by Alice M. Abeel

RAFTS ON THE ROGUE
by Lou Elliott

ing—

Downstream Only

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

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

Dinosaur #3—Lodore Canyon on Green River, 6 days, beginning June 27

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

The next day, after camping at Pot Creek, the same procedure is followed at Triplet Falls. Just below this rapid is the best lunch spot and swimming beach in the entire canyon. The next rapid is the world-famous Hell's Half Mile, truly spectacular, through



whose roaring white water only the boatmen ride the rafts. The night is spent at Rippling Brook, another delightful campsite.

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

Rogue River #1, #2 and #3—6 days each, beginning July 4, 11, 18

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

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

There will be three trips of six days each from Galice just below Grants Pass to Gold Beach. The trip will be made in neoprene rafts. However, foldboats and kayaks are welcome, but special arrangements **MUST** be made in advance with the leader.

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

Canoe River in British Columbia—8 days, beginning August 23

Again we go north for a new river adventure! This time it will be British Columbia, where the beauty of unspoiled nature is one of the Province's greatest attractions. The 129 Provincial Parks with their 8½ million acres of scenic beauty offer a wide variety of outing experiences for the Sierrans who choose the Canoe River trip for this year's vacation. The journey north to Kamloops, where most of us will leave our cars, should provide an important share of the fun with plenty of camp and picnic areas along the route. Travel time should be no longer than last year's trip to the Clearwater in Idaho, with good roads all the way.

From Kamloops we will take the Canadian National Railway to Valemont, a short distance from our put-in spot on the Canoe



River. After leaving Valemont we will probably not see another soul till we take out at Boat Encampment, where the Canoe joins the Big Bend of the Columbia River. For eight days we will enjoy the rugged mountain magnificence and forested wonderland of this primitive, roadless area. Layover days will be spent camping in moose meadows, hiking and fishing, or loafing, with a possible side trip to a high mountain glacier thrown in for good measure.

We will have a variety of modes of transportation. In addition to the usual beasts of burden—the ten-man neoprene rafts—we will have available a number of foldboats and canoes. Many will want to bring their own craft, and canoeists of limited experience are welcome, as the distance travelled each day is not great. From the take-out spot to Revelstoke we will travel by truck (about 2½ hours), returning to Kamloops by Canadian National Railway. A car shuttle may be arranged for those with longer vacations who may want to continue on to Lake Louise and other points in the Canadian Rockies.

In addition to these summer trips, there are many river activities available to the membership which cannot be listed here. The nature of River Touring is such that chapter outings often take place in other chapters' home waters. Would you like advance information? New ways of doing things are continually being developed—new boats, new methods and materials in boat construction, new ways of stowing gear. Interested? If you would like to receive this information from time to time, send a card to the River Touring Committee, Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4. Considerable information on rivers is also available through the American White Water Affiliation (to which the Sierra Club belongs).



GRASSY LAKE, near Back-Country Camp

by Harold C. Bradley

BACK- COUNTRY CAMP

Back-Country Camp — Silver Divide — July 17-30

So thoroughly enjoyed was last summer's Back-Country Camp that the entire group urged its continuation as an annual outing!

This year our locale will be the north slope of Silver Divide, an out-of-the-way region never explored by any of the larger trips; hence its store of natural beauties will come as a pleasant surprise. And this year a double helping of mountain scenery will be enjoyed, for we travel one route to camp and return through entirely different country—two days in each direction!

Newcomers will find this a remote, mountaineers' sort of camp, reached in the manner of a High Trip. Everyone goes light, gets along with modest facilities, and lends a hand with the chores. While trail activities are organized by leaders, in-camp diversions "just happen" in an informal, impromptu way. Hearty meals are the rule—and here the womenfolk take occasional turns assisting the cook.

Camp will occupy an ideal site overlooking Wilbur May Lake. Partially enclosed by a serrated crest, this hidden beauty's shoreline is varied with conifers, sheer cliffs, meadow patches—and even a sandy beachlet for swimmers! Pine-shaded terraces will provide secluded bedsites.

We start the trip by skirting newly-formed Lake Thomas A. Edison (7,600), covering the floor of Vermilion Valley, then turn northward on the Muir Trail. At a streamside spot near Pocket Meadow we meet the pack-train for an overnight encampment. Next day there is a winding climb to Silver Pass (10,600) for an expansive view across Cascade Valley to the Minarets. At Lake of the Lone Indian we turn off to the west and travel a seldom-used trail to our campsite at the 9,730-foot level. The return trip heads up and over Goodale Pass (11,470) and descends through the long Cold Creek valley—a verdant forest region interspersed with meadows. Midway, at one of the choicest camping places, we spend our last night. Trail distances for each of the four days will range between 8 and 11 miles.

The ridges of Silver Divide partition off a series of broad lake basins, each combining in its own way the elements of granite rock, blue waters, high meadows, and wooded terrain. Discovery trips are endlessly varied. As the lakes are too numerous and too little-known to mention individually, we will simply lump them into geographical clusters as the Minnow Creek Lakes, Graveyard Lakes, Beetlebug Lakes, Margaret Lakes and Bench Lakes. This remote country receives very little fishing pressure, so an-

glers should take good catches of the goldens, rainbows, and eastern brooks found in its waters.

A number of unnamed peaks line the nearby crest, offering interesting climbing possibilities. Principal summits of the divide within range are Silver Peak, Graveyard Peak, and Mount Izaak Walton.

A diversity of trips will be organized, and you may join the ones that appeal to you—or conduct your own if properly experienced. Featured again will be a series of 2-day knapsacking ventures to outlying areas. Conducted in small groups, each trip will emphasize a particular diversion—be it climbing, rambling, or fishing. Lightweight foods will be supplied by commissary. At the same time, one-day hikes to points of scenic interest will be taken. With this wide range of trips, everyone will be able to enjoy the country in his favorite way!

There will be no provision for rental tents or saddle horses—and excess dunnage is simply left at home! Attendance will again be limited to a congenial-sized party of 55 members. The outing has been organized by Scudder Nash, with Carl Miller serving as leader and Allen Van Norman assisting. Our packer will be Shorty Cunningham, whose pack station is reached from Fresno via Huntington Lake.



BURRO TRIPS

Burro Trips 1a, 1b, 2, 3—Whitney Meadows, Kern Plateau, Miter Basin—July 9-16, July 16-23, July 24-August 6, August 7-20

1960 finds the Burro Trips visiting for the first time the beautiful fish-full meadow country of the Northern Kern Plateau, in the headwaters of Golden Trout Creek. Combine this with the chance to visit the rugged area around Mount Whitney on the same trip, and the ingredients are present for an ideal vacation. The other ingredients are 22 people and 14 animals, including one horse for emergencies, if any. (Because less food is required to be packed on the animals on the one-week trips the limit of participants is increased to 26 rather than 22.) Packing, cooking and most other activities are on a coöperative basis, with everyone doing his share of the camp chores. The beginner starting a trip comes out a good cook and packer with a Master's Degree in Burro Psychology.

The trips are designed as a minimum cost, maximum pleasure experience, and as a result the food, though adequate in quantity and dietically well-balanced, is not quite as "plush" as that served on the more expensive trips. If you are a complete novice you should consider that you will have a reasonably rugged trip, for we travel from six to 14 miles a day on a moving day; and remember, these are high altitudes and relatively rough miles.

The first two trips are of one-week duration commencing on Saturday and ending on Saturday. The first—July 9 to 16; the second—July 16 to 23. The two-week trips will start on July 24 and August 7 and end on

August 6 and August 20, respectively. All trips will start and end at Carroll Creek, making a loop in the back country. Though the exact area to be visited and the time to be spent there is left to the discretion of each group, a look at the map indicates that the two one-week trips could most profitably spend their time by entering the mountains over Cottonwood Pass, visiting Whitney Meadows, Tunnel Meadows and exploring other areas of the Kern Plateau; thence traveling over Siberian Pass to Rock Creek, spectacular Miter Basin and out over Army Pass. The first two-week trip will afford an opportunity to explore further such areas as the Natural Bridge, Volcano Falls, Crabtree Meadow, Wallace Lake and to climb Mount Whitney and surrounding giants over 14,000 feet.

The last trip will involve an automobile shuttle to Onion Valley with the trip itself going in over either Cottonwood or Army Pass and then venturing north to visit Miter Basin, Crabtree Meadow, Wallace Lake, Lake South America, over Foresters Pass to Bullfrog Lake, and then out over Kearsarge Pass to Onion Valley.

Half to two-thirds of the days will be spent in moving, with camp being made in the early afternoon to afford a maximum of fishing, climbing, or loafing. On layover days one's time is completely his own. Leadership will be available for nontechnical climbs.

The Kern Plateau country is well described in the lead article of *Sunset* magazine for June, 1959.

Burro studies by George W. Homsey

Family Burro Trips 1 and 2—Mineral King, Big Arroyo, Soda Creek, Sawtooth Pass—July 31-August 13, August 14-27

A new country is to be reached by this year's Family Burro Trip; exploring out of Mineral King has been planned.

Family Burro Trips will teach you and your children how to live on the trail. Small families of two people and large families of seven have learned to cope successfully with burros for the first time. Ages range from as young as five-year-old toddlers to parents as old as—well—as old as a 16-year-old requires; and the tikes generally walk the whole distance as well as their elders.

Youngsters of all ages enjoy wading, building rock dams, floating leaf boats, hunting tadpoles, snow fighting; adults seem to like looking for rocks, fishing, hiking a mountain, taking pictures. Even though we travel for only about half the days, time still isn't long enough for all there is to do.

We start at Mineral King—east of Visalia and Three Rivers. We will cross Timber Gap, Kaweah Gap, and Sawtooth Pass, and camp at Hamilton Lakes, Sky Parlor Meadow, and Columbine Lake. Total distance covered will be about 50 miles.

Five or six families normally take part in the trip. Each brings its own food and equipment and cooks as a unit. The leaders will provide lists of both food and equipment, and will be glad to answer questions and help you make your plans. Previous camping experience of some sort is necessary, but each year there are families who are new to wilderness camping.

The first trip will leave Mineral King on Sunday, July 31, and return to Mineral King Saturday, August 13. The second trip will start on Sunday, August 14, and end Saturday, August 27. The rates will start with a base fee of \$100 (which includes the \$6 non-refundable reservation fee per family) for parents and one child. Each additional child will be \$25 more.





The Leader

SEVEN KNAPSACK

The Wonderful Life

THERE is no more satisfying and rewarding means of traveling in the mountains than by foot, with the spirit of independence and feeling of self-sufficiency that knapsacking gives. You don't rely on trails, and equipment is reduced to essentials; you camp where whim dictates, and enjoy the close comradeship of friends who, like yourself, have put out a little extra effort and are gaining the most benefit from the wilderness scene. Not the least of it, you leave little mark upon the land. And very important, the cost is surprisingly low.

Who Qualifies?

Anyone physically able who wants to walk and tote a pack. These outings have appealed to persons in ages from mid-teens through the sixties. The important factor, of course, is the proper physical condition of the individual no matter how old he or she may be. An applicant for one of the knapsack trips should consider his willingness and ability to hike perhaps ten to twelve miles in a day, carrying a pack weighing as much as thirty-eight pounds. Remember, you will be active for a week or more under high altitude conditions, and often in steep and rocky country, away from trails. The trips are not necessarily rugged, but they definitely are not the place to "get back in shape" or to break in untried boots and other gear. Neither is it wise to depend on well-worn apparel and equipment.

Coöperation Is the Thing

Knapsack trips usually accept up to twenty persons, and are planned and budgeted on the basis of group coöperation. Each participant is asked to carry his share of community food and utensils and to help with the work connected with fire-building, cooking and clean-up. You are expected to bring your personal needs which should not, and need not, weigh more than twenty pounds. This figure includes knapsack and frame, sleeping equipment, weather protection items and hobby essentials. We insist on strict adherence to the weight limit; your equitable share of group food, etc., will add another twelve to eighteen pounds to this figure at the start.

For those new to club knapsacking or to the sport altogether, week-end outings by Sierra Club chapters or other hiking groups will provide helpful experience. Applicants are asked to submit a detailed résumé of their hiking and backpacking experience to the leader of the trip of their choice. Leaders are responsible for the success of the trips as a whole, with final authority on eligibility.

A New Emphasis

For several years some of the summer knapsack outings have been labeled beginners' trips. This unfortunately conveys a wrong impression because participants are rarely true beginners; any lengthy excursion in the high country requires a basic experience in mountain travel and familiarity with a pack. So this year two "introductory" outings are offered. These afford scenery every bit as spectacular as that visited by the other trips, but are moderated to the extent of daily mileages and the loads carried by members; in short, they embody a somewhat more leisurely type of travel in every way. All of the ingredients of a fine backpack outing are present, relieved, we hope, from the rigors of the more ambitious treks.

Thunder River, Arizona—(Spring Desert Trip)—May 2-6

In the northwestern corner of Grand Canyon National Park, Thunder River gushes suddenly from a canyon wall to cascade in a series of falls over a half-mile course to Tapeats Creek, which flows another two miles to its junction with the Colorado River. The roar of the waters can be heard long before the spring is sighted from the steep approach.

Not many people have visited this colorful canyon. The trail to it passes through several life zones (from the Canadian to Lower Sonoran), and descends three distinct cliffs—of Coconino sandstone, red limestone, and red wall limestone. There is evidence of old Indian habitation along the way, and Tapeats Creek is full of rainbow trout, usually large and well fed.

Driving time is two days from California; the hike itself lasts five days. Well-filled canteens are a necessity to avoid uncom-

fortable dehydration on the descent from the North Rim, and on the climb out. The leaders or the club office will have details.

Leaders: John Ricker and Lou Henrich.

Trans-Sierra Trip (Kings Canyon)—July 23-30

From our Fresno roadhead we take a chartered bus (prepaid) to Cedar Grove for a no-turn-back trek across the Sierra to end on Highway 395 at Division Creek.

Our trip takes us over Glen Pass the second day, partly on trails, partly by knapsack routes. We'll have a chance to fish beautiful Rae Lake and Dragon Lake where the big ones are found. Next we move to the source lake of the north fork of Baxter Creek, and to the ridge for a most spectacular view of ragged peaks on all horizons. Then we visit Woods Lake, backed by timber and facing a granite crest with snow-filled chimneys. The exit is Sawmill Pass, and we enjoy exciting views of Owens Valley as we descend 7,500 feet to trail's end.

There are no stopover days, but the per diem mileage is low. We'll arrange to catch a Greyhound on the other side to Mojave, motel and dinner. Leader: Henry Crall.

Northern Yosemite (Introductory Trip)—July 30-August 6

Leisurely enjoyment of the north rim of Yosemite National Park awaits knapsackers as the snow recedes in midsummer. Daily distances will be short, not exceeding six miles, with 26 miles the total for the week. But the terrain will require considerable climbing—both up and down. Because of the remoteness of this area, there will be no cache. Aside from the first day at Green Lakes and the last, finishing at Twin Lakes, only four miles will be on trail. Destinations are to include Soldier Lake, Spiller Canyon, Burro Pass and Slide Canyon, the last two giving access to the Sawtooth Range and Matterhorn Peak (12,281).

As this trip follows the Sierra Crest, just the headwaters of streams and rivers of Yosemite will be touched, so fishing opportunities may be slight. Layover days in Spiller Canyon and Matterhorn Canyon will give

TRIPS

BANNER AND RITTER
from Garnet Lake
by Ted Freedman



additional time for exploring this alpine wilderness. Leader: Wes Bunnelle.

Goddard Divide—July 30-August 13

This year the two-week Sierra trip penetrates the high country along the Goddard and LeConte divides and features the seldom-visited Ionian Basin and Enchanted Gorge areas. A figure-eight route from Florence Lake takes us to McGee Lakes, Goddard Creek country, Blackcap Basin, Bench Valley and Red Mountain Basin.

A cache near Martha Lake allows us to hold loads to six days' provisions; mileage will total close to seventy-five with more than half of it cross-country. The terrain is difficult in places and members will climb 15,000 feet during the two weeks. As an innovation, and as a local necessity, we plan a cold camp in the barren and beautiful Ionian Basin.

Four to five "leisure days" on the schedule let us visit some of the primary objectives of the outing. If you want time to explore some of the least known and least accessible regions of the Sierra, then this is for you. For experienced backpackers.

Leader: Stuart Gunn.

Three Sisters-Wallowa Mountains (Oregon)—August 13-27

The trip repeats, with variations, the 1957 itinerary in two highly scenic mountain regions of Oregon: (1) The Three Sisters Wilderness Area, central and largest dedicated area of the proposed Cascade Volcanic National Park; and (2) the Eagle Cap Primitive Area in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forests in the extreme northeastern corner of the state, just west of Hells Canyon of the Snake River.

In the Three Sisters portion we'll have three trail days and four "leisure" days affording a chance at the principal peaks; we leave through the western sector, recently excluded from the Wilderness Area. Suggested reading for this trip is "These Are the Shining Mountains," in the *Sierra Club Bulletin* for October 1959.

The group is on its own on the drive across some interesting Oregon country and the

beautiful Blue Mountains to the Wallowa Range. Our timetable allows five days for exploring the headwaters of the Lostine, Wallowa and Minam Rivers, including climbing Eagle Cap, one of the best view peaks of the Primitive Area. All supplies will be backpacked on both portions of the trip.

We give you two trips in one, each area distinctively different but equal in wilderness appeal. Leader: Jim Skillin.

Cartridge Creek (Labor Day Trip)—August 27-September 5

Cartridge Creek and Lake Basin country are literally in the heart of the Sierra Nevada, at the juncture of Monarch Divide and the main crest. This rugged area was a favorite of the early Sierra pathfinders, yet has remained remote from traveled routes. During eight days members will have ample opportunity to explore the magnificent amphitheatres and lonely lakes. There are fringe meadows and tumbling water for variety, and the panorama of this mountain confluence is truly superb. We'll use an eastern roadhead on Big Pine Creek and travel about forty miles on the outing with a good part off trails.

We are not considering any marathon marches, but you must expect some cross-country climbing without benefit of caches. At least three layover days are allowed, to let you see this fine region in your own way.

Prognosis: Hard work, with maximum compensation. Leader: Jim Watters.

Ritter Range (Introductory Trip)—September 3-11

Many have asked why we have never scheduled an outing after Labor Day when the

weather is just as agreeable and the tourists have gone. We don't really know, and our answer is a September visit this year to the oldest range in the Sierra chain. Starting at Reds Meadow, we point toward the proud spires of the Minarets and spend a day in their shadow at Lake Ediza. Next step is Thousand Island Lake, in what is surely the most breathtaking setting in the Sierra.

For those who want to climb there is time for the majestic "twins"—Banner and Ritter. Our itinerary also includes Clark Lakes, Rush Creek headwaters and Shadow Lake. We should cover between thirty and thirty-five miles during our moving days and make good use of two layover camps. The uphill going is to be quite moderate by usual standards, yet we won't sacrifice enjoyment of the area's spectacular scenery.

This trip promises the ideal mountain vacation. Leader: Bob Stout.

Knapsack Leaflets

The knapsack subcommittee of the Outing Committee again offers its series of leaflets on Knapsack Camping (available from Betty Osborn, 150 Southwood Drive, San Francisco 12).

Leaflet 1—Route Finding in Cross Country Travel (now being revised; should be available this summer)—30c

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

Leaflet 3—Cooking Directions for Groups (revised 1960)—25c

Leaflet 4—Menu Planning for Knapsack Trips (revised 1957)—25c

Leaflet 5—Menu Planning for Week-end Knapsack Trips (revised 1956)—25c

RITTER RANGE
Cross Country
by Ted Freedman



Wilderness Threshold Camps

THE ENTHUSIASTIC reception with which last year's new family outing was received stimulated plans for its repetition as a "double header," and its introduction into Washington's North Cascades this summer. Designed to encourage families with small children or those with little experience to share wilderness wonders together, camps are planned just beyond the reach of cars in areas of quiet natural beauty, but within the hiking range of all ages.

Meals will be planned and food purchased by the club to be served in a central commissary, with the cooking and clean-up to be a shared responsibility—one turn for each duty.

Packers will carry in all food. Personal duffel to the extent of 75 pounds per basic family unit (parents and one child), plus 20 pounds for each additional child, will be packed in on Sunday. This leaves the families free to get an early morning start from the roadhead Sunday and go at their own pace along the trail to camp. Most of their days will be free for exploring the trails and surrounding points of interest, fishing or just loafing—the choice is theirs. Trip members are strongly encouraged to plan lightweight personal gear with emphasis on necessities.

Since the focus of the camps is on the family, only family groups will be accepted. Children of all ages have enjoyed this type of trip. The camps are planned for a maximum of ten families, plus one leader family. On the Sierra trips each family is limited to a one-week reservation until June 16, when any unfilled weeks will become available for families who wish to stay two full weeks. Any family wishing to be considered for a second week should so state on its application. Rates will be based on a unit price of \$76 (which includes the \$6 non-refundable reservation fee per family) for parents and one child, with an increase of \$13 for each additional child in the family.

Sierra Threshold Camps—1a, 1b, Nelson Lake, July 16-30; 2a, 2b, Cathedral Lake, July 30-August 13

The incomparable Cathedral Range of Yosemite National Park will be the area for both campsites, one beginning July 16 at Nelson Lake, and one July 30 at Cathedral Lake. Each campsite will have two one-week periods beginning Saturday night and ending the following Saturday noon. Saturday night dinner and overnight camping will be on the Sierra Club's property at Tuolumne Meadows. Nelson Lake at 9,700 feet elevation is approximately 6½ miles from the road. The trail climbs about 1,500 feet to the pass near Elizabeth Lake before dropping down into Nelson Lake on Echo Creek. To Cathedral Lake at 9,250 feet is a four-mile walk, with an altitude change of 1,300 feet. The entire area abounds in creeks, lakes and peaks, from Budd Creek in the north to a possible overnight trip to Vogelsang in the south.

Washington Cascades Threshold Camp—Cooper Lake—July 30-August 6

The eastern slope of the Cascades will be the site for this one-week camp. Families will meet at Salmon La Sac Forest Camp for Saturday night dinner July 30. Sunday morning they will walk to Cooper Lake at 2,800 feet elevation along a good 4½-mile trail, with only a 400-foot gain in altitude. Cooper Lake is a lowland wilderness lake about a mile in length, affording spectacular views of the Teton-like crags of the Cascade crest from its shores. The meandering Cooper River above the lake is suitable for air-mattress float trips and bathing. Excellent one-day hikes can be made from Cooper Lake to Pete Lake, Polallie Lookout and Three Queens Mountain (where goats may usually be seen). Fishing is good in several of the lakes.

COOPER LAKE *by John F. Warth*

Procedure

Fees, Reservations

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

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

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

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

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

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

When You Write

When making reservations, please:

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

Medical Precaution

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



Places

Prices

People

Outing	No. of Persons	Starting Date	Duration	Dunnage (Lbs.)	Starting Place	Res. Fee (Non-refundable)	Trip Fee	Total	Leader
HIGH TRIPS									
Sierra No. 1	135	July 10	2 weeks	30	Virginia Lakes	\$6	\$89	\$95*	Ted Grubb
Sierra No. 2	135	July 24	2 weeks	30	Buckeye Creek	6	89	95*	Gus Benner
BASE CAMPS									
Sierra No. 1	160	July 10	2 weeks	30	Lake Sabrina	6	72	78†	Cliff Youngquist
Sierra No. 2	160	July 24	2 weeks	30	Lake Sabrina	6	72	78†	Cliff Youngquist
Sierra No. 3	160	Aug. 7	2 weeks	30	Lake Sabrina	6	72	78†	Hobey Holbrook
Back-Country	55	July 17	2 weeks	30	Mono Hot Springs	6	90	96	Carl Miller
SPECIALS									
Three Sisters	60	July 17	11 days	30	McKenzie Bridge, Ore.	6	90	96	Phil Berry
North Cascades	55	Aug. 1	12 days	30	Chelan, Wash.	6	92	98	Al Schmitz
Whitcom Pass	80	Aug. 16	11 days	30	Diablo Lake, Wash.	6	83	89	Phil Berry
HIGH-LIGHTS									
San Juan, Colorado	50	June 27	12 days	20	Durango, Colo.	6	94	100	Bob Golden
Sierra No. 1	50	July 17	1 week	20	Horse Corral Meadow	6§	48	54	Bob Golden
Sierra No. 2	50	July 23	2 weeks	20	Horse Corral Meadow	6§	94	100	Bob Golden
Sawtooth, Idaho	50	Aug. 16	11 days	20	Redfish Lake, Idaho	6	84	90	Doug Powell
RIVER TRIPS									
Dinosaur No. 1—Flaming Gorge	40	June 6	9 days	30	Vernal, Utah	6	98	104‡	Lou Elliott
Dinosaur No. 2—Yampa and Green	50	June 20	6 days	30	Vernal, Utah	6	73	79‡	Randal Dickey, Jr.
Dinosaur No. 3—Lodore	50	June 27	6 days	30	Vernal, Utah	6	73	79‡	Randal Dickey, Jr.
Rogue No. 1	30	July 4	6 days	30	Galice, Oregon	6	98	104‡	Brick Johnson
Rogue No. 2	30	July 11	6 days	30	Galice, Oregon	6	98	104‡	Brick Johnson
Rogue No. 3	30	July 18	6 days	30	Galice, Oregon	6	98	104‡	Brick Johnson
Canoe River, British Columbia	50	Aug. 23	8 days	30	Kamloops, B.C.	6	129	135‡	Maynard Munger
KNAPSACK TRIPS									
Thunder River	20	May 2	5 days	15	Fredonia, Ariz.	6	27	33	John Ricker
Trans-Sierra	20	July 23	1 week	15	Fresno	6	33	39	Henry Crall
Northern Yosemite	20	July 30	8 days	15	Green Lakes	6	30	36	Wes Bunnelle
Goddard Divide	20	July 30	2 weeks	15	Florence Lake	6	50	56	Stuart Bunn
Three Sisters—Wallowa	20	Aug. 13	12 days	15	Bend, Oregon	6	50	56	Jim Skillin
Cartridge Creek	20	Aug. 27	8 days	15	Big Pine Creek	6	31	37	Jim Watters
Bitter Range	20	Sept. 3	8 days	15	Reds Meadow	6	30	36	Bob Stout
BURRO TRIPS									
Trip No. 1a	26	July 9	1 week	25	Carroll Creek	6	26	32	Ned Robinson
Trip No. 1b	26	July 16	1 week	25	Carroll Creek	6	26	32	To be announced
Trip No. 2	22	July 24	2 weeks	25	Carroll Creek	6	52	58	Leroy Gimbal, Jr.
Trip No. 3	22	Aug. 7	2 weeks	25	Carroll Creek	6	52	58	Tom Pillsbury
Family Burro No. 1	5 families	July 31	2 weeks	....	Mineral King		See page 13		Al Dole
Family Burro No. 2	5 families	Aug. 14	2 weeks	....	Mineral King		See page 13		Jim Dodds
WILDERNESS THRESHOLD CAMPS									
Camp No. 1a	10 families	July 16	1 week	....	Tuolumne Meadows		See page 16 }		Larry and
Camp No. 1b	10 families	July 23	1 week	....	Tuolumne Meadows		See page 16 }		Helen Douglas
Camp No. 2a	10 families	July 30	1 week	....	Tuolumne Meadows		See page 16 }		John and
Camp No. 2b	10 families	Aug. 6	1 week	....	Tuolumne Meadows		See page 16 }		Beverly Working
Washington Cascades	10 families	July 30	1 week	....	Alpine Lakes, Wash.		See page 16		Joe and Margaret Miller
EXTRA SPECIALS									
Kuwenzori Range, Africa	12	July 18	4 weeks	....	Kampala, Uganda		See page 18		Al Baxter
Clean-up Work Party	30	Aug. 13	1 week	....	South Lake		See page 9		Fred Eissler
Lueticco-Superior	22	Sept. 6	9 days	15	Ely, Minnesota	6	56	62	Sigurd Olson

* On High Trips, \$10 less for children under 14.

† On Base Camps, \$10 less for children under 14.

‡ On River Trips, \$5 less for children under 14.

§ One reservation fee will cover either or both periods.

IMPORTANT

Sierra Club outings are open at regular prices to: members, applicants for membership, or members of organizations granting reciprocal privileges. Others may participate upon payment of a \$15 non-member fee, which can be applied toward initiation and dues by those who apply for membership in 1960, but is otherwise non-refundable. Children under 12 will be admitted on the same basis as their parents. Children over 12 may file application for junior membership.

Since the trips are fairly strenuous, a *physical examination is advised*. A Sierra Club outing is a cooperative enterprise and each person partaking of the benefits assumes his share of the responsibilities, both

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

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

Details about your trip will be mailed to you.



MOUNT STANLEY, Ruwenzori Range

by Vittorio Sella

Mountaineering in Africa

THE Sierra Club Outing Committee has sponsored expeditions in past years to the Coast Range in British Columbia, the St. Elias Range in the Yukon, and the Cordillera Blanca in Peru, as part of the regular outing program. The 1960 trip will be to the Ruwenzori Range in East Africa, along the Uganda-Belgian Congo border at the headwaters of the Nile River. Qualified applicants from the Sierra Club are eligible to participate, as are members of organizations with similar goals and purposes.

The Ruwenzori Range contains about twenty peaks over 14,000 feet in elevation. The higher ones, including Margherita (16,794) have permanent glaciers. There are possibilities of first ascents on minor peaks and new routes on the higher summits. In addition to climbing, there are several interesting cross-country trips over high passes to lakes on the Congo side of the range. The alpine zone is a biological island, and has produced several unique botanical species of great interest. The country is steep, rough, and wet; therefore, applicants must offer evidence of general mountaineering and cross-country backpacking experience. If time and circumstances permit, we shall try for ascents on Mount Kenya and possibly on Kilimanjaro.

The expedition will be responsible for travel of members to and from the mountains after Kampala, on the north shore of Lake Victoria. Railways, bus lines, and fourteen airlines serve Kampala-Entebbe, the capital of Uganda.

Although weather in these mountains is

wet most of the year, two relatively dry periods (January-February, and July-August) permit successful climbing. Consequently, expedition members will assemble in Kampala on Monday, July 18, and return there on August 12. Special arrangements may be made for people who wish to spend less than the full four weeks.

Expedition costs will be divided among the members. Such costs include community equipment, food, local travel, porters, freight on equipment, and various overhead items. If 12 people sign up, the costs should be in the range of \$500-\$600.

Al Baxter, Gail Baxter, and Doug Powell form the Ruwenzori trip management. Dr. Margaret Prouty will serve as physician.

Reservations are accepted after an application is approved. Applicants should send a brief biographical résumé covering age, condition, and climbing experience to A. W. Baxter, Jr., 1620 Jasmine Street, Denver, Colorado. A \$250 deposit is due April 15 to hold a reservation. If a cancellation is made after that date, the deposit will be returned less \$6 for the club reservation fee, and less a pro rata of expenditures made up until the date of cancellation.

The Ruwenzori Range was first explored at the alpine level by the Duke of the Abruzzi before World War I. *Snow on the Equator*, by H. W. Tilman, tells of some early ascents. The journals of the Uganda and Kenya mountain clubs and of the Alpine Club of South Africa have helpful articles on recent climbing activity. Maps will be available at cost from the management.

Election of Directors

Sierra Club members will soon receive ballots for the annual election of five Directors, to be held on April 9. The incumbent members whose terms expire this year—Ansel Adams, Elmer C. Aldrich, Lewis F. Clark, Edgar Wayburn and R. Clifford Youngquist—are all candidates for re-election. The other candidates are Harold E. Crowe, Jules M. Eichorn, James Gorin and G. Ledyard Stebbins, Jr.

Background material concerning each candidate will be included with the ballot mailed to all club members.

Bulletin Board

(Continued from back cover)

destruction by the Tule Lake Irrigation District. The Secretary directed that water levels in the marshes and lakes involved (on the California-Oregon border) be maintained at a height sufficient to accommodate migrating fowl.

In California . . .

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors voted approval of a use permit for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's proposed power plant on Bodega Head. This plant will be on one of the choicest parts of the Northern California coast, a section included in the five-year acquisition plan of the State Division of Beaches and Parks. The vote was 4 to 1.

Logging of the virgin forests in the Point Reyes area north of San Francisco has been suspended . . . temporarily, at least . . . by the State Division of Forestry, because of violation of the State's Forest Practices Act. Support for the proposed Point Reyes National Seashore project is growing.

The State Park Commission has recommended that Director of Natural Resources DeWitt Nelson draw up a new contract with the Winter Park Authority, the body set up to promote construction of a tramway up Southern California's Mount San Jacinto. Citizens who donated funds for creation of a primitive park on Mount San Jacinto are joining other conservationists to urge Mr. Nelson to require that there be minimum destruction of the outstanding wilderness qualities of the mountain.

Violent, early February storms caused renewed flooding of Bull Creek in Humboldt Redwoods State Park, with the consequent loss of 100 *Sequoia sempervirens* more than three feet in diameter.

EDGAR AND PEGGY WAYBURN

Mountain Talk

ONE TOUCH OF WILDERNESS makes the whole world kin, as we have been saying here in one way or another. Looking back to our Sierran elders—Muir, the LeContes and their contemporaries—we have not yet taken note of one of the founders of the fellowship, whose kin they were whether they mentioned it or not. Henry David Thoreau was touched by Nature, early and late, and wrote a classic book under her inspiration.

Readers of *Walden* know that the author was a great stay-at-home, camping in that little cabin less than two miles from his mother's kitchen in Concord. He was born and lived and died in the village, now a Boston suburb; his famous sojourn at Walden Pond lasted only two years and two months. In the 1840s and 50s, while adventurous men were crossing the plains and searching out the secrets of the Western mountains, Thoreau was insisting in word and act that adventures of the mind and spirit were best enjoyed without leaving one's native township. "Be the Lewis and Clark of your own streams," he demanded, "explore your own higher latitudes."

Thoreau nevertheless did travel occasionally. He had an insatiable curiosity about things of nature, and even of man, beyond the bounds of Massachusetts. He would not have protested his hearthside faith so strongly if he had not been tempted by the Western prospect. Even during his stay at relatively tame Walden he had a vacation trip (not mentioned in the book) which gave him a first taste of genuine wilderness.

FOR two weeks in 1846, with a few companions, Thoreau hiked, camped and fished in the Maine woods, sometimes in areas affected by primitive logging operations but often in terrain hardly known except to the Penobscots. Maine was a frontier, bypassed in the sweep toward the West. It was canoe country, Indian country, wild country, as Thoreau found on this and two later visits. The trout were fabulous, while the river men made him think of ancient mythical heroes.

As it often is on our own summer outings, the climax of this trip was a mountain climb. The party had traveled for days through an uninhabited, swampy land of "countless" lakes and "immeasurable" forests to reach Mount Katahdin in the heart of the wilderness. Not high by our standards—elevation 5,273—the tallest peak in Maine was sufficiently impressive to the young man from Concord.

In the magazine piece he wrote about his adventure ("Ktaadn,"

Walden Pond, long a shrine for Thoreau's admirers, since 1923 has been Massachusetts state property. The Thoreau Society is engaged in court action to keep enlarged recreational development from destroying the natural beauty of the shore. Funds are being asked by the "Save Walden Committee" to help carry on the case. Contributions to the Thoreau Society, Inc., may be mailed to Robert F. Needham, Treasurer, 11 Walden Terrace, Concord, Mass.

the long first chapter of his posthumous book, *The Maine Woods*) Thoreau presents an interesting, straightforward narrative. Any mountain camper who reads it will enjoy it and recognize the marks of an authentic fellow wanderer. All the way up Katahdin, as he and his companions taste the juicy berries, discuss bears, and laboriously bushwhack to the correct, highest summit, he has the twentieth-century peak fancier right there with him, breathing hard.

Then something astonishing happens. It is a passage no less authentic, no less recognizably true to those of us who have had similar moments of awareness in the earth's high, wild places. But it is, for a page or so, no simple account of a travel experience; it is a powerful report of a spiritual adventure in Thoreau's inmost higher latitudes.

DESCENDING from the summit by way of a particularly desolate slope, he was suddenly conscious of a world not made for man:

"... Nature was here something savage and awful, though beautiful. I looked with awe at the ground I trod on, to see what the Powers had made there. . . . This was that Earth of which we have heard, made out of Chaos and Old Night. Here was no man's garden, but the unhand-selled globe. It was not lawn, nor pasture, nor mead, nor woodland, nor lea, nor arable, nor waste land. It was the fresh and natural surface of the planet Earth, as it was made forever and ever—to be the dwelling of man, we say—so Nature made it, and man may use it if he can. Man was not to be associated with it, and was Matter, vast, terrific—not his Mother Earth that we have heard of, not for him to tread on, or be buried in—No, it were being too familiar even to let his bones lie there—the home, this, of Necessity and Fate. There was clearly felt the presence of a force not bound to be kind to man. It was a place for heathenism and superstitious rites—to be inhabited by men nearer of kin to the rocks and to wild animals than we. . . . What is it to be admitted to a museum, to see a myriad of particular things, compared with being shown some star's surface, some hard matter in its home! I stand in awe of my body, this matter to which I am bound has become so strange to me. I fear not spirits, ghosts, of which I am one—that my body might—but I fear bodies, I tremble to meet them. What is this Titan that has possession of me? Talk of mysteries! Think of our life in nature—daily to be shown matter, to come in contact with it—rocks, trees, wind on our cheeks! the *solid* earth! the *actual* world! the *common sense!* *Contact! Contact! Who are we? where are we?*"

If he had never written *Walden* or the half-dozen shorter essays on which his fame rests, or the *Journal*, Thoreau would have left the wilderness fellowship in his debt for this fragment of scripture, this token of a revelation, this question.

FRED GUNSKY

Bulletin Board

In Washington, D.C. . . .

The Wilderness Bill, which has been likened in importance to the National Park Service Act of 1916, has yet to be voted out of the Senate Interior Committee in this, the second session of the 86th Congress.

In the first session, action on the bill was postponed by its opponents literally from week to week, but immediate attention was promised when Congress reconvened in January. To date, committee votes have been scheduled twice in February, and have again been postponed each time.

It seems clear that unless further evidence of citizen support for the Wilderness Bill is soon forthcoming, the 86th Congress will not act at all on what is probably the most significant piece of conservation legislation to come before it.

February 4 was an especially good legislative day for the cause of conservation: (1) Senator Warren J. Magnuson introduced a bill requiring an Interior Department study of the national park potential of the North Cascades (similar to the bills introduced in January by Congressmen Don Magnuson and Thomas M. Pelly of Washington), and

(2) Congressman Philip J. Philbin introduced a bill "to maintain tax-exemption benefits for nonprofit conservation organizations, presently entitled to such benefits under existing laws, even though some of their activities may include attempts to influence legislation. My bill would preserve for conservation groups tax benefits they now hold as disinterested spokesmen for the public interest in conservation matters."

Both houses of Congress have passed measures authorizing \$90 million for a ten-year period of water pollution study and control. This is almost double the amount called for in President Eisenhower's budget. A presidential veto may be expected.

The Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission has refused the request of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs that an administrative moratorium be requested for certain United States Forest Service lands pending further study of these lands.

The most important area of the Pacific Flyway for migratory fowl was saved by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton from
(Continued on Page 18)

Wilderness Cards from the Sierra Club

To help the North and Central Cascades and wilderness. The wraparound cover is giant size. Prices: giant, 15¢; jumbo, 10¢; regular, 5¢; less 30% on orders of \$5 or more at list. Oregon and Washington Cascades subjects now available. All excess over cost goes to conservation. Order from your chapter or from 1050 Mills Tower.



(Above) The South Sister, from unnamed lake The Husband, Central Cascades, Oregon. Photo Philip Hyde. *(Left)* Broken Top, Three Sisters, Mount Washington, Central Cascades, from Peter, in Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Photo David Simons. Both scenes are in the area under study for national park potential.

