

SIERRA

April-May 1960

CLUB BULLETIN



The Uneasy Chair

Playing It "Cool" Won't Save Wilderness

In a recent syndicated article in the *Oregon Journal*, a Cornell Professor was quoted as saying: "College kids today—unlike their fathers before them or their cousins in other countries—are 'playing it cool' and conservative. Our college students are disenchanted with broad programs or ideologies to solve human problems, wary of getting worked up over issues, eager to remain uncommitted to causes. . . . Today's students are mostly interested in looking forward to a stable, secure future, . . . [and] lowest on the list of job prerequisites is 'a chance to exercise leadership.'"

There's a possibility for a text in that, and a chance to exhort a little, as Samuel Adams did in 1771 when he wrote, "If the liberties of America are ever completely ruined . . . it will in all probability be the consequence of a mistaken notion which leads men to acquiesce in measures of destructive tendency for the sake of present ease." Apparently he had already run into the tired men who like to label the wakeful as zealots or extremists—a zealot being a man who imperils your self-interest and an extremist being one who disagrees with you effectively.

In the novel, *The Roots of Heaven*, one of Romain Gary's principal characters observes, "What the world needs is an Einstein of biology." If not an Einstein of biology then an Einstein of humanism. The student who plays it cool and conservative, here, and who later on acquiesces for the sake of ease and security—such a student won't help the world much. Instead, he will have contributed to the flooding stream of apathy which can erode away the world we know. So you see, there is a text, and it relates to conservation, because one of the best definitions of conservation I can think of at the moment is that conservation is the antithesis of materialism.

"This Senseless Wilderness Proposal"

Leading opponents of the Wilderness Bill would have you believe otherwise, as the following indicates:

"The Wilderness Bill favors a few. This proposed law would stifle the economy of some regions. There is a serious drive by a small dedicated minority who believe that a law must be enacted to 'protect' a significant portion of Western federal lands for roadless wilderness. . . . Strangely, the proponents of this idea are mostly intelligent professional and businessmen, college professors, and articulate editorial writers of several nationally known newspapers. None of them apparently realize . . . that the basic wealth of our country comes from the land. Nor do they realize or care that by prohibiting multiple use of millions of acres that belong to all the people they are mortgaging their own standard of living and their children's . . ."

"In frank personal discussion with many federal foresters on the wilderness question, expediency has frequently been given as the reason for locking up far too much commercial forest land in the wilderness areas now established under regulation by the Secretary of Agriculture. They don't and can't say that publicly, but these are professional men and they have their professional viewpoints. Some of us have to run the risk of political tarring and feathering to make known our views against this senseless wilderness proposal.

"I'd like to say that I am a wilderness enthusiast. Like most Westerners . . . , I believe there's a real place for it. The only question is where and how much. To dedicate, willy-nilly, millions of acres of land to wilderness before they are adequately studied to determine their highest uses to society, cannot be justified under either multiple- or single-use concepts."

In this statement by W. D. Hagenstein, Executive Vice-President of the Industrial Forestry Association (from the May issue of the trade journal *Pulp and Paper*), I am sure you will recognize the sound of the grinding of an ax—not to say a hatchet, or the chainsaws of an entire, and essential industry.

In what I am to say in the conservationists' behalf you will also hear the low tones of grinding, not of an ax, but of the monkey wrench we should like to throw into logging machinery whenever it moves into country which we believe it can and must stay out of.

When I say "we" I refer chiefly to the Sierra Club and in part to the many cooperating organizations with which we work up and down the coast and across the country. The Sierra Club was founded in 1892 by John Muir and friends to protect the primary scenic resources of the nation. Muir had been extremely effective in advancing the national park idea, which meant preserving places as nature had made them for the permanent benefit of the people. Early in the game the club, and its foresters (of which there were and are many in the membership) ran head on into the concept of conservation which Gifford Pinchot was applying, which, in hard analysis, was to preserve nothing but ownership, to utilize resources fully for their commodity values, and to sustain the yield as long as possible.

Conservation has had two sides ever since. On the one side is land management, an ordered budgeting of the using up of resources in order to keep the economy growing. This I call easy conservation, but easy only in comparison to hard conservation, conservation's other side—the attempt, in a few places, to leave things alone, to keep man's helpful, itchy, sticky fingers off and, if you will, let God, who has managed these places for four billion years or so, see if He is still able to manage them, unaided, at least until our children have had a chance to see what a natural place looks like.

The ability to leave things alone is hard to come by, and that's what makes our job so tough. Wilderness is the place where things are left alone, left alone in a big enough place to give nature the necessary elbow room, the place where man goes to visit but not to remain, taking back out whatever he took in, seeing but not seizing, remembering while he is there what he must remember above all in wilderness—reverence for life, and the marks of all the ages that made that life what it is.

I think I could give you quite a long list of reasons why this wilderness is worth saving, why still more of it is worth saving than we have yet seen fit to save, simply because too few of us have yet perceived the peril to it, or to us if we lose it. But rather than giving a detailed list I'll simply name the greatest threat to wilderness there is—the people who play it cool, conservative, and with indifference, who suffer from what one writer called the English disease—people who are frequently heard to say, "I couldn't care less."—*From an address by DAVID R. BROWER on May 16, 1960 at Reed College, Portland, Oregon.*

[WE'RE SORRY TO BE LATE, BUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED IN OUR MARCH ISSUE PREVAILED UNTIL JUNE 1. WITH THIS COMBINED ISSUE FOR THE MONTHS OF APRIL AND MAY, AND AN EARLY COMPLETION OF THE JUNE ISSUE, WE PLAN TO BEGIN A REGULAR PUBLICATION SCHEDULE—A SITUATION WE ARE SURE WILL BE WELCOMED BY BOTH LIBRARIES AND MEMBERS. BECAUSE OF THE LATENESS OF THIS ISSUE, YOU WILL FIND SOME CURRENT ITEMS UNDER AN OLD DATELINE.]

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

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More Park or All Forest:

Highest Use vs. Multiple Use

By HORACE M. ALBRIGHT

I AM NOT the only one, I am sure, of those interested in all aspects of conservation who is concerned with the renewal of public controversy between the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service over possible extension of National Parks which may involve Forest Service lands. Many, I know, find old resentments being stirred by the resurrection of the "multiple use" vs. "single use" and the "lock up the resources" propaganda as a means to forestall not only what might be justifiable additions to the National Park System, or enlargement of some parks, but even an objective study of these matters.

This resentment springs not from the use of terms, but from the fact that "single use" is stigmatized as an undesirable and uneconomic alternate to "multiple use." The "single use" proponents are well identified as wilderness lovers and National Park supporters, and the public is being warned that they are advocating a program which "... constitutes a threat and precedent for dismemberment of the whole national forest system" and that such action "... would be inimical and contrary to the public interest." The activities of the group have also been portrayed as "selfish." In other words, sincere people who are only asking for the assured preservation of a few more of the Nation's outstanding scenic and scientific spectacles, and from which program none of them stands to gain any material profit, are simply not good citizens.

In view of this situation, I have been asked to review the history of the Forests vs. Parks controversy covering the 50 years I have had contact with the situation. I am glad to do this because I feel the story should be told so that everyone will understand the fundamental issues which are involved.

First, let me say I firmly believe that two of the greatest agencies of our Federal Government are the National Park Service and the Forest Service. One has been a bureau of the Department of the Interior since 1916; the other a bureau of the Department of Agriculture since 1905. Both are land management organizations with responsibilities concerned with the conservation of valuable natural resources. Both are professional in character because they are manned by well educated, especially trained and dedicated men and women. They comprise an elite Civil Service corps of outstanding capabilities for accomplishment of their respective assignments, and

personalities for good public relations in Washington and in the field. It is most distressing to me that they are in a war of words which will, in the end, certainly impair the prestige of both.

Having known both bureaus since their establishment, as a citizen I am proud of their personnel and achievements; as a former member of one of them, I know they are bureaucratic in their outlook in certain directions and toward each other.

Both originated in the Department of the Interior and it is unfortunate for them and for the country that they are not both still in this Department, which is the land management department, the real estate department, if you please, of the Federal Government. The Department of Agriculture, on the other hand, is concerned to a major extent with the problems

Bear Lake and Three Fingers in the North Cascades of Washington. Do you—like an architect we know—find these clear-cut patches in primeval forest to be more esthetically appealing than solid forest cover? If so you may not be concerned about what this activity along the South Fork of the Stillaguamish River portends for the adjacent wilderness forest of the Sauk and the White Chuck. We must do much clear thinking—and soon—about the multiple use concept and its application on the land if we are to save any real wilderness for the future. Photo by John Warth.





What is the highest use of the Limited Area surrounding Waldo Lake in the Central Oregon Cascades? The Forest Service believes emphasis on logging with a fringe of trees around the lake meets their standards of multiple use and satisfies their definition of

the "greatest good for the greatest number in the long run." Members of the newly formed Oregon Cascades Conservation Council (OCCC) disagree.

Photo by Philip Hyde.

of the farmer and the modern methods of farming, together with the production of food and handling the vast problems of crop surpluses and subsidy payments.

At any rate, the national forests and the national parks of the West were reserved from the unappropriated domain. The Forest Service has no place to go for any substantial additions to the national forests except to the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management for more public domain holdings. Among the lands which informed opinion feels should be studied for possible inclusion in the National Park System, some important ones are in various national forests.

The Forest Service has, with minor exception, always resisted the release of any lands to the Park Service, even reluctantly yielding the Grand Canyon in 1919 after years of controversy. The Forest Service even attempted to prevent the creation of the National Park Service in 1915 and 1916, and had it not been for the vigorous action of the late Congressman William Kent of California, it might have succeeded.

BOOTH THE Forest Service and the Park Service had as their planners and first chiefs, Gifford Pinchot and Stephen T.

Mather, extraordinary men of great ability, energy, and influence; both were popular in Washington; both were deeply interested in resource protection and followers of Theodore Roosevelt as conservationists and as consistent exemplars of the strenuous life. Quite different in personalities, they had admiration for each other but never close association in public affairs.

Pinchot became head of the Forest Service in 1905 when it was created by Congress. He rapidly expanded the national forests and consolidated his gains with the aid of President Roosevelt. His intentions were to absorb into the Forest Service the national parks which had no central administration or leadership, being generally supervised by one brilliant attorney in the Chief Clerk's Office of the Interior Department, W. B. Acker. Chief Forester Pinchot probably would have got the national parks had it not been for his collision with Secretary of the Interior R. A. Ballinger and the ensuing controversy which resulted in the forced resignations of both Pinchot and Ballinger, and the appearance of Walter L. Fisher of Chicago as the new Secretary of the Interior and one deeply interested in the national parks. It was he who organized the conferences

of 1911 in Yellowstone Park and that of 1912 in Yosemite to consider future park policies.

Henry S. Graves was Chief of the Forest Service when Mather became Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior and assumed the leadership in the campaign to establish the National Park Service.

With Pinchot out of office, the Forest Service continued to resist the creation of new national parks and the establishment of a bureau to administer their affairs. A long fight with the Forest Service by Colorado conservationists finally brought the Rocky Mountain National Park into existence in January 1915, but only the northern half of the area which was sought for a great national park in the finest part of the Colorado Rockies. The other half, south of Longs Peak, is still national forest land.

With the coming of Mather, new impetus was given to the movement to create the National Park Service. With the strong support of Secretary Franklin K. Lane, a Democrat, but also personally devoted to Theodore Roosevelt, Congress passed the National Park Service Act and President Woodrow Wilson signed it August 25, 1916.

In the meantime, with the aid of the Sierra Club, Mather endeavored to secure legislation to enlarge Sequoia National Park to include the Kern and Kings Canyons (except the North Fork of the Kings), the Evolution Basin, and the crest of the Sierra Nevada bordering these watersheds. At every turn, he was thwarted by the Forest Service. Here he learned the technique of the foresters in developing opposition to National Park projects—through personal on-the-spot contact with sportsmen's organizations, irrigation and power interests, prospectors, and stockmen who had grazing privileges in the area under consideration. They prophesied economic hardship and even disaster to local interests if the Forest Service lost control of the lands involved. Many thoughtful people think the same technique is being employed to defeat the Wilderness Bill despite the favorable report on the legislation submitted by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Even if tentative or final approval of a park plan was obtained in Washington through negotiations with the Forest Service, Mather found that the policy agreed on did not hold in the field except in rare cases. But agreements on park projects were rare indeed. Opposition was so intense in the Northwest to national park status for the Olympics and Mount Baker that Steve Mather dropped them from his projects to be considered, despite earnest appeals of civic organizations, mountaineering clubs and conservationists, speaking individually. And he abandoned his plan to visit Glacier Peak, about 1916, after having made arrangements to enter the area via Lake Chelan.

HAD IT NOT been for President Franklin D. Roosevelt's order of June 10, 1933, which gave all the national monuments to the National Park Service, the Olympic National Park would not be in existence today; and furthermore, the rain forest would have been decimated in World War II for spruce



This washed-out mining road leading to the head of Chiwawa River in Washington's North Cascades may suit the fancy of some hikers. The mine owner talked a bulldozer owner into making the road for half interest in the mine. Nothing of value was found at the "mine" site, which was promptly abandoned. Photo by John Warth.

How Would You Have Your Wilderness Approach?

Others—and we hope all Club members—will prefer a more modest trail such as the Skyline Trail in the Three Sisters Wilderness Area of Oregon. Lack of mining interest and logging possibilities have thus far preserved a sizeable portion of Oregon's Volcanic Cascades, excepting the 53,000 acres eliminated in the 1957 reclassification.

Photo by Philip Hyde.



demanding by the Armed Forces. Happily, it was found in Canada after the Park Service stubbornly refused to yield to Army demands as being unnecessary and threatening the destruction of the Olympic Park. Here was a superb example of the kind of protection national park status can accord a wilderness or other area in which significant natural features need protection, whereas under the Forest Service multiple-use policy, no such guardianship could have been expected, especially in war time.

Since 1915 Congress has authorized the establishment of 20 national parks with a combined acreage of some $8\frac{1}{4}$ million acres. During that period the action of Congress in establishing national parks and adjustment of park boundaries has resulted in the transfer of approximately 2,900,000 acres of land (including the Grand Canyon) from national forests to national parks. With minor exceptions, as far as my memory goes, this was accomplished only after the Forest Service had exhausted every avenue of opposition. In the end Congress judged the merits of the case for each area.

Recently, the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Ervin L. Peterson, declared that the proposals to create new national parks and extend existing parks threatened the national forest system, and strongly intimated that the time is past when this change of status for forest lands can be made.

The Chief Forester has declared that the National Park Service cannot make studies of the Glacier Peak-Northern Cascades region. This decision was based on the exemption of Department of Agriculture lands from the study provisions of the Park, Parkway, and Recreation Act of 1936. However, it overlooks a later provision which states that the Secretary of the Interior "is authorized and directed, through the National Park Service, to seek and accept the coöperation and assistance of other Federal departments or agencies having lands belonging to the United States . . ." The national forests do belong to the United States. As a matter of fact, at least 160 million of their 183 million acres were public domain lands transferred from the Interior Department.

These declarations of settled policy, or of policy in-the-making, are remarkable, first, because no such public statements have ever been made before, and second, because they seek to foreclose discussion, study, and negotiation. This leaves national park friends no alternative but to oppose a procedure that has no place in departments dedicated to public service. In this connection all conservationists interested in the possibility of additional parks should take note of two bills now before Congress. They are S. 3044 and H.R. 10465 (plus a host of identical bills). The purpose is "To authorize and direct that the national forests be managed under the principles of multiple use and to produce a sustained yield of products and services and for other purposes." If this bill slips through, I am sure that it will be used as full authority to forestall not only transfers of forest lands to parks but even to prevent a study of qualified areas. The bill should not be allowed to pass until interested conservation groups get some specific promises on this point.

Meantime, Forest Service opposition continues to all proj-

ects in which the National Park Service has indicated interest even though some of these have not as yet received favorable consideration—the Oregon Dunes seashore, the Great Basin park project in Nevada, the return of the Minarets region to Yosemite National Park, etc.

As mentioned in my introductory statement, another roadblock to new national parks is the emphasis on the multiple-use policy of land management with definition of national park land management as a single-use conception. Of course, national parks are set aside with a *primary* objective of keeping their resources in their natural condition for this and future generations, but there are, and always have been, other objectives, and the public has always enjoyed them in various ways and with multiple benefits.

The national parks produce a multiplicity of benefits. But those benefits are derived in pursuit of a primary objective. This singleness of purpose, established by law, places the national park administrator in a nearly unique position. He never has to choose between preservation of the natural environment on the one hand, and lumbering, mining, grazing, hunting, or water and power developments on the other. He has to decide only how best to preserve the resources entrusted to his management so as to make them most meaningful to the people. He may have to debate his position, but it is a position set forth for him by law. Thus, the full protection given units of the National Park System is not now, and can never be, vulnerable to reappraisal, reclassification, or abolition, merely by administrative decision. It is this singleness of basic purpose, written into National Park law, that gives the best promise for the integrity of the Nation's true and outstanding wilderness areas and other significant features in the future.

On the other hand, the broad policy of the Forest Service that all its lands are subject to every use, commercial or otherwise, that is compatible with substantial conservation of resources, puts it in the position of "carrying water on both shoulders." While emphasizing "multiple use" in publications, addresses, articles and manuals, it sets aside, by administrative order, areas that are to be protected and used largely as national parks are managed. Just recently, one of the most

Horace Albright was a leader in the National Park Service during its first thirty years—four of them as its second Director. He has continued his strong interest in park matters through participation in the activities of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments, and his service on the boards of directors of many conservation organizations including the Sierra Club, the National Parks Association and the American Planning and Civic Association. Former President of U.S. Potash Company and an honorary vice-president of the Sierra Club since 1937, Mr. Albright has recently been appointed a Regents' Lecturer at the Berkeley campus of the University of California.

In answer to a request for suggestions as to how members can be most helpful in the current controversy, Mr. Albright says, "Members of the Sierra Club should insist that there be an end to the activities of the Forest Service directed against new parks and extensions of old ones. They can help by writing directly to the Secretaries, especially the Secretary of the Interior, as well as to their Congressmen. Also, individual members of the Club and chapters acting through their officers, it seems to me, can write letters to newspapers and magazines taking exception to such propoganda as is being put out by the District Foresters and by such outbursts as that of Secretary Peterson."

significant scientific discoveries of recent times, the bristlecone pine forest on White Mountain, was withdrawn by order of the Chief Forester. The stated reasons for doing this are clear qualifications for establishment as a national monument under the Antiquities Act. To avoid a possibility that the forest would come under jurisdiction of the National Park Service, this national treasure was given only part of the full protection it could have been accorded as a national monument. There appears some reason to conclude that the Chief Forester did not allow the President to use his prerogative under the law to create a monument! How can the Forest Service in one breath define the national parks as single-purpose areas and in the next breath say that territory it has broadcast as a primitive area, wilderness area, wild area, roadless area, or a scientific forest is not a single purpose area?

Several Forest Service specially-reserved wilderness tracts could be given national park status. There are others devoted exclusively to recreation which do not measure up to National Park Service standards which should be retained by the Forest Service, but these are hardly being administered on the multiple-use theory.

No, the time has not come to stop national park extension or establishment of new national parks; on the contrary, with the rapidly increasing population, the mobility of our people,

their higher incomes, the accelerated movement westward, and other considerations, it is important that the National Park System be completed as soon as possible.

ALL WILL agree, I am sure, that no constructive program can possibly come out of the type of controversy that is now going on, and that the over-all conservation program can only suffer serious damage if it continues. Therefore, before I conclude, I think it is only fair for me to answer the question which must be in the minds of all who read this: "Well! What would you do about it?" The answer is simple because it is a matter of fact that the objectives of the Mission 66 program were approved by the Eisenhower Administration. This approval was given after a process of full interdepartmental consultation, specifically including the Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of the Budget, and other interested agencies. One of these approved objectives is the rounding out of the National Park System. My suggestion? That the Secretaries of the two departments, Interior and Agriculture, get together and see if this item of the President's program cannot be got off the ground. At least we should have a program adopted for study of specific and named areas and thus eliminate the wild generalities that are the source of present difficulties and make any agreement impossible.

To Be or Not to Be—

A North Cascades National Park

The people of the northwest corner of America have been endowed with fabulous wealth. Not the wealth of stocks and bonds locked up in safe-deposit vaults, but the wealth of nature's most dramatic mountain wonderlands right out under the blue sky and free to all for the asking. A sizable chunk of it is spread across the North Cascades and may be given national park status as a result of three bills now before Congress. H.R. 9342, introduced by Congressman Don Magnuson, H.R. 9360, by Congressman Thomas Pelly, and S. 2980 by Senator Warren Magnuson authorize the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the Secretary of Agriculture, to make a comprehensive study of the scenic, scientific, recreational, educational, wildlife, and wilderness values of the North Cascades region.

Cascade Park Idea Is Not New

... On March 23, 1906, the Mazamas passed a resolution [in which they] "heartily indorse[d] the project of making this region a national park and perpetual game preserve, for the use and benefit of the people of the United States."

Five days later another resolution was passed, this one by a group of miners and townspeople of the Chelan area assembled at Lakeside. [This group resolved] "That we are first, last, and all the time opposed to

the proposition to establish a National Park to take in any portion of Lake Chelan or the country adjacent thereto."

[The primary WHEREAS upon which the opposition was based stated]

"the great mineral belt running northeast to southwest from British Columbia through the State of Washington to Puget Sound covers the whole of the territory comprised in this proposition for a national park, and is the most extensive mineral zone in the state, the said mineral belt being one of the principal assets of the State of Washington in its future development. The development of this great mineral zone in the Chelan region has been retarded in a great measure by the lack of proper transportation facilities. With the advent of the Great Northern Railway up the Columbia valley, which is now assured, this extensive mineral zone will be one of the greatest producers of gold, silver, copper, and lead in the state. Upon the development of this mineral zone depends the ultimate progress and future commercial destiny of the Lake Chelan country. Mines have been located in every part of the territory proposed to be made a national park. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have already been expended in the development of these properties and they only await transportation to make them extensive producers. Within the proposed national park are many tracts of patented agricultural lands, about fifty patented mines and the largest producing molybdenite mine in the United States. The principal attractions to sightseers of the Lake Chelan country are the beautiful lake, the

rugged mountain scenery and the glaciers, none of which can be destroyed or defaced by those who wish to "see America first."

These actions took place during the period when Theodore Roosevelt was withdrawing from private entry most of the lands now embraced in the national forests. It had not been his intention to keep them all permanently in forest reserves. They had been withdrawn for study by his 49-man Conservation Commission, object of the study being to classify them on the basis of dominant resource values. Before the study could be carried out Congress abolished the Commission, which meant that the varying types and categories of resources remained lumped together as national forests. In recommending organization of a National Park Service, President Taft in 1911 alluded "forest reservations covering what ought to be National Parks."

Franklin Roosevelt's Land-Use Study

It remained then for Franklin Roosevelt, a generation later, to take up—through his Natural Resources Planning Board—the study of public lands where Theodore's Conservation Commission had left off. As part of a comprehensive national study of soil, water, forests, and all natural resources, the Park Service was given the assignment

(Continued on page 17)

Podsols and Pygmies:

Californians are justly proud of their public parks and beaches, and many farsighted citizens work for the preservation of the state's beauty spots. Strangely, only a small number is concerned with preserving our richest agricultural lands, saving them from being covered indiscriminately by housing projects, factories, freeways, and airfields. And fewer still are willing to protect natural-science areas which are of prime interest to scientists, teachers, and naturalists. Though these sites often lack the type of artistic beauty that appeals to many, they are, nevertheless, vital to society at large.—Editor.

A NATURAL SCIENCE AREA is, properly speaking, an *ecosystem*, a harmonious assembly of soil, plant life, and animal life. It is of concern to geologists, pedologists (soil scientists), botanists, zoologists, entomologists, ecologists, and other students of nature. They want to know how rocks are transformed into soil, what microbes live in it, how plant roots secure nutrients, what makes a plant species grow in one site and not in another, how animals, large and small, are born, live and die.

Scientists increasingly come to realize that they must work in unison in a single area, and that they must pool and integrate their observations and measurements if they are to comprehend the inner workings of environments.

Nature's ecosystems cannot be imitated in the laboratory. To unravel their secrets man must study the ecosystems in their own settings. On an acre basis, how much photosynthesis takes place? That is, how much sugar, starch, cellulose is produced in a year, above ground and in the root system? What is the quantity of nitrogen fixed and mineralized in the soil to yield the essential proteins which sustain animals and man? These inquiries are pertinent to forestry, range management, and wildlife conservation. In nonindustrialized countries the fate of man and society depends on the productivity of the ecosystem in which they live. Some anthropologists even claim that ecosystems are determinants of culture traits and of religion.

American lands have been put to the plow with such eagerness and haste that few of the once highly productive ecosystems are left in their natural state. This is a tragedy, for how can we assess the farmer's impact on the land if no virgin yardstick is left, no natural reference point? High crop yields are not a sound criterion of successful management, because we may merely be depleting soil fertility.

Some of us have tried to study ecosystems on private lands made available by sympathetic owners. In one instance, after five years of intensive scientific work, a bulldozer suddenly appeared on the scene to clear the land for a housing tract. The owner had changed his mind. Clearly, we need for our studies landscapes that are not subject to whims of individuals.

California still has a number of virgin ecosystems that challenge the scientific mind and that eventually might yield insight into the past and present workings of nature. In the San Joaquin valley the once widespread hogwallow-lands—those pock-marked surfaces on the high river terraces—have long raised the curiosity of scientist and layman alike. The millions of earth mounds, each two to five feet high and thickly populated by rodents, rest on impervious hardpan rock which is itself the result of ecosystem evolution. Scholars are still undecided whether nature



Above: Redwood and Douglas fir on good soil adjacent to pygmy forest. The world's tallest trees, and perhaps the world's smallest natural forest of the humid-temperate climates are found in California coastal areas.

Below: Carpet of pygmy forest in foreground, and normal Mendocino coast forest in background. The boundary between the two is sharp, caused by extreme soil exhaustion. [For a scientific discussion compare: R. A. Gardner and K. E. Bradshaw, "Characteristics and Vegetation Relationships of some Podsollic Soils near the Coast of Northern California," Soil Sci. Soc. Amer. Proc. 18:320-325, 1954.]



A Special Need for Preservation

put the mounds first, the hardpan afterward, or whether the pan is the cause of the mounds. Unless some of the dwindling hogwallow areas are saved, man will never solve this riddle of nature.

On the mesas of San Diego ancient sand dunes are permeated by large, rounded, iron concretions which remind one of materials from the rain forests of India and other parts of Asia. Accordingly, scientists have speculated that in the not too distant past San Diego had a humid, tropical climate. Maybe this conclusion is valid, but adjacent soils and land forms do not fit into the picture. Much field and laboratory research needs to be done to arrive at a clear understanding of the genesis of these remarkable dune formations but the crucial sites have now become actual and potential dwelling places.

An unusual, fascinating ecosystem is presented by the *pygmy forest* along the Mendocino coast. While not exactly photogenic, it constitutes a scientific treasure store for many students of nature. The interplay of soil, plants, and animals has created a stunted, puny forest composed of dwarfed Bolander pines and Mendocino cypresses. The latter often grow in dense thickets with cane-like stems, only 2-5 feet tall. They are interspersed with California huckleberry and coast rhododendron, all indicators of sour soil.

The vegetation and fauna of the pygmy forest is associated with an unusual soil profile, known internationally as podsol. The name is Russian in origin, denoting gray-colored soil. Indeed, if the pygmy land is cleared and plowed, the surface looks snow white. The podsol profile of the Mendocino coast reveals layering (horizons). On top of the mineral soil rests an acidic, black humus layer with partially decomposed plant remains. It is underlain by a whitish horizon from which iron compounds have been leached into the lower horizon where they were precipitated as rust-brown films and concretion.

Studies indicate that these soils are very old, extremely acid, low in clay, and strongly leached. The horizons are so impoverished in nutrients that they cannot maintain a normal carpet of vegetation.

The only other podsoles in California are represented by two sites in the Sierra Nevada at about 10,000 feet. They are moderately well developed. Podsoles are frequent in northern Michigan, Maine, Scandinavia, and northern Russia. A few examples have been reported from equatorial regions. But, in the writer's opinion, the podsoles of the pygmy forest are unique in their extreme development. In due time they will attract world-wide attention among the scientifically minded public.

Soil scientists are anxious to learn how soils are being formed, how they get fertile, and how they deteriorate, for such knowledge provides clues to long-range practical soil management. The pygmy forest offers an ideal proving ground for testing ideas, old and new, with the aid of biological, chemical, and physical studies. Such work will provide a solid framework for the understanding of our soil resource in general which is becoming more and more precious as populations grow.

The scientific program is endangered by the fate of the pygmy forest itself. Unless protected by society, it will eventually disappear. One of the finest sites, east of Fort Bragg, already has been taken over by housing tracts. An airfield has been built near Mendocino. A utility company is contemplating a power line through the area, and sundry other developments are in the offing. Preservation is needed.

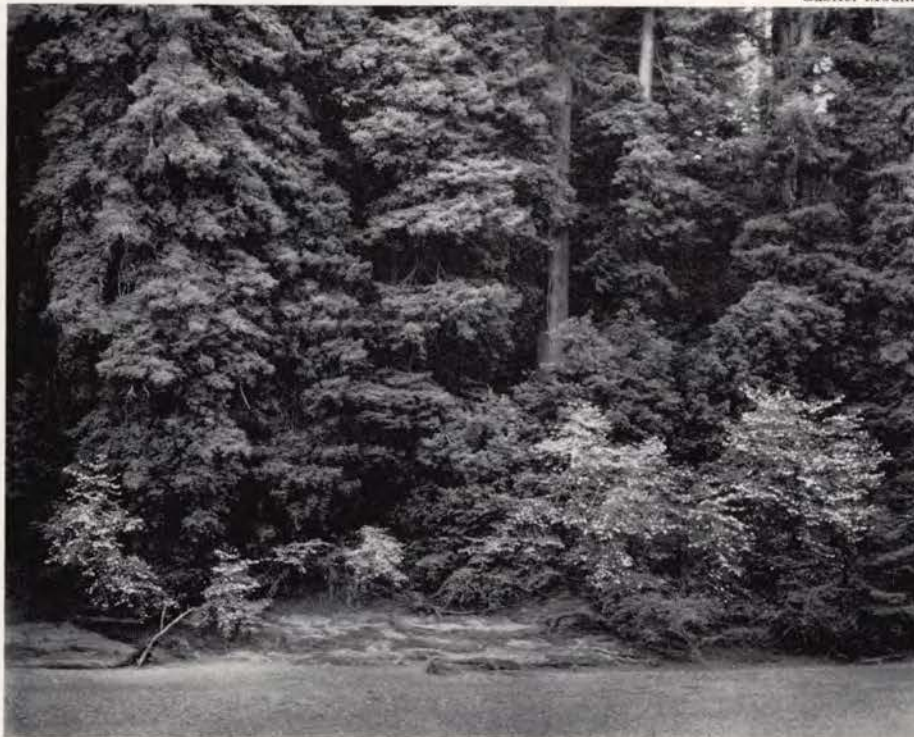


Pygmy-forest ecosystem: dwarfed Mendocino cypresses growing on "podsol" soil. A black, strongly acidic humus layer rests on a whitish, bleached zone, underlain by a rust-brown, hardpan-like band. When the picture was taken the temporary water table (at bottom of picture) was at 26 inches from the surface. All photographs by the author.



Above: Only a small natural slide can be noticed in this aerial view of a section of relatively undisturbed redwood country in the upper reaches of Bull Creek Basin. Compare this with aerial shot of adjacent logged-over land on the opposite page. Photos by California Division of Beaches and Parks unless otherwise credited.

Gabriel Moulin



Rockefeller Forest (left) is a stand of approximately 8,000 acres on the watershed of Bull Creek. It includes the "Tallest of the tallest" and is the largest body of giant redwoods within the largest of the redwood parks. It was acquired by the State in 1931 for a little more than three million dollars.

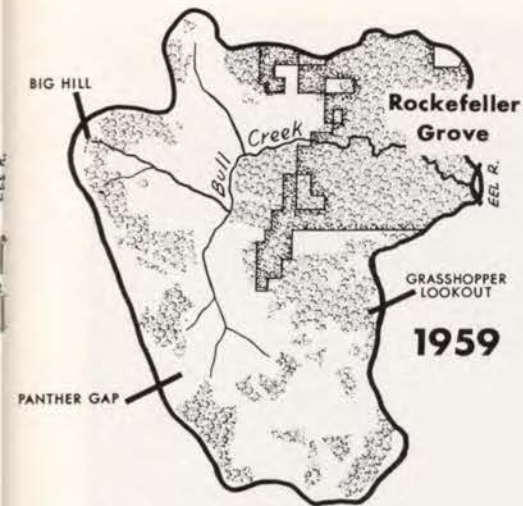


This was a protected watershed.

Chapter II — Bull Creek S Redwood

SINCE our article "The Tragedy of Bull Creek" in the January *Sierra Club Bulletin*, further developments have come to light on this basic issue. Some people have questioned whether natural causes—steep topography, erosive soils, and slides—may not have contributed equally to the destruction of these tallest of trees. The photographs on these pages may help answer these questions.

More importantly, there has developed serious opposition to the acquisition of the 18,000 acres of logged-over land in the upper part of the Bull Creek watershed needed to protect Rockefeller Grove. Included among the opponents are the local county board of supervisors, the Humboldt County Cattleman's Association, the Joint Agricultural Economic Committee of Humboldt County, the Humboldt Citizen's Public Expenditure Committee and the California Redwood Association. Active support from all over the nation will be needed to rescue this



But too much was cut, too heedlessly.

tory s and You

small unit of primeval redwoods from destruction, and may also be needed to assure a closer approach to sustained-yield timber production in the unpreserved parts of the unique redwood belt.

We are assured that what has happened at Bull Creek is happening in kind along most of the coast. The logging methods are destructive—perhaps more destructive than they used to be owing to the crushing and tearing efficiency of gigantic new equipment. If your summer travels should take you into the California redwood region, see for yourself and if possible photograph what you see. Is it good logging, respectful of watersheds, streams, and not-soon-to-be-replaced soil? Or is it a highly efficient wrecking process?

Californians have a special obligation. They are close enough to the scene to study it and judge for themselves what is happening to one of California's greatest scenic assets.

Not cut, but undercut—this redwood (right) is nevertheless gone. Because of the extremely heavy runoff from a denuded watershed, more land is lost each year and hundreds of prime redwood trees of 300 feet or more in height are even now standing within inches of such destruction.



Above: This is what logged-over redwood country in the Upper Bull Creek Basin looks like from the air. Note how lack of ground cover and logging road damage have combined with the normal 75-inch rainfall to produce streambank erosion and sedimentation even in this headwater area.



Bull Creek Story

(Reiterated)

From This →

To This

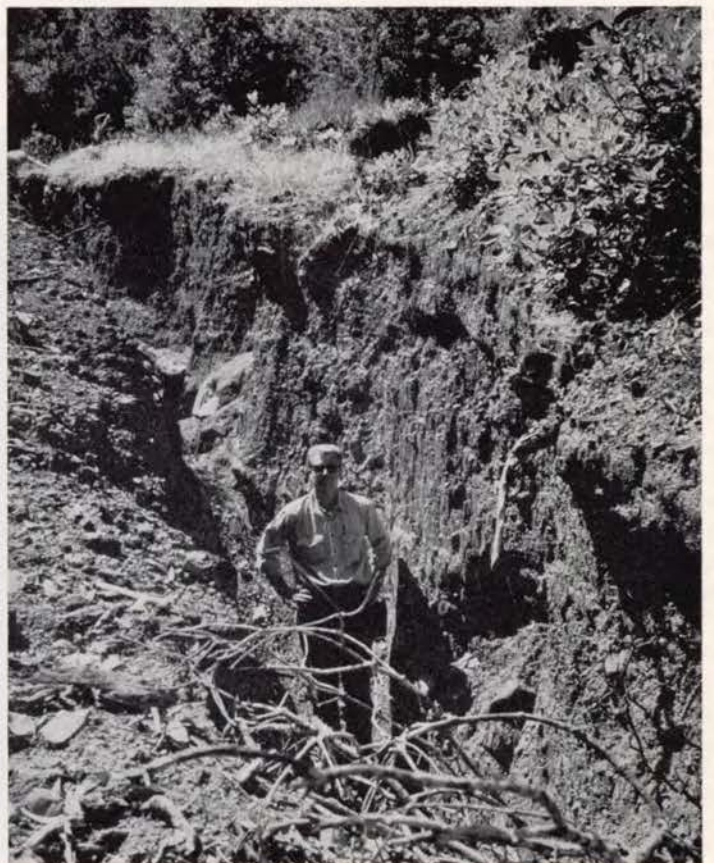


Gabriel Moulin

Once a fully-clothed watershed supporting the growth of age-old redwoods . . .

It is now a scene of destruction in the sections outside park boundaries. And this destruction is inflicting itself upon a supreme red-

wood forest which the nation thought it had preserved with the help of the late John D. Rockefeller, Jr.





Save-the-Redwoods League

He Left a Heritage of Beauty

In the death on May 11th of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., at the age of 86, America and the world lost a benefactor who in varied ways did much for his fellow men and for future generations. In no field did his generosity yield more widespread or continuing benefits than in that of conservation. This is particularly true of his aid, always at the critical time, to the National Park Service and the Save-the-Redwoods League.

A Contribution to the Heritage of Every American by Nancy Newhall (Alfred Knopf, 1957) summarizes Rockefeller's main contributions without which the national parks or California's redwood parks would not be the great places they are today. It is difficult to realize how much poorer the natural scene in the United States would be

but for Rockefeller's realization of its importance and his determination to aid in its preservation.

Equally significant was the fact that his contributions to scenic conservation were an example and an inspiration to all other private donors and to the appropriating bodies of the nation and the states. His gifts usually were made at a crucial time when a wait for government appropriations would have meant loss of the area.

All parts of the nation benefitted from Rockefeller's vision. Among the projects for which he donated many millions were the Sugar Pines addition to Yosemite; interpretive museums at Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, and the Mesa Verde; lands at Colonial National Park, Acadia National Park, Grand

Teton National Park and Jackson Hole; and Great Smokies and Shenandoah. There were many others. All the directors of the National Park Service from Stephen T. Mather and Horace M. Albright to the present day could testify to the timeliness of his action in preserving forests and other great features whose loss would have meant fatal impairment of the perfection of the national parks.

Californians are particularly grateful for the essential help by Rockefeller in averting the destruction of two of the finest forest areas now in the state park system. Through the Save-the-Redwoods League in 1927 and following years he gave \$2,000,000, which together with state appropriations and other private gifts made possible the purchase of the outstanding Redwood forest on Bull Creek in Humboldt Redwoods State Park. After many years his friends finally persuaded him to allow 10,000 acres that he preserved to bear the name of Rockefeller Forest.

After a trip through the Redwoods in July of 1926 he expressed himself as "speechless with admiration for anything so beautiful as the forest we came through today."

In 1954 the State of California after 30 years of effort finally acquired the Calaveras South Grove of Big Trees, and it was the Rockefeller gift of \$1,000,000 that determined the fate of this project.

Those who had the privilege of dealing with John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in these enterprises were impressed not alone by his generosity but also by his deep understanding of the importance of this cause, by his sensitivity to landscape beauty, and by the meticulous care that he took personally to master all the details involved. He gave freely of himself as well as of his means.

All the millions of today and tomorrow who savor the beauty and wonder of the great places that he helped preserve will join in the sentiment that "there will never come an end to the good that he has done."

NEWTON B. DRURY

Water and Forests

From the Wenatchee (Washington) World, early April, 1960, we learn that:

To combat an alarming potential water shortage, the philosophy of the United States Forest Service is swinging back to emphasize the purpose for which it was originally set up—the preservation of water and soil, a Forest Service official said Thursday.

Fritz Morrison, in charge of watershed management for the Wenatchee National Forest, returned this week from a three-day short course in the conservation of watersheds on forest land at Oregon State College.

"We were told that present estimates place the

United States population at 1,000,000,000 persons in 100 years. In Washington State, the predicted increase during the next 10 years alone will be 33 per cent," Morrison said.

"There has been much concern over the inadequacy of timber for a population of that size. But the thing to worry about is the thought that long before the timber is gone, we'll run out of water to irrigate the timber."

Morrison said that in Arizona 50,000 acres of irrigated farm land per year since 1954 have gone out of production because of lack of water.

With this in mind, the Forest Service, concerned primarily in recent years with the timber and recreational resources, is shifting its focus back to soil and water conservation. Timber, recreation and grazing will become secondary, Morrison said.

What will this mean locally? Because the

Forest Service has never lost sight entirely of watershed conservation, there will be no big change noticeable in the operation, Morrison said. Money will continue to be spent on campgrounds and other recreation facilities.

"Now we'll use even more care in laying out the timber sales and the roads so there will be less soil disturbance," Morrison said. "All our work will be geared so as to disturb the least amount of soil, prevent erosion and maintain an ample, clean, unpolluted water supply."

"The main thing we must remember is that if we strip the watershed areas by excessive use—over grazing or over timber cutting—then we accuse [sic] deterioration of the area and the rain and snow run off and are lost. Proper management would leave the area undisturbed so water will seep into the soil and be stored there for future use," Morrison explained.

Letters

Drive-in Wilderness

Editor:

After reading about the excellent idea of a "drive-in wilderness" (November 1959 SCB), I wish to make the following proposal:

The club should give up its less productive activities and throw all its weight behind an effort to have wilderness areas made from all the center strips of California freeways. Consider the advantages of such a program:

- 1) Instant accessibility from almost anywhere.
- 2) Lands are already State owned.
- 3) It is already impossible (usually illegal) to take motor vehicles there. Most of these preserves are even fenced by collision strips.
- 4) No forestation problems (no forest), no forest fire problems.
- 5) I'm sure the much-maligned so called anti-conservationists would be all for it.

RUSS HARDWICK
UCLA
Los Angeles, California

Bull Creek Watershed Debate

March, 22, 1960

Dear Mr. Brower:

Your letter of February 9, 1960, addressed to Governor Brown in regard to damage to the Bull Creek redwoods has been referred to me for reply.

This situation cannot be attributed to any single element. Some of the factors that have contributed to this problem are severe logging; a history of repeated fires; steep topography; highly erosive soils, and a certain amount of slide areas which cannot be attributed to the practices of man.

These conditions, coupled with high intensity storms, have combined to create a serious threat to the Bull Creek redwoods. On top of this the stream gradient flattens out as it goes through the Bull Creek redwoods, thus reducing stream velocity which then drops its silt burden. This action has caused the stream bed to rise and broaden and we fear may cause it to cut new channels which, in turn, would destroy more of the grove.

As you know, this entire area is subject to severe storms and flood damage, and as vegetation is removed whether it be by logging, fire, or other uses, the hazards are accentuated. There are similar examples even in areas that have not been logged. Therefore, the problem is not confined to the Bull Creek area but is a problem throughout much of that region. Because of the importance and magnificence of the Bull Creek redwoods the results are more obvious and our concern is greater.

We are studying methods whereby the hazards may be reduced and, if possible, minimized. At the present time it appears that several rather heavy structures will be required to provide debris basins upstream to prevent further filling of the stream bed through the grove and in hopes that clear water, thus generated, will help deepen the channel to prevent overflowing and the danger of creating new channels. Along with this, we are doing bank revetment work and

stream clearance in order to protect the existing channel as much as possible.

The answer is not simple and as indicated above the problem is not restricted to the Bull Creek drainage. We are alert to the problem and are making plans to correct the situation which, of course, was accentuated by the severity of the 1955-56 floods.

DEWITT NELSON, Director
California Dept. of Natural Resources

April 8, 1960

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Thank you for your reply of March 22, 1960. I find it hard to avoid concluding that the evidence shows clearly that the damage to redwoods of Rockefeller Forest and the Bull Creek watershed in general is attributable solely to the forest malpractices of man. It is true that there has been "a history of repeated fires; steep topography; highly erosive soils, and a certain amount of slide areas," but all these forces were operating before the logging operations began. The Bull Creek forest itself was ample evidence that these forces could be survived. In the unspoiled redwoods there is a record of from one to two thousand years of how well the forest has withstood these natural forces. It is harder to think of a longer-term research base from which to conjecture about cause and effect.

The storms were natural; so was the stream gradient through the Bull Creek redwoods. Is it not therefore true that the only thing that has predominantly changed in the area in the last one to two thousand years is what man did with his logging practices? And is it not also true that these practices were condoned under the California Forest Practice Act?

If this is so, then it would seem that the solution must go much farther than building revetments and debris-retention dams especially if, as we are informed, this kind of permanent loss is being inflicted not only at Bull Creek but up and down the redwood region also, wherever the logging operations are getting into steep slopes.

DAVID R. BROWER
Executive Director
Sierra Club

April 13, 1960

Dear Mr. Brower:

Thank you for your letter April 8, 1960, in reference to the Bull Creek watershed problem.

In my letter of March 22, 1960, I have not denied that the operations of man in the headwaters of this stream, as well as others, have contributed to the problems now before us.

Facing these facts squarely the problem now before us is to accomplish the necessary protection to the Rockefeller Forest. I personally do not believe that action should be delayed until all of the headwaters are acquired, if such is possible, or until a new and complete mantle of vegetation can be reestablished. The first problem that must be solved is the protection of this great grove at the earliest possible date. I think this can only be accomplished by the use of physical structures.

DEWITT NELSON

Editor:

You've undoubtedly seen the Park Service report on the Wheeler Peak area. I think they did a fine job, even if they did get Stella and Treasure lakes confused in the frontispiece.

However, in a letter to Jim Cole, of the N.P.S. Region Four Office, I did bring up two points about the "Matthes Glacier" to which I dissent. I'll quote: "1. I haven't seen the University of Nevada geologists' report, but I believe I have good grounds to contend that no part of the glacier can be called a 'rock glacier.' 2. I question the word 're-discovered' in relation to finding evidences of a true glacier in September 1955. The body of ice on Wheeler Peak has been seen occasionally for the past seventy years, and was described by Eimbeck in 1883. However, neither he nor anyone else, to my knowledge, discovered that it was a true glacier until we went into the cirque four years ago. Also, my report was the first published describing the ice body as a true glacier. Therefore, I cannot see that the word 're-discovered' applies—it was, I submit, a 'discovery' in every sense of the word. However, it was a scientific or geological discovery rather than a geographical one."

WELDON F. HEALD
Tucson, Arizona

Bulletin Board (Continued)

and the Division of Beaches and Parks. State Director of Natural Resources, DeWitt Nelson, has asked advice of a five-man committee (representing different conservation organizations, including the Sierra Club) in framing this contract, in order to insure protection of the natural values of Mount San Jacinto as far as possible.

Although there is a real question as to the financial feasibility of a tramway up Mount San Jacinto, Mr. Nelson feels that this aspect of the project is outside the consideration of the Department of Natural Resources.

EDGAR AND PEGGY WAYBURN

As We Go to Press . . .

The House has passed H.R. 6597, Congressman Aspinall's bill to readjust the boundaries of *Dinosaur National Monument* (without changing its monument status to park). An amendment to this measure by Congressman John Saylor made clear that any existing grazing within the monument is a privilege and not a right. Whether time remains for Senate consideration of this matter is uncertain.

Walter L. Huber

Walter L. Huber, Honorary Vice-President of the Sierra Club and a member for fifty-three years, died unexpectedly on May 31. One of the nation's best known civil and hydraulic engineers, Mr. Huber was a past

Bulletin Board

★ Starred items need your special help now. You have a constitutional right to write your congressman.

(Press time for this section was June 16)

Nationally . . .

★ *The Wilderness Bill* (S. 1123) is still languishing in the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, and chances of the passage of this vitally important conservation legislation in this session of Congress are dwindling daily.

★ Pressure in Congress continues against appropriations of funds to protect *Rainbow Bridge National Monument* (in Utah) from inundation by the new Glen Canyon reservoir. The House has passed the public works appropriations bill *without* any funds for protecting the bridge and *with* a provision that none of this year's appropriation for the Colorado River Storage Project (\$61.4 million) can be spent for the construction and operation of facilities to prevent Glen Canyon reservoir waters from entering any national park or national monument. The Senate Appropriations Committee action is expected momentarily.

★ A bill (S. 3353, Senator Frank Church, Idaho) to survey and evaluate the National Park potential of the *Sawtooth Mountains* in Idaho, has been referred to the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. There is as yet no action on similar bills relating to the *North Cascades* of Washington.

The Forest Service *Multiple Use Bill*, which directs that the national forests be managed under principles of multiple use and to produce a sustained yield of products and services including outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed and wildlife and fish, has passed both houses and is awaiting the President's signature. It contains an amendment that: "The establishment and maintenance of areas of wilderness are consistent with the purposes and provisions of this act." In the colloquy during House consideration of the bill, it was made clear that enactment of the bill would not prevent the full and fair consideration of any future legislation "to transfer national forest lands to the national park system." The Senate Committee report makes the same intent clear.

★ A bill to establish some nine million acres in Alaska as an *Arctic Wildlife Range* (S. 1889) appears stalled in the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce by mining interests. The companion bill, H.R. 7045, has already been passed by the House.

★ Following public hearings on H.R. 11502 (Leonard G. Wolf, Iowa), the *Chemical Pesticides Coordination Act*, Congressman Wolf reintroduced a clean bill, H.R. 12419. Like the original proposal, it would provide for consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service before any federal pest control program is initiated and is intended to help curb indiscriminate use of pesticides. The Senate Committee has reported favorably on similar legislation. The Sierra Club favors the principles embodied in such measures.

In California . . .

★ The combined efforts of California's senators, several congressmen and many citizens, along with Governor Edmund G. Brown's emergency plea, have resulted in a statement by the General Service Administration that "a tentative agreement has been reached between officials of the State of California and General Service Administration which will enable the State to acquire the 130.65 acres of land at Fort Baker for park and recreational use." Previously the G.S.A. had declared that 72 acres in this parcel of land were "too valuable for park purposes." Further citizen support will be necessary to complete the proposed Golden Gate State Park from the surplus lands of the Defense Department around the Golden Gate.

★ A Senate hearing, held in Marin County in April, evidenced strong public approval of a *Point Reyes National Seashore* (some 30 miles north of San Francisco) as proposed by Senator Clair Engle (S. 2428), and Congressman Clem Miller (H.R. 8385). Congressman Miller's bill is scheduled for hearings in Washington before the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs late in June. Meantime, widespread support and recognition of the National Seashore concept is growing. Congressman John P. Saylor (Pa.) has introduced a bill, H.R. 11846, authorizing the establishment of Cape Cod, Padre Island, and Oregon Dunes National Seashores. Hearings are scheduled on the Kennedy-Saltonstall Cape Cod bill on June 20.

★ The California State Park Commission has ruled that the Winter Park Authority has a mandate to effect construction of a tramway up southern California's scenic *Mount San Jacinto*, and that a valid contract must be drawn up between this body
(Continued on Page 14)

president of the Club and of the American Society of Civil Engineers; he served until recently on the Department of Interior Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments.

A third generation San Franciscan, Mr. Huber was graduated from the University of California in 1905. He worked in the 1920's on the original concepts of the Central Valley Project and has served as consultant on literally scores of Western dam projects.

Walter Huber served the Sierra Club and conservation in too many ways to be enumerated in space available here. A full account of his contributions will be carried in the 1960 Annual Bulletin.

Guy Fleming

The death of Guy Fleming at Scripps Hospital in La Jolla on May 14 was a deep loss to his many devoted friends throughout Southern California and particularly to members of the San Diego chapter of the Sierra Club. For over half a century, Mr. Fleming worked quietly for conservation in his home area, including extensive efforts in behalf of the preservation and restoration of Torrey Pines State Park.

In 1932, he was appointed Acting Superintendent of the southern division of the new State Park System and Superintendent a year later, with responsibility for all parks from the Monterey County line to the Mexican border. Upon retirement in 1948, he continued his participation in the activities of the local Sierra Club chapter. Contributions to his memory are being received by the Torrey Pines Association.

Ross J. Brower

Ross J. Brower, a life member who joined in 1941 and has eight children and grandchildren in the club, died suddenly on April 26 at the age of 81. His first crossing of the Sierra was on a bicycle, at the turn of the century. Although he never traveled far into the Sierra wilderness, he liked to camp there with his young family and poke into the edges. The Club's executive director remembers being thus exposed back in 1918, but not being quite willing to finish the climb of a little peak west of Tioga Pass that his father was climbing—even though it was only class 1.

Contributions in his memory are being made to the Club's Conservation and Memorial Fund and it is expected that these, together with those received in memory of Dr. Edwin H. Mauk, will help create an exhibit on camping and conservation at Parsons Lodge, Tuolumne Meadows—Ross Brower's favorite Sierra country.

**Briefly
Noted
and (or) Coming Up**

**Yellowstone Boating
Regulation Hearings**

The proposed restrictions on motorboating on 20 percent of Yellowstone Lake in Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, were published in the Federal Register on May 24, 1960. Written comments, suggestions or objections to these regulations should be filed with the Director, National Park Service, Washington 25, D. C., before June 24.

Under the proposed regulations, about 80 percent of the 139 square miles of the lake would be open to motorboating. The remaining 20 percent—including Southeast Arm, South Arm, and Flat Mountain Arm—would be closed to motorboating to preserve the natural values of these more remote areas.

Three public hearings have been scheduled by the Secretary of the Interior in August to afford further opportunity for public comment on the proposal. They will be held at 10 a.m., August 23, in the Auditorium at Cody, Wyoming; 10 a.m., August 24, in Yellowstone Park's Lake Hotel; and at 10 a.m., August 26, in the Civic Auditorium, Idaho Falls, Idaho. Witnesses may submit statements either orally or in writing.

Interior Honors C. M. Goethe

Pioneer conservationist Charles M. Goethe of Sacramento, California, has been awarded a Department of the Interior Conservation Service Award for 1960 in recognition of many years of devoted service in the cause of conservation. "Millions of Americans," Secretary Seaton said in his citation to Mr. Goethe, "annually share in the benefits of the unique program of personal interpretive services in the national parks and monuments. These rewards in turn promote appreciation for natural values, and through this the cause of conservation is served. In large measure, we have you to thank for the inception and initial support of this potent force in America. In Switzerland prior to World War I, you and Mrs. Goethe had observed a recreational program based on nature study for children that instilled in them a sense of pride and patriotism. Transplanting this idea to America, you took a step of tremendous initiative and vision when you launched, with your own funds, the start of nature guiding in this country at California's Lake Tahoe.

"Observing the success of your endeavor, the Director of the National Park Service urged you to transfer your work to Yosemite National Park. From this modest beginning

in 1920 has grown the vigorous and effective program of nature interpretation in the National Park System today. Since those formative years, you have never ceased to demonstrate your continuing deep interest in furthering the conservation and educational activities of the National Park Service."

**Great Basin Beryllium Ore
Doesn't Make the Grade**

Participants in the June 25-26 annual meeting of the Great Basin National Park Association at the Hotel Nevada in Ely—and other supporters of the Nevada park proposal—have been encouraged by the March 23 announcement by Bruce Odlum, president of Beryllium Resources, Inc. of Salt Lake City that his firm will not exercise its option to acquire a beryllium deposit on Mount Washington, within the proposed park. The firm had planned to purchase the deposit from Mount Wheeler Mines, Inc., but Odlum has been quoted as saying the grade of ore developed to date does not justify further expenditure.

**And Now the Clouds and
Glaciers, Too!**

Whether we're behind on ICBM's or not, at least we're ahead on clouds—thanks to Unexcelled Chemical Corporation. A Swiss invention known as the Skyjector reported in the March issue of *Fortune* can enlarge a four-by-six slide 72 million times and hurl it a distance of five miles against the backdrop of a building, a mountain, a cloud, or even open sky at night. As *Fortune* comments, "think of the suspenseful power of a

Burma-Shave jingle beamed on the rhythmic eruptions of Old Faithful!"

And unless we find better uses for Washington's glaciers in scenic parks, a way to tap the 250-million-acre-feet of water locked up in the state's 250 ice-fields may be found in the course of a study now underway by the Washington State Department of Conservation in cooperation with the U. S. Geological Survey. Efforts will be made to determine the feasibility of melting the glaciers to provide water for hydroelectric power and irrigation.

**Kings River Dam
Proposal Denied**

Francis Dlouhy's Application 10752 to the California Water Rights Board to appropriate water and build dams on the Middle and South forks of the Kings River, both inside and outside of Kings Canyon National Park, was denied on March 7, 1960. Although Dlouhy also has applications pending before the Federal Power Commission for this same project, the state board denial will presumably stop the plan for the present.

The Sierra Club had a representative at hearings held on August 27-28, 1959, in Fresno on the Application and also filed a protesting memorandum with the Water Rights Board.

Brandborg Goes to Wilderness

Stewart M. Brandborg, assistant conservation director of the National Wildlife Federation for the past six years, has accepted a newly-created position with the Wilderness Society in Washington, D.C. He will assist in the organization of state wilderness committees.

Sierra Club Outing Payment Dates Extended

Time was when a wilderness outing didn't cost much. Back a few years, the summer traveler simply stepped off a wagon trail in the foothills and the wilderness lay beyond. Provisions were not costly, specialized camping gear didn't exist, and a good burro could be purchased for a few dollars. Today's wilderness traveler is apt to find that the whole family wants to join the outing, and although they want to get far away from it all, they would rather not get away from all their money at once. Recognizing this need and in keeping with our aim to provide a broad program within the financial reach of the membership, we have initiated an extended payment system for this summer's entire program (except for the Ruwenzori expedition).

Superseding the February announcement of payment schedule, club members (or applicants for membership) may elect the following extended payment instead for an extra dollar per reservation to cover office costs:

<i>Date of Payment</i>	<i>Amount Due</i>
One month prior to trip	\$6.00 reservation fee plus 25% of the trip fee plus \$1.00 per each reservation on which extended payments are elected.
September 15	25% of trip fee
October 15	25% of trip fee
November 15	25% of trip fee

NOTE: Non-members (or non-applicants) should still complete their payments one month prior to their trip's D-Day.—R. V. G.

To Be or Not To Be—

(Continued from page 7)

of surveying virgin lands which might qualify for inclusion in the national park system.

A tenet of national park appraisals is that "nature makes the selection." Where nature has created superlative examples of mountain-building, with their conspicuous scenic, scientific, inspirational, and recreational values of national importance, that region warrants consideration for inclusion in the national park system. One wonders why the attitude on the part of some people that would infer nature had committed a crime in locating so much top quality within [Washington's] borders.

Be that as it may, the National Park Service entered upon its assignment during the summer of 1937, their study committee headed by Major O. A. Tomlinson, then superintendent of Mount Rainier National Park. Among the first areas to be examined were the North Cascades Primitive Area of 801,000 acres, so designated by the Forest Service in 1934, and the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area, set aside in 1936. At the time of the latter action, C. J. Buck, Regional Forester, had reported:

The adjoining North Cascade Primitive Area and Glacier Peak Wilderness Area make up one gigantic unmechanized remote unit, total more than 1½ million acres of naturally inaccessible country, ranging from the extremity of ruggedness to friendly mountain meadow types, containing now a natural biotic balance, which it seems should have excellent chances of perpetuation. Little if any of the timber within the proposed wilderness area may be considered as having commercial value for lumber production or pulpwood. . . . The greater part of the area is so rocky, ice-covered, and otherwise formidable as to be unsuited to grazing by domestic stock. . . . There are no practical water storage possibilities, either for power or irrigation.

Washington State Planning Council Studies the Cascades

Before the Park Service report could be completed the Washington State Planning Council undertook a hasty study in behalf of the interests opposed to national parks. "Hearings" were held in the key towns bordering the national forests, mass meetings that were well advertised and well attended, mostly by people who were trying to find out what the issues were. At each meeting maps were exhibited of the national forest system in the Cascades and the audience was left to infer that this was the area planned for inclusion in national parks. Billed as a "Cascade Mountains Study," the purpose as explained was to determine the wisest use of all the resources of those mountains. It was scarcely to be expected that the average citizen would be able to sift

facts from propaganda. Most of them were thoroughly confused.

Following the hearings, the Council announced that a report on the Cascade Mountains Study would be Topic No. 4 on the agenda of its regular meeting in Seattle the afternoon on August 10, 1940. Major Tomlinson arrived at 1:20 p.m., and found discussion on Topic No. 2 just ending. Comments during discussion on Topic No. 3 indicated that important decisions had been made during a closed meeting in the forenoon.

In due time the Chairman came to Topic No. 4 and called upon the Executive Officer to report on the Cascade Study. According to this report 5,000 leaflets containing a brief of the findings and recommendations on the Cascade Mountains Study already had been printed and distributed. The second of those recommendations read, "That no additional lands of the Cascade Mountains be converted into use as a national park." In addition to the leaflets, it was reported, radio scripts had been prepared for all the larger stations of the state.

No one other than the Executive Director made any comments on Topic No. 4 and the Chairman went on to Topic No. 5. As discussion on Topic No. 6 came to an end about 4 p.m., Major Tomlinson rose to go. The Chairman asked him if he wished to say anything about the Cascade Mountains Study. He replied that he had nothing to say and left.

When the full report, contained in a 56-page paper-bound book, came out it had a long list of acknowledgments to "agencies and persons who contributed materially to this publication." However, one searches the book in vain for statements by such agencies and individuals. It contains one exhibit as "Appendix No. 1," a report by the state Supervisor of Mines and Mining. One might have expected an objective study to have contained also the report of the Regional Geologist of the National Park Service. The state report set forth in considerable detail the same thesis expounded by the Resolutions Committee at Lakeside on March 28, 1906. There might have been included some explanation as to why this fabulous mineral wealth had not been exploited during the intervening third of a century—even though samples of high quality ore could be exhibited in abundance. No mention was made of the fact that the present Cascade range cuts diagonally across the older mountains that contain most of the deposits and have faulted them so seriously that quality cannot be found in sufficient quantity to warrant the outlay needed for development.

A copy of the printed report on the Cascade Mountains Study was mailed to the Secretary of the Interior, and the Chairman of the Council in his letter of transmittal courteously thanked him for the data sup-

plied by his field representatives. The reply by the Acting Director of the Park Service contained this comment:

"I note your statement that the data supplied by our field representatives was of great value to you in compiling this report. At the same time, I am aware of the fact that you included in your report none of that valuable data, and that you did not use the official statement of national park policy, transmitted to you by the Director of this Service, but that you used instead a statement the inadequacy of which the Director had called to your attention."

Reaction of the Secretary Of the Interior

A more colorful reply came from the Secretary of the Interior himself, the Hon. Harold L. Ickes. This was contained in his reaction to an article appearing in the July, 1940, issue of *Mining World*, published in Seattle. Excerpts read:

"I suggest that before you printed this obviously biased attack on the Department of the Interior you might have attempted to ascertain the facts from any authorized representative of the Department. You might have asked the Washington State Planning Council to let you read the material presented by the National Park Service, which the Council buried in its files while giving publicity to a theme to which it was already committed. . . .

"You would have found that in the early stages of the study the Planning Council held seven public mass meetings to pass public judgment on a park proposal which had not been made, and in the light of facts which had not been ascertained. You would have found that after this park proposal had served its purpose in arousing public apprehension, the Council then broadened the scope of its study to include a general inventory of the resources and potentialities of five national forests in the Cascade Range, and concluded that since those national forests, as a whole, had extensive resources and potentialities, no area therein could be considered for national park status. The Council now cites the sentiment of the seven mass meetings as evidence of the soundness of its position."

Now we stand at 1960—twenty years later. Perhaps the study which the Hon. Thomas Pelly and Washington's two Magnusons are asking can succeed in digging some interesting information out of dead files. And a thorough study might just lead to the creation of a national park in the North Cascades after all these years.

—From May, 1960, *Conservation News Letter*; Northwest Conservation League, Kennewick, Washington; MRS. MARGARET THOMPSON, Executive Secretary.

A public hearing will be held at 9 a.m. August 3 at the Inyo Courthouse, Independence, California, to hear testimony on the proposed reduction in the High Sierra Primitive Area to accommodate a commercial winter sports development.



SOME BOOKS FOR SUMMER

(for broadening of minds, to be used before and after the stretching of muscles)

Here's a do-it-yourself envelope for ordering, etc. You need list only the numbers of the publications you wish (shipped postpaid if you pay with your order, adding applicable sales tax). Your help in disseminating club publications helps the whole club program in many ways. ➔

The Meaning of Wilderness to Science is guaranteed to make anyone who travels in, looks at, or thinks about wilderness at least twice as perceptive—and to make clear why wilderness is important not only to science, but also to people. *A special pre-publication offer expires July 18 (see below).*

The book consists primarily of contributions by eminent scientists from various parts of the world to the Sixth Wilderness Conference. *It reveals better than any book yet published, with fascinating varieties of insight, why our life scientists must not only perceive, but must also gird up and fight for what they alone have the eyes to perceive—how vital the vanishing wealth of nonhuman living things is to the survival of humanity.*

The book is attractively hardbound, with 130 pages of text, 12 of preliminaries, 48 of varnished illustrations, an endpaper map, and five wilderness cards inserted in the jacket—all at \$5.75 on July 18—and \$4.50 until then.

As with *This Is the American Earth*, the club invites donations (deductible) to help distribute the book for conservation education, e.g., to libraries having meager budgets, or to more reviewers than we can cover unaided (prepublication donations for ten or more copies can be at \$3.50 each).

The Sierra Club: A Handbook, the new 1960 edition, is something all but the newest members (who get it automatically) should enclose a dollar bill for. The last club-wide distribution of the Handbook was back in 1947.

The Handbook helps you enjoy (and serve) the club fully. It has a new section of photographs, thanks to a suggestion by director Will Siri—"Some Members Through the Years"—photos drawn from our archives, a rich lode that our historian members should explore. You who have only an

old edition need this. If all copies move soon enough, the Publications Fund, derived from generous gifts and kept afloat by interest in our books, will come out a trifle ahead. If not, we'll put in a call to Dr. Siri.

The Mammoth Lakes Sierra, a handbook for roadside and trail and in our opinion the model of all regional guides, is edited by Genny Schumacher and was brought out—and sold out—last summer. The new big printing (in our league) presents valuable information clearly, attractively, and too economically. We should have priced it above \$1.95 to come out—unless a lot of members order copies directly from us. Many photographs, drawings, diagrams, and a helpful endpaper map.

Sierra Club Bulletin subscriptions for unenlightened friends and institutions, can help get an important aspect of conservation to a wider audience. Perhaps, for example, you know a forestry student who ought to supplement his working subscription to *The Timberman* or *American Forests* with a journal that has different feelings about preserving. Or perhaps a school library needs more reading matter around to show that conservation is more than pictures of Smokey or Bambi on the Tree Farm. We can add "Gift of (e.g.) Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Smith" to the address plate for your gift subscription.

This Is the American Earth (not for the summer knapsack) is enjoying unprecedented response in numbers sold and praise given to book and club in editorials and reviews all over. And now, criticism too: A Colorado Springs editorial says we should get private enterprise, not the government, to save wilderness. *Deseret News* and *Wenatchee Daily World* fear we have put out too effective a book which will destroy economy by saving wilderness. *American Forests* thinks it rather a beautiful failure (in an issue successfully loaded with ads for chainsaws and log-pushing and earth-tearing equipment); the text, without the photographs, "would be undistinguished." Alfred Knopf, however, would like to publish a special edition without the photographs (and is distributing the

book to the trade in the non-Western States). So there you are!

We know that \$15 is rough, but as the *New York Times* says (in the first of two highly laudatory reviews), the book is well worth the price of a pair of theater tickets. Besides, we know one Ansel Adams book that started out at \$15 and now costs \$100, used!

An Island in Time: The Point Reyes Peninsula, the club's latest film, is an extraordinary presentation of a little known, potentially great national seashore, by Laurel Reynolds and Mindy Willis. We're willing to say outright that you haven't seen the Point Reyes country, even if you have been there, until you have seen this film. Copies are available for rental or purchase.

List of Publications on Paper . . .

1. The Meaning of Wilderness to Science. \$4.50 prepub.
2. The Sierra Club: A Handbook. \$1
3. The Mammoth Lakes Sierra. \$1.95
4. Sierra Club Bulletin. \$3 per year. \$7.50 for 3
5. This Is the American Earth. \$15
6. A Climber's Guide to the Teton Range. \$3
7. A Climber's Guide to the High Sierra. \$3
8. Starr's Guide to the John Muir Trail. \$2
9. Going Light—with Backpack or Burro. \$2
10. Belaying the Leader. \$1.35
11. Ramblings Through the High Sierra. \$3
12. John Muir's Studies in the Sierra. \$3.75
13. Portfolio III. Yosemite (Ansel Adams) \$100
14. Wilderness Cards (5, 10, 15¢) for North Cascades, Volcanic Cascades, Wind River Range, Sawtooth Mountains, Point Reyes (less 40 pct. on orders of \$25+ at list).
15. Back files of the *Bulletin*, starting in 1893, prices on request.
16. From other publishers, books hewing to our humor, list on request.

. . . and on Color and Sound Films

17. "Wilderness Alps of Stehekin" (31 min.). \$175
18. "An Island in Time: The Point Reyes Peninsula" (26 min.). \$185
19. "Wilderness River Trail" (26 min.). \$150
20. "Two Yosemite" (10 min.). \$65



ORDER FORM (no postage required)

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SOME BOOKS FOR SUMMER

The Department of Wildlife in the State
of California has a new book for sale.

Each year our staff selects for publication a few of the finest titles available in the field of wildlife and natural resources. This year's selection is a book on the birds of the state. It is a beautiful book and a valuable one. It is available for sale at a special price of \$4.95. The book is available in paperback for \$2.95. The book is available in hardcover for \$7.95. The book is available in both paperback and hardcover. The book is available in both paperback and hardcover. The book is available in both paperback and hardcover.

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The physicist, Dr. J. A. Rush, has warned: "When man obliterates wilderness, he repudiates the evolutionary force which put him on this planet. In a deeply terrifying sense, man is on his own." Although not addressing themselves to this specific text, the following scientists help clarify it in these excerpts from their contributions to

The Meaning of Wilderness to Science

Dr. Luna B. Leopold

U.S. Geological Survey

... The Spartans left us a little sample [of unspoiled land] through inadvertence. Though that sample leaves much to be desired, it is still better than nothing. Presumably, we should not have to rely on inadvertence to leave something similar in America, and it is not yet too late to begin.

Daniel Beard

U.S. National Park Service

... Who among us today dares to call worthless which animal or which plant or what independent group of them, developed by nature through the eons of time? Would there have been such a thing as civilization if all the puny grasses that were ancestors for our cereals had been wiped out because of some mix-up caused by man?

Professor Stanley A. Cain

University of Michigan

... You can't defend wilderness by counting noses, just as you can't justify the Corcoran Art Gallery or the Library of Congress by comparing the number who go there with the number who go to the Rose Bowl or the number who watch 'Gunsmoke' on Saturday nights.

Robert Rausch

Arctic Health Research Center

Conservation in the broadest sense includes not only wise economic use but also the perpetuation of natural areas with all their components, ... the utilization of natural areas for scientific purposes is one of the most fruitful, as well as the least harmful, of the kinds of repeated use. ... Many Alaskans feel that we should wait until the need is more evident before additional wilderness is preserved, not realizing that when everyone is convinced that such action is necessary, ... assets of inestimable value will be irrevocably lost.

Professor Ian McTaggart Cowan

University of British Columbia

... [Unspoiled areas] must be large enough to provide the diverse opportunities that the

very complex human organism needs if it is to live out its life in the fullness and richness of spirit; they must be large enough also to guarantee the survival of the other large creatures with whom we share this continent. ... In our militant enthusiasm to throw back the wilderness and open up this continent for man, we have been so far successful that we are about to destroy a part of us that is as indispensable as it is irreplaceable.

Professor Raymond B. Cowles

University of California, Los Angeles

... Several decades ago South Africa found it necessary to develop game laws, forestry laws, and even laws against picking wildflowers—this in a remote African continent, which we think of as underpopulated and so spacious. ... That seemed to me to be the epitome of the changes that have occurred in that continent in so short a time. These are all due to rising pressure on resources which threatens the preservation of nature.

If you don't agree with what I have said already about my perturbation over diminishing supplies and areas with rising populations, then your doubt of the statements is the reason for my belief that we may well fail to take the necessary steps in time to preserve our lands. ... You see, underlying everything is our population size, again and again. *This is the basic factor.*

Frank Fraser Darling

Vice President, Conservation Foundation

... I think we have got to get rid of every illusion we ever had, including that of the expanding economy, which I think is the greatest continuous illusion that we could possibly have. ...

The value of wilderness to science, put baldly—very baldly, and not at all sentimentally—is the provision of study areas of pristine conditions. (I am sticking now to science: what we know, not what we think and dream.) Any eco-system represents a complex of conversion cycles of energy flow. ...

It is all linked. We cannot consider the mammals as something apart, or the birds as something apart. ... We have to go deeper still into this great complex of species

which many of us don't even think about. ... The preservation of sufficiently large patches of wilderness is an urgent scientific necessity, which through research into the physiology of communities could yield results of vital interest to the wider fields of agriculture, forestry, nutrition, and soil science.

Professor A. Starker Leopold

University of California, Berkeley

The processes of evolution of communities, plants, animals, and soil are always toward complexity; the processes of our uses of these communities are always toward simplicity. In reducing the complex to the simple, we are channeling the flows of nutrients and of energy from the circular path which is the natural path in any evolved community to an outflowing path, in order to maintain ourselves. ... By diversion of these energy flows, we are maintaining ourselves at the moment, and ... we are trying by diverting more and more of this energy to maintain more and more people. ... Technological agriculture is not in any sense compensating for ecologic disturbance; it is simply accelerating it, and in the case of friable lands this leads sooner or later to loss of fertility and loss of production. This basic theme ... certainly should guide our thinking on all land-use problems.

G. M. Trevelyan

British historian (quoted in book)

Two things are characteristic of our age. ... The conscious appreciation of natural beauty, and the rapidity with which natural beauty is destroyed. No doubt it is partly because the destruction is so rapid that the appreciation is so loud. ... The nearer the bone, the sweeter the meat. ...

Yet now when [natural beauty] is most consciously valued, it is being rapidly destroyed upon this planet. ... This matter has become a public question of the first magnitude. The value of natural beauty is admitted in words by our public men, but when it comes to deeds the doctrine is too new to bear much fruit. ...

Destruction walks by noonday. Unless the State reverses the engines and instead of speeding up destruction, plans the development of the country so that the minimum of harm can be done to beauty, the future of our race, whatever its social, economic and political structure may be, will be brutish and shorn of spiritual value.

* * *

When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.—JOHN MUIR.

Rainbow Promise Breaking; New Threat At Echo Park

Rainbow Bridge National Monument contains one of the great antiquities of nature—the massive arch of sandstone, bearing the patina of the ages, austere architecture in an arid land. It is irreplaceable. *Its setting is about to be destroyed.*

Protection of the Monument is part of an agreement written into law: the Secretary of the Interior shall preclude its impairment; and no dam or reservoir of the Colorado River Storage Project shall lie within any national park or monument.

Protection requires money. At the time of the agreement, the Bureau of Reclamation was estimating the cost as 4 or 5 million dollars—all “within the contingency item for the Glen Canyon dam” (which will damage the Monument and violate the law unless protective steps begin at once). Now, four years later, the Bureau has multiplied the estimate by five and there is an effort being inspired to renege. Protection is called “a boondoggle.” Congress has not appropriated the funds for the protective dam (at a site safely below Rainbow Bridge, and about to be inundated by the reservoir soon to rise behind Glen Canyon dam).

There is an alarming double threat. The arch would not be flooded but might be endangered. The approach and setting would become a mess resembling what happens at Hetch Hetchy and Lake Mead. Worse would be the inundation of principle—the principle fought for to keep Echo Park from getting the Hetch Hetchy treatment. Something that dollars cannot replace—the National Park System—is being endangered again to avoid making good on a promise accepted in good faith.

Possibly the only way out now will at this late date require great courage—but be worth it: let the Secretary of the Interior, if he has no funds to start the proper protective works at once, direct that further construction at Glen Canyon dam cease until funds are provided to allow him to live up to the agreement made in good faith by the Administration and the Congress.

Would you back him if he did? *Let him know!*
D.R.B.

RIGHT: AUTUMN IN ECHO PARK, by Martin Litton . . . 500 feet of water would do no good here . . .



Rainbow Bridge, by Weldon Heald.

At the head of Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, by Philip Hyde.



At the head of Lake Meade, by Harold Bradley.

