

# SIERRA

January 1963

CLUB BULLETIN



Perhaps what most moves us in winter is some reminiscence  
of far-off summer . . . What beauty in the running brooks!  
What life! The cold is merely superficial;  
it is summer still at the core, far, far within.

—HENRY DAVID THOREAU

## My First Axe

My name is Fred Behm, of Blue River, Oregon. I am a tree farmer. I have been a logger most of my life, in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Idaho, Washington, Alaska, and Oregon. I got my first axe when I was seven years old, and made my first day's wages when I was nine, setting end hooks on a horse-powered jammer, or log loader. This was in Wisconsin. At this time there were still large stands of virgin timber. I talked to old lumber-jacks who told me they had seen it when you could walk for miles in what was one of the greatest stands of white pine in the world. They said it was like a park, no underbrush, just a sea of great white pines.

When I left Wisconsin to follow the timber west, we were cutting timber so small the only way you could scale it was to count the logs. We figured ten logs to the bunch, ten bunches to the thousand. Today I don't think you can find a stand of the old virgin pine to even look at.

Then I went to Idaho pine country. It is rapidly suffering the same fate.

Then to Oregon. Now I can see the same thing happening here. Only here someone had the foresight to set aside some areas for future generations to see what our great country once was like. Also to protect one of the greatest watersheds in the world.

Now what is happening? We can't stand to see the last of God's wonders left. It's "Get that last tree, boys." But remember, we can't follow the trees west any farther. The ocean doesn't grow any. We say we have to have those trees for our economy. That is what we did with the buffalo, we needed their hides for our economy. We are doing the same thing with our trees, we are logging them just for the hide. There is nearly as much left in the woods and going into the burners as is utilized. One of our major local companies admits it could run another paper plant on what it alone is wasting.

And yet the Forest Service puts up large sales in our high country that has mostly pulp timber when we are burning our pulp right in town. I think the Windigo Pass sale would be a good example of what I mean.

As a logger, I do not think I could log the timber in the Waldo Lake area profitably if it were given to me, as I know of no market at present for this type of timber.

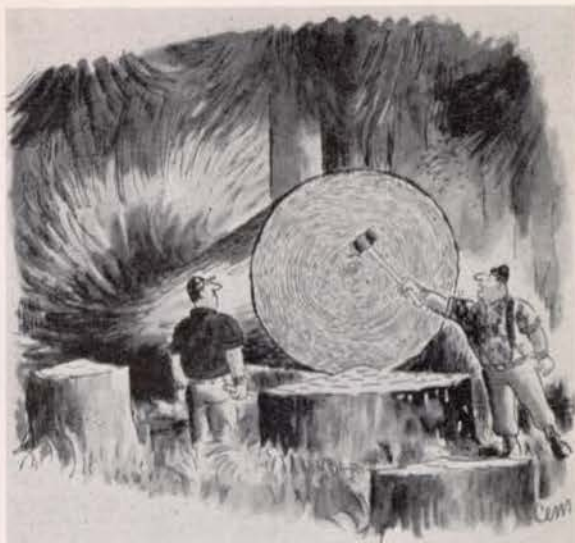
The lakes around Waldo are so close together that to do any logging in between them would ruin the whole aspect of the area.

I have worked for, with, and alongside of the Forest Service for a number of years and have always had great respect for them. But I think their policy has changed too much from Preservation to one of Commercialism. They seem more and more opposed to our wilderness areas. They are letting the trails go to pot, and the maps they put out for the public are hardly of any use.

I attended the meeting at Harris Hall in Eugene during the summer of 1961 on the Waldo Lake issue, called by members of the Chamber of Commerce and other parties. The way this meeting was conducted confirmed my feeling that the Chambers of Commerce are not the ones to carry the ball for the public on issues of the future of our country. Their seeming unconcern for the wishes of the public seems not to be in the best interests of the country.

Mr. Ray Ramey, who heads the Lane County Chamber of Commerce's Forestry Committee, made the statement that he wondered if Secretary Freeman was God to sit in Washington and say what was the best thing for Waldo Lake. It makes me wonder if Secretary Freeman is not a lot closer to God than Mr. Ramey. Secretary Freeman is trying to save some of God's wonders, and Mr. Ramey seems to think he can improve on God's handiwork by making a

Drawing  
by C.E.M.  
© 1962  
The New  
Yorker  
Magazine  
Inc.



"Napoleon Bonaparte? Right about there, I'd say."

bunch of stumps, probably to hang advertisements on.

Some people seem to be jealous of Nature and think they can improve on it. If people want cultured parks they should stay in town.

I made several trips with a photographer into our Three Sisters Primitive Area. I would take him to what I thought was the prettiest lakes or scenes. When we got there I was amazed to see him take pictures of old trees and logs that were all weather-beaten. But I finally realized that he was actually photographing Nature, where there is the young, the old, and the weather-beaten. This is what makes people go to our wilderness, where things are still as God has made them. I think it would even get tiresome to look at if our women were all Miss Americas.

We are told this should be under multiple use. Well, my understanding of multiple use is the most good for the most people. Then a lot of people must be wrong. I have talked to a good many people—I mean just plain people who have not a dollar to gain on the Waldo issue—and I think I have yet to hear one who is in favor of logging in this area. So I cannot see where it would be to the most good for the most people to log unprofitably as beautiful an area as the Waldo. It should be protected as a recreation area and watershed forever.—FRED BEHM, before the House Subcommittee on Forestry, Portland, Oregon, October, 1961.



## Sierra Club Bulletin

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

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

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COVER: A commercial approximation of one of the 72 beautiful color reproductions from "In Wilderness Is the Preservation of the World," Sierra Club, 1962. Photograph by Eliot Porter.

## Wild Lands and Re-Creation—The Long View

It is common these days to think in terms of 5-year plans. The "New Frontier" has addressed itself to the '60's—a decade. The "Master Plan for Higher Education in California" looks ahead to 1975—12 years. How far ahead should conservationists plan?

Man of our genus and species has existed for about 130,000 years. Astronomers and biologists know no reason why he could not survive for 600 million years to come, provided, of course, that he does not destroy himself in the folly of his social adolescence. So far, therefore, he has lived only 2/100ths of one per cent of his survival expectancy. His future stretches before him. We may not need to develop now a natural resource management program for the entire 600 million years, but it behooves us to plan with sufficient vision that our administration of nonrenewable resources will not be regretted by man for 99 and 99/100ths per cent of his existence. What might "sufficient vision" be?

If the current rate of world population increase (1.6 per cent per year) were continued for 1000 years—only about 12 consecutive life spans—there would then be 125 persons per square yard over all the land surface of the earth! Well, there will not be that many people. The current rate of increase will not continue that long. Nevertheless, the population of the world will double in about 45 years and, even at a much reduced rate of increase, would quadruple in 100 years. How long this will continue, no one knows. It is my guess that the world population will stabilize in 200 years and that if there are still marshes along our flyways, fresh water in our rivers, and wild places in our mountains 100 years from now, then we will "have it made" in the United States.

During these years the tidal wave of human population will crash against the world's natural and human resources and will wash back to relative stability. These 100 to 200 years, of all the years backward to the origin of our culture and forward to our destiny, will in many ways be the most critical for all mankind. It is our responsibility and our challenge to help protect the wilderness resource of our country during these all-important years. Let us not betray the future by confining the scope of our thinking to 5-year plans. One hundred years is the minimum. This is for keeps.

For how many people should we plan? Men ask too often how many people the world *could* support. Specialists should long since have been at work *deciding*—not *discovering*—how many people the world *should* support, and how fast that population should be approached. *We* are specialists in the use of wild lands. We shall not be able to provide all the benefits that all people will desire. Our criterion of success should be maximum use without unreasonable sacrifice of the human values to which our resources can best administer.

What shall we offer all these people, 100 and 200 and 1000 years hence? Recreation, of course. Outdoor recreation that strengthens, relaxes, and refreshes the body, cleans out the lungs, gets the old heart beating again. Recreation that affords pleasure, fun, diversion, and change for work-weary minds.

### Redwoods and a Kangaroo Rat

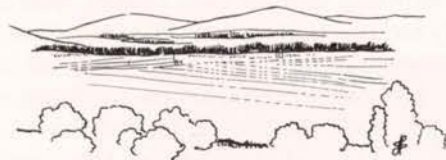
Is there something else that wild lands can do for man? There is. Forgive me if I illustrate with several personal experiences. I have gone many times to our coastal mountains for recreation of the sort I have just described: swimming in the rivers, week ends at a cabin, family hikes, and collecting trips. Most of these experiences fade in my memory into a pleasant kaleidoscopic impression of fun and relaxation, but one experience was different. When I was a boy the family drove through the redwoods. My father became

sleepy at the wheel, pulled off the road, and suggested that we all walk in among the trees and lie down to take cat naps. I was *not* sleepy and felt a bit disgusted. Nevertheless, I lay down on my back among the ferns and looked way, way up at those giant trees. I listened to the soft rustle of their lofty branches, and a wondrous sense of peace and quiet crept over me. Call it a religious experience if you will. It was more significant than fun and diversion, and I recall it vividly.

Similarly, I have tramped and trapped on our deserts again and again. It has mostly been sun, sand, and ants. But one night, after a hard day, I wandered alone under a full moon. A refreshing breeze touched my bare back and moved my hair. I watched busy kangaroo rats bounce along on rodent errands, and listened for a kit fox to bark again. That night the desert contributed something to my life.

I don't believe that I am more starry-eyed than the next man. I am not saying that these experiences have been important to me because they taught me that what I most want to do is retire to the geographic center of a large national park, sit alone among the flowers, and write verses; I am saying that these and many similar experiences have been important to me because during the war as I huddled in slit trenches listening to enemy artillery shells sizzle through black night skies, I often thought of such experiences, and the recollection helped me to know that it was worth while to stick it out for a few more hours, or days, or weeks. I believe that in these less desperate times such experiences also offer subtle benefits to my teaching and day-to-day living.

Most of you know whereof I speak because you have had similarly enriching experiences. Should we compare notes, we would find that at these times we were usually alone, or with only a few like-minded friends, and that we were in places of great natural beauty where space contributed to the grandeur and mood of the scene. It was not so much body and mind that were refreshed as it was the spirit. This is recreation in the original Latin sense of re-creation. Re-creation demands space, solitude, and relatively fine and undisturbed habitats. In short, it requires wilderness. Can man afford wilderness in these times of burgeoning population?



This is an age of organization men, of vast subdivisions of nearly identical houses, of social living courses in public schools, of "togetherness," mass media, and "group-mindedness." It is an age of conformity, and as our numbers swell, the mold will press ever tighter. I know and recognize that such living has important advantages. But science is not advanced by conformity. Statesmanship is not served by mediocrity. The plastic arts, music, and literature are not furthered by togetherness. Neither man nor mankind can progress toward goals that are worthy of the human potential unless they discover some measure of originality, creativity, and excellence. These are not found by large groups adhering to a common denominator of adequacy. They *are* sometimes found by men and women who have partaken of the inspiration and spiritual refreshment that America's wilderness resource can provide. We cannot afford not to have re-creation.

—MILTON HILDEBRAND



Drawing by  
Lois and Louis Darling  
from *Silent Spring*

THE MOST IMPORTANT chronicle of this century for the human race," says Justice William O. Douglas of Dr. Rachel Carson's recently published *Silent Spring*. The noisy reaction to it gives indication that no book since Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* has so stirred the American public and Washington officialdom as has this beautifully written and well documented appraisal of the pesticide problem. Shortly after publication the book became a best seller and a Book of the Month Club selection. Few books have induced such controversy and such a plethora of written and verbal comments, praise, and condemnation, or brought forth such a tidal wave of letters to congressmen, government agencies, newspapers, and to the author and publishers. More than 95 per cent of the avalanche of mail concerning her book has been complimentary. This modest, quiet, but brilliant, writer and scientist has been catapulted into the public consciousness.

It is not surprising that the most extreme reactions against this skillfully and effectively written document have come from those whose purse strings and employment are threatened. There is much evidence to support the published rumor that segments of the pesticide chemical industry have raised large sums to hire a public relations firm to help counteract and destroy the effects *Silent Spring* is having upon U.S. citizens. Violent reactions have emanated from many segments of the chemical industry, already a little "skittish" from criticisms about the adverse effects of a goodly number of pesticide products. Likewise, criticism has at times been extreme from officials of bureaucracies and other public and private agencies engaged in control operations. Some authorities in the field of economic entomology, particularly those who receive financial support from industry directly, or for their laboratories, have been violent in their opposition to the book. Others who have directed and widely supported some of the unrestrained chemical control or eradication programs have been among the most extreme in their condemnation of the message this book so vividly and convincingly portrays.

## A Noisy Reaction

Extremists have been found on both sides of this prevailing issue. Some wildlife enthusiasts, nature lovers, sentimentalists, and those whose economic and recreational interests have been adversely affected by these dangerous poisons, along with an ever increasing number of people who have been made ill by exposure to various chemicals, have been equally as extreme in condemning almost all use of pesticides.

In the vigorous campaign against *Silent Spring*, the philosophy seems to exist that it makes little difference what line of attack is followed if only the book is condemned. A writer for the *Globe Times* of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, in describing the adverse reactions of farm bureau members from two Pennsylvania counties to this best seller, wrote, "No one in either county farm office who was talked to today had read the book, but all disapproved of it heartily." A still more common situation throughout America, following what appears to be a planned program of attack on this book, was summarized by the editor of the *Bennington Banner*, when he wrote that "the anguished reaction to *Silent Spring* has been to refute statements that were never made."

### Knock the Straw Man Down

Another obvious approach in opposing a philosophy or weakening a cause is to discredit the author or the persons who champion it. In the effort to discredit those crying for a saner approach in the use of pesticides, the masters of invectives and insinuations have been busy. Miss Carson has been referred to slightly as a priestess of nature, a bird, cat, or fish lover, and a devotee of some mystical cult having to do with the laws of the Universe to which critics obviously consider themselves immune. These same critics have referred to her as a pseudoscientist and faddist.

A common approach of extremists or unscrupulous critics is to build straw men and then proceed to knock them down. One writer condemns Miss Carson's "emotional and inaccurate outburst" and then proceeds to proclaim the merits of pesticides without restraint and in terms no responsible scientist can accept.

A number of agricultural chemical leaders have condemned the author for being emotional and one-sided in not showing the great values of pesticides and related chemicals. To look at this criticism objectively I would ask, why should she have

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Dr. Clarence Cottam is Director of the Welder Wildlife Foundation of Sinton, Texas, an organization dedicated to wildlife research and education. He is a former assistant director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and now serves as a member of the Subcommittee on Research of the Committee on Pest Control and Wildlife Relationships, National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council—the Subcommittee whose Part III report (Bulletin 920-C) "has not yet appeared because of sharp differences of opinion within the committee." Dr. Cottam is also President of the National Parks Association.

By Clarence Cottam

# to *Silent Spring*

emphasized the values of pesticides? Hasn't this side of the problem already been overemphasized by a multi-billion dollar industry employing many of the most experienced salesmen and lobbyists available? The author clearly states that her purpose in writing the book was to show the actual and potential dangers involved in our reckless and largely unrestrained broadcasting of some of the most deadly poisons yet concocted by man. Her goal has been admirably achieved and with an array of verifiable facts that few unbiased scholars will question. Admittedly, her subject dealt with the dangers of pesticides and not their values. The chemical industry is at liberty to write a volume explaining this if it feels it has not already adequately informed the American public.

In his intemperate condemnation of *Silent Spring*, F. A. Soraci, Director of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, refers to those who oppose "large scale pest control programs" as "a vociferous, misinformed group of nature-balancing, organic-gardening, bird-loving, unreasonable citizenry." This would seem to imply that all pest control, at least in New Jersey, is wholly in the public interest and so nearly perfect that improvement in formulation, timing, or methods of application would not be possible. Such extreme of unfairness and absurdity will do the cause of legitimate control much more harm than good. We doubt that even many of those who oppose *Silent Spring* would concur with such an irritable and irresponsible statement—and especially coming from a prominent state official! The Soraci comment stands out in striking contrast to the temperate, dignified, and documented discussion by Miss Carson in her account of large-scale control or eradication programs.

Dr. William J. Darby, a well-recognized biochemist and nutritionist of Vanderbilt University, despite his eminence as a scientist, appears not to be above bias and prejudice when some of his own views and interests, or those of his department, are involved. He has been so uncharitable and intolerant as to imply in his review of *Silent Spring* in *Chemical and Engineering News* of October 1, 1962, that Miss Carson's book is "completely without any semblance of scientific objectivity." He further writes, "Her ignorance or bias on some of the considerations throws doubt on her competence to judge policy. For example, she indicates that it is neither wise nor responsible to use pesticides in the control of insect-borne diseases." This is not her position as her book clearly shows. Such a statement from a man of Darby's scientific training indicates an inexcusable degree of bias that causes one to wonder *why?*

Earlier in the same review, Darby's irritation or personal interest causes him to severely criticize Miss Carson's 55 pages of references. He indicates that these will appeal only to those "as uncritical as the author," such as "the organic gardeners,

the anti-fluoride leaguers, the worshippers of natural foods, those who cling to the philosophy of a vital principle, and pseudo-scientists and faddists." We can be sure Dr. Darby would have exploded had the author not well documented her facts which he obviously does not want to accept.

Dr. Darby concludes that "... In view of her scientific qualifications in contrast to those of our distinguished scientific leaders and statesmen, this book should be ignored."

Because a few other extreme critics have attempted to belittle Dr. Carson's background, training, and competence, a few comments on this subject are called for. The record, including *Who's Who* and *American Men of Science*, which these uncharitable critics should have at their command, shows clearly that the author is highly acclaimed. Few of her critics can approach her in the number of degrees, awards, and honors she has received for outstanding accomplishments. Dr. Carson has received four honorary doctorates from well-recognized universities, one in biology and three in letters or literature. She has been the recipient of more than 15 national honors, including: Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature; National Institute of Arts and Letters; Membership in the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute; Gold Medal Award of the New York Zoological Society, Silver Jubilee; Achievement Award American Association of University Women; Westinghouse American Association for the Advancement of Science Writing Award; and the U.S. Department of Interior Distinguished Service Award.

Her book, *The Sea Around Us*, which sold well over two million copies plus many thousands of paper-covered volumes, was a Book of the Month Club selection and a best seller for 86 continuous weeks. This book has been translated into more than 30 languages. The clarity and attractiveness of her writing showing the complex interrelationship of the life of the sea reveal her superior competence as a biologist and ecologist as well as a writer of extraordinary skill. Those who attempt to belittle her are more effective in belittling themselves.

Dr. Carson's message in *Silent Spring*, as in her three preced-

(Continued on page 14)

Photo by  
Bell Aircraft  
Corporation  
Fort Worth, Texas





Photo by  
Richard  
Norgaard

(Lack of)

## Progress Report on Rainbow Bridge

SECRETARY of the Interior Stewart Udall's devotion to conservation, unequalled in enthusiasm by any Interior Secretary since Harold Ickes, has recently been put to an exacting test at Rainbow Bridge. Two of his Bureaus were also being tested: Reclamation for its devotion to a promise, and the Geological Survey for its devotion to revealing truth to the government, not shielding the public from it. The results of the tests are discouraging to conservationists.

On January 6, 1963, the Sierra Club called upon Secretary Udall to rescue the national park system from the gravest threat to the system since its establishment—the imminent flooding of Rainbow Bridge National Monument, Utah, in violation of the law. A month earlier, on December 14, 1962, the Sierra Club and the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs had joined with the National Parks Association in a suit seeking to enjoin the Secretary from closing the diversion tunnels of Glen Canyon dam. The District Court of the District of Columbia denied the request on the grounds that the conservation organizations, having no economic or financial interest in the national monument, had no standing to sue. (See *Rainbow's Day in Court* in the December 1962 Annual SCB.)

The District Court also ruled, however (contrary to the Interior Department's arguments), that the failure of Congress to appropriate protective funds did not nullify the Colorado Project Act requirement that the Secretary must preclude damage to Rainbow Bridge and that no Project dam or reservoir shall lie within any national park or monument. "The Court has ruled that the protection is up to you," said David Brower, Executive Director of the Sierra Club, in his letter to the Secretary. "There is no easy way to meet your responsibility. There is no honorable way to avoid it." Excerpts from the January 6 Sierra Club letter to Secretary Udall follow:

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is an open letter about what conservationists feel absolutely must be done at Rainbow Bridge if conservation, and the body of law that gives it meaning, is to persist in the United States. . . .

Glen Canyon is the exquisite setting for Rainbow Bridge National Monument, over which, as you know, an extraordinary controversy has been raging for many years, and concerning which a vital agreement, made in all honor in public, is about to be breached in private.

To prevent your allowing the destruction of what must not be

destroyed, we became party to a complaint filed December 14, 1962 in the District Court of the District of Columbia, wherein conservationists sought to strengthen the hand of a Secretary of the Interior who would prevent destruction of an irreplaceable resource which the law of the land required him to protect.

In your letter to the National Parks Association preceding this suit you made clear your sympathies, but you said, basing your statement upon what your attorneys had advised, that the law requiring protection had been superseded.

The District Court, however, has found otherwise: "Provisions of the Colorado Storage Project Act remain in force. Their execution lies within the discretion of the Secretary."

The Act requires that "no dam or reservoir (of the Colorado Project) shall lie within any national park or monument." . . .

Although the District Court seems to have ruled that the public has no standing before the court in its attempt to act in defense of public parks, you yourself do stand in a position to act in defense of the National Park System, including Rainbow Bridge; and the Court has ruled that it is up to you to obey the law—to follow the dictates of the Colorado Storage Project Act.

This you can do. It will require courage. We are convinced that you have that courage. We are equally convinced that the American public will support you in exerting it. . . .

We urge you to order that the gates of Glen Canyon shall not be closed until Rainbow Bridge is protected as required by law. . . .

We remind you that the requirements of this law, arguments of the Department's attorneys notwithstanding, have been upheld in the Court. This requirement has also been urged by all the nation's responsible conservation organizations.

The Colorado Project Act further requires you to preclude damage to Rainbow Bridge itself. On this subject, as you well know, there has been an enormous amount of rationalization. . . .

We therefore also urge you to instigate, without further delay, an independent investigation of the geological hazard to Rainbow Bridge if the waters of Lake Powell should ever be allowed to invade the National Monument, under whatever circumstances. A patient effort upon the part of the nation's conservationists to seek necessary information from the U.S. Geological Survey, which is responsible to you, has failed to produce the kind of response essential to the public interest in a controversy of this magnitude. This conclusion is shared by many intelligent lay citizens, by geologists within the Survey who for obvious reasons cannot be quoted, and by non-governmental geologists who we are certain would welcome the opportunity to submit independent evidence.

You yourself have relied upon recent assurances of the Geological Survey that there is no geological danger—assurances which contradict earlier Department reports. We have competent evidence that these assurances are unfounded. . . .

### *Conservationists whipsawed*

Before the House Appropriations Committee in 1962 you argued that to avoid a damaging precedent and to meet the requirements of law, sufficient funds should be voted to protect Rainbow Bridge. You stated, however, that you believed there was no geological danger to the structure.

Before the same committee Congressman Wayne Aspinall argued that he saw no objection to having water under the Bridge, but if

if there were actual geological danger to the Bridge that would be another matter.

Conservation organization representatives who were on hand and prepared to demonstrate the geological danger were allowed but five minutes each to testify on one of the most important of conservation controversies.

Long, anxious years had produced the agreement to protect the National Park System. Only a pitifully few inadequate minutes were available to protect the agreement. And the cognizant government bureau refused to conduct the relevant geological studies.

The Court has ruled that "the discretionary acts of an administrative officer are not subject to judicial direction."

The Secretary does *not* have the discretion to stay the tides, nor to delay the flow of the Colorado River into the proposed Lake Powell once the Glen Canyon gates have closed. . . .

The Secretary *does* have the discretion to operate Glen Canyon dam and reservoir, and to determine when storage shall begin.

The nation calls upon you to require that storage shall not begin under any circumstances until protection is adequate.

Delay in power generation is remediable. Destruction of law, of precedent, and of the most embattled unit of the National Park System is not remediable and there can be no sadder mark on the record of the Department of the Interior, or any of its Secretaries, than to countenance such violation.

America's National Park System is the symbol of one of the greatest concepts this nation has produced. It is an idea that richly deserves the chance to live and to grow.

Upon your shoulders, in the Rainbow Bridge issue, the burden rests. Congress has not yet made available the funds necessary for the protection it requires. The Court has ruled that the protection is up to you. It is exactly that. There is no easy way to meet your responsibility. There is no honorable way to avoid it.

Sincerely,  
DAVID BROWER, *Executive Director*

Conservationists learned that January 21, 1963 had been selected as the date for pouring concrete into the right-bank diversion tunnel—without which it would not be possible to prevent the flooding of protective site C. On January 19, 1963, the Sierra Club sent this last urgent wire to the Secretary:

The Honorable Stewart L. Udall  
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

We appeal to you to delay closing Glen Canyon dam pending earliest possible new conference with conservationists. Although Supreme Court today sustained Circuit Court and District Court ruling that we lack standing to sue to protect Rainbow Bridge, nothing has reversed District Court opinion that Colorado Project Act still requires the Secretary to protect it. Thus, the Court disagrees with your argument that present Congress's failure to appropriate protective funds ended your responsibility. Delay in closing, while deferring some power revenue, would not reduce total revenue or affect useful life of dam.

Conservationists conference could review new situation and explore ways in which we could help you protect the Bridge from damage and support the park system as required by law. The president's conservation program will be greatly imperiled if his chief conservation administrator can repeal conservation law by executive inaction.

We urge you to act vigorously to prevent the execution of a priceless and irreplaceable resource.

DAVID BROWER, *Executive Director*

No written answer has been received from Secretary Udall to either of these pleas. In the course of a reply to photographer Philip Hyde, however, in mid-January, the Secretary stated that, ". . . complex legal issues have been raised by the Colo-

rado Storage Project Act and subsequent actions taken by the Congress. There are those in the Congress who strongly dispute the interpretation you have placed on the legislation which concerns this act, and I must now look to my own solicitors for advice concerning the obligations and responsibilities which devolve upon my office." (Several Sierra Club members having extensive legal and political background have pointed out in response to this statement that, "Any solicitor who doesn't give the ruling a Secretary wants can be replaced.")

On January 21, 1963—the day the right-bank diversion tunnel was to be closed at Glen Canyon dam in Arizona, Sierra Club Director David Brower arrived at the office of Secretary Udall in Washington, D.C., at 8 A.M. Eastern Standard Time (6 A.M. at Bureau of Reclamation headquarters in Page, Arizona—at Glen Canyon dam headquarters). He hoped to see the Secretary early that morning to urge him to put through a last-minute call to Page instructing his bureau personnel to hold off the concrete pouring operation a few days until the final conference with conservationists might be held to determine if some alternative could not be found. But the Secretary was busy that morning and did not find time to discuss the issue with David Brower until noon (10 A.M. Page, Arizona time), one hour after the beginning of business at the damsite and after the Secretary had had a news conference. The subject of that conference, by coincidence, was dams—dams on the lower Colorado River—dams and additional power plants to be built "at Marble Canyon, Bridge Canyon, and wherever else such plants on the Colorado may prove feasible."

In this news conference, Secretary Udall stated:

A critical period is at hand; a more critical period lies ahead for millions of people who are flocking to the Pacific Southwest to establish permanent homes. This burgeoning population will require vast quantities of additional water for industrial and municipal use; greater quantities of electricity and other basic services; and more irrigated land. Piecemeal development cannot do the job. . . . Financing of the far-reaching water and power development plan must be based largely on the sale of electric power and the sale of municipal and industrial water. The study must recognize the increasing high value of hydroelectric power for peaking and, therefore, the importance of power plants on the Colorado River. Power revenues from the Hoover Dam plant, the power plants at Parker and Davis dams, and from the additional power plants to be built on the Colorado River at Marble Canyon, Bridge Canyon—and wherever else such plants on the Colorado may prove feasible . . . should be utilized in repaying the costs of the basin-wide water development.

Basin-wide water development to provide water and power for burgeoning populations—but too little thought for other needs of men. Not only is Rainbow Bridge being violated by filling Glen Canyon dam; the far greater tragedy is loss of Glen Canyon itself. Glen Canyon—the place no one knew—has just been coming into its own as one of the great scenic resources of the earth, unequaled anywhere, even in Grand Canyon itself, and fully of national park caliber. But Glen's uniqueness will be destroyed by 3300 miles of shoreline fluctuation around Lake Powell. Its maximum drawdown will expose nearly 100,000 acres of cracked mud, drowned vegetation, tamarisk jungle, and bleached sandstone.

The nation may well ask why, when the Department of Agriculture is trying to shift millions of acres of farm land to recreational uses, the Interior Department should destroy one of

the greatest of all recreational resources to subsidize a huge growth of reclamation agriculture. And not only at Glen, but as Secretary Udall made clear at his January 21 news conference, at Marble Canyon and Bridge Canyon as well—and in any other canyons on the river where power plants “prove feasible.” Conservationists also may well question just what is feasibility?

The Glen Canyon project, which was apparently considered “feasible,” wastes water in an arid land to produce power that could more easily come from fossil fuels in a coal-rich land, many of its mines idled by lack of markets. Studies released by the Geological Survey after Glen Canyon dam was under way disclose a major overengineering of the river. An excess of reservoirs will needlessly evaporate enough water to supply several large cities. Glen Canyon reservoir will lose enough by evaporation each year to cover half a million acres a foot deep—in a region that has no water to waste. There are even doubts that Mexico will get its share of Colorado River water of high-enough quality.

Overdue information, on hand at last, now shows that except for the loss of interest on investment, the practical solution is to stockpile Glen Canyon dam (its live storage, at least) until Lake Mead has silted behind Hoover Dam. At that time Lake Powell could provide Colorado regulation which would then be needed, and without excess evaporation loss. Such a sensible solution, had it been effected in January, could have

George Lichty, Field Enterprises Inc., Sun-Times—Daily News Syndicate



“Great scott, men! . . . Look what they’re doing to that trail we blazed through here last fall! . . .”

extended for a century or two the world’s enjoyment of America’s most scenic canyon system and the living river that built it. The compound-interest cost would not begin to equal the expense of trying to replace the resource the reservoir destroys. Glen Canyon dam will die of silt in about two centuries in any event. There can be no real long-range national loss if its death, and that of the great canyon, is deferred. In the kind of perspective a young nation should have, the only real loss is in the failure to defer.

Man has been able to devote centuries to the building of a cathedral. It would show wisdom to pause a century, and await real need, before destroying a hundred natural cathedrals which man cannot replace.

### National Parks Association Position

On January 24, 1963, Anthony Wayne Smith, Executive Secretary of the National Parks Association, wrote Secretary Udall pointing out an alternative plan which, under the circumstances of having the right-bank diversion tunnel closed, might at least save the opportunity to put the Site B protective plan into effect. The Association’s letter says, in part:

“The discharge capacities of the left-bank diversion tunnel, if its valves are kept fully open, plus the low-level permanent outlets, if their valves are kept fully open, combined with the hydroelectric power penstocks, will be great enough to make reasonably certain that the reservoir will not rise in any normal year above Site B. [In] the present [dry] year . . . there should be no great difficulty in operating Glen Canyon dam in such manner as to protect both the monument and Site B; such operation will require no appropriations from Congress. . . . We recognize the fact that keeping the level of the reservoir below Site B would sacrifice the head of water desirable for the most efficient operation of the generators; presumably, therefore, you would wish to impress upon Congress the desirability of providing adequate funds promptly for the construction of protective works. . . .”

“The damage by flooding would be of many kinds: the damage to the good reputation of those Members of Congress who committed themselves to protection by their honorable and public agreement on the inclusion of the protective clauses in the Colorado River Storage Act; the irreparable damage to your excellent record as a conservationist, if you were to permit flooding while any means remained to prevent it; the damage to your standing as a public official if you take action in violation of a judicial declaration that you have a specific duty under the law; and the great damage to the century-old tradition of nonimpairment of the national parks and monuments, confirmed by the National Parks Act and many similar specific Acts of Congress.

“We are advised that if the left-bank diversion tunnel gate is closed after the reservoir reaches the permanent low-level outlets, and if the low-level outlets are throttled down to permit only the passage of the water deliveries required for the Lower Basin States, the reservoir may well rise to Site B, or even to the Monument boundary, some time in April, and will almost certainly do so by July; on the other hand, you can prevent this inundation by directing that all remaining gates be kept open until protection has been provided; in our judgment you have an obligation to the people of the United States of America to do so.

“We need not say to you, I feel sure, that this issue will not be settled by allowing inundation of the Monument and Site B to proceed without interruption.”

### Moss Bill Would Delete Protection

Senator Frank Moss of Utah has introduced a bill (S. 333) in the United States Senate which would remove from the Upper Colorado River Storage Act the language which requires protection for Rainbow Bridge National Monument from the waters of Glen Canyon reservoir. This language was the only reason conservationists dropped their opposition to the whole project in early 1956 and allowed the until-then-stalled project to pass. Many conservationists will strongly question whether any agreement means anything if this important protective wording is eliminated from the Act.





Philip Hyde

**H**IGH on the crest of California's Sierra Nevada Range where the sparse stands of timberline trees are burnished by the alpine sun and wind, two mule trains lined up patiently while their kyacks were being loaded with small chunks of whitebark pine. Already cut into short lengths and split, the wood was hauled to the nearby Curry Company back country camp for burning in the tent stoves. Hikers on Yosemite's Vogelsang Trail and several members of the Sierra Club's annual Clean-up Work Party collecting trash in the area witnessed the timber harvest and were disturbed enough to mail their views to Yosemite Park headquarters and concessionaire officials. They felt the beautiful forms of the albicaulis spars should remain a scenic part of the 11,000-foot elevation mountain panorama. (See *Timberline Sculpture* in the Dec. 1962 Annual SCB.)

"As a botanist," one observer remarked, "I am keenly aware of the great fragility of the alpine terrain, where the growing season averages perhaps three months of the year and all the plants grow very, very slowly. The whitebark pines are an incomparable esthetic feature of the landscape as well as an integral link in the animal-plant ecology. They are many hundreds of years old. The standing tree skeletons are not only a part of the beauty of the landscape, but they are also of great importance in their eventual role, first as down decaying timber, and later as soil builders for future growth. Man coming into the alpine area only during the favorable season can thoughtlessly destroy, in moments, plants which have been hundreds of years in the growing and the stability of a soil which has been thousands of years in the making. . . . From a business point of view it is destruction of an integral part of that which the visitor came to enjoy."

Another letter presented the issue in these terms:

"We have noticed that down wood for campfire use often becomes more and more scarce, particularly along heavily traveled trail areas and at or near timberline. . . . According to park regulations, campers are not permitted to cut standing trees, whether live or dead. And yet around Boothe Lake in this

## Yosemite Studies Its Wood Cutting Policy

By Fred Eissler

timberline zone, the small, usable down wood within an effective gathering radius of the lakeside camps had been almost all carried off by recreationists and, for want of necessary fuel, the backpackers and others had trimmed and hacked the branches of virtually all the shoreline trees. When we scouted our work party trip, we became aware of this situation and later brought a set of Sierra Club lightweight propane stoves, employed by other club outing groups for alpine camping. It very likely must soon become the standard policy for all individuals and organization parties to adopt this practice when visiting wood-deficient territory.

"The Curry Company is to be commended for pioneering high country commissary techniques which rely on fuels other than native wood. Bottled gas and solar heat have been effectively utilized by the company. The wood burned in the Vogelsang campfire and tent stoves, however, still amounts to many cords each season.

"Glen Aulin and Merced Lake High Camps, at a lower altitude, to be sure, but still subject to cold Sierra weather, do not provide wood stoves in the tourist tents. Is there any possibility of eliminating these stoves at Vogelsang? The issue of wood utilization in the back country is becoming more critical each season and the Vogelsang camp has an opportunity to pilot further workable solutions to this problem."

"The fact that we were using up these precious dead trees was unknown to me and also to our Superintendent of Maintenance, who is in charge of our wood-cutting program," a Curry Company official replied. "The woodcutter himself simply cut dead trees in accordance with his general authorization . . . these fine remaining specimens of whitebark pine should remain standing . . . and it will be our responsibility to see that no more of them are removed. We do need wood for fuel at our High Sierra Camps . . . At Vogelsang, however, there is a scar-

city of timber of any kind, but we shall confine our future cutting to dead lodgepole pine." It should be noted that lodgepole pine does not grow in the Vogelsang life zone, and if this wood is to be used, it will have to be hauled up from a lower elevation.

In response to inquiries, a Yosemite National Park administrator wrote: "We plan to designate areas where the Curry Company can secure a minimum amount of wood for their High Sierra Camps. These sites will be off the trail and away from the public use areas as much as possible. We will endeavor to prevent the cutting of whitebark pine, as well as the removal of dead standing trees which add considerably to the natural scene. . . . We will also attempt to try other types of heating systems in the camps to further reduce the need for fuel wood. . . . Special care should be given to the protection of forests around the other High Sierra camps." Referring to the tree-hacking propensities of some campers, the park representative continued: "One thing we can do to help prevent the cutting of specimen trees in the high country is to have our ranger-naturalists mention the problem during their talks."

The Park Service plans to send a field party this coming spring to appraise the wood problem at Vogelsang. The park policy outlined in the above letter may then be amplified and more exactly defined. One fact that is becoming increasingly clear to citizen conservationists, concessionaires, and land administrators—as the population increases—is that everyone must continually watch for ways to help relieve the impact of the increasing numbers of visitors in wilderness trail country. It can also be seen that the views of alert, articulate citizens *do* count.

*The Yosemite Park and Curry Company crew, shown here at a wood cutting site several hundred feet above Boothe Lake near the public camp at Fletcher Lake, is loading two mule trains with stove lengths harvested from the ancient, weathered albicaulis spars which are a scenic part of the naturally sparse groves at this 11,000-foot altitude in Yosemite National Park. The two remaining spars that enhance the center of this photo may by now have been felled.*



## "A Milestone in Conservation Progress"

ON JANUARY 28, 1963, in a joint letter to President Kennedy, Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman and Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall described a sweeping agreement which, they say, "settles issues which have long been involved in public controversy." They told the President, "We have closed the book on these disputes and are now ready to harmoniously implement the agreed-upon solutions."

Specifically, if Congress approves, two new national recreation areas and a new national seashore at Oregon Dunes would be established as the first indication of how the new cooperation will work. The Secretaries of the two departments also agreed that representatives of their departments would make a joint study of all the resource potentials of the federal lands—mostly national forests—in the Northern Cascades of Washington to determine the management and administration of those lands that would best serve the public interest.

In their letter to the President, the Secretaries indicated that agreement on a broad range of issues "should enable our Departments to enter into 'a new era of cooperation' in the management of federal lands for outdoor recreation." The letter then went on to say:

"The decisions reached will do much to further development of Federal recreation resources, eliminate costly competition, promote cooperation, and recognize the major role that the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior both have in administering Federal lands under their jurisdiction for recreation purposes. We have agreed upon the following principles of cooperation:

"1. Mutual recognition is accorded the distinctive administrative functions and land management plans used by the Forest Service and the National Park Service in administering lands under their jurisdiction.

"2. Except for existing Administration proposals, those covered in our agreement, or routine boundary adjustments, jurisdictional responsibility will not be disturbed among the agencies of our two Departments which are managing and developing lands for public recreation.

"3. Neither Department will initiate unilaterally new proposals to change the status of lands under jurisdiction of the other Department. Independent studies by one Department of lands administered by the other will not be carried on. Joint studies will be the rule.

"4. Likewise, each Department, with the support and cooperation of the other, will endeavor to fully develop and effectively manage the recreation lands now under its administration."

To carry out these principles of cooperation, the Secretaries announced they will recommend legislation establishing a Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area of about 280,000 acres in north-central California and a Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area of about 160,000 acres in Wyoming and Utah. The California unit would consist of three non-contiguous units surrounding reservoirs built by the Bureau of Reclamation; the areas within the national forests would be administered by the Forest Service and the areas outside the

national forests would be recommended for National Park Service administration. At Flaming Gorge, the proposed recreation area lies upstream on the Green River from the Bureau of Reclamation Dam under construction at Flaming Gorge; again, the 40,000-acre area within the national forest would be administered by the Forest Service with the 120,000 acres outside the national forests to be handled by the Park Service. The division of responsibility has many conservationists concerned.

The announcement of the proposed new limited category of national recreation areas stated that criteria to guide in their selection and establishment will soon be adopted by the President's cabinet-level Recreation Advisory Council.

The Oregon Dunes National Seashore recommended by the Secretaries would consist of about 35,000 acres, primarily of sand dunes along the central Oregon coast. This land for the most part has been under the protection and management of the Forest Service. Under the Secretaries' proposal, it would be administered by the National Park Service under the same criteria as national recreation areas.

On the Northern Cascades, the two Secretaries agreed that, "A joint study should be made of Federal lands in the North Cascade Mountains of Washington to determine the management and administration of those lands that will best serve the public interest. These lands for the most part have been under the administration of the Forest Service as national forests for many years. A study team should explore in an objective manner all the resource potentials of the area and the management and administration that appears to be in the public interest. The team will consist of representatives of the Departments and will be chaired by an individual jointly selected by us."

*Glacier Peak, Image Lake, and Miners Ridge  
in Washington's Northern Cascades.  
Conservationists wonder what the cooperative  
Interior-Agriculture study will mean  
for this most important area proposed  
as an addition to the national park system.  
Photograph by David R. Simons*



The President's reply, dated January 31, 1963, follows:

Dear Mr. Secretaries:

I was greatly pleased by your joint letter describing the new conservation policy your Departments are adopting to help implement our outdoor recreation programs. This is an excellent statement of cooperation representing a milestone in conservation progress.

I know that there have been many vexing problems over the years in relationships between the Departments of Agriculture and Interior but your joint statement indicates that these are well on the way to resolution. This achievement in settling major jurisdictional issues between the two Departments, in outlining the principles of cooperation that will guide them in the future, and in proposing joint exploration of the North Cascade Mountains in Washington is most significant—it is clearly in the public interest.

Sincerely,  
JOHN F. KENNEDY

Coöperation between the Forest Service and the National Park Service is a highly desirable objective and one which may prove extremely beneficial to such areas as the Oregon Dunes and the national recreation areas mentioned. Wilderness conservationists, however, are likely to reserve judgment on the significance of the proposed joint study of the Northern Cascades. Will there be a moratorium on the logging of key scenic corridors pending the study? Just how "objective" an exploration of all the resource potentials of the area will there be? Here is the crux of the matter as far as wilderness and national park interests are concerned. Here will lie the difference between the program's being a millstone or a milestone in conservation progress. We certainly want to share the President's enthusiasm.—B.M.K.

## Other Land Exchanges By the Two Departments

Hints of major policy changes on the part of the Forest Service may bear on the future of the Northern Cascades of Washington state.

The first hint was contained in the revised allowable cuts for the Northwest which the Forest Service announced in early December. These included an 18 MMBF (million board feet) decrease in the

future cut for Washington state. This decrease comes as part of a general plan to increase the allowable cut by 5.5 per cent on 42 national forests to meet pressures from the timber industry, and it stands in marked contrast to plans for Oregon and Northern California, where major increases in the cut are projected.

The second hint came from *Western Timber Industry News* which reported in a lead story in November that a massive land exchange program appears to be underway between the Departments of Agriculture and Interior. The *News* stated that 1,646,957 acres of forest land under the Department of the Interior had been selected by the Forest Service for transfer to it and the Department of Agriculture. In return, the *News* speculated, an equal amount of Forest Service land might be scheduled for transfer "to Interior for a vast expansion of the national park system."

The *News* reported that the Interior acreage scheduled for transfer includes 1,590,557 acres of Bureau of Land Management land and 56,400 acres of National Park Service land. According to the *News*, "The three areas already branded for shift from the Department of Interior's Park Service include about 35,000 acres of the Grand Canyon National Park, due to disappear into the Kaibab National Forest in Northern Arizona; some 16,000 acres of the granddaddy of all national parks—Yellowstone—to enhance the Gallatin National Forest in southern Montana; and about 5400 acres of the Sequoia National Park to be pared off and sewed onto adjacent Sequoia National Forest." (This latter is the Dennison Ridge area in the Garfield Grove of sequoias, along the Park's southern boundary; a previous proposal to exclude these sequoias from the park for administrative convenience was opposed by the Sierra Club and the National Parks Association.)

Just which new national parks—if any—are contemplated for establishment from Forest Service domain is not clear, but 1.6 million acres could go quite far. The two most currently advanced proposals for parks to be carved out of national forest domain, the Great Basin and Oregon Dunes proposals, would account for only about 180,000 acres out of the 1.6 million total. Thus, there would be ample room, under the terms of the land trade under negotiation, for additional major new park acreage from present forest land. On the other hand, it could merely be local boundary line adjustments between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. This explanation is backed by a report in the December 1962 *Journal of Forestry* stating that, "The Departments of Interior and Agriculture are about to begin a series of adjustments in land jurisdiction. Purpose of the shifts will be to improve the management of both Forest Service and BLM lands by placing them under the agency that can most effectively manage the lands. . . . January 1, 1963, is the target date for the first land adjustment orders to be issued . . ."

The slight decrease in the allowable cut for Washington state is primarily attributable to a significant 37 MMBF drop in the annual cut for the Mount Baker National Forest. This drop might reflect the reduced cut in effect on the newly expanded Landscape Management Areas in the Northern Cascades (as on the Cascade River down to Marble Creek, for instance), or it might reflect other factors elsewhere.

A conference with the Supervisor of the Mount Baker National Forest indicated that the reduction was attributable to a realization that many areas on exceedingly steep slopes formerly classified as commercial timber producing areas really could not endure harvesting because of unstable soil conditions on precipitous slopes. It appears that the former interim allowable cut was computed from timber type maps that had not yet been cross checked with soils maps, topographic maps, and with field observations. Most of the areas removed from the commercial pool will be in Landscape Management Areas.

It will be interesting to see how these developments are related to the joint departmental agreement announced on the facing page.

—J. MICHAEL McCLOSKEY



## "Tomorrow's Wilderness"

**D**R. FAIRFIELD OSBORN, President of the New York Zoological Society, Chairman of the Conservation Foundation, and author of *Our Plundered Planet*, will be the featured speaker at the Friday night banquet of the Eighth Biennial Wilderness Conference, March 8, 9, and 10 at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel in San Francisco. Dr. Osborn's



Fairfield Osborn

topic will be "Tomorrow's Wilderness: How Much for How Many?" Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall will discuss "A Fresh Approach to Preserving Our Scenic Resources—the Land Conservation Fund" at the Saturday luncheon. And for the first time there will be an outing on Sunday following the two-day conference—this year taking participants to the new Point Reyes National Seashore.

Of all the forums in the field of conservation, none is more unusual and provocative than the Wilderness Conference sponsored by the Sierra Club. At this two-day biennial event, conservationists and others from all over the country who care about wilderness gather to consider better ways to preserve this important resource. The first biennial conference in 1949 and the six succeeding sessions have also sought to give the public a better understanding of what wilderness means.

This year's conference will bring together an unusually varied group of speakers from across the United States to consider "Tomorrow's Wilderness." They will explore the resource itself, what it means to man, the threats it faces, the plans of those administering it, and new ways to preserve it.

Speakers who will travel great distances to bring a stimulating variety of approaches to the subject of wilderness include: Senator Lee Metcalf of Montana; Paul Brooks, author and editor-in-chief of Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston; Dr. Stephen Spurr, Dean of the School of Natural Resources, University of Michigan; Dr. Samuel Gould, President of Educational Network Corporation of New York; and Dr. Athelstan Spilhaus, Dean of

the School of Technology, University of Minnesota.

Leaders of national conservation groups who will participate include Carl Buchheister, President of the National Audubon Society; Thomas Kimball, National Wildlife Federation; Joseph Penfold, Izaak Walton League; Spencer M. Smith, Jr., Citizens Committee on Natural Resources; and Howard Zahniser, The Wilderness Society.

One of the highlights of the Friday night banquet will be the presentation of the Annual John Muir Award. The first annual award was given in 1961 to William E. Colby, Honorary President of the Sierra Club.

A symposium on Saturday morning, March 9, will bring together leaders of federal agencies administering wilderness to discuss wilderness plans of their bureaus: Edward Cliff, Chief, U. S. Forest Service; Daniel Janzen, Assistant Director, Fish and Wildlife Service; and Ben Thompson, Assistant Director, National Park Service.

Many Bay Area leaders will also participate, including: Dr. J. Ralph Audy, Professor of Human Ecology, and Dr. Chauncey Leake (Past President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science), both of the University of California Medical

School; Dr. James P. Gilligan, University of California, compiler of the wilderness section of the ORRRC report; Wallace Stegner, author; Lawrence Halprin, landscape architect; Ansel Adams, photographer; Caspar Weinberger, attorney and TV producer; Nathaniel A. Owings, architect; and Dr. T. Eric Reynolds, Past President of the California Conservation Council.

A new feature of the coming Wilderness Conference will be an all-day chartered bus trip to the new Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service and the Point Reyes Foundation are cooperating with the Sierra Club in hosting this excursion. A stop is also planned at the Audubon Society's Canyon Ranch near Bolinas.

Conference costs are: registration fee, \$3 (students, \$1); Friday banquet, March 8, \$6; Saturday lunch, March 9, \$4. All three events are included in a special combination price of \$12 (\$10 for students). The field trip (from 9 to 4 on Sunday, March 10) has a separate cost of \$7, which includes a box lunch and afternoon refreshments. Reservations should be sent to Sierra Club, Mills Tower, San Francisco, as soon as possible.

PEGGY WAYBURN  
General Secretary

## March Deadline for Tahoe

**W**HEN LAKE TAHOE was discovered by Fremont's party in 1844 and the white man came to know of the lake, its destruction was started. The current situation is one of deforestation and explosive urbanization. Proliferating highways slash through the forests and threaten the meager parks, recreation areas, and open space. The thin glacial soil is becoming overcharged with sewage. The purity and clarity of the lake's water is endangered.

Ultimately needed is an effective master plan. This will be difficult to achieve since the number of federal, state, local, and regional agencies involved approaches a hundred. However, the need for park and open space can be met quickly since there are still more than 40,000 acres of land in near wilderness condition adjacent to the lake. Most of the available land is in Nevada, but the greatest demand is by Californians. Before any adequate program of land acquisition can move ahead, an interstate compact must be consummated this spring that will create a bi-state park commission and system. The two states must work together to solve their recreation needs in the basin,

for neither of them can do it separately.

Time is of the essence. The available land is in immediate danger of being subdivided. When the Nevada legislature adjourns on March 20, it will not again convene for 22 months. The citizens of the two states can act most effectively by writing to their legislative representatives, urging them to support in *this legislative session* an interstate compact that creates a bi-state park commission and system for the Lake Tahoe Basin. They can also send monetary contributions to the Sierra Club, specifically designated for the Lake Tahoe Park Committee, or information on Lake Tahoe to the Steering Committee of the Lake Tahoe Park Committee (P. O. Box 1313, Reno, Nevada), which was formed in December, 1962, with the specific purpose of collecting, developing, and publishing information about the Lake Tahoe situation. Members of the committee are Sam Houghton, Chairman, Charles Haseltine, and Dick Sill, all of Toiyabe Chapter, Reno, and Dana Abell, Vice-Chairman, Bruce Austin, and Charles Miller, all of Mother Lode Chapter, Sacramento.

—DICK SILL



## A New Spring Trip to Mexico

### Bay of Banderas— April 6-14

UNLESS YOU'VE already signed up for another Spring outing, why not join the first Sierra Club raft trip to Mexico, exploring Puerto Vallarta and the beautiful Bay of Banderas for nine days during Easter Week.

This will not be an ordinary travel tour. Although the group will see some of Mexico's larger cities and towns, emphasis will be on the wilderness rivers, the back country, small villages, and seldom visited coastal areas and islands. The group will explore the coast along the tropical Banderas Bay, camp-

ing at night on beautiful secluded beaches and remote river sand bars. The nights will be warm and balmy and the days just right for relaxing.

Seven days will be spent in this paradise with time enough for swimming, surfing, deep sea fishing, skin-diving, back country hikes, beachcombing, enjoying the Mariaches, or just plain loafing in unsurpassed South Sea settings.

Those who have never experienced a well-organized camp on a tropical beach have a

## Briefly Noted

### Nominations for Directors

In mid-December, 1962, the Nominating Committee submitted the names of the following seven candidates to run for office on the Sierra Club Board of Directors, at the election to be held on April 13, 1963: Lewis F. Clark, Mrs. Dorothy Varian, Ansel Adams, Alexander Hildebrand, Edgar Wayburn, Richard M. Noyes, and Clifford Youngquist. Since that time, three names have been added by petition: Victor Cahalane, Fred Eissler, and Clark Jones. Ballots will be mailed in early March.

### San Gorgonio Threatened

The San Gorgonio Wild Area, which may soon be the only alpine wilderness available in Southern California, is once more being threatened with ski development. Strong pressures for lifts and related facilities are coming from Mr. Alex Deutsch, an indus-

trialist working with the Southern Council of the Far West Ski Association. The proposal, now being officially pushed by a new corporation known as San Gorgonio Ski Lifts, Inc. of Los Angeles, would involve a 3500-acre enclave in the Wild Area bounded by Fish Creek Mountain, High Meadow Springs, Charlton and Jepson Peaks, and the upper portion of North Fork Meadow. A 5,000-car parking lot would be constructed at the 9100-foot level. The first of three phases of the proposed development would involve construction of five lifts and a 10,000 square foot building at the parking lot with another 5,000 square foot day shelter building at the 10,640-foot level.

A new organization known as the "Defenders of San Gorgonio Wilderness" is coordinating efforts to bring to the attention of public officials the incompatibility of such ski developments in a wild area. The address of the new group is P. O. Box 777, San Bernardino, California. (Further details will be carried in the March *SCB*.)

real treat in store. Bright campfires at night, ocean temperatures ideal for a dip in the surf at any time. The phosphorescent light playing on the waves as they break is a spectacle in itself.

There will be music not only around the campfire at night, but spontaneously in many of the stopping places on the trip—"Mariaches," those lively instrumental and vocal groups, assemble at the slightest provocation.

The trip, following the same successful pattern that the regular summer river outings have used in recent years, will be led by Lou Elliott.

Along with the excellent food prepared by the trip commissary, you will enjoy various Mexican dishes by a local cook. Seafoods and exotic fruits are readily available. Adequate drinking and cooking water will be on hand at all times, and there should be no concern whatever about food or its preparation.

The raft trip will start from Puerto Vallarta and will cost \$295—this includes round trip air fare from Los Angeles, all of your expenses, meals, and all land transportation. A deposit of \$50 per person is required, non-refundable, unless your place on the plane can be filled (only a \$15 charge if your place is filled).

Send for a pictorial report and itinerary of the first Mexico exploration trip by the River Touring Committee.

### Announcing Raft Trip at Eastertime

#### **GLEN CANYON** of the Colorado

• April 7-13, \$110.00

You should plan a "last look" at this most scenic stretch of the Colorado. There will still be time to see the major attraction of the Glen *plus* opportunities to explore hitherto inaccessible canyons. A family type adventure. If you have *any* doubts or questions, ask for description of last year's trips by party members.

You may want the recently published detail map of the canyon, 12 pages. Price: \$1.00. Use coupon below.

LOU ELLIOTT

Adventure River Tours, Inc.  
2855 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley 5  
Telephone 849-1962

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

Please send information Glen Canyon

Enclosed \$1.00. Please send map postpaid by return mail.

Remarks:

## Noisy Reaction to *Silent Spring*

(Continued from page 5)

ing books, is predominantly ecological. Much of the honest criticism in her latest contribution stems from the fact that her critics do not understand her purpose or they know too little of the broad aspects of ecology to grasp her message, despite the fact they may be eminent biochemists, nutritionists, entomologists, or specialists in some related or specialized field. The fact that *Silent Spring* already is being translated into a number of foreign languages, and that its sales are skyrocketing, shows that it has world-wide appeal to the thinking public.

### A Philosophy of Control

Anyone who has objectively read *Silent Spring* is well aware that Dr. Carson does not oppose control of pests and neither does she advocate complete abandonment of chemical controls. In her book, she has effectively criticized the present methods not because they control undesirable pests, but because they control them poorly and inefficiently, because these methods cause unnecessary damage to other interests and resources, and also because of their potential harm to man. Most of the national pest control effort during the past decade has been directed toward chemical control, and in this period efficiency of control has decreased alarmingly.

Until the last few years, the Department of Agriculture and economic entomologists generally have estimated crop loss from insect depredations at about 10 per cent. It is startling to find that as the amount of poisonous toxicants increased, the per cent of crop loss continued to increase until now one-quarter of our annual production is destroyed by insects! Isn't it an interest contrast, that by sterilization of the male of the species, the dreaded and destructive screw worm fly was completely eliminated from the southeastern states. And no chemical pesticides were used.

To illustrate that an objective look into our all-out chemical approach is necessary, it can be reported that approximately 150 of our most obnoxious pests have developed a considerable degree of immunity or resistance to one or more groups of pesticides. Effective control of these destructive pests, therefore, must be achieved by some other means. Entomologists assure us that this trend toward immunity is increasing at an accelerating rate.

Other reasons that suggest the need of a fresh and objective look at the control programs include the actual and potential contamination of soil, air, and surface and underground water. The contamination of our foods with poisonous residues, the effects of which we know relatively little, is also of major importance.

With few exceptions, conservationists and naturalists would agree that control against pests in this modern age, wisely directed, is a necessity. Chemical pesticides were developed in response to a public need and demand, and they are here to stay. This does not mean, however, that our present dangerously toxic, stable, broad spectrum formulations are with us as permanent control agents. In fact, we hopefully look forward to the time in the not too distant future when they will be

replaced by more specific, less dangerous pesticides, and when they will be used more wisely. We feel that the facts are crystal clear that chemical pesticides have been used altogether too widely, too indiscriminately, and without much consideration of other values. Overemphasis has been placed on chemical control and too little support and concern shown the biological and cultural approach. A more basic ecological concept has long been needed.

### Answers from Respectful Cooperation

I am in full agreement with Richard L. Kenyon's timely suggestion, as expressed in *Chemical Engineering News* of July 23, 1962, that the answers to the conflicts and problems between conservation forces and those using chemical pesticides are more likely to come from respectful cooperation among scientists than from emotionally choosing sides and calling names.

Dr. Carson's philosophy of pest control is succinctly expressed near the close of Chapter 2 of her book, and it is also accurately recorded in *Chemical Engineering News* of August 13, 1962, wherein she states, "My contention is not that moderate chemical controls should never be used . . . but, rather, that we must reduce their use to a minimum and must as rapidly as possible develop and strengthen biological controls. I contend that we have put poisons and biologically potent chemicals indiscriminately into the hands of persons who are largely or wholly ignorant of the harm they can do. There is still a very limited awareness of the nature of the threat. This is an area of specialists, each of whom sees his own problems and is unaware of, or indifferent to, the larger frame into which it fits. It is also an era dominated by industry, in which the right to make money, at whatever cost to others, is seldom challenged."

In the same issue of *Chemical Engineering News*, under the headline "Industry Maps Defense to Pesticide Criticisms," Dr. George C. Decker, economic entomologist of the Illinois National History Survey, former adviser and collaborator on insect control to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and paid consultant to pesticide companies, says in his derogatory review of *Silent Spring* that it "poses leading questions, on which neither the author nor the average reader is qualified to make decisions. I regard it as science fiction, to be read in the same way that the TV program 'Twilight Zone' is to be watched."

How times do change! In March 1950, before the Fifth Annual Meeting, North Central States Branch of Economic Entomologists, Dr. Decker, as a senior leader in the field, cautioned his fellow entomologists as follows:

"Chemical control of insects is only one phase of insect control, yet it appears that the urgent demand for information on new insecticides has led all of us [control operators and researchers] into a large scale faddistic swing to insecticidal investigation at the expense of our other research . . . I believe . . . that man, as a rational and intelligent being, should be able to outwit insects and not rely entirely upon chemical warfare . . . Insecticides are fire-fighting, not prophylactic weapons . . . (They are) habit forming in that once their use is started their continued use becomes more and more necessary . . ."

" . . . annual losses due to insects remained at about 10 per cent from 1889 to 1941, despite the fact that expenditures for insect control increased from \$75,000 to over \$15,000,000 during that period.

Now we have added ten more years and still no change. It seems quite obvious to me that we should not and cannot consider the use of chemicals a substitute for sound cultural and other biological control methods.

"We have been amply warned that many of the new insecticides can and often do upset the biological balance in an area, and while promoting more effective control of one pest, we produce an equally or even more destructive outbreak of some other lesser pest.

"... When properly used (insecticides) are very valuable tools, but like the A-bomb, if unwisely and wrongly used, they may lead us to our doom.

"It seems to me we are in the position of the drunk in a high-powered car approaching a stop-and-go light. We had better sober up, stop, look, and listen for danger signs before we proceed much further."

Dr. Decker's timely philosophy at that time, presented objectively and without bias at his own insistence, is a succinct summary of much of the philosophy in Dr. Carson's *Silent Spring*. It was and still is a timely and much needed statement of truth and not fiction, as is that same message in *Silent Spring* which he now sees fit to castigate. What induced this abrupt reversal of viewpoint?

As chairman of the Pest Control and Wildlife Relationships Part I Subcommittee on *Evaluation of Pesticide-Wildlife Problems* (National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council Publication 920-A), Dr. Decker points out that currently "estimates of crop destruction caused by agricultural pests range from 8 to 15 billion dollars annually—a quarter of our annual production—and this occurs despite the widespread use of control practices now available."

In man's battle against arthropod and other pests that destroy his food and fiber, he should adopt any and every means at his command to win the race. As with an army, trouble is inevitable when the leadership applies only one means of defense and attack. This is precisely what has been wrong with our pest control program during the past decade. Perhaps under pressure of the chemical pesticide industry and its paid supporters, we have found ourselves in trouble because we have been relying almost exclusively on the chemical approach. To make bad matters worse, as illustrated by the fire ant eradication program, operational control had long been under way before much of the essential research was conducted. When we rely almost solely on the chemical approach, this induces immunity which necessitates larger and larger doses and then the production of more and more poisonous, broad spectrum, stable pesticides.

The relatively few serious attempts at other approaches have given much encouragement that in time we may expect more efficient, effective, and economical control, where all methods are appropriately considered. In this, we do not exclude the wise and restrained use of needed chemicals. But there is much evidence—witness the Southeast screw worm sterilization program—to suggest that biological control provides a much safer, more effective, and more economical means of insect elimination. Among other biological controls, we could mention plant and animal breeding to develop resistant strains, the application of improved cultural and management methods, and appropriate use of fertilizers.

In Dr. Decker's "Pros and Cons of Pests, Pest Control, and Pesticides," reprinted from *World Review of Pest Control*, Spring 1962, Vol. 1, Pt. 1, he glibly writes: "If we were to adopt a policy of 'let Nature take its course,' as some individuals thoughtlessly advocate, it is possible that these would-be experts would find disposing of the 200 million surplus human beings even more perplexing than the disposition of America's current corn, cotton, and wheat surpluses." This argument is another straw man. No responsible naturalist, biologist, or conservationist has advocated such a policy in agricultural management. Neither does *Silent Spring*.

It would indeed be surprising in a complex study involving so many unknowns, and where essential research has been subordinated to operational chemical control, if a few errors, minor misstatements, and wrong conclusions on details did not show up in a book written explicitly about this problem. This fact is of minor importance as it relates to *Silent Spring*. The author's basic conclusions are sound—namely that America is poisoning its environment, its soil, water, air, and plant and animal life and that we have everything to gain and nothing to lose by being prudent and conservative in the use of our highly toxic chemicals. Certainly we are using deadly poisons without safe knowledge of their potential "side" or long-term effects.

Dr. Lewis Herber in his new book, *Our Synthetic Environment*, points out that defective offspring, decreased resistance to infection, and degenerative diseases such as cancer, heart disease, and diabetes may arise from subtle changes in food composition and quality. Certainly a stepped-up program on the side or indirect effects of pesticides is imperative. We are subjecting whole populations to exposure to chemicals which animal experiments have proved to be extremely poisonous and in many cases cumulative in their effect. Some are known carcinogens. No one knows what the results might be because we have little past experience to guide us. The thalidomide tragedy should have shocked us into full awareness of the hazard. Grain treated with a fungicide, hexachlorobenzene, shipped to Turkey and intended as planting stock, was consumed by hungry people, and already more than 5000 deformed and ill victims have been reported.

As recently as October 27, 1962, the Food and Drug Administration proposed that all chemically treated food grain seed be brightly colored so as to be easily distinguishable from untreated seeds or grain intended as food for people or livestock. They felt this seemed to be necessary because seed grain (usually treated with poisonous fungicides) left over at the end of the season was finding its way into food channels.

The noisy controversy over *Silent Spring* is bringing into focus issues of transcendent importance. Are we encountering a spirit of Lysenkoism in America today, similar to the totalitarian philosophy that perverted and largely destroyed the science of genetics in Russia and infiltrated much of that nation's agricultural sciences? If so, we are facing a sinister problem. Specifically, is there a brazen but subtle effort being made to protect the pesticide industry and serve the gods of profit and production regardless of truth? Science ceases to be science when it loses objectivity and disregards truth.

## Timing, Load, and Image

WHEN I was editor of the *Bulletin* it used to be really late, and the members should understand that the delay of the December, January, and February *Bulletins* is not the present editor's idea at all, but traceable elsewhere.

"In addition to other duties" is the rule, not the exception, around club headquarters these days because of heavy demands made upon all the staff, the principals of which probably volunteer as much time to the cause as any other members of the club. A heavy overload results directly from two factors: an increasing membership and its rapidly expanding demand for a growing program, and lack of enough money to pay the people to provide all the services requested or even to help those who would serve free.

The conservation needs are terrific. Pleas for help in fighting brushfires have to be turned down repeatedly simply because of a shortage of firehorses. Every third letter asks why we don't stop fighting these negative brushfires anyway, and concentrate on never-underestimate-the-power-of-positive programs—as if liberty could be bought at a discount instead of with constant vigilance. That's a separate subject.

To reach beyond ourselves, to talk to others, to try to mold opinion molders, we have lately put a lot of effort into our books.

"Aha!" say our dearest critics, "why don't you forget the books and retreat to the quiet, comfortable little club we used to be?" Then, you can be sure, we could get the *Bulletin* out on time—quite often.

I remember when I went on the Editorial Board in 1935, and two years earlier, when I joined the club, there were 2200 quiet members, not 20,200. That year we received \$200 more than the \$8,865 we spent, and 41 per cent of that was spent on the *Bulletin* (9 of that year's 142 *Annual* pages were devoted to conservation). Dues accounted for 86 per cent of the income. The net worth of the club was \$29,000.

In 1962, following two successive years of operating deficits and no rise in net worth, the club's worth rose \$40,000 to \$420,000, exclusive of the huts and lodges and some 1400 acres of Sierra property. Apart from field operations for outings and lodges, club expenditures totaled \$580,000. Dues covered \$154,000 of this, or about 26%. Publications sales totaled \$319,000, about 10% of these books going to members, the rest farther afield. We sold directly to 550 bookstores, and indirectly, through jobbers and overseas distributors, to many more.

We published no book except for conservation reasons—some indirect, showing people how to travel safely to the good places; and others direct, stating our case for an atti-

tude that would save such places. Elsewhere (page 17), Mike Brown, who runs the promotional end of Bruce Kilgore's publications department, has compiled excerpts of reviews that indicate how the message is getting through. I hope you will feel that this dissemination of our main purpose—and organizing to bring it about—at least partly compensates for the delay of the *Bulletin* that it helped cause. At any rate, there is a desperate effort afoot to get the *SCB* back on schedule. We have budgeted \$48,500 for the *Bulletin*, which will present just about four times as much information to the members as published in the *SCB* thirty years ago.

—DAVID BROWER

### Board of Directors Actions

At their meeting in San Francisco on January 26-27, 1963, the Sierra Club Board of Directors

(1) called upon the Secretary of the Interior to take such action as in his discretion may be required to prevent flooding of any portion of the **Rainbow Bridge National Monument** and thus perform his duty under federal law; (2) endorsed proposed legislation to establish the **Northern Cascades National Park** and the Chelan National Mountain Recreation Area; and proposed that following establishment of the Park, the area proposed as Wilderness by The Mountaineers for a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area in 1959 be retained as a wilderness core within the park with the exception of the area required for the trans-Cascades highway; (3) recommended that the area of the **Ozark Riverways** be set aside and preserved under federal administration by the National Park Service for its scenic and recreational values; (4) regarded the removal of 418,000 acres from wilderness classification in the recent reclassification of the **Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area** as a serious reduction of the national forest wilderness system, and urged Secretary Freeman to study the area further and keep the deleted acreage unchanged pending later decision; and (5) opposed repeal of state laws that presently prohibit motorized travel within Wilderness Areas.

## Washington Office

By the end of 1962 the Sierra Club could be addressed at San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, and Eugene, Oregon. A new address—710 Dupont Circle Building, Washington, D.C.—was added January 1. There, just a 90-second fast walk from the Cosmos Club, The Wilderness Society, National Parks Association, and National Wildlife Federation, and no distance at all from the Citizens Committee on Natural Resources, we have a Washington Representative, and not a moment too soon. He is William Zimmerman, Jr., Harvard 1910, recently vice-president of The Wilderness Society, formerly Associate Director of the Bureau of Land Management, a man who has been in government since 1933, currently also Washington Representative of Trustees for Conservation, an expert on American Indian affairs, a man who has never *not* known books, and one of the most astute of conservationists. He has come to us with recommendations from an economist-conservation lobbyist, from the nation's leading conservationist, from a Senate staff member most cognizant of conservation matters, from a Senate Minority Whip, and from a Secretary of the Interior. The identities of all these people are not hard to guess.

On behalf of the club Mr. Zimmerman will be primarily concerned with what goes on in the executive agencies and in the offices of the other conservation organizations in Washington who will succeed together or fail separately. He is also the Washington Representative of Trustees for Conservation on matters relating to legislative activ-



William Zimmerman, Jr.  
Washington Representative, Sierra Club

ity. TFC must raise its funds by separate, nondeductible appeal. This has been explained from time to time by its officers and trustees, hardly any of whom are not members of the Sierra Club, but who act independently of the club, yet aware of its purposes, as well as those of similar cooperating organizations. They are also aware of the Sierra Club Foundation. There are fine but critical differences between these organizations. Briefly, TFC is out-and-out legislative and nondeductible. SCF is vice versa, and SC is deductible, but willing to explore at some risk into the never-never land of undefined undeductibility so as to do in the public interest what John Muir founded it to do. All are good and all deserve support, including money. Bill Zimmerman represents two of these as a private contractor, and we're glad he does.

DAVID BROWER, *Vice-President*  
*Trustees for Conservation*



# Reviewers Are Saying

"*Island in Time* . . . A stirring case for conservation . . ."—*San Francisco Chronicle*

"The book is unusually timely because of the pending Congressional legislation on the establishment of a Point Reyes National Seashore . . ."—*Oakland Tribune*

"*Island in Time's* publication comes at a time when the importance of the peninsula has been recognized officially by a measure establishing it as a national seashore . . . But the area can still be nibbled at by speculating developers until federal funds are appropriated to buy land . . ."—*Fresno Bee*

"The publication by the Sierra Club of Harold Gilliam's beautiful volume, *Island in Time*, would scarcely be more opportune . . . What have we won? Harold Gilliam's text, a fine example of that modern genre, nature writing with a strong conservationist bent—and Philip Hyde's marvelously-textured photographs tell us."—*S.F. News Call-Bulletin*

"Travelers who look a little behind the scenes as they visit the parks and wilderness preserves of the American West repeatedly encounter one name—the Sierra Club. At Echo Park where the rampaging Yampa River joins the Green in a spectacular 'hole'; in the Muir redwood grove on the California coast; in many other areas the names of Sierra Club members are found in the registers, and the work of the Sierra Club leaders is recorded in the histories . . . Now the club has added to its service the production of two outstanding books of pictures—'*In Wilderness Is the Preservation of the World*,' . . . and *These We Inherit* . . . The implication is obvious: the Midwest has good reason to press for favorable attention to such projects as the Prairie National Park in Kansas and the Ozark Rivers National Monument in Missouri."—*Kansas City Star*

"Vivid Plea for Saving the Wilds . . . '*In Wilderness Is the Preservation of the World*' . . . The collection is the most dramatic plea possible for conservation of natural beauty . . ."—*New Orleans Times-Picayune*

"During recent years the loudest voice in the West to be raised in behalf of wilderness, in favor of the building of preserves to save

scenic America, in support of conservation, has been the Sierra Club.

"Born in the shadow of John Muir, the Sierra Club has been many things connected with the out of doors: a mountain climbing organization, a faithful gatherer of litter along over-used Sierra trails, and a publisher of books. Some of the Sierra Club books have become classics in the field."—*Independent Star-News* (Pasadena, California)

"In the preface [to '*In Wilderness* . . .'] Eliot Porter himself says, 'I hope to be able to complement in feeling and spirit Thoreau's thinking one hundred years ago, and to show the peril we face even more today by our faster destruction of life not our own.' Here of course the sermon comes in—the banner of the admirable Sierra Club, which has produced this book at enormous expense, and which fights against destruction of what remains of the American wilderness."—*The New Mexican* (Santa Fe)

"Like all Sierra Club books, it [*In Wilderness* . . .] is dedicated to the open country, the last retreat for self-beleaguered man."—*The New York Times*

"The Sierra Club, whose publications constantly remind us of the virtues of the wild, has brought out a truly magnificent volume, using four-color plates (72 of them) to illustrate selections from 'Walden' and 'Journals'."—*Detroit News*

"There's more to the Sierra Club than hiking and picking empty beer cans from mountain trails. The membership represents a small but articulate voice against onrushing bulldozers which, the club will tell you, rapidly is turning what remains of the country's natural wilderness into subdivisions.

"The club believes, and no doubt correctly so, that education and information are essential weapons in the battle to convert the masses to its way of thinking.

"Consequently, from the club's publishing headquarters in San Francisco pours forth a steady stream of magnificent books designed to make Americans aware of the natural wonders that surround them."—*Santa Barbara News Press*

"This book [*These We Inherit*] is especially welcome at this time when ambitious commercial interests are exerting great pressures on remaining wilderness areas."—*The Evening Sun* (Baltimore)

"The book [*Peninsula*], despite the locale, is not regional. Similar inspiration probably could be found elsewhere. It is the good fortune of those who are familiar with the Olympic Peninsula and hold for its scenic beauties the same love that the author reveals, that he chose this natural wonderland as his subject."—*Tacoma News Tribune*

"John Muir founded the Sierra Club in San Francisco: today this group seeks to preserve our vanishing natural heritage from the idiots who seem to think it has no value. Ansel Adams seeks and finds this beauty with his camera. Both are to be congratulated on '*These We Inherit*.'"—*The Ada Evening News* (Oklahoma)

[in review of *Wilderness: America's Living Heritage*] "The Sierra Club is the most effective of the national organizations working for conservation."—J. Donald Adams, *The New York Times*.

"Thoreau's aim and his very words have been the motivation of volunteer groups like The Wilderness Society and, on the West Coast, the Sierra Club, groups who have banded together to preserve national monuments now threatened with extinction, and who live in the belief, so well expressed by David Brower, that 'the natural and civilized worlds must live together or perish separately.'

" . . . the books [the Sierra Club] publishes include photographic studies of the Sierra, of our great canyons, rain forests, and river valleys: 'This is your heritage,' these books say. 'See that you preserve it.' . . . this fortuitous blend of prose and picture now comes to beautiful fruition in '*In Wilderness Is the Preservation of the World*' . . . By any comparison, this is a rare book, and it reminds us, as do the excerpts from Thoreau's journals and letters, of the exquisite artistry of nature if only we will look. —Edward Weeks, editor of *The Atlantic*

*Bruce Kilgore and Mike Brown check over work on the Sierra Club's newest book—The Place No One Knew: Glen Canyon on the Colorado. Its format will be the same as that of "In Wilderness . . ." (so will the price). We believe that the sheer beauty of what Eliot Porter's camera has captured, combined with the most moving statements we have found about a great place and idea, will sow the kind of philosophy that must grow if such places are to endure. For all this, the book itself fights no specific controversy. We want it to be as ageless as the canyon should have been. Photo by David Brower*



# Book Reviews

OUR CROWDED PLANET: *Essays on the Pressures of Population*, edited by Fairfield Osborn. Doubleday, New York, 1962. Sponsored by the Conservation Foundation. 240 pages. \$3.95.

This is an original collection of 21 provocative essays by eminent scientists, humanists, and philosophers which discusses the many pressures that human overcrowding is placing on the prospects of the world.

The contributors, among them Marston Bates, Sir Charles G. Darwin, Paul B. Sears, and Frank Fraser Darling, view man as a biological phenomenon and as a depleter of natural resources, food supply and habitable space. Eugene Black, Lord Boyd Orr, Henry Steele Commager, Arnold Toynbee, Sir Solly Zuckerman, and Grenville Clark consider the stresses overpopulation imposes on economic and political systems, particularly in the less-developed nations of Asia, Africa, and South America.

Joseph Wood Krutch, Andre Maurois, and Sir Julian Huxley discuss the difficulties of finding a good life for the individual and the family in a world filled with too many people. The widely divergent views of religion are presented by the Rev. Robert I. Gannon and the Rt. Rev. James A. Pike.

All who care about wilderness and people

should know about this book and let others know of its significance to the future of mankind.

*The World of Ice*, by James L. Dyson. Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1962. 292 pages, 83 photographs, 2 charts, and 3 maps. \$6.95.

To the climber strapping on his crampons in the cold before-dawn, and to the skier waxing before a long descent, the quantity and quality of snow and ice in the vicinity is of interest and concern, almost as much as they are to a child trying to guess if the newly arrived beauty will bring the closing of schools. It is not to be wondered at that snow is often used as a symbol for purity, for its first arrival, slowly and softly out of nowhere on a grey morning, disregarding the desires of highway departments, is touched with extra-human causality. More than this, to see fresh snow on the bark of a great tree, or to watch the multitude of changing blues in a crevasse, leads one's thoughts to absolutes.

Many people, and especially those who wander on the higher hills, are familiar with snow and ice and their immediate effects and changes. A lesser and more fortunate number can explain how many of the lakelets, mountains, and valleys of the Sierra were formed by the movement of ice. Still fewer, however, are acquainted with snow and ice in their more extreme states, such as on the great ice caps or on the white underbelly of the world, or with the continents of ice that lie buried beneath the tundra. Yet glaciers and permafrost areas amount to one-fifth of the world's total land area.

Mr. Dyson's book is concerned with this universe of snow and ice, whether it be found on mountain tops, on the sea, or under the land. He speaks of its comings and goings and of its effects on the land and on the level of oceans, and of the plants and animals which follow it. His work is happily full of the latest information, especially that result-

ing from Antarctic research during the International Geophysical Year.

The style of the book is pleasant and discursive, and many of the phenomena of which he speaks are illustrated by photographs which are both beautiful and informative. It is also written from the point of view of a conservationist who is concerned with some of man's effects on glaciers, as well as with their effects on man and his works.

In short, it is a book that will be of interest to all who are concerned with the earth and its history, and who appreciate a good story as well. It is not a book to be perused at one sitting, however, but should rather be sampled in small pieces, so that the necessarily limited subject matter will retain some measure of the unfamiliar which is one of the attributes of the world of snow and ice.

ALBERT DIXON

## Spring Conferences

March 2-4: National Wildlife Federation, Annual Meeting, Detroit, Michigan

March 4-6: North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, Detroit, Michigan

March 8-10: Eighth Biennial Wilderness Conference, Sheraton-Palace Hotel, San Francisco, California

April 6-9: National Audubon Society Western Conference, Asilomar, Pacific Grove, California

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# Mountain Talk

SOMETHING NEW and tasty is coming to a boil over the fire in the Outing Committee's knapsack section. It's a cookbook and menu planning guide for campers of the do-it-yourself variety.

Winifred Thomas and her co-author, Hasse Bunnelle, have drawn heavily on experiments and experience over the years on Sierra Club outings, especially summer knapsack trips. When the little book is published (the *Bulletin* will announce it soon), you'll be able to apply the accumulated expertise of thousands of commissary hours, potwampler days and trail weeks.

Veterans of Sierran backpacking will tell you that the food on trips is nourishing and ingeniously planned and prepared, considering the difficulties of traveling light. Most veterans, that is. Some others, sipping their ulcer remedies, will reminisce wryly about certain well-remembered fiascos.



But never mind such dyspeptic thoughts. Let us accentuate the positive and think of the good things that happen around the commissary fire.

Many of these are basic to the enjoyment of a sometimes arduous sport. After hiking ten or fifteen miles, carrying bed and board from one camp to the next, it would be a persnickety gourmet indeed who lacked gusto for cold, tart lemonade, and good, hot soup. Appetite even helps us to overlook occasional lapses in execution of the one-pot entree, or the pudding-with-nuts.

If you have shared the delights of which

I write, such as toasting socks and marshmallows at the same small fire, while passing scarce tea bags from cup to cup, you will recognize that forbearance is a trait of the happy backpacker, and that standards of cuisine and service must vary from place to place and time to time.

The new cookbook doesn't wander into these cul-de-sacs, of course. It keeps to the point, and tells how many teaspoons or cups of the dehydrated ingredient will combine with how much branch water to reconstitute a potful to serve how many hungry campers, in multiples of five or twenty. It compares, with necessary seriousness, the mere cup and the Sierra Club cup as a unit of measure.

My problem is that camp cookery out of a knapsack seems to me much more of an art than a science. I associate it with ideas of witchcraft, and am tempted to murmur "Bubble, bubble, toil and trouble" as the pot boils and I witness the blending in of flakes of ash, a mosquito or two, and a few unavoidable wrigglers from the water hole.

Was it good planning or witchcraft, on the trail in Canada last August, that produced a delicious shrimp cocktail from freeze-dry shrimp in a plastic bag and a piquant sauce out of a little envelope?

On the other hand, I have had real pleasure from unexpected additions to the logistically perfected larder. Late one summer we found very ripe wild currants at Junction Meadow on Bubbs Creek. We gathered cups of them and used our last sugar to make a delicious jam for the biscuits we baked in the reflector oven. That was a campfire treat to remember.

Trout afford a more likely opportunity to live off the land, but I have found it wise not to depend on them. There is either a feast or a famine, and the more prosaic pro-

teins in cans or packages are more reliable.

No matter how precise the quantities, the daily incidents of trail and commissary—the spills, squeezes, and other effects of the perversity of things and people—will keep the cooks on their toes. How, really, do you write instructions for determining that crucial moment when you take the pot off the fire and yell, "Come and get it"? At 10,000 feet or at sea level, I suspect, good cooks are born, or trained by long trial and error.

I have read the knapsackers' manuscript, and I recommend it.\* Just don't put all your faith in recipes (especially those with a lot of powdered eggs!) The meals will go better if you have Winnie or Hasse there in person to season the entree, or an inspired Bill Colvig to heat the griddle and pour the batter.

FRED GUNSKY

\*For further information on backpacking, camping, and getting along in the high country, try *Going Light With Backpack and Burro*, available from the club office or your local bookstore.—Ed.



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# Northwest Conservation Roundup

By J. Michael McCloskey

**A** YEAR-END REVIEW of the status of conservation problems in the Pacific Northwest shows some slight progress in efforts to establish new national parks, continued uncertainty in the reclassification of national forest Primitive and Limited areas, more cutting encroachment, and increased problems with mining in dedicated areas.

Proposals for added parkland in three northwestern states have moved forward perceptibly. A specific bill to establish a Northern Cascades National Park has been drafted for introduction in this Congress by Congressman Thomas Pelly of Seattle. The decision to press for specific legislation follows the denial this fall by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture John Baker of Pelly's request for a Forest Service moratorium on cutting in 20 scenic areas considered for park status. (See "Moratorium Urged" in September 1962 *SCB*.) Baker replied that cutting in 10 of the 20 areas was contemplated within the next five years.

Efforts to secure study of the national park potential of the Oregon Cascades gained momentum this past fall as the Oregon Cascades Conservation Council voted at their annual meeting to ask Congress to authorize a study by the National Park Service of the park potential of the "Oregon Cascades from somewhat north of Mount Jefferson to somewhat south of Diamond Peak."

Another park proposal in Oregon has come alive again now with the election of a sympathetic new Congressman from southwestern Oregon, Robert Duncan. Duncan has pledged to support establishment of an Oregon Dunes National Seashore in approximately the form that Senator Maurine Neuberger is now proposing. With this change of congressional sentiment, the administration has promised to put the Oregon Dunes proposal back into its program.

Finally, the state of Idaho actually gained 5361 acres of new parkland in November with a Presidential proclamation adding the public domain acreage to the Craters of the Moon National Monument. Of greatest importance among the lands added are the areas known as "kipukas," islands of undisturbed vegetation amidst lava flows, which the Nature Conservancy and others had asked be added.

In the course of the year, a number of wilderness reclassifications in the national forests drew to a conclusion, but still more

remained pending. A final multiple use plan and recreation plan for the former Waldo Lake Limited Area in Oregon were approved. As a result of protests, the plans were rendered less objectionable, but the basic pattern still involves mass recreation and some commercial timber cutting in recreation areas. The recreation plan, however, was notable for a number of restrictions on motorized equipment, including trail vehicles and power boats on small lakes.

Also, the year's end saw further developments in the case involving the nearby Olallie Ridge area. This 53,000-acre tract was dropped from the Three Sisters Wilderness Area in 1957. Late in 1962 the Forest Service promised to set aside 2700 acres of the tract in the form of two tiny scenic areas, two geological areas, one botanical area, and one natural area.

A 1,239,840-acre Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area on the Montana-Idaho border and a Salmon River Breaks Primitive Area of 216,870 acres were established by order of the Secretary of Agriculture on January 11. This results in a net loss of 418,506 acres of dedicated wilderness in the former Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area. (The March 1963 *SCB* will carry an analysis of this action by George Marshall.) And the Anaconda-Pintlar Primitive Area in southwestern Montana was reclassified as a slightly enlarged 159,000-acre Wilderness Area in late December.



Two more Limited Areas were declassified in the course of the year, the large Snake River Limited Area (Oregon) and the small Packwood Limited Area (Washington). This leaves six of the original seventeen Limited Areas still in existence. A small part of the Snake River Limited Area was put in the Hells Canyon-Seven Devils Scenic Area, with the rest to be managed primarily for grazing and wildlife as it now is, but in unreserved status. The Packwood Limited Area had its central drainage zone put in a "Landscape Management Area," with the exterior zones given over to logging.

Reclassifications still pending include: North Cascades Primitive Area (announcement of the reclassification proposal expect-

ed this spring), Mount Jefferson Primitive Area (outdoor clubs' proposal still being studied by the regional office), Cougar Lakes Limited Area (forest supervisor ready to submit recommendation to the regional office), and Sky Lakes Limited Area (forest supervisors' offices still studying outdoor club's proposal).

In view of the 5 billion board feet of standing timber lost in the Columbus Day storm, reductions in Forest Service cutting might have been expected. Instead cutting contracts have merely been extended, and new over-all increases in the allowable cut have just been announced to satisfy industry pressures. Secretary Freeman has announced a 170 MMBF increase for Oregon, a 382 MMBF increase for Northern California, though slight decreases for Washington (-4 MMBF) and Idaho (-1 MMBF). Notable was a 37 MMBF decrease announced for the Mount Baker National Forest, which includes much of the area proposed for park status (this large decrease was counter-balanced by increases elsewhere in Washington).

Despite Forest Service determination to get old timber out for fear that it will soon fall down, residual primeval stands weathered the record-breaking Columbus Day storm in good shape. Little damage was done in wilderness areas, and large primeval forest parks like Olympic had only a few scattered wind-thrown trees. The heavy blow-down losses that occurred elsewhere were mainly along roadway openings and at the edges of cutting units.

Problems with mining disturbance in Wilderness and Wild Areas accelerated at the year's end. While legal action was taken to invoke the Oregon State Sanitary Authority's assistance in restricting placer mining in the Kalmiopsis Wild Area of southwestern Oregon, new claims for block pumice were being filed on lands in the Three Sisters Wilderness Area. The validity of these claims is now under investigation. The only good news is that the placer miner in the Kalmiopsis area has now announced that he does not intend to resume operations this winter as planned. (Further details on these two Oregon mining-in-Wilderness problems will be presented in the March 1963 *SCB*.)

[EDITOR'S NOTE: For what we hope is also very good news, see "A Milestone in Conservation Progress" on page 10.]