



WILL F. THOMPSON: *Mt. Fury over Luna Creek cirque, the North Cascades*

Sierra Club Bulletin

APRIL 1968

The North Cascades

(see page seven)

President's Message

GRASS ROOTS CONSERVATION

On March 22, 1968, the Brazil and Souza ranches in Marin County officially became state park land. It was a somewhat quiet victory after years of strenuous and sometimes noisy battle. This was a prototype of a local battle, fought on the chapter level by the Sierra Club, but, because of its geography and implications, of national significance. How it was fought and won is a case history of grass-roots conservation effort.

The 2,150 acre Brazil-Souza ranch complex, a half hour drive from San Francisco, forms much of the western rim and bottomland of a natural bowl called Frank's Valley. Its broad ridges and rolling hills rise 1,500 feet above the Pacific and drop to acres of streamside flats. One canyon bears a stand of redwoods, logged in the 1950's when taxes got too high.

The ranches form the backdrop for Muir Woods National Monument and are the heartland of Mt. Tamalpais State Park, both admired by millions of tourists and repeat local visitors. Here are some of the world's most stunning views: west to the Farallone Islands; south to the checkered pattern of San Francisco; and east over the whole broad Bay panorama to 4,000-foot Mt. Diablo.

For years, people assumed this was part of the adjoining parklands. For years, it didn't need to be. This was ranchland; it was profitable enough to graze it and leave it alone. A pastoral scene, it was part of the open-space environment.

But in the late 1940's, as more and more people crowded into the Bay Area, as demands on the land increased, and as land prices rose, it became clear to a few people that land like this could not be expected to remain forever as it was. Zoning was not the answer here, although Marin County was forward looking in zoning concepts. This land was important to people outside of Marin, to the people of the Bay Area and the state and the nation who came by the growing thousands to enjoy a unique and superb park complex in the middle of a burgeoning metropolitan region. Public ownership of Frank's Valley seemed the obvious, and the only, answer.

At first, the state needed convincing. Frank's Valley was not all flat and sunny. It had no lake for water sports. It was not obviously developable for mass recreation. Its values were more subtle, more sophisticated, and we believe, more profound. This was land whose loss to subdivision would be irrevocable loss to the parks it supported and to the environment around it. It was land that people would hike on, picnic on, camp on. It offered, incidentally, the best opportunity for park campsites close to the city. But, primarily, this was invaluable open space that millions and millions of people would enjoy visually and esthetically.

By 1956, together with fellow conservationists in Marin County, we were able to convince the state park personnel and the legislature that Mt. Tamalpais State Park should be enlarged to its optimum size and that Frank's Valley should be acquired. Enough money was appropriated to buy it all in that year: \$1.1 million.

We relaxed too soon.

The state machinery for land acquisition ground very, very slow. It took months then years to appraise and buy key parcels of the valley land, the value of which was increasing day by day. But time and money ran out before the Brazil-Souza parcel was reached.

And so in the early 1960's, the fight began all over again. From local meeting tables to the desks of planners to editorial pages to the offices of Boards of Supervisors, and to the halls of Sacramento. Many more people were in-

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Sierra Club Bulletin

APRIL 1968
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... TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT
THE NATION'S SCENIC RESOURCES ...

FRONT COVER: Conservationists frustrated by slow progress of the campaign for a national park in the North Cascades might well have named the peaks visible in Will Thompson's photograph. Beyond Mt. Fury are Mt. Terror and Mt. Despair. But prophetically, we dare hope, Mt. Triumph also looms large on the not-very-distant horizon.

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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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Berry, Leopold, Moss, Porter, and Siri elected to Board of Directors; one bylaw amendment passes, other amendments fail

House Interior Committee approves Hooker Dam compromise

Outer Continental Shelf revenues for Land and Water Conservation fund approved by Senate and House Interior committees

San Rafael Wilderness first to be designated under Wilderness Act

Sierra Club Board of Directors and Council to hold annual meeting May 4 and 5

Randal F. Dickey, Jr., Chairman of the Judges of Election, announced as the *Bulletin* went to press that the following were elected to three-year terms as members of the Sierra Club Board of Directors: Phillip Berry, Luna Leopold, Laurence Moss, Eliot Porter, and William Siri. One proposed bylaw amendment obtained the two-thirds majority required for adoption; henceforth, the number of signatures required to nominate a candidate by petition will be one percent of the number of ballots cast in the preceding election. Details next month.

The last week in March the House Interior Committee reported out the Central Arizona Project Bill, excluding dams from the Grand Canyon and approving Hooker Dam or a "suitable alternative." A major conservation issue was insertion of the phrase calling for a suitable alternative to Hooker Dam since Hooker Reservoir would flood a portion of the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico. The compromise approved by the House Committee allows an alternative to Hooker Dam if the Bureau of Reclamation technicians select a feasible second site.

Bills to augment the Land and Water Conservation Fund were reported out favorably by both the Senate and House Interior committees. The Senate Committee approved using Outer Continental Shelf revenues to raise the authorized ceiling of the Land and Water Conservation Fund to \$200 million for the fiscal years 1969, 1970, and 1971. The Senate Committee further approved a \$300 million ceiling for the Fund in the fiscal years 1972 and 1973. The House bill authorized using Outer Continental Shelf revenues to raise the Land and Water Fund to the \$200 million level for the next five years. In addition, the House Committee voted in favor of ending the sale of Golden Eagle Passes, a current source of revenue to the Fund. Instead, the committee recommended permitting the various park and recreation agencies to set their own fees and to keep the receipts for development uses.

On March 21 the President signed into law S. 889, and the San Rafael Wilderness in the Los Padres National Forest of California became the first wilderness area to be designated under the Wilderness Act of 1964. In his comments at the signing of the San Rafael Wilderness Bill the President said, "San Rafael is part of the New Conservation, the enlightened land policy that puts parks where people can get to them." The San Rafael Wilderness adds 143,000 acres to the nine million acres of wilderness protected by the Wilderness Act.

The Sierra Club Board of Directors' annual organizational meeting and the Sierra Club Council meeting will be held May 4 and 5 at the Surf Rider Inn in Santa Monica, Calif. The session on May 4 will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a break for lunch at noon and end at 5 p.m. The May 5 session, beginning at 8:30 a.m. will continue until business before the Board is concluded. (After 10 a.m. May 4, the two day session will be open to the public.) Highlight of the weekend meetings will be the annual banquet at 6:30 p.m. May 4 at the Miramar Hotel in Santa Monica. Sen. Thomas Kuchel, R-Calif., will speak on "The Conservation Picture." Host chapter for the event is the Angeles Chapter. For reservations the following people may be contacted: May 4 banquet, cost \$6.75 (also send self-addressed envelope), Ed Classie Olcott, 3451 Tilden Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90034; May 4 luncheon, cost \$2.00, Cleo B. Coons, 2433 Edgewater Terrace, Los Angeles, Calif. 90039; and home hospitality, Ruth Schrader, 945 Keniston, Los Angeles, Calif. 90019.

Hearings set on federal public works projects for 1969

The House and Senate Appropriations subcommittees on Public Works will hold hearings from April 29 to May 9 on all authorized Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation projects for which funding is sought in fiscal year 1969. Projects of special interest to the Sierra Club to be considered at this time are: Red River Dam in Kentucky, Dickey-Lincoln School Dam in Maine, and Oakley Dam (Allerton Park) in Illinois.

Colorado conservationists urge establishment of a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds national monument

The Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Sierra Club, along with 20 other Colorado conservation organizations, has endorsed a statement in support of establishing a Florissant Fossil Beds national monument. Situated 35 miles west of Colorado Springs in a scenic mountain valley, the fossil bed area is now threatened with mountain-home subdivisions and other commercial encroachments. The Florissant Fossil Beds were created by volcanic ash from sudden nearby eruptions 40 million years ago. Only at the Florissant site are the insects, plants, and animals of the Rocky Mountain region of that period (Oligocene) preserved. The National Park Service has proposed that 6,000 acres of the 12,000-acre fossil bed area be designated as a national monument. The House of Representatives trimmed the proposal to 1,000 acres. Colorado conservationists state that the rectangular 6,000-acre area was selected in order to include only the most representative of the major fossil sites. A 1,000-acre area would take the whole scientific story of Florissant completely out of context, they maintain.

BLM studies effect of motorcycle racing on public domain lands in desert

The Bureau of Land Management is concerned with what it terms "a new desert species"—the motorcycle. The California State Office of the BLM reports that the desert areas of Southern California have become the weekend playgrounds for large groups of motorcyclists. "For example," the Bureau states, "in one area northwest of Red Rock Canyon on Highway 14 a cross-country motorcycle race was held in which 1,300 motorcycles participated. An estimated 2,000 people attended this event sponsored by a motorcycle club from the Los Angeles area. The group had hot dog-hamburger stands, portable toilets, trailers, an ambulance, and a complete radio network for monitoring the race." A large share of this cross-country motorcycle racing is being done on public domain lands administered by the BLM. The agency is studying the problems which the impact of this volume of use can produce on the desert environment.

Yarborough introduces bill for conservation of world wildlife

Senator Ralph Yarborough, D-Tex., has introduced legislation to give America a leadership role in the conservation of world wildlife by eliminating the United States as a major market for endangered wildlife. In introducing his "Endangered Species Bill," the Senator said, "The leopard, once a favorite for lush coats and distinctive decoration; the polar bear, the most distinctive form of life in the polar regions; the elephant, largest land animal; the whale, extolled by famed American author Herman Melville; the canary, parakeet, and goldfish, favorite childhood pets and the rhesus monkey, which has been so invaluable in medical research: all of these invaluable, irreplaceable species are in danger because of unregulated destruction."

"There are, indeed, regulations within the countries of Africa, the East, and Europe for the preservation of these species. There are almost everywhere animal preserves where only a limited quota of animals may be taken for exportation or other purposes. Yet these rules are almost impossible to enforce, when in countries like the U.S. the horns and hides of these animals are sold for high prices without regard to origin," he added.

The Yarborough bill would prevent importation into the United States of live fish or wildlife threatened by extinction or the furs, horns, or other products from these animals. The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with officials of foreign countries would decide which species would be protected by this bill. The measure is aimed only at illegally captured wildlife and their products. "Legally captured products would still be available, since they are usually controlled," the Senator noted.

Phase one of New Jersey's Conservation Environmental Renewal Program underway with establishment of a 100,000-acre land preserve

The establishment of "Skylands of New Jersey," a 100,000-acre inter-regional public land preserve in north-central New Jersey, is the first major step in New Jersey's Conservation Environmental Renewal Program. The 100,000-acre preserve contains forests, fresh water lakes, unobstructed miles of mountain trails and vistas, protected wilderness and natural areas, and irreplaceable national historic landmarks. Phase two of the Environmental Renewal Program will include the addition of an estimated 90,000 acres of open space land and a full assessment of other land areas for future investment.

New Jersey's Conservation Environmental Renewal Program, the first of its kind in the nation, calls for the co-operation of all levels of government—state, county, and municipal—in the Skylands region. Robert A. Roe, New Jersey Commissioner of Conservation and Economic Development, said in his annual report on the program, "The future economic stability and recreation-oriented growth of this area—free from polluted lakes and water supply, free from soot-laden air, free from urban sprawl and congestion, free from ugliness and desecration—is the challenge and the opportunity this program presents."

England considering wild plant protection bill

Because of the increasing number of visitors to the English countryside, Parliament is considering a Wild Plant Protection Bill. The bill will provide for the protection of wild plants throughout Britain. A small number of extremely rare plants are listed in the bill, and it will be an offense to pick or uproot any of these species. Other plants can be added to this list by a Ministerial Order. The bill also itemizes a second and larger group of plants which it will be unlawful to pick in quantity for the purpose of selling. A third provision of the bill allows local authorities to recommend a Ministerial Order for the protection of specific plants in their community.

Sea otters, once near extinction, reach saturation numbers in some areas

Sea otters, marine mammals whose pelts sell in the thousand-dollar range, are the subject of conservation projects in California and Alaska. Historically, the animals ranged along the entire coast of western North America. Protected since 1911, when they numbered approximately 500, the sea otter has made a comeback in California and Alaska. Wildlife administrators from the Pacific coast states and British Columbia will meet to consider transplanting some of the animals from southeastern Alaska, where the sea otters have reached saturation numbers, to the coastal regions of Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia. Meanwhile, in California, sea otters, who feed on shell fish, are caught in an unwelcome contest with the commercial abalone divers in the coastal waters off San Luis Obispo County. The Department of Fish and Game plans to transplant some of the animals to California's Sea Otter Refuge north of Lopez Point in Monterey County. If the initial transplanting project is successful, the program to remove sea otters from abalone producing areas will continue.

**Oil and gas lease sale
on outer continental shelf
off Texas**

The Department of the Interior has announced that a sale of oil and gas leases on the outer continental shelf off the Texas coast will be held May 21. The sale, to be conducted on the basis of competitive sealed bids, will involve 169 tracts covering a total of 728,551 acres. "Recent trends in outer continental shelf leasing make it clear that this area is attracting intense industry interest," Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall said in making the announcement. He cited the bidding for oil and gas leases on Federal offshore lands near Santa Barbara in February that resulted in a record high return from any single lease sale in the 15-year history of continental shelf resource development.

**Vermont to ban
billboard alleys**

The Vermont State Assembly has passed a bill to abolish roadside billboards throughout the state. According to a news statement, the businessmen of Vermont are backing the measure because they feel that billboard alleys along the highways are a threat to Vermont's chief industry: tourism. The bill allows signs at places of business as well as informational signs erected by the state.

**May 1 deadline for
American Alpine Club
mountaineering fellowships**

The American Alpine Club is offering grants of \$100 to \$150 under its Climbing Fellowship Fund Awards program for 1968. The awards are based on need, past mountaineering record, letters of recommendation, and worth of the specific project proposed. Applicants need not be members of the American Alpine Club. Deadline for applications is May 1, 1968; recipients will be notified by May 31, 1968. Address inquiries to Chairman, Climbing Fellowship Fund Committee, American Alpine Club, 113 East 90 Street, New York, N. Y. 10028.

**Treichel named to
California commission on
marine and coastal resources**

Sierra Club member Georg Treichel was one of 30 prominent Californians named by Governor Ronald Reagan to the newly formed California Advisory Commission on Marine and Coastal Resources. In addition to advising the governor and the legislature on matters relating to the conservation and development of the state's marine and coastal resources, the commission will review, analyze, and recommend action on all elements deemed essential to the creation of a comprehensive ocean plan for California. Treichel is director of the Center for the Study of General Ecology and Environmental Planning in San Francisco.

**Angeles Chapter
Youth Section celebrates
its first anniversary**

The Youth Section of the Angeles Chapter celebrated its first anniversary in March. The newly formed section had a successful first year, growing from a membership of 14 to 250. During the past year, the youth organization obtained a monthly meeting place, established a set of bylaws, created a monthly newsletter, and maintained a full schedule of activities each month. Projects set for the Youth Section's second year include building the membership to 500, doing several clean-ups in the Sierra and local mountains, and taping wilderness preservation articles for the Braille Institute.

**Awards to
Sierra Club publications**

1967 brought additional awards to Sierra Club publications. Among those not previously mentioned in the *Bulletin* are the three Graphic Arts Awards presented to the Club by the Printing Industries of America. The certificates cite the *Kauai and the Park Country of Hawaii* poster and two of the books in the Exhibit Format Series, *Glacier Bay* and *Kauai and the Park Country of Hawaii*. *Summer Island* received a Certificate of Merit from the Western Book Publishers Association.



PHILIP HYDE: *Suiattle River from Miner's Ridge, Glacier Peak Wilderness*

Showdown for the Wilderness Alps of Washington's North Cascades

MANY EASTERNERS are surprised to know that the northwest corner of America contains not only glaciers, rain, and forests, but also people, concrete, congestion, and smog. Perhaps the difference between the Northwest and other parts of the country is that there still is quite a bit of the former, and not too much of the latter—yet. At this time a great debate is going on over what shall be the ultimate fate of the North Cascades in Washington State.

The Cascades are the largest and most beautiful wilderness remnant of the mountains and forests which once covered the whole Northwest. Because of their unbelievably breathtaking scenery, the North Cascades have been called “The Wilderness Alps of America;” and these mountains contain some of the largest blocks of unprotected wilderness remaining in the

48 states. Unfortunately however, what they are and what they have is not known by enough people; the issues in the North Cascades should be national issues, just like the Redwoods and the Grand Canyon. But they are not, and this, more than anything else, may decide their fate.

The struggle over the North Cascades has gone on for about ten years and is essentially a struggle between logging, mining, and commodity-oriented interests on the one side and wilderness and scenic beauty-minded conservationists on the other side. Nearly all the land involved, 7 million acres of it, is federally owned. Almost all of this is managed by the U.S.

by Brock Evans

Forest Service, a large agency within the Department of Agriculture. Northwest and national conservationists who know the issues would like to see the creation of a large national park of about 1.3 million acres, surrounded by several large wilderness areas which would total about another 1.5 million acres. The wilderness areas would remain under the management of the Forest Service, but the national park would have to be managed by the Park Service, an agency of the Department of Interior. Thus, while the issue still remains simple in the eyes of conservationists—that is, a conflict between logging and mining versus scenic beauty and wilderness—there exists a more subtle theme in the form of a power struggle between two rival federal agencies.

THE WILD CASCADES

What *is* out there? What is it that has aroused emotions and stirred souls so deeply that many Northwesterners have literally given all of their working lives to the cause of protection for the North Cascades? For a first look, even though from a distance, climb to the top of the old brick tower of Seattle's Volunteer Park on a clear day and look to the east. Across the woods and roof tops of the Madison Park District, across Lake Washington, over and beyond the suburbs of the Eastside, and then, just a little farther, rise the great mountains. Less than forty miles away, the range seems to be a great dark and white wall, unbroken from north to south across the entire horizon. This wall is capped by five huge, extinct, and heavily glaciated volcanos which dramatically strike the eye whether you look to the right or the left. Sixty miles to the south is immense Mount Rainier, floating god-like and unreal, high above all the rest, dominating even its sister giants, Mount St. Helens and Mount Adams.

From these colossi, the eye sweeps north for 160 miles past remote Glacier Peak and across the jagged and unbroken tangle of spire, valley, lake, and forest that is the central and north face of the range, to its terminus and the last of the ancient volcanos, 10,700 foot Mount Baker. Graceful and gleaming white, Mount Baker appears huge even from Seattle; but it is actually only the *primus inter pares* of a host of other giants to the east in the inner mountains—unseen, and known only vaguely if at all, by most of us in whispers of echoes from other places.

The traveler who crosses or ventures deeper into these mountains sees an even more dramatic world. The closer his approach, the more rugged and ever more wild and beautiful is the impact; murmurs and hints of still greater scenic magnificence are tantalizingly revealed in bits and glimpses up long deep valleys as one drives northward on either the eastern or western side of the range. One such approach is the Mountain Loop Highway, a six or seven hour round trip from Seattle on a road which skirts the fringes of some of the most scenic country in America.

The qualities which make the region outstanding are stamped in the memory of anyone who makes the trip: steep rugged precipices rising sharply above dense rain forests; innumerable creeks and waterfalls fed by glaciers high up on

the slopes; deep rushing canyons, and occasional long vistas of finger-valleys, creeping eastward toward the even mightier peaks near the crest of the range. The visitor will also see the prime reason for the urgent need for protection felt by conservationists—for creeping also up the highly scenic valleys are the heavy, ugly scars of recent and increasing logging operations, felling the remnants of the virgin forest.

Other approaches also suggest the beauty and expanse of this wilderness. The most spectacular of these is the 55-mile boat ride up Lake Chelan to the hamlet of Stehekin, accessible only by boat or plane, and the 22-mile road from Marblemount, stopping two miles short of Cascade Pass in the scenic climax of the range. The short hike from there to the pass takes one through and into a dream-like place surrounded by soft flower meadows, sheer cliffs, a chain of magnificently glaciated peaks, and the headwaters of two wild rivers flowing east and west. Perhaps the most profound implication of this short walk is the realization that Cascade Pass is only the most easily reached of many others just as beautiful to the north and south.

Much of the North Cascades is still a pristine wilderness, barely scarred, still little known even in the state of Washington. The unique qualities of its scenery, unquestioned by any side of the present controversy, rank easily among the prime scenic areas of North America. The mountain region from Snoqualmie Pass north to Canada contains 519 glaciers—three times more living ice than in all the rest of the contiguous United States put together. It contains the strange canyon of Lake Chelan, which with a total of 9,000 feet from mountain summit to lake bottom, is one of the world's deepest. The Cascades region feeds and drains at least 15 good sized rivers, together with thousands of smaller tributaries and waterfalls, hundreds of jewel lakes, and uncounted miles of flower meadows. And it still contains deep ancient rain forests of huge cathedral-like tree groves, the last large tracts of virgin forest in America not yet protected from logging. Even the better known of the hundreds of mountains in the North Cascades are not climbed or visited often, and others have no names at all. The range's true giants—peaks such as Bonanza, Goode, El Dorado, and Forbidden—rank easily in beauty and rugged proportion with all but a few in the rest of America, and yet to this day they are scarcely heard of. Thus has this grand tangle of glacier, forest, river and lake acquired its name—"The Wilderness Alps of America."

THE ISSUES

Park proposals for the North Cascades are not new. In 1906, and again in 1917, proposals for such a park were advanced by northwest conservation organizations. In 1937, a Special Park Study Team appointed by the Roosevelt administration surveyed the area and declared that a North Cascades National Park would "outrank in its scenic, recreational and wildlife values any existing national park and any other possibility for such a park in the United States." One would think that with such recommendations, legislation for a park would speedily pass. However, there has been much opposi-



EDWIN J. DOLAN: *South Cascades Glacier, The North Cascades*

tion, mostly local, towards the creation of a national park and to the wilderness idea in general in the North Cascades.

The great forests of fir and cedar six feet thick and several hundred feet tall can provide pulp and board-feet as well as beauty. The area is heavily mineralized. Cattle and sheep graze in the high alpine meadows. And, dam builders see potential power sites in the mountains. The combination of all these factors was sufficient in 1937 to permit the forces supporting these interests to ally with the Forest Service, itself interested in resisting a take over of its domain, to beat down any park proposals.

These same forces are present in the North Cascades controversy today. But now, the allies of the Forest Service include not only the traditional commercial-exploitive interests, such as logging and mining, but also some newer ones who could be loosely termed "mass recreationists." The hunting organizations are foremost among these, because hunting is not permitted in a national park. Although, according to state surveys, far fewer people engage in hunting in Washington than go hiking or mountain climbing, they are a powerfully organized and vocal minority. The State Game Department, a quasi-public agency financed entirely by the sale of license fees, resents any attempt to remove territory from its juris-

diction, despite the fact that few animals are shot every year in any of the areas proposed for park protection.

Skiing interests too, at least in their official statements, have come out against the park on the grounds that the Park Service would be much more restrictive as far as the cutting of trees for runs and location of lifts than would the Forest Service. (Downhill ski facilities are permitted and are in use in national parks, including mechanical lifts.) The persons who have been claiming to speak for organized skiers at the North Cascades hearings so far have been, for the most part, persons with a financial interest in the construction of future ski areas. There is a division of opinion amongst skiers, who are not organized in any real sense and many of whom are wilderness users. For instance, the 5,500-member Seattle Mountaineers organization, the largest skiing organization in the state, is the most militant of all the preservation organizations supporting a national park.

Other groups such as trail motorbike riders and four-wheel jeep clubs have come out in opposition to the park, since their activities would not be permitted.

All of these varying interests and organizations have banded together in an organization known as Outdoors, Unlimited. Its first president, who had family connections in the

timber industry in eastern Washington, was a long time opponent of any wilderness. The organization's newest leader is a Seattle attorney who states that he is not opposed to wilderness as such, but that there should be roads into it so that people can have access to it. His law firm represents a half dozen timber companies, some of which operate in the North Cascades. Outdoors, Unlimited claims 52,000 members, including all the members of 40 chambers of commerce, and it is actively expanding its program to eastern Washington and northern Idaho to combat what it calls the "Nature Fakers." Outdoors, Unlimited has made expensive mailings to its members and has taken out full-page ads in state newspapers against wilderness and park designations in the North Cascades.

Conservationists believe that despite its alleged "recreation" orientation, Outdoors, Unlimited, is really a timber industry front group. This suspicion was somewhat confirmed when a recent form letter from the Georgia-Pacific Corporation, the second largest lumber company in the world and the single large company leading opposition to wilderness and parks in the North Cascades, was intercepted. This form letter, sent out to all persons on the timber sale mailing list of the Mount Baker National Forest, urged the financial support of the timber industry for the program of Outdoors, Unlimited, "which is proving to be beneficial to the timber industry in this area." The letter went on to state: "The timber industry has a large stake in Senate Bill 1321 (the North Cascades Bill which passed the Senate last November) and similar proposals for single use of our public land. In the past, our industry has fought a losing battle on such proposals. We lack the political strength that comes from numbers. Now it is possible to enlist the aid of this group of over 52,000 members. The efforts of this organization and allied groups are beginning to have an impact on the problem. The politicians who write the laws and the administrators who manage the land will react in relation to the pressures that are brought to bear."

Georgia-Pacific Corporation then went on to express its fears about the growing strength of the Sierra Club and other conservation groups in the Northwest and urged the other timber operators to contribute to Outdoors, Unlimited as it has done. Informed sources have revealed that this one single corporation has given Outdoors, Unlimited from \$6,000 to \$9,000.

On the other side, supporting national parks and increased wilderness areas in the North Cascades, are outdoor clubs, such as the Seattle Mountaineers already mentioned, garden clubs, Audubon societies, nature-oriented organizations, and such national organizations as the Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society. Spearheading the drive for the past ten years has been the militant North Cascades Conservation Council which has about 1,600 members, mostly in the state of Washington. It has been the combined and unyielding pressure of these groups, since the formation of the North Cascades Conservation Council in 1957, which has succeeded in bringing North Cascades park and wilderness legislation before

Congress. As mentioned above, the Senate passed a North Cascades Park and Wilderness Bill last November; the issue is now before the House, which scheduled field hearings April 19 and 20 in Seattle.

Conservationists view the legislation passed by the Senate as compromise legislation, designed to appease the timber and hunting interests, but still support it because it represents a substantial step forward in the drive for full protection of the area. However, there is great concern for the fate of this legislation when it comes before the more unfriendly House Interior Committee. Park and wilderness opponents are currently engaged in an all-out campaign in the state of Washington to "kill" any North Cascades legislation this session. The next few months will be critical for the ultimate fate of the North Cascades.

PARK SERVICE VS. FOREST SERVICE MANAGEMENT

Eastern conservationists often ask Northwesterners why they prefer Park Service management of scenic wilderness, such as the North Cascades, to that of the Forest Service. The spectre of overcrowding at Yosemite and Yellowstone National Park, as well as an apparent tendency of the Park Service to put roads into some of those areas, is often raised against the national park concept for the North Cascades. While being aware of overcrowding at Yosemite and Yellowstone, Northwesterners still attempt to point out that over 95 per cent of each of these parks is in a wilderness condition and apparently will remain so, and that at least some northwest parks are wilderness parks, for example, Olympic.

Northwesterners feel that much of the problem has come from what appears to be a differing role of the U.S. Forest Service in the East as compared with its role in the Northwest. The activities of the Forest Service in the East, where very often its lands are the only public lands, appear to be geared to development of recreation facilities and proposals for wilderness areas. However, the Forest Service in the Northwest is in the logging business. Northwest forests have the greatest supply of saw timber remaining in the 48 states, and most of it is on Forest Service land. The result has been, especially in the past ten years, a long history of timber sales which have resulted in the clear-cut logging of many prime scenic valleys in both Washington and Oregon, usually conducted over conservationists protests.

Forest Service proposals for Wilderness or scenic area protection in the Northwest have always seemed to draw boundaries around areas containing rock and ice, but omitting timbered valleys below. The timbered valleys are then cut. Conservationists believe that the timbered valleys in scenic areas deserve the same kind of protection as the rock and ice, which has no commercial value and which is not in any danger. It is this difference of viewpoint between conservationists and the Forest Service over the protection of some of the virgin forests which has caused conservationists to believe that only national park status can protect the most scenic parts of the North Cascades.

The manner in which the whole controversy began illus-



ALLEN E. CARTER: *Too many views of the North Cascades have stumps in the foreground*

trates the point. In 1957, the Forest Service announced that it was considering reclassification of the Glacier Peak area into formal Wilderness status. It advanced and supported a proposal which conservationists called the "Starfish," because the boundaries for wilderness protection were carefully drawn to include only the rocky ridges and meadows, and omitted the timbered valleys in between. Conservationists objected strenuously to this "Wilderness on the Rocks," but it took three years of protest and hearings and finally an order from the Secretary of Agriculture himself overruling the Forest Service before even portions of the timbered valleys were included in the Wilderness. After that time, the Forest Service conducted a series of timber sales in several of the valleys still omitted which conservationists believed should have been in the Wilderness. Protests were strong, and we attempted to urge the Forest Service to manage these areas for their scenic quality; but this was not done. It was only after this that conservationists came to the belief that the Park Service was

the only hope for protection of the timbered valleys in the North Cascades.

An additional reason for preferring Park Service management is that mining is permitted in all Forest Service areas, including Wilderness areas, but not in areas managed by the Park Service. The proposal of the Kennecott Copper Company to construct a large open pit mine in the very heart of the Glacier Peak Wilderness last year pointed up the weakness of the laws under which the Forest Service operates insofar as protection of Wilderness is concerned.

In recent years, some spokesmen for the Forest Service have maintained that their attitude has now changed in the Northwest, and that while that agency was formerly timber-oriented, it is now much more aware of wilderness values. However, this change has not been manifested to any degree in the Northwest; proposals for wilderness and scenic protection still have boundaries drawn around them which exclude the trees, and include mostly rock and ice. The Forest Service

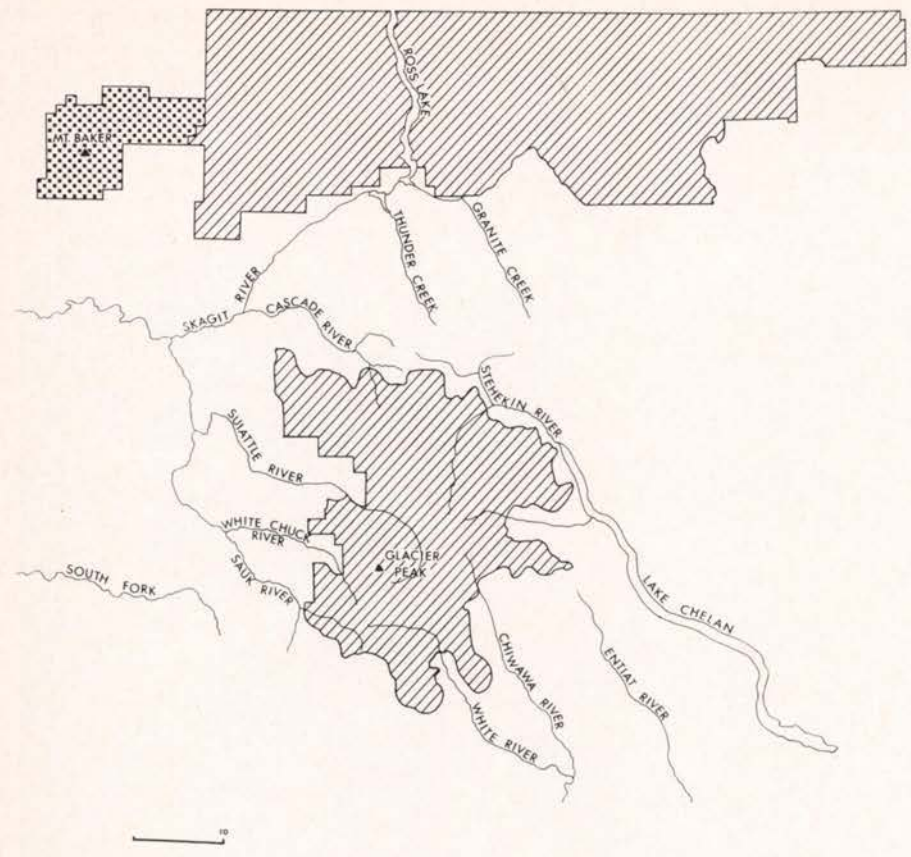




Figure 1: Major Designations at Present

-  (1) Northern area: North Cascade Primitive Area
- (2) Southern area: Glacier Peak Wilderness
-  Mt. Baker Recreation Area (Forest Service)

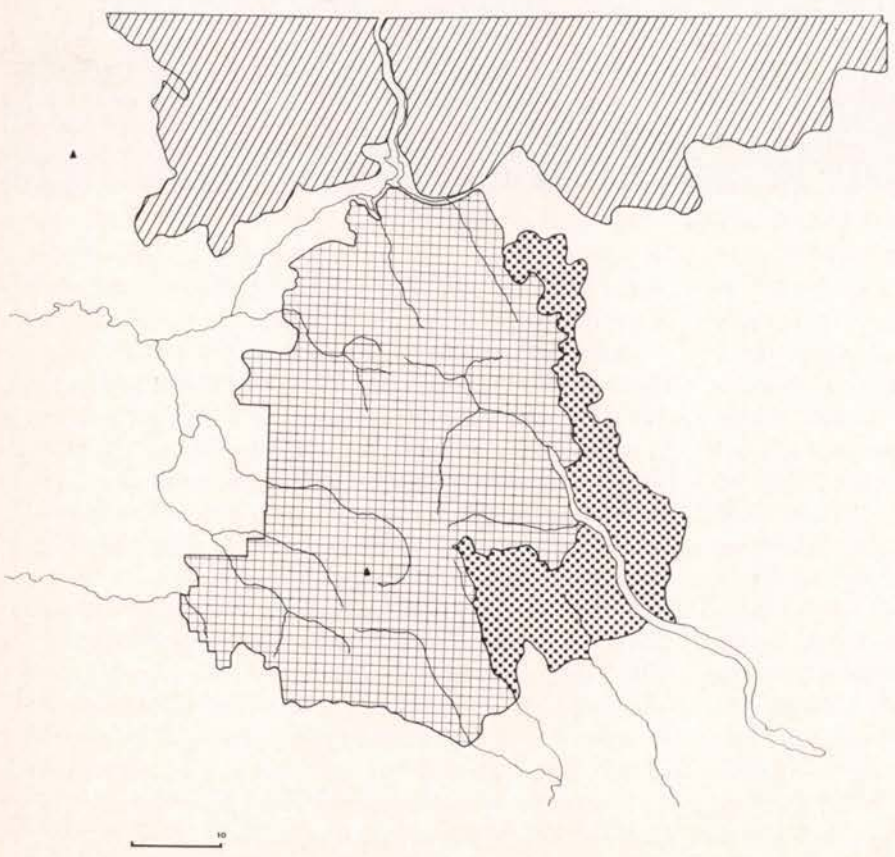


Figure 2: H. R. 12139 (Conservationists' Preferred Plan)








-  North Cascades Wilderness
-  North Cascades National Park
-  Chelan National Mountain Recreation Area (Park Service)

Figure 3: S. 1321 (Passed by Senate)

-  Pasayten Wilderness
-  North Cascades National Park
-  (1) Northern area: Ross Lake Recreation Area (Park Service)
-  (2) Southern area: Chelan Recreation Area (Park Service)

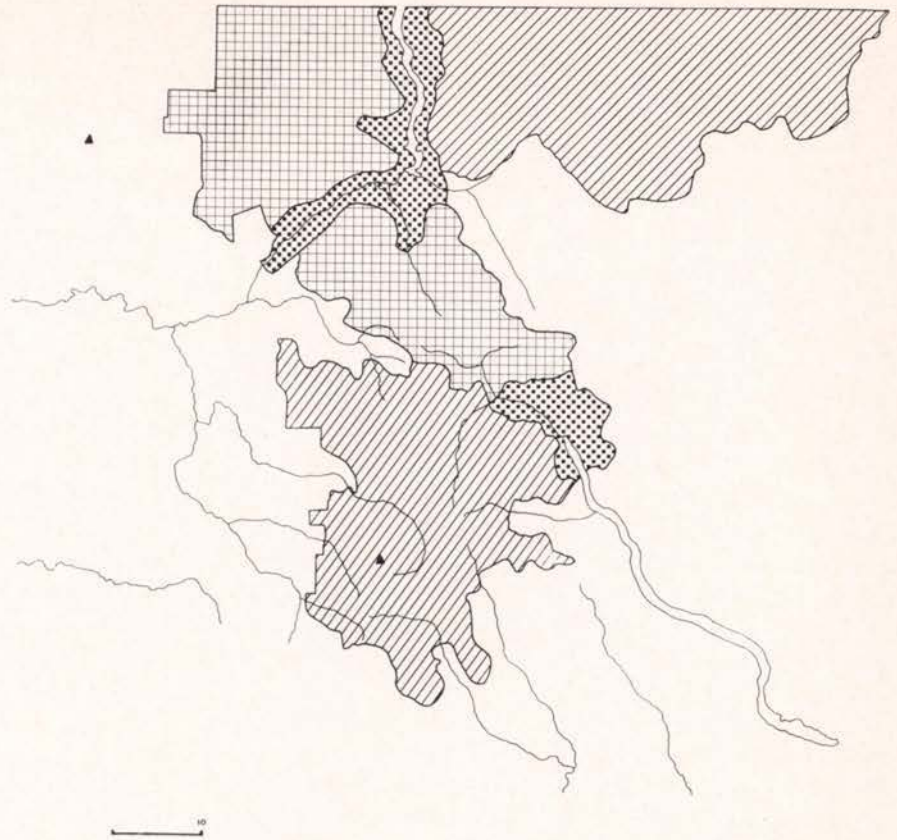








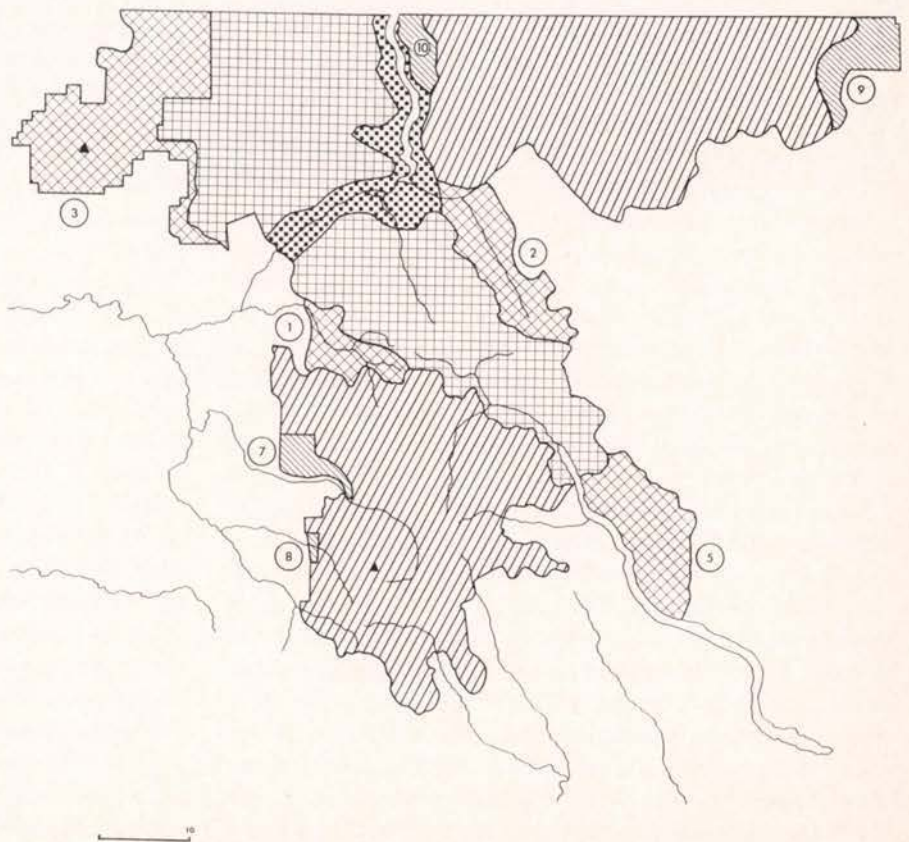
Figure 4: H. R. 8970 with Amendments (Compromise Plan)

-  (1) Northern area: Pasayten Wilderness
-  (2) Southern area: Glacier Peak Wilderness
-  North Cascades National Park
-  Ross Lake Recreation Area (Park Service)

Proposed Amendments

-  Areas to be under Park Service Administration
-  Areas to be under Forest Service Administration

Note: Amendment numbers on map correspond to those in the text.



Maps by Julie Cannon

still appears to work closely with its traditional allies to defeat conservationist proposals for protection of forested valleys, and has, to date, largely succeeded. It is these factors more than anything else which has given impetus to the move for a North Cascades National Park.

LEGISLATION BEFORE CONGRESS

Currently there are three legislative bills for consideration by the House Interior Committee. The conservationists' preferred plan for administering the scenic resources of the North Cascades is embodied in a 1963 proposal for a North Cascades National Park and Chelan National Recreation Area. Legislation for the 1963 proposal, HR 12139, would create a North Cascades National Park of one million acres with a 269,000-acre recreation area on the east side which would permit hunting and still give park quality protection to the land. (The understanding is that companion legislation would be introduced to reclassify areas north of the proposed park as wilderness—see maps.) Conservationists favor HR 12139 because it protects more of the timbered valleys in danger as well as most of the scenic areas threatened by mining.

A second bill, HR 8970, the administration proposal, would create a North Cascades National Park of 570,000 acres, make small additions to the Glacier Peak Wilderness, create a Ross Lake Recreation area of 100,000 acres, and re-assign a portion of the existing North Cascades Primitive Area to the Pasayten Wilderness with minor boundary changes.

Finally, S. 1321—the Senate version of the administration proposal described above—would take 62,000 acres out of the 570,000 acre park and put them in a Chelan Recreation Area as a concession to sportsmen who hunt in this area. Moreover, the Lower Thunder Creek area would be taken out of the park and placed in the Ross Lake Recreation Area to permit a dam to be constructed. S. 1321 also adds some 20,000 acres to the Pasayten Wilderness.

Though conservationists favor HR 12139, they feel that with certain key amendments HR 8970, the administration proposal, can achieve much of the purpose of HR 12139. These amendments are:

(1) Cascade River Amendment. Under HR 8970 only the upper six miles of the North Fork below Cascade Pass would be included in the park. The entire Cascade River drainage upstream from Marble Creek (except for portions already within the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area) should be a part of the park. The Cascade River Amendment would place within the park, or the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area, all of the Cascade River drainage included by conservationists in their 1963 proposal for a park.

Also under this amendment ten miles of existing road would be added to the park, protecting one of the park's most scenic entrances. As it now stands, HR 8970 includes only five miles of the existing roadside and protects only a short section of what is a major entrance valley to the park. By moving the boundary westward to add 32,880 acres to the park, the amendment would not only add ten miles of road, but would

quadruple the potential park campsites in this valley—the main valley on the west side of the park.

(2) Granite Creek Amendment. The entire Granite Creek Valley should be added, enlarging the park by 45,000 acres. While the 1966 North Cascades Study Team Report described this valley as one where "there is no question as to the physical qualifications of the area for park status," HR 8970 affords Granite Creek no protection. Instead, the area would be left exposed to the Forest Service's multiple-use practices.

The route of the North Cross-State Highway runs the length of this valley. The road is the logical major visitor access road on the east side of the park. As much of this highway as possible should be placed within the park to afford its forest environment, including the alpine scenic climax at Washington Pass, the very highest form of scenic protection.

(3) Mt. Baker Amendment. The Mt. Baker region should be added to the park as the National Park Service proposed in the North Cascades Study Team Report. This would enlarge the park by 135,580 acres. Mt. Baker and its immediate vicinity provide a geologic record upon which a complete story of the geology of the Cascade Range can be illustrated and interpreted. Here is the only sector of the entire Cascade Range that illustrates all chapters of its geologic history.

With this amendment the grossly inadequate provisions for visitation in the park can be alleviated through use of the already developed Heather Meadows between Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan. Existing roads and trails should be used for access to panoramic viewpoints. The existing ski installations here could continue as structures predating the park and need not serve as a precedent for the construction of additional facilities elsewhere within the park.

(4) Glacier Peak Amendment. The Glacier Peak-Image Lake region of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area is one of the most scenic in the entire Cascades. Kennecott Copper Corporation plans an open-pit mine in the very heart of this area. Plans call for constructing roads to the mine, operating a mill, and dumping waste tailings for 20 to 30 years—all within the Wilderness Area. Transfer of this region from Forest Service to Park Service administration would place greater restrictions on mining operations, permit condemnation and purchase of patented mining claims, and eliminate further prospecting.

(5) Lake Chelan Amendment. Eastern slopes above Lake Chelan for 20 miles down to Safety Harbor Creek must be preserved from logging. As one travels up Lake Chelan the Mountain scenery begins suddenly and dramatically at Safety Harbor.

Due to the extensive hunting recreation pattern established here, the amendment would designate the area as a National Recreation Area under Park Service management. This amendment would add 74,000 acres to the total amount of national recreation area in the North Cascades region.

(6) Wilderness Amendment. Legislation should establish wilderness zones within the park as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Essentially all roadless por-



DAVID SIMONS: *Near White Pass in the North Cascades*

tions of the park should be protected as wilderness. This protection should come with the enabling act and not have to await a separate act of Congress.

(7) Suiattle River Amendment. Sulphur, Downey, and Buck Creek of the Suiattle River drainage should be added, each in its entirety, to enlarge the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area by 13,380 acres. HR 8970 leaves one mile of Sulphur Creek, two miles of Downey Creek, and five miles of Buck Creek unprotected from logging. These are still wilderness valleys, logically part of the Glacier Peak Wilderness where their headwaters lie. They are lowland valleys leading into the heart of one of the most heavily glacier-clad regions of the Cascade crest: the Snowking, Buckindy, Dome Peak, Ptarmigan Traverse Section, between Cascade Pass and Image Lake. These valleys were deliberately excluded by the Forest Service because there are "too many commercial trees there."

(8) Whitechuck River Amendment. The Whitechuck Val-

ley, eastward one and a half miles from the present road-end, should be added to enlarge Glacier Peak Wilderness Area by 2,120 acres. This valley is the classic lowland wilderness walk of the western Cascades and is the most heavily used wilderness trail in the Mt. Baker National Forest. Every possible mile of it must be kept as is for the easy wilderness experience it affords.

(9) Horseshoe Basin Amendment. The Horseshoe Basin-Windy Peak region at the eastern-most part of the North Cascades Primitive Area should be added, enlarging the Pasayten Wilderness Area by 24,000 acres. This major entrance to the wilderness from the east is one of the most beautiful parts of the entire area. The existence of 12,000 acres of commercial timber appears to be the primary consideration leading to its exclusion from wilderness. This forest would be far more valuable if left standing as part of the wilderness environment rather than becoming an insignificant increment

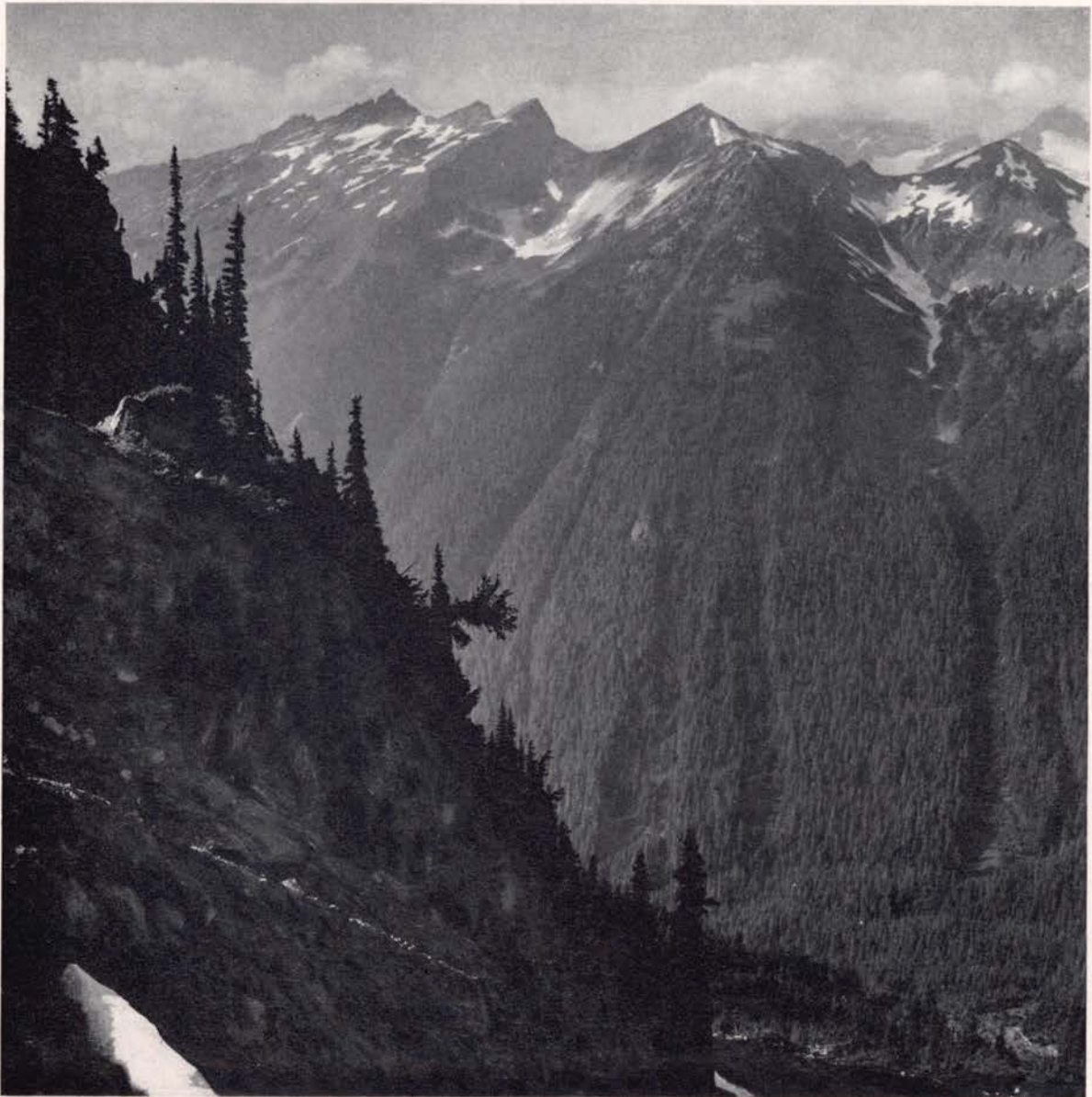
to the extensive commercial timber within the Okanogan National Forest. (The Senate has already adopted part of this amendment.)

(10) Lightning Creek Amendment. The Lightning Creek drainage, east of the northern end of Ross Lake, should be added to the Pasayten Wilderness Area, not to Ross Lake Recreation Area as proposed in HR 8970. Conservationists oppose the North Cascades Study Team proposal for a road along the eastern shore of Ross Lake, connecting the North Cross-State Highway and the Trans-Canada Highway, which would cut through the valley of Lightning Creek. Designation of this valley as part of the Wilderness Area would greatly reduce the likelihood that the road would be constructed. Proposals to confine north-south traffic to the surface of Ross Lake are commendable.

Brock Evans, a lawyer by training, is the Northwest Representative of the Sierra Club, based in Seattle.

Before readers receive this issue of the Bulletin, field hearings on a North Cascades National Park will have been held in Seattle by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. But those who act promptly enough can still have a written statement included in the record of the hearings. (Send it to the House Interior Committee, Representative Wayne Aspinall, Chairman, House Office Building, Washington, D.C.; request specifically that, if possible, your statement be made part of the hearings record.) Those who care strongly enough will, of course, also wish to communicate with their own Congressmen. Establishment of a national park in the North Cascades is one of six objectives assigned highest priority by the club's Directors.

Looking across the valley of Agnes Creek, near Cloudy Pass, the North Cascades



The Words We Work With

by Paul Brooks

IN THE LAST ISSUE of *Daedalus*, the journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, there is an excellent article on the politics of conservation by Robert Patterson, a leading landscape architect and conservationist from the state of Maine. He writes: "If all the lips that serve conservationists were laid end-to-end, there would be a lot of fixed smiles, for in spite of the seriousness of our environmental problems, the conservation effort still consists largely of words." When so many wise words have already been spoken, what is to be gained by adding a few more? I should like to grasp this nettle firmly by devoting a few words to the subject of *words themselves*, as we use them in our business as conservationists.

The stock criticism of any conference is that it merely generates a lot more words, most of which the participants have already heard before, but that nothing much happens as a result. The reason for this criticism, I suppose, is that the connection between the words spoken at the conference and later concrete action may be tenuous and difficult to trace; or when it is very clear and specific, as in the case of the Wilderness Conferences and the Wilderness Act, the time lapse between the birth of the idea and its final fruition is so great that the public at large forgets where it all started.

The fact is, of course, that any action—at least in a democratic society—starts with words. It may be a flood of words from a multitude of sources, as is represented by the seemingly endless hearings required for any federal legislation. It may be a book like *Deserts on the March* by Paul Sears, or *Road to Survival* by William Vogt, or *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson, where eloquent words, backed by irrefutable scientific fact, have been used to shock us into realization of what we are doing to our environment. It may be a short magazine article. The evidence shows that words *are* effective. Even the most monolithic power-structures are sensitive to public opinion—indeed one sometimes feels that this is the only thing they *are* sensitive to.

We need words because what we are trying to do is to enlighten and inform; to change fundamental attitudes, not because we say so, but because we have the facts that will command such change on the part of any reasonable man. Our objective is to bridge the gap between an informed minority (and I am talking here specifically about conservation issues) and an uninformed majority. The people we are trying to reach—the people whose voices count when it comes to a showdown—are neither ignorant nor thoughtless. They are intelligent, generally well-informed people who happen to be uninformed in this area. They have never thought about these

matters one way or the other. For example, despite the publicity received by the Wilderness Act, how many people outside conservation circles know what it is all about, or even that it exists? How many know the difference between a national park and a national forest? Or coming down to a central issue of this conference, how many people east of the Mississippi have even heard of the North Cascades?

During the war when I was with the Office of War Information in Europe, the Government had a slogan "words are bullets." To anyone who has been exposed to the language known as "Washingtonese" or "governmentese," a Washington bureau seems a strange source for such a slogan: at the least, the slogan-writer might have used the analogy of a sawed-off shotgun. But how well off is the conservation movement itself when it comes to using words as bullets? We suffer, I think, from a severe handicap. Scarcely one of the key words we use in our business has been defined with precision. Some of them have mutually exclusive connotations, depending on the background of the person we are addressing. In short, we lack an accepted vocabulary to express a set of values which need to be presented precisely and persuasively. This is particularly serious because these values are often in fundamental contradiction to the cherished clichés of the society in which we live.

Obviously there is no easy way out of this predicament. We can't provide a glossary with every speech we make or every article we write. But I think that we can communicate more clearly if we are constantly aware of the ambiguity of the words we are using. We may know exactly what we mean by a certain term, but to assume that everyone understands us is a mistake. Perhaps by examining these words we can sharpen our outside communications and clarify our own objectives.

What are these words? A few of the commonest are "conservation," "national park," "national forest," "wilderness," and "recreation." Since this is a wilderness conference, let's start with the word "wilderness."

wil'der·ness

For legal purposes it has been defined, quite eloquently, in the Wilderness Act. Yet it remains literally one of the most ambivalent words in the language; it has two contradictory meanings representing two diametrically opposed values. The Biblical meaning of wilderness, which was brought to America by our Puritan forebears, was "desert." It was a hostile environment, a last refuge for outcasts, the place into which you drove the scapegoat laden with the sins of mankind. It could

be made to bloom only through man's toil. In that song familiar to some of us in the Boston area, *Fair Harvard*, the college is described as the "first flower of our wilderness." It was not a wildflower, you may be sure, that the writer had in mind. He was thinking of a cultivated spot in a surrounding desert. So deeply ingrained was this concept, that heavily forested country continued to be referred to as "desert"—going back to the original meaning of simply an unoccupied area. Wilderness was unholy ground inhabited largely by devils; noisy devils, apparently, since the stock phrase was "howling wilderness." Presumably a "wilderness conference" in those days would have been a sort of witches' sabbath.

To the frontiersman the wilderness was, of course, an adversary. Only after it had been largely subdued could the surviving fragments be enjoyed. Not till the period of the Romantic Movement in European literature, till the time of Thoreau and the transcendentalists in America, did the term itself become generally respectable.

As recently as the 1920's, when the first wilderness areas were established by the Forest Service, there was serious question as to whether the word "wilderness" would have unfortunate repercussions. Now it has gone to the other extreme and we hear about the "wilderness mystique" and the "wilderness cult." (Personally, I prefer honest devils.) The curious thing is that *both* meanings of the word continue to be used right up to the present moment. For example, in a recent speech about the dangers of pollution, President Johnson warned that our countryside might become "a wilderness of ghost towns." Some modern uses of the term are very odd indeed. A ballet put on in New York this winter was entitled "Wilderness." According to the review in *The New York Times*, it "was clearly about a beautiful girl, a man with leprosy and a slave driver"—the relationship between the three of them being somewhat confused. This sort of thing may be covered by the Mann Act, but certainly not by the Wilderness Act.

So what? Does this confusion matter? I believe it does. After all, we think in terms of words, and centuries of folklore and prejudice cannot be changed overnight. To take a parallel example, would the senseless poisoning and shooting of wolves be tolerated by the public if wolves were not still associated with evil? Wilderness, though no longer considered unholy, is still identified in many people's minds with land that is good for nothing else, with wasteland. Mining, lumbering and grazing interests of course take this view. The Forest Service is occasionally guilty of such thinking. I trust that the National Park Service is not, though I feel sure that in some people's minds the wilderness areas of our parks are those portions not suitable for recreational development. And it is a curious fact that the White House Conference on Natural Beauty gave scarcely any consideration to the most natural and beautiful areas of all, the wilderness areas.

na'tion·al park

Let us turn now to another of the words we work with. The term "national park" is less than a hundred years old; unlike

the word "wilderness," it does not carry with it the accumulated prejudice of centuries. Its connotations, except to such special groups as the Georgia-Pacific Lumber Company, are entirely pleasant. Yet the confusion in the meaning of the term is almost as great as in the case of wilderness; from the point of view of practical politics and administration it may be even more serious. Let me illustrate. Several years ago I was privileged to take part in an international conservation conference in Bangkok, one session of which was devoted to "national parks." We quickly realized that the American delegates understood one thing by this phrase and the Thai delegates (with one notable exception) quite another. To the latter, a park was primarily a place for rural recreation—a sort of national country club. Its administration was under the National Tourist Bureau. The first thing to do was to improve the roads, landscape the area, plant flower beds, build a restaurant and a bar and a golf course. Naturally enough. To them the term "wilderness park" would have been a contradiction in terms.

Nor is this semantic difficulty confined to the so-called "developing countries" in which the national park concept comes as a new idea. In England, for example, a national park is defined in the booklet of the Nature Conservancy as "a thinly inhabited region where the natural scenery is safeguarded for amenity and recreation." To us in America "national park" suggests something very different. But exactly what does it mean?

The word "park" has meant many things to many people. The history of such a word is the history of a concept, and its meanings grow and proliferate over the years. The more widely a concept is approved, the more likely the word itself is to be debased. "Home" and "park" are such words. The "split-level home" and the "funeral home" have now been joined by the "industrial park" that sustains the one and the "memorial park" that sustains the other. Yet if the word "park," like the word "home," didn't stand for something we believe in, there would be no cash value in exploiting it. It does, in fact, denote two different ideas, each admirable in itself, but each in conflict with the other. The fact that we have only one word for both is the source of much agony and confusion.

"Park" comes from the Old English "parrock" or "paddock"—an enclosed space of ground. In English law it originally referred to lands held by royal grant, principally as hunting reserves. It also applied to the large ornamental grounds of a country estate. By the late seventeenth century, the term was being used to describe open landscaped areas within or near cities set aside for public recreation. But not until recent times was it applied to tracts of wilderness saved by government action from private exploitation. The revolutionary idea of the national park was born in America, about a hundred years ago. The concept was new, and the old word had to be stretched to fit it. As a matter of fact, it stretched rather slowly, since the first parks were established for the sake of their "natural curiosities," rather than to save wilder-

ness as such. Wilderness preservation was, at first, a by-product of the national parks movement. Today it has become a principal objective. But is the public at large aware of the change?

More and more people are swarming to our national parks. What do they expect to find when they get there? What do they expect to *do* there?

rec·re·a'tion

This leads us to another key word in the conservationist's vocabulary, the word "recreation." The term is so broad as almost to defy definition. It was a lovely word to begin with, meaning "re-creation," creating anew. Today it suggests anything you do when you are not working, including, according to the advertisements for retirement funds, sleeping in a hammock in Florida with a newspaper over your face. If we narrow the question down to recreation in the national parks, we can be a bit more precise. One criterion would be that the activity, whatever it is, should not alter the natural landscape. Another is that it shouldn't hog the environment for itself. For instance, speedboats and water-skiing can drive out canoes, but not vice-versa. If we want to talk in terms a businessman can understand, we can evaluate recreation in terms of consumption. The parks provide a limited space for the use of an increasing number of people. A man in an automobile consumes space many times faster than a man on foot. A speedboat at thirty miles an hour consumes ten times as much space as a canoe at three miles an hour, for the same number of hours of recreation.

If we can't define recreation, we can at least make clear what we mean by it in the context of national parks and wilderness areas. We may even claim that the forms of recreation that involve outdoor skills, scientific knowledge, artistic appreciation, and one's own muscles—as opposed to those that depend on second-hand entertainment or the internal combustion engine—come closest to the original sense of this much watered-down word.

To the uninitiated, much of our official jargon is also misleading. When the man on the street sees the words "national forest" on a map, he assumes that the area is covered with trees. When he sees the words "national monument," he has every right to visualize a granite obelisk or a bronze statue of a general on horseback. Least of all can we expect him to appreciate the technical distinctions between "roadless area," "primitive area," and "wilderness area." He is, to use a fine old English word, "jargogled."

con·ser·va'tion

Finally, we come face to face with that all-inclusive word that takes in everything we have been talking about: the word "conservation." Today it is an O.K. word. As Fraser Darling has written, "the idea of conservation is easy and emotionally satisfying." This is true, and it can be a source of weakness rather than of strength. To the strip-miners who are murdering the Southern Appalachians, conservation is a

nice hobby for old ladies in tennis shoes, but it must not be allowed to interfere with the practical business of the country, which, as Calvin Coolidge once reminded us, is business.

The word conservation inevitably suggests the word conservative. It has a negative connotation, as if our only object was preservation of the *status quo*. We know otherwise. It is a positive concept. And though the idea of conservation may be easy, the practice of conservation, as we have all learned, is very difficult indeed.

We face an obvious dilemma. Ours is a monetary society, based on private enterprise and financial profits. But the values of the wilderness conservation movement cannot be expressed in terms of dollars. Thus for many people—including the Kentucky strip-miner—they do not exist. This gives an overwhelming advantage to the exploiter. The battle between two standards of value has of course been going on at least since the turn of the century. Yet one is continually struck with the endurance of the old standards. During the fight to save Hetch Hetchy, the conservationists were described as "hoggish and mushy esthetes." Today's strip miner calls them "bleeding hearts and do-gooders who don't understand the real issues." For him, the cheapest coal is the best coal no matter what its exploitation may do to the landscape. To adopt any other criterion would be to violate "the good old American free enterprise system and, frankly, I hope I never see the day that happens."

"Wilderness," "national park," "recreation," "conservation"—properly understood, these are all dynamic words. The validity of what they stand for is shown by the phenomenal growth of the conservation movement. You may remember that, by extrapolating from the present rate of growth of the Sierra Club, a recent president came up with the comforting thought that in the year two thousand and something the entire world would belong to the Sierra Club. Meanwhile, however, we have work to do. In doing it, we shall be effective in direct proportion to our understanding of the words we work with.

Paul Brooks, a Director and Vice President of the Houghton Mifflin Company, is also President of Trustees for Conservation and a Director of the Sierra Club. He is author of Roadless Area (winner of a John Burroughs Medal for nature writing) and many articles published in national magazines. Among his articles, two published by Atlantic are particularly significant to conservationists: "The Plot to Drown Alaska" exposed the folly of the Rampart dam project on the Yukon, and "The Fight for America's Alps" (later condensed in Reader's Digest) helped attract support for a national park in the North Cascades. Mr. Brooks' "The Words We Work With" is adapted from a speech he made at the Seventh Biennial Northwest Wilderness Conference, held in Seattle, Washington, on March 30 and 31, 1968.

Book Reviews

GEOLOGY OF THE STATE OF HAWAII. By Harold T. Stearns. Pacific Books, Palo Alto. 1966. 266 pages, illustrated \$8.50.

In this memorable volume, Dr. Harold T. Stearns has distilled most of the essence and much of the color and aroma of a lifetime of scientific accomplishments in this area.

Dr. Stearns introduces his book with four chapters of a general discussion of the aspects of geology important in the Hawaiian Islands. Both this and the descriptions of the islands have a refreshing absence of unnecessary jargon, while at the same time Dr. Stearns does not hesitate to toss in a four-bit rock name where it is precisely needed. As a professional geologist, I found this book unpatronizing and very readable. I think that all of it should be easily understood by anyone with one course in geology, and most of it by the intelligent amateur in science that a lot of us in the Sierra Club try to be as soon as we get out of our own special fields.

The Hawaiian Islands of course are volcanos, and eminently so. Having worked there ever since beginning his Ph.D. dissertation, Dr. Stearns certainly qualifies as a volcanologist. In this book he will help you not only to appreciate the inner processes of today's firey lake on the Big Island, but also to see all around you, as you take the next Hawaii Outing, the beautifully exposed history of the island's building. Some of the things that he photographs you will be able to see for yourself, but in his beautiful perspective drawings you can get a picture of one volcanic pile burying another that you would never see even if the eternal clouds lifted from the peak of Haleakala. There also you can see the unique hydraulic system of these islands, and the clever methods developed under Dr. Stearns' supervision, which made possible the extensive irrigated agriculture of this state.

A volcanologist, by the very nature of his subject, tends to be anecdotal. So are

travelers, Sierra Clubbers included, and they will be delighted with capsule explanations of each of the special features of scenery, from the gorge of Waimea Canyon to the Kaneana Cave on Oahu. You can be awed by the force of the great 1790 magma explosion of Kilauea, which blasted out so fast that it was fatal to a whole company of Kaeoua's army marching across the Kau desert, where today you can still see their tragic footprints in the ash. Less evident, but perhaps even more spectacular, are the origins of lavas 120 miles down in the earth's mantle, and ice-age changes hundreds and even thousands of feet above sea level, processes that are still going on. Tidal waves, earthquakes, and giant landslides: Hawaii seems to be a better place than any to appreciate the overriding importance of infrequent catastrophe in the history of nature and man. Volcanologists, like every other breed, must have their favorites among the objects of their endeavor. It isn't difficult to see that Dr. Stearn's favorite is Maui, which is lyrically described, "In the distant soft blue velvety haze a huge bulky dark mass that seems to be sailing eastward rises through a limitless sea of white downy clouds." I'm delighted by the graphic imagery of lava that "drooled out of the rocks." But I cringe at marathon sentences in which seven modifying phrases are stacked up without a single punctuation. Four pages of full color are "included," and I use that word advisedly, because whereas half-pages of some of the spectacularly colorful eruptions fit in, most of the plates have been chopped up to squeeze in as many as possible of little 2x3-inch Kodachromes.

Most Sierra Clubbers are not just readers, but goers. If you go to Hawaii, don't fail to take along the companion volume by the same author and publisher, "A Road Guide to Points of Geologic Interest in the Hawaiian Islands," 68 pp., \$1.50. These useful guides were a section of the original island monographs; presumably they have been brought up to date in this new publica-

tion. They point out to you, mile by mile along the island highways, the story of the rocks as it unfolds before you. Ready to go?

WILLIAM T. HOLSER

ANIMAL ECOLOGY IN TROPICAL AFRICA. By D. F. Owen. W. H. Freeman & Co., San Francisco. 1966. 122 pages, illustrated. \$5.

In his preface, the author specifies that this little book is not a text, but an essay. In addition to data from his own field of interest (birds, butterflies and snails), he draws largely on the work of others, presenting a summary of what ecological work has been done in tropical Africa. He mentions that some aspects of ecology are hardly touched, largely because they have not as yet been studied in Africa. Here, in contrast with popular picture books dealing with the more spectacular large animals of Africa, we are given a look into the ecology of tropical fish, insects and other invertebrates. Mammals are discussed where pertinent work has been done.

A prominent feature throughout is the necessity of repeatedly pointing out how little ecological work has thus far been done in tropical Africa. Every chapter touches on this enticing challenge to the ecologist looking for unstudied areas. The author says, "An overall picture of rhythmic events is available for very few species of African animals" and, "In tropical Africa there is much scope for investigation of reproduction and death rates in relation to availability of resources; this is virtually an untapped field of research." Again, in reference to polymorphism in cichlid fishes, "Here is an important unsolved problem in ecological genetics." It seems that Dr. Owen might have compiled his essay in the hope of piquing the curiosities of potential African ecologists.

There is a brief chapter on the ecology of man in Africa, starting with the statement that unlike most species, humans

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are rapidly increasing in Africa. (Some countries may double their populations in the next 20 or 30 years.) This will inevitably have far-reaching effects on many other species. American readers will be saddened to read that during the dry season in parts of East Africa the air for hundreds of square miles may be filled with smoke from grass fires. Dr. Owen states that as yet the effect of this upon human health is not known.

Thus, in addition to the exotic life forms and physical conditions unique to the tropics, Africa is faced with the same desperate problems of human over-population and its resultant damaging effects upon the entire environment which are becoming so pressing throughout the world.

LYNN R. THOMAS

Letters

SAFER THAN FORT KNOX

PLACER MINING consists of sorting gold and other valuable minerals out of large areas of alluvial deposits. These are usually the most fertile and the most beautiful lands in the general areas of their occurrence. They frequently serve as keys to the use of expansive mountainous terrain. An example might be a small farm where livestock are wintered, who graze the mountains during the summer time. Or it could be a resort area serving as headquarters for people hiking into wilderness areas. Deposits of this kind are generally mined by a floating gold dredge which tears up the soil, processes it, and spews out big piles of gravel in the rear. Miles of river-bed in Northern California were destroyed by this process just prior to the second World War. The present clamor for gold is threatening revival of this highly destructive industry.

I have a suggestion to offer. Financially, placer mining is one of the safest of all mining enterprises because it is possible to determine in advance the total amount of gold present as well as the cost of dredging. By making borings of the deposit one can map the area and deter-

mine the exact amount of gravel that is available, and by sampling the gold content of randomly selected borings, one can accurately determine the amount of gold that may be recovered per cubic yard of gravel. The cost of processing can also be readily determined. So, unlike the hard-rock miner, the placer miner can clearly see what his enterprise consists of before he invests his money.

The curious thing is that after the gold has been mined it is sold to the United States Treasury which, in turn, buries it again in Fort Knox to be used for support of our currency in international exchange. My suggestion is this: Why don't we have Congress authorize the United States Treasury to purchase such deposits based on a conservative estimate of the amount of gold that can be recovered, discounted sufficiently to allow for its cost of extraction. The land could then be posted as property of the United States, with mining forbidden. This should make everybody happy. It saves the land for its natural beauty and its surface values, whatever they may be. It gives the miner his income without any hazard whatsoever. It gives the Treasury gold for carrying out its international obligations. And, what is more, the gold is safer than it is in Fort Knox. DeGaulle can't get it.

GORDON ROBINSON
Tiburon, California

WISE AND WORTHY CAUSES

WE WERE SORRY to note a letter such as the one written by Willis C. Schaupp of San Francisco in the January 1968 *Sierra Club Bulletin*; in fact it would be a shock to see it in connection with any conservation organization.

We think the Sierra Club's articles on the Mineral King issue state our feelings very well. Since Mr. Schaupp indicates he feels any and all action taken by the Sierra Club is "negative and against," perhaps he should consider that the Sierra Club only takes action on what the members feel are the wisest and most worthy causes. Of the many dams built annually, the thousands of acres flooded or covered by asphalt, concrete, etc. each year, how many specific projects are ac-

tually criticized by the Club? I don't believe it's even 1%.

Of the many new ski areas opening in the West alone, how many of those have been criticized by the Sierra Club? A great many of these are in the National Forests, but *not the parks*.

I am not against skiers; I also own and use ski equipment. However, the public at large should not pay, and pay, and pay for the kicks of a few. And most assuredly the public should not have to pay the incalculable price of such a trespass on our park land as Disney Enterprises proposes.

PAT STEHR
Oakland, California

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, *continued*

Involved now, for Marin was growing and so were pressures for development as well as preservation. Hikers, housewives, hundreds of concerned people joined in, and, as land prices continued to escalate, land speculators, too. The Brazil-Souza property was sold and sold again. Each time, the price went up.

When the legislature finally appropriated more funds for Mt. Tamalpais State Park from the State Bond Act of 1964, we were talking in terms of \$3 million for the Brazil-Souza ranches. In ten short years, land prices had increased almost ten-fold.

So much public money could not go unchallenged — or uncoveted — and new battles erupted. The owner wanted twice the money offered by the state. Sudden and strong local pressures were put on to divert the money elsewhere in the county. There was more cliff-hanging in Sacramento. More last-minute crises. More letters. More public exchange of opinion. And then (almost to our own surprise) we won our case.

Most of the morals to this story are unproverbal: (1) Many cooks can make the broth stronger. (2) When the early birds relax, the worm escapes. (3) Sometimes you have to stand on the burning deck. (4) It may take a long time to hatch the chickens. But one tried-and-true message comes through loud and clear: Don't give up the ship! *Ever!*

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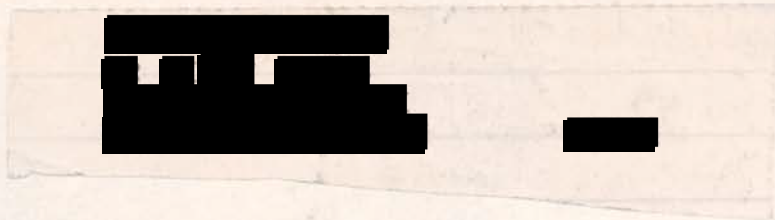
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Washington Office Report _____ by W. Lloyd Tupling

WE ARE IN THE MIDST of a "hidden war," stated a noteworthy but little noticed report by the House Subcommittee on Science, Research, and Development. "Its complexities and effects may be of a magnitude to dwarf any military war yet fought on earth and of a scope to reduce any conventional type of combat to relative unimportance," the report added. This ominous forecast comes not from a committee investigation into armaments, but from a study of a supposedly colorless subject: the International Biological Program.

The House subcommittee held hearings in the summer of 1967 to determine what resources, if any, our government should devote to the IBP. As testimony developed, it became clear that the IBP was not just another international agreement or program. Indeed, "it dealt, on the contrary, with one of the most crucial situations to face this or any other civilization—the immediate or near potential of man to damage, perhaps beyond repair, the ecological system of the planet on which all life depends," the report stated.

The report continued, "The need is to find out how, why, and what we humans are doing to the natural rhythms of earth and to the life and environment upon it. . . . For what apparently is happening is that man, through his cunning and acquisitiveness, his desire for comfort and security—and through the technology he has developed to help meet these ends—has engendered the capability to telescope nature; to alter it, to foreshorten it; to accelerate its natural cycles—and very possibly to destroy many of its life-supporting characteristics. . . . It is not only a matter of learning for the sake of learning. It is a matter of survival in the kind of world which humans have come to regard as desirable. Until we understand the ecology of the earth, we cannot know what steps to take."

The report cited evidence of the need for studies to be undertaken through the IBP, such as, for example, excessive heat production by man and his machines. The report noted, "Indeed, some scientists have already calculated the maximum limits of the earth's population based on a 'heat barrier' rather than any biological or food basis; that is, the point where the heat generated by man and machine can no longer be radiated into space at the necessary rate."

Dr. David Gates, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden at St. Louis, remarked at the conclusion of the hearings, "We do not understand the dynamics of a forest, grassland,

ocean, lake, pond, or river nor are we proceeding rapidly enough toward this understanding. . . . We will go down in history as an elegant technological society struck down by biological disintegration for lack of ecological understanding."

The subcommittee has recommended funding of U. S. participation in the IBP, firm commitment by the U. S. government to support the program to the maximum extent and for the full five year term, and full support of IBP projects by Federal agencies.

The lights went out for 30 million Americans in the populous Northeast states more than 28 months ago in history's most massive unscheduled blackout. Twelve hours later service was restored. Tonight it could happen again, there or elsewhere. The Federal Power Commission still lacks authority to coordinate planning for further transmission line interconnection or the construction of bulk power supply facilities on a regional basis.

The consequences for conservation are far-reaching. The U. S. has 300,000 miles of transmission lines which consume 7 million acres. By 1980, projections indicate, the marching transmission towers could occupy 20 million acres, if the piecemeal, hit-or-miss planning continues. More power plants would add to problems of air pollution and thermal pollution.

This need not happen. Tying together of existing generating facilities can increase significantly the nation's power supply without construction of more dams and power plants. A comprehensively planned transmission grid using ultra-high-voltage lines can provide more economical land use. For example, one 700-kilovolt line has transmission capacity equal to 13.5 lines of 230-kilovolt capacity. But the UHV line requires only 27 acres of right-of-way per mile while the several smaller lines would take up 205 acres per mile. The difference in area required by a transmission line from Washington, D. C., to New York City would be 41,294 acres—an area one third larger than Acadia National Park.

Among the bills before Congress which deal with power planning, those introduced by Sen. Edward Kennedy and Rep. Richard Ottinger (S. 2889 and H.R. 14971 respectively) have particularly far-reaching provisions to control location of plants and lines and would authorize establishment of a National Council on Environment.