

Sierra Club Bulletin

AUGUST 1968



LEO L. CHABOT: Black Head, Monhegan Island, Maine



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

The Responsibility to Write

Congressional attitudes toward gun control legislation changed profoundly in June, then changed again in July. The causes of these turnabouts in attitude are interesting, whatever one may think of the gun control issue itself.

This proves two things, it seems to us: that congressmen are sensitive and responsive to public opinion when it is clearly expressed, and that it does pay to write public officials when you feel strongly about an issue.

Sacred Cows and Sonic Booms

Our notorious love affair with the automobile once made it seem unlikely that we would hold the auto industry accountable for its massive pollution of the environment. But now, divested of its sacred cow status by a fickle public, the industry seems to be groping toward recognition of something called the public interest.

Explanations About the Annual

For a combination of reasons we can hardly bear to think about, much less discuss, our supply of the Combined 1966-68 Annual Magazine Number of the Bulletin was exhausted before copies had been sent to everyone on our mailing list.

The new supply of Annuals will not only fill our mailing requirements, but will also leave us with extra copies for sale. Since the monthly Bulletin editors do not edit the Annual — David Brower does that — we can say with a good grace that the 1966-68 Annual is bigger and better than ever, with more text, more black-and-white pictures, and more color photographs than ever before.

Junior Members who joined the club recently may have missed earlier announcements that the Annual would be sent only to Juniors who specifically requested a copy. There is, most emphatically, no inclination to look upon Juniors as second-class citizens.

FRONT COVER: Mr. Chabot's photograph was taken on the "far" side of Monhegan Island off the Maine coast, where wildlands are being preserved by a private organization incorporated as Monhegan Associates, Inc. See article beginning on page 5.

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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.

Table listing directors: Edgar Wayburn (President), Paul Brooks (Vice-President), Phillip Berry (Secretary), William Siri (Treasurer), Patrick Goldsworthy (Fifth Officer), Ansel Adams, Lewis Clark, Frederick Eissler, Richard Leonard, Martin Litton, Luna Leopold, Laurence Moss, John Oakes, Richard Sill, Aubrey Wendling (Chairman, Sierra Club Council), David Brower (Executive Director), Michael McCloskey (Conservation Director), Hugh Nash (Editor), Julie Cannon (Associate Editor), Connie Flateboe (Editorial Assistant)

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NEWS OF CONSERVATION AND THE CLUB

House amendments shrink redwood park bill — final park plan up to conference committee

On July 15 the House, under suspension of the rules, passed a redwood park bill which entails roughly half the acreage, half the funds, and half the old growth, privately-owned timber included in the Senate bill (S. 2515). The Senate, disagreeing with the House amendments to S. 2515, asked for a conference committee. A comparison of the two versions of the bill follows—size: **House**—28,500 acres, **Senate**—64,000 acres; appropriation for acquisition: **House**—\$56,750,000, **Senate**—\$100,000,000; amount of old growth, privately-owned timber that would be saved: **House**—5,360 acres, **Senate**—13,000 acres; and important areas that would not receive protection: **House**—Lost Man Creek, Little Lost Man Creek, Skunk Cabbage Creek, and the slope stands along Redwood Creek with the exception of those above the Emerald Mile, **Senate**—Emerald Mile and the slopes upstream along Redwood Creek. The House-Senate conference committee was scheduled to meet July 25. Conferees from the House were Wayne N. Aspinall, Chairman of the House Interior Committee; Roy A. Taylor, D-N.C.; Harold T. Johnson, D-Calif.; John P. Saylor, R-Pa.; and Theodore R. Kupferman, R-N.Y.; and from the Senate, Henry M. Jackson, Chairman of the Senate Interior Committee; Clinton P. Anderson, D-N.M.; Alan Bible, D-Nev.; Thomas H. Kuchel, R-Calif.; and Clifford P. Hansen, R-Wyo.

Scenic Rivers bill fails first time before House; may be reintroduced

One of the casualties of the slew of legislation brought up in the House under suspension of the rules on July 15 was the Scenic Rivers bill. (Suspension of the rules, a time saving parliamentary device whereby presumably non-controversial measures are brought to a quick vote through by-passing the amendment process, requires a two-thirds majority vote.) The Scenic Rivers bill did not reach the floor until 8 p.m., when it was defeated on a voice vote. Indications are that Wayne Aspinall, Chairman of the House Interior Committee, will obtain a rule to reintroduce the bill under the normal process which provides for amending.

Wilderness bills make progress in Congress

Several wilderness bills are receiving favorable consideration in Congress. On July 10 the Senate passed four wilderness bills: Great Swamp, Pelican Island, Monomoy, and Michigan-Wisconsin Islands. A week later the full House Interior Committee reported out favorably on the Great Swamp and Mt. Jefferson wilderness areas, adding an additional 3,100 acres to the Forest Service proposal for the latter.

Will Congress permit highway builders to bulldoze the nation's landscape?

Shall America's parks, recreation lands, wildlife refuges, and historical sites be open to freeway builders? On July 1 the Senate said, "no;" on July 3 the House said, "yes." The House version of the 1968 Federal Highway Act would completely undermine the anti-freeway protection clause contained in the 1966 Department of Transportation Act. As it stands now, the Transportation Act *bans* the Secretary of Transportation from approving the use of parks, refuges, recreation areas, or historic sites for any federally aided transportation project "unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative." A proposed House amendment would change the language of the Transportation Act to merely require freeway planners to "consider" the possible alternatives before routing freeways through federal scenic and recreation areas. The same amendment would remove all federal prohibitions against use of state and local parklands for highways.

The House version of the Federal Highway Act also would do away with the present penalty for non-compliance with billboard and junkyard regulations. Currently, the agency building the road is penalized with a 10 percent cut in its Federal highway construction grant for non-compliance, but under the House bill only its landscaping and scenic enhancement grants would be withheld.

Two days earlier the Senate passed its version of a Federal Highway Act, after first adopting a strong amendment proposed by Sen. Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash. Sen. Jackson's amendment would establish a national policy for highway construction requiring that every effort be made to preserve the natural beauty of the countryside, public parks and recreation lands, wildlife refuges, and historic sites.

A Senate-House conference committee will iron out the differences in the two bills. Highway plans for New Orleans' French Quarter riverfront, California's state redwood parks, New York City's Staten Island Greenbelt, and Washington, D.C.'s Lincoln Memorial with its reflecting pool—to name a few—hinge on the outcome of this conference.

**Interior Department
proposes 164,000-acre
Voyageurs National Park**

The Interior Department has released a master plan report for a 164,000-acre Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota. The proposed park, to be located along the historic fur trade route in Northern Minnesota, includes about 60,000 acres of lakes with interconnecting waterways. The major body of land is Kabetogama Peninsula, a heavily forested area consisting of about 75,000 acres nearly surrounded by three lakes—Rainy, Namakan, and Kabetogama. The peninsula is relatively undeveloped and will remain roadless. The principal means of travel in the new park will be by water. Representatives John A. Blatnik, D-Minn., and Clark MacGregor, R-Minn., are expected to introduce bills for the establishment of the park.

**House Committee cites
need for national inventory
of industrial wastes**

The House Committee on Government Operations has issued a report calling for the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration to prepare a national inventory of industrial wastes giving definite information on sources, composition, quantity, and points of discharge. The report, entitled "The Critical Need for a National Inventory of Industrial Wastes," is based on a study by the Natural Resources and Power Subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Robert E. Jones, D-Ala. "The FWPCA maintains far more adequate inventories concerning waste discharges from municipalities and from federal installations. It is essential to have such inventories for the much more complex wastes which pour into our rivers and streams from industrial sources," Jones said. According to the Natural Resources Council, the report "discloses that the Committee has considered proposals to vest the Secretary of the Interior with broad powers to compel industry to furnish information on its waste discharges, but decided not to recommend such legislation at this time in view of industry's increasing cooperation in the control and abatement of water pollution."

**Clair Tappaan Lodge
to host Sierra Club
"mountain meeting"
September 14 and 15**

The next quarterly meeting of the Sierra Club Board of Directors will be held September 14 and 15 at the club's Clair Tappaan Lodge in Norden, Calif. The two day "mountain meeting" will be open to the general membership following an Executive breakfast session Saturday morning. Hopefully, most of the sessions can be held outdoors. Included on the agenda are the formation of chapters in Alaska and Hawaii, consideration of the club's position on

Continued on page 12



Fisherman's home above harbor on "near" side of Monhegan Island, facing the mainland

Monhegan Associates: An Experiment in Private Conservation

by Eleanor Sterling

MONHEGAN ISLAND, ten miles off the Maine coast, rises from the cold Atlantic like a slab of gray granite bristling with evergreens. Monhegan's seaward cliffs are the highest, and its narrow inner harbor is one of the deepest, on the whole New England coast.

The eastern side of Monhegan, which is a few miles long and a little more than half a mile wide, represents about as close an approximation of true wilderness as is likely to be found along the coast of Maine. But astonishingly, these wildlands are only 15-25 walking minutes from basic modern conveniences. The western side of Monhegan supports a clustered year-round fishing community and summer art col-

ony, a few small seasonal inns and restaurants, and, since 1954, a quiet experiment in private conservation that is successfully preserving the island's wildlands. For the hundreds of summer visitors who make the slow trip out by mailboat, excursion boat, or private craft, a wilderness experience out on Monhegan is a gift of Monhegan Associates, Inc.

Many conservation projects, especially in the West, involve millions of acres of land and water, monolithic state and federal bureaucracies, millions of dollars, relentless oppo-

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY DANIEL STERLING



*View of the "jar" side
of Monhegan Island,
where wildlands
are being preserved
by Monhegan Associates
with the coöperation of
non-member islanders*

sition from organized pressure groups, and national publicity. By comparison, the Monhegan Island project is positively microcosmic. Not many people know about it, even among Maine's own residents. The day visitor coming over on the Boothbay Harbor excursion boat or the mailboat out of Port Clyde might not even guess that the Associates exist were it not for small handbills posted around Monhegan's single wooden wharf warning against the injury, destruction, or removal of wildlife and plants.

The State of Maine has several hundred islands along its 2,500 rugged shoreline miles between New Hampshire and the Canadian border. Most of these, famous for their wild beauty, are privately-owned and inaccessible to the public. (It is scarcely possible even to glimpse the Maine coastline from U.S. 1, the major coastal highway, and side roads to the shore are blocked by private ownership and "No Trespassing" signs.) Only a few of the islands have been made accessible to visitors. One is Campobello, straddling the U.S.-Canadian border, where there is a small international park and the old summer estate of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Others are Mt. Desert, the Cranberry Isles, and Isle au Haut, where Acadia National Park's glorious wildlands are restricted and its campgrounds are overcrowded.

The few residential islands—Criehaven, Matinicus, Vinalhaven, Isleboro, North Haven, Monhegan—are served by ferries and mailboats. Anyone seeking what Maine poet Robert P. T. Coffin once called "the poetry and philosophy of

island living" can get out to them—and every year, thousands and more thousands do. Without parks or legal restrictions on land use, these islands are rapidly losing their few remaining pockets of wildness. Several Maine real estate developers specialize in islands. Let the government automate a lighthouse or relocate a radio beacon, or let the disposition of island estates come before the courts, and speculators swarm to the scene to buy the islands, divide them into small lots with limited shore-frontage, and often to sell these lots by mail order.

Even on remote Monhegan, islanders were aware of straws in the wind. And what little land their island has, they care mightily about. While time and circumstances still favored them, the islanders moved to do what they could.

Conservation is not a new concept on Monhegan. Of all Maine's lobster fishermen, only the islanders have voluntarily limited their activity to the coldest season to avoid overfishing their rich lobster grounds. The island lies beneath the Great Atlantic Flyway and vast bird migrations pass over in spring and fall, but the island sprouts hundreds of bird-feeders and binoculars rather than guns. Several Monhegan boys have grown to manhood without living down the community's disapproval of teenage indiscretions involving rifles and the seal herd that lives on rocky offshore ledges.

Monhegan has long been known and used by man, but fortunately, the island escaped serious destructive changes. Maine's Indians used the island periodically for hunting and

fishing in pre-colonial times. Captain John Smith touched there in 1614, and Monhegan became one of the most important spots on the sailing charts of early New England. On the direct route to Europe, it was the last safe port-of-call where ships could take on passengers, fresh water, and supplies of salted fish. The island gained a considerable population that chose to stay aloof from the French and Indian Wars that raged on the mainland. Monhegan was a self-sufficient place—enough so, early in the 18th century, to be a pirate base.

The scene of many shipwrecks, Monhegan got its first lighthouse in 1824. It was replaced by another light (recently automated) in 1850. Many of the island's present buildings date from around that time. They are all on the western side of the island, facing the mainland. Newer buildings, such few as there are, were often built over the old foundations and cellars of Indian and white settlements. Monhegan still supported a fair population in the late 1800's, with some grazing and light farming in addition to fishing. But life on the island was undeniably harsh; the farmers began moving back to the mainland, and Monhegan farmlands began reverting to wildness.

Even before 1900, Monhegan attracted real estate developers. A series of surveys unrealistically proposed laying out

a large portion of the island in small lots on a grid pattern. Fortunately for later conservationists, the surveys were not in accord with one another. Legal wrangles delayed development, as did the discouraging problems of access, waste disposal, and water supply. Only a few houses were actually built in the grandiose Prospect Hill development; most of the land remained untouched except for surveyors' stakes.

Then, in 1929, a dedicated and foresighted man who loved nature's unspoiled things began quietly buying up Monhegan lands as they became available. In 30 years, he reconsolidated the Prospect Hill properties under single ownership with a view to preserving them in their natural state. He is Theodore Miller Edison, son of inventor Thomas Alva Edison, and he has known Monhegan since he visited relatives there as a boy in 1908. Over the years, Edison and his family spent whatever time they could on the island, getting to know and understand the permanent residents and befriending many of the summer people as well. A man with a strong sense of privacy, Edison insists that his famous name be de-emphasized when his conservation activities are discussed. His tact and tirelessness have guided Monhegan Associates from the start.

Edison and others tried for years to visualize a conservation policy for Monhegan that would take into account the needs and desires of native islanders and landowners, the attitudes

*Monhegan's granite cliffs,
crowned with evergreens,
plunge dramatically
into the restless Atlantic*



of summer residents (many of whom were also landowners), and the threat of runaway national population growth and recreational pressures. Their problem was as much one of people as it was one of land.

In September 1954, after many seasons of soul-searching kitchen debate, Monhegan Associates, Inc., was formed to embody the conservation philosophy of a large group of islanders. There was to be a single purpose: the preservation of Monhegan's wildlands. No attempt would be made to interfere in the affairs of Monhegan Plantation — the local unit of municipal government — or to limit the number of island visitors. Edison's lands would be the nucleus of the Associates' holdings. A 50 percent interest in the so-called Starling Estate, which comprises much of the wildland in the central third of the island, soon became another essential asset. And Monhegan Associates gradually acquired several other tracts of wildland, most of which were formerly owned by longtime Monhegan families who demonstrated their sympathy with the conservation cause by setting very low prices on their land or donating it outright.

The Associates set themselves up as a non-profit, non-stock, membership corporation. Its bylaws provide for two classes of voting members: Full Members (who have direct ownership interests on Monhegan) and Representative Members (who are appointed by widely-recognized organizations dedicated to the preservation of nature). At present there are 120 Full Members and six Representative Members. Three of the latter were appointed by the Nature Conservancy and the other three by Wildlife Preserves, Inc. Although the Representative Members are greatly outnumbered, they tend to act as a balance to purely local thinking.

There are also more than 100 non-voting Associate Members, most of them summer visitors who want to help the work of the organization along. Many of these Associate Members are deeply committed, and it is expected that changes will soon be proposed to eliminate the land-ownership requirement so that Associate Members can become Full Members with voting privileges. It is virtually impossible to buy land on Monhegan nowadays, and present restrictions

put Full Membership beyond the reach of too many people who have proven valuable additions to the group.

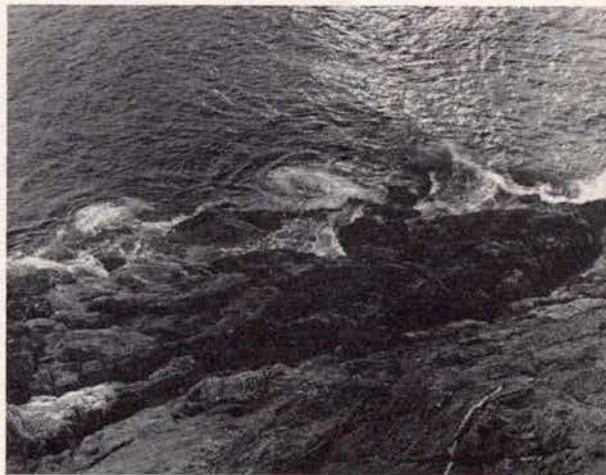
During its 14 years, Monhegan Associates has relied to an extraordinary degree upon voluntary, bend-over-backwards cooperation with the other residents of the island. When the organization was still in the talking stage, it was promised that the Associates would seek only to control land use on the "far" side of the island. To insure continued cooperation, the Associates kept their promise when they were recently offered a lovely little pond and surrounding acreage on the island's "near" side. They refused the offer.

One current problem that cooperation has not yet resolved is the problem of fairy houses. We went to see for ourselves one day, and there they were, scattered through Cathedral Woods in the center of the island. Perched on stumps and rocks or nestled in nooks, the fairy houses were cunningly built of bark, twigs, and moss. The chief building material was a thick emerald moss uprooted by children, assisted by unthinking adults, who has been told the idea was cute. This had been going on for a couple of summers, and many Associates were upset about it. But because enough islanders considered these fairy houses unobjectionable, the Associates have hesitated to take any action. They also sigh and turn their organizational eyes the other way when "flower children" tuck goldenrod behind their ears and pile rocks into love cairns on the shore. Goldenrod replaces itself more quickly than moss, and the cairns can easily be toppled when the visitors have gone.

Where larger issues are concerned, Monhegan Associates is a force to be reckoned with. Should anyone propose to spray the island indiscriminately with DDT, to dump chemicals or oily bilge water offshore, or to attempt wholesale condemnation of land for construction of any kind — all things that have happened elsewhere in Maine during the past two years — the Associates' voice would not go unheeded.

On tiny Monhegan Island, ten miles out at sea, a handful of Maine Yankees and their allies are proud of their experiment in private conservation. They are entitled to be. And we are entitled to hope that their example will be followed.

*Monhegan's rocky seaward shore
knows the thunder of surf and
the gentle wash of quieter seas*





CHARLES K. DAVENPORT: Diana Wayburn on Haena Beach

Fall Outing to the Island of Hawaii

September 27 – October 6, 1968

HAWAII IS A STATE of many islands. Our fall outing will visit the largest of these, the Island of Hawaii. Dominated by two of the world's largest shield volcanoes, the "Big Island" has much to interest those who like to get off the beaten tourists' paths.

We will camp at three sites in the Volcanoes National Park, and will hike through the park extensively. The last of the three camps will be primitive, on a black sand beach reached by a trail down the 2,400-foot pali (cliff) to the south coast. The trail out runs east along the old Hawaiian Coast Trail through an area formerly inhabited by the Polynesians. Drinking water is scarce, lava is extensive, and maximum trail elevation is 80 feet with the ocean at our right hand.

After four days of volcanoes and lava, we will move around the island clockwise through the Kau Desert and Kona to camp at a white sand beach in the South Kohala District. Four days here should satisfy surfers and snorkelers. Hikes will be offered, two (of limited capacity) to Hualalai and Mauna Kea. The ever-beautiful hike through trop-

ical jungle along the Kohala Ditch Trail will be for all. Going in the west side of Polulu Valley, out the east side, and back across one of the most beautiful black sand beaches anywhere, we may see some old taro patches. For not too long ago, this was a Hawaiian settlement.

Our last camp in Waipio Valley will offer stream and ocean swimming, with an opportunity to visit the site of the Peace Corps South Pacific Training Center. The last day's drive continues down the Hamakua Coast, with its magnificent views of beaches, cliffs, rocks, and waterfalls. Then to Hilo, and from Hilo, home.

Space is still available. If interested, contact the Sierra Club Outing Department for further information.

WALTER E. WEYMAN, Trip Leader

Other fall outings that still have openings: Rio Grande Canoe Trip, Texas, Nov. 23-30; Ixta-Popo Knapsack Trip, Mexico, Nov. 16-24; Christmas Backpack, Arizona, Dec. 27-31. Write the Outing Department.

Book Reviews

HOW TO KILL A GOLDEN STATE. By William Bronson. Illustrated, 224 pages. New York: Doubleday, 1968. \$6.95.

The photographs tell it all. Without them, the text might be disbelieved, or even worse, ignored. William Bronson recognized this. "One may argue with my words all day and night," he writes in his introduction, "but the truths the pictures show can't be denied."

As it is, the combination of text and photographs is explosive. The pictures dramatically document the destruction of the environment, and Bronson not only explains how it happened, but suggests how the killing might be stopped. This book is filled with an anger that is far more powerful than moralism, the rage of a native Californian who loves his native state.

Northern Californians will not be surprised, and may even smile a little, at the pictures of Los Angeles smog. That may be why Bronson started his book with two photographs on facing pages: one of San Francisco on a clear day and another of the city totally smothered in smog, both taken from the same point in the Berkeley hills. "The San Francisco Bay airshed," Bronson writes, "is potentially a worse smog trap than the Los Angeles basin." In many ways, the book may have its greatest impact in San Francisco, in Marin and Contra Costa counties, and in rural areas where people close their eyes to ugliness, refuse to think of the future, and are proud.

Bronson's pictures and prose compel attention to air and water pollution, the "visual pollution" of outdoor advertising, litter, tangles of wires and poles, ticky-tacky houses on the hills, networks of expressways obliterating landscapes, conversion of farmlands to slurbs, bay fill, "the wanton desecration of the Tahoe Basin," Sierra streams "wrecked in defiance of the law by loggers," sprawling subdivisions, a freeway knifing through Humboldt Redwoods State Park. . . .

These are scenes we all know. After all, we live in these cities, vacation on these lands, and drive on these highways. Then why, one wonders, are they there? Why have we witnessed the destruction of our state and remained silent?

John Muir cried out: "Dam Hetch Hetchy! As well dam for watertanks the people's cathedrals and churches, for no holier temple has ever been consecrated by the heart of man." The loss of Hetch Hetchy broke Muir's heart, according to Bronson, and he died a year later. What did we do? We named schools and freeways after John Muir—and maintained our silence. Businessmen hung out their neon signs, redwood forests were cut down, telephone poles blocked off our hills, highways ripped through cities and countryside.

Bronson's dream is a simple one: a more human environment. But he says this will require real pollution control laws, sign ordinances, the undergrounding of overhead wires,

zoning laws with teeth, design standards as well as construction standards, a declaration by the state that San Francisco Bay waters shall remain open, creation of a regional agency to administer Lake Tahoe, and, perhaps most important of all, education.

"We hold the power of life and death over everything that grows on earth," Bronson notes. We also have the power to control the killers of the golden state—or the option to say nothing. The timber, oil, utility, real estate, trucking, railroad, automotive, and other interests are, indeed, a formidable opposition. But "despite the awesome political power of those who make money in the process of polluting and destroying the resources of California," Bronson writes, "we have it in our power to halt the spread of blight and return this bright land to the splendor it once was." We have it in our power to stop the destruction of our state. And Bronson's book may break our habit of silence.

VICKI ALLEN

Urgency is the most persistent theme in *How to Kill a Golden State*. In the name of God and our own children, Bronson is saying, let us *do* something about the incredible mess we are in. Bronson's anger is Biblical in intensity, his documentation is precise, his studied naming-of-names is almost frighteningly honest. These qualities have been the hallmark of his editorship of *Cry California* (the journal of California Tomorrow, an organization that has taken on the monumental task of watchdogging California's deteriorating environment). But angry dedication alone is not enough to initiate change, and change is the purpose of this book. Bronson proposes well-reasoned solutions to each of the problems he outlines in alarming detail, from the elimination of smog to intelligent city planning. All would take money, all would require that special interests sacrifice some part of the exploitive dream, all would be implemented, if at all, only through years of backbreaking effort—and all are within reach of the very technology that threatens to strangle us. "Nothing is impossible; if we can go to the moon, we can re-create a decent environment."

Bronson uses his photographs with the skill of an artist. Each is provided with a caption that positively glistens with sardonic wit, outrage, or cool appraisal of man's demonstrated insanity. Pictures and text together comprise as damning a documentation of depraved reality as anything seen since the sketches of William Hogarth.

Conventional wisdom maintains that we must be objective, that we must present both sides of every question. Bronson makes not the slightest attempt to do so. There are villains loose in the land who must be stopped. What they have done to the state, and what they will continue to do if they can, is too grotesque for the gentle sophistries of detached evaluation. We are threatened daily and hourly by an environment altered beyond reason, and time is running out. *How to Kill a Golden State* is not a monograph; it is a jeremiad against the agonies of the present and the future.

TOM WATKINS

WHAT I SAW IN CALIFORNIA. By Edwin Bryant. Illustrated, 512 pages. Palo Alto: Lewis Osborne, Pub., 1967. \$15.

Edwin Bryant's *What I Saw in California* was first published in 1848, but in 1967, three publishers brought out new editions of this California classic. The best of the three was published by Lewis Osborne of Palo Alto. It combines Bryant's text, an excellent historical introduction by Richard Dillon, illustrations of the period, and a fine copy of Colton's 1849 "Map of California, Oregon, Texas, and the Territories adjoining with routes &c." Still, one might ask, why all the fuss over these literary bones?

The answer is that our historical roots need periodic re-creating to remind us that the first Americans to come to California were invaders from the States who had struggled across the Sierra Nevada, liked what they saw, and took it. Thanks to Dillon's essay about Bryant and other gringos who drifted into Alta California, we get some idea of what these men were like. However, as Dillon would readily agree, the come-on in this book is Bryant's remarkable picture of California in 1846-47.

This is on-the-spot reporting of history in the making by the man who "... was appointed Alcalde (a combination of Mayor-Magistrate) of San Francisco, on February 22, 1847 . . ." For Sierra Club members, *What I Saw in California* is also worth reading for a glimpse of the natural world that has been destroyed by man's ignorance and greed. When Bryant saw California, it was a pastoral scene almost beyond belief. This was when the monster called L.A. was sleepy *La Ciudad de los Angeles*, a nice place to live that had between 1,500 and 2,000 residents and produced "... a large quantity of wines of a good quality and flavor, and *aguardiente* . . ." This was the time when San Francisco had a "... permanent population . . . between one and two hundred . . ." and when herds of elk—sometimes as many as 2,000 head in one herd—grazed near Dr. John Marsh's San Joaquin Valley rancho.

All of this and a great deal more is what Edwin Bryant saw in California and wrote about 120 years ago. The tragedy for us is that this book is the closest we can ever come to any of it.

FEROL EGAN

SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS IN CALIFORNIA. By William Heath Davis. Illustrated, 343 pages. San Francisco: John Howell Books, 1967. \$27.50.

William Heath Davis, son and grandson of Yankee traders, had a tendency, as historian H. H. Bancroft wrote, to eulogize everybody. He had a warm empathy for fellow humans, but no apparent interest in the animal, mineral, or vegetable worlds beyond a horse to carry him, gold as money, and the pleasures of the table. His interest was not in scenes but in persons, activities, and amusements — the political events of the times, and trade as an avenue to pleasant living.

Set down in detail in *Seventy-five Years in California*, all this is often repetitious and sometimes tedious. But it is of unfailing value as part of the early history of the now-plundered Golden State. The book was first published in 1889 as *Sixty Years in California*, a venture that brought the author a few thousand dollars. In hopes of making more, Davis wrote continuously and prodigiously. He accumulated a huge manuscript in the Montgomery Block, a building spared by the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906. When he went for his manuscript after the quake, guards kept him from the building. By the time he gained entry, the papers had disappeared and were never found. But relatives later found some rewritten manuscript and turned it over in 1929 to bookman John Howell.

Now, almost 40 years later, Lawton and Alfred Kennedy have designed and printed a new edition in memory of John Howell (aided by Warren R. Howell, who now runs the bookstore his father founded).

Many of the names in the book, which mentions prominent residents of the Bay Area at the time, were given to streets, parks, monuments, and other landmarks from San Francisco to San Diego. Davis's travels took him by land and sea to most of central and southern California, and to all of the state's natural harbors. The book is a record of an era too soon gone, remembered only in books like this.

LUELLA K. SAWYER

167 Sinclair Avenue S.E. ❖ Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403
July 2, 1968

Dear Mr. Brower,

Today I added the third Sierra Club-Ballantine edition, *Gentle Wilderness*, to my collection of personal treasures. I wish there were a way to say thank you that might be equal to the eloquence of that beautiful volume.

Most sincerely,
(Mrs.) Nancy G. McHugh

Additional Sierra Club-Ballantine paperbacks will be published soon. Retaining the color quality of the original editions, the paperbacks cost \$3.95. Although the club does not distribute these books—look for them where paperbacks are sold—it does receive royalties on copies that are purchased through bookstores and other outlets.

Diablo Canyon, and establishment of a Potomac National River. Nature hikes are planned, and a baby-sitting service is being organized. Cost per day for lodging and meals is \$5 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages 3 to 11, and \$1 for infants two years and younger. Members must bring their own sleeping bags or blankets, pillows, linen, and towels. For information on accommodations available at the lodge and to make reservations, contact Jane Southwell, Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, Calif. 94104. (Paper sleeping bags, costing \$5 each, can be ordered through Mrs. Southwell.)

Sonic boom blamed in deaths of 2000 mink

On June 29 the Federal Circuit Court awarded \$37,000 to Zack Taylor of Frazee, Minn., operator of one of the country's largest mink farms, after sonic booms resulted in the death of approximately 2000 young mink. Taylor reports that a major effect of the boom is to make the females discharge the litters prematurely with greatly increased mortality. In tests conducted by the Department of Agriculture to study the effect of sonic booms on mink (Report ARS-44-200), simulated sonic booms were found to double the within-day mortality rate of the 700 kits produced. The simulated booms were about half the intensity of the sonic booms predicted for the super-sonic transport planes (SST) expected to be in the air by 1976.

Sierra Club author receives Ford grant

Dr. Paul Ehrlich, professor of biology at Stanford University and author of the newest Sierra Club-Ballantine Book, *The Population Bomb*, and Dr. Jonathan Freedman, professor of psychology at Stanford, have been awarded a five year research grant by the Ford Foundation. Given that overcrowding causes lemmings to march to their death in the North Sea and that mice can be driven to biological despair by concentrating large populations in small boxes, the investigators propose to establish rigorous scientific data on whether crowding may impose comparable psychological or physiological stress on human beings.

Dave Brower to speak at Canada's International Parks Conference

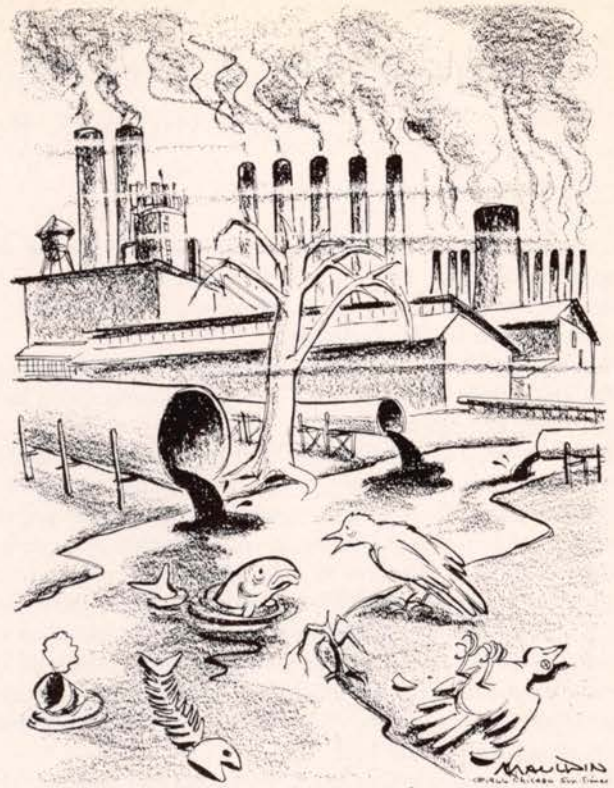
The International Parks Conference to be held October 9 through 15 at the University of Calgary in Alberta will feature internationally known scientists and conservationists including the Sierra Club's Executive Director Dave Brower. Among the topics to be discussed are "Uses of the National Parks" and "Measuring the Value of the National Parks." Sponsored by the National and Provincial Parks Association of Canada and the University of Calgary, the conference meetings will be held at the University with field trips to Banff National Park and the Environmental Sciences Centre of the University of Calgary in the Kananaskis Valley. A registration fee of \$45 includes all sessions, the banquet, and the Kananaskis field trip.

Sive and Forsythe named to board of N. Y. Council for Forest Preserve

David Sive and Alfred Forsythe, both active members of the Atlantic Chapter, have been named, respectively, vice chairman and member of the Board of Directors of the recently reorganized Constitutional Council for the Forest Preserve. Formed two years ago as a temporary organization to work for "forever wild" protection of New York State's forest preserve in the proposed and subsequently defeated draft for a new state constitution, the CCFP was recently reformed as a permanent council. Though protection of the forest preserve in the Adirondacks and Catskill Mountains is provided for in the retained constitution, David L. Newhouse, chairman of the council, declared that the CCFP will "work for the protection and enhancement of the forest preserve and other important natural resources in the state." Headquarters for CCFP will be the New York office of the Sierra Club.

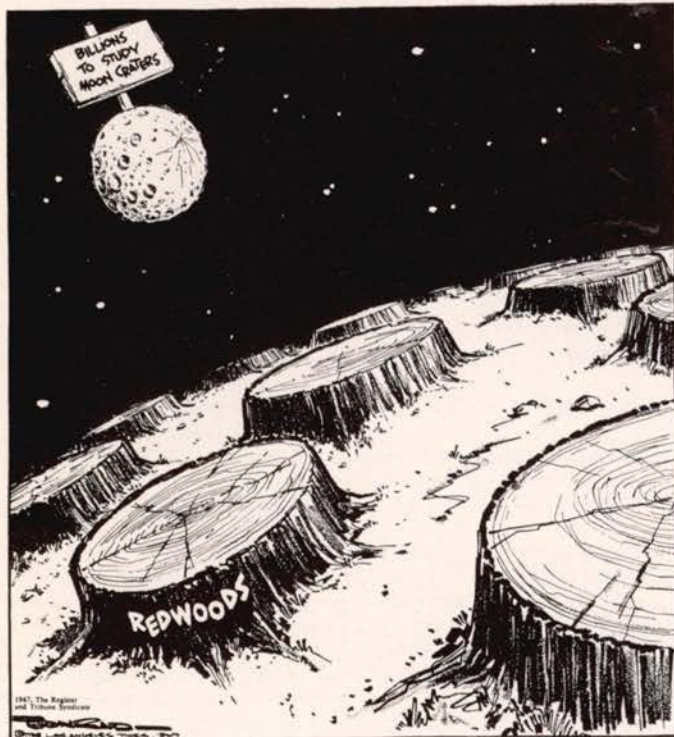


Drawing by Donald Reilly; © 1967 The New Yorker Magazine, Inc.



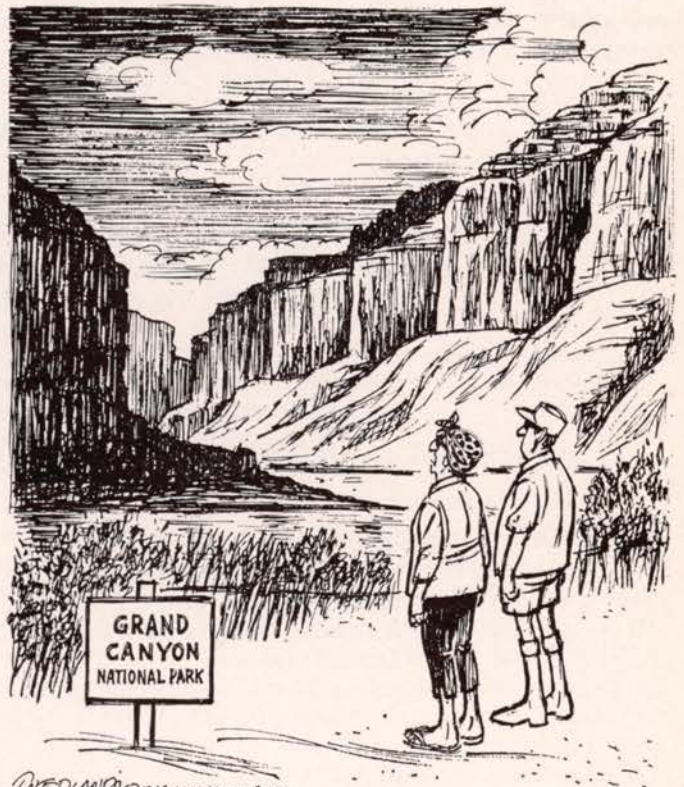
"IT'S NOT SO BAD IF YOU DON'T INHALE."

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Meanwhile, Back On The Earth...

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INTERLAND © 1966, LOS ANGELES TIMES

"It's a natural wonder all right. It's a wonder it has remained unspoiled by man thus far!"

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Sierra Club Treasurer's Report, Condensed Financial Statement, and Auditor's Report for the year 1967

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SIERRA CLUB:

The annual audit of the Sierra Club for 1967 by the independent accounting firm, Price Waterhouse & Co., is presented below in summary form prepared by the auditors for the information of Club members.

Assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenditures are familiar terms but a brief explanation of the three funds noted in the Report may be helpful.

The Unrestricted Funds are operating accounts that include conservation, member services, publishing, and activities such as outings. The cash flow associated with these activities fluctuates widely due primarily to concentration of book sales in the late fall and payment of manufacturing expenses at other times of the year. Restricted Funds consist of those funds designated by the Board of Directors for specific purposes such as the reserve funds for outings and lodges, and funds for continuing special projects for which contributions were specifically received. Restricted and Unrestricted Funds are backed by the general assets of the Club.

The Permanent Fund is the Club's principal reserve, which under Bylaw XVIII cannot be expended and must be "separately and securely invested." The value of Club investments is well in excess of the Permanent Fund but a substantial part is pledged as security for short-term bank notes needed to meet current cash requirements. Fall book sales should permit repayment of these loans.

Although 1967 recedes rapidly into passive history, some vestiges of its events still linger. More than two years after its initial action, the Internal Revenue Service has yet to decide the Club's tax status. The threat of loss of deductibility of contributions has been costly to the Club by inhibiting large gifts. Rising costs and late publication of exhibit format books contributed about \$63,000 to the Club's total 1967 deficit of \$65,551. This, however, is less than 3% of the total budget and can be recovered by timely publication this year. The net worth of the Club declined 12 percent in 1967, but it is now (July) fully restored and should continue to grow. On the brighter side, paperback editions of exhibit format books have been eminently successful and even stimulated sales of the large books. And the Conservation Department proved it can operate within the budget with no loss in its effectiveness. We are mindful, however, that what the Club can achieve in conservation depends upon how generous a budget dues and contributions permit.

Membership growth, a measure of the Club's vitality, continued at a high rate in 1967. Nevertheless, rising costs continued to narrow the margin between dues and the expense of running the Club. It is this margin together with contributions that support the Club's conservation programs. Contributions have been generous but before long, members will need to consider increasing the dues to ensure the continued vigor and effectiveness of the Club's conservation effort.

WILLIAM E. SIRI, *Treasurer*

Statement of Financial Condition — December 31, 1967

Assets:	
Cash	\$ 75,358
Accounts receivable	374,046
Inventories, at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market:	
Books on hand	398,137
Books in process	82,621
Other	48,753
Deferred printing costs (Note 3)	73,653
Marketable securities, at cost, \$244,000 pledged as security for notes payable to bank (market value—\$622,021)	493,566
Advance royalties, travel deposits and other deferred charges	138,516
	1,684,650
Liabilities:	
6½% notes payable to bank, secured by marketable securities	225,000
Loans payable to others	12,047
Accounts payable to publishers and others	632,310
Accrued expenses	116,328
Advance travel reservations, publication sales and other deferred revenue	203,393
	1,189,078
Net assets	\$ 495,572
Fund balances (Notes 1 and 2):	
Unrestricted funds (deficit)	(\$103,112)
Restricted funds	211,588
Permanent fund	387,096
	\$495,572

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures — Year Ended December 31, 1967

Revenue:	
Sale of publications, etc.	\$1,095,702
Dues and admissions (Note 2)	477,712
Trip reservations and fees	423,005
Contributions (Note 4)	252,522
Life memberships	31,937
Miscellaneous revenue	40,144
	<u>2,321,022</u>
Expenditures:	
Cost of publications, etc.	535,156
Salaries and related costs	324,165
Charter transportation and other outings costs	285,262
Printing	164,600
Chapter allocations	48,851
Outside services	296,829
Royalties	121,757
Shipping and mail listing	44,043
Travel	90,227
Office supplies and postage	75,644
Advertising	102,769
Commissions	46,668
Rent	43,046
Other	207,556
	<u>2,386,573</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenue	<u>(\$65,551)</u>

Statement of Changes in Funds—Year Ended December 31, 1967

	Funds*		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Permanent
Fund balances at beginning of year	\$ 62,814	\$152,879	\$347,047
Excess of revenue over expenditures (expenditures over revenue)	(119,679)	14,079	40,049
Appropriations, transfers and other changes	(46,247)	44,630	
Fund balances (deficit) at end of year	(\$103,112)	\$211,588	\$387,096

* The above grouping of unrestricted and restricted funds is in accordance with the Directive on June 8, 1968 of the Club's Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.

NOTE 1: The balance sheet and operating accounts of the Club's Clair Tappaan Lodge and the various Club Chapter organizations are accounted for separately and are not included in the accompanying financial statements. The combined net assets of the Lodge and the Chapters amounted to approximately \$44,000 at December 31, 1967.

NOTE 2: The accounts of the Club are maintained generally on the accrual basis except that:

- (a) Members' dues, which are billed in advance, are recorded as revenue on a cash basis when received.
- (b) Land, buildings and equipment owned by the Club and held or operated for use by its members, guests or the public are not recorded on the books but are charged against revenues when acquired.

NOTE 3: In the year 1967, the Club changed its method of accounting for initial book printing costs which were previously charged to expense as the books produced in the first printing were sold. These costs are now charged to expense on a unit basis until 40,000 books are sold or five years, whichever is more rapid. The effect of this change on 1967 operations was to decrease cost of publications and the excess of expenditures over revenues by \$44,000.

NOTE 4: In 1966 the Club was notified that the Internal Revenue Service has concluded that the Club did not qualify for tax-exempt status as an educational and scientific organization and has proposed to revoke such exemption effective June 1966. The Internal Revenue Service further advised that the Club may qualify for exemption under another section of the Internal Revenue Code; however, in this event, contributions to the Club would not be deductible for tax purposes by

the donors. Counsel for the Club is presently contesting this action by the Internal Revenue Service and the outcome is not determinable.

Opinion of Independent Accountants

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SIERRA CLUB

In our opinion, the accompanying statements of financial condition, revenue and expenditures and changes in funds present fairly the financial position of the Sierra Club (excluding the Clair Tappaan Lodge and the various Chapters of the Club—see Note 1) at December 31, 1967 and the results of its operations for the year, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year except for the change in accounting for initial printing costs to an accepted alternative method as described in Note 3 to the financial statements. Our examination of these statements was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

PRICE WATERHOUSE & Co.

San Francisco, June 14, 1968

Washington Report _____ by W. Lloyd Tupling

JULY 15, 1968, CAN GO DOWN in the records as the day of ultimate frustration for conservationists during the 90th Congress. This was the day when the House leadership presented a slate of 24 bills on the so-called suspension calendar. Under this procedure, a two-thirds majority is required to suspend the rules of the House under which bills are normally considered, and a two-thirds majority is also needed for the passage of bills. Moreover, no amendments are permitted; the House is given the choice of voting bills up or down. Nay votes from one-third plus one of those voting can defeat proposals that have undergone months of processing in the legislative labyrinth.

Such was the situation confronting all 24 bills, including bills for a Redwood National Park, a National Trails System, and a National Scenic Rivers System. Members of the House who strongly supported the bills had waited months for an opportunity to bring forth meaningful legislation, but the procedure handcuffed them to rather meaningless debate because strengthening amendments could not be offered.

The many congressmen who sought to give Americans a respectable redwood park had the choice of acceding to or rejecting the park bill brought to the floor by Interior Committee Chairman Wayne Aspinall. This provided for a 28,358-acre park, of which 18,847 acres are already protected in California's state park system. In essence, the bill committed the world's richest nation to purchase some 10,000 acres of land, of which only 5,360 acres contain old-growth redwoods. The bitterness of this legislative pill provoked varying degrees of discontent among members of the House.

Representative Phillip Burton of California, long-time supporter of redwood bills, voiced the sentiments of many. "Mr. Speaker, I submit that this borders on an abuse of the committee process and the rules of the House. I submit that representatives of the people of this land have been denied their day, and their voice, in court on this matter regarding a unique and precious national heritage. I, for one, am not going to cast my vote to go along with this ultimate hustle—this hustle that will not permit me to cast my vote in support of a strong and meaningful redwood park bill. I am sure that the pending inadequate proposal is going to be approved today. But I would hope that it would not be approved—and then let us have our feet put to the fire."

Representative Jeffery Cohelan of California, who had ad-

vocated a 90,000-acre park, joined in expressing dismay. "For four years now I have looked forward to this day, the day when I could stand up on the floor to urge this House to approve the best possible Redwood National Park," he said. "Four decades have passed since the House last had a chance to vote to establish a redwood park. I knew this had to be the occasion to vindicate the visions of all those who felt that enough of the planet's greatest living things should be preserved in the National Park System for all people in all times to enjoy. John Saylor and I launched the effort to obtain a park in 1965. I had expected to rise today to move improvements be made. This should have been the form for closing the gap on this tortured subject. Instead, the gap, inexplicably, has now been widened. To our dismay and disbelief, two weeks ago the Interior Committee reported a bill for a park less than half the size of the Senate bill and with only one-third as much new acreage brought into the public domain. This plan for 28,500 acres is smaller than that in any bill that has been introduced, and contains even less acreage than the lumber companies indicated they might sell. It is an appendage in search of a purpose."

A few minutes later the roll was called. S. 2515 as amended by the House Interior Committee was passed; 388 voted yea, 15 nay, and two present. Most of the 15 who voted nay were redwood park supporters expressing their distaste for the procedural lockstep into which the House had been forced.

The frustration of July 15th was compounded later in the day when, after passage of the National Trails Bill by a vote of 378 to 18, the Scenic Rivers Bill authored by Representative John Saylor and Mr. Aspinall failed to gain suspension of the rules. Not enough votes could be mustered to assure the necessary two-thirds majority. This setback was further evidence of conservation's dilemma in the 90th Congress. The House could not make up its mind to protect scenic segments of a small number of the nation's rivers, but only a few hours earlier, it had voted 307 to 85 to authorize the Corps of Engineers to build \$1,590,000,000 worth of new dam, harbor, and dredging projects. What a strange sense of national values: \$1.5 billion to modify waterways, but nothing to protect natural beauty along a limited number of rivers.

Perhaps some Americans will be curious enough about these value judgments to ask their congressmen how they voted on the frustrating fifteenth of July.