This greeting in the Bulletin must satisfy the impulse I have every year to send each and every one of my co-workers in the field my sincere wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

1936 has carried its heavy responsibilities and burdens, but also its great opportunities. I like to reflect that with your loyal and earnest help these have been well met, and that we all face those of 1937 with a happy and valiant spirit.

So, — here's to you all again! A Merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous, and contented New Year!

[Signature]

Director.
On November 20 the New York State College of Forestry of Syracuse University conferred on Director Cammerer the honorary Doctor of Laws Degree for his activities in the field of conservation. Other conservationists to receive similar honorary degrees at the special commemorative convocation marking the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the New York State College of Forestry were Robert Moses, President of the New York State Council of Parks and Parks Commissioner of New York City, and Robert H. Goodman, President of the Northern Hemlock and Hardwood Association and Director of the Hardwood Lumber Manufacturers Association. These honorary degrees were conferred by Dr. William Pratt Graham, Acting Chancellor of Syracuse University.

NOTE: By direction of the Secretary of the Interior the matter contained herein is published as administrative information and is required for the proper transaction of public business.
BIG BEND BOUNDARIES AGREED UPON

Boundaries for the proposed international park in the Big Bend, Texas-Mexico area, were agreed upon by representatives of the Mexican and United States governments at the recent El Paso meeting, but will not be announced. Recommendations will be made by representatives to their respective governments.

The park will include approximately a million and a half acres and will comprise the entire Chisos Mountain range, the Grand Canyon of the Rio Grande, and other natural beauties of Big Bend.

Officials attending the conferences were Director Cammerer; Assistant Directors Wirth and Moskey; Superintendent Pinkley, Southwestern Monuments; Regional Officer Herbert Maier; Dr. W. E. McDougall, wildlife technician; Park Planner Merel S. Sager; E. E. Townsend; Don A. Gilchrist; Dr. Brown W. Randel and Charles Gilham of the U. S. Biological Survey; L. M. Lawson of the International Boundary Commission; William J. Tucker, Texas game commissioner; W. D. Stubblefield; Ray Williams and Curtis McElroy of the Texas Game Department (all representing the United States Government); Juan Zinzer, chairman of the Mexican Game Department; Daniel F. Galicia, Inspector General, Department of Forestry, Game and Fish; Juan F. Travino, Chihuahua game warden; and Juan Thacker, Chihuahua game commissioner, representing the Mexican Government.

NATURAL RESOURCES OF TEXAS AND BIG BEND PROJECT VISUALIZED IN NEW MOTION PICTURE FILM

"Glimpses of Texas, Its Natural Resources, and the Big Bend National Park Project" is the title of a new one-reel silent motion picture film prepared under the direction of the National Park Service and the Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, in co-operation with an industrial concern.

The first part of the picture illustrates, through animated photography, the enormous area of Texas in relation to that of the United States, the location of its six principal oil and gas-producing areas, the U. S. Bureau of Mines helium plant where all the helium used in the dirigibles of the Army and Navy is produced, and the location of the principal sulphur-producing areas of the state. Numerous scenes picture the petroleum industry and operations within the sulphur field. Then follow views of the Texas State Parks and a tour through the Big Bend National Park Project.

Copies of this film in either the 16-mm or 35-mm size may be obtained for exhibition by schools, clubs, churches, civic and business organizations, and other interested persons by applying to the Motion Picture Division of the Department of the Interior or to the U. S. Bureau of Mines Experiment Station at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
Nelson B. Bell, commentator on things theatrical for the Washington Post, had the following to say in his column on November 25:

"Dropping out of a warm, sunlit sky something before noon yesterday, the Warner Brothers' "Golden Plane," the modern successor of the 'Forty-Second Street Special' that steamed into its siding down by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing on President Roosevelt's first inauguration day, March 4, 1933, debarked its load of beauty, periphery and pulchritude for a 24-hour visit in the National Capital. ** *

"But to get back to this dropping out of the sky business yesterday. The big ship settled down a little before noon and a distinguished group of Washingtonians greeted its gay passengers - the District Commissioners, representatives of the press, radio, amusement world and a large segment of the lay public. The next procedure was to present the merry party with a key to the city on the steps of the District Building. The key may have been figurative, purely, for all I know, because that is part of the ceremony that I missed.

"At 12:45 p.m., in the sunroom of the Hotel Washington, luncheon was served in honor of the visitors, with another distinguished group in attendance. ** *

"Personally, I was lucky. I had the pleasure of sitting next to the speaker's table, between Betty Hynes and Jay Carmody and directly opposite Mary Cassiday, a platinum blonde who is probably one of the reasons Jean Harlow went 'brownette.'

"When I say I was lucky in sitting opposite Mary Cassiday, I do not mean at all that I was as lucky as Director Cammerer, of the National Park Service, who sat next to her and monopolized most of her time. However, we managed to get along, what with Arthur Demaray, my old next-door neighbor, being associate director of the Park Service, and one thing and another."

** **

The pictures in the papers the preceding evening, included Director Cammerer (and of course the District Commissioners with whom he had been in conference up to a few minutes earlier) with the lovely ladies. ** 

** *

ENGLISHWOMAN STUDIES

YELLOWSTONE PLANT LIFE

The plant life of Yellowstone Park, including everything from the fringed gentian, official park flower, to the scrubbiest cedar tree growing out of barren limestone, this summer was given special attention by Miss Edna Lind of England. Her studies were designed to assist her in interpreting Yellowstone's botanical life to students of the University of Sheffield, where she is a lecturer in botany. ** 

** **
TRANSFER OF RECREATIONAL DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS COMPLETED

President Roosevelt signed an executive order on November 14 completing the transfer of recreational demonstration areas from the Resettlement Administration to the Department of the Interior.

Full responsibility for development of the projects was vested in the National Park Service last August but responsibility for acquiring title to the lands and making payment for them remained with Resettlement until the President signed the November 14 order.

Forty-six areas located in 24 states are included in the transfer. Most of them are near enough to large industrial centers to serve as outlets for the city dwellers of limited means whose opportunities for open-air recreation have been few.

* * *

HISTORIC LIGHTHOUSE UNDER JURISDICTION OF SERVICE

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, historic warning beacon that guided ships through the "graveyard of the Atlantic" for many years, has been transferred from the Commerce Department to the jurisdiction of the Service to be maintained as a valuable relic of America's maritime history.

With the lighthouse, the Service received 44 acres of surrounding beach. It has asked the Lighthouse Service to transfer with the building its storm panes, log books, and all of its remaining old-fashioned illumination equipment, including old kerosene lamps.

No decision has yet been reached as to the exact classification of the area -- whether it will be recommended as a national monument, historic site, or as a part of a general recreational area -- pending further study of the structure itself and a proposed reclassification of park and monument areas.

For the time being, a CCC enrollee from a nearby camp is acting as watchman at the light.

* * *

WEATHER MEN DISAGREE

The Navajos at Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Arizona, and the United States Weather Bureau just can't agree on whether the weather this winter will be warm or cold in the monument area.

The Indians say it will be the most severe winter in years; the Weather Bureau predicts a warm winter with sub-normal rainfall. Custodians of national monuments in the Southwest are watching with interest.

Attendance fluctuates in these regions with weather conditions, for even light snowfalls transform highways in the high altitudes into slippery going.

* * *
GOOD DRIVERS

More than 250,000 autos have climbed the 3-mile road up to the top of Capulin Mountain in Capulin Mountain National Monument, New Mexico, without a single reported accident.

The Service cites this as proof of the success of its efforts to install caution in automobilists traveling these high-altitude roads, where the going is often slippery.

***

PETRIFIED FOREST HAS A BIRTHDAY

Petrified Forest National Monument celebrated its 30th anniversary as a national monument on December 8. And just a week later, it was paid a unique anniversary compliment by the Washington Civic Theater’s presentation of Robert E. Sherwood’s play, "The Petrified Forest."

Broken fragments of petrified wood which abound in this Arizona monument are a great temptation to visitors. Many brilliant bits of agate, chaledony, jasper, and onyx are pocketed and carried away in defiance of the Service’s rules but some of them come back. This year a conscience-stricken gentleman in far off India mailed back a bit of the wood which he had treasured for three years.

He wrote: "About three years ago, I was indirectly responsible for the removal of a small piece of petrified wood from the National reserve forest — and it has been in my possession since that time.

"You may smile at me and think me a bit foolish — but I have always been a law-abiding citizen and it has troubled me to have something in my possession that is not mine. So I am returning it to you under separate cover and hope it will reach you safely."

***

LAW ENFORCEMENT UNDER WAY IN SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

A number of criminal cases involving offenses committed in Shenandoah National Park were disposed of during the October session of the United States District Court at Harrisonburg, Virginia. The most serious case involved the burning of the house in the park occupied by John Morris at Simmons Gap on June 2. Charles Frazier and Noah Herring were jointly indicted on a charge of malicious destruction of Government property by setting fire to the house. Charles Frazier pleaded guilty, and by his testimony as a witness for the Government involved his uncle, Noah Herring. After a trial lasting nearly a week, Herring was convicted by a jury and was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary. Frazier was given a sentence of five years in the Federal Reformatory at Chillicothe, Ohio. Credit for excellent detective work on the case is due to investigators from the Department of Justice and to Ranger Stephens.

Luther Kite was indicted on a charge of destruction of Government property by tearing down a barrier and driving his truck down an old road which had been
obliterated and planted with shrubbery. He was found guilty and fined $200.

Three youths were found guilty of stealing gasoline from a Government tractor. Two were given a fifteen months sentence in a reformatory, and the third was given a four months sentence in the penitentiary.

Mr. Merritt Barton, Associate Attorney of the Washington Office, represented the Service at the session of the District Court.

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TWENTY MULE TEAM FAREWELL APPEARANCE

On Thanksgiving Day, the famous "Twenty Mule Team", picturesque outfit of mules and wagons which was once the only means of transportation in Death Valley, made its last stop at Furnace Creek in the Death Valley National Monument.

It started its farewell trip at Mojave on November 16 and followed a schedule approximating those of the old days. Practically all of the borax in the United States used commercially between 1880 and 1889 was brought out of the Valley by mule teams, making a round trip of about 330 miles through desert country.

It took 30 days to make the trip in the 80's. Last month, when the Death Valley Cruise of the California Aviation Country Club was held, 47 planes made much longer trips to the Valley in a few hours. During the winter season, there is daily airplane service between Los Angeles and Death Valley.

This last trip of the mule teams occurred almost 50 years after the borax company ceased operations in the Valley. The teams passed the graves of pioneers and bones of horses and miles who perished in the Valley before the days of good roads and fast transportation.

***

RECREATIONAL SURVEY UNDER WAY

With the aid of Emergency funds Service officials have inaugurated a study of the park, parkway, and recreational area programs in the United States. Authority for such a Survey was given the Service by Act of Congress dated June 23, 1936.

In mid-November Assistant Director Wirth designated Kenneth B. Simmons to set up the necessary administrative organization and to assume administrative responsibility for the Survey.

At the same time Ben H. Thompson was assigned to the Branch of Recreational Planning and State Cooperation as Deputy Assistant Director in charge of the Park and Recreational Planning Division, which Division has been given, in addition to its regular functions, responsibility for the coordination of the Survey.

One of the first appointees to Mr. Simmons' administrative staff is Nelson A. Loomis, outstanding travel authority and
member of the National Resorts and Parks Association — a Nationwide organization formed this past summer to stimulate tourism.

The Survey will be carried on for the most part on a decentralized basis, with field men making reports for their respective areas to regional headquarters, where their information will be combined and submitted as a whole to Washington. Actual work on reports will probably get under way early in 1937.

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PAINTINGS FOR YOSEMITE

The National Park Service announces its acceptance of 250 paintings by Christian Jorgenson, left as a legacy to Yosemite National Park by the late widow of the painter.

Jorgensen was a familiar figure in Yosemite for 20 years. He built his studio there with his own hands and it later became the first museum in Yosemite National Park. His paintings include many of early San Francisco and of the old missions of California, as well as countless scenes of his beloved Yosemite.

***

STATE COMMITTEES APPOINTED TO AID SERVICE IN PLANNING DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

Citizens of Georgia and of Tennessee have been appointed members of general advisory committees to aid the National Park Service in planning the development of three recreational demonstration projects — the Alexander H. Stephens project near Crawfordville, Georgia, the Hard Labor Creek project near Rutledge, Georgia, and the Shelby Forest project near Memphis, Tennessee.

Eight towns are represented on the Alexander Stephens project committee, while 31 residents of Atlanta make up the Hard Labor Creek committee, and 14 residents of Memphis compose the committee for Shelby Forest.

The Stephens project includes the ante-bellum home of "Little Aleck" Stephens, vice-president of the Confederacy.

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RANGERS RESCUE SWIMMER FROM CRATER LAKE

Clayton Ellingson, age 19, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and his cousin, Don Ellingson, age 18, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, visited Crater Lake National Park late in October.

The view of the blue lake from the rim was not satisfactory so they disregarded the trail and went down the long slide on the west side of the lake. Even that close view wasn't enough for Don. He undressed except for shorts and swam from the base of the crater wall to Wizard Island. Clayton stayed at the foot of the slide.

After reaching the island, Don was too cold and too scared to swim back. He began to think of the maximum depth of 2,000 feet of which the lake boasts
and he decided to sit and wait on the island for help. Clayton went clambering back up the slide for aid.

The park boat had been stored away for the winter at the foot of the trail and it took a large crew of men to get it into the water. Finally Chief Ranger Crouch, Rangers Frost and Fry, and Storekeeper Roach left for the island and the marooned youth. They found him in the government boathouse on the island. Once back on the mainland, he found his clothes and a warm fire waiting for him.

Six hours after he began his adventure, he was back at the mess hall at Park Headquarters, tired, still cold from his swim but very warm from the reprimand given him by the Chief Ranger.

***

BUILDING GUARDS INSTRUCTED IN FIRE FIGHTING

The guards who patrol Uncle Sam's buildings are under orders to play with matches every Saturday morning.

They are going to school these days to learn how best to protect the lives of government workers and the property of the United States. Every Thursday, they sit down in their new classroom in the old Land Office Building and talk about fires and fire fighting, but Saturday at 9:30 A.M., they get around to real matches and flames, fire extinguishers and false alarms.

Fires are started in an especially built room within the classroom and waste paper and smoky carbon paper allowed to blaze until they have reached a good, hot, crackling stage. Then a guard walks by, just as he would on regular patrol, sees the fire, runs for the nearest alarm box, gives the alarm, grabs a fire extinguisher and rushes into the blazing room—and that isn't as easy to do as it sounds. Other guards, summoned by the alarm, run in with more extinguishers and finally use the water hose, if it is needed.

Various kinds of extinguishers are tested and different methods of fire fighting. One small room is used for demonstration of the sprinkler system which exists in some government buildings. The guards are trained in the use of gas masks, so necessary in fighting fires in buildings like the Agriculture Department where chemical fumes abound.

This is the most exciting but not the only course given in the Guard Training School conducted this year by the National Park Service. There are 688 men (not counting officers) employed as guards in government buildings, under the jurisdiction of the Branch of Building Management of the National Park Service. (The National Park Service has no jurisdiction over the Capitol Buildings, the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, the Treasury, and the Government Printing Office.) Their duties make them sort of combination guides—policemen—firemen.
Each guard is required to spend a week of study and practice in the Guard Training School. He is taught, in addition to the fire fighting, the requirements of his job, the necessity for courtesy to visitors, the information he must know about his building, and his legal rights as a special policeman. A course in first aid is to be added shortly.

* * *

YOUNGSTER WANTS TO GROW UP TO BE LIKE SUPERINTENDENT PINKLEY

In a recent edition of his "Broadcast" Superintendent Pinkley tells of a young visitor whose ambition it is to be a Superintendent of Southwestern Monuments. Writes Superintendent Pinkley:

"It seems to me that Park Service men are aware of romance, especially those of us in the Southwestern Monuments, although I guess some of us borrow a large share of our romance from the story of the past as indicated by the archeological remains about us. However, our jobs frequently suggest a romantic occupation to many of our visitors, and one little chap, Joe, the four-year-old son of the Commanding Officer of the local CCC Camp, paid me quite a compliment recently. His mother had been telling me the various ambitions little Joe had to become a soldier, policeman, and what-not, and I asked him just what he would like to be when he grew up. He looked up at me and said, 'Why, I want to be what you are!' I really should have said that it was a compliment to the Park Service - or was it to the uniform?"

* * *

MCKINLEY REGION SHAKEN BY EARTHQUAKE

An earthquake shock of considerable intensity was felt at headquarters in Mount McKinley National Park on October 22 at 8:25 p.m. Although the shock lasted more than a minute no damage was reported in the park area or north to Fairbanks. Old time residents in Anchorage and Seward describe the quake as the most severe these cities have felt in many years. Considerable damage was done in the business district of each city, plate glass windows were broken, chimneys were shaken down, and merchandise fell from shelves.

* * *

Superintendent Lied reports also that a fine display of aurora borealis was seen at park headquarters on the night of October 30. This spectacle was outstanding for it had all the colors of a rainbow. It was the first display of Northern lights observed by park residents this fall, which is unusual as these lights have often been noted during the latter part of August.

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CALENDAR CARD ADVERTISES
NATIONAL PARKS

Through the medium of the 1937 calendar card of the Standard Oil Company of California, national parks in Washington, Oregon, California, Montana, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico are being brought to the attention of many Standard Oil purchasers throughout the West. On the reverse side of the calendar there is a small outline map of those States showing the location of national parks, also the slogan "See Your Western National Parks."

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Speaking of calendars -- the following appears on one put out by a Denver, Colorado, equipment dealer: "Battles strayed, so did cowboys. Their comments were pointed straight at everything they saw. Their language was colorful, direct, to the point. That's why a cowpuncher, looking over the gorgeous colors of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, just at sunset, one June night, said all that's ever been said about that canyon. 'God dug that hole when he was mad. But he painted it in joy.'"

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PROGRESS MADE ON THE SERVICE'S ART PROJECT IN THE SOUTHWEST

The National Park Service Branch of the Federal Art Project operating at the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles has already completed interesting paintings, sculpture, and maps.

The paintings include a full set of water-color plates illustrating characteristic pottery from all the Southwestern Indians, portraits in oil of people famous in California history from Cabrillo to Fremont; a set of paintings illustrating a homelife of typical Californian and Southwestern tribes, a set illustrating Indian agriculture and the gathering of natural products, and beautiful reproductions in color of rare old prints illustrating costumes of Mexico a century ago.

In sculpture, a group showing a combat between "Folsom" man and the extinct long-horned bison and another group illustrating a battle with a Columbian mammoth are completed.

The project has also finished work on pictorial maps and dioramas. All have been or will be made in duplicate, one copy coming to the National Park Service, the other remaining with the Southwest Museum.

***

BEAR FEAST

Just before they went to sleep for the winter, the bears of Crater Lake National Park, Oregon, decided to store up enough food for their Rip Van Winkle retirement and raided the larder of the hotel caretaker.

Their menu included 18 hams and bacon, a case of eggs, and several boxes of fruit.

***
Superintendent Thomson reports that no one in Yosemite can recall when there has been a heavier crop of acorns than there was this fall. It has been interesting, he says, to observe local and visiting Indians harvesting this nut, which at one time furnished possibly 80 per cent of their food supply. Old Maggie, who has gathered some 18 sacks for herself, traded some of them to Mono Indians for pine nuts. The Yosemite Natural History Association paid school children $1.00 per sack for 15 sacks of acorns to be stored in the museum chuck-as and used in demonstrational bread making by Maggie next season.

Maggie, Yosemite Indian, ceased gathering acorns for a moment to pose for this photograph.
COLORADO WINTER SPORTS COUNCIL FORMED

For the encouragement of and assistance in the development of winter sports in Colorado there has been formed a State-wide organization called the Colorado Winter Sports Council. Winter sports interest in Colorado is increasing beyond the facilities to handle it. The council is governed by a committee of 13 of which Superintendent Allen is a member.

***

BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND PUBLICATIONS

"Yosemite Indians and Other Sketches" by Mrs. H. J. Taylor (Johnck & Seager, San Francisco), tells the tale of the Yosemite Indians and the early settlers in the Valley. It is a tale of romance, adventure, and the hardihood of the men who had the strength of the pioneer, men who were thrilled with the beauty and grandeur of the now famed Yosemite region, made a national park in 1890.

The story is simply told, with deep sincerity of one who has worked in the Yosemite Museum Library for years and had first hand contact with the friends and relatives of the pioneers.

It is a readable little book, well printed and produced, that will be appreciated by all interested in the national parks and especially in the pioneers who helped make history in Yosemite.

***

Through the courtesy of Senior Park Naturalist Ansel F. Hall, Superintendent Pinkley of Southwestern Monuments has a transcription of the original field notes of the various Bernheimer expeditions of 1922-23-24-26-27-29 and 30 in and around the Navajo Mountain country. The names of John Watherill, our Custodian at Navajo National Monument, and Zeke Johnson, Custodian at Natural Bridges National Monument, run all through these field notes, both of them having served as guides on the various expeditions. Superintendent Pinkley says that these notes make intensely interesting reading.

***

Naturalist M. V. Walker of Petrified Forest National Monument has compiled "Notes on Geology and Paleontology in the Region of the Petrified Forest National Monument." These notes, which are in mimeographed form, record permanently interesting observations and discoveries made by Naturalist Walker from time to time.

***

Two attractive new illustrated booklets describing the work of the CCC in water conservation and recreational development in national and State forests have just been issued by the Director of Emergency Conservation Work from material prepared by the Forest Service Division.

Copies of these booklets entitled "The Work of the CCC in Water Conservation" and "Recrea-
ional Developments by the CCC in National and State Forests", may be secured without charge by writing to the Director, Emergency Conservation Work, Washington, D. C.

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Delivery of 1936 Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior, which contains information regarding National Park Service activities on pages 99 to 158 inclusive, was made in early December.

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The November issue of "The Living Wilderness", official publication of the Wilderness Society, contains an article by Robert Sterling Yard entitled "The Third Greatest American Tree -- The Douglas Fir."

"The purpose of this paper", Mr. Yard states in the article, "is promotion of a Nation-wide movement for adequate preservation of superb examples of Douglas Fir forests, many of which, though not all of the greatest, occur in the rain-drenched Olympic Peninsula of Washington."

***

Professor Warren D. Smith of the University of Oregon and Junior Park Naturalist Carl E. Swartzlow of Lassen Volcanic National Park are joint authors of a paper regarding the origin of Crater Lake entitled "Mount Mazama Explosion versus Collapse."

The paper will be published by the Geological Society of America. Both Professor Smith and Dr. Swartzlow worked on the problem during the summers of 1934 and 1935 while serving as Ranger Naturalists in Crater Lake.

***

Junior Historian Manning C. Voorhis of Petersburg National Military Park has an article on Rollingbrook in the October, 1936 William and Mary College Quarterly.

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CHRISTMAS IN THE WHITE HOUSE

The Christmas season has always been a gay and merry one in the White House and especially so during the Franklin D. Roosevelt Administration, with family reunions contributing a human interest that reflects the true spirit of the day. With the responsibility for maintenance of the Executive Mansion resting in the National Park Service, members of this organization will be interested in learning of the steps taken to create the holiday atmosphere in the first household of the Nation, and the order of the day.

The President's Christmas celebration begins at 5 P.M., on Christmas Eve when, accompanied by the First Lady and other members of his immediate family, usually including the President's mother, Mrs. James Roosevelt, and several of his grandchildren, he leaves the White House, crosses Pennsylvania Avenue to Lafayette Park to light the National
Community Christmas Tree and deliver his Christmas Good Will message to the Nation. Following this ceremony the Presidential party usually returns to the White House where all members of the White House staff and their families, numbering more than 300, have gathered about a Christmas tree, gayly decorated with tinsel and colored lights, in the East Room. Here the President and Mrs. Roosevelt personally greet and extend Christmas wishes to each person present. The President then assumes the role of Santa Claus and presents to each employee, wife, and child, a Christmas gift.

Early on Christmas morning the President and his family assemble about a family Christmas tree in the East Sitting Room on the second floor of the Executive Mansion. After the usual exchange of gifts and greetings and the singing of Christmas carols, the President and his family attend religious services. The remainder of the day is spent at home with the family.

During the holiday season the White House is bright with Christmas decorations. More than 25 Christmas trees are placed in the various rooms and halls of the mansion, the largest, 20 feet in height, being placed in the East Room. The family Christmas tree is about 12 feet in height. Other large trees are placed in the State Dining Room and in the Blue Room. Some of the trees are small enough to be placed on mantelpieces and tables, but wherever possible the trees are placed close to windows where their colorful decorations may be seen from the outside.

In the main lobby of the Executive Mansion two large poinsettias are placed in half tubs and the traditional mistletoe is hung from the main chandelier. Poinsettias are also placed in the State Dining Room and in the Blue Room.

Approximately 100 wreaths, adorned with bright red silk bows, are hung in the White House windows, the largest of these wreaths being 5 feet in diameter.

The Horticultural Division of the National Capital Parks office has charge of the Christmas decorations for the Executive Mansion. David E. Saunders, Chief of this Division, and William Reeves, in charge of the White House Bouquet Room, both of whom have served the organization for more than 30 years, personally select the trees and plants, supervise the making of the wreaths and oversee the installation of the decorations.

Lighting of the National Community Christmas Tree in Lafayette Park by President Roosevelt on Christmas Eve will climax a series of eight community Christmas tree ceremonies in the National Capital Parks. The Lafayette Park ceremony will be held at 5 P.M. Following the lighting of the tree, the President will deliver his annual Christmas Good Will message to the Nation. The Glee Club of the University of Maryland will sing Christmas carols and the United States Marine Band under the direction of Capt. Taylor Branson will play a concert of especially arranged Yuletide music. Mrs. Roosevelt, first lady of the land, and some of the Roosevelt
grandchildren are expected to be in attendance at the ceremonies, sponsored jointly by the National Capital Parks and the Community Center Service of the D. C. Board of Education. Melvin C. Hazen, President, Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia, will serve as chairman for the National Community Christmas Tree ceremonies and Director Cammerer will act as vice-chairman.

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The Washington Monument was used as a symbol to keep National Capital Parks employees informed of the amounts of contributions received toward the Washington Community Chest for 1937. A red line painted in the center of the Monument poster indicated total daily contributions during the drive. Elizabeth Jones, employee of the Construction Division, is shown in the accompanying photograph inspecting the poster, which shows the quota well over the top. National Capital Parks employees contributed a total of $1,495.50 to the 1937 Community Chest, nearly $300 more than the contributions of the previous year.

Editor's Note: Director Cammerer, who acted as Division Chairman for the Community Chest Organization, turned in, on behalf of the National Park Service as a whole, $3,787.50 or 93% of its quota. The list of Divisions contributing 100% or more is too lengthy to give here.
Armistice Day was fittingly observed in National Capital Parks, where ceremonies were held at the First Division, A.E.F. Memorial and the Second Division, A.E.F. Memorial, under the auspices of veterans of these two divisions, in the President's Park. United States Park Police attached to National Capital Parks provided an escort for President Roosevelt, who motored to Arlington National Cemetery where he delivered his Armistice Day address and placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

* * *

Raymond C. Morrison, City Forester, G. O. Gregory, City Manager, and Edward P. Williams, Business Manager, Board of Education, of Fort Worth, Texas, were visitors to National Capital Parks on December 2nd and 3rd. The Fort Worth officials were escorted on their tour of the park system by Frank T. Gartside, Assistant Superintendent.

Mr. Morrison, who is Chairman of the Committee on Education of the American Institute of Park Executives, conferred with Mr. Gartside, who is also a member of this committee, relative to the Institute's educational program for 1937. The City Forester, whose duties include supervision over the park system of the Texas city, was greatly impressed with the National Capital Parks, which he considers to be one of the finest municipal park systems in the world. Several features of the Washington system he believes can be adapted to the Fort Worth parks.

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HISTORICAL NOTES

The superintendents and field historians of the historical areas under the administration of the Service will meet in conference at the Powhatan Hotel, Washington, December 10 and 11. The conference has been called by the Director to co-ordinate and promote future developments within these parks.

The proposed agenda includes a discussion of the Historic Sites Act, its legal interpretation and practical application both in respect to the present system of park areas and in the acquisition of future sites. In indexing and classifying areas of national significance with a view to their possible inclusion in the national program, particular attention will be given to the functions and relationship of the Historic Sites Survey and the Historic American Buildings Survey. Consideration will also be given to the development of such educational facilities as museum and outdoor displays, orientation and narrative markers, information leaflets and public use of the park library by students and visitors. Plans for increased co-operation with State and local organizations in the preservation of historic sites will be contemplated as well as the development of these areas as a part of the emergency program.

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A valuable collection of books, maps, and magazines is being gradually assembled in the library of the new administration building at Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park. During a single month more than 250 volumes were covered in neat brown bindings with gold lettering. Valuable books recently added to the library, include the Rebellion Records, 121 volumes, donated by Superintendent Randolph, Miller's Photographic History of the Civil War, donated by Mrs. J. Light Atlee, The Soldier in the Civil War by Miller, also a gift of Mrs. Atlee and the following volumes donated by Paul Younger: The March to the Sea, Franklin and Nashville, by J. Cox, Ancient Civilization of Mexico, by Spinden, and Indians of the Southwest by Goddard.

Good progress is being made toward the unification of the narrative and directional markers in eastern Civil War battlefield areas. Considerable experiment has been conducted within the past 2 years in developing various types of wooden markers with the ultimate objective of uniformity, clarity, and attractiveness. The results, as a whole, point to a natural wooden marker with plain block gilt letters. The wood is treated with a walnut oil stain before lettering and a fine grade of varnish applied over the finished marker. At Fredericksburg Battlefield identification markers have been placed on trees, to identify not only the specie of tree, but also the "veteran" trees, which were standing at the time of battle. During the past month Assistant Historian Hanson has been assigned the preparation of inscriptions for markers on the Manassas field.

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The Army Ordinance Association has assumed active sponsorship of a project to assemble heavy ordnance for display in the Artillery Park of Petersburg National Military Park. The assistance and co-operation of the Association will be invaluable in developing educational facilities within the area.

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Several important archeological projects are under way in the vicinity of Morristown National Historical Park. At Fort Hill preliminary clearings have been made in the vicinity of reputed gun emplacements to make possible a thorough study of the terrain by members of the historical staff. Investigations anticipating a roadway through the New Jersey area have resulted in the discovery of a number of Revolutionary artifacts, which is sufficient proof to justify the building of the road. It was also announced that, on the basis of archeological evidences uncovered, the restoration of Fort Nonsense has been started. In addition, in accordance with a co-operative agreement with W.P.A. officials whereby the National Park Service is to be consulted in any work which involves an historic site, the historians have been keeping a close watch over excavation by W.P.A. workers preparatory to the
Studies conducted by the National Park Service indicate that Arizona and Arkansas people are going in for outdoor recreation on a big scale.

A survey made over a four-month period reveals that one out of every 11 people in Arizona and one out of every 12 in Arkansas visited parks where development work is being carried on by the CCC, under technical supervision of the Service.

The Arizona study proved that one out of every 9 of these visitors was a tourist; one out of every 4 a rural resident; and one out of every 5 a townsman. It did not include the Grand Canyon National Park or any of the national monuments.

The Arkansas study covered Petit Jean, Crowley’s Ridge and Devil’s Den State Parks and the Boyle Metropolitan Park in Little Rock. It did not include Hot Springs National Park. Reports showed the most extensive use of the parks was by youth groups and organizations.

Roman Nose State Park, near Watonga, Oklahoma, is expected to become one of the most popular recreational areas in the State as a result of the development work done by the CCC under supervision of the Service.

Located in the gypsum hills, five miles north of Watonga, Roman Nose State Park was named for the late Cheyenne Indian Chief who once lived there in a dugout. The site of the old structure has been fenced off, pending decision on a proposal to construct a replica of it.

There are 520 acres in the park, and six kinds of gypsum are present. A lake of three and one-half acres is being created by construction of a dam in the stream that is fed by three springs in the park. It will be used for boating and fishing. A swimming pool is being developed and several picnic areas are ready.

A 100-acre lake bottom has been flooded in the central valley of the retarding basin at the foot of the great Englewood dam, between Vandalia and Englewood, Ohio, and will serve as a nucleus for contemplated development of many recreational facilities.

CCC enrollees completed a concrete dam in record time 100 yards upstream from the 125-foot...
high Englewood dam, and forced the impounded waters far up the channel of the Stillwater River. Present plans call for establishment of complete picnic and camping areas and an organized cabin group on the eastern bank of the great flood zone. The lake itself will be a haven for the abundant wildlife of the area.

At nearby Taylorsville dam reservation, a second crew of CCC men are developing a conservation-recreation area, with picnic grounds, parking areas and a system of nature trails.

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More than 150,000 trout were released in a score of streams of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park during the 1936 restocking season, and if favorable conditions obtain in 1937, the Service plans to use a quarter-million trout for further restocking.

There are also native speckled trout in the park and an unusually good bass population in some of the rivers. CCC enrollees from the eight camps in the park handled the restocking operations under supervision of the Service.

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A method of splitting stone, not used in any other quarry in the country, according to its inventor, Louis Franco, superintendent of the CCC veterans' camp in Camp Sag Forest, Illinois, is being used in that area by CCC quarrymen.

The stone is split by an air-pressure chisel operated by hand. This quarry supplies all flagstone used by the CCC, under the supervision of the Service, in its work in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois. It supplies 10,000 cubic feet of stone each month and 15,000 cubic yards of crushed stone.

Large quarries use diamond-toothed saws for splitting stone.

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The impounded lake at Jefferson County State Park, Ohio, is less than a year old but it is already on the map of migratory waterfowl and shore birds, according to field reports to the Service.

Numerous species of ducks, shore birds, and song birds have already been attracted to the pond which also serves as a watering place for small upland game. Whistling swans are among the newest visitors observed.

CCC enrollees, under joint supervision of the Service and the Ohio Division of Conservation, created the artificial lake and have just completed planting selected varieties of water vegetation in the 27-acre basin to supply food and cover for fish as well as subsistence for waterfowl. Some of the material was transported more than 100 miles from natural lakes.

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Chicago Park officials report that their city's millions owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the National Park Service and the CCC for vast improvements made in Cook County's great forest preserve district.

The district includes 33,000 acres in and near the city. It has had its development advanced at least 10 years through the CCC work, and National Park Service aid has also speeded action in Illinois in the acquisition of thousands of acres of State park land for preservation for the use of the State's citizens.

Fifteen million persons are using the forest preserve annually and until the Service entered the picture, lack of adequate help in developing an essential conservation program threatened to cause partial destruction of the forests by crowds of visitors. The division superintendent of the preserve district asserts that fires caused by careless smokers during the drought would probably have destroyed most of the forests in the area if CCC fire fighters had not been available.

* * *

Book Cases in Mesa Verde Museum Library Room — the work of CCC enrollees
In this dreary season for turkeys, between Thanksgiving and Christmas menus, Dr. L. M. Dickerson, assistant wildlife technician of the National Park Service, comes forward with a message of hope for the big birds.

He urges Oklahoma farmers to conserve wild turkeys because the turkeys will aid in eradicating the grasshopper pest. All types of insects are grist to the mill of this bird, he points out, but their full-grown appetites show strong preferences for "hoppers."

The State of Oklahoma, realizing the value of the wild turkey and the danger that the bird might be exterminated, has set up wildlife preserves in State parks, where development is being carried on under technical supervision of the Service. In several localities where native stocks have been reduced almost to the vanishing point, seed stock has been imported and released.

* * *

New recreational facilities and improvements to those previously established are being provided by the Service and the CCC in answer to gradual increases in the number of visitors seeking picnic and camping sites in the scenic Thousand Islands region in New York state.

Plans for relocating an important access road at Cedar Point State Park, to provide safer travel and better drainage, have been approved and work will get under way in this enrollment period. A bathhouse and beach development, camping ground and auto parking areas and scenic overlook are also being provided for this State park. Similar work is going forward at Grass Point, near Fisher's Landing.

ABOUT

Assistant Director Bryant as an official delegate of Pomona College, his alma mater, attended ceremonies held November 18 inaugurating Right Reverend Joseph Corrigan as Rector of the Catholic University of America.

* * *

Immediately following the meeting in Texas in November regarding boundaries for the Big Bend Project, Assistant Director Wirth flew to Miami, Florida. There he boarded a Pan American Air clipper ship headed for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, where, with Director Fechner and Fred Morrell, Forest Service official, he inspected ECW activities. On the return trip to Washington Mr. Wirth made an aerial inspection of Fort Jefferson and the Everglades project. He returned to Washington on November 21.

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Acting Assistant Director Branch Spalding has been assisting Civil Service representatives in conducting oral examinations for the positions of Park His-
Dr. Carl P. Russell, Chief of the Wildlife Division, Washington Office, returned from his European trip in early December. Writing to officials connected with the Service's Washington Office staff while in Germany, Dr. Russell advised:

"This Armistice day has been very different from 1918 in France. I have spent it with a number of Germans, male and female, who have helped me get a very good idea of Konigsberg, and, incidentally we did not mention or think of 1918. I came to this Eastern-most part of Germany primarily to see a notable 'National Park', but I found a prize in the out-of-door museum that tells the story of peasant life in East Prussia 100 years ago. It is like the open-air museums of Scandinavia and I had not expected to find one. We have opportunity to do similar things in certain National Parks, U. S. A.

*** I rode for 60 miles in automobile and 4 miles in wagon into The Elch Gebiete where we succeeded in seeing Elch (our moose, or very near it) about one hour before dark."

Assistant Director Wirth has been appointed Chairman of the committee of the American Institute of Park Executives on National, State, and Provincial Parks. Assistant Superintendent Gartside, National Capital Parks, is a member of the Institute's Educational Committee.

Verne E. Chatelain, former Acting Assistant Director of the Branch of Historic Sites and Buildings, has been selected by Dr. J. C. Merriam, President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, to conduct studies of the Saint Augustine, Florida, restoration project, preparatory to the proposed restoration of that historic city. Funds for conducting these restoration studies have been contributed jointly by the Carnegie Institution of Washington and local authorities.

John K. Borland, who has served as temporary ranger in Yellowstone, recently made a radio broadcast over Station KDKA, Pittsburgh, extolling the beauties of Yellowstone. Mr. Borland now is serving as secretary of the Alumni Association of Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, Pennsylvania.
Charles L. Gable, Chief of the Operators Division, inspecting one of the lava flows on the Island of Hawaii. He is now back at his desk in Washington.

Superintendent Pinkley of Southwestern National Monuments was called to the Washington Office in December to attend conferences held by the Historical Branch regarding supervisory personnel.

On October 28 former Director Albright spoke to the local Rotary Club at Morristown National Historical Park. This was his first visit to Morristown for any length of time in 2 years.

Guy Hopping, who for sometime has served as Acting Superintendent of General Grant National Park, has been appointed as Superintendent of that area.

Superintendent Rogers of Yellowstone is a member of the technical Advisory Committee, which is assisting the Wyoming State Planning Board in making a wildlife and recreational survey of the state.

Margaret Sabin of the Washington Office is resigning from her position in mid-December. She plans to spend the winter with her Aunt in Los Angeles, California.

Harper L. Garrett, formerly Assistant Historian at Gettysburg National Military Park, has been transferred to Washington and designated Acting Superintendent of the Lee Mansion, the Lincoln Museum in the Ford Theater, and the House where Lincoln died. In this capacity he will coordinate the work of the Branch of Buildings Management and the Branch of Historic Sites and Buildings at those points.
Mrs. Don Fisher, wife of Ranger Fisher of Lava Beds National Monument, possesses the only authoritative account of Hat Creek Indian basketry designs, according to Junior Park Naturalist Swartzlow of Lassen Volcanic National Park who was a visitor to the Lava Beds area in October.

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Mrs. Cora B. Peters, widow of William H. Peters who served as Superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park from October 1920 to June 1922, has been appointed to a position in the Service's Branch of Buildings Management.

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F. W. Binnewies, one-time ranger of Rocky Mountain National Park, is now a ranger at the Mammoth Cave area. Mr. Binnewies is a graduate of the Colorado State College of Education and has done post-graduate work at the Universities of Illinois and Colorado.

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Martin L. Jackson is going to resign from the position of Custodian, Montezuma Castle National Monument, at the end of the year and go into business in Nevada.

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Members of the naturalist staff at Great Smoky Mountains National Park gave brief talks at the Thirty-ninth Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science held at Vanderbilt University, November 27 and 28. Park Naturalist Stupka spoke on "The Great Smoky Mountains National Park as a field for Biological Research." Naturalist Willis King had for his subject "Notes on the Distribution of Native Eastern Brook and Rainbow Trout in the Streams at Great Smoky Mountains National Park", and Dr. H. M. Jennison, park botanist, gave illustrated talks on "Wild Trilliums of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park", and "Sketch of the Flora of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park."

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Clyde B. King, who has been serving as Acting Superintendent at the Moores Creek National Military Park, was made Superintendent of that area on December 1.

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Thomas E. Whitcraft, Chief Ranger at Glacier National Park, has been appointed to the superintendency of Grand Teton National Park. Ranger Hugh Peyton has succeeded Mr. Whitcraft as Chief Ranger at Glacier.

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Dr. T. A. Jaggar, Volcanologist at Hawaii National Park, has been elected first vice-president of the Association for Volcanology of the International Geophysical Union.
Arthur Woodward, Assistant Chief of the Museum Division, Branch of Research and Education, resigned from that position in November to become Curator of History at the Los Angeles (California) County Museum.

Mrs. Marion C. Seibel, of the Department's Purchasing Office and formerly connected with Assistant Director Bryant's office, has been appointed Information Clerk for the Department of the Interior.

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Superintendent Nusbaum of Mesa Verde, Chief Architect Vint, Park Planner Merel Sager, and Photographer Grant just before they took off, with Pilot Johnson (left) from Grand Canyon Airport for an aerial inspection of the proposed Escalante National Monument in southeastern Utah. The inspection was made in mid-November. Below: Airplane view of the proposed monument area taken by George Grant.
A number of National Park Service regional officers and field men were called into Washington during December to assist in preparation of a comprehensive report on the future of the National Park System.

They included Dr. George Ruhle, park naturalist from Glacier National Park; Dr. Adolph Murie, wildlife expert from the Omaha ECW regional office; Dr. W. B. McDougall, wildlife authority from the Oklahoma City ECW office; E. A. Davidson from the Division of Plans and Designs in the San Francisco office; Dr. Carroll H. Wegemann, regional geologist from the Omaha ECW office; Herbert Evison and Paul Brown, ECW regional officers from Richmond and Omaha, respectively; Oscar F. Northington, assistant historian stationed at Fredericksburg, Virginia, and Edwin Small, Assistant Historian, with headquarters in Boston.

Dr. Frederick V. Coville, internationally-known botanist who at the present time is serving as Acting Director of the National Arboretum, Department of Agriculture, expects to retire on March 31, 1937, after 49 years of distinguished service. This nearly half century in office represents the longest tenure of any scientist who entered the Department of Agriculture under Civil Service.

Through the years Dr. Coville has been a most helpful friend and ally of the Service. No matter how busy, he never failed to offer scientific advice and assistance to Service people, and we are particularly indebted to him for the excellent material regarding the plants of the Death Valley region incorporated in our Death Valley National Monument circular. Dr. Coville, who is an authority on this region generally, offered a number of valuable suggestions regarding the other information given in this circular.

Notable among Dr. Coville’s many botanical discoveries and experiments, which have received international note, was taming the wild blueberry to grow on the pine barrens of New Jersey, resulting in desolate areas being planted with highly productive crops. Some of Dr. Coville’s blueberries are a little more than an inch in diameter.

One of the lakes in Katmai National Monument, Alaska, also a dozen-odd plants extant throughout the United States, now bear Dr. Coville’s name.

Dr. W. B. McDougall, wildlife authority connected with the ECW Regional Office at Oklahoma City, gave an interesting lecture regarding some ecological problems of the Big Bend area before members of the Biological Society of Washington, D. C., on December 5. At the next meeting of the Society on December 12, Park Naturalist Ruhle of Glacier lectured on "Some Problems of Game Administration in Glacier National Park."
Bill Sharpe, recently of Bandelier National Monument, is now at Southwestern Monument Headquarters at Casa Grande National Monument.

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BIRTHS

During October a son was born to Park Ranger and Mrs. L. B. Worley of Grand Canyon National Park.

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On October 3 a son was born to Associate Architect and Mrs. Frank E. Mattson of Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

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Mrs. Laurance Cone gave birth to an 8½ pound boy on Friday, October 16, in the Johnson Hospital at Cortez, Colorado. The father is ECW Senior Landscape Foreman at Mesa Verde National Park.

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MARRIAGES

Seth Gordon, Jr., who is in charge of the Service's section handling ECW statistics, and Virginia Fairfax Hall were married in Washington, D. C., October 9.

Mr. Gordon's father is an outstanding conservationist and for years has been keenly interested in national park activities.

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Claude Conley, storekeeper at Zion, was married on October 14 to Ruth Ramsey of Richfield, Utah. The bride worked in the curio shop at Zion Lodge this past summer.

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Lucille Goodrich Lynch, Clerk at Petersburg National Military Park for the past two years, and Orlando Bland Hinton were married in Washington, D. C., on November 21.

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DEATHS

From Former Director Albright comes news of the passing of three men who have been connected with Yellowstone Park activities.

In October Thomas Cochran, who did so much for the Service 10 years ago in connection with the acquisition of land for winter range of Yellowstone wildlife, died of heart disease at Bedford Village, New York, at the age of 65. Mr. Cochran was a member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Company for nearly 20 years, was a Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur of France, an officer of the Ordre Leopold II of Belgium, and a freeman of the Royal Burg of Kirkcudbright, Scotland.

Reverend Dr. John W. Hill, Methodist Minister and authority on Abraham Lincoln, passed away in New York City on October 12. He was 73 years old.

It was Dr. Hill who made the opening address at ceremonies welcoming President Warren G. Harding
as a visitor to Yellowstone National Park in 1923.

Colonel Elmer E. Lindsley, United States Army retired, passed away at Ambler, Pennsylvania, on November 6 at the age of 70. Colonel Lindsley was a brother of Yellowstone's one-time Assistant Superintendent and Postmaster Chester A. Lindsley. Some very interesting statements made by Colonel Lindsley in 1897-98 (in 1897 he was a Second Lieutenant, Fourth Cavalry, and the following year a First Lieutenant, First Cavalry) regarding Yellowstone were included in the official park reports for those years.

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Mrs. Eudora May Stead, widow of the late J. D. Stead and operator of Stead's Ranch and Hotel in Rocky Mountain National Park, passed away on Monday, November 23.

Mrs. Stead went to the park region with her husband in 1902 and had been engaged in the hotel business in the same location since that time.

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Mrs. Sarah Jemima (Patton) Clark, mother of Miss Frankie B. Clark who for a number of years has been handling distribution of National Park slides, films, and photographic material in Washington, passed away in Christiana, Tennessee on December 7 after an 8-weeks illness.
THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE NATIONAL PARKS AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

By: Isabelle F. Story

(Prepared for use in forthcoming Service Administrative Manual and reproduced in this issue of the Bulletin for the benefit of the Service personnel engaged in publicity work and desiring background material of this type.)

Passage on August 25, 1916, of the organic act establishing the National Park Service was the first step made by the Federal Government toward correlating the administration of its widely distributed national park and monument system. In that act the Service thus established was directed to "promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations hereinafter specified by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of said parks, monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

National parks first came into the land-use picture in 1872, when by act of Congress approved March 1, the Yellowstone National Park was, to quote the words of the act itself, "dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasuring-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people."

Establishment of the Yellowstone National Park, the first reservation of its type ever created, pointed the way to a new type of land-use and a new set of land values that served as a beacon to guide this country and other Nations of the world in conservation of land for sociological purposes. The story of its inception, therefore, is of interest.

During the first three-quarters of the nineteenth century the geysers and hot springs formations of the Yellowstone region were visited occasionally by Indians and by white trappers and hunters, and from them stories of the unearthly wonders of that wilderness filtered to the outside world. At first disbelieved and derided, their persistence and growth finally led to the explorations of the official Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition in 1870. That party confirmed the rumors of thermal wonders in the area, and at the close of their explorations the men sat around a campfire near what is now Madison Junction, discussing what they had seen and the probable disposition of it all. Private preemption, with resultant use for personal profit, was the logical outcome to most members of the party, since it followed the accepted policies of that time in regard to land distribution.
Then came the verbal bombshell that destroyed the old line of thinking on land distribution so far as it concerned superlative areas, and established the new form of social-use of lands that made possible the magnificent national park and monument system of today. Hon. Cornelius Hedges, Montana lawyer, advanced the revolutionary suggestion that individual members of the party forego personal gain in order that the region, so unlike anything else in the country, might be reserved as a national park for the benefit of the people of all time. The daring idea fired the enthusiasm of the party, which sponsored the successful movement to establish Yellowstone National Park.

No other national parks were created until 1890, when the Yosemite, Sequoia, and General Grant Parks in California were established, followed in 1899 by Mount Rainier in Washington.

Even before the Yellowstone, however, the United States Government showed an interest in the public ownership of lands valuable from a social use standpoint. In 1832 the Hot Springs Reservation in Arkansas was established by act of Congress, because of the medicinal qualities believed to be contained in the waters. It can in no sense of the word be called our first national park, however, because in its early reservation there was no idea of park use; it was definitely a place for the treatment of sick people. In 1921 it was made a national park and now, developed with motor roads and winding trails, stresses the recreational uses as much as the use of the hot waters.

Shortly after the turn of the century, additional national parks were established. The most important legislation of that period affecting national park use—and perhaps the most far-reaching in its effects since the approval of the organic act establishing the Yellowstone National Park—was the passage by Congress of a bill known as the "Antiquities Act," which was approved June 8, 1906. It gave the President of the United States authority "to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments." The Antiquities Act provided that the national monuments thus established should be under the jurisdiction of one of three Cabinet officers—the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary of War. Monuments reserved because of their military significance were placed under the War Department, those within or adjacent to national forests under the Department of Agriculture for administration in connection with such national forests, and the remainder—and the greater number—under the supervision of the Department of the Interior.

From that time on to 1915 additional national parks and national monuments were established as areas of outstanding importance in these fields were brought to the attention of the necessary authorities, but there was no well-thought out policy of park establishment or correlated plan of protection, administration, and development of the areas already making up the national park and monument system.

In 1915, the then Secretary of the Interior, Franklin K. Lane, realizing the specialized nature of national park work and the desirability of unifying the parks into one integrated system, appointed Stephen T. Mather, an old college friend and a keen lover of the mountains and the outdoors generally, as his assistant for the purpose of devoting his energies entirely to park matters.

The next year came the passage of the National Park Service Act. Mr. Mather logically became the first director of the Service. Following his resignation because of ill health in 1929, Horace M. Albright, associated with him throughout his national park work and having served as assistant director of the National Park Service, superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, and assistant director, field, became director. Upon the resignation of Mr. Albright in August, 1933, Arno B. Cammerer, associate director under both Directors Mather and Albright, assumed the directorship.

From its establishment in 1916 up to 1933, when activities connected with the emergency works program and the consolidation of park activities brought entirely new duties and responsibilities, the growth of the Service was one of natural and logical expansion.
Stephen T. Mather, founder of the National Park System and first Director of the National Park Service.

The organic act of 1916, instead of granting the lump sum requested for personal services, set up a few definite statutory positions insufficient in number to meet the minimum requirements of the work. To eke out this personnel, details of clerks were made from the Office of the Secretary and from various bureaus of the Department of the Interior. As quickly as possible new positions were secured to replace these details and to handle the growing administrative, scientific, and technical phases of national park work. Engineering, landscape-architectural, forestry, naturalist — including biology and geology — and historical staffs were added to the personnel, as expansion of the various types of area and service, and increased use of the parks by the public, made necessary this specialized service.

At all times, however, it has been the policy of the National Park Service to use, where possible, the specialists of various scientific and technical bureaus of the Federal Government in solving park problems. Close cooperation is maintained with the Bureau of the Public Health Service in sanitation problems; the Bureau of Public Roads builds the major park roads and bridges for the Service; and the Bureau of Biological Survey, the Geological Survey, the General Land Office,
United States Forest Service, and many other bureaus cooperate as problems in their particular fields arise. This prevents overlapping and duplication of functions with those of other bureaus.

One of the important duties facing the Washington administrative staff upon the organization of the National Park Service was securing superintendents of the requisite experience and training to undertake successful administration of the various national parks. Expenditure of an overwhelming amount of time and infinite patient search resulted in the selection of a staff of field superintendents of unusually high caliber. When this was done, the Director of the National Park Service, in 1931, requested that the position of park superintendent be brought under Civil Service rules. The permanent ranger force had been placed upon a Civil Service basis in 1926.

At the present time, aside from the temporary workers in connection with the emergency work program, the employees of the National Park Service from the Director through all grades of employment in the Washington Office and extending in the field from superintendent through clerk and permanent ranger are under Civil Service regulations. The only excepted positions are such seasonal ones as laborer and temporary summer ranger in some of the national parks and monuments.

A momentous step forward in national park administration was the consolidation, on August 10, 1933, of all Federal park activities under the National Park Service. This was effected under President Roosevelt's Executive Order of June 10, 1933, under the following section:

"Section 2. -- National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations

"All functions of administration of public buildings, reservations, national parks, national monuments and national cemeteries are consolidated in an Office of National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations in the Department of the Interior, at the head of which shall be a Director of National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations; except that where deemed desirable there may be excluded from this provision any public building or reservation which is chiefly employed as a facility in the work of a particular agency. This transfer and consolidation of functions shall include, among others, those of the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior, and the National Cemeteries and Parks of the War Department which are located within the continental limits of the United States. National cemeteries located in foreign countries shall be transferred to the Department of State, and those located in insular possessions under the jurisdiction of the War Department shall be administered by the Bureau of Insular Affairs of the War Department.

"The functions of the following agencies are transferred to the Office of National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations of the Department of the Interior, and the agencies are abolished:
Expenditure by the Federal Government for the purposes of the Commission of Fine Arts, the George Rogers Clark Sesquicentennial Commission, and the Rushmore National Commission shall be administered by the Department of the Interior.

This order was modified by Executive order of July 28, 1933, which listed the areas to be transferred from the War Department, with special reference to the national cemeteries. By the supplemental order, only such cemeteries were transferred to National Park Service jurisdiction as are contiguous to or connected with national military parks and monuments so transferred.

By the provisions of the Executive order of June 10, 1933, the National Park Service became the Office of National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations. Later, in recognition of the prestige accruing to the title "National Park Service" throughout the conservation field, that name was restored to the bureau by a provision in the act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1935.

With the addition of the areas thus transferred, and including a few new areas established during the past three years, there are now under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service (as of December 1, 1936) the following areas: 26 national parks, 2 national historical parks, 11 national military parks, 69 national monuments, 10 battlefield sites, 4 miscellaneous memorials, 11 national cemeteries, the National Capital Parks System of nearly 700 units, and 3 national parkways.

In accordance with the terms of the Executive order, the National Park Service also is charged with the maintenance of most of the Federal buildings in Washington, D. C., with the exception of the Capitol, the Library of Congress, the Government Printing Office, and the Supreme Court Buildings; and also of a few Federal buildings at points outside the District of Columbia.

In absorbing the new duties thus accruing to it, the Service separated the functions of the former Office of Public Buildings and Public Grounds into two distinct units, the Branch of Buildings Management and the office of National Capital Parks. The Branch of Buildings Management is coordinate with the other administrative branches of the Service, while the National Capital Parks System is a field unit comparable with the various national park units outside the District of Columbia.
Further extension of national park activities was provided through the passage of the act of Congress approved August 21, 1935, empowering the Secretary of the Interior, through the National Park Service, to conduct a Nation-wide survey of historic American sites, buildings, objects, and antiquities. The act also made provisions for cooperative agreements with States and with local and private agencies in the development and administration of historic areas of national interest, regardless of whether titles to the properties were vested in the United States.

When the emergency relief program was initiated in the spring of 1933, the National Park Service was in a position to absorb into its own activities a large segment of such work, and to benefit greatly therefrom, as the long-range plans of the Service included many projects to effect full public enjoyment of the areas open to the people that were impossible of fulfillment for many years under the regular annual appropriations for national park work.

Immediately upon the approval by the President of the Emergency Conservation Work program, the Service cooperated by establishing 70 Civilian Conservation Corps camps in national parks, national monuments, and other Federal park areas; and at the same time undertook supervision of 105 such camps on State park and allied lands. As of December 1, 1936, the Service is operating 77 national park and monument CCC camps and 353 camps on State recreational areas. Included in the CCC activities of the National Park Service is supervision of such work in the Hawaiian and Virgin Islands. The cooperation of the National Park Service in State park CCC work is supervisory in character and is concerned mainly with the approval and supervision of the CCC projects undertaken and the expenditure of the Federal funds involved. Administration of the State areas has remained exclusively with the State authorities. To expedite this work, on June 1, 1936, the National Park Service was reorganized under a new regional system to handle CCC operations in Federal and State park areas.

The most notable CCC accomplishments include prevention and suppression of forest fires, erosion control and prevention, roadside sloping and beautification, and the construction of trails, campgrounds, and picnic areas. The CCC program also has been of great assistance in the administration and development of the military areas transferred to the National Park Service under the 1933 consolidation of Federal park activities, since practically no regular personnel or funds were provided in connection therewith. It also has assisted greatly in extending the educational service generally.

Stimulated by the excellent results accruing from the cooperation of the National Park Service in the supervision of CCC activities on State areas, Congressional legislation approved by President Roosevelt June 23, 1936, authorized the Service to extend its cooperation to the
various States, and political subdivisions thereof; beyond the period of the emergency. Under the terms of that act, which provided for aid to the States in planning, establishing, improving, and maintaining State parks, the National Park Service is now engaged in a comprehensive study of the public park, parkway, and recreational-area programs of the United States, exclusive of lands under the jurisdiction of the United States Forest Service. The act provides that such surveys may be made only with the consent of the local authorities.

With funds allotted by the Public Works Administration, great strides have been made in pushing construction of many important projects, including the installation of sanitation and power systems, the reconstruction of sub-standard roads and construction of bridges, administration and museum buildings, and employees' residences. One of the most notable outgrowths of the PWA program was the initiation of work on the Blue Ridge Parkway — a form of recreational development hitherto unrelated to national park administration and development.

In addition to major participation in these two relief programs, the National Park Service has also cooperated with the Civil Works Administration, the Works Progress Administration, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, the Resettlement Administration, the National Youth Administration, and State relief agencies.

Especially noteworthy from both historic and architectural stand-points, as well as providing employment for needy architects and draftsmen, is the Historic American Buildings Survey, initiated as a Civil Works project and continued in cooperation with the American Institute of Architects with FERA funds. This survey, the first of its kind to be undertaken nationally, has resulted in the collection of exact physical records of over 3,000 antique buildings and other structures, important historically or architecturally. The material thus accumulated is filed by special arrangement with the Library of Congress among its pictorial American archives.

A new type of area, the "recreational demonstration project", came into being shortly after the launching of the Emergency Conservation Work program, and in cooperation with ECW and with the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. Later the Resettlement Administration took over this work from FERA, and the Service continued its cooperation with that organization. Through these recreational projects, wholly financed from Federal funds, the National Park Service is turning submarginal land, unsuited to farming, into areas for recreation and enjoyment by millions of people of the lower income groups, principally those from large industrial centers. On August 1, 1936, development of the 46 recreational demonstration projects in 24 States was turned over entirely to the National Park Service, which then undertook the complete program of acquisition of land and development of facilities. Previous to that date, the Resettlement Administration had acquired the necessary lands under its land program.
Under the Works Progress Administration program, the National Park Service on December 1, 1935, entered into an agreement with that Administration under which it assumed responsibility for planning and technical supervision of the work programs of 41 WPA camps -- a program undertaken at the request of State, county, and municipal agencies sponsoring the camps. On August 1, 1936, through Presidential allocation of funds direct from the relief appropriation for the operation of these camps, the program was transferred entirely to the control of the National Park Service, and the camps now are known as the National Park Service Work Camps.

The increased responsibilities incurred by the Service since March 1933 through cooperation in emergency activities, consolidation of Federal park activities, and normal expansion along national park lines, has resulted in a notable increase in personnel, both emergency and Civil Service.

Expansion of other agencies also brought new problems to the National Park Service, as upon it devolves the responsibility for supplying the necessary office space for such organizations.

At Right: The Narrows, Zion National Park. Photo by Howard Firm.