

NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Volume III

January 1959

Number I

Yvonne Prater
Editor

Patrick Goldsworthy, President

Philip Zalesky
1st Vice-President

"To secure the support of the people and the government in the protection and preservation of scenic, scientific, wildlife, wilderness, and outdoor recreational resource values in the North Cascades....."

In this issue:	
Let's Not Take Conservation for Granted.....	Page 1
"Rotten Log"-- a Poem by Elizabeth Landewear.....	3
Speaking of the Wilderness Bill.....	3
Sojourn Among the Alpine Lakes.....	5
Cascade Park Scheme.....	6
Eastern Washington Wildlife Refuge.....	6
National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission...	7
Lake Chelan Vacationland.....	8

Acknowledgements for this month's article contributions: Carmelita Lowry, St. Louis, Missouri; Dick Bayne, Seattle; Mrs. Carolyn Gilbaugh, Chelan, Washington. Thank yous for newspaper clippings go to: John Thompson, Naches, Wn; Lex Maxwell, Yakima, Wn; and Bill Prater, Ellensburg, Wn.

LET'S NOT TAKE CONSERVATION FOR GRANTED

by Miss Carmelita Lowry, St. Louis, Missouri

Any problems concerning National Forest lands should be of interest to all Americans as these lands belong to the people through their Federal Government. However, in spite of the excellent work being done by conservation organizations and individuals it is a highly unfortunate fact that Mr. Average American is unaware of what's going on. Although the Washingtonian or Oregonian may be very conscious of the battle raging around his head you can be pretty sure that the Kansas City or New York man-in-the-street hasn't heard of the Wilderness Bill. They aren't discussing multiple use in What Cheer, Iowa and around here a term like "wild area" would be taken to mean a reference to East St. Louis.

To a large extent this lack of interest in conservation is understandable. The average person is preoccupied with the immediate problems he encounters daily.

Timber harvesting in an area several thousand miles away is of much less interest to him than the parking problem in his own home town.

There are, of course, many people who are genuinely interested in their National Forest lands but they are frequently uninformed or misinformed because conservation problems are simply not well publicized. Most Americans don't read conservation publications and the magazines they read are likely to contain beautiful full-page ads in color showing the modern lumbering industry carefully weeding out the diseased old trees of the forest before they fall down and rot. It may sound childishly naive to a Northwesterner but many people have been led to believe that the lumber companies are primarily concerned with protecting the forests and that they somehow manage to harvest a little timber now and then without disturbing a thing. Since only the people themselves can combat the commercial interests that would destroy our forests it seems to me that a campaign to educate the people is in order.

Of course logging and mining are here to stay and we aren't concerned with trying to eliminate these facets of our economy from the American scene. But they've had a nice long honeymoon in our choicest land and now it's time for the people to declare a hands off policy on the remaining wilderness. Before the people can do this, however, they have to realize that it needs to be done.

This problem of "educating the public" is a formidable one. For one thing, some of the people simply cannot be reached. The person who feels that the outdoors is something to be assiduously avoided isn't going to care if the forests are decimated or not and the enthusiastic vacationer who wants to see all of the western United States from his car window in two weeks flat will never be convinced that a roadless area is a good thing. He's already peeved because the side roads aren't paved.

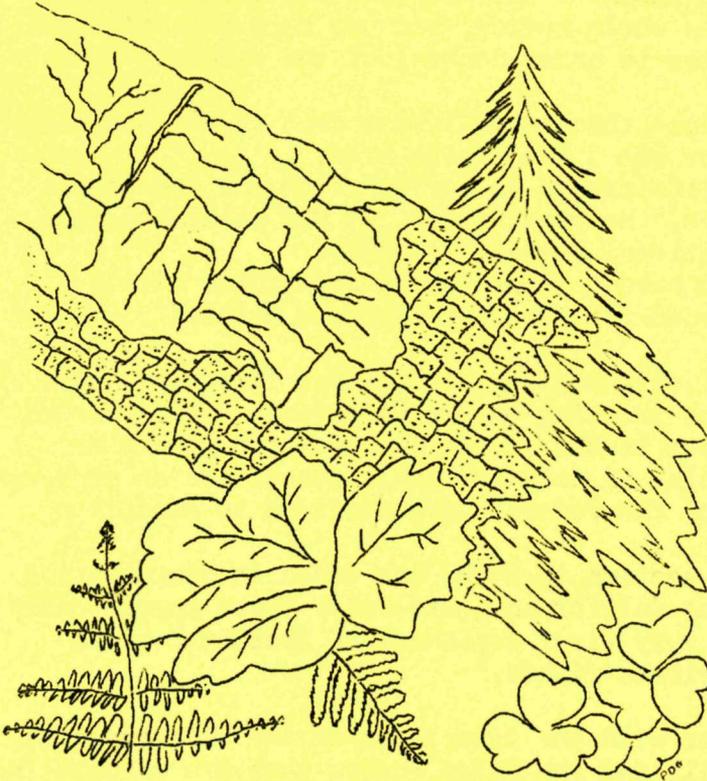
I am personally more concerned with the person who, like myself, takes conservation for granted until they find out what the situation actually is. When I first visited the state of Washington in 1956 I was awed not by the mountains alone but by the sum total of the mountain scene with its many beautiful variations....the gradual change in scene from the cathedral-like atmosphere of the tall timber to the riotous splash of color in the alpine meadows and the bold jagged outlines of the mountain peaks themselves. The Cascades seem to have a quality of being untamed without being forbidding and I was immediately taken with these beautiful mountains.

The shock came, of course, when I saw some of the results of old-time logging operations. Here the beauty of the tall timber was replaced by the chill atmosphere of the graveyard. The most noticeable thing was the total absence of life. Although it was apparent that the logging had been done many years ago it was equally apparent that no form of plant life had any intentions of growing here again for many years to come. Even the city-bred eye could recognize the erosion. More recent logging operations were not very reassuring and it wasn't long before I realized that phrases like "selective logging" were absolutely meaningless in terms of preserving the natural beauty of the forests. Modern logging operations may be more intelligent than the old-time methods and the lumber companies may be more responsible than they were but the only effect they can have on a wilderness is to destroy it. As long as fine stands of timber exist there will be repeated attempts to harvest it and repeated attempts to lull the public with phrases like "selective logging" and "Timber is a crop.

Until the interest of the public is aroused the burden of the conservation battle will rest with the small band of active conservationists who have been responsible for protecting our lands in the past. They are going to need more and more active support as the loggers, road-builders, resort-owners and hot-dog-stand entrepreneurs become increasingly interested in our unspoiled wilderness. Let's start arousing the public now!

"ROTTEN LOG"

By Elizabeth Landewear



"A rotten log with ferns at
 base,
 Is like a crowded market
 place
 With ants like Hausfraus
 hurrying
 And spotted beetles
 scurrying,
 As if to catch commuters'
 trains;
 With here some fossilized
 remains,
 A dry skin with a slit-up
 back,
 As empty as a cast-off sack,
 And there, a grub in
 chrysalis—
 A rotten log is genesis,
 Life and death and all
 creation,
 Busy as Grand Central
 Station."

(Quoted, with permission, from the June 28, 1959 Saturday Evening Post Magazine- Page

* * * * *

SPEAKING OF THE WILDERNESS BILL

John Thompson, an N3C member of Naches, Washington, tipped us off on an article that appeared in the January, 1959 issue of the Farm Journal (Page 10, Western Edition) and here it is:

"Wilderness Bills to Pass"

"The Wilderness bills, which would set aside 100 million acres of Federal land as an untouched primeval reserve, have a good chance to pass in 1959. Since their defeat last year, hearings have been held in four western states, and the bills have been rewritten.

Further compromise is likely, and the big Democratic majority is expected to assure passage, the sponsors' claim.

The bills get heavy support from conservation groups, fish and wildlife association, garden clubs and Easterners who like to vacation in the West.

Fighting the legislation are cattlemen who want to graze some of this land, some timber and mining interests, many western county and state governments and western Chambers of Commerce."

(May it be added, we hope the prophecy is correct! and let us work towards that end.)

We saw some fascinating headlines emerging from a recent conclave of the 27th annual convention of the National Reclamation Association. "Glenn G. Saunders, a Denver water law expert stated that proposed federal legislation to create wilderness areas threatens full development of the West."

"The proposed wilderness legislation is simply the latest in a continuing series of steps to lay the dead hand of bureaucracy on the public lands of the United States," Saunders said in prepared remarks."

"In the Western United States the shock of unreasonable restraints placed upon the public lands will be felt by the whole nation, because more than one half of the total area of the 11 Western states is under control of the federal government."

"Saunders cited statistics that less than one-half per cent of all the people in this country ever actually enter on or use a wilderness area."

"Some of the greatest values of life are to be derived from the use of the national domain for recreational purposes," he continued. "It was estimated that about 55 million tourists visited the national forests in 1956."

"Almost all of those people could have been prevented from these visits if they had been reduced to the means afforded for use of wilderness areas." ..The End

The kind of talk that came out of this meeting at Houston, Texas is a pure attempt to dupe the public into erroneous thinking on the Wilderness Bill. S-4028 specifically provides for the continuation of the status quo of water rights and Section 3 (c), (5) spells it out: "Nothing in this Act shall constitute an express or implied claim or denial on the part of the Federal Government as to exemption from State water laws."

To quote Howard Zahniser: "This section in S4028 was added in consultation with Senator Kuchel of California and the California state water board specifically to meet criticism of S1176." Also, the very first statement of Section 2 makes the whole system "subject to existing private rights."

We must become thoroughly familiar with the intentions of the Wilderness Bill to answer our critics' attacks on the Bill and the false rumors that are circulating on this legislation. Your editor had a chance to get a few licks in for S4028 in a recent debate on the Wilderness Bill that helped (I hope) better inform a certain local Farm Bureau group that had just recently gone on record as being against the Bill. My opponent was a very successful local cattle rancher. The debate was preceded by the showing of the film made by Dave Brower, "Wilderness Alps of the Stehekin" which was well-received. The debate was tape-recorded for future review, and we had good press representation.

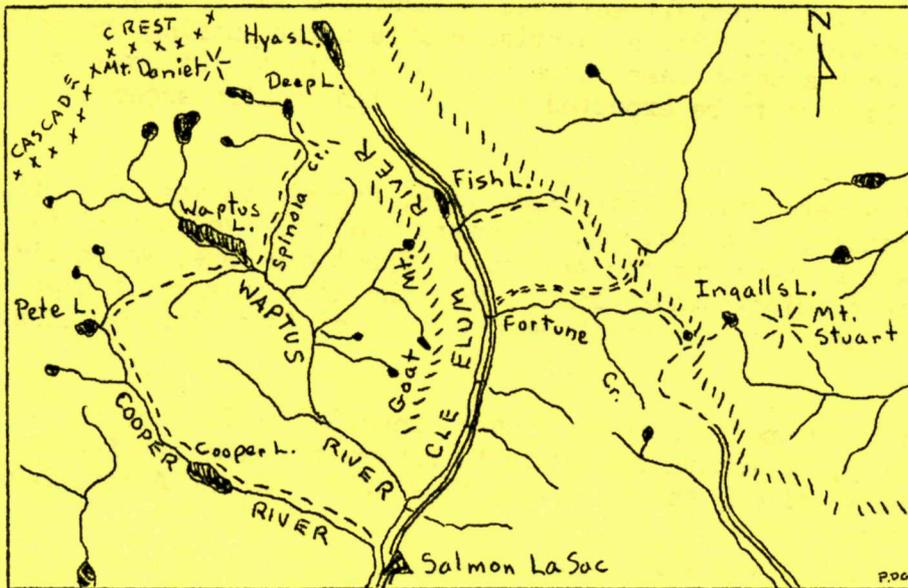
The debate turned out to be very stimulating and I had the chance to find out where my own weak points were as well as my opponent's. At one time we were discussing how very commercialized Yosemite National Park had become and I liked the comment that my opponent made. He said in effect, "to us, the Yosemite that most of the visitors see isn't wilderness, it is commercialized. But for those who drive in the rush of Los Angeles every day, it is wilderness." Then in discussing the flaming falls portion of the evening's organized activities, he said: "They are people who like their wilderness pushed over a waterfall at them."

One may ponder, just what good did this debate accomplish? Two papers carried the story, covering both sides and it was "local news" about the feelings of local people--bringing a national problem down to the grass roots level. If each one of us could assume a portion of the "ball-carrying" to be done to get this Bill into law--not necessarily debates or talks--but letters to our newspapers, sending material to our Congressmen and utilizing our own resources for communication we could get this task cut down to size.

Bem Price of Associated Press had quite a lengthy article in most of our newspapers 2 weeks ago covering both aspects of the Wilderness Bill. So let's keep at it.

* * * * *

SOJOURN AMONG THE ALPINE LAKES
by Dick Bayne, Seattle, Washington



Escaping from the overpopulated California mountains, twelve Sierra Club members accompanied by 2 Mountaineers spent nearly two weeks this past summer knapsacking their way through a part of the magnificent lake country couched between Snoqualmie and Stevens Passes in the Washington Cascades. On July 28 they left their cars at the road end on the North Fork of the Teanaway River and started up the trail, led by Ed Richardson from California and co-leader, John Warth, a Mountaineer. The evening caught them short of

scheduled Ingalls Lake so they camped on a meadowy shelf across the valley from Mt. Stuart, its granite faces pushing 9,470 feet upward to dominate the skyline.

Before noon the next day they reached the lake, a gem of blue cupped in a pocket of amorphous red rock. Even the vague semblance of a trail disappears beyond this point from where the hikers moved downward abruptly over broken rock, skirting finally the unnamed peak which stands westward from the lake. To many, the open, rocky exposures of the country were reminiscent of the Sierra.

A few miles farther on they moved upward to top the ridge above Fortune Creek, a tributary of the Cle Elum River. Some 2000 sheep were busy shearing the no-longer-so-lush meadows. The trail paralleling the ridge was hit about halfway down and, hastening their pace, the hikers moved rapidly out of the valley, indicating their sentiments were somewhat reflected by the eternal 'baas' of the sheep. But only a short distance beyond they collided with the Van Epps mining road, plowed six miles into the Icicle drainage in a short three weeks by a bulldozer that couldn't have been dozing much at all.

The resulting trauma was calmed and healed finally in the pleasant surroundings of the campground above Fish Lake. Here the traveler's laid over one day to hike the extra few miles up to Hyas Lake, take baths in the warm river, fish a little, or just laze around. Ducks and herons were seen enjoying the country too, along with other wildlife, and by this time the Californians had become accustomed to the large Mule Dee which do for their deer what their Redwood does for our Douglas Fir.

Leaving Fish Lake, and halfway up the ridge stringing down off lengthy Goat Mountain, which runs parallel to the lake and the Cle Elum River, John Warth, began discovering leaf fossils in the sedimentary rock along the trail. Soon many persons had joined the fun, utilizing ice axes and other tools to break the rocks. Some of the faint imprints even assumed the configurations of lizard and fish tails.

From the camp overlooking the wide valley of Spinola Creek, just over the hill from Fish Lake, many wandered the easy additional mile up-valley through meadow and fir thickets to Deep Lake, nestled in the shadow of glaciated Mt. Daniel.

On the following day the group packed the few miles down Spinola Creek to Waptus Lake, beyond which the mountains of the crest rise abruptly to form an imposing backdrop, and near the vicinity of which fully eight trails radiate to other fascinating spots. Perhaps the trip up to Shovel Lake was as typical as any. This lake is approached via trail and rock slide from the Waptus River Trail. At the outlet of the lake a 100 foot waterfall splashes amongst rocks and flowers to tempt the camera bug's aesthetic eye. But a surprise awaits after passing the falls for a luxurious forest graces the upper lake shore and spreads tentacles upwards towards timberline. Talus is more to be expected in this high country scene so near the rugged crest.

A few days later the hikers reached tiny Pete Lake, one of the most beautiful wilderness lakes in the Cascades. From here the Sierrans again enjoyed a variety of side trips. Uppermost among these was the trip up to Spectacle Lake, which, like Ingalls Lake, is enclosed in glacier-rounded rock. The lake sits on a shelf high above Pete Lake, and sheer mountains rise on three sides to reinforce its secluded and rugged beauty.

On August 8 the group trooped past Cooper Lake, into Salmon La Sac, and then into Cle Elem, tired but happy, to return southward to resume the less carefree existences of only a few weeks before, ending a very fine trip into the Alpine Lake Country of the North Cascades.

* * * * *

A LARGER WILDLIFE REFUGE IN EASTERN WASHINGTON

(From the December 18, 1958 issue of the Yakima Herald) "According to an announcement by Rep. Catherine May, the United States Department of the Interior has authorized transfer of 4,359 acres of public lands in the Columbia Basin into a wildlife refuge.

These lands are public lands, southeast of the Pothole Reservoir in Lower Columbia Basin area of Grant County. Most of the land is non-agricultural.

The transfer of these 4,359 acres will provide a wildlife refuge of 24,545 acres in the Columbia Basin. The new area will supply feed for 20,000 or more geese a year.

Prior to the transfer, the land was under jurisdiction of the United States Reclamation Service."

* * * * *

"CASCADE NATIONAL PARK SCHEME HAS GAME OFFICIALS WONDERING"

(The headline and story are from the Wednesday, December 17 issue of the Tri-City Herald, "Fin and Feather" column by Lyle Burt)

"A proposal to turn the entire north Cascade mountain area into a gigantic national park has Washington's game officials shadowboxing.

They have been unable to obtain enough information on the project to know which way to turn next.

The plan was disclosed in Washington D.C. recently by a spokesman for the National Parks Association, a civilian group that works with the National Park Service, at a meeting of game and conservation leaders.

State Game Director John Biggs who was present, said all he was able to learn was that the proposed national park would encompass 1,300,000 acres of the Cascade Crest area from just north of Stevens Pass to the Canadian line and would take in the Glacier peak region and the upper 20 miles of Lake Chelan.

Biggs said association officials declined to amplify their proposal when he talked with them in the nation's capital.

Turning the area into a national park would mean the end of all hunting there. The region includes several well-known mountain goat hunting spots as well as many miles of excellent deer range.

Biggs said he was unable to obtain any written information, although the National Park Association has apparently printed brochures and maps giving specific details of the proposal.

One of the principal backers of the plan, said Biggs, is the Sierra Club, a California Mountaineering group.

So far the National Park Service apparently has taken no stand on the matter."

* * * * *

"THE U.S.A. WILL SOON HAVE A NATIONAL RECREATION PROGRAM"

This article is quoted from the editorial page of the October 4, 1958 issue of the Saturday Evening Post Magazine:

"Ever-increasing use of this country's outdoor recreational resources is posing a new problem of supply and demand. Spiraling population, ease of travel and the need for relief from modern tensions are combining to tax the capacity of the nation's playgrounds. As Assistant Secretary of the Interior Ross L. Leffler said recently: "Recreation—outdoor, nature-produced recreation, which rehabilitates the mind and feeds the spirit—has become one of the great basic needs of the country."

The growing demand for such recreation is shown in the figures. Visits to the national forests jumped from eighteen million to fifty-three million within a ten-year period. The National Park Service, which was designed to handle twenty-five million visitors annually, played host to fifty-nine million last year. Visits to the state parks rose from ninety-two million to more than two hundred and sixteen million in the last decade. A national hunting-and-fishing survey by the Fish and Wildlife Service showed that nearly twenty-five million Americans either hunt or fish or do both.

Until lately the facilities for such recreation have been a stepchild in resource planning. The first move to change this situation has been made. Congress recently established a National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission and gave it a three-year job. The action can greatly enhance the satisfactions of American life and it may set a new course in the development of our renewable natural resources."

"The commission's first task is to inventory and evaluate the available resources and their possibilities for expansion. (Not included are such urban facilities as golf courses and playgrounds.) It is to study trends for indications of the amount, kind and location of the recreational resources that will be needed at certain dates in the future. Then the commission is to recommend what policies should be adopted and programs initiated to meet these requirements. The recommendations are to be made on a state-by-state, regional and national basis, and in such a way as to make them of maximum value to the states in working out their own program

NOMINATIONS TO FILL BOARD VACANCIES

In March the terms of office of six members of the Board of Directors will expire. The President has appointed the following committee to select a list of nominees from which six members will be elected by the Board to fill the vacancies:

- Chester M. Powell (chairman), 7626 S.114th, Seattle 88, Wash.
- Miss Una Davies, 13641 S.W. Fielding Rd., Oswego, Oregon
- Mrs. Pauline Dyer, 116 J. St.N.E., Auburn, Washington.
- Mrs. Rick Mack, 829 Crescent Ave., Sunnyside, Washington
- David Simons, 2605 Durant Ave, Berkeley, California
- Philip H. Zalesky, 2402 1/2 Virginia, Everett, Washington

* * * * *

LAKE CHELAN VACATIONLAND—EASTERN GATEWAY TO THE NORTH CASCADES— by Carolyn Gilbaugh of Chelan, Washinton. (Carolyn is the wife of the assistant superintendant of Lake Chelan State Park.)



Every summer thousands of vacationers flock to Lake Chelan for sunbathing, camping, swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, and mountaineering. Many camp at Lake Chelan State Park which is located 9 miles from the town of Chelan on the south lakeshore road.

Lake Chelan, which reaches a maximum depth of 1500 feet, is the water gateway to the North Cascade Wilderness Area. Every day during the summer months, the "Lady of the Lake" makes the 100-mile round trip to Stehekin near the head of the lake. The boat stops around 9 a.m. daily at the park to pick up passengers who wish to make the water journey into this scenic area. Passengers may also get aboard at other points up-lake. Many private boats also make the trip but should be mindful of possible rough waters in the "narrows".

Since the highway does not extend to the head of the lake on either side, most visitors to the wilderness area enter by boat or seaplane. Visitors are enthusiastic about the scenery and the sparkling, cool clean waters of Lake Chelan and many are interested in acquiring property along the lake.

Facilities at Lake Chelan State Park include over 150 campsites, 25-30 trailer sites, play area, swim and boat docks. The park is jammed from July 4 through Labor Day with smaller numbers in May, June, and September. Counting day visitors and the overnight campers, the park has an estimated attendance of well over 200,000 per season.

Lake Chelan is the largest natural lake in the State of Washington and is gaining in popularity every year. It is essential that the state and federal government see the need for developing additional recreational areas for our growing population.

* * * * *

THE TIME HAS COME
Patrick Goldsworthy, Seattle

"The time has come, the walrus said, to talk of many things." Lewis Carroll's walrus was right; only what we have to talk about is mines and dams and timber cuts and whether trees have wings.

We have so little time in which to talk and so much to accomplish in this, the eleventh hour of Washington's unspoiled Cascades. Help from each of you who reads this, even if it be but one letter, will enable us to turn the clock back before our natural scenery's time runs out. The clock has been turned back before by others; now it is our turn.

Each of you, in joining the North Cascades Conservation Council, recognized the single purpose of the organization. You felt convinced that something here was worth saving and protecting and you wanted to have a part in this worthwhile objective. You had seen the Cascades in person, had heard about the area from friends or had seen a movie or some pictures of these mountains. The pleasures you derived from these experiences, whether direct or vicarious, made you determined that these scenic, wilderness and recreational values be preserved unharmed for others not yet born.

Many of you have asked "but what can I do?" There is much that needs to be done. We have initiated an intensive program to provide a varied selection of

projects to choose from. I hope all of you who have asked, others too, will really pitch in.

A complete list should reach you within a week with supplements to follow.

In the interim please start on the following:

1. Write ~~as~~ an individual, not an N3C member, to Senator Henry M. Jackson (Senate Office Bldg., Wash., 25, D.C.), your congressman (House Office Bldg., Wash. 25, D.C.) and Conrad L. Wirth, Director National Park Service (Interior Bldg. Wash., 25, D.C.) asking for a study of the North Cascades by the National Park Service.

2. Arrange for showings of our two movies, (a) "Wilderness Alps of Stehekin" (30 min. color, optical sound track, 16 mm) and (b) Our newest film, "Glacier Peak Holiday" made by and purchased from Charles Hessey (30 min., color, magnetic sound track, 16mm.)

Let's not forget why we are joined together in the North Cascades Conservation Council. Apathy is the greatest threat to the organization's successful achievement of its objectives. Our opponents are anything but apathetic and constantly at work. The task, is for each one of you to make sure that everyone knows that our cause exists.

Act now and feel the satisfaction later of having helped in the establishment of our country's greatest national park.

I would like to participate in: 1. Newsletter mailing: _____ 2. Letter writing _____ 3. Typing (portable _____ (standard) _____ (electric) _____ 4. Drawing for exhibits or newsletter _____ 5. Exhibit construction _____ 6. Show movies _____ slides _____

Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____

Comments and remarks on the back. Permissible to mail with dues.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Mr. Francis Parnell, Union, Maine; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Morrill, Seattle; Mildred Smith, San Bernardino, California; Mrs. Julian Robarge, Seattle; Suzanne Sperling, South Pasadena, California; Kenneth Mannen, Port Blakely, Washington; and Ross Gregg, Renton, Washington.

* * * * *

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Just a reminder, if your name sticker on this newsletter is marked with a "D", this indicates that your membership, according to our records, expires March 1, 1959. Why not renew immediately by using the form below for this purpose? Washington's Threatened Superlative Scenery Needs Your Continued Support!

To: Membership Chairman, John Anderson, 8206 30th Ave. N.E., Seattle 15, Wash. Please renew my membership in the North Cascades Conservation Council for the fiscal year ending March 1, 1960. Enclosed find dues for Associate (\$1.00) _____, Regular (\$2.00) _____, Contributing (\$5.00 or more) _____, Spouse (\$.50) _____, Life (\$25.00) _____ membership.

Member's Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____ Date _____

In addition, I suggest membership forms and literature be sent to the following individual(s) who I believe would be interested in supporting our organization:

