UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FILE NO.

KNOW YOUR SERVICE

IMPORTANT
This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge.

A. Files should be returned promptly to the File Room. Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Director.
National Park Superintendents
National Monument Custodians
Regional Office Personnel
Inspectors
State Supervisors
Recreational Demonstration Area Managers
(and all Supervisory Personnel)
Auditors
Procurement Officers
Traveling Mechanics
Project Superintendents and Foremen
Technicians
Central Design Personnel

Special attention is directed to the following memorandum of December 10, 1940, signed by the Director:

"During the past seven years the Service has been active in carrying on so-called 'temporary' projects. Although these projects are financed with what we call 'emergency' funds, they are not temporary or emergency in character or significance.

"The salaries of many Service employees are paid with so-called 'emergency' funds, and, accordingly, some of them have a natural tendency to consider themselves as employees or representatives of a 'temporary' or 'emergency' agency. The Service appreciates the loyalty which prompts this feeling but, stronger than this appreciation is the desire that all employees of the Service should consider that they are important parts of a permanent Federal agency. This attitude is especially important in the development of public relations whether it be through such channels as the newspapers, the radio, official reports, or through personal conversations and conferences. When a Service representative meets a park visitor, a newspaper reporter, or an inquisitive passer-by who is interested in a park area or project, he should indicate that he is working for the National Park Service, the Government agency responsible for the administration of the particular area or the project under discussion. Too many good newspaper stories concerning Service areas and projects have been noted in which the name of the Service was not even mentioned.

"Letterheads, road and trail signs, equipment, and wearing apparel should indicate that the Service is the important factor. In regular or special reports to the Washington Office, and to the Regional Headquarters, it should be clearly stated that what we are writing and reading relates to the business of the National Park Service.

"There is little need for telling a Service representative how to conduct himself. It might be well, however, to quote the following paragraphs from the Secretary's confidential memorandum of October 30, 1939, to all field personnel re-
 Concerning the general subject of public relations:

"Every Department representative should be a source of information about his Bureau's accomplishments. Department representatives, if designated by officials in charge, are at liberty to announce and explain any final action or adopted policy and they are responsible for so doing in order that their communities and the Department's programs may benefit from intelligent comprehension of our efforts. Forecasts and prophecies may not be indulged in.

"Field representatives of the Department are men entitled to respect in their jurisdictions who should be looked to for authoritative information. They therefore should be articulate concerning their programs. They should tell the facts through the medium of the local press, the radio, through speeches and conferences or through such other media as will best fulfill requirements.'

"It is hoped that this memorandum will be understood by all who read it as a friendly suggestion that we all should think of ourselves as members of a long-established Federal agency -- the National Park Service -- which has the important, permanent task of preserving the areas administered by it 'for the benefit and enjoyment of the people'."

The Director's reaffirmation of the importance of the part public relations should have in our entire program directs attention again to the fact that field representatives, in order to convey adequate information to the public concerning Service objectives, responsibilities, and activities, must possess of themselves a reasonable fund of background data. To meet that need in part, the Regional Office plans to distribute to all employees periodic information letters to be designated Know Your Service Series. The letters will present concise information under subjects such as "Origins of the Service," "How the Service is Organized," "Types of Areas Administered," "The Technical Programs," "Interesting Side Lights on Service Activities and Areas," etc.

Every effort will be made to provide a genuinely serviceable series. This Office will welcome suggestions from all field representatives relating to the choice of topics to be discussed and the manner of their treatment.

Fred T. Johnston,
Acting Regional Director.
Regional Office Letter No. 637

Subject: Know Your Service Series.

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Reference is made to Regional Office Letter No. 631 of December 18, 1940, under the subject: "The Responsibilities of All Personnel in the Service's program and in Its Public Relations." It announced a plan of this office to distribute to all field personnel a series of Know Your Service bulletins designed to provide in brief form certain essential background information concerning the Service's history, objectives, responsibilities, and activities.

The first number of the series is attached. It is recommended that all units be bound together as they are issued because it is intended that the materials constitute a convenient reference for use in preparation of any talks or papers which circumstances may require.

We wish to reemphasize the desirability of each employee's acquiring a reasonable fund of knowledge concerning the Service's contributions to the national conservation-recreation program. Such a knowledge is necessary for the good of the Service and of the individual; and it is essential if employees are to supply intelligent answers to inquiries made by the public.

In the future there will be no cover letters with the several units of the series, but each pack of bulletins will be accompanied by a routing sheet to indicate the distribution. The responsible official concerned is requested to make certain that a copy reach each employee under his supervision. If the quantities forwarded by this office are insufficient, please inform us of the total required.

Fred T. Johnston,
Acting Regional Director.
On the night of September 19, 1870, around a campfire at the junction of the Firehole and Gibbon rivers in the high country of northwest Wyoming, the members of the Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition talked and day-dreamed of the vast commercial wealth in what they had seen in several days of exploratory travel through the fabulous country of the Yellowstone. As they poked in the embers and saw visions in the flames, they represented in their thinking the attitude of a Nation, weary of internal war and lusty in its eagerness to exploit its resources.

As conversation dwindled to silent thought and the men drowsed in the flicker of the fire, one of their number spoke up with an idea which, by all good judgment of the times, should have been received with laughter if not ridicule. This man — Cornelius Hedges — proposed that the members of the expedition waive all personal claim to the incredible natural treasures they had seen and seek to have them set apart for the enjoyment of all the people, and guarded for all time against exploitation.

But there was neither laughter nor ridicule. The proposal won instant approval. When the expedition reached the outposts of civilization its members launched an effort destined to bring the idea to reality. The most active individuals — Hedges, Nathaniel P. Langford and William Clagett — moved on Washington where Clagett, recently elected to the Congress from Montana, introduced a bill for a National Park Act in the House of Representatives on December 18, 1871.

Coming as it did when conservation of resources was given no thought in the haste to exploit and recover from the waste of war, the bill was called "radical" and given little chance of passage. But there had been other good men in the Yellowstone during the preceding summer — Dr. F. V. Hayden and W. H. Jackson from the U. S. Geological Survey and Captains Barlow and Heap from the Army Engineers. These men came back convinced that the Hedges' proposal was sound and genuine, and their factual data and Jackson's famed photographs flooded the desks of Congress.

When Clagett and his co-workers drove the bill through the House on January 30, 1872, he took it personally across the way to the Senate, where it was introduced by Senator Pomeroy of Kansas and passed on February 27. Signed by President Grant on March 1, it became the National Park Act which created Yellowstone National Park — the first unit in the national park system of today.

(Know Your Service No. 2 will cover another step in the development of the national park system).
Soon after Yellowstone became the first national park by an act of Congress on March 1, 1872, it was said around Washington that a contribution to enactment of the legislation had been an understanding on the part of some individuals that there would be no application "for an appropriation for several years at least*. But everybody didn't know this, and in the winter of 1872-73 the park's first superintendent, Nathaniel Langford, was back in Washington seeking funds for the park and Representative William Clagett of Montana wrote Secretary of Interior Columbus Delano of Ohio:

"From what I have been able to learn I think that the sum of $18,000 would certainly make all the improvements in the national park that will be needed for some years to come. This amount will make it accessible and travel over the main routes therein comparatively easy. And the revenues of the park will probably do the rest. If you should recommend not more than the above amount I will do my best to secure the appropriation*.

On February 20, 1873 Acting Secretary Cowen asked Congress for this $15,000 "for the purpose of opening up said park to the public by the construction of wagon roads within its boundaries." The Congress appropriated nothing. In the following months other suggestions were made to the Secretary on how to secure funds for the park. One H. R. Horr said Congress should appropriate money to stop the slaughter of deer and elk; Governor Campbell of Wyoming thought there should be a survey of the boundaries; Superintendent Langford and Dr. F. V. Hayden of the U. S. Geological Survey urged protection of the area; and some people living along the boundaries called for "management" and petitioned the Congress to send a committee to inspect the park.

Early in 1874 a landscape architect by the name of Knut Forsberg outdid them all. He sent the Secretary of the Interior an "estimate upon the survey of the national park" calling for $132,000. In the words of Louis C. Cramton, one-time special attorney to Secretary Harold Ickes, "This bizarre conception of the scope and purpose of the park must have impressed the Interior Department since it was transmitted by the Secretary February 12, 1874, along with criticisms thereof by Hayden, to Hon. James A. Garfield, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations." Following this letter the request was set at $100,000 and presented to the Congress.

Again Congress gave nothing; and future sessions of that body maintained this attitude of misunderstanding until June 13, 1876, when Representative Alpheus Williams of Michigan put an amendment on the Sundry Civil Bill and got $10,000 "to protect, preserve, and improve the Yellowstone National Park*. It was the first appropriation "for national park purposes*. The Secretary of the Interior was Carl Schurz of Missouri. The President of the United States was Rutherford B. Hayes of Ohio.

It was the year of the International Exposition in Paris. Two years before the Sioux chief Sitting Bull had annihilated General George Custer and 276 men at the Little Big Horn. Four years later the Frenchman, de Lesseps, was to begin his ill-fated digging of the Panama Canal, and five years later 12 people were to be trampled to death in a panic at the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge.
In the winter of 1851 an obscure young doctor from New York by the name of L. H. Bunnell rode toward the High Sierras of California with a body of armed men later to become the famed Mariposa Battalion. These men, under the command of Major James Savage, a trading post operator, were going into the mountains to bring marauding Indians down to make terms with the Commissioners. The most active of these Indians were a tribe known as the Yosemite. Dr. Bunnell was along as an amateur expert on Indian languages and Indian psychology and as handyman surgeon.

From Indian gossip gathered from his five wives representing five tribes, Major Savage, according to Miss Harlean James in her magnificent book, "Romance of the National Parks", learned that the Yosemite were likely to be found between the walls of a great "deep valley". The Battalion approached the suspected location of this legendary natural stronghold through deep slush snow along the South Fork of the Merced River. When they had come into the Indian country Major Savage, probably through some of his in-laws, induced Ten-ee-ya, the old chief of the Yosemite, to come down to the Battalion camp to talk things over. The old Indian was defiant, but finally gave in to Savage's ultimatum and sent runners to bring his people in to make peace.

But his people didn't come, and Savage and Bunnell, accompanied by the old chief, took the Battalion further toward the "deep valley". On this trip the eyes of white men fell on that enchanted place for the first time. The others were looking for Indian tracks, not scenery, and weren't impressed, but in young Dr. Bunnell was some of the stuff that makes men like John Muir and Stephen Mather, and in later years he wrote of that first moment: "As I looked a peculiar exalted sensation seemed to fill my whole being and I found my eyes in tears with emotion." That night on the floor of the great place, around another camp fire which made national park history, the young doctor argued over the jeers of the men that the valley should have a name. He won his point and it was voted to give it the name of the tribe they were seeking - Yosemite, which means to the Indians "a big grizzly bear".

While the Battalion sought the hidden Indians, Dr. Bunnell went about seeing the great valley. Of these side trips Miss James reports that he said to Major Savage: "Such cliffs and waterfalls I never saw before, and I doubt if they exist in any other place". To which the Major, annoyed by his fruitless search, replied: "In a word, it is what we supposed it to be before seeing it, a hell of a place."

Months later the last of the Yosemite were rounded up and brought to make terms with the Commissioners, and the Battalion came down out of the enchanted valley, but the valley itself remained as it was, and its fame ran up and down the land. In 1865, 44 years after Savage and Bunnell and the others saw El Capitan and Half Dome and all the other great things for the first time, Congress granted the valley to the State of California as a reservation. It became the first state park a few years later and a national park in 1890.
In the early spring of 1868 a tall, auburn-haired young Scotch-American and a young Englishman topped the Pacheco Pass on their way to the great Yosemite and poured their eyes all over California’s San Joaquin Valley. The Scotch-American was John Muir, age 30, native of Dunbar, Scotland, graduate of the University of Wisconsin, destined to be one of the great describers of natural beauty and a strong force in the establishment of the American national parks. On few men has Nature exerted the tremendous pull felt by John Muir nearly all the days of his life. When he heard of a particular place he had no peace until he went there and dug his hands into the soil and lay on his back and watched the trees and the clouds and the stars.

When Congress granted the State of California the Yosemite Valley as a public reservation in 1865 word spread of the region’s startling beauty. Wherever he might have been such news would have found John Muir. And when the man and the story met there began one of our time’s warmest friendships between Man and Nature. Many are the lonely wanderers who have lived and died in the presence of only Nature and their God, but few are those who are so stirred that they record their days and nights on a mass of notes scribbled upon loose sheets and bits of paper of all sizes... by flickering campfires when his body was numb with fatigue; or in the dark lee of some boulder or tree while the storm raged about; or tramping over a vast glacier, his fingers stiff with the cold, his eyes blinded by the snow glare.” John Muir did this, and his journals on Yosemite and the High Sierras, as recorded by Mrs. Linnie Marsh Wolfe in "John of the Mountains," were important contributions to the establishment of several national parks.

During the 25 years between 1865 and October 1, 1890, when Congress voted to create Yosemite National Park, there was considerable misunderstanding over the management of the area. The old private concession problem boiled along and there was criticism of the State’s commissions set up to administer the reservation. Then, in 1876, there began to appear in California publications a series of articles on the Yosemite written by John Muir in his characteristic rhythmic prose which enchanted all who read them and soothed much of the administrative disturbance. How—many people probably began to say to themselves and each other—can there be personal differences over a place spoken of in words like these: "Thousands of joyous streams are born in the snow range, but not a poet among them all can sing like Merced"—"A deep blue atmospheric sea without a tingeing shadow or island or barrier of continental cloud---coastless, waveless, tireless"—"The dome Tissiack looks down on the valley like the most living being of all the rocks and mountains; one would fancy that there were brains in that lofty brow".

In 1889 Muir’s sensitive pen found its way into Century magazine and Yosemite was given a national hearing. One year later Yosemite National Park became a reality, and John Muir turned his tireless, restless energy and "tough old clothes, gray like the rocks" in other directions to establish the famed Sierra Club, explore Alaska and Arizona, write many more glorious journals, and finally, in 1914 to give the last great year of his life to the Lost Cause of Hetch Hetchy—a place, men say, once comparable to the magnificent Yosemite itself, but now a flooded place behind concrete and cold steel.
In 1833 Captain Joseph R. Walker led a party of men across the Sierra Nevada range en route from Salt Lake to Monterey. In the group was Zenas Leonard, the expedition’s clerk. Six years later there appeared in a Pennsylvania newspaper Zenas Leonard’s journal of the trip, and in that journal was evidence that the eyes of white men had at last come upon the Big Trees of the West—4,000-year-old living relics of the time of the dinosaur.

A few other men saw scattered groves of the trees in the years immediately following Leonard’s report, but in 1858 a Michigan-born stockman named Hale Tharp discovered the king of them all—the "Giant Forest" grove, now in Sequoia National Park. According to Judge Walter Fry and Colonel John R. White in their book Big Trees, Hale Tharp went into the region of the great grove because he wanted to find a high summer range for his stock and because he had heard his Indian friends speak of a place where the trees reached the sky. In 1861, with word of the fabulous trees bringing busy strangers to the region, Tharp moved into the Giant Forest to hold his range, and in Log Meadow in Sequoia National Park of today is a great fallen tree called "Tharp Log" in which the stockman made his summer home, and on which he cut his initials in 1858.

Hale Tharp held his range and lived nearby until his death in 1912, and the Giant Forest later was saved from the busy strangers, but the timber slaughter in other areas turned even the stomachs of the lumbermen, and in 1875 conservation sentiment began to grow in the shadow of the trees, in the little town of Visalia. The leaders of this movement for the salvation of natural beauty at a time when conservation was unknown were Colonel George W. Stewart, editor and publisher of the Visalia Delta; Frank Walker, an employee of the paper; Tipton Lindsey, former Receiver of the Visalia Land Office; and John Tuohy, a sheepman. Articles appeared in the Delta and clippings poured in on the Secretary of the Interior. The group "wrote letters to everybody in the United States, in and out of Congress, whom we knew to be in favor of forest conservation and to every magazine and newspaper we knew to favor the idea."

In 1885, according to a letter from Colonel Stewart to Colonel White, an amazing accident turned the tide in their favor. Three men tried to get control of the Giant Forest by the trick of sending a number of men to apply for a quarter-section each under the Timber and Stone Law. The required notices of the action were being printed in the offices of the Visalia Delta when the fraud was detected on the proof-sheets. The Register of the Land Office suspended the applications pending investigation and the suspension was never revoked. Realizing that just the suspension of lands from entry was not adequate to save the Big Trees, the group studied the Yellowstone National Park act and in 1890 General Vandever, representative of the District in Congress, introduced a bill which became law on September 25 and established Sequoia National Park.

"The creation of General Grant National Park," wrote Colonel Stewart to Colonel White, "was due to the timely suggestion of D. K. Zumwalt of Visalia at the psychological moment. Several people had been interested in the preservation of that area, but Mr. Zumwalt happened to be in Washington at the time the enlargement of Sequoia and the creation of Yosemite Park was up for passage, and his recommendation that the General Grant Grove be also made a park was acted upon favorably by General Vandever and by the Congress."
George Vancouver was an English boy who joined the Royal Navy when he was 13 to accompany the adventurous James Cook on his second and third voyages of discovery in 1772-1774 and 1776-1780. He was a good sailor, and on April 1, 1791 was sent out on his own to explore the northwest coast of America and look for an eastward passage from the Pacific to the Great Lakes. He didn't find the passage because there isn't any, but on May 8, 1792 he did turn the first pair of white man's eyes on three of the most magnificent natural spectacles he had ever seen: Three splendid peaks of the northwest, which, in good old Royal Navy fashion, he named after three lords of the Admiralty: Rainier, Baker and Hood.

Though the young naval officer didn't know it, when he named the first of these after his boss, Rear Admiral Rainier, he was changing a name which had stood with the Indians since first they saw the towering mass of snow and clouds. This name was Takhoma, which to the Indians means "Mountain"; and they dignified this majestic peak by giving it the name for all mountains. To them it was simply The Mountain. In later years the pioneers of the Northwest called the great peak a name just as simple and just as full of meaning. They called it "Old He". This naming of the magnificent mountain churned up feeling all the way to New England. Theodore Winthrop, a descendant of famed John Winthrop, Governor of Massachusetts, came to the Cascades in 1853 and wrote his beloved book *The Canoe and the Saddle* in which he defends the Indian name in this manner: "Of all the peaks from California to Fraser's River, this one before me was royalest. Mount Regnier (Rainier) Christians have dubbed it, in nomenclature perpetuating the name of somebody or nobody. More melodiously the siwashes called it Tacoma (Takhoma)".

But long before young Winthrop came west the mountain became known by all its names far and wide. Descriptions of its 14,408 feet of rocks and snow, rising abruptly out of the dark green of the coastal plateau, brought many men to look upon it and try to approach its distant majesty. The first white man to make important progress toward the cloud-crowned peak was Dr. William Fraser Tolmie, a medical officer in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company. Like John Muir, William Fraser Tolmie was a Scot, and in his heart beat the same sort of inquisitive love of Nature. In the summer of 1883 he got as close to The Mountain as the place now shown on maps as Tolmie Peak.

In the late spring of 1841 an organized party under Lieutenant Robert E. Johnson of the U. S. Navy made the first recorded trip through Naches Pass as an activity in the United States Exploring Expedition under Commander Charles Wilkes; and in 1857 the first attempt to climb The Peak itself was made by Lieutenant August Valentine Kautz of the United States Army. Though this German-born army officer came back satisfied, he said there was still land above him when he stopped, so the altitude attained is not definite. Thirteen years later—on August 17, 1870—the grand old peak was finally topped by two men traveling together: General Hazard Stevens, of Rhode Island, an army officer; and Philomón Beecher Van Trump, "humorous, generous, whole-souled, with endurance and experience withal."

General Steven's account of this climb, as recorded in Edmond Stephen Meany's *Mount Rainier, A Record of Explorations*, will be the subject of Know Your Service No. 7.
As indicated in Know Your Service No. 6 Mount Rainier's towering mass of rocks and snow was first topped by General Hazard Stevens and Philomone Beecher Van Trump, a citizen of the great Northwest with an impelling desire to climb the majestic peak. There was a third man in the party as it set out - a self-styled artist and "Alpine tourist" by the name of Edward T. Coleman - but Tourist Coleman couldn't take it and turned back, dumping by the trailside enough personal climbing gadgets to outfit a platoon. Writing later General Stevens compared him to the mountain guide whose standard equipment was a jack-knife and a plug of tobacco.

According to General Stevens' account as first printed in the Atlantic Monthly for November 1876 and reprinted in Edward Stephen Meany's Mount Rainier, A Record of Explorations: "Half a dozen carriages rattled gayly out of Olympia in the cool of the morning, filled with a laughing, singing, frolicking bevy of young ladies and gentlemen," escorting the climbing party to the first camp at the home of Elkane Longmire in the Lacomas prairie. The gay party passed the night here and next morning the climbers guided by James Longmire set out on foot. That first day they covered 16 rough miles and next morning moved on, this time along the bank of the Nisqually River, toward the mysterious country below the peak.

As Longmire was urgently needed at his farm, he took the party as far as he could, then sought out an Indian guide who called himself Sluiskin. Though constantly pleading with the party to stay out of the "Forbidden" region of the Mountain, Sluiskin, accompanied by his squaw and papoose, led on until they reached a place where no man had ever been. Here Sluiskin, seeing that his warning would not stop Stevens and Van Trump, said he and his household would wait three days for them to come down, then proceed to Olympia to report their deaths. So he would be believed he asked for a written statement saying they had climbed out of the world. Wrote General Stevens of that last night with the Indians: "After we had retired to rest he (Sluiskin) kept up a most dismal chant, or dirge . . The dim, white, spectral mass towering so near, the roar of the torrents below us, and the occasional thunder of avalanches . . added to the weird effect of Sluiskin's song."

Next morning Stevens and Van Trump moved two miles further then made camp in the last clump of trees below perpetual snow, and reconnoitered for the best line of ascent. The following day, August 17, 1870, they made the climb to The Peak itself. They had chosen a "steep, rocky ridge that seemed to lead up to the snowy crown." Wrote Stevens later: "We were now crawling along the face of the precipice almost in mid-air. On the right the rock towered far above us perpendicularly. On the left it fell sheer off, two thousand feet, into a vast abyss." And of the actual reaching of the summit: "Fastening forward in this way along the dizzy, narrow and precarious ridge, we reached at length the highest point. Sheltered behind a pinnacle of ice we rested a moment, took out our flags and fastened them upon the Alpine staffs, and then standing erect in the furious blast, waved them in triumph with three cheers."

It was 5 p.m. and the wind was roaring so the exhausted men took refuge for the night in the shelter of a crater, keeping from freezing by lying near steam jets from the dead volcano which had formed the peak. Next day they started down and enroute Van Trump fell from a cliff and injured his leg, so it was several days before they reached Olympia, "after our tramp of 240 miles with visages tanned and sun-scorched, and with forms as lean and gaunt as greyhounds."
In 1900 there were five national parks. Yellowstone had been established on March 1, 1872; Sequoia on September 25, 1890; Yosemite and General Grant on October 1, 1890; and Mount Rainier on March 2, 1899. Men from Europe, from the "civilized" cities of the East and the South, Army officers, Naval officers and plain citizens of the young and vigorous West, had displayed a fine attitude toward their establishment, and there began to be felt across the new Nation an impression that a "system or something" was developing. What was there in this "system" which the people began to feel? Today, what are the characteristics, the significance of the five areas which had been established at the beginning of the 20th Century? One thing they had in common: Each was a western area whose impressive natural beauty stirred up a popular demand sufficient to set it aside as "public property" for the enjoyment of all the people.

Yellowstone, lying in the extreme northwest corner of Wyoming, and taking in a little of Idaho and Montana, comprises 3,471 square miles of volcanic plateau of an elevation of 8,000 feet and surrounding mountains reaching from 2,000 to 4,000 feet above the tableland. The region is volcanic in origin and its features are geysers, hot springs, Yellowstone Lake, spectacular waterfalls and the famed Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River.

Sequoia embraces 604 square miles of magnificent mountain scenery and groves of Big Trees (sequoia gigantea) on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada in eastern central California. The real significance of the area is the preservation of the 4,000-year-old trees, but there are accessible points of interest like Morro Rock, Tharp Log, Crystal Cave and Hospital Rock which make Sequoia one of the major areas in the system of today.

Yosemite, 200 miles inland from San Francisco, also lies in the great California mountains. Within its 1,189 square miles are the world's outstanding waterfall spectacle, the Mariposa Grove of Big Trees, the sheer Yosemite Valley, and such mountain formations as Half Dome, Sentinel Dome, Glacier Point and El Capitan. The Upper Yosemite Fall, "highest free leaping waterfall in the world" plunges 1,430 feet in one drop, and the lower Yosemite Fall adds another 320 feet. This combined fall is equal to 11 Niagaras. The Yosemite Valley, cut during millions of years by the racing Merced River, is seven miles long, one mile wide, and 4,000 feet above the sea.

General Grant, now a part of Kings Canyon National Park, is, like Sequoia, noted for its Big Trees, particularly the General Grant Tree, dedicated several years ago as "The Nation's Christmas Tree". The area is 14 miles southeast of Sequoia on the same western slope of the Sierras. Between the two areas runs famed Generals Highway, which reaches 7,600 feet elevation at Big Baldy Saddle. The area of General Grant was 3.93 square miles.

Mount Rainier, 377-78 square miles in the Cascade mountains of west central Washington, features the mountain for which it is named - a volcanic cone rising 11,000 feet above a plateau to an elevation of 14,406 feet above the sea. On its slopes of perpetual snow is the largest system of glaciers in the United States proper (40 square miles). The startling beauty of the mountain results from its sheer, white rise out of the dark green timber of the surrounding country. In its high meadows grow fairylands of wild flowers and on its slopes, where fall 600 inches of snow in a season, winter sports are superb.
During the 44 years between the establishment of Yellowstone National Park in 1872 and the creation of the National Park Service in 1916 - particularly during the 28 years between 1872 and 1900 - the new national parks had some rather difficult administrative experiences. There was no centralized administration until the establishment of the Service. "It cannot be said that such a thing as a park system existed, if the word 'system' be used in the sense of a disciplined, coordinated unit. Every park was in a very real sense a law unto itself, and the parks were more of a conglomeration... than a system". Yellowstone received no appropriation until six years after establishment, Yosemite eight years after, Sequoia and General Grant ten years after, and Mount Rainier seven years after.

As was to be expected, the major problem confronting officials in the five new parks established before 1900 was the prevention of vandalism and organized commercialization of the areas. It was a new experience to a lusty, growing Nation to have such fabulous natural wealth retired and set apart for the enjoyment of the common people, and a job of real proportions to get across the idea of preservation for park use. Some unpleasant situations developed and U.S. Army units were stationed in the areas to put teeth in such regulations as there were.

In her Romance of the National Parks Miss Harlean James paints the early Yellowstone picture: "As soon as the park was created, applications began to pour in on the Secretary of the Interior for leases and concessions of all sorts. Apparently, many people thought they could still 'take up' land within the park... all sorts of merchants, ranchers,.. and innkeepers... applied for licenses... Hunters also gave much trouble".

Dr. Carl P. Russell in his One Hundred Years in Yosemite reenacts the early scene there: "Since pioneer days, sheep and cattlemen had enjoyed unrestricted use of the excellent range which was now forbidden them. Naturally they were reluctant to abandon it. Their trespass was the most formidable threat with which the troopers were confronted... When the first offenders were taken into custody, it was found that no law provided for their punishment... Nothing daunted, the superintendent put the captured herders under arrest and escorted them across the most mountainous regions to a far boundary of the park. There they were liberated. The herder's sheep were driven out of the reserve at another distant point. By the time each herder had rounded up his own sheep he had had a discouraging experience.

For the first ten years after their establishment in 1890 Sequoia and General Grant had no military protection. Timber interests and poachers took what they could from these rugged, roadless areas. Some of the Big Tree groves; the principal feature for which the parks were set aside, were owned by private interests. When appropriations were made in 1900 troops went into Sequoia and General Grant and patrolled the areas until 1913.

Mount Rainier, being an almost inaccessible part of Rainier National Forest, did not present so serious a protection problem. The Forest supervisor and the soldiers, stationed there in 1907, handled the situation.
In a country schoolhouse in Kansas in 1870 a boy unwrapped the newspaper which contained his lunch and casually scanned the rumpled columns as he munched his sandwich and cookies. After a moment his tousled head moved into the paper and his jaw slowed to a stop. He saw something which intrigued him. The boy was William Gladstone Steel. What he saw in the newspaper was a story about "a lake in the top of a mountain." The lake was far away across the great plains, across the Great Divide, deep in the Cascade mountains of Oregon, and the boy was just a boy in school, but he said to himself that some day he would see that lake—and he did.

Two years later, probably feeling something of the lure of the West which stirred in the boy, the Steel family moved to Oregon, and young William asked everyone he met about the lake in the mountain. For seven years he found no one who had even heard of it, and not until two years after that did he find a man who had seen it. But there were folks in Oregon who knew about the lake and the fact that it had been "discovered" three times: first on June 12, 1853 when a miner named John Wesley Hillman accidentally rode up to its brim on a mule and named it Deep Blue Lake; next in 1862 when a party of six miners, led by Chauncey Nye, came upon it and cut the name to Blue Lake; and for the last "official" time in 1865 by a group of soldiers from Fort Klamath, who called the place Lake Majesty. The name which stuck—Crater Lake—was the idea of a party of visitors from Jacksonville, Oregon, who climbed up there in 1869.

In 1885—13 years after his family came to Oregon—William Steel saw for the first time his lake inside the mountain. Having heard of Yellowstone National Park, established the year he came to Oregon, William Steel, during the first few breathless moments he stood at the rim of the deep volcanic lake, came to the sudden, certain conclusion that this, too, must be a national park. He went back to his home in Portland, where he was in the Postal Service, and got 250 important people to sign a petition to President Grover Cleveland, asking that ten townships, including Crater Lake, be taken out of the public domain for safe keeping from claim stakers. President Cleveland granted the request, and William Steel concentrated on establishment of the park.

For 17 years this determined man from the big and vigorous Northwest commuted between Oregon and the Nation's capital, spent his own money and gave most of his time to the fulfillment of his dream. On May 22, 1902—32 years after he read about it in the newspaper around his lunch—the Congress made William Steel's lake in the top of a mountain Crater Lake National Park. That great conservationist, President Theodore Roosevelt, signed the bill and the growing "system" of national parks was increased to six, all in the West. William Steel was Crater Lake park's second superintendent, a position he resigned to become U. S. Commissioner for the park. Upon his death in 1934 his daughter was named to succeed him.

A description of Crater Lake's unusual natural characteristics will be the subject of Know Your Service No. 11.
Crater Lake, the reason for Crater Lake National Park, is the deepest lake in the Western Hemisphere. It has neither inlet nor outlet, yet its water is as fresh as a mountain spring. This water comes from rain and snow. The annual snowfall around the lake covers trees and buildings and communication lines and piles up a wonderland for skiers. In 1886 the depth of the lake was measured as 1,996 feet. There is no evidence of a fluctuation of more than 13 feet. The average seasonal fluctuation is two feet. It is high in the summer, full of melted snow; and lower in the winter when the Cascade world is frozen. There is no record of the lake itself ever having frozen over, though its elevation above the sea is 6,151 feet.

The lake lies in the grave of an extinct volcano. The original cone, which was destroyed to form the lake bed, probably rose between 5,000 and 6,000 feet above the present rim. This destruction of the towering cone was, geologically speaking, a recent event—probably no more than 5,000 years ago. The overall area inside the jagged rim is 27 square miles, and the area of the lake's surface is 21 square miles. This creates the unique situation of a body of water 21 square miles in area and 1,996 feet deep kept full by precipitation on a 27-square-mile watershed.

There were no fish in Crater Lake until it was stocked with rainbow trout in 1889. Since then the National Park Service has added 2,000,000 rainbow trout and silver-side salmon. Despite the fact there is neither inlet nor outlet these fish spawn and multiply. In the case of the silver-side salmon this is extraordinary; for it is an accepted fact that the happy spawning grounds of this species are up flowing streams which run into the sea. After four years of limnological research at Crater Lake Dr. Arthur D. Hasler and D. S. Farner, instructors in the Department of zoology at the University of Wisconsin, found "complete evidence that the salmon spawn in Crater Lake." In a letter to Superintendent E. P. Leavitt of Crater Lake park on January 31, 1941 Dr. Hasler stated his case: "There have been no salmon planted in Crater Lake for the last three years, yet there is an abundance of one-year and two-year old fish as proved by the scales taken from them. To verify this finding I have sent the scales to other scientists who have corroborated my readings."

The first two of Crater Lake's three "discoverers" named it Deep Blue Lake and Blue Lake, and those who see it now get the same reaction. Actually, the lake is colorless, refracting the sunlight and reflecting the sky. When the sky is blue, the lake is blue. If the sky is full of clouds, the lake is full of clouds. If the sunset blazes, the lake blazes. When the lake is still and glassy the lava rim, lifting from 500 to 2,000 feet above the water, turns upside down; and the two islands—Wizard, the volcanic cone; and Phantom Ship, the twisted lava pile—look down at themselves in amazement.
Three hundred million years before President Calvin Coolidge made the Black Hills of South Dakota familiar to the newsreel customers the region was neighborhood talk in the grunts and squeals of such prehistoric characters as three-toed horses, St. Georgian alligators and armor-plated rhinoceroses. All these citizens were plowed under in the turn of geological events, but new occupants took up residence when the restless Sioux Indians climbed over the Alleghenies and headed west looking for a happier hunting ground. When the Sioux reached what is now southwest South Dakota they saw and liked the Black Hills and claimed them in their range.

One thing pretty special to the Sioux aside from the plentiful game and other Indians to fight, was a little hole in the ground through which air whistled in and out. To the Indians of the Great Plains this was the Home of the Four Winds, and thus a sacred spot, closely associated in their beliefs with the Breath of Life and the Vital Principle. To this general legend the resourceful Sioux added one of their own: According to Chief Joe White Bull (Pte San Hunka), nephew of the late great Sitting Bull, the Sioux like to think that Wakan Tanka, the Great Mystery, sent the buffaloes out through the wind crack to populate the plains with fresh meat. It was these convictions which fired the Sioux with such enthusiasm when they defended their Hills against the white man.

From 1874, when George Custer's expedition found gold on French Creek, until 1886 the Black Hills boomed along, developing such citizens as Wild Bill Hickok, Deadwood Dick, Calamity Jane and Preacher Smith. One of the more peaceful pioneers to come in the region was Tom Bingham. One day in 1881 while hunting deer, Bingham heard a whistling sound in the underbrush, got off his horse, and found the small hole in the ground leading to the Indians' Cave of the Winds. Bingham probably was the first white man to come on what is now Wind Cave National Park.

Local pride in the Black Hills and the Cave of the Winds spread to national recognition and in the last decade of the 19th century, considerable interest was generated in establishment of a national park. The Far West had six national parks and the idea was moving eastward. On January 9, 1903, Congress, now more accustomed to the national park idea, passed legislation establishing Wind Cave National Park and putting it under the control of the Secretary of the Interior. On March 4, 1931 Congress acted again, this time to extend the park's boundaries to the present area of 12,639 acres.

Wind Cave itself probably is about 10 square miles in area, though not fully explored. The hole which the Indians worshipped and Tom Bingham "discovered" is 10 inches in diameter and the only known natural opening. The entrance now used by visitors was made by cutting 6 feet underground to a wind tunnel. The geological formations in the cave are of the unusual boxwork and frostwork types. The familiar stalactites and stalagmites are practically nonexistent. The rock in which the cave is formed is perhaps 300 million years old; the cave very much younger. Not all the park's attractions are underground. Over its rolling acres run some of the finest buffalo, antelope, elk, and deer herds in North America.
Miss Cora E. Whitford and Mr. Edgar Lee Hewett, a school teacher, were married on September 16, 1891. Three years later the young school teacher became superintendent of the training department at the State Normal College at Greeley, Colorado. Mrs. Hewett became ill not long after, and her young husband, determined to arrest the sickness, put together a team and a buckboard and took his wife to the Valley Ranch, 26 miles east of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Every day when the sun was warm and healing Professor Hewett hitched up and took his wife for a ride. They often went down Pecos Canyon to the Pecos Ruins, remnants of the great pueblo community where part of the fabulous Coronado's expedition spent the winter of 1540. Fascinated by the ruins, Hewett would leave his wife to rest in the sunshine while he inspected the remains of the ancient village.

They came back to Valley Ranch every summer until 1898 when the young teacher became President of New Mexico Normal University at Las Vegas, 46 miles east of the ranch and the ruins he loved so well. He bought Valley Ranch and became a resident of the Southwest. Now his wife could be in the sun always and he could study the ruins forever. On one trip he went to Chaco Canyon, in the Navajo country of central New Mexico, and saw a sight that set him off in a rage: a crew of men were excavating the exquisite ruins of Pueblo Bonita with teams and scrapers just to see what they could find. After speaking a piece to these fellows, he returned to Santa Fe, the Territorial capital, and put on enough pressure to have a representative of the General Land Office go to Chaco Canyon and stop the desecration. The man had to stop it with words alone; there was no law to back him; no law to protect any ruin from anybody. Professor Hewett thought about this a great deal, and soon his thoughts were heard where they could count—in the Congress.

When Ethan Allen Hitchcock of Missouri was Secretary of the Interior in the cabinet of President Theodore Roosevelt, he got a letter from W. A. Richards, Commissioner of the General Land Office, on October 5, 1904, recommending that the Department do something official about the preservation of "historic ruins and other objects of historic and scientific interest upon the public domain." Mr. Richards told Mr. Hitchcock that the matter "had been before (his) office for consideration for a number of years" but there had been "considerable difficulty" in handling it "owing to the lack of information of a sufficiently comprehensive nature." With the letter went just exactly the kind of information Mr. Richards had been looking for. It had been provided by Professor Hewett. What the professor said in it was supplemented and backed up by such substantial authorities as Dr. J. Walter Fewkes of the Bureau of American Ethnology, Dr. Walter Hough of the National Museum, A. F. Bandelier of the American Museum of Natural History and S. J. Holsinger, a special agent for the General Land Office.

"Unquestionably", said the report, "some of these regions are sufficiently rich in historic and scientific interest and scenic beauty to warrant their organization into permanent national parks. General legislation providing for the creation and administration of such parks and providing for the excavation of ruins in the interests of science only is urgently needed." The report tied the loose ends together and fortified those in the Congress who had been trying to do something about saving the historic ruins, and other objects of historic and scientific interest throughout the land. Four bills on the subject were introduced in the 58th Congress, but it was the 59th that delivered the goods. The bill which became known as the Antiquities Act of June 8, 1906, was S. 4698. *Know Your Service No. 14* will interpret the Act and describe its early application.
The Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities, known generally as The Antiquities Act of June 8, 1906, is in four sections. The first of these prohibits the violation of historic or prehistoric objects on lands controlled by the Government of the United States; the second gives the President authority to establish national monuments by proclamation; the third arranges for the granting of special permits for "reputable museums, universities, colleges, or other recognized scientific or educational institutions" to explore and study the ruins; and the fourth section says that the Government departments involved shall "make and publish from time to time uniform rules and regulations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act."

The first national monument to be established after passage of the Antiquities Act was Devil's Tower, the 800-foot monolith of volcanic rock in northeastern Wyoming, designated on September 24, 1906. This 1,153 acre area is known as the oldest national monument, though famed old Casa Grande, the prehistoric mansion at Coolidge, Arizona, was set aside by Congress as a valuable public spot on March 2, 1899 and held national park status from 1892 until 1918, when it became a national monument. Six months after the Act was approved, and three months after Devil's Tower attained monument status, three others came in on December 8, 1906; El Morro in New Mexico; and Montezuma Castle and Petrified Forest in Arizona. In 1907 followed three prehistoric dwellings of unusual interest, Chaco Canyon and Gila Cliff Dwellings in New Mexico, and Tonto in Arizona. Six were established in 1908 as the monument movement spread into California with Muir Woods and Pinnacles, and into Colorado with the designation of Wheeler National Monument, a place of fantastic volcanic relics.

The first "Uniform Rules and Regulations to carry out the provisions" of the Antiquities Act were signed on December 28, 1906, by Secretary of the Interior Ethan Allen Hitchcock, Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson and Secretary of War William Howard Taft. At that time properties under the supervision of all three departments were involved in the Act's provisions, but in 1933 Franklin Roosevelt, by Executive Order, transferred all these Agricultural and War areas to the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior and concentrated them in the National Park Service. In 1933 there were 65 national monuments in 24 states and Alaska. The areas represented history, archaeology, geology, unusual fauna, and flora and superlative natural beauty. They ranged in size from the one-tenth of an acre in Father Millet Cross National Monument in New York to the 2,697,590 acres in Alaska's Katmai Monument which contains the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. In appearance they reached from the Statue of Liberty's torch to Death Valley's land below the sea.

The Antiquities Act grew with the National Park Service. Passed for the express purpose of protecting the exquisite ruins of the Southwest, it developed to preserve Spanish missions, old forts, groves of big trees, historic landmarks and structures, and an expanse of gypsum that looks like snow. Between 1933 and June 1941, 17 national monuments were established. Of the 82 national monuments existing in June 1941, 72 were established under the Antiquities Act and 10 were established by special acts of Congress. The monuments range from Appomattox Court House, where the Confederacy quietly surrendered in Virginia, to the Badlands of South Dakota, and to mysterious old Fort Jefferson where Samuel Mudd, the man who set the leg of John Wilkes Booth, later cleaned "yellow jack" out of the Dry Tortugas.
Fifteen thousand years before Columbus did it the hard way, a lot of folks from Asia were walking back and forth across a strip of land that connected what are now Siberia and Alaska. They weren't low-browed mumblers and grunters; they were highly developed people who went southward from Alaska and roamed the American West 150 centuries before Europeans penetrated the Black Forest. For 13,000 years these people lived from hunting and left no marks of settlement. Then, according to Don Watson in his exquisite book, *Cliff Palace: The Story of an Ancient City*, after watching their breakfast run over the hill for 130 centuries, "some ancient Burbank produced corn" and they settled down to farming.

One of the places these early Indian tribes liked especially well was the American Southwest. Here they built their cliff dwellings and pueblos; here they built the greatest of them all—the Cliff Palace in what is now Mesa Verde National Park in the southwestern corner of Colorado. Construction of this prehistoric "Big Town" probably was begun as late as 1050 A.D. by a band of Indians, later called Pueblos by the Spaniards from the Spanish "pueblo", meaning "village". From 1050 until 1276 A.D. the Cliff Palace was a center of Indian culture. Then came the Great Drought, and during the next 24 insufferable years the population of the agricultural city died or wandered away, never to return.

The great city clung to its high cave in the side of the mesa through the 200 years between the drought and the coming of Columbus and Coronado; clung 200 more until 1776 when Padre Escalante spent a night not far away. By 1859, when Captain J. N. Macomb and Professor J. S. Newberry explored the region, the Mesa Verde (green table) had been found and named by the Spaniards, but still no one had come upon the silent city. In 1874 the ubiquitous W. H. Jackson almost found it, and did find and photograph Two-Story House, but he went on like the others and Cliff Palace continued its wait for the white man.

This wait of six centuries ended on a snowy December day in 1888. The discoverers were three boys—Richard and Alfred Wetherill, brothers; and their brother-in-law, Charlie Mason. They were riding a strange range in search of strays when suddenly the Palace loomed through the veil of snow. At that moment, says Don Watson, "in all that vast wilderness there was no sound but the soft hiss of the snowflakes and the throbbing of the boys' hearts." In the months and years immediately following the discovery the great dead city was attacked alike by sincere students and ravenous "pot hunters." Much of its history was learned and much carted away. Through the excitement broke a feeling that the Palace and some of the surrounding country should be preserved in a national park. The Colorado Cliff Dwellers Society was organized for just this purpose by the late Mrs. Gilbert McClurg of Colorado Springs. Other influential groups and individuals moved into action and on June 29, 1906 Congress brought Mesa Verde National Park to reality.
When the Sulphur Springs Reservation in south-central Oklahoma became Platt National Park on June 29, 1906, through Congressional action, the national park movement reached further toward the East than at any time in the 34 years since the establishment of Yellowstone. The eastern terminus heretofore had been Wind Cave in South Dakota, established on January 9, 1903. A good idea was headed in the right direction.

Sulphur Springs Reservation was established on July 1, 1902 to preserve a number of cold water springs with exceptional healing properties. There are 32 large springs and several smaller ones, running through a wooded, rolling countryside. Eighteen of the larger springs are classed as sulphur; six as fresh water, four as iron, and three as bromide. Because it comes out of the ground in a national park, all of this water is free, but folks who intend to drink prodigious amounts had better take it up with the doctor.

The water in Platt National Park has these virtues because Nature thought that was a good place to have them bubble up, but the inevitable Indian legend has it another way. In his The Book of the National Parks, Robert Sterling Yard tells it the way Colonel R. A. Sneed, for years the Superintendent of Platt, passed it on to him. It has to do with a small determined band of Delaware Indians, who wandered all the way from Alabama and finally found a resting place with the Chickasaws in southern Oklahoma.

Big Chief of the Delawares was the late great Wahpanucka, among whose most treasured possessions was a lovely daughter named Deerface. Many young braves sought her hand, but two handsome Delawares stood out among them. The old chief decided that these two should leap down 200 feet from what is now Bromide Cliff into the stream below, and that the survivor would wed Deerface and succeed him as Chief of the Delawares. They jumped, but neither survived; then Deerface jumped; and an image of her face, they say, can be seen to this day on one of the rocks of the cliff. Old Wahpanucka just stood there and cried and his tears filtered down through the cliff rocks and so purified the water of Bromide and Medicine Springs below that forever after they will be "possessed with remedial qualities which make it a cure for all human ailments."

Platt National Park is so named in honor of the late Orville Hitchcock Platt, U. S. Senator from Connecticut for 26 years, who was active in the passage of the establishing legislation. Congress acted favorably on the matter largely as a result of the efforts of the people of southern Oklahoma who thought their Sulphur Springs Reservation should have national recognition. Senator Platt was a lover of the outdoors and a keen student of Indian affairs. He had a superb physique which enabled him to establish an enviable record in school athletics. The Platt Amendment, which governed Cuban-American relations between 1901 and 1934, also bears his name. He was frequently considered as a vice presidential possibility, but his personal political ambitions went no further than the "Gentleman from Connecticut."

Bibliography:
In Harrisburg, Pa., there is a man who knows more about roses than anybody in the world. He also knows a lot about photography and printing, and prints a great many beautiful books in his Mount Pleasant Press. He plays the organ in the Methodist Church, and he organized the Harrisburg May Festival. He once led the fight against commercialization of Niagara Falls with such determined vigor that President Taft got letters on the subject from his own mother and wife. He was called into the West by John Muir to help that great man labor in vain to save Hetch-Hetchy. He loves beauty, and thinks mankind should protect natural beauty and add to it by making pretty things himself. He was 83 years old on September 24, 1941, and just as alert and active then as he was when he won a personal fight for protection and beautification of the Harrisburg river front in the 19th century.

His name is J. (for James) Horace McFarland. To people who really know about national parks this name is linked with Muir and Mather. Horace McFarland stepped up from local protector of river banks to a savior of national beauty in Springfield, Ohio, in 1901, when he was elected president of the new American League for Civic Improvement Associations. Three years later, at the St. Louis Exposition, this League joined with the American Park and Outdoor Art Association to form the American League for Civic Improvement, and Dr. McFarland was named president of that. This League became the American Civic Association (now the American Planning and Civic Association) of which Dr. McFarland was president for 21 years.

As head of the increasingly-potent American Civic Association Dr. McFarland was in a strategic position to conduct his "Crusade against ugliness". With his lantern slides and his convincing arguments, he lectured in over 500 cities. In 1908 when, much to the concern of McFarland and some others, the national parks were increasing in number without any semblance of central administration or protective policy, President Theodore Roosevelt called a Conservation Congress of Governors in Washington. Dr. McFarland, though no governor, was invited. When the proceedings of the Congress were printed there were 180,000 words about conservation of such resources as oil and timber and minerals, and 2,000 words about the conservation of natural beauty. These words had been spoken by Dr. McFarland and one other man who thought beauty was an asset of real importance—Governor Charles Evans Hughes of New York.

By 1911 the American Civic Association had become important enough to have President Taft and Secretary of the Interior Walter L. Fisher of Illinois as speakers at its annual convention. Both came because they were interested in the Association's efforts to have the national parks organized into a system administered by one Federal agency established for that purpose. The Association which attained this objective in 1916 with the establishment of the National Park Service, has continued to foster park ideals and to champion the National Park Service.

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When Glacier National Park was established on May 11, 1910, it had come a long way since 1670 when Charles II of England gave it and all other lands watered by streams flowing into Hudson Bay to Prince Rupert and 17 of his noble bedfellows for whatever they could bleed out of it. This gesture on the part of this profligate king created the fabulous Hudson's Bay Company which monopolized the natural resources of that part of the world for nearly 200 years. But the "Shining Mountains" in what is now Glacier park marked one place in that part of the world which even the traders and trappers did not enter -- and live. All men who came too close to the snowy peaks encountered the Blackfoot Indians and wisely went on, if able, leaving the region to the jealous care of those tenacious people.

Among the better knowns who approached the area were Meriwether Lewis and William (not George Rogers) Clark, two Virginia boys who really got around. In 1805 they were within 40 miles of the present park while on their transcontinental tour of 1803-06. But, like the trappers and traders, they moved on; and, according to the most acceptable records, not until 1846 did a white man penetrate the area. He was Hugh Monroe, known to the Blackfoot as Rising Wolf; son of an English army officer, husband of a squaw; hunter, trapper, hero. About 20 years later, American traders, motivated by the loot lust, finally poured in among the Blackfoot tribes with their booze and trinkets. The beautiful country festered with vandalism and debauchery. The monopoly of the Hudson's Bay Company began to fall apart.

As in the history of all the national parks, word of the region's great natural beauty filtered through the muck and reached the ears of men who wanted to save and not destroy. Prof. Raphael Pumpelly, George Bird Grinnell, Dr. Lyman Beecher Sperry and others came to explore. There also were the railroaders; and in 1891 the steel prongs of the Great Northern topped Marias Pass. Grinnell was drawn back to the "Shining Mountains" again and again. In 1901, Century magazine, that thoughtful journal which gave voice to the sensitive pen of John Muir when it cried out to save Yosemite, carried a piece by Dr. Grinnell which called national attention to the region's glory and the need for its protection. The ball began to roll; and nine years later President Taft signed the bill which added Glacier National Park to the growing list.

Today Glacier's 1,537 square miles along the Canadian border in northwest Montana contain what many consider the most spectacular mountain country in the United States. Snuggling around the peaks are more than 60 glaciers and 200 lakes. Its wildlife includes bear, moose, wapiti, and the amazing bighorn sheep. Its high meadows flame with wild flowers. Across the border in Canada lies the Waterton Lakes area, which joined with Glacier, forms the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. This is the Good Neighbor attitude in the flesh. It was established in 1932 by Presidential proclamation, as authorized by the U. S. Congress and the Parliament of Canada.
