NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

Seashore at Point Reyes, California

40th Anniversary
National Parks Association
Founded 1919

April 1959

Fifty Cents

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

On Park Shrines and Highways

There is no shortcut to the quality of a real wilderness experience.
And no diluted "wilderness quality" can give a real wilderness experience.

ANOTHER chapter in the national park road standard controversy is now being written. Chambers of Commerce and Bureau of Public Roads personnel have taken the lead in this one.

National Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth has announced that he is withdrawing "all previous material or statements I have made on (the subject of park) road standards, as it is a matter that obviously needs further study." (This includes the November, 1958 "Handbook of Standards for National Park and Parkway Roads" quoted at length in our February 1959 issue.) This notice was given to Executive Secretary Anthony Wayne Smith in a letter dated February 11, 1959.

Explaining this action, Mr. Wirth noted that, "One outcome of the controversy over the Tioga Road has been to bring our approved road standards under fire from all sides. We are now getting about as much criticism because we are not building our roads good enough as we are for overbuilding." Mr. Wirth then points to a speech by Mr. R. M. Phillips, Regional Design Engineer of the Bureau of Public Roads to back up this contention. Mr. Phillips presented his speech at a recent "Sierra Access Conference" held in California by the San Joaquin Valley Council of the California State Chamber of Commerce.

Almost simultaneously, Congressman B. F. Sisk of Fresno, California, introduced into the Congressional Record another speech given at the same conference by Mr. Chester H. Warlow, a prominent citizen of the Congressman's home community, who was honored last year by the Chamber of Commerce as "Mister Highways." For the past fifteen years, Mr. Warlow has served as a member of the California State Highway Commission.

While contending that, "I love our Sierra. I respect them. I revere them," Mr. Warlow goes on to say that he feels he has, "a rather unselfish attitude toward them because I feel that others are entitled to the inspirations which their grandeurs induce." In order to accomplish his task, Mr. Warlow believes that:

These roads should be built upon not less than the minimum standards set by the State of California for 40-mile-per-hour travel. That means 11-foot lanes, 6-foot shoulders, and the following minimums: 550-foot radius on curves, non-passing sight distance of 275 feet and passing sight distance of 1100 feet. Grades should be kept below 7 percent. When the El Portal, Big Oak Flat, (Yosemite) and Ash Mountain (Sequoia) entrance roads and the roads leading into Lassen Park are to be reconstructed, these standards should be considerably stepped up because of the higher volumes of traffic involved. Certainly on these roads the standards should not be less than those provided for 50-mile-an-hour movements."

We would respectfully suggest that Mr. Warlow read Dr. Bradley's discussion of *Roads in Our National Parks* in our February, 1959 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. While Dr. Bradley does not claim to be a highway engineer, we are sure Mr. Warlow realizes that those who influence the standards of our national park roads (and all other park developments for that matter) need something more in their background and education than mere engineering qualifications. It would be far better to give the final authority in park road matters to a man with national park naturalist training rather than to an engineer having little sensitivity about the protection of park scenic qualities. If a naturalist errs on the conservative side in building a road slightly too narrow or with a few too many curves (if indeed this is possible in a national park), then a remedy can easily be applied in future years. If, on the other hand, the engineers err on the side of overly straight, wide and fast roads which mar the scenic qualities of our parks, these qualities are irretrievably lost. As a leading wilderness conservationist says, you can cook the egg another minute if it is not hard enough, but you cannot unfry it.

While Mr. Wirth, as the head of a public bureau, must listen to all demands made by the public, we question seriously whether the representatives of the Bureau of Public Roads and the State Highway Commissions and the Chambers of Commerce do in fact represent the thinking and the best interests of a majority of the American public. Members of the National Parks Association who want something other than 50- or 60-mile-an-hour roads in all our parks had better speak out now, loud and clear, so that the Park Service—caught in the middle of crossfire from both sides—will know there is plenty of backing for a most conservative interpretation of their road standards outlined in our February issue.

* * * * * *

CONSTRUCTION of the first part of the proposed million-dollar Shrine of the Ages on the south rim of the Grand Canyon may well be imminent, according to information received by the National Parks Association. One thing is sure. Only letters from all parts of America directed to Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton can ultimately stop the proposed project.

While the architectural design of the project has met with some criticism, the main objection of opponents is to its location two hundred feet from the rim of the Canyon. Opponents—including the National Parks Association—would be most happy to see a suitable church constructed in Grand

(Continued on page 11)

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ON THE COVER

Drakes Bay forms the background for this view at Point Reyes, California, while lupine adds color to the foreground. When standing on the edge of the cliffs just a few feet from where this photo was taken, you can see and hear sea lions on the isolated beach below. A recently completed Park Service survey of the 1743-mile Pacific Coast shows only seventeen percent of the shoreline in public ownership. The survey recommends saving 74 areas for park and recreation management by local, state and federal agencies. Photograph by Bert Dunshee, courtesy National Park Service.

THE NATIONAL PARKS AND YOU

Few people realize that ever since the first national parks and monuments were established, various commercial interests have been trying to invade them for personal gain. The national parks and monuments were not intended for such purposes. They are established as inviolate nature sanctuaries to preserve permanently outstanding examples of the once primeval continent, with no marring of landscapes except for reasonable access by road and trail, and facilities for visitor comfort. The Association, since its founding in 1919, has worked to create an ever-growing informed public on this matter in defense of the parks.

The Board of Trustees urges you to help protect this magnificent national heritage by joining forces with the Association now. As a member you will be kept informed, through NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, on current threats and other park matters, so that you may take action when necessary.

Dues are $5 annual, $8 supporting, $15 sustaining, $25 contributing, $100 life with no further dues, and $1000 patron with no further dues. Bequests, too, are needed to help carry on this park protection work. Dues, contributions and bequests are deductible from your federal taxable income. Send your check today, or write for further information, to the National Parks Association, 1300 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

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Our World-Famous Hole-in-the-Ground

Raymond L. Nelson

FOR nearly 150 years people have been walking the winding corridors of Mammoth Cave in Kentucky. It claims a good quarter-million visitors each year, many of whom are repeats, and the number continues to grow.

There will always be an alluring mystery about this strange world under our feet. Geologists, archaeologists, biologists and historians answer more and more of the questions as time goes on, but with each answer more questions appear.

Kentuckians have a legend about the discovery of the cave. They tell the story of one of their pioneers named Houchin, and how he tracked a wounded bear to the huge natural entrance in 1799. For a few years the local folks came to see, and to do a little exploring. Throughout the 1800's more and more of the cave was discovered and explored, and this has continued into the twentieth century.

Yet it wasn't until 1923 that the famous Frozen Niagara section was discovered, and in 1938 four guides crawled through a narrow passage from Roaring River to find New Discovery. Today there are over 150 miles of explored, connected passageways, and there is always the possibility that more will be found.

The story of Mammoth Cave is an old, old one, and water is with it all the way. The first chapter was written more than 200 million years ago, when a large, shallow, inland sea covered large portions of this continent. The limestone in which the cave is found was being produced on the bottom of this Mississippian Sea, along with other sedimentary rocks such as sandstone and shale.

After millions of years had passed during which the sea receded and returned many times, tremendous forces deep inside the earth pushed upward. The large area that is now Kentucky and the surrounding states rose. The Mississippian Sea flowed away and the sedimentary rock was exposed. During the succeeding centuries much of this ancient rock was eroded away by wind and water, until a thick, tough layer of sandstone was exposed.

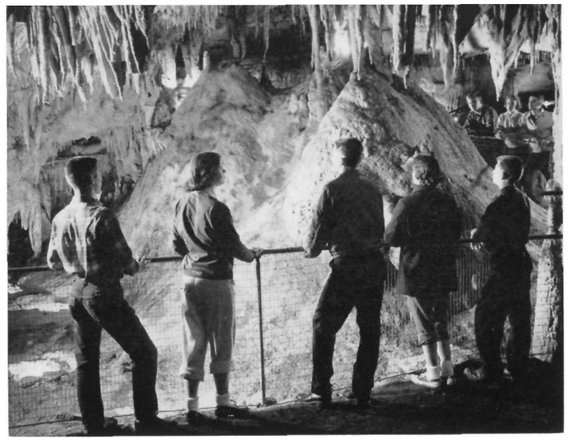
Rivers gradually chewed their way down through the sandstone, and once the water found the underlying limestone, it searched out every crack and crevice. Through the passage of thousands upon thousands of years the water dissolved the limestone until huge openings were made far beneath the surface. The water could dissolve the solid rock because it was armed with a powerful tool—carbon dioxide. This gas had been absorbed by the water as it passed through the decaying vegetation on the forest floor above, and the water became a weak solution of carbonic acid. Later the water table lowered and the turning, twisting passageways became filled with air. Today the water table is 360 feet beneath the surface, and the dry, empty passages left behind bear mute evidence of this hungry, eating water.

Water was used to produce the limestone, water was used to make the cave,

Raymond L. Nelson is a naturalist with the Interpretive Division of the National Park Service. His park career began in 1946 with the California Division of Beaches and Parks, serving at Humboldt and Prairie Creek Redwoods state parks. In 1950 he transferred to the national parks —first Sequoia, then Saratoga Historical Park, and now Mammoth Cave. Except where indicated otherwise, photos are National Park Concessions, Inc. by Ray Scott.

LEFT, visitors admire the Marble Temple in Violet City of Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky. Photo by Ray Scott.

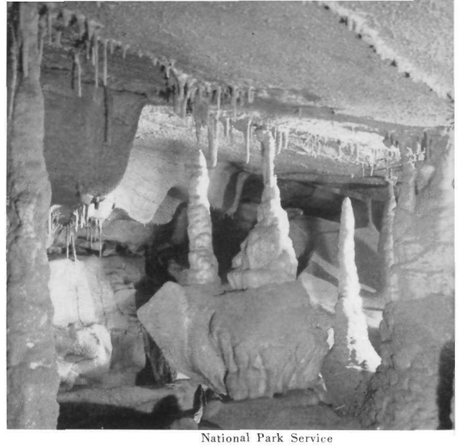
• Seventy-five-foot-high Frozen Niagara is the largest known travertine formation in Mammoth Cave, Kentucky.



• Stalactites (hanging from the ceiling) and stalagmites in many shapes and forms comprise the Onyx Chamber. The large stalagmite is 67 feet in circumference at its base.

Raymond L. Nelson

• Blindfish found in the Echo River section of the cave are the first blind cave animals ever studied. A keen sense of touch replaces their apparent lack of sight.



National Park Service

• An unusual grouping of small stalactites and large stalagmites known as the Hindu Temple.

and water is still nature's instrument in changing the cave. Funneled down through the surface sinkholes—the main feature of karst, or cave, topography—water is cutting out the vertical openings known as dome-pits.

Water also plays the major role in the drama of travertine. Travertine is calcium carbonate, a mineral deposited by ground water that has dissolved limestone. Upon reaching the air-filled passage via a tiny crack, the water evaporates, leaving behind the decoration that assumes a variety of forms. If it hangs from the ceiling like an icicle, it is called a stalactite; if it builds up a stump-like formation from the floor it is called a stalagmite; and if it forms as a sheet on the wall it is known as flowstone.

All decoration is not travertine. Some of it is a white, soft mineral known as gypsum. This is calcium sulfate, carried slowly to the cave in solution. The water slowly passes through the porous limestone and crystallization occurs just below the surface. Cave gypsum formations were first discovered in Mammoth Cave, and in 1841 Dr. John Locke of the Ohio Medical College published the first description of these flowers, needles, "cotton," and "snowballs."

It was the gypsum that intrigued a tribe of prehistoric Indians that went deeper into Mammoth Cave than into any other cave known in the world. Lighting their way with crude torches made of river cane, they worked their way almost three miles underground.

One day, almost 500 years before Christ was born, while an Indian warrior was chipping gypsum under an overhanging rock on the cave wall, a large boulder suddenly fell, to pin him to the ledge on which he lay. The even humidity and temperature (88 percent and 54 degrees), and the nitrates in the cave dirt, were the requirements necessary to turn his body into a mummy.

In 1935 the desiccated body of the 45-year-old man was found. It was carefully removed and placed in a special display case, and can be seen inside the cave. In 1957 a carbon-14 test was run on remnants of cane torches left behind by the Indians, and it was discovered they were in the cave approximately 2370 years ago or about 413 B. C.

A few things are known about the Indian: when he was in Mammoth Cave and the fact that he removed large quantities of gypsum. But much of his story is shrouded in mystery. Through recent research by the University of Kentucky, more may soon be known of the silent Indian on his mysterious quest into Mammoth Cave.

Long before even Indians went into Mammoth Cave, other forms of life probed the depths. Over 100 species of animal life share this realm of eternal darkness. One group, represented by bats, rats, and other mammals, uses the cave only for shelter, leaving it to secure food. Another group is composed of spiders, beetles, "cave crickets" (really grasshoppers), and other insects. Although many in this group spend their entire life in the cave, others of the same species are found on the surface. It is in a third group that we find the true cave dwellers. These animals are mostly white, and are unable to see: the eyeless fish, the blind crayfish, and a tiny snail.

It was in 1838 that the first blind cave animal in the world was discovered. It was the Mammoth Cave Blindfish *(Amblyopsis spaeleus)*. A few years later Charles Darwin published his *Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*, and the Mammoth Cave Blindfish became the subject of much verbal and written discourse.

For several years after its discovery by white man, little use was made of the cave. But in 1812, a use was suddenly found. England had blockaded our shores and invaded our lands. A local source of gunpowder had to be found. The nitrates needed for its manufacture were found in caves, and men were soon at work leaching them out. Most historians quickly admit that if it hadn't been for Mammoth Cave, we would have lost the War of 1812. While other caves helped produce the needed nitrates, Mammoth Cave outproduced all the others.

Other experiments have also been tried in the world-famous cave. In 1842 a brave and anxious doctor from Louisville reasoned that the even temperature and humidity found in the underground passages would provide a proper site for the world's first tubercular hospital. He tried, and failed, yet medical science had advanced. Doctor Croghan, the experimenter, died seven years later, a victim of the disease for which he tried so hard to find a cure.

Since 1816 Mammoth Cave has been operated as a showplace, and is the second oldest tourist attraction in the United States, bowing only to Niagara Falls. Among the many notables to visit this underground wonder are Dom Pedro, Emperor of Brazil, Grand Duke Alexis of Russia, Jenny Lind, William Jennings Bryan, and hundreds of others.

As early as 1870 a voice was being raised in objection to continued private ownership. This was Dr. Forwood in *An Historical and Descriptive Narrative of the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky*. But not until the turn of the century did others take up the hue and cry. The demand for public ownership and protection gradually grew, and in 1941 it became our twenty-sixth national park.

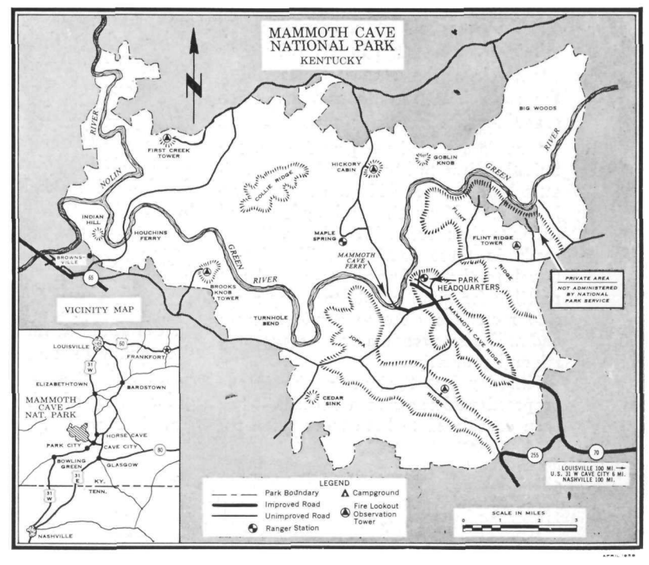
In the 1800's there was a saying: "You haven't been around, if you haven't been to Mammoth Cave." The same could be said today, for this is truly one of nature's most amazing and mysterious wonders. ■

Located in southwestern Kentucky, Mammoth Cave became America's twenty-sixth national park in 1941.

J. Wellington Young

• The custom of making and throwing torches to illuminate some of the higher domes or crevices has been handed down from past generations of guides.

• On the fifth and lowest level of the cave, visitors are ferried over Echo River—located some 360 feet below the surface. Only part of this winding course has thus far been explored.



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A Wilderness Starfish

ON February 16, 1959, the U.S. Forest Service announced the boundaries of a proposed 422,925-acre Glacier Peak Wilderness Area in the Mount Baker and Wenatchee National Forests of the North Cascades of Washington. Public hearings on the proposal are scheduled for October 13 at Bellingham, Washington and October 16 in Wenatchee, Washington.

The North Cascades Conservation Council, a local Washington organization concerned with the long-range protection of the scenic qualities of the North Cascades, issued an immediate news release indicating they found the proposal both "disappointing and unacceptable." Because of drastic exclusion of forested valleys the Forest Service boundaries, according to the NCCC, "have left little that will need protective status."

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE readers will be interested to know that—with the exception of the peaks in the background—the area portrayed on the cover of our January, 1959 issue will be excluded from the proposed wilderness area in order to be available for logging and mining activities.

As early as 1906, conservationists began urging that this scenic area receive protection as a dedicated park or wilderness. Since the late 1930's, the Forest Service has been expected to establish its finest wilderness area there, to include about 800,000 acres. Yet the proposal outlined in February eliminates all of the important valley entries into the area. In describing these eliminations, the Forest Service says that:

Corridors have been provided up the Suiattle River to Miners Ridge and Suiattle Pass, up the Chiwawa River nearly to Red Mountain, and up Railroad Creek to the mouth of Big Creek. Future roads in these corridors will enhance travel to the wilderness area, make it possible for more people to enjoy roadside recreation close to scenic features and will also permit access to patented mineral properties.

Kennedy Hot Springs is outside the proposed wilderness area because it has been considered to have more value for roadside recreation than for wilderness use. Corridors up White River and Agnes Creek will eventually provide facilities for roadside camping and picnicking. They will also serve as points of departure for trips into the wilderness.

Commercial timber harvesting in the excluded valleys will be done in such a way as to protect scenic and recreational values.

Concerning the Forest Service philosophy that such valley exclusion merely makes the wilderness more accessible to more people travelling by automobile, the NCCC points out that:

By its very nature, a wilderness area presupposes remoteness. We cannot agree with the Forest Service concept that these areas must be made more accessible by roads. This destroys the purpose of a wilderness. We have seen thousands of miles of Forest Service roads in Washington and we are far from intrigued with the established pattern of logging for "roadside recreation."

We are not so poor in timber and pulp that we need log such places, nor so rich in natural beauty that we can afford to.

The Forest Service makes clear in its news release that no patented mining claims have been left within the proposed boundary. "However, there are several recognized mineralized zones." Among those listed in the agency's announcement are the upper portions of Railroad Creek, Buck Creek, Phelps Creek, Agnes Creek, Flat Creek, Mt. Buckindy, and the Chiwawa River. In addition, some unpatented mining claims exist in the Chiwawa Mountain-Lyman Lake area. (Pictured on page 127 of our July-September 1958 issue.) The Forest Service acknowledges that, "Should it develop that mineral values increase to the point that road access to the claims is needed, such access cannot be denied." The public news release plus discussion with members of the Washington, D. C. staff of the Forest Service reveal that the proposed wilderness area boundary, as shown in gray on the attached map, is considered by the agency to have been based on the "best estimates of the long-range requirements of all segments of the American public."

On the other hand, it appears that most wilderness conservationists will consider that this starfish-shaped portion of mountain peaks which remains in the present Forest Service proposal (see map) does not offer adequate protection to an adequate area of the North Cascades. At least three arms of this wilderness starfish can be cut off from the rest of the body of wild country by short roads of from three to six miles in length. Like an amoeba, each part severed from the main body may live, for a brief time, alone as wilderness. But there is a definite limit to how small a piece can successfully maintain its wild character. Assumption that pressures for such roads will not develop does not seem realistic. The excluded valley corridors which penetrate deep into the area appear to be built-in time bombs which would assure the area's doom (as wilderness) before it were ever dedicated.

While we acknowledge with gratitude the protection thus far given to the wilderness nature of this area by Forest Service administrators, the Service in its present proposal has fairly obviously failed to recognize the unique character of this section of the North Cascades. For as early as 1937 after having explored the national park potentialities of the Cascades, the Department of the Interior concluded that "this area affords an opportunity for a superb national park which will outrank in its scenic, recreational and wildlife qualities any existing park."

"If the Forest Service cannot recognize this same potentiality," the NCCC release states, "they should permit a change in status" to a category which could adequately protect the recreational values of the area from Stevens Pass to Foggy Pass. For our reader's information, we give here a comparison of the protection which would be afforded by (1) a Forest Service wilderness area, (2) a national monument, and (3) a national park.

Additional information concerning the Forest Service proposal may be obtained from the Regional Forester, J.

Herbert Stone, P.O. Box 4137, Portland, Oregon.

Persons desiring to express their oral or written opinions may do so in person at the October public hearings, or they may submit their written comments to the Regional Forester not later than October 30, 1959, with the request that their statement be included in the hearing record.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—FOREST SERVICE

Wilderness Area: Established under Department of Agriculture regulation U-1 by the Secretary of Agriculture. Offers protection by administrative regulation only. Logging, roads, building and mechanized travel prohibited except for administrative purposes. Cannot protect against mining, including access roads. Cannot protect against water development. Hunting permitted under state regulations. Grazing may be regulated. Wilderness areas over 100,000 acres; wild areas 5000 to 100,000 acres.

This classification excludes from protection any area which doesn't qualify in every respect. Extensive logging is often indicated for areas not qualifying. In the case of the North Cascades, this means the abandonment for scenic purposes of important tracts of the area including the valley gateways, which are considered to have greater value for logging than for recreation. While the present administrator may declare an area wilderness, a subsequent administrator may nullify this with a stroke of a pen. Passage of the Wilderness Bill would provide opportunity for Congressional review of such actions, but would not alter the characteristics described above.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR —NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

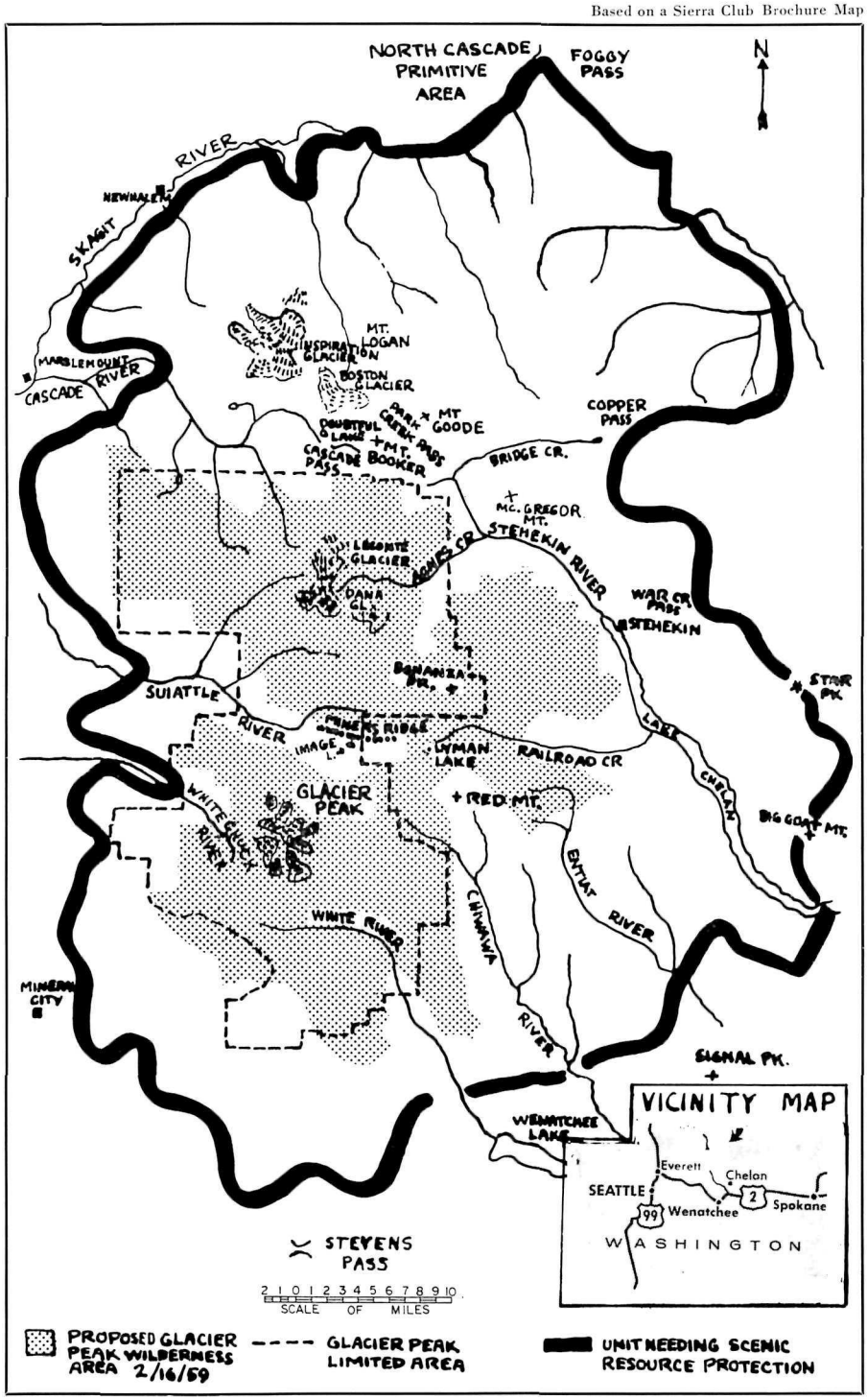
National Monument: Established by Presidential proclamation under 1906 law or by Act of Congress. Can be modified by Presidential proclamation, but may be abolished only by act of Congress. Protection identical to national parks. Size varies.

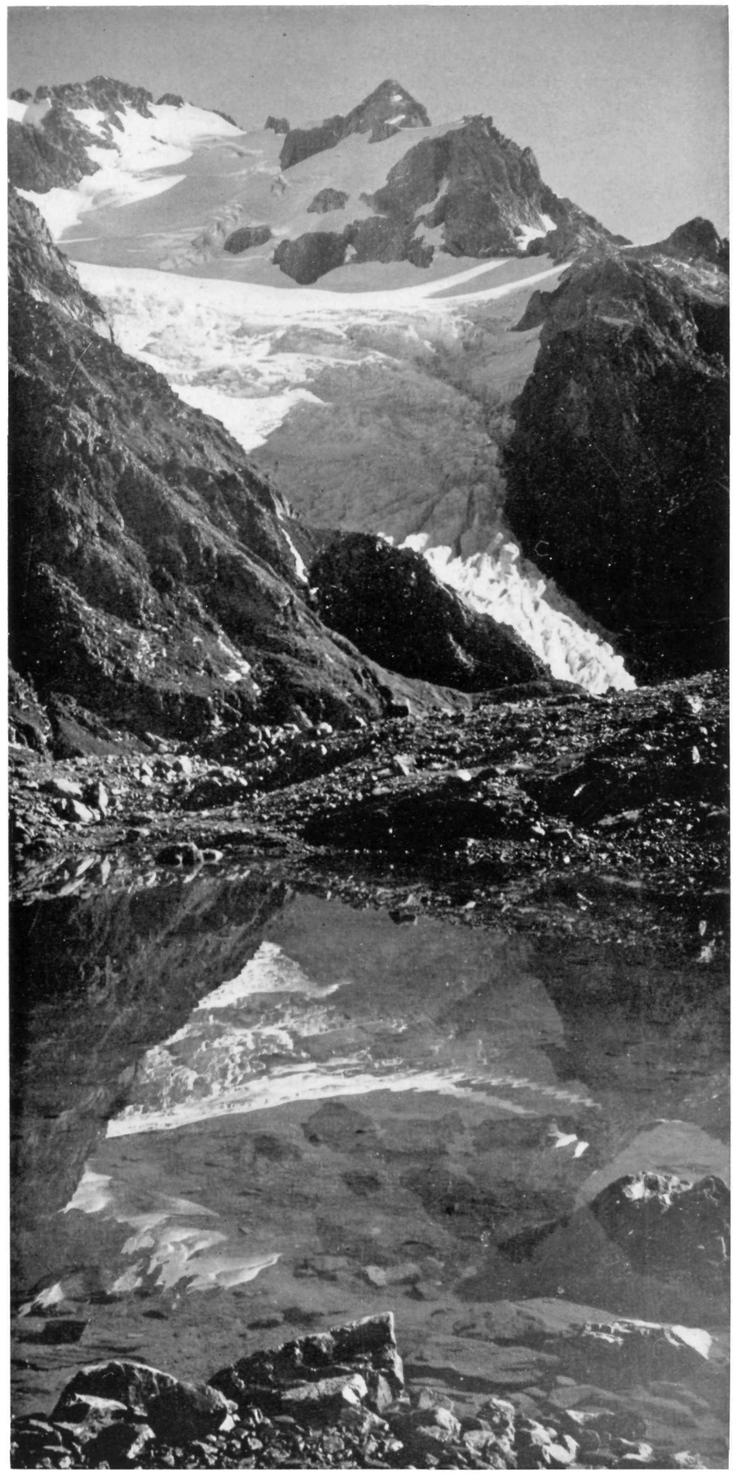
National Park: Established by act of Congress. Offers the protection of the National Park Act of 1916. Logging, mining, grazing and water development generally prohibited. Roads and buildings permitted but controlled by master plans. Size varies, but usually large.

In the case of the North Cascades, national park status would offer protection to the vital gateways to the wilderness, those semi-primeval areas which penetrate deeply into the range from all sides and which provide vital living space for wilderness travellers in the ruggedly dissected region. On the other hand, on occasion overdevelopment can occur in national parks in the effort to meet desires of the less sensitive public.—*B. M. K.*

For further description of this beautiful and unique section of the North Cascades, see *The Glacier Peak Wilderness* in the October-December 1956 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.

Based on a Sierra Club Brochure Map





WANTING WILDERNESS

'ROUND THE WORLD

Olaus J. Murie

A wildlife biologist from Moose, Wyoming, Dr. Murie has been active in wilderness preservation activities for many years. He now serves as Director of The Wilderness Society and as a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association. Author of *The Elk of North America* and *Field Guide to Animal Tracks*, he is a frequent contributor of magazine articles on natural history and wilderness subjects.

FORMALLY, and definitely, the national park idea began here in America in 1872—a date that is pretty well fixed in our minds. But regard for nature's gift to man, the living thing we refer to as "wilderness," began as long ago as we have recorded human history.

An interesting book was published by William Sloan Associates in 1954, *The Triumph of the Tree*, by John Stewart Collis, appearing first in England. In this book Mr. Collis traces the course of human worship of groves of trees down through history, discusses trees as a living part of nature, and describes man's modern exploitation of trees. On the jacket it is stated that this book "ranges through the vast history of nature and mankind." And there is also quoted: "This book is a history of trees. It is also a history of earth and of man, of mythology, magic, agriculture and industry . . . this book is an epic poem in prose."

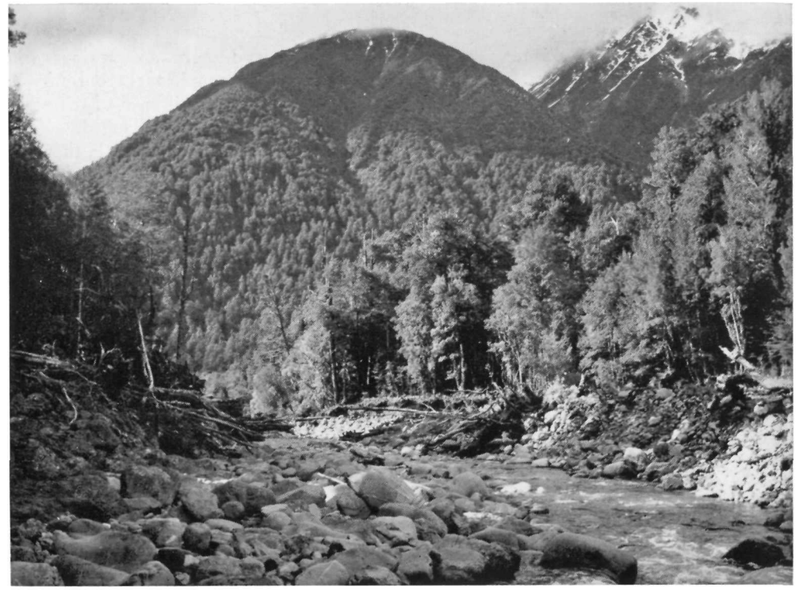
In his conclusion Mr. Collis says that "Man is a dramatic animal. He leans toward tragedy. He courts disaster. Born finally to obey or perish, he must first defy the laws of earth and usurp the throne of God."

Further on he says: "Yet there is this to be said about man. He learns from history. History is experience. When we put our hands in the fire, we learn never to do that again. If the experience is painful we learn and we act. Already the Americans are learning. They are taking steps, if still haltingly. Having nearly destroyed themselves by their exertions they may save Europe by their present example."

We must, however, remember that our concept of use of national parks, our wilderness areas, is not national, but personal. It behooves us to study, with discernment and humility, what people say and do anywhere in the world. We must remember that civilization is not a static thing—we hope it can go on to greater heights.

Only recently I received a bulletin from New Zealand, *Handbook to the Arthur's Pass National Park*. I have been in New Zealand with some of my family, but I hope I am not blindly prejudiced when I am so favorably impressed with this bulletin. It is so simple and straightforward. There are photographs, but also many pen and ink drawings of the flowers and the animals. These drawings, by Nancy Adams, are simple and of the highest artistic merit. She has also similarly illustrated some outstanding pamphlets on various plant associations for use in New Zealand schools, a beautiful series called *Our Living Environment*.

There is one section of this bulletin devoted to the Wilderness Area in Arthur's Pass National Park. This is a section of the park, 29,900 acres, designated as a wilderness, "the first area of this kind declared in New Zealand." This area "shall be kept and maintained in a state of nature. No



On the far left, the Cahill Glacier is reflected in a tarn near Barker Hut in New Zealand's Arthur's Pass National Park. Above is Pfeifer Creek in the 29,900-acre Wilderness Area section of the 239,000-acre park.

Lake Kaurapataka, with Mount Pfeifer in the mist, in the first national park wilderness area declared in New Zealand. All photos by Martin Barriball, reprinted with the kind permission of the editor, *Handbook to the Arthur's Pass National Park*.

buildings or ski tows or other apparatus may be erected in the area and no horses or other animals or vehicles may be taken into it. No roads or tracks may be constructed except such foot tracks as the board may think necessary to enable people to enter the area on foot."

And then follows a significant paragraph: "These restrictions are necessary so that, as far as possible, a wilderness area will remain 'a whole environment of living things,' unspoiled by man's interference. The aesthetic enjoyment of 'the beauty of nature, of solitude, and of the music of stillness' is nevertheless available to all who are prepared to traverse the area on foot."

These sentiments are in an official publication! I believe the New Zealand people mean it. One Sunday in 1949, we went up on Mount Egmont, in Mount Egmont National Park. That day there were about 150 people climbing the mountain, afoot, with a simple trail that seemed to have been made chiefly by use. On the South Island, in the wonderful Fiordland National Park, there is real wilderness, in which people go camping afoot—although it is not officially designated as wilderness. There is a hostel at one edge, at Milford Sound, a beautiful scenic place, where all that is furnished are lodging and meals. The New Zealand people still have the virility and love of beauty that is of great promise for the future.

These have been references to human outlooks in Europe and the Southern Hemisphere. What about America? Here, as in other parts of the world, many people are struggling with themselves, and with others, to have *quality* recognized as a worthy end. As an instance, I recently had opportunity to read part of the testimony at a hearing at Port Angeles, Washington, on a proposal to reduce the size of Olympic National Park. This was before the Committee on Public Lands, in September 1947. As one person remarked, this testimony "stood out like a good deed in a naughty world." I refer to the testimony of Mrs. Herbert Crisler, in which she said in part:

"I feel that the 56,000 acres called for is the finger-size hole in the dike through which 300,000 acres will rush away, and there are reasons which have not been brought out why that will make the existence of the park as we know it utterly changed.

"Out here in the park there is a chunk of something that is so scarce and so rare that people hardly know what it is they are dealing with. It is a chunk of living wilderness. Most people don't know what a living wilderness is anymore.

"It is vanishing, and so it is relevant to ask: What is a living wilderness?

"Like if you are walking on the beach and you see a messy chunk of something, you can deal with it more wisely if you know whether it is ambergris or engine oil.

"In the first place, the wilderness is not scenery. It is an ignorant misconception to think that a wilderness is scenery. It is a home. It is the home of the wild animals. If anybody came into your home and regarded it as scenery, you would think, 'How very naive.' Anyone who knows a living wilderness knows that it is equally naive to regard it as just scenery. It is a living complex of many interwoven factors interacting on each other—rocks, storms, trees, mountains, and the various species of wild animals.

"It is a living complex.

"And a forest is not a bunch of trees sticking up in the air. A forest is a living forest. A primeval forest such as we have been talking about—bandying the word about—is a living complex in primitive condition which involves the moisture in the air that you feel the minute you step within the boundaries of the forest.

"It is the green-gold shadows of the trees. These are the factors that make the forest undergrowth, that make the delicate herbage on the forest floor which you make a track through the minute you walk through it.

"It is the home of the animals—the coppery masses of moss, the tree moss, and so forth. The whole thing makes a living complex of interacting factors, of very different kinds of things working together, and to destroy one section of it leaves something that is just a dusty forest slum. It is no longer a living forest.

"It is the same way with the total wilderness and the wilderness without the wild animals. To anybody who has known a living wilderness, it is as dead as a boarded-up house."

Mrs. Crisler goes on to describe the value of the Roosevelt elk as an important part of this living Olympic wilderness. And she says further:

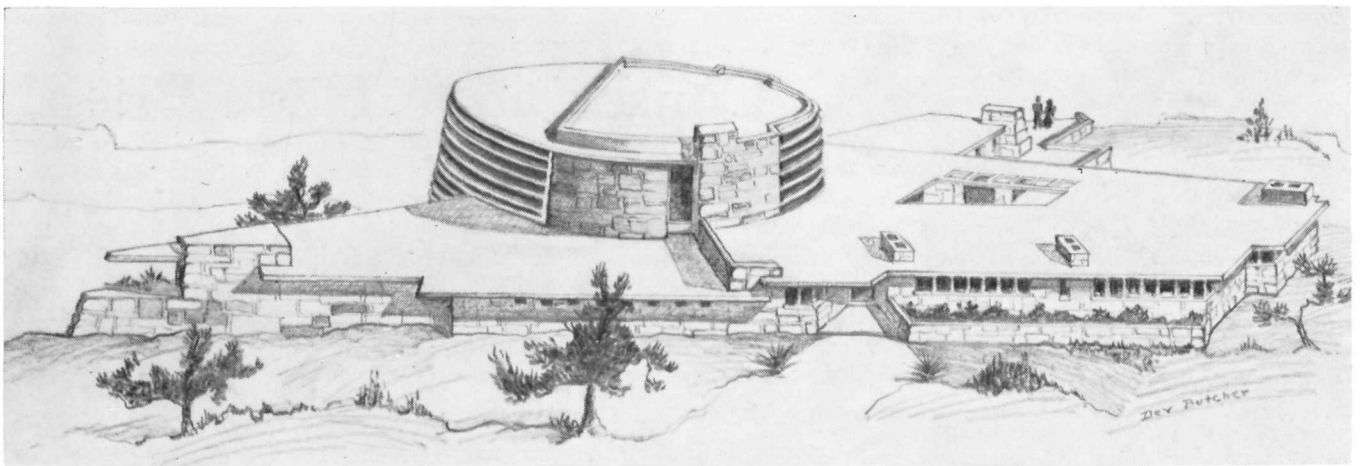
"I can say it in this way. It is a vitamin for the soul. But of course we are not psychologically advanced enough to explain just why it has this profound human significance any more than the masters of the ships when their scurvy-stricken sailors were dying could see any use to provide them with a little refreshment. We are not advanced enough to know the value of these vitamins of living wilderness (which we have had all over the planet until recently and which are vanishing with inconceivable speed) . . . to our perhaps scurvy-stricken civilization.

"To a living wilderness, size is critical. You cannot have a small wilderness. . . . Nevertheless, although it is but one-third the size of Yellowstone, it is at this present stage able to be a complete biotic community for the reason that in the western region, on the western side, we have lowland forests under a mild climate or what are known as rain forests that are the bone of contention here.

"Those are the winter residence of the elk."

This testimony on Olympic National Park, presented in 1947, ties in with the effort in 1958, when about seventy earnest people gathered to hike along the Olympic beach, under the leadership of Justice William O. Douglas, to give expression to these same goals of utmost quality. This bit of beach is part of the Olympic National Park, and all these pople want to ward off the road building craze that has struck this nation—to safeguard this precious bit of Pacific beach—to "leave it alone" as "a vitamin for the soul."

Do we not have in all these human manifestations a presentation of the ideal we are striving for? North, south, around the planet, in and outside of governments, there are many individuals in the human race striving for these ideals. How many will there be soon? Enough? ■



This drawing by Devereux Butcher was made from architect Harold E. Wagoner's rendering *of the proposed Shrine of the Ages on the south rim of Grand Canyon, Arizona.* Since adequate funds for the whole structure have not yet been raised, it now appears that—in order to hasten construction—the circular "chapel" portion may be built first.

SHRINES AND HIGHWAYS

(Continued from Inside Front Cover)

Canyon National Park, but ask that it be built back from the rim in the village area. Many feel that building such a man-made shrine on the edge of the Canyon would be a desecration of one of God's great natural wonders—and certainly not compatible with the grandeur and natural beauty of the Canyon.

February conferences with the National Park Service, however, make it clear that the Service continues to give the project its blessing. The Service in fact urges that "no matter what changes may come in the project before it is finally built . . . (they should) not involve depriving the worshippers of the Canyon view."

The only factor which has thus far held up the project is lack of funds. A recent editorial in the *Arizona Daily Star* of Tucson has raised the question of whether even this will hold up the project much longer. The *Star* says:

> Opponents of the Shrine-building program have become alarmed at a story that only the shell of the Shrine will be built and that completion funds will be sought from visitors. The idea of a building shell, uncompleted, standing on the Canyon rim, simply is not tasteful, these folk believe. . . . The Secretary of the Interior should consider the whole matter with extreme caution before giving permission for a go-ahead on any plan at all, much less one which would place a perhaps unsightly building shell in public view with the hope that tourists would kick in funds to complete it.

While the Park Service feels committed to support this project which it approved several years ago, your Association is definitely committed to support the principles upon which our national park system was founded some 43 years ago. This includes:

> . . . to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

A million-dollar shrine two hundred feet from the edge of Grand Canyon does not qualify.

Recent announcement of plans of the nearby privately-owned uranium mine to follow a vein under adjacent government land has raised the question of whether a re-study of the whole south rim area might not be advisable, aimed at finding a solution to the combined shrine and mining problem that will be of greatest benefit to the public of this and future generations. In the meantime, with the relocation of our western office in Arizona, the Association will hope to follow these matters closely—possibly with the help of a Grand Canyon NPA policy group.

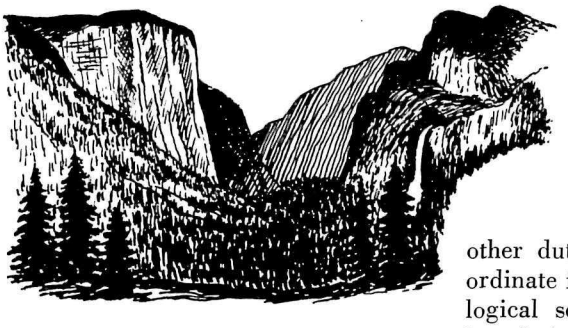
For a more complete discussion of this matter, see *A Church for Grand Canyon* in the April-June 1955 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE and *Shrine of the Ages Chapel* and *The Park Service on the Shrine of the Ages* in the April-June 1956 issue.—*B. M. K.*

WESTERN OFFICE MOVES TO SOUTHWEST

In keeping with the Association's desire to expand its program and increase its vigor and effectiveness, the Western Office was moved from Carmel Valley, California to Tucson, Arizona in the latter part of February. It was felt that such a location for the western operation of your Association would present many advantages in furthering its objectives.

Such organizations as the Sierra Club and the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs are active on the west coast and in the northwest in spreading the park preservation concept. Groups in the Rocky Mountain region are becoming more active. However, the southwest is seriously in need of encouragement in preserving its parks and wilderness. It contains the largest concentration of National Park Service units in the country; and in recent years, due to tremendous population growth and many other factors, the threats to these areas have been on the increase. As part of our national education program, the Association feels that an office in Tucson will do much to stimulate interest in preserving the rich scenic heritage of the southwest.

Your Western Field Representative, J. F. Carithers, is thoroughly familiar with the southwest and understands its problems. His new office is located at 215 North Court, Tucson; the mailing address is P.O. Box 5892.



Conservation News Briefs

National Parks and Monuments

A Mission 66 progress report issued in January by Interior Secretary Seaton shows 417 projects valued at $25,406,539 completed since July 1, 1958 and 660 projects totaling $51,765,144, under construction at the end of 1958. Anticipated construction for the 10-year program will total $99,847,179.

The Secretary also pointed out that private industry has invested more than $18 million in new and improved visitor accommodations since the start of Mission 66. Concessionaires have spent $5,500,000 in Yellowstone National Park; $1,250,000 in Yosemite; $1,000,000 in Everglades; $500,000 in Grand Canyon, and $600,000 in Mt. Rushmore National Monument.

Visitor use of campgrounds in the national park system continued to increase during 1958. The National Park Service reported 4,665,000 camper days during the year—an eleven percent increase over 1957.

In Yosemite National Park, California, Superintendent John C. Preston (while noting that 1600 campsites are to be added to Yosemite alone by 1966) has had to decrease camping limits to take care of the present demand. There will be a 30-day limit on all campgrounds except during June, July and August. During these months there will be a 10-day limit for all campgrounds in Yosemite Valley; 15 days for Wawona, Bridalveil Creek and Tenaya Lake, and for choice sites along the river in Tuolumne Meadows.

The National Park Service has announced establishment of a new Branch of Archaeology to direct the Service's expanding archaeological programs. Director Wirth pointed out that among other duties the new branch will coordinate field plans to salvage archaeological scientific data in advance of inundation at public water control projects.

Secretary of Interior Seaton announced in November that the Federal Government will acquire title to approximately 9353 acres within Glacier National Park, thus completing negotiations with the State of Montana started in 1951. This will reduce holdings of non-Federal land within the park to about 4200 acres.

Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth received the National Civil Service League's Career Service Award in early March as one of the ten top career men in the federal government for 1959. The citation applauded him for having "given vitality to the whole program of the National Park Service" and referred to his "competence, efficiency, character and continuity of service."

Fish and Wildlife

As we go to press, hearings have been scheduled in March by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors on proposed dams and river developments that are recommended for construction in the Corps' recently completed Columbia River Review report. The National Wildlife Federation lists several projects which "would inflict irreparable losses upon outdoor resources": Bruces Eddy, Idaho; Penny Cliffs, Idaho; High Mountain Sheep, Idaho and Oregon; Wenaha Dam, Oregon; Long Meadows, Montana; and Nine Mile Prairie, Montana. The Nez Perce project has raised so much objection from conservationists that it was not proposed by the Corps at this time. The Wildlife Federation recommends alternative sites and says further that, "In general, the big dams like Libby on the Kootenai River, Montana; Paradise on the Clark Fork River, Montana; High Pleasant Valley on the Snake River in Idaho and Oregon; or High Mountain Sheep on the Snake River (if located above the mouth of the Imnaha River) in Idaho and Oregon would give maximum storage and electric power benefits at minimum cost and sacrifice of wildlife and other outdoor values."

The Natural Resources Council of America reports that an eastern game refuge and a western game range are being threatened by the military. In northern Florida, the Navy wishes to expand its 5700-acre practice-bombing area of the Ocala National Forest by 4300 acres, with an additional 16,000 acres surrounding it to be administered by the Forest Service as a safety zone. The north half of the proposed area is part of a game refuge.

In Nevada, the Air Force wants to withdraw 81,160 acres of the presently constituted Desert Game Range for use as a low-altitude bombing range.

★ *SPECIAL BULLETIN* ★

As this issue goes to press, Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton has just made public a report by the National Park Service recommending creation of a 30,000-acre national seashore on Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Local hearings on the proposal are scheduled for March 23 and 24 in Eastham and Chatham.

Boundaries of the proposed national seashore would include a ribbon-like territory extending approximately forty miles along the outer beach from Provincetown to the tip of Nauset Beach and the nearby Morris Island and Harding Beach in Chatham. The bulk of the proposed area lies east of U. S. Highway 6 and its average width approximates one mile. The area reaches a maximum width of four miles in its central section where it extends across U. S. 6 to include a cross-section of

the Outer Cape and a portion of the Cape Cod Bay Shore.

"Even now the still unspoiled Great Beach is vanishing under buildings," the report says. "It is time to set aside, preserve and protect the last of the 'old' Cape so that the inspiration of its surpassing beauty can be kept intact and handed down to future generations of Americans."

Readers can obtain a copy of the 20-page two-color report entitled *Cape Cod National Seashore—A Proposal* by writing to the National Park Service, Washington 25, D. C.

Wilderness Bill

According to the National Wildlife Federation, opponents of the Wilderness Bill (S. 1123, reported on page 15) are conducting a campaign of misinformation in the western states. Some of the "statements being used to create hysteria," says the Federation, are that the measure (1) "stops all grazing on wilderness areas and will be used to chase stockmen off the national forests altogether;" (2) "opens the way for expansion of the wilderness system to encompass all national forest lands;" (3) "would allow the government to condemn private property;" (4) "would deprive local people of a livelihood. Filling stations, tourist courts and restaurants would have to be shut down;" (5) "cattlemen would have to stop using vehicles to tend their livestock;" (6) "would eliminate hunting and fishing;" and (7) "three eastern states have tried this bill and it didn't work."

Such baseless statements according to the Federation have been used recently at farm bureau and livestock association meetings in New Mexico and Colorado. Resolutions have been introduced in the stockmen-dominated legislatures in New Mexico, Colorado and Utah to memorialize Congress in opposition to the Wilderness Bill.

A summary of the actual provisions of the bill is found on page 15. Those wanting to examine the bill closely may obtain copies from their Congressman. (Previous discussions of a National Wilderness Preservation System are found in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE issues dated April-June 1957 and July-September 1957.

General Conservation

Francis W. Sargent, 44, has been selected as executive director of the professional staff of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. For the past two years he served as Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources.

Two senatorial replacements were named on the 15-man bi-partisan Commission by Vice-President Nixon. Mr. Dworshak of Idaho and Mr. Martin of Iowa will replace Mr. Watkins and Mr. Barrett, who were defeated in the fall elections. (See the October-December 1958 issue for a full listing of Commission members.)

MEETINGS: *The Izaak Walton League of America's Annual Convention* and *1959 Conference for Young Outdoor Americans*, April 21-25, Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Philadelphia. Chapter as well as state divisions are urged to pay conference expenses of qualified youths (preferably high school juniors and seniors) in their area. They will attend conservation sessions of the IWLA Convention, and during business sessions will have discussion groups on "Youth's Opportunities to Further Conservation." A special Youth Leadership Training Conference for adult members will be held at the same time.

The Sixth National Watershed Congress, May 25-27, at the Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C., is being staged by more than twenty leading industrial, agricultural, and conservation organizations. The Congress will provide a review of overall watershed development since the time the program received national impetus with passage of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954. Attendance open. The $5 registration fee includes a copy of the printed proceedings.

The Outdoor Writers Association of America meets June 7-13 in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

WHEELER PEAK SCENIC AREA

The 28,000-acre heart of the proposed Great Basin National Park in eastern Nevada—now a part of Humboldt National Forest—is being designated as the "Wheeler Peak Scenic Area", according to a February 13th announcement by Regional Forester Floyd Iverson of Ogden, Utah.

The news release recognized as outstanding scenic values: "(1) Wheeler Peak—13,063 feet high—the highest mountain wholly within the state of Nevada, (2) Matthes Glacier which is the only known glacier in the Great Basin area, (3) the world's largest mountain mahogany tree, (4) numerous small lakes, (5) at least two natural-rock arches, (6) a superb view of the surrounding Great Basin valleys and mountain ranges, and (7) many extremely old bristlecone pine trees. . . . Many unusually large aspen and ponderosa pine trees also add to the scenic beauty. . . ."

It was stated that "multiple-use forestry" will be carried on as before and that "recreation resources . . . will undergo an expanded development program . . . made possible by 'Operation Outdoors.' "

Great Basin National Park Association, while welcoming additional recognition of scenic values, has protested two of the development plans—"a two-way road up Lehman Creek to Stella Lake, camping and picnicking facilities near the lake . . ." and "resorts, cabin camps, summer homes, and commercial enterprises . . . adjacent to the new Wheeler Peak Scenic Area"— (but within the proposed national park). The Nevada State Board of Economic Development on February 21 joined the association in urging that these two plans be abandoned in view of the active, nation-wide movement for establishment of the national park in the area.

Other Forest Service development plans, including hiking trails and further camp facilities in locations already accessible, are considered by the park association to be not out of keeping with the park proposal and probably needed because of rapidly expanding interest in the area.

—*Darwin Lambert.*

The Editor's  Bookshelf

THE LIVING FOREST, by Jack McCormick. Harper and Brothers, New York. 1959. 127 pages. Illustrated. $3.95.

Of the many nature guidebooks and technical treatises on forestry with which this country abounds, this little book will rank near the top of both lists. The forester accustomed to his sawtimber and pulpwood, and the layman interested in woods and trees will both find a refreshingly new approach to the complex ecological relationships which take place in the forest.

Jack McCormick, who has made the forest live in a series of comprehensive exhibits at the American Museum of Natural History, does so again in these pages of his book. Weaving together the micro-biology of the forest floor with the tree nutrition systems, he brings out many large and small bits of interesting information. For example, the fact that the total energy used by the plants and animals on an acre of beech-maple hardwood forest is equivalent to the electricity used in the average home for nearly a half a century is an amazing calculation! And so is the fact that a total of two tons of leaves, twigs, flowers and other debris fall on an acre of forest floor each year.

Exceedingly accurate descriptions of the different types of forest insects and diseases and how they do their work are given in more detail than in some textbooks on these subjects. Neatly interwoven into the story are the effects of weather and its various influences on forest types, tree growth, and susceptibility to fire. The author uses annual growth rings in a most revealing manner to tell the history of various experiences and influences on the life of a tree.

In this day and age of equating verbosity with wisdom it is pleasing to find an author who can say so much with so few words. His final pages which describe forestry practices and man's uses and abuses are thorough and reveal a feel for his subject. It is recommended reading for anyone who loves the out-of-doors and it should be required for all freshman students of forestry!

—*Charles H. Stoddard.*

A Quick Glance at . . .

THE HANDBOOK OF AUTO CAMPING AND MOTORISTS GUIDE TO PUBLIC CAMPGROUNDS, by George & Iris Wells. Harper & Brothers, New York. 1958. 274 pp. $3.50.—A revision of the 1954 edition, it contains 400 additional campgrounds. Part I offers ideas and information on camping; parts II & III comprise a guide to all public campgrounds in the United States divided as to state.

MONTEZUMA CASTLE, by Albert H. Schroeder and Homer F. Hastings. National Park Service, Washington, D.C. October 1958. 40 pp. Illustrated. 25¢.—One of a series of historical handbooks being produced by the National Park Service. Describes the thirteenth-century building of the Montezuma Castle cliff dwelling in the Verde River Valley of what is now central Arizona.

SCOTTS BLUFF, by Merrill J. Mattes. National Park Service, Washington, D.C. December 1958. 64 pp. Illustrated. 30¢.—Dissects the still unsolved mystery of Scotts Bluff, Nebraska. Another in the series of Park Service historical handbooks.

HAVASU CANYON, by Joseph Wampler, with chapters by Dr. Harold C. Bryant and Weldon F. Heald. Howell-North Press, Berkeley, California. 1959. 121 pp. Illustrated. Map. Paperback. $2.—An oasis in the midst of the arid upland country of Grand Canyon, Havasu Canyon lies in the very southwest corner of Grand Canyon National Park. Noted for its clear turquoise waters, the fertile canyon floor is inhabited by a small tribe of Havasupai Indians. They, as well as the Canyon's geology, flora and fauna are described in this well-rounded introduction to Havasu.

THE SONG OF OUR NATIONAL PARKS AND FLOWERS, by Edward A. Clark. Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Illinois. 1958. 122 pp. Illustrated. $3.75.—A collection of short verses written by a consulting engineer who lets his imagination play on our parks, monuments and flowers, and sees in each something unique and alive.

1959 STUDENT CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The National Parks Association announces that applications are now being received for the 1959 Student Conservation Program in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, and Olympic National Park, Washington. Now in its third year, this volunteer work and conservation education program will offer unusual opportunities for forty-seven carefully selected high school, college and graduate students. While no salaries are provided, the Association provides room and board for all participants. Interested students should write immediately for application forms to the Student Conservation Program, 1300 New Hampshire Avenue, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. (See *A Worthwhile Summer* in the April-June 1958 NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.)

In Grand Teton, from June 25 to August 22, 1959, fourteen college students and graduates, single men and women, 19 years and older, will work with the Park Biologist, and in the Protective, Interpretive, and Engineering Divisions of the park. Three additional graduate students in natural sciences will assist research workers at the Jackson Hole Biological Research Station.

In Olympic, from June 29 to July 22 and from August 3 to August 26, 1959, two groups of high school boys, 15 years and older, will construct trails and camping facilities for park visitors, and do other outdoor work to benefit the park. Also in Olympic, two graduate men or women will do independent research on a grant basis while working on an advanced degree.

The Parks and Congress

86th Congress

Legislation Introduced

S. 1123 (Humphrey, Minn.; Byrd, W.Va.; Clark, Pa.; Douglas, Ill.; Langer, N.Dak.; Lausche, Ohio; Mansfield, Mont.; Martin, Iowa; Morse, Ore.; Mundt, S.Dak.; Murray, Mont.; Neuberger, Ore.; Proxmire, Wisc.; Randolph, W.Va.; Scott, N.C.; Mrs. Smith, Maine; Wiley, Wisc.; Williams, N.J.) To establish a National Wilderness Preservation System. Similar to House bills **H. R. 713** et al. reported in our March 1959 issue. In essence the bill does three things: (1) It establishes wilderness preservation as a policy of Congress and applies this policy to areas of federal land, such as parks, forests and refuges, where wilderness preservation fits in with other programs; (2) A bureau chief or Cabinet officer no longer may abolish a wilderness area, reduce it in size or add to it, merely by affixing his signature to an executive order (without public hearing or Congressional sanction); and (3) It gives the general public—the people who own the public lands—a voice in saying what shall be done with the wilderness areas. This voice would be exercised in two ways—at public hearings, and through their elected representatives in Congress.

Two additional field hearings will be held on March 30 in Seattle, Washington (Federal Court Building, 9:30 a.m.) and on April 2 in Phoenix, Arizona (Westward Ho Hotel, 9:30 a.m.). Those wishing to testify should contact Senator James E. Murray, Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington 25, D.C.

H. R. 3713 (Delaney) To amend section 131(a) of title 23 of the United States Code to provide that increased payments to a state shall be only for regulation of outdoor advertising and not for its prohibition. This measure would weaken the existing law as passed last year by providing that "outdoor advertising be regulated on a fair and reasonable basis, but not prohibited, and that the one-half per centum payment . . . be paid only to those States that regulate . . . in accordance with such fair and reasonable standards. . . ." Referred to Committee on Public Works.

H. R. 3984 (Price) **H. R. 4160** (Mrs. Church) **S. 747** (Douglas) Provides that the Administrator of General Services should convey approximately 2400 acress of land, presently designated as the Des Plaines Public Hunting and Refuge Area, to the State of Illinois for wildlife conservation or recreational purposes. This property, part of the Army's Joliet Arsenal, which has been declared surplus to the needs of the United States, would revert to the United States in the event that the land ceased to be used for wildlife conservation or recreational purposes. The area, convenient to Chicago and other population centers, is reportedly being considered for industrial sites. Referred to House Committee on Armed Services and Senate Committee on Government Operations.

H. R. 4046 (Thompson) **S. 1040** (Murray) To provide for a determination of whether certain sites, buildings, or other objects, such as the historic State, War, Navy Building, the San Francisco Mint, and the Morristown National Historical Park, are of national historical significance in order to successfully save those sites, buildings, and objects which are of great national value and which are now being destroyed or are being threatened with destruction by the federal government as well as by private interests. Referred to Interior and Insular Affairs committees.

H. R. 5194 (Foley) To establish the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park. Similar to **H. R. 952, H. R. 2331** and **S. 77** reported in March issue in that it provides for inclusion in the park of up to 15,000 acres along a 186-mile stretch of the Potomac River, Maryland, and authorizes the National Park Service to construct a 25-mile scenic parkway connection between Maryland Route 51 in the general vicinity of Paw Paw, West Virginia, and the existing Long Ridge Road near Woodmont, Maryland, that would become part of the park.

However, **H R. 5194** goes on to prohibit recreational park development in a 35-mile stretch of the proposed park (between the Great Falls of the Potomac and Brunswick, Maryland) for a three-year period during which the Corps of Engineers is instructed to complete a study of dam sites and a comprehensive water development plan for the Potomac River Basin. This second Foley bill also provides that, "The designation or acquisition of land for the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park shall not bar or prejudice its use for such works as the Congress may hereafter authorize for municipal and domestic water supply, navigation, flood control, drainage, hydroelectric power, or other beneficial purposes, and the existence of the park shall not bar the Secretary of the Army and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia from causing to be made within it such investigations as, in their judgment, are necessary to determine the feasibility of such works."

Language in Section 3 of the bill would limit investments in park recreational improvements to those that could be justified in terms of public use before future completion of various river and water project facilities which would preclude these recreational uses. Specifically, it states that, "No funds for development of the park shall be expended by the Secretary (of Interior) until after consultation with the Secretary of the Army and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia." Construction of dams that have been proposed in this section of the lower Potomac River could result in flooding a sizeable portion of the proposed park area.

Action Taken

H. R. 1805 (Foley) To amend the Act authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to acquire property for the Antietam Battlefield site in the State of Maryland by removing restriction that property be acquired by donated funds. Would authorize appropriations to allow the Secretary to acquire approximately 1800 acres in order to preserve the site of the bloodiest day's battle in the Civil War. Reported favorably by Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs on March 9.

H. R. 3610 (Blatnik) **S. 805** (Humphrey and McCarthy) To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to expand existing grant construction programs for municipal sewage treatment works by increasing federal participation and liberalizing eligibility requirements. Would increase the maximum provided under grants for any one municipal project from $250,000 to $500,000; authorizes an increase in annual federal grants for state-approved municipal sewage treatment plants from $50 to $100 million.

As we go to press, hearings were scheduled for March 17, 18 and 19 before the full Public Works Committee. Early in April, the House Appropriations Committee will consider funds for the program under the existing act during hearings on the Health, Education and Welfare Department's budget. While $50 million in annual federal grants has been authorized by Congress, the Administration has requested only $20 million.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Architect's Rebuttal

Please accept this letter as a friendly rebuttal to your editorial on the Clingman's Dome Tower in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE (February 1959).

Controversy over this addition to Smoky Mountains National Park interests and amazes me. Mrs. Bebb and I have lived in Gatlinburg since 1950. Our studio windows look out upon the Greenbrier Pinnacle and the Sawtooth peaks. My son-in-law is a naturalist with the Park Service. The last thing I would want to do would be to impose an ill-conceived structure amidst the magnificient beauty of these mountains that I sincerely love.

I am amazed because the criticism must be based upon criteria diametrically opposite from those with which I am familiar. What design criteria have the NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE and other conservationist agencies adopted?

In preparing ourselves for work on this design, my partner, Mr. Olson, and myself made repeated trips to Clingman's Dome, some trips in company with Park officials. I personally spent many hours on the Dome taking pictures, making sketches, talking to visitors. As I studied the site and the beautiful stand of Fraser's Fir with their perpendicular trunks, the idea of a ramp approximately the gradient of the trail supported on vertical "trunks" of concrete began to root itself in my mind. After many, many sketches, models, and invaluable criticism from local friends and men in the Eastern Office of Design and Construction, the design, with which you are now familiar, took final shape.

Why does a rough hewn log cabin appear right and a stone and concrete structure appear wrong to a conservationist? Should we build today like Daniel Boone built, or build like Daniel would build if he were alive today?

Why does a conservationist prefer to build a cheap steel tower totally lacking in beauty rather than a carefully designed structure of concrete? Is the idea of conservation furthered by the erection of temporary wood shelters rather than well-sited, well-planned modern structures? Do we pay homage to a god by building a temple of slabs?

The pioneer built structures that were simple, direct solutions to his building problems, using materials at hand. We believe the Clingman's Dome Tower is a simple, direct solution, using today's materials that are readily obtainable. It is to be hoped that when any of you visit the Smokies and climb this Tower you will acquire the same enthusiasm that we have for the design.

Hubert Bebb
Bebb and Olson, Architects
Gatlinburg, Tennessee

The artificial viewpoint at Clingman's Dome in the Smokies is another shocking disappointment in the progress of Mission 66. Are we assuming that the outdoorsman, the citizen who appreciates nature, is becoming bored with nature in our parks? Do we have to frame the scenery for him, to tell him how to enjoy nature, and in every way conform to the gadget spirit of modern times?

Why should there be *any* structure on top of Clingman's Dome?

Olaus J. Murie
Moose, Wyoming

Franconia Notch Highway

The proposed four-lane dual highway through the Franconia Notch, a wilderness area of national forest (White Mountain) and state reservation, in New Hampshire, would cover the thirty-three miles of the present Daniel Webster Highway from Plymouth to Twin Mountain and, I understand, would be part of a through superhighway from Concord to Quebec.

Franconia Notch is a wild and romantic pass between the majestic Franconia and Kinsman ranges, hemmed in by rugged ledges and jagged skyline. For over one hundred years this area has been a favorite summer resort for those who love the wild. Now winter sports, too, are developing on Mount Cannon, part of the Kinsman range.

This proposed section of road goes past The Flume, The Pool, Lafayette Campground, and Profile and Echo Lakes and Mount Cannon, all in the Franconia Notch State Reservation, which contains 6000 acres and extends for eight miles along the road. The Flume belongs to the Society for Protection of New Hampshire forests, the rest of the reservation to the State of New Hampshire. As I understand it, the highway would go on both sides of the Lafayette Campground intervals, thus bisecting the picnic area and bringing traffic right to the tables and tents. As a sop to hikers the Highway Commission says "underpasses will be made at certain trails."

It would appear that the main interest in building this road is to get New Hampshire's "share" in federal funds, with little consideration as to the necessity for a superhighway from Concord to Canada or for the values in the area which would be irreparably destroyed.

There are two other routes, the one preferred by the Forestry and Recreation Commission being up the west side of the Kinsman range through Wentworth and Warren. This is a little longer, would do little damage to wild areas and probably would be less costly to build.

Mrs. Elon G. Salisbury
Washington, D. C.

An Information Bureau

In general, the National Park Service does an excellent job when all the pressures placed upon it are considered. But sometimes administrative decisions may not be in direct agreement with the basic philosophy of park preservation, as well as use. At such times, the National Parks Association should function in the capacity of an information bureau to inform all interested users of the parks just what is being done. NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE is the natural and logical implement for getting that information out to the public. I, as a member, hope to continue to be informed of any park developments that might be considered to be detrimental.

George W. Cornwell
Salt Lake City, Utah

Hotel on Mount Rainier

As you are doubtless aware, there is quite a strong movement throughout this district to have a large, modern hotel built in Paradise Valley, Mount Rainier (Washington). What they are trying for here is an Atlantic City-type of hotel—250 rooms at least. Nothing will be left of the beauty of Paradise Valley except to look at the Tatoosh Range.

Jessie Kershaw
Tacoma, Washington

• An article from the *Tacoma News-Tribune* enclosed by Miss Kershaw reports that a recent survey undertaken for the Rockefeller-financed Jackson Hole Preserve Inc., "recommended the government spend $6,878,000 to build a 250- to 300-room hotel and related facilities (in Paradise Valley) either on the site of the present hotel or at Barn Flat nearby. The government then should lease the operation to private enterprise."

In connection with its Mission 66 program for Mount Rainier National Park, the National Park Service had noted that operations at Paradise are not economically feasible: "Forty years' experience demonstrates the folly of trying to operate in defiance of adverse operating conditions and changing travel patterns." The Park Service thus recommended low elevation sites, giving the following advantages: "Lower construction and maintenance costs, shorter distance to sources of supply, proximity to existing or proposed all-year highways, longer operating season, and more favorable situation with regard to water supply and public power."

The *News-Tribune* states, however, that the Rockefeller report concluded that such locations, " 'have little appeal to the visitor and, in our considered opinion, would attract limited patronage.' " The article states further that, "Eastern and Midwest travel agencies told the survey team there would be a very appreciable increase in overnight tour business if adequate and suitable overnight accommodations were provided, and opening of the new Stevens Canyon Road further accentuates the need for adequate all-night facilities."

We cannot resist the temptation to comment that it seems to us that the concern over "how to attract more visitors" to this or any other park is in no way related to primary present-day problems of national parks. Hence the number of people "attracted" by a given type of accommodation does not appear to have any relationship to its suitability for a given area. The fact that the lack of any hotel accommodation at Paradise may deprive some visitors of sunrise and sunset spectacles which are available to campers and hikers, may have some merit as an argument for an appropriate hotel at the Paradise location.—*Editor.*

NEW MEMBERSHIP RATES

As of April 1, dues will be $5 annual, $8 supporting, $15 sustaining, $25 contributing, $100 life with no further dues, and $1000 patron with no further dues. School and library subscriptions, $4 per year.

HOW LATE IT GROWS

By Bradley Slayton Sibley

How blind the eye which sees a rose
As merely to be plucked,
Pinned to a coat
And cast aside
When it has lost its freshness.

How deaf the ear which cannot hear
The cry of death
As trees are felled
And pushed aside
To make more room for houses.

How dead the soul which sees the land
As only to be used
For selfish ends,
And not inviolate kept
For future generations.

Oh, wake them up—you who can see, and hear, and feel!
Let them not spoil our lovely bit of earth
Of which we are God's stewards.
Marshall your weapons to oppose
The blind, the deaf, the unaware.
For we must keep God's trust ere ignorance destroy
The natural beauty of our world.

BACK COVER: Granite pavement near Peeler Lake in the wilderness backcountry of northern Yosemite National Park, California. Photo by Philip Hyde.