NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

RAIN FOREST—Page Nine

George A. Grant

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"Aggressive fighting for the right is the noblest sport the world affords."—THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

formerly

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Douglas fir and western hemlock—"Surely these havens of refuge, tied to the eternal past, must and will be kept inviolate."

THE NATIONAL PARKS IN WARTIME

EDITORIAL

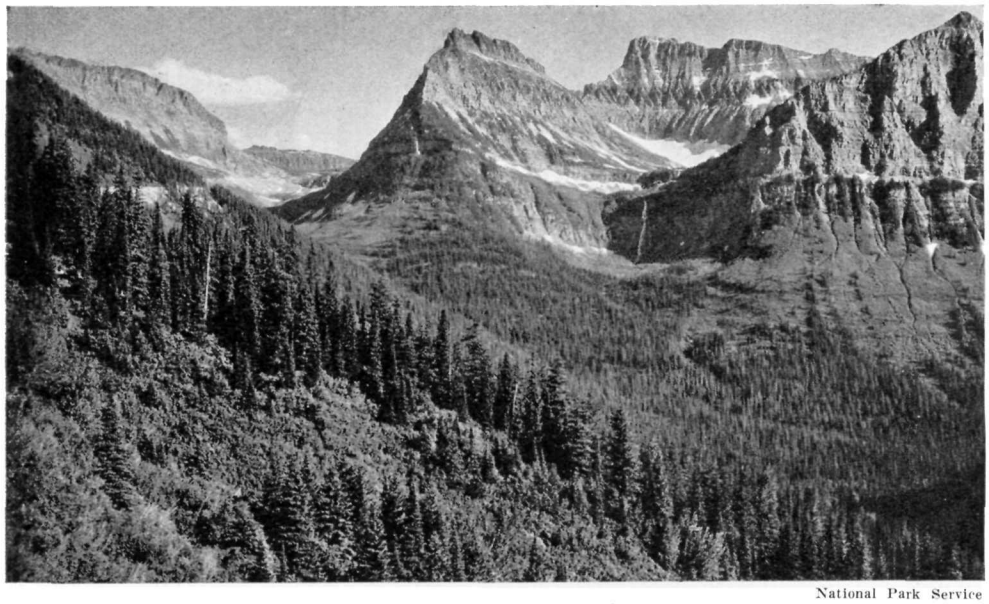
By William P. Wharton

IN a time of world wide war and upheaval, when our country is making ready to throw her whole weight into the fight for decency and humanity, what is the highest contribution which can be made by the national parks? Are they, as some people seem to think, merely peacetime luxuries, which may now be neglected, or even exploited for materials of war? In the present emergency is their original purpose to be lost sight of, and their purely material resources to be regarded as constituting their chief value to the nation? Members of the National Parks Association and of other groups which have fought through the years for preservation of a great natural and historic heritage will answer these questions in no uncertain terms. And the answer will be that there can be no more important contribution to the war effort than is made by the temples where men worship. These are our birthright.

When we talk of essential material resources, it is well to remind ourselves how great are the areas still open to economic development, and how small are those where such development is forbidden for the sake of preserving greater values. The entire so-called "Federal Park System" embraces 33,673 square miles,—substantially less than one percent of the total area of the United States, Alaska and the Hawaiian Islands combined. The entire System could be placed inside the State of Indiana with 2,681 square miles to spare. Surely this is a very small part of the great American domain to be dedicated to complete preservation for the benefit, enjoyment and inspiration of the people. Congress has instructed the National Park Service to "conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein," and to provide for human use "in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for future generations." These areas have been picked out as containing the finest examples of natural beauties and wonders of primitive America and the most important historic and prehistoric shrines. They minister to the soul of America.

Those things which on private lands and in national forests are essential material resources, to be used wisely and with caution, in national parks acquire a sanctity comparable to great works of art. Thus giant Sitka spruces six hundred or more years old, standing in virgin forests of equal age and grandeur in the shadow of Mount Olympus, have an infinitely greater value to Americans than could be realized from the lumber which could be sawed from them. In the adjacent national forest and private lands such trees may be used, and properly so, to satisfy the material needs of peace and war, but not in the Olympic National Park where one of the last remnants of the great northwest coast forest still stands. Not at any rate until every last Sitka spruce outside the park, both in the Northwest and Alaska, has been requisitioned.

The case of the Sitka spruce is a timely example of the many impending dangers to the National Parks, but it is only one example of pressure for economic exploitation. We hear, for instance, that the livestock men wish to graze their animals in the lush meadows of the national parks in order to produce a maximum output of beef and mutton. They see their angle of the problem, but overlook the destruction of the glorious meadows of wildflowers and of the forage for wildlife, as well as the



National Park Service

In the Lake McDonald region of Glacier National Park—"Are the national parks, as some people think, merely peacetime luxuries, which may now be neglected or even exploited?"

precedent of commercial use which is involved. The guardians of the parks and the interested public will ask, "Are these mountain meadows in the aggregate large enough in comparison with other available lands to make a difference in the winning of the war? Is that small additional amount of meat going to compensate us and our children for the loss of the few wild and natural spots where the glories and peace of the God-made scene can still be found?"

We shall probably hear also that beautiful streams should be dammed to produce water power, and that mining of various kinds should be permitted. We may be told that some of the parks should be used for extensive military maneuvers, which could only result in inflicting severe and irreparable damage upon natural conditions. It has even been suggested that enemy aliens be quartered in the national parks,—a use wholly incompatible with their primary purpose and with the contribution they can make to the welfare of visitors. Such a use is dangerous, too, because of the possibilities of sabotage. Elsewhere many unused waterpowers and many undeveloped mineral deposits are available for wartime and peacetime use, and great areas of suitable terrain are available for military and other war purposes. The burden of proof clearly rests on the supporters of these proposals to show that wartime needs can be met only by use of lands inside the parks.

The answer, therefore, to the question propounded herein is that the highest contribution of the national parks in wartime is the same as it is in peacetime, but of even greater importance. In the wearisome tension of war and the let-down of the following peace, people turn to the fundamental and immutable things to renew their courage and their hope. In the primeval parks and monuments these fundamental and immutable things can be found singularly unchanged,—an earnest of the continuity of life and hope. Surely these havens of refuge, tied to the eternal past, must and will be kept inviolate, to the end that not only this generation, but those which follow it, may feel the healing power and inspiration they possess.

Half A Century and the National Parks

By NEWTON B. DRURY
Director, National Park Service

From an address made at Sequoia National Park

TONIGHT we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of Sequoia, one of the primary national parks. This is, therefore, an appropriate occasion to dwell upon the reasons why these valuable mountain lands, and the great trees thereon, were given this status, rather than being put to some other use.

Each national park in that collection of gems which now encircle the nation has its own charm, its own atmosphere or essential attribute. Yellowstone is our greatest wildlife preserve as well as an exhibit of the titanic forces of nature. The Grand Canyon is the world's greatest example of erosion, an "abyss in time"; the Yosemite is a landscape of glacial-hewn granite and thundering waterfalls; Carlsbad Caverns might be termed a subterranean cathedral; Mount Rainier, Crater Lake, Lassen, the Great Smokies, Glacier, Olympic — we could go through the whole galaxy, discovering in each its peculiar charm, its individual distinction and significance.

Sequoia National Park is the forest primeval. Along the cool and scented lanes of the forest, man may best refresh his soul. "These mighty trees," says Edwin Markham, "seem to be forms of immortality standing among the transitory shapes of time". The dense growth deadens sound. The busy world is remote, and man can worship under these trees and return refreshed in soul to the incessant beat of a mechanized and noisy civilization. The atmosphere in Sequoia is distinct from that in any other national park. Wisely it has been preserved, for, once that atmosphere his been diluted with baser elements, the benefits to be derived from a visit to the Giant Forest would be largely lost.

I pay tribute to the long line of superintendents who have disturbed as little as possible the primitive qualities of the forest while making it accessible in reasonable degree to an increasing number of visitors. Theirs was a difficult task, and they have performed it well.

Here we are now, at the end of fifty years, looking back over the history of Sequoia National Park, and of the steadily broadening program of conservation in which it has a place. This anniversary is not only a time of taking stock of what has been accomplished, but also a time of planning for improvement in the years to come. It is only natural therefore that we should look forward and speculate as to the future of the national parks. What sort of places will they be after the lapse of another fifty years?

Foremost among my impressions is a sense of the constantly increasing complexity of the functions of the National Park Service. Sequoia was the second national park, and one of four in 1890. In these past fifty years the number of parks, monuments, and related properties to be administered has increased forty-fold. They now number 162, comprise almost 22,000,000 acres, employ 7,000 persons, and are visited annually by over 15,000,000 of our citizens. To the twenty-six areas designated by Congress as national parks there have been added many other types — national monuments, historical sites, recreational areas — together with a widespread program of cooperation with the States. All this expansion has of necessity called for more complicated organization, greater personnel and new definitions of policy to meet varying situations and needs. I am

impressed by the way in which the Service has met this challenge, and am proud to have a part in it.

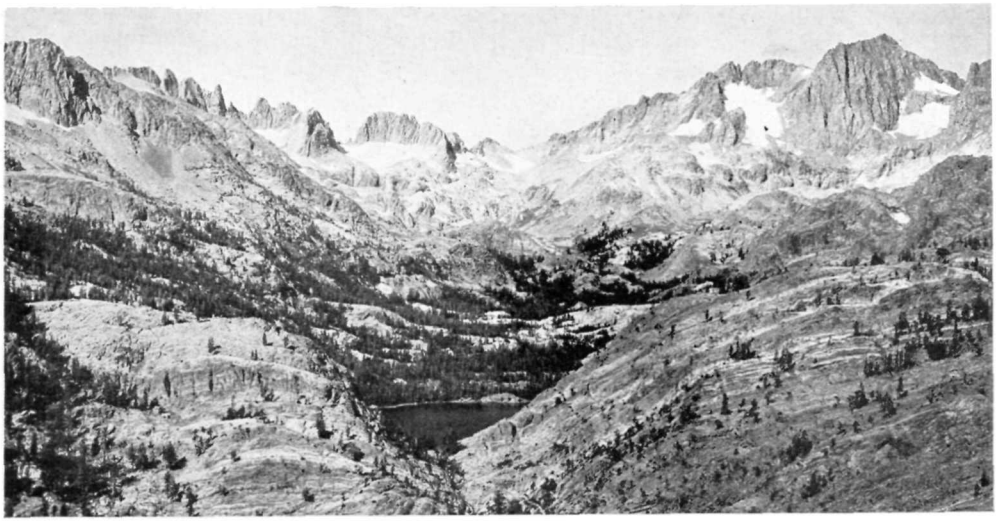
Although the national park program has departed from the simplicity of objective that it had in the days of Lane and Mather, I am nevertheless impressed by the fact that even today, as in the early years, much of its prestige, much of its greatest distinction, lies in this fact that as a Service we are the nation's trustees for certain superlative examples of nature's handiwork, particularly in the West. I am also impressed with the fidelity of those key men of the Service — superintendents, rangers, and others in the field — in their striving to keep alive the original national park ideal. I am impressed, too, with the fine professional spirit, and the objective approach, of the staff men—administrators, technicians, specialists—both at Washington and in the four regions. We are fortunate to have their knowledge and experience, and our problem is to correlate these and bring them properly to bear upon our problems. The technicians will, I hope, realize this appreciation, and pardon any suggestion that a balance must be struck among their competing enthusiasms, just as we administrators have to be restrained from making the mechanics of governmental procedure an end instead of a means. Specialized knowledge is, of course, the all-essential thing in any enterprise. But it is, after all, the men on the firing line, the men who meet the public and deal with actual problems on the ground, upon whom greatest responsibility rests. They are the main agency for determining the facts underlying sound policies, and for carrying out those policies intelligently once they are formulated. They are the real trustees.

A number of questions rise in my mind, foremost among them being how we may best maintain the integrity of the original national park ideal. How far are we being carried away from this ideal by the trend toward expansion? Recognizing fully the importance of those later functions assumed by the National Park Service, such as the preservation of significant evidences of history, and administration of lands that add to the people's opportunities for outings, how can we still hold to the objective stated in the act creating the primary national parks? The objective is "to conserve the scenery and natural and historical objects and wildlife therein, and provide for the enjoyment thereof in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for future generations".

Park administrators will tell you that this is only a partly attainable ideal. A delicate balance, constantly shifting, has to be struck between use and preservation. Every great landscape carries in its beauty the seeds of its own destruction. Primitive wilderness characteristics in the great national parks give them their real prestige, and will increasingly add to their distinction as these qualities disappear elsewhere. But these qualities are readily destroyed. The beauty of a virgin forest, or of a mountain lake or meadow; the setting from which great manifestation of nature's forces are viewed — these are fragile things. It is easy to rob them of their bloom, to take away much of their meaning. What was once hallowed ground becomes merely another piece of land; and thus we lose a priceless possession of the nation.

Practical considerations must, of course, temper idealism. If the beauties of the national parks are to be enjoyed, they must be made available. But the test may well be qualitative as well as quantitative. The principle of multifarious use may be practical; but so is the principle of diminishing returns.

Plenty of room exists for difference of opinion as to how far the highest public interest, viewed from a long-range standpoint, is served by varying kinds of use and consequent development of lands that we call parks. There are always different values to be weighed. The relentless pressure for invading by road the last vestiges of wilderness is only one symbol of a com-



Palisades from Agnew Pass in Sequoia National Park—"The beauty of a virgin forest, or of a mountain lake or meadow—these are fragile things."

plicated task before us. Pressures of showmanship and of various kinds of commercial exploitation are sometimes presented with plausibility and in such innocent guise that wrong trends thus established are at first scarcely perceptible. It is often easy for the camel to get his head under the tent. Particularly is this danger enhanced by the fact that, side by side, the Service is administering on the one hand land resources in the full use of which intensive development is inevitably indicated, and on the other, those areas of superlative beauty and interest in the enjoyment of which there has been built up a tradition of restraint.

Whether this tradition is to be strengthened or gradually diluted is one of the questions with which, in the future, we shall have to cope. The answer may well depend upon how clearly we define our aims. Certainly this question is basic. It affects the destiny of Sequoia and of every other primary national park. In the midst of many competing demands of a vast and complicated program, it must not be lost sight of in the shuffle, for with the years has come a deeper realization that the effort to preserve the superlative natural features in our national parks has been worth while. Landscape beauty and the majesty of forests and of mountains most of all have attracted increasing millions. Yet there are other features that give meaning to the landscape. One of these is an abundance of animal life, fast disappearing elsewhere. Almost the only places where one may now study the footprints of such rare animals as the wolverine and the fisher are in these national parks where all animal life has been protected for a long term of years. While we record the disappearance of mountain sheep in other high mountain regions, we are able to state that there is good prospect of the restoration of this species to some of the mountainous areas of Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks. So is it in the world of plants. Instead of scarred second-growth forests, park visitors see virgin stands of giant sequoia, sugar pine and fir, and the rich cover of the forest floor with plant associations that have evolved through the centuries. In the high country the meadows are filled with lush grass

and wildflowers instead of turning to sandy wastes covered with brush and weeds. Animal and plant life have their best chance of survival in the national parks, because all forms of life are given carefully planned protection.

We must not forget, in this connection, the far-reaching contribution of the parks to education. National parks were set aside for the benefit of the people; but in order that the people may benefit to the fullest degree, they need to understand the natural beauties of the parks. Therefore we have the interpretative programs which convey a maximum of understanding and appreciation of the chief features. Major problems in physical, geological, biological, and historical science are vividly presented in the national parks, and visitors are anxious to learn about them. Stimulation of man's mental and spiritual faculties is as important as is physical recreation.

Much thought and planning have gone into ministering this need. In Grand Canyon National Park, for instance, a specially designed lookout station at Yavapai Point was built to help the public understand how the canyon was made, what the rock strata tell us regarding the history of the earth, what life has been present here through the ages, and what plant and animal life inhabits the canyon today. Telescopes there help the visitor see the features which prove the scientific story, and graphic exhibits bring other proofs to hand. The visitor to Grand Canyon is able to carry away with him not only an impression of immensity and color, but also an inner sense of satisfaction that comes from having read a chapter from the book of nature.

Likewise at Crater Lake, a station, the Sinnott Memorial, helps the visitor understand the volcanic processes which produced the crater and the lake.

When one stands atop Moro Rock in Sequoia National Park, he sees range on range of granite mountains cut by deep canyons. How can he help but want to know how those granite mountains came to be; why the pockets of snow nestle close below the summits; how water could cut such great canyons, and why trees can grow in such abundance in mountains of solid rock? The dependable answers to these questions are left to a specially trained group of men known as naturalists, who lead the visitor afield to gain first-hand knowledge of those features that make the park notable. The best use of national parks is to make them convey an intelligent appreciation of nature.

There is yet another educational feature that needs support. The national parks are becoming the only unmodified areas of large extent open to the scientist attempting to unlock nature's secrets. Everywhere else the hand of man leaves a tarnished landscape. In the parks we expect to find a place where forests continue to evolve normally, where animal life remains intact with all its component parts still present, and where grassy meadows bloom without disturbance by cattle or sheep. Only under such conditions can the scientists expect to pursue research with the necessary normal control of conditions. From the results obtained by trained investigators must come the facts which explain the scientific story of the earth.

But why should we stress the practical values underlying our national parks, when we all know that they stimulate in us great thoughts, great poetry, great music, and that intangible mental exaltation which we call "inspiration".

The unspoiled wilderness has indeed much to offer modern man, for here he has a chance to lose the noise, the rust and the disease of civilization. National park visitors are finding out that what John Muir prophesied is true, when he said, "Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that wilderness is a necessity; and that mountain parks are useful not only as fountains of timber but as fountains of life."

RAIN FOREST

IN areas of the globe where rainfall is extremely heavy we find vegetation more luxuriant than elsewhere. Forests are dense and tall, and the smaller plant-life is abundant. Usually found in the tropics, such areas are known as rain forests. To us in the United States mere mention of a rain forest stirs the imagination, for a rain forest seems indeed a strange place belonging to a fabulous and far-away land to which we may never hope to travel.

Anyone holding such thoughts would perhaps be surprised to learn that there is a rain forest within the boundaries of our own country.

Overlooking the Pacific Ocean and clothing the lower west slopes of the Olympic Mountains of Washington this forest is called the Olympic Rain Forest. Comparatively small in extent, the area receives the heaviest rainfall of any part of our country. Ocean-borne clouds sweeping

Cushioned with moss, decked with ferns and carpeted with oxalis, the Olympic Rain Forest is a wierdly beautiful place.

Photograph by the Editor

Photograph by the Editor

How great a tragedy it would be if the last intact stand of the Olympic Rain Forest should be destroyed.

against the western side of the mountain barrier, drop their moisture on the lower valleys and ridges in the average annual amount of 142 inches a year. Compare with this the average annual rainfall at Washington, D. C., which is forty-five inches.

Unlike the tropical rain forests which are composed of dense tangles of vines, shrubs and hardwood trees, our rain forest is made up almost entirely of coniferous trees, with Douglas fir, Sitka spruce, western hemlock, western red cedar and lowland white fir the dominant species. These often attain heights of 250 feet and over, with trunk diameters up to seventeen feet. Pace off seventeen feet on your living-room floor and try to visualize it as the diameter of a tree trunk.

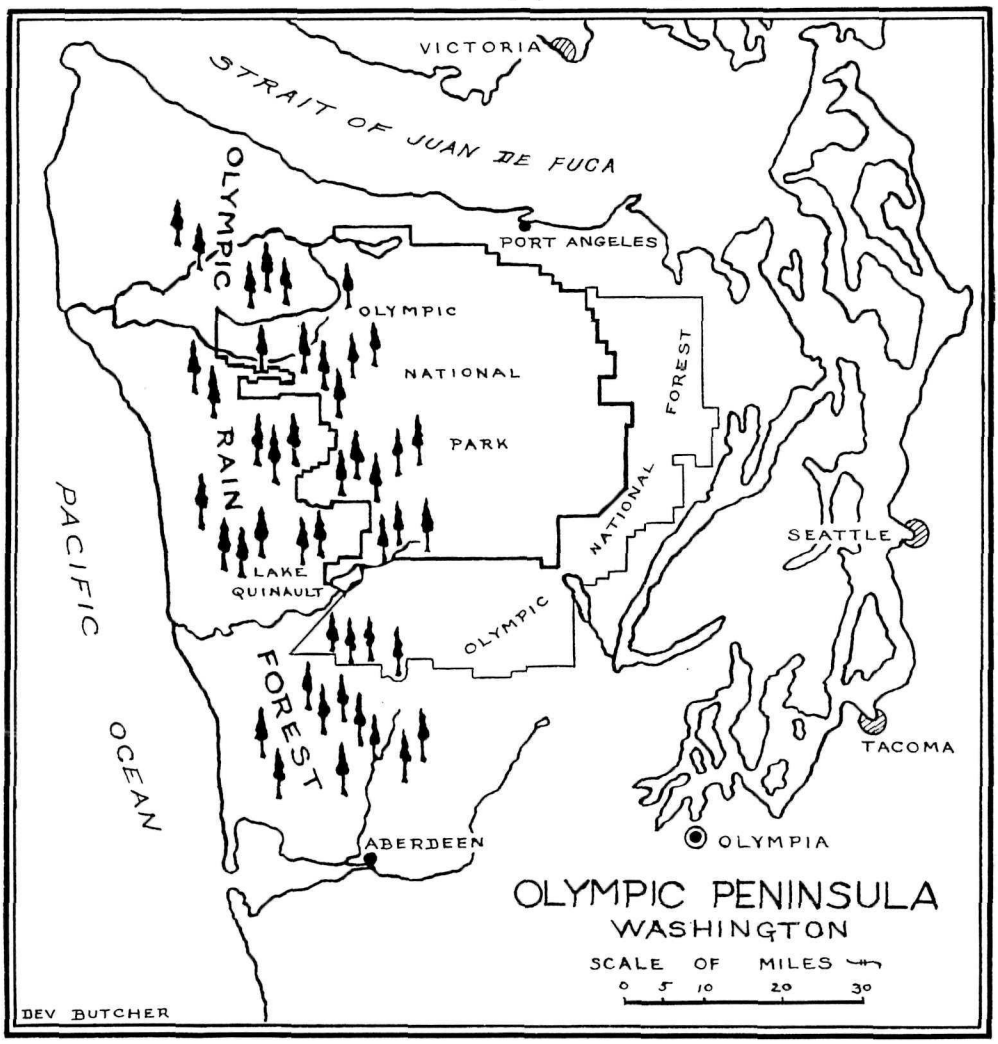
Cushioned with moss, decked with ferns and carpeted with oxalis, the Olympic Rain Forest is a weirdly beautiful place of nearly perpetual twilight. Because in all North America there is no other towering, dripping forest like this, it stands as one of the great scenic wonders of our country, and comprises a portion of our heritage to be preserved, at least in part, for the inspira-

tion and enjoyment of the nation for all time.

Today much of the Olympic Rain Forest has been wiped out. Its trees are commercially important. Lumber companies have, therefore, harvested them over many acres, but not in every case have these companies done their harvesting with care. Much of the land that was once covered with these trees is now a desolate waste of huge charred stumps and snags standing in a sea of weeds and brush with no young trees growing up for the use and benefit of future Americans. In these cut-over, burned-over areas the large pink and black Lewis woodpecker inhabits the snags; yet even he in all his glory seems to bear the aspect of the vulture which inhabits the battlefield.

Part of the great rain forest lies within the boundaries of the Olympic National Forest. Here it is protected from fire, and here, when timber is cut, the methods of cutting best suited to reproducing the forest are used. Another part of the forest

Location of the Olympic Rain Forest.



lies within the Quinault Indian Reservation. Here it is also carefully cut. Much of the forest is in private ownership, and here it can only be hoped that proper management will be given preference over the wasteful practice of "clean out and get out."

But all methods of harvesting timber whether good or bad disturb the natural primitive condition of a forest. It is fortunate, therefore, that government and conservation leaders have made it possible to preserve what may some day be a mere remnant of the Olympic Rain Forest by including part of it within the boundaries of the Olympic National Park.

Today we are engaged in a death-struggle to keep America for Americans and to maintain the American way of life. The trees of our forests are playing a tremendous part in this struggle. Wood and more wood is required to fill countless wartime needs, and the woods of the Olympic Rain Forest are among the most important, particularly the Sitka spruce which is used for airplane construction. This species has a narrow range extending north along the coast to Alaska. Though the supply is limited, it is expected that the yet untouched stands of Alaska will be tapped this summer. Most accessible, however, is that located in the Puget Sound and Olympic region. Had care been used by lumber companies in the past it is likely that in this region there would be a considerably larger supply of this valuable wood to draw upon in this emergency. If through increasing demands, the remaining available supply is used up, it is possible that the sanctity of Olympic National Park may have to be violated. How great a tragedy it would be, if, because of wasteful cutting in the past, the last intact stand of the Olympic Rain Forest should be destroyed.

National Park Service

A lake in the heart of Louisiana's primeval forest.

ACT NOW, LOUISIANA

By Devereux Butcher

A GREAT heritage of the American people and more particularly of the people of Louisiana, is at stake. It is almost too late to save this heritage, but while there is life there is hope.

California has its big trees, Washington its rain forest, Tennessee and North Carolina their huge stands of rhododendrons, Arizona its sahuaro cactus, and so on, all of them gems of the original North American landscape; but all of them desperately perishable in the presence of man when considered in the light of "progress." Yet these have been placed in the custody of the Federal Government for safe keeping for the education, inspiration and enjoyment of present and future generations.

To this array of nature's handiwork Louisiana might contribute the nation's last sizeable remnant of bottomland hardwood forest containing a nearly intact wildlife population. This forest in pioneer days stretched from the lower Ohio basin to the Gulf of Mexico in a vast, unbroken wilderness. It crowded close to the river banks, spread over the flood plains and up along the tributaries of the Mississippi. In this forest grew some of the largest hardwood trees to be found on the continent. In the process of building our nation this forest has been felled until today little of it remains. Now it makes its last brief stand against the onslaught of man. This towering remnant of forest is located in Madison Parish in northern Louisiana and stands as a lone sentinel reminiscent of the prehistoric continent. It is easily reached by all who would go and see, for it is close to north-south and east-west routes by both road and rail. This, indeed, should be Louisiana's contribution of a bit of primitive America, saved for the education, inspiration and enjoyment of the nation.

Known as the Singer Wildlife Refuge, this tract was purchased in 1912 by the Singer Sewing Machine Company. Since that time the area has been patrolled by wardens, and restrictions have prohibited hunting, trapping and camping as a means of preventing forest fires. It is owing to this protection that both flora and fauna have been preserved nearly intact. In this respect Mr. Stanley P. Young, formerly Chief of the Division of Predator and Rodent Control, Fish and Wildlife Service, says, "I know of no refuge . . . . that offers such a wide variety in the way of wildlife species . . . .," and Mr. E. G. Holt of the Soil Conservation Service wrote in a diary, "The forest is magnificent—superb sweet gum, water and willow oak, ash, hackberry, bitter pecan, and so forth, and rings continually with bird songs. The place is alive with birds."

Describing this wilderness, Mr. Victor H. Cahalane of the Section on National Park Wildlife, Fish and Wildlife Service, says, "The visitor is immediately impressed with the luxuriant vegetation and the extraordinary size of the trees. The bulk and height of the gums, walnuts and oaks makes a great impression. This is no ordinary forest. It is the product of centuries, and when once cut, even an approximation of it will not be restored in a hundred years. . . . Huge grape vines festoon the trees. Some of them have climbed the trunks only to creep out on the first limbs and then swing clear of their support. There is then the spectacle of a vine ascending from the ground through open air for sixty or seventy feet to the forest canopy." In describing the cypress-ringed lakes which are the scenic jewels of the area, Mr. Cahalane says, "One type of lake is completely surrounded by the towering forest which even

marches out into the water. The presence of such a lake can be detected only by watching for a break in the forest canopy."

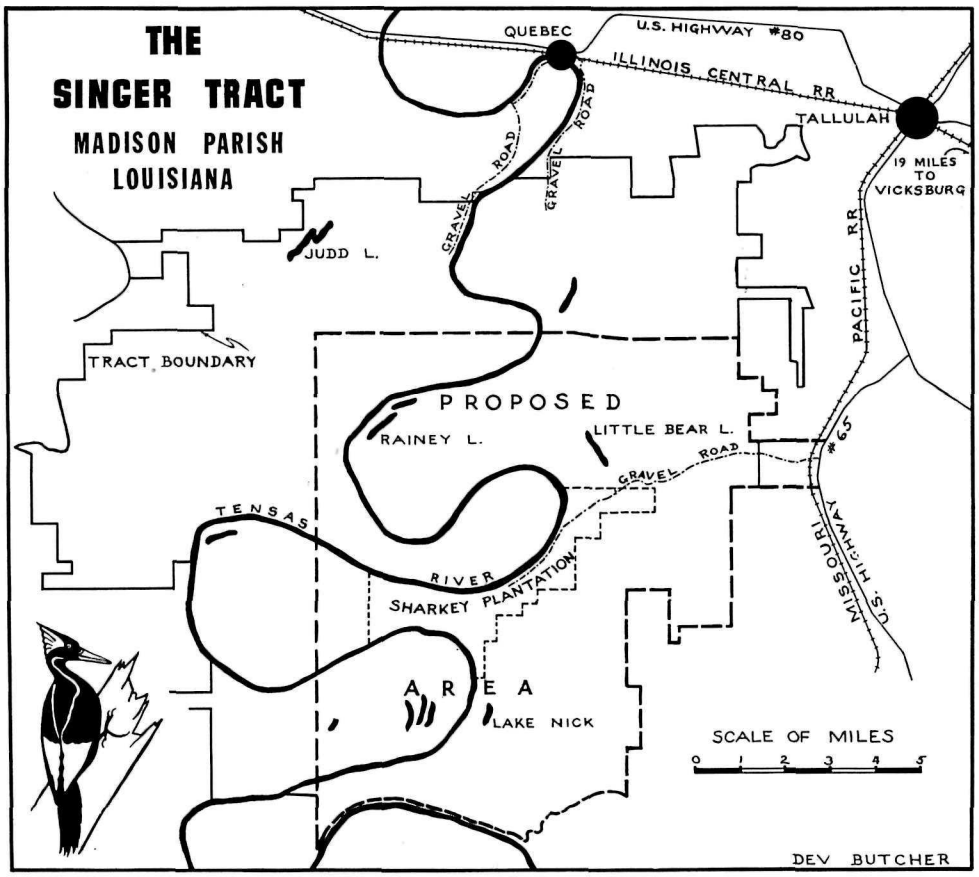
Dr. James T. Tanner of State Teachers College, Johnson City, Tennessee, who made a very thorough study of the ivory-billed woodpecker, says of the Singer tract, ". . . . through the years 1937-40 I believe that I have visited and investigated every important swamp area in the southern states. The Singer tract in Louisiana is by far the nearest to a primitive bottomland forest in the South. It is the largest and best virgin forest in the Mississippi Valley bottomlands, and it is the only one I have encountered which has the original fauna practically intact."

The most outstanding feature of the forest is the Tensas (pronounced Tensaw) River which winds across the tract in great ox-bows that are sometimes seven or eight miles across. The lakes which dot the area are long and narrow and are thought to have been parts of the former river course. Several of these lakes have been largely spoiled by logging. The picture before and after the forest has been cut around one of these lakes would convince any lover of nature and scenic beauty of the importance of sparing the remaining lakes in this area.

Outstanding among the mammal population on the tract are the cougar, the black bear and the black wolf. White-tail deer are abundant, and have increased under protection. Sought by the cougar, they find cover and food in the dense thickets of cane. Raccoon, fox squirrel, gray squirrel, opossum, bobcat, cottontail rabbit and the larger swamp rabbit also are found on the refuge.

Among the bird population the most noteworthy species is the ivory-billed woodpecker. This is the largest and most spectacular of all woodpeckers native to the United States. Today its numbers stand at a dangerously low ebb. During the years in which Dr. Tanner studied this bird he investigated forty-nine different areas and covered about 45,000 miles. He places an estimate of possibly twenty-four individuals remaining in existence although he saw but five, all of which were in the Singer tract. The needs of this bird are exacting. Its food supply consists of borers which attack the sapwood of recently dead large old trees. Such trees must die in numbers as by a wind storm or fire, and virgin timber alone is able to provide a sufficient supply. The cutting of forests has reduced the range of the ivory-billed woodpecker to its present small area, though the bird once was found from southern Illinois south to East Texas and from southeastern North Carolina through Florida and along the Gulf Coast. Whether the preservation of the Singer tract will save this notable species from extinction is questionable; but certain it is that if this remnant of virgin bottomland forest is totally cut or even reduced in size, the species will join the Carolina paroquet, the passenger pigeon and the heath hen to be remembered only through pictures and a few museum specimens.

Seven other species of woodpeckers are to be found in the Singer Wildlife Refuge. Among them is the pileated, second only to the ivory-billed in size and spectacular appearance. Its loud, raucous cries are frequently heard in the forest. Here, too, in summer are to be seen the indigo and painted buntings, the Swainson and prothonotary warblers, the cerulean warbler and the little parula warbler which builds its nest in the veils of Spanish moss that drape the cypress trees. Along the river or flying above the lakes can be seen the glossy-black snake bird or anhinga. Along the lake shores or river banks are to be seen great blue herons, little green herons, Louisiana herons, yellow-crowned night herons and others of their kind, as well as the wood duck and occasionally the purple gallinule. Under protection the eastern turkey has become more abundant, and its gobbling is often heard; but weirdest of all sounds of the primeval forest is the call of the barrel owl.



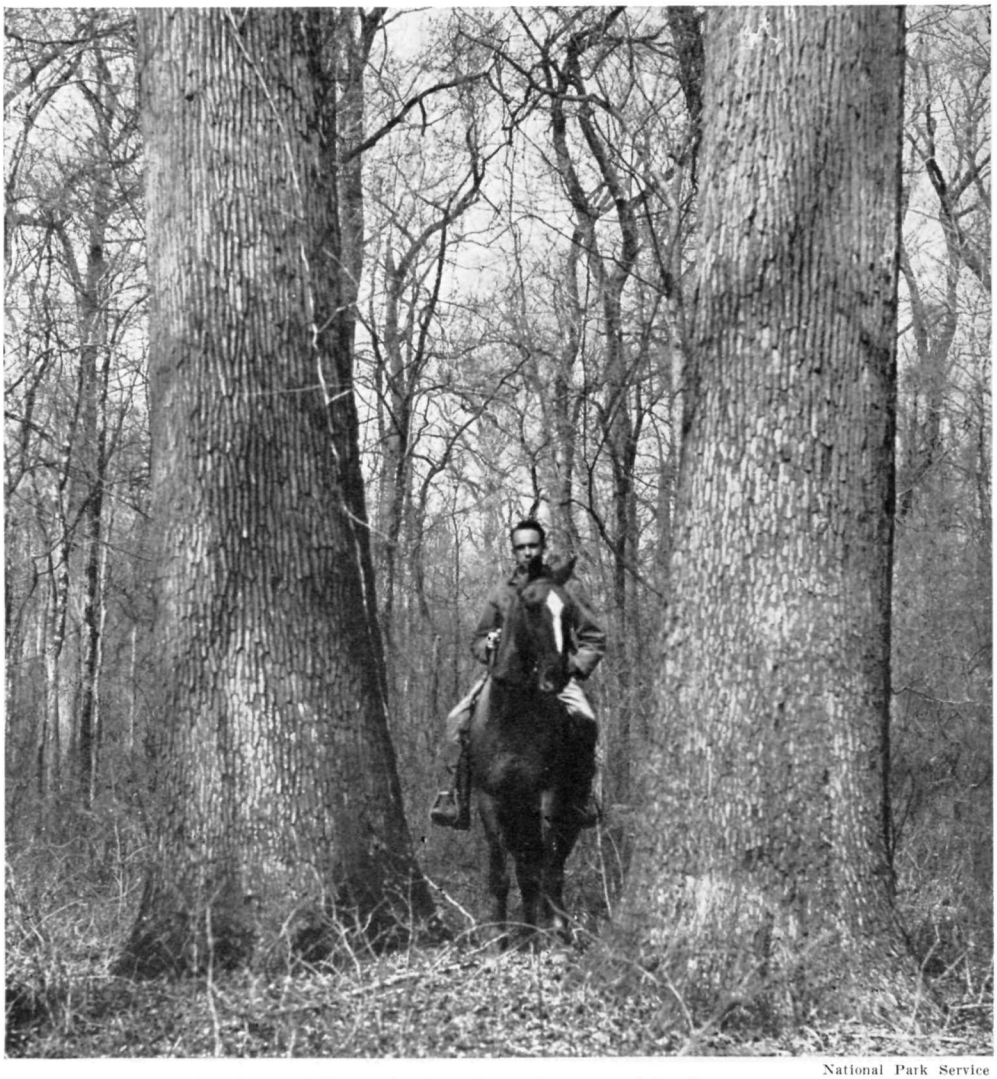
Mr. Jerome Kessler of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club writing in the May 1942 issue of "Cassinia" tells about his third visit to the Singer tract. Hiking at night along the road to Sharkey Plantation, and intending to reach Corkran's Camp, he says, "Fearing that perhaps I had passed it in the total darkness, I began loudly calling . . . . I was answered by a veritable barrage of barred owl hootings. It seemed the whole forest resounded with these pleasant though weird calls."

In the waters of the refuge several kinds of fish are found, among which are largemouth black bass, black crappie locally known as rock bass, gar which are sometimes several feet in length, bream and other sunfish. Fishing is frequently reported to be good.

In 1937 the Singer holdings comprised about 81,102 acres. Through sale and logging contracts to the Chicago Millwork and Lumber Company and the Tendall Lumber Company this area has shrunk to 35,000 acres. On areas that have been sold, logging is proceeding at a rapid rate. Within the tract there are also several other privately owned pieces, largest of which is the Sharkey Plantation, part of which has reverted to forest.

The area proposed for acquisition by the Federal Government comprises 45,480 acres shown on the map by a heavy broken line.

In these days of cut-over and burned-over lands, the Singer Wildlife Refuge is a thing to marvel at. To one familiar with natural communities, a feeling of scientific



National Park Service

Dr. James T. Tanner lends scale to the trees of the Singer tract. This is no ordinary forest. It is the product of centuries.

interest and a sense of beauty develops with contact and field observation. And in spite of the area's apparent value not only as an irreplaceable example of primitive bottomland forest, but also as an area for scientific research, it is now nearly certain that logging will continue until the forest is destroyed. Following destruction of the forest the area is being divided and disposed of to small farmers who, though finding the soil rich, at best make a poor living. Clearing the ground is difficult, and fire and half-hearted attempts at clearing further the destruction caused by lumbering.

The National Park Service says that this virgin forest is of a type not found in any existing area of the National Park or Monument System, nor in any other proposed area, and that the unique faunal associa-

tion, nearly intact, likewise is not found in any other area of the System.

The nation-wide interest in attempting to preserve the ivory-billed woodpecker, together with the idea of preserving America's last remaining bit of virgin bottomland forest and its fauna, would in themselves seem to justify the tract's inclusion in the National Park or Monument System; but another benefit that would result from its preservation would be that the tract, as a large scale demonstration area, might well serve as an example to stimulate the use of all phases of natural science as a means for recreation. It would show to visitors a value in the form of conservation, education and recreation to be gained from such an area.

Strong and immediate action is necessary to save the remaining forest of the Singer tract. Such action must first come from local sources.

Though a bill was recently introduced in Congress by Senator Ellender of Louisiana calling for the creation of the Tensas Swamp National Park, all interest in this bill has apparently been obliterated by the war effort. Well might one say that we must first win the war, but such a person will do well to remember that when we have won the war the forest of the Singer tract will either no longer be in existence or will be so reduced in size as to be inadequate to preserve the more important features which now make it deserving of national recognition. Our national parks and national monuments, as well as areas like the forest of the Singer tract, comprise part of our heritage that is worth fighting to protect.

Louisianans, you must lead in the effort to save the Singer forest just as the people of other states have led in the efforts to save areas of national significance within their states. It is late, Louisianans, but not too late.

The stand of the National Parks Association in regard to acquisition by the Federal Government of a portion of the Singer tract is expressed in the following resolution adopted at the Association's annual meeting in May 1940:

Since the extensive primeval area located southwest of the town of Tallulah in Madison Parish, Louisiana, contains a unique example of primitive bottomland forest with some of the largest specimens of certain native trees in existence; and

Since a portion of this area contains a practically complete native fauna, including certain rare mammals as well as a few specimens of the nearly extinct ivory-billed woodpecker; and

Since this area has been maintained for the past twelve years as a sanctuary for wildlife, but certain parts of it have recently been leased for cutting and the entire area is in imminent danger of being sold for timber;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that a substantial portion of the primeval area in Madison Parish, Louisiana, should be acquired at an early date for establishment, preferably, as a national biologic monument to be administered by the National Park Service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ellender Bill, S. 329, to provide for the establishment of the Tansas Swamp National Park in the same section of Louisiana, should be amended accordingly and enacted by Congress at an early date.

A free lecture entitled "Kodachrome Adventures with Wildflowers, Mosses and Mushrooms" to be given by your Executive Secretary, Devereux Butcher, is scheduled for the evening of July 31. The lecture is one in the summer series of Campfire Programs sponsored by the National Capitol Parks of the U. S. Department of the Interior being held at the Sylvan Theater on the grounds of the Washington Monument, Washington, D. C.

THE WORLD'S FIRST PICTURE GALLERIES

By Ethel W. Musgrave

Countless ages ago—long before man's works of art adorned the world—Mother Nature was in her studio deep in the earth creating pictures of great beauty.

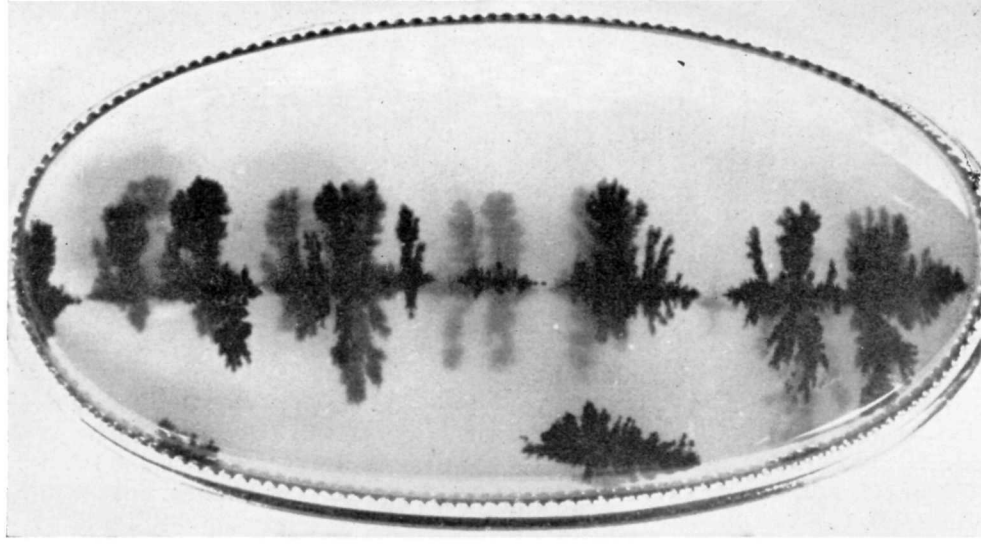
If you were to stroll along the banks of the Yellowstone River you might stub your toe on a rounded, water-worn stone never knowing that within the stone there is a miniature landscape as beautiful as a painting by Turner or Corot. Moss agate is the name for such a stone, and it may range from the size and weight of a pebble to twenty-two pounds, the largest so far known.

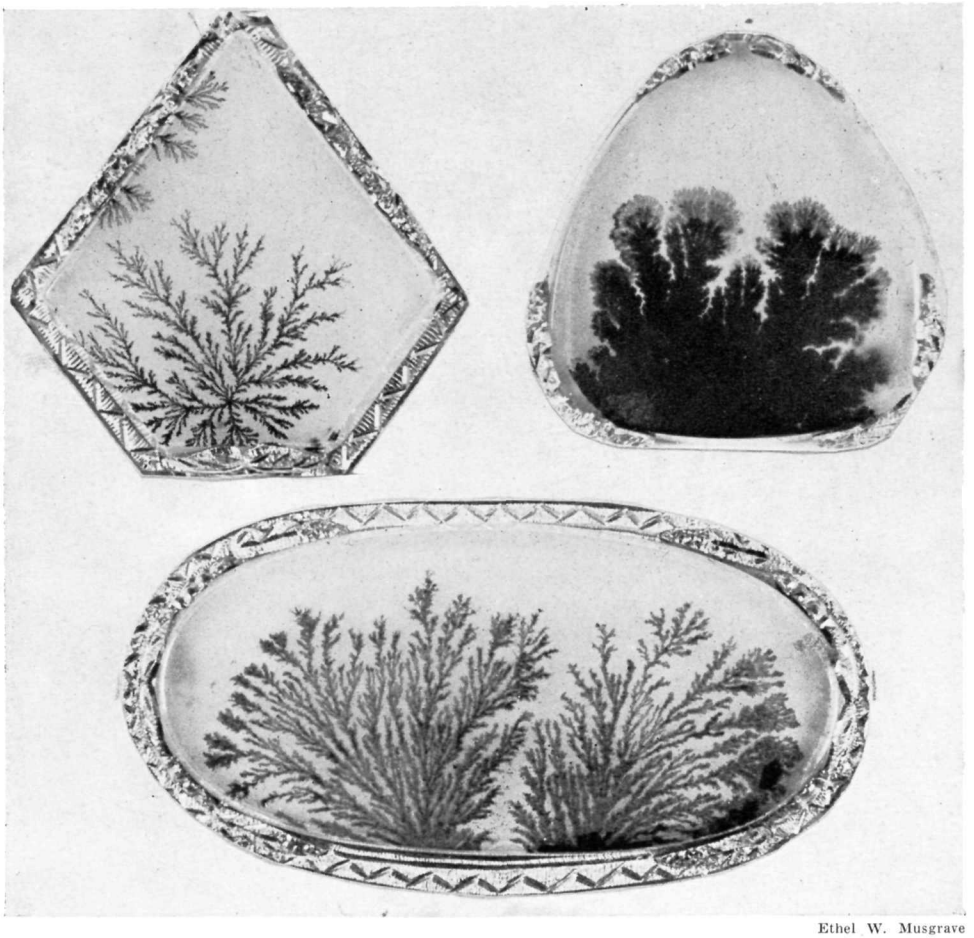
Moss agates are found in the Canyon of the Yellowstone River in Yellowstone National Park and down stream to the North Dakota line, with the finest specimens occurring in the vicinity of Billings and eastward. Cicily, China, India and Brazil also produce moss agates, and it may have been this stone which was the chalcedony of Bible times.

Contrary to their name, the moss agate is not of vegetable origin, although many people believe they are bits of moss that have been preserved in agate, just as insects and bits of leaves have been imprisoned for eternity in resinous amber. They are wholly mineral, and geologists now believe that perhaps a hundred million years ago most of these stones were formed by a deposit of silica. Disolving in warm water—still so plentiful in Yellowstone Park—the silica was brought to the surface by the bubbling up of underground streams, and carried away to be dropped along watercourses into depressions that served as cooling basins. Through the years these cooling basins became dry and the heat of the sun crystallized and hardened the silica deposits. A geologic upheaval then broke it into small pieces and cracked the surface with tiny fissures. In a later age, water bearing other minerals in solution covered the pieces of agate and filled the fissures

Like a Corot is this scene of "cottonwoods on a river bank" imprisoned in agate from the Valley of the Yellowstone.

Ethel W. Musgrave





Ethel W. Musgrave

Tiny ferns and seaweeds of many colors are hidden away in these semiprecious stones which, in their natural state, give no hint of the beauty they contain

with colored mineral hydroxides—black of manganese, red of iron, green of copper and blue of nickel. Some of these hydroxides were deposited in layers.

Combinations of form, color and pattern are infinite. The agates contain landscapes, marines, studies of ferns, trees and mosses. There are forest fires, tropical moonrises, pointed fir and spruce trees, wind-blown palms on a coral beach, prim little New England churches, and an Okeefeenoke Swamp no larger than your thumb nail, all in the translucence of agate.

The cutting and polishing of moss agate calls for a saw with an edge of diamond dust because it is the world's third hardest stone. Unlike the diamond, the moss agate contains no "faults," which are the nightmare of the diamond cutters. "Faults" may cause a magnificent stone to break, resulting in a great loss. The texture of the moss agate is perfect, and the cutter's only concern is to expose its prettiest picture. When this has been found and sized, the stone is polished, after which the perfection of its gleaming surface cannot be marred even by scratching with metal.

Depending upon picture, color and workmanship, these stones when sold as jewelry, run in price as high as 250 dollars.

Here is the 1942 forest fire prevention poster of the National Park Service which is being displayed in the national parks during the present forest fire season.

Obey the poster's good advice by extinguishing your matches, cigarette and cigar stubs, pipe duff and campfires while you are in the national parks this summer and autumn.

GUARD THE FORESTS

MODERN war is no longer confined to two opposing armies on a field of battle. The striking power of the enemy can be felt today thousands of miles from struggling armies and navies.

We in continental United States are fortunate in being able to say that, so far during the present war, the roar of enemy planes, tanks and bursting bombs have not been heard in our land. In other ways, however, we have long ago felt the ruthless hand of the Axis through sabotage activity.

We know that to achieve their aims the Axis partners stop at nothing. To people unacquainted with the facts, it may seem odd that the burning of our forests could gain anything for those partners. It is true, nevertheless, that such destruction can have definite advantage for them, and that it may be all too easily accomplished if we are not prepared.

This summer our commercial and recreational forest lands face a threat from destruction by fire more serious than at any time in our history. This threat could be carried out either from the air or from the ground by fifth columnist saboteurs.

In normal years, even during dry and windy weather, it has been possible to keep a reasonably good control over the spread of fire. This summer the possibility of sabotage incendiarism of forests together with a reduction in available man-power for fighting forest fires can hardly be overemphasized. Consider that it frequently requires thousands of fighters to conquer a single fire, and then try to visualize the futility of attempting to check several, perhaps dozens, of fires that are aided by drought and wind, and starting simultaneously over hundreds of square miles in any of our large forested regions. These fires would spread and join, and the result would be a conflagration the like of which has

never before been seen. Even if sufficient numbers of fighters were available, they could not be rapidly enough organized along the countless miles of fire-line to check the fires.

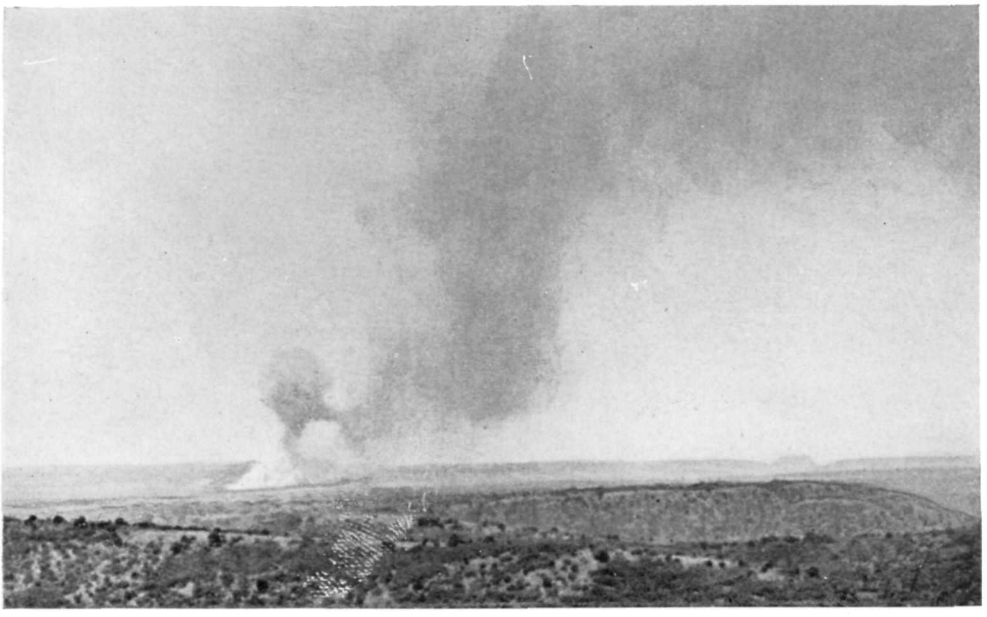
In coastal areas, operating at a time when forests are dry, the work of the fifth columnist might readily be coordinated with enemy naval and air forces attempting invasion or the bombing of a city. Under a smoke screen extending far out to sea and along the coast the enemy might readily be able to carry out his plans. Add to this the loss of forest resources now in great demand for defense preparations; the loss of some of our most superb and irreplaceable scenic and recreation areas, the national parks; and the after effects resulting from soil erosion sweeping down from mountain and hillsides to flood and destroy farms and towns in the nearby lowlands, and you have a picture that is ghastly to contemplate. But we are at war and such a possibility must be realized and efforts made to cope with it by federal, state and private agencies.

Every good American citizen should designate himself a fire warden this summer and autumn. Be on the alert for fire at all times when in wooded or forested country, and report a forest, brush or grass fire instantly to the proper authorities if the fire is already too large for you to bring under control. The sooner a fire is attacked, the better the chances of getting it out.

In a release dated April 11th, the news service of the National Parks Association printed a notice that deserves repeating here: "Because of wartime demands on personnel, increase of fire hazards, and drastic reduction of CCC camps, park and forest agencies will need able-bodied men from the ages of seventeen to sixty for summer work. Training courses have already begun in some areas for jobs as lookouts, smoke-chasers, patrolmen, registrars, prevention guards, etc. Applicants should inquire at their nearest park or forest headquarters."

The pinon pine forest of Wild Horse Mesa in Mesa Verde National Park was the scene of a fire in 1934. In this view it has burned for fifteen minutes. For successive stages of detruction by fire, turn the page.

National Park Service

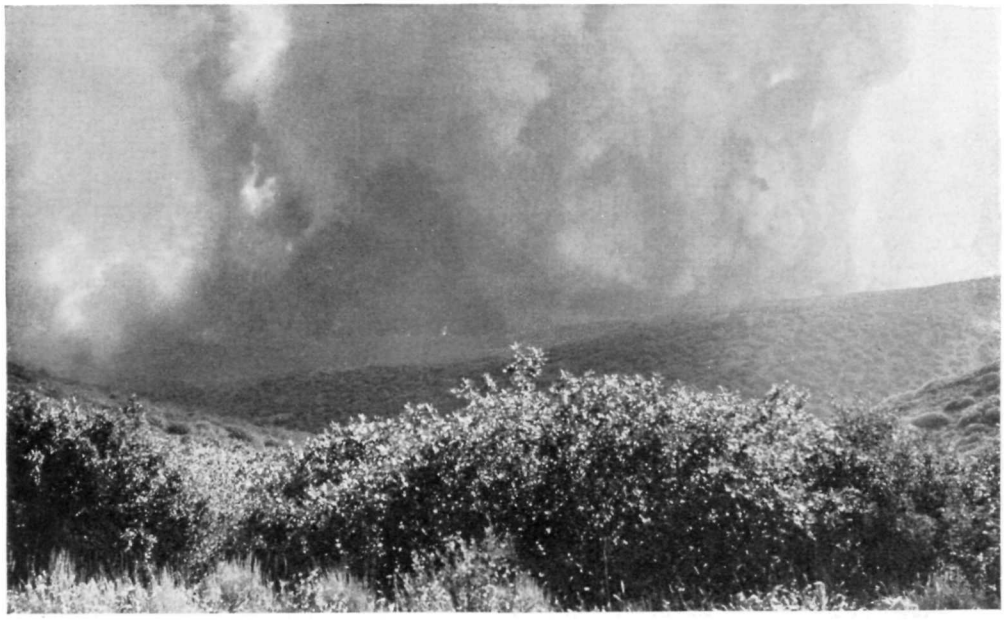


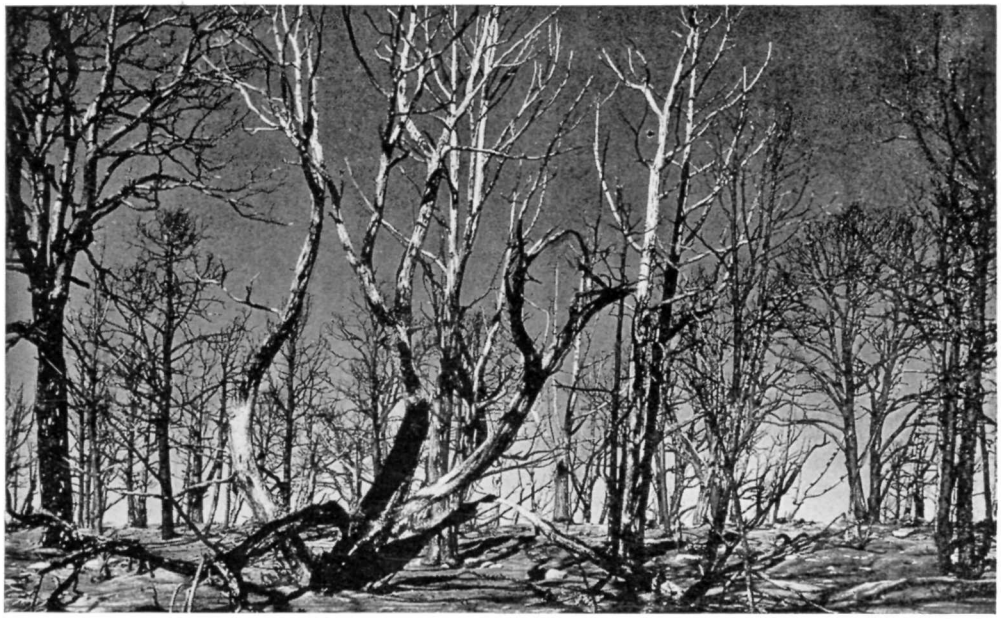
National Park Service

Two hours later the fire is rapidly spreading and still out of control while in the fury of its heat all wildlife and the scenery of the forest vanishes.

The flames are continuing their forward march after three hours, and a large part of one of America's scenic and prehistoric heritages is being wiped out

National Park Service





National Park Service

A scene of death and ruin, the once green forest stands in a silhouette of gray and black against the brilliant blue of the Colorado sky. The red demon has done its work.

With fallen pine needles and soil-holding vegetation burned, rain sends fingers of erosion eating into the soil, and with the rich topsoil gone, this forest will not be replaced in a hundred years.

National Park Service

EXCERPTS–

From the Minutes of Our Annual Meeting

Time: May fourteenth. Place: The Cosmos Club, Washington, D. C. Those present: Fifteen Trustees, including Mr. William P. Wharton, President; Mr. Edward B. Ballard, Executive Secretary, who leaves the employ of the Association on this day to to enter the Army Air Forces; Mr. Devereux Butcher, newly appointed Executive Secretary; and Mr. Newton B. Drury, Director, National Park Service.

From Remarks of the President

Because of a potential forest fire danger due to sabotage incendiarism with the possibility of damage not only to parks and forests, but to the war effort, we should urge an increase by Congress of the present inadequate appropriations for forest fire control.

Though we regret the decision by the President to have the National Park Service move to Chicago, we realize that because of the war much must be sacrificed.

From Report of the Executive Secretary

In spite of widespread opposition by conservation organizations, the bill to permit mining within the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument was enacted last October. This enactment constituted a setback to the ideals of the National Parks Association. It is an evil precedent which affects also the national primeval parks. Editorials, letters and wires to Congress were insufficient to prevent the public lands bloc of western Congressmen from putting over this unjustifiable commercial encroachment in a protected reservation. Combatting similar threats in the future will require continued public education by this Association in regard to the status of federal lands.

Eight countries have now ratified the Inter-American Treaty on Nature protection. Resolutions on this subject adopted at the last annual meeting were translated into Spanish and Portuguese for distribution by the Association to Latin-American countries.

Increasing pressure to permit both commercial and military uses of the national park and monument areas presents the greatest challenge ever given to the National Parks Association, namely, to aid the National Park Service in saving as much as possible of America's superlative natural areas without impeding the war effort.

From the Address by Director Drury

The cost of victory in this war is going to be high and may possibly involve sacrifices of certain national park values. It is the responsibility of the National Park Service and conservation leaders to prepare themselves to measure the degree of such sacrifice justified by national needs.

Owing to gasoline and tire rationing, visitors to the parks during January, February and March show a considerable decrease over the same months last year. The luxury of sightseeing in the parks from bus and automobile has been eliminated by orders of the Office of Defense Transportation, but transportation from rail and bus terminals to established destinations within the parks is to be maintained for the present.

Primary function of the Park Service in war and peace is to hold the national parks and monuments intact; and a continuing objective is to keep alive the national park concept.

Both the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service are opposed to the quartering of enemy aliens within national park areas because it would be out of harmony with the purposes for which the national parks were established.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE MEETING

Commercial Encroachments

Since the National Parks and Monuments comprise a valuable part of the heritage which we are now fighting to maintain, and

Since pressure was exerted during the first world war for such destructive and depleting uses as grazing, timber cutting, and power development in the National Parks, and

Since increasing pressure for similar encroachment is being brought upon the National Park Service in the present war, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the national parks and monuments should not be opened to any commercial use until there is definite proof of its necessity, and until all other possible sources of the needed materials have been explored; and be it further

RESOLVED that the National Parks Association will examine each threat of commercial encroachment upon the national parks and monuments to determine whether it is inimical to the public interest.

The Quartering of Enemy Aliens in National Parks

Since the proposed quartering of enemy aliens within the national parks and monuments would jeopardize the natural conditions, particularly in forested areas, which are subject to destruction by fire, and

Since such quartering of enemy aliens would certainly interfere with normal use by visitors seeking rest and inspiration therein, be it therefore

RESOLVED that enemy aliens should be quartered in areas other than the national parks and monuments and where they will not endanger the war effort.

Military Use of National Parks and Monuments

Since the national primeval parks and national monuments were established as outstanding natural areas worthy of complete preservation for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, and

Since military training and maneuvers are incompatible with such use of these areas, and irreparable damage to their natural features must result therefrom, and

Since less restricted and equally suitable areas on other public lands are available for military purposes, be it

RESOLVED that only in case of proven necessity, and after every other possible area has been investigated and shown to be unsuitable for the proposed use, and only in accordance with the recommendation of the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior, should national primeval parks and national monuments be used for military purposes.

Porcupine Mountains

Since the virgin forest of the Porcupine Mountains on Michigan's upper peninsula constitutes the finest remaining example of the original forests in the Great Lakes region, and

Since there is imminent danger of these mountains being desecrated through reckless and wasteful lumbering or development for extensive tourist use with the resultant loss of their value as a superlative natural area, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Porcupine Mountains should be acquired by the Federal Government for preservation in their present primitive condition.

Sabotage Forest Fire Control

Since the probabilities of subversive action in setting forest fires present a serious danger to the nation's heritage of superlative natural areas, and to the prosecution of the war, be it therefore

RESOLVED that advance provision of adequate funds should be made for the purpose of preventing and combatting such forest fires.

This issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, formerly NATIONAL PARKS BULLETIN, introduces to our readers the new format. The Editors will welcome comments on it.

THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

FORWARD THE NATION, by Donald Culross Peattie. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. 281 pages. Price $2.50.

After long study of the records of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Mr. Peattie, in his own colorful style gives us the story of the Shoshone Indian girl, Sacajawea, who was the wife of a member of the party and acted as the Expedition's guide. This account of the three-year journey is packed with vivid descriptions of escapes from danger, near-starvation, and encounters with grizzlies; yet none of it is fiction, because as the author says, "It is all there — the blazing facts as history records them."

The following shows how Sacajawea served at a time when Indian trouble threatened: "Sacajawea came into the council circle with her eyes downcast, as becomes a squaw. She seated herself on the ground, . . . her eyes on the spot before Lewis's feet, awaiting his orders. 'Tell them now,' he commanded her with a faint urgency in his voice, 'that we come as friends, . . . Make them believe you.' Sacajawea, in the waiting stillness, began to speak in Shoshone."

OUR COUNTRY'S NATIONAL PARKS, by Irving H. Melbo. Published by The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis. Two volumes of 244 pages each. Illustrated. Price $4.00 a set.

These two volumes offer the reader inspiring descriptions of all twenty-six national parks. Each park is given a separate chapter, and many phases of interest including history, topography, wildlife, plant-life, and so forth, of the areas is entertainingly discussed.

Human interest is added by quotations from conversations between visitors and park rangers, as well as by quotations from the writings of men who are famous in national park history. Such quotations make vivid the descriptions of features of the parks, as in this instance, " 'What is to keep this horse from falling off with me?' she asked, 'Don't worry,' replied the guide, 'he is bitterly opposed to it.' "

A quotation like this by John Muir, father of Yosemite National Park, makes the reader visualize the beauty of that area: " 'On these high slopes wild-flower gardens grow in the sun, and glaciers work silently in the shadows. At their feet lie new-born lakes, blue and green. They are sometimes dotted with drifting icebergs like tiny Arctic Oceans, shining, sparkling, calm as stars.' "

Because the two volumes are very simply written, they are well suited to use in schools, but can be enjoyed by anyone who wants to learn about his country's beauty spots. The spirit and purpose of the national park idea is conveyed, and at this time of national stress, are adapted to instilling patriotism and a love of country, particularly in young Americans. Here is the story of the most outstanding examples of the visible, tangible America — the natural, primitive America. Here, indeed, is one more phase of our great heritage worth defending. The volumes represent a study of many years by the author, and the writings have been checked by the superintendents of the parks. They contain, however, a few minor inaccuracies.

AMERICAN CONSERVATION, second edition, edited by Ovid Butler. Published by The American Forestry Association. Illustrated. 151 pages. Price $2.50.

The history of any nation is based on the story of its natural resources and the way men have used them. This book gives the story of our country's renewable natural resources, of their exploitation, and finally of the effort on the part of our people to conserve and use these resources wisely.

Dealing with such topics as forest fire, pest control, wildlife, water, soil, national

parks, national forests, the TVA and CCC, the story is told both in words and in pictures. It is a book to thrill young and old alike. It will increase appreciation of one's country, and will establish an understanding of the necessity for restoring and conserving our remaining natural resources.

KNOWING YOUR TREES, second edition, by G. H. Collingwood. Published by The American Forestry Association. Illustrated. 213 pages. Price $2.50.

Dealing with 101 important species of North American trees, this book includes with each text not only a description of the tree, but discusses ornamental and shade tree values, moisture and light requirements, pests, vulnerability to frost and fire, and in many cases planting and seedling requirements. Wood characteristics are also described, and a list of wood uses is given, as well as an estimate of existing commercial stand and other interesting facts.

The book contains over 400 photographs showing for each species the mature tree, its leaves, flowers, fruit, bark, and for each deciduous species the mature tree is shown in summer and winter. Texts are further supplemented by range maps.

The cover bears a pattern of brilliant leaves that vary in color from the greens of summer through the yellows and reds of autumn. The design is the work of Devereux Butcher, formerly staff artist of The American Forestry Association.

IN MEMORY OF

COLONEL JOSEPH HYDE PRATT

Until his death at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, on June 2, Col. Joseph Hyde Pratt was a trustee of the National Parks Association and a member of the Association's Executive Committee. A person of broad experience in scientific and conservation matters his able advice was honored and followed by the working conservationists of the nation. On the boards of active organizations, he brought sympathetic understanding to bear on every problem.

Born in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1870, he graduated from the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale in 1893 and continued there as instructor of mineralogy until 1897. From 1901 to 1910 he was with the U. S. Geological Survey, later becoming State Geologist of North Carolina. During his years as a consulting engineer Col. Pratt was called upon to examine mines and mineral lands in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Cuba. He won his title with the U. S. Army Engineer Corps. In command of a battalion, he went overseas during the last war.

WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON

Famous for three quarters of a century as an artist and photographer, William Henry Jackson died in New York on June 30, having celebrated his ninety-ninth birthday last April 4. Born in 1843 at Keeseville, New York, he became official photographer of the Hayden Expedition in 1871-72. His success on this trip won him the position of photographer for the U. S. Geological Survey. Mr. Jackson's photographs verified in early days the fabulous wonders of Yellowstone National Park, and his were the first ever made of the Grand Tetons, the cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde and many other scenic regions which have since been preserved as national parks and monuments. During his life he made a collection of 40,000 negatives now in the possession of the Edison Institute, Dearborn, Michigan. A pioneer in conservation, Mr. Jackson has served in an advisory capacity for the National Park Service. Having served in the War Between the States, interment was at Arlington National Cemetery with military honors.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Newton B. Drury

Newton B. Drury (*Half a Century and the National Parks*) formerly of San Francisco, was graduated from the University of California in 1912, and later became a member of the faculty there. During World War One he was 1st Lieutenant in the Balloon Section of the U. S. Army Air Service. He has been an executive of the California State Park Commission, and for twenty years Secretary of the Save-the-Redwoods League. He has been also a member of the Yosemite Advisory Board; is a Research Associate in Study of Primitive Landscape, Carnegie Institute of Washington; and is an honorary life member of the Sierra Club. Since 1940 Mr. Drury has been Director of the National Park Service. This article is from an address which he made at the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Sequoia National Park, October, 1940.

William P. Wharton

William P. Wharton (*The National Parks in Wartime*) has been president of the National Parks Association since 1935. A native of Massachusetts and graduate of Groton and Harvard, he holds important positions with such leading conservation organizations as The Massachusetts Forest and Park Association, National Audubon Society and The American Forestry Association. His interest in the national parks began with a trip to Grand Canyon, Sequoia and Yosemite in 1912, and he was one of the first citizens to take part in the maintenance of the ideals and standards of the national parks originated by Stephen T. Mather, first director of the National Park Service. As a member of a committee of the National Parks Association he went to investigate and to make a report on the Everglades at the time the Everglades National Park project was started. Likewise, at the time the Olympic National Park was proposed he made a trail trip in that area to determine the soundness of the proposal and the most suitable boundaries for such a park. Mr. Wharton is also prominently identified with plant pest work, particularly in connection with the white pine blister rust and the Dutch elm disease.

Devereux Butcher

Devereux Butcher (*Act Now, Louisiana*) is Editor of this magazine and Executive Secretary of the National Parks Association, taking the place of Edward B. Ballard who left the Association in May to enter the Army Air Forces. Mr. Butcher, formerly of Pennsylvania, is an ardent conservationist and a member of several conservation organizations. With a background of art training he has designed, among other things, the 1941-42 forest fire stamp of The American Forestry Association. A free-lance photographer and writer on nature and conservation subjects, his work has appeared during recent years in numerous publications. In both kodachrome and black and white he has made photographic collections of botanical subjects like mushrooms and wildflowers. In the course of Mr. Butcher's travels, which have taken him to the four corners of our country, he has visited fourteen national parks and many national monuments.

NEWS FROM THE CONSERVATION BATTLE FRONTS

MASSACHUSETTS FOREST AND PARK ASSOCIATION, 3 Joy Street, Boston.—During a three-year period, this Association, in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service and the State Department of Conservation, conducted an experiment to determine the value in dollars and cents of public education and patrol in the prevention of forest fires. Accounts were kept of the cost of public education, patrol and the suppression of fires, and these costs were compared with that of fighting fires alone for the previous three years.

Results showed that public education, patrol and suppression cost twenty percent less than suppression alone, and the fire loss was reduced eighty percent. Many towns have used patrol with success, but it was not until last year that the legislature passed a law requiring all wooded towns to patrol forests on bad fire days.

While the use of patrol can not be credited entirely with this improvement, more than seventy-five percent of the wardens using the system favor it. It is believed that the patroling of forests will prove the most effective step yet taken toward the prevention of forest fire.—HARRIS A. REYNOLDS, *Executive Secretary.*

AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION, 1214 16th Street, N. W., Washington.—The Association announces the renewal of its fellowships at Cornell University for leadership training in conservation education and nature study. These are graduate courses and applicants should, if possible, have had teaching experience. Make applications to Dr. E. Laurence Palmer, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. Selections will be made early in August.—RICHARD W. WESTWOOD, *Executive Secretary.*

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS, Conservation Committee, 227 Poinciana Drive, Birmingham, Alabama.—Conservationists of the Federation are placing emphasis on the prevention of forest fires. Various states realize our problems in teaching adults not to burn the woods, and are working to rear a generation of conservationists. School forests are being promoted as laboratories in which to demonstrate conservation.

Most states are adding to Federation and Memorial forests. Illinois, with a plantation of 1,330 acres, has begun another financed in part by the sale of stamps designed to arouse the public against roadside billboards.

Indiana members have completed a project in highway beautification including the development of eighty parks and the planting of unsightly roadsides.

Kansas has a tree planting program, "Millions of trees for Kansas. Build Kansas and make her beautiful." And there is news that our efforts have aided in the preservation of 1,500,000 acres to save the Porcupine forest in Michigan. For help in this we congratulate Representative Hook of Michigan, Secretary of Agriculture Wickard, and Harold Smith of the Bureau of the Budget.—MRS. T. M. FRANCIS, *Chairman.*

WILDFLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, 3740 Oliver Street, N. W., Washington.—Wild flower conservationists are awaking to the facts that preserves offer the principal means for preservation of wild flowers and that state laws have produced no results because of the encroachment on wild land by civilization.

Added to the toll of fires, grazing, farming, manufacturing, recreation and real estate developments it has lately become necessary to clear many square miles of valuable floral areas for military training. This emphasizes the need for interested organizations to obtain wildflower preserves.

Foremost among the destructive agencies of floral areas is fire caused by cigar and cigarette stubs carelessly thrown from automobiles or discarded by hikers.—P. L. RICKER, *President.*

THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION, 919 17th Street, N. W., Washington.—Congress, on June 17, was urged by this Association to rember 1910—the year of the nation's greatest forest fire—and support the emergency forest fire control item in the Agricultural Appropriation bill.

What happened that summer in Montana and Idaho can happen again in any forested region of the country. In two days, fires destroyed over 3,000,000 acres of virgin timber. Towns, mining

camps, lumber mills and railroad property were wiped out in an area as large as Connecticut, and eighty-five people lost their lives.

If it happens this summer while our nation is at war, the results could be as paralyzing as an invasion. Great as is the destructive power of such a fire in time of peace, it can be ten-fold greater in time of war.

America is awake to the hazard to resources and the war effort as shown by civilian efforts to organize in preparation for forest fires. In meeting these hazards, the people want and expect the help of Congress as never before to make adequate provisions against all emergencies.—ERLE KAUFFMAN, *Associate Editor, American Forests.*

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York.—Important news comes from our bird sanctuaries in Florida and Texas. We feared a year ago that Army and Navy operations, especially in connection with bombing and machine gun practice and anti-aircraft training units, might disturb the birds in their nesting concentrations. So far, happily, this has not proved to be the case, and the local officers of the Army and Navy have been cooperative.—JOHN H. BAKER, *Executive Director.*

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR BIRD PRESERVATION, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York.—National groups of the International Committee for Bird Preservation, founded in 1922, have spread to four continents and now number thirty-two. War has reduced activity among European groups, but in the Western Hemisphere the work of the committees is going forward in ten countries including the United States. We are pleased to note that groups in South America are cooperative, because more than 400 species of birds which spend the summer with us, migrate to the southern countries for the winter. Several of these countries have created game laws and distributed literature on the need for wildlife protection.

The southern groups are interested in the establishment of national parks within their countries. Such parks, if established and properly administered, will serve as reservoirs for wildlife.

A pamphlet setting forth the observations of the writer in a study of the national park situation in South America will be mailed upon request. Write the Pan-American Committee for Bird Preservation, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York. —T. GILBERT PEARSON, *Founder.*

COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB, Mining and Exchange Building, Denver.—In May the Club experienced its first enlistment of members for duty in the present war emergency. With the help of school boys, the Nature Section enabled the Forest Service to plant 12,000 fir trees in the Devil's Head area. The Club was highly commended by the officials of the Service for its response to their call.

It is vitally necessary that those of us who remain in our usual surroundings enlist to protect regions which afford enjoyment and beauty to all. There are and will be jobs to do. We're proud to be rated as an organization that the government can call upon, knowing it can count upon us to do the job well.—ESTHER GIVEN, *Club Member.*

THE PARKS AND CONGRESS

77th Congress to July 1, 1942

NATIONAL PARKS

H. R. 3395 (White). To provide for the construction of a highway within Yellowstone National Park as an entrance from the State of Idaho, and to authorize appropriation of $1,000,000 for this purpose. Introduced February 17, 1941. The proposed highway would constitute an unnecessary and undesirable intrusion into the wilderness southwest corner of the park.

H. R. 6657 (Jennings). To authorize the acceptance of donations of land for the construction of a scenic parkway to provide an appropriate view of Great Smoky Mountains National Park from the Tennessee side. Introduced February 24. Passed House April 20. Referred to the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys. Such a road outside present park boundaries would not intrude within superlative wilderness areas.

S. 329 (Ellender). To provide for the establishment of the Tensas Swamp National Park, Louisiana. Introduced January 14, 1941. Reported upon adversely by the Interior Department on advice of the Bureau of the Budget to Committee on Public Lands and Surveys. Timber is now being rapidly cut in this area. See "Act Now, Louisiana" in this issue.

S. 2127 (Johnson of California). To amend section 6 of the Act entitled "An Act granting to the City of San Francisco certain rights-of-way in, over, and through certain lands in the Yosemite National Park and Stanislaus National Forest and the public lands in the State of California." Approved December 19, 1913 (38 Stat. 242). Introduced December 4, 1941. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys. This bill would remove the prohibition against selling electric energy to any private person, corporation or association, which is embodied in The Act of December 19, 1913, which granted to the City of San Francisco the right to construct a reservoir in Hetch Hetchy Valley, Yosemite National Park.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS

S. 260—H. R. 2657 (Hayden-Murdock). To permit mining within Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in Arizona. Approved by the President October 27, 1941. Public Law No. 281. Passage of this bill violates the integrity of an outstanding Sonoran desert area that has been set aside to preserve unique plant and animal communities.

MISCELLANEOUS AREAS

H. R. 2685 (Robinson of Utah). To authorize the disposition of recreational demonstration projects. Approved by the President June 6. Public Law No. 594.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

H. R. 22—S. 664 (Bland-Byrd). To provide uniformity in designations of certain historic areas, sites, and buildings administered by the Secretary of the Interior. Introduced January 3, 1941. Referred to the respective committees on the public lands.

S. 257 (Hayden). To authorize the participation of states in certain revenues from national parks, national monuments and other areas under the administration of the National Park Service. Introduced January 8, 1941. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATION

H. R. 6845 making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1943. Section on National Park Service:—Emergency reconstruction and fighting forest fires: For reconstruction and repair of roads, trails and other improvements that are damaged by flood, fire or other unavoidable causes, and for fighting or emergency prevention of forest fires in areas administered by the National Park Service or fires that endanger such areas, $40,000, together with $100,000 to be transferred from various appropriations for national parks and monuments herein contained.

Senate Amendment No. 10: Fire protection of forests, forest industries, and strategic facilities (national defense): For an additional amount to be added to the appropriation contained in the Sixth National Defense Apropriation Act for fire protection of forests, forest industries, and strategic facilities (national defense), $96,000 to be immediately available.

Senate Amendment No. 111—The State of Minnesota is hereby authorized to acquire by condemnation under judicial process, for use for highway purposes in connection with U. S. Highway 61, any lands or interests in lands within the Grand Portage Indian Reservation. The construction of a highway along the north shore of Lake Superior is the purpose for which this amendment calls for the condemnation of such lands. This highway would penetrate one of the last remaining wilderness areas in the State of Minnesota. The construction of this road has been opposed by conservation and sportsmen's organizations throughout the country for many years. It is still opposed by them.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION
1214 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C

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WHY THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

Wanderers penetrating the unmapped wilderness which is today known as Yellowstone National Park told tall stories of the natural wonders of the area. To verify these tales an expedition was sent out in 1872. At the campfire one evening, a member of the expedition conceived the plan of having these natural spectacles placed in the care of the government to be preserved for the inspiration, education and enjoyment of all generations. After the party made its report to Congress, Yellowstone National Park came into being. Today its geysers, its forests and its wildlife are spared, and the area is a nearly intact bit of the original wilderness which once was stretched across the continent.

Since 1872 other highly scenic areas have also been spared from commercial exploitation and added to the **National Park System.** We now have twenty-six national parks, most of them representing distinct types of original wilderness of outstanding beauty and interest.

To manage these areas the **National Park Service** was formed in 1916. In its charge are also national monuments as well as other areas and sites of varied classification.

Most people believe that the national parks have remained and will continue to remain inviolate, but this is not wholly true. Selfish commercial interests seek to have bills introduced in Congress making it legal to graze livestock, cut timber, develop mines, dam rivers for waterpower, and so forth, within the parks. It is sometimes possible for an organized small minority working through Congress to have its way over an unorganized vast majority.

Thus it is that a power dam built in 1913 floods the once beautiful Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park, which still remains the only commercialized water of consequence in the System; and that during World War One certain flower-filled alpine meadows in the parks were opened to grazing. The building of needless roads which destroy primeval character, the over-development of amusement facilities, and the inclusion of areas which do not conform to national park standards and which sometimes contain resources that will be needed later, constitute other threats to the System.

Another grave danger grows out of the recent establishment as parts of the National Park System of ten other kinds of parks unpossessed of the standards of the world-famous primeval group.

All these, in part products of official ambition to overtake the enormous Forest Service in size and political influence, are designated by descriptive adjectives, while our primitive group is not. Until these are officially entitled *national primeval parks* to distinguish them from the other kinds of national parks, they will remain subject to political assaults excessively hard to combat.

The **National Parks Association** was established in 1919 to serve the high standards adopted at the creation of the National Park Service in 1916. It gives the nation a voice in maintaining primeval standards in the parks. Its membership is composed of men and women who know the value of preserving for all time these few small remnants of the original wilderness of North America. Non-political and non-partisan, it stands ready to oppose violations to the sanctity of the National Park System. When threats occur, the Association notifies its members and allied organizations through its news service or through the pages of this magazine to take action by expressing their wishes to their Congressmen or to others in authority. Noteworthy among the achievements of the Association and its many allies are the prevention of the damming of Yellowstone Lake, participation in the establishment of twelve of the thirteen latest national parks and many national monuments.

To insure the preservation of this great heritage of our people, the combined force of thinking Americans is needed. Membership in the National Parks Association offers a means through which you may do your part in guarding the national parks.

Annual Membership is $3.00 a year; Supporting Membership $5.00 a year; Sustaining Membership $10.00 a year; Contributing Membership $25.00 a year; Life Membership $100.00 with no further dues; Patron Membership $1,000. All memberships include subscription to National Parks Magazine.

TO CONTINUE OUR WAR EFFORT
THE TIRED MINDS AND TIRED BODIES
OF OUR WAR WORKERS MUST HAVE
THE REFRESHMENT AND RELAXATION
WHICH ONLY THE OUT-OF-DOORS CAN GIVE.
THIS SUMMER YOU CAN HELP YOUR COUNTRY
BY KEEPING AMERICA'S FORESTS GREEN.
DO THIS BY BEING CAREFUL WITH FIRE
WHILE IN THE WOODS
AND BY REMINDING OTHERS TO DO LIKEWISE