NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

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"Proposed parks are measured by the standards set by the major national parks of the System; hence the requirements are exacting. As long as these standards shall prevail, there is no danger of too many national parks being established, or of the excellence of the present System being lowered."

STEPHEN T. MATHER.

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Fred H. Kiser

Lincoln Lake in Glacier National Park.—"Our national parks rank among the irreplaceable values that we must defend, for they are America just as are the people who live around them."

EDITORIAL

ONE of the important things for which the present world conflict is being fought is to preserve the right of free enterprise. Should free enterprise be lost in America, it would mean that life here had become no better than in dictator countries.

Since we are fighting to preserve free enterprise, it is natural that stockmen, lumbermen, mining interests, power interests and others should ask why the national parks and other wilderness preserves are not opened to the utilization and development of the comparatively small amount of resources they contain.

The answer to this query is simple. These areas—superb examples of the vast wilderness that once clothed this continent—have been set aside for the benefit and enjoyment of ourselves and future generations. They have been set aside for us by people who have recognized that such reservations, when maintained in their primeval condition, will pay lasting dividends in inspiration, pleasure and refreshment to millions of Americans; and that such dividends far exceed any profit which a handful of men might derive from the exploitation of the materials therein.

Those men of commercial interests whose plans would destroy the natural beauty and primitive character of the national parks for the sake of fleeting gain, are attempting to strengthen their demands today through a supposed lack of resources to carry on the war effort. In an all-out attempt to achieve their own selfish aims, is it possible that they have overlooked the fact that they have an equal share, and only an equal share, in the national parks with all the rest of our people? Do they not know that they themselves may also seek inspiration and refreshment in the national parks by using them in the way that they are intended to be used? Is it possible that these men do not recognize the fact that their own children and grandchildren will deserve the same right to receive inspiration and refreshment through contact with primeval wilderness? And do they fail to see, therefore, that it is their duty, as well as the duty of the entire nation, to guard these priceless areas and hand them on intact to their descendants? A man of integrity derives no pleasure in injuring the property of others. If these men of commercial interests should achieve entry to the national parks for exploitation purposes, would they not afterwards view with remorse the destruction they would have wrought upon a great national heritage?

"Our national parks", says Mr. Newton B. Drury, Director of the National Park Service, "rank among the irreplaceable values that we must defend, for they are America just as are the people who live around them." We must not permit our attention to be diverted in the midst of war, for that is what the exploiters would have us do. Commercial interests take advantage of programs that tend to divert attention from their selfish actions. It is our duty to see that they do not prevail.

> What greater assurance could we have that the preservation of the parks and other wilderness reservations will be maintained, than that there should be an ever increasing number of fighters to oppose threats of commercial invasion? If all who are free from selfish motives will unite and strive for this common goal, success will be certain.
>
> Answer now the call to arms by sending in to your Association the name and address of someone in your community whom you know to be interested in nature preservation. Your executive staff will do the rest.

FLOWERS FOR CATTLE

THE DEMAND OF STOCKMEN

By COLONEL JOHN R. WHITE,
Superintendent, Sequoia National Park

FOR nearly a quarter of a century I have been a national park superintendent. I tell you this because I am going to make a confession. I like cattlemen, and I even like sheepmen.

My profession calls for a life largely out-of-doors. Cattlemen and sheepmen also live chiefly out-of-doors on the range. Some of my happiest days, and even more satisfying nights, have been spent around a cowman's campfire, listening and acquiring something of that knowledge of the forests and highland meadows that is inevitably acquired by the man who handles cattle, horses or sheep in the mountains.

Now, the cattleman knows the mountains and the forests and the streams and the canyons. He may even camp beside some High Sierra lake where tall granite peaks silver in the moonlight until their reflection seems to dim his campfire. And the cowman is not unaware of the beauty around him. He loves the grandeur of the mountains—even as you and I. But the cowman has to make a living—even as you and I. His living may be a war production job.

Let me repeat that I like cattlemen, before I go on to say that I don't want them in Sequoia National Park. That is a hard thing for me to say, and I hope that I won't lose some good friends by saying it. If I could pick one or two fine cowmen I know, and then choose a very restricted part of the park on which to let them graze a few —at least a comparatively few—cows, perhaps I might weaken on the statement that I don't want cattlemen in Sequoia National Park. If anyone can show me how I can uphold a sound, general policy of the Department of the Interior and at the same time favor a few friends, I am willing to be shown; but by the Eternal God who made those mountains and meadows, we should put something above money or personal gain.

The policy of the Department of the Interior is that the great scenic national parks shall not be grazed, and that where grazing does exist, it gradually shall be extinguished, due consideration being given individual stockmen operating under existing permits. The Secretary of the Interior, however, has recognized the demands of total war and has approved an increase of grazing on certain national monuments and other areas. This increase is twenty-seven percent for cattle and eleven percent for sheep.

It must be remembered that the National Park Service administers many other kinds of areas such as national monuments, military parks, historical parks, parkways, national battlefield sites, historic sites and national cemeteries. It also administers a number of recreational demonstration areas, chiefly acquired during the Civilian Conservation Corps program. Many of these areas, which were given to the Service for development, already have been transferred back to the states in which they were located.

It is not always easy to explain to the public the difference between national parks and national forests. Still less easy is it to explain the difference between one of the major scenic national parks and the other areas administered by the Service.

National Parks Association

Crescent Meadow in Sequoia National Park.—"We don't want the cows to come back again, because we feel that wildflowers and green grass have their place in life the same as do mutton chops and beefsteak."

So far as cattle and sheep grazing is concerned, it must be pointed out that only fourteen of the twenty-six national parks are free from it at this time. They comprise that great chain of scenic national parks which is the pride of America. These fourteen parks represent only three-eighths of one percent of the total area of the United States. They contain exhibits of the Creator's handiwork that are of inestimable value to all Americans. They will be cherished by those Americans who have survived the jungle horrors of the South Seas, the perils of the high skies and ocean deeps, and they will encourage an even greater love for America in the boys returning from overseas. What shall we of the national parks say if we cannot declare to them that we faced boldly the attacks on our national parks while they faced our foes on a hundred battlefields? Those boys who will have become thinking men will say: "Could you not guard America while we were fighting for her?" I, for one, will want to be able to say to them, "I did my best for the best in America while you were away."

That there is a limit to grazing, the continents bear witness. Overgrazing has ruined lands in America, Asia, Africa and Europe; while in China, Palestine, Asia Minor and in other parts of this eroded world, civilizations have perished, largely because men permitted overgrazing.

Many of the national parks were opened to grazing during World War One. When I came to Sequoia National Park in June 1920, I found 1225 head of cattle here. There were no sheep, for they had not been admitted here or in any other national park. On those meadows around Giant Forest that have been visited by hundreds of thousands of men, women and children —Crescent Meadow, Long Meadow, Circle Meadow and others—cattle grazed. Along the route of the Generals Highway, which leads from the General Sherman Sequoia at Giant Forest to the General Grant Sequoia in the Grant Grove of the Kings Canyon National Park, there were cattle grazing on Halstead Meadow and Cabin Meadow. Gradually, and with sympathy for the cattleman who had his living in the cows, we did away with cattle grazing; and we saw the meadows come back from trampled mud to lovely green gardens of wild flowers and grass. We don't want the cows back again, because we feel that wild flowers and green grass have their place in life the same as do mutton chops and beefsteak.

If it were necessary to the winning of the war, of course, we would open the parks to grazing, and sacrifice the wild flowers and the grass, and with them some of the chipmunks, chickarees, gray squirrels, deer and a lot more; but is it necessary? What proportion of the nation's meat crop could be increased by opening, for instance, Sequoia National Park to grazing? Let us try to figure out that highly debatable subject.

As an example of meat production let us take the figures for 1920 in the Sequoia National Park. In that post-war year, there were 1225 cattle grazed on the 161,280 acres of this park which preserves America's forest exhibit of sequoias, sugar pine, yellow pine, incense cedar and many other trees, as well as the high Sierra country with its meadows and its mountain slopes.

Now, cattlemen give various figures as to the poundage of beef produced by mountain grazing. It is a highly technical subject on which argument is difficult and at times impossible. There are the relative values of cows and calves, of heifers and yearlings to be considered; and their rate of increased weight according to whether they are grazed in the hot foothills or in the cooler forests or mountain meadows must also be taken into consideration. There are questions of various kinds of feed—meadow grass, bunch or shorthair grass on the rocky, forested or bare slopes above the meadows, or the browse on the many shrubs and trees that make up the chaparral and the undercover of the forests.

U. S. Forest Service

This meadow on the Malheur National Forest has been grazed until not a flower, not a blade of grass remain. National sentiment will not permit this to be the fate of national park meadows.

On the approximately 30,000 acres grazed by cattle in the Sequoia National Park in 1920, we will grant, if only for the sake of argument, that each animal gained one hundred pounds above what it would have gained on the valley or foothill range. That makes a total of 122,500 pounds of meat on the hoof. One pound on the hoof, again for the sake of argument, equals about one half pound or eight ounces of meat, bone, gristle, entrails, liver, tripe, sweetbreads, beefsteak, rib roast or chuck roast. But one fact emerges clearly, and that is that the total amount of actual meat to be produced is astonishingly small.

You can't argue with a starving man, or with one who sees his wife and children starving. It may be difficult to make even the hitherto well fed American, now deprived of his regular allowance of beefsteak, see reason in the Department of the Interior policy of preserving the choicest national parks unless it is pointed out to him that his proportion of meat protein to be obtained by breaking down that policy would be very, very small. It might amount to one milligram of meat protein, maybe less.

And these figures take no account of another factor. Because of the rubber and gas shortage, any cattle transported to the mountains from valley or lower foothill points would have to be driven over long trails both coming and going. The farther an animal is driven over trails, the more flesh is expended. A cattleman reading this may say: "Ah! But in the Sequoia National Park we only want to graze the lands which are adjacent to the range we have in the foothills, or on national-forest and other lands abutting on the park." This is a good point, and I mention it to be fair to all concerned. There are cattlemen who have told me that so far as this part of California is concerned, it does not pay to drive cattle long distances to summer mountain pastures as regular routine. In certain years of great drought and special feed and weather conditions, it undoubtedly pays and pays relatively well for those few. very few,

cattlemen who have their animals on range close to the park.

But after all, cattlemen are situated just as are other businessmen. They expect to take risks. And no businessman, including a government employee, is averse to having the federal government help him out of a dilemma resulting from his own personal lack of foresight in handling his own affairs.

The issue seems as clear as the sky over the Sierra at ten thousand feet above the dust and smoke haze which envelops the troubled land below: It is whether the integrity of the National Park System and the primeval grandeur of the national parks belong as a heritage to all Americans of this and future generations, and, therefore, whether the national parks in their primitive condition are more important than the personal gain of a few individuals.

I have said that I like the sheepman. He, too, knows the out-of-doors, or at least his shepherd does. All of us associate the shepherd, his crook and his lamb with the most beautiful, and often the most sacred, tales of our childhood. Artists have pictured the pastoral scenes of America and Europe, both in the cultivated valley and on the wild mountain, with the shepherd, his sheep and his appealing long-tailed lamb. But the picturesque shepherd of the Rockies or the Sierra, like the cattleman, is a long way from the abbatoir, the butcher shop and the commercial market. In the Sierra Nevada national parks, of which our Sequoia is one, I dislike the sheepman as much as the cattleman dislikes him.

Where cattle may injure, sheep will devastate. When I think of sheep in the Sierra, I think of Coyote Pass between Mineral King and the Kern River, elevation 10,034 feet. On the west side the trail drops in a succession of giant steps through a forest of lodgepole pine, Jeffrey pine and red fir toward Rifle Creek, Shotgun Creek and the Little Kern. A mile or so below the summit, the trail forks, and one prong goes northwest to Shotgun Creek, Farewell Gap and Mineral King, while the other prong bends even more steeply down to Rifle Creek and the Little Kern. Wherever the trail skirts or touches the rivulets which cascade toward their parent stream, the hanging gardens of the High Sierra bloom. Lupine and columbine, paintbrush and brown-eyed Susans, nightshade and baby-blue-eyes, buttercups, pimpernel and scores of other blossoms make a veritable flowerfall, and here the air is heavy with the perfume of the flowers and with the pennyroyal and wild mint crushed by the horses' hoofs as one rides up or down that trail of giant steps. A landscape architect greater than any that money could command arranged that garden of the High Sierra.

It was seventeen or eighteen years ago that I came upon a band of hundreds of sheep grazing on that Sierra flower garden which is now located just below the park boundary. There were a few flowers left where even the agile sheep could not reach them. The smell of sheep had replaced the more pleasing odors of nature; their sharp, merciless hoofs had stamped into the soil, and wherever they grazed they pulled up the roots to get the last bit of nourishment.

Then I could visualize that mountainside next fall and spring when the rains would come and the snow would melt and each rivulet would become a torrent, each creek a roaring river, and each river a thunderous menace tearing out trees and shrubs and rushing on and on toward the valleys miles away—valleys where the orchards and vineyards and the alfalfa and the cotton are fed by irrigation ditches; and I could see the farmers struggling with the floods. I could see their ditches choked with sand and gravel; and I could see a nation and a world awaiting the crops that would be ruined.

Those floods would originate in the mountains where a meadow, trampled by sheep, could no longer hold the rains and melting snow. A normal mountain meadow is a natural reservoir, but a meadow that has had its grass trampled out is like a

reservoir behind a broken dam. It is dry. The meadow and the forest are the sponges of nature. Through the long dry summers they drip water to the rivulets and rivers that feed the farmer's ditches.

In the matter of erosion, it is known that cattle usually cause much less damage to the soil than do sheep, although where they are concentrated by "salting" or when rounding them up the damage may be almost as complete as that done by the worst features of "sheeping." I remember in 1926 riding many miles in the Sugarloaf country, part of which is now within the Kings Canyon National Park. We were tired after a long day in the saddle and were looking for a camp free from cattle manure, where there would be at least a little feed for our stock and a trickle of clean running water to drink and for the coffee pot. We could not find it anywhere in the Sugarloaf valley, so we finally slept where the dung was driest and the water least impure.

Ecology is a sort of "jackpot" word, yet simple when expressed in common terms. It means that all forms of life in the forest or on the meadows have taken part in building up the soil; and that if there are too sudden changes the soil of mother earth will suffer.

A cattleman can thoroughly understand this. From his point of view the steer is one of the natural inhabitants of certain parts of a national park or a national forest, while the sheep is not. By the same reasoning a national park man believes that the badger, the groundhog, the fisher, the long-tailed grey squirrel of the woods, the chickaree and chipmunk, the deer and the bear, yes, even the coyote and the mountain lion, all have their place in a national park.

Among the grasses and the flowers and brush are many kinds which may be damaged or done away with by grazing. Even among the trees a change may be brought about; for many mountain meadows that have been dried up by grazing are now being given over to lodgepole pine, a prolific seeder, and one that marches as persistently into the meadows as the Japanese walk up to death.

The drying up of the meadows by grazing is caused chiefly by the hoofs of the cattle and their mud bathing in early summer before the grasses and herbage have grown to one-third or one-fourth their normal height. Indeed, I have seen meadows along the Generals Highway outside the national parks and in other places where the grass was just showing green in late May or early June, but which already were ruined for that summer and damaged for many summers to come.

Horses, mules and burros are used by those who pack visitors into the mountains; by visitors chiefly from neighboring communities who use their own stock to enter the mountains, and by cattlemen and sheepmen who herd in the foothills or mountains. Horses do much less damage to the vegetation than do cattle. They roam over wider territory and feed less closely. Of course, where horses herd to salt, or cattle congregate at salt logs, there is intensive local damage. Mules are betwixt and between. Burros in numbers and semi-wild may be almost as bad as goats, but when used on tourist burro-trips and properly grazed are admitted to most park areas.

It is a proper statement that tourists and cows don't mix. To combine tourists and cattle in a national park would call for range surveys even more thorough than those in the national forests, and for many more experienced mountain men as rangers to protect the meadows, the forests and the trails. Anyone who has seen what a herd of cattle can do to a good trail does not want to see them back on that trail again. What comparatively limited range there is in our national parks is needed by stock used by park rangers and other park employees, as well as by packers and visitors.

There have been differences of opinion between national forest men and national

park men. There have been bitter, dragout fights between those outside the two services who stood for or against the policies of either service. Both park men and forest men have been called slaves of bureaucracy and many worse names. Individuals of either service, with their noses in the smoke of forest fires, also have at times criticized the men and policies of the other service. Yet we have a healthy respect for one another, and more than a liking—friendship based on mutual respect for work done and for the difficulties of fitting national policies to local conditions.

The demand for grazing in the national parks as a war necessity is absurd. Now, when the world is aflame with strife and passion, more than ever are our forests and our parks needed for refuge from a mechanized civilization. Our soldiers and sailors know this. Letters come to us from men on the battlefronts who are yearning for a place to "get away from it all." War workers in factories have that same desire to get back to healing nature.

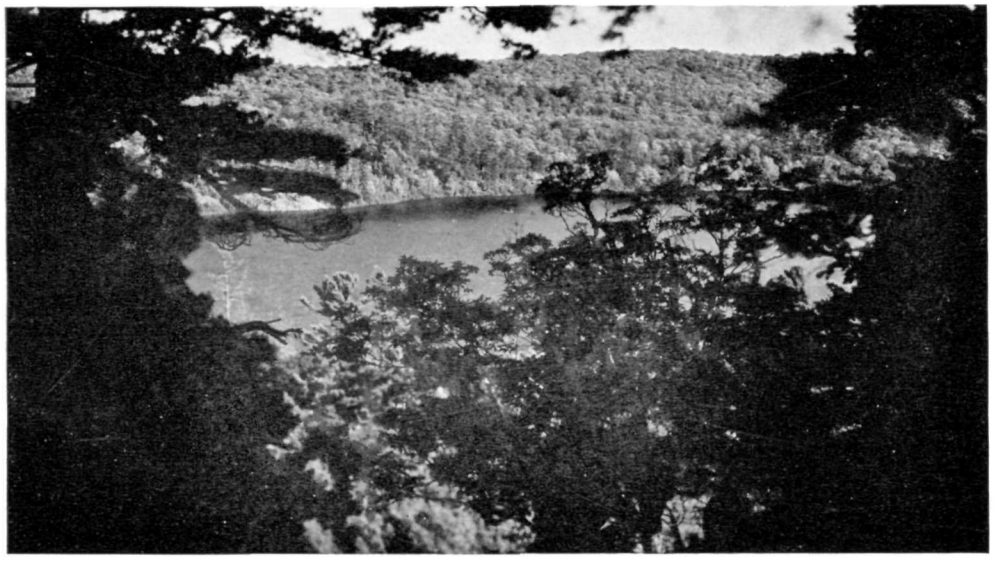
Americans are making many sacrifices to save America; but I am confident national sentiment is sufficiently strong to prevent sacrificing our world-famous national parks.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The rush of daily work here at headquarters has permitted writing and welcoming only a few of you to the Association. We hope you will accept this as our message of appreciation. The joining of each single one of you has meant more to us than words can express, for each one's added strength makes more certain of victory in the ceaseless struggle to save a few remnants of undisturbed nature and wild country which mean so much to us and to conservationists everywhere. United we shall win.

The most noted spot in the Porcupines is the Lake of the Clouds.

J. Horace McFarland



GOING, GOING, —

THE FOREST OF THE PORCUPINES

By RAYMOND DICK

Photographs by the Author

UNLESS the American people awake and gird themselves for action they will be robbed of a great scenic wilderness in the Lake States, and one of the last remaining virgin hardwood forests in the United States. This great tract is situated at the extreme western end of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan on the south shore of Lake Superior. It includes the Porcupine Mountains and considerable wild and tumbled country around them. Like the white pine of fifty years ago, the forest of the Porcupines is about to disappear, leaving desolation and ruin in the place of beauty and grandeur.

The wooded slopes of the Porcupine Mountains, so named by the Indians because of their resemblance to sleeping porcupines, overlook the blue waters of the father of all lakes, Lake Superior, known to the Chippewa Indians as "Gitchee Gumee". This is the land of Hiawatha made immortal by Longfellow in his poem of that name which so aptly describes it:

"By the shores of Gitchee Gumee,
By the shining Big Sea Water,
Stood the wigwam of Nokomis,
Daughter of the moon, Nokomis.
Dark behind it rose the forest,
Rose the black and gloomy pine trees,
Rose the firs with cones upon them;
Bright before it beat the water,
Beat the clear and sunny water,
Beat the Shining Big Sea Water."

The Chippewa Indians inhabited this region for hundreds of years, the original French explorers finding them here about 1618 or two years before the landing of the Pilgrims in Massachusetts. Champlain was one of the first of these early explorers and his map of Lake Superior was sent to the King of France as an official description of the region.

When the French explorer, Raddison, came to these shores in 1659, he heard many wonderful tales from the Indians about copper and especially of a floating island of pure copper. The Indian legend was that a strange people had come from far away to the copper island and had carried away much of the metal. At last the Indian Sea God foiled them by causing the island to wander eternally in the Big Sea water. Raddison afterwards discovered this island and named it "Isle Royale". He also found an immense boulder of some five tons of pure copper at the foot of the Porcupine Mountains which was afterwards appropriated by the United States Government and is now in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

The Porcupine Mountains comprise the highest range between the Black Hills of South Dakota and the Adirondacks of New York. They shoulder their way abruptly from the shore of Lake Superior in rugged, tangled terraces, their tops rising 2000 feet above sea level and 1420 feet above the lake. Their slopes are covered with open park-like forests that have never known ax or fire. On the lower benches close to Lake Superior are the hemlocks. Higher up on the ridges and in the upper valleys are the sugar maples, interspersed with oak, while along the edges of the rivers and streams are the majestic white pines. As one walks through these dimmed forest aisles with the rays of the sun slanting through the treetops, and the ground soft under foot and free from underbrush,

A gorge and falls on the Big Carp River in Michigan's Porcupine Mountains Country

one feels a sense of reverence and peace.

Perhaps the most noted spot in the Porcupines is the Lake of the Clouds. The valley of this lake with its timbered ridges is in fact a tableland high above the surrounding terrain. As one stands upon the great wall of rock overlooking the lake it is possible to see beyond the valley the blue waters of Lake Superior far to the west. And still farther in the hazy distance can be seen Copper Peak, at the western edge of the Porcupines.

Flowing westward from the Lake of the Clouds is the Big Carp River. (The name "carp" is a contraction of the word "escarpment".) In the upper valley is a quiet river softly flowing and sometimes forming large deep pools where the brook trout lie. About two miles from its mouth in Lake Superior it breaks through the rampart of hills and plunges down twin falls in a deep timbered canyon, and at one point it flows over a staircase of low falls with pools between. To the water's edge grows the virgin forest with here and there ancient pines towering into the sky. Throughout the river's length there is no road or sign of human habitation to sully the primeval setting.

I have camped in this primitive wilderness beside the mouth of the Big Carp. Here, at evening, I have watched the sun sinking beyond Lake Superior in a golden blaze of glory as the cool night air poured down the valley along the rushing water. And here, beside a crackling campfire of cedar logs with its cheery warmth, I have seen the northern horizon light up suddenly with flashing gleams of the mysterious spectacle of the north country—the aurora borealis. Here I have watched the moon rise from behind the mountains, and have seen its light filtering through the forest, playing on the little waterfall that was close to camp, turning the foam to silvery brightness.

Several miles west of the Big Carp is the Big Presque Isle River. Dropping in a continuous series of cataracts and rapids along its twenty-mile course, it reaches its climax

in one of the largest falls of the region. Here it plunges over a forty-foot ledge and widens to rush over a series of small ledges forming a cascade.

Not quite all of the Porcupine country is untouched wilderness. Where the Black River comes into Lake Superior there is a good harbor for small boats, and from here runs a highway to the mining country of the Gogebic Range some twenty miles distant.

Those unable to hike may travel this route and catch a glimpse of the region's wild beauty, for nearly all the way the road winds along the valley of the Black through virgin forests, and drops 900 feet in the distance.

Adjacent to the Porcupine Mountains on the east lies the broad, flat valley of the Ontonagon River. Before the coming of the white man this valley, too, was covered with majestic forests of white pine. In 1880 the harvesting of their straight, symmetrical trunks began. Only the soundest, cleanest timber was taken from the woods, although many trees were cut and left where they fell because they were hollow at the stump; while the smaller trees remained standing, only to burn in the forest fires which were an annual occurrence. Frequently in dry weather thousands of acres were burning at once. Not only was all the young growth destroyed, but the rich humus of the soil was burned also. Thus, in ten or fifteen years, three hundred years of nature's work was devastated. So was ruined by reckless greedy waste, natural resources and beauty which the present generation would travel many miles to behold.

Methods of logging in the Porcupine country have improved but little since those early days. The greatest difference lies in the fact that with modern tractors and trucks the destruction is quicker. This tract originally contained 165,000 acres of virgin timber, but today there is hardly 130,000 acres left, with cutting proceeding rapidly. On the south slopes of the mountains there is a section or two of virgin

Fish are abundant in the region's turbulent water courses.

white pine—the last remnant of the vast forests in the Ontonagon valley—but even now logging crews are slashing it down and in another winter this, too, will be gone. A big logging company is cutting a road north into the very heart of this region and another company is building a logging railroad east from the Presque Isle River. This will soon reach the valleys of the Big and Little Carp rivers.

For years, the people of this region have been endeavoring to interest Congress in some means of preserving this area for posterity. In this effort, we have been joined by conservation-minded people and clubs all over the nation. Splendid work has been done by the General Federation of Women's Clubs and other organizations. During the preceding session of Congress two bills were introduced, namely, H. R. 3793 and S. 1131, designed to preserve this wilderness. Their passage was prevented by our entry into the war.

Lying close to the great centers of population in the midwest, the area provides the ideal vacation land for millions of Americans. It offers year-around interest to outdoor enthusiasts inasmuch as the heavy snowfall and open hilly terrain of this section make it ideal for winter sports. Here city people, longing for fresh open spaces, can fill their lungs with clear, cold air, and here they can find rest and peace beneath the tall pines and maples. Or they can walk along the mossy river banks and see the rainbow trout with their sides flashing in the sunlight, as they leap the waterfalls.

The strength of America today lies not only in her material resources, but also in her spiritual assets. The latter are characterized by a love of the democratic principles which have made our nation strong and able to resist those insidious doctrines brewed in the over-crowded portions of Europe and Asia. These spiritual assets have been enlarged and cultivated in the American home through contact with the soil, wide horizons of natural scenery, and new frontiers which this country has offered immigrants of the Old World.

Today we are engaged in a mighty struggle in which the American way has been challenged by dictatorship that would stultify individual freedom of thought and ideals, and crush spiritual values beneath the heel of a materialistic regime. There is a need, not only among the youth of our nation, but among all our people, to retrieve the finer instincts of the soul through closer contact with nature and natural surroundings.

The Porcupine Mountain region is a last remnant of the American frontier, and it is one of the last great places where our people can regain that sturdy independence of thought, and peace of mind so sorely needed in this great trial.

EDITOR'S NOTE: At its 1942 Annual Meeting the Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association adopted the following resolution:

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 shall be acquired by the Federal Government for preservation in their present primitive condition.

The national parks are open this summer to members of the armed forces and to those civilians living close by who are able to visit them under present transportation restrictions, says Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior.

HAWK SLAUGHTER

By J. CHARLES TRACY

"WE MUST kill hawks", a man stated recently at a public gathering in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, "because nothing preys on hawks, and they would become so numerous that the well-being of useful wildlife would be endangered unless they are controlled." Statements like this are the coals that keep alive the fire of hatred against birds of prey. Acting under the guise of conservation, they undermine the work being done by down-to-earth conservation organizations whose primary intention is to maintain the status quo of nature, regardless of the sentiment of those who would see her as naught but a peaceful lamb.

Nature will not be soft-hearted. She has a pattern, a discipline, which has been maintained since the beginning of time. The survival of the fittest is, at best, a bloody business; yet most of us accept it as a basic axiom of natural history. It is the "balance of nature" in practice.

Conservation of predatory birds and animals is just as important to the well-being of all wildlife as is the conservation of what some choose to call "useful species". Nature is the best judge of whether a species is useful or not. When one ceases to be useful, it is removed, and another takes its place. The gradual evolution of present-day wildlife since the Eocene has been accomplished by just such methods. Any attempt by man to arbitrarily designate a species as "useless" and subsequently to eradicate it, can only foster disastrous results, except when applied to restricted areas where such methods are unavoidable. No sensible person questions the right of a farmer to shoot a hawk that constantly menaces his poultry; but we must remember that such cases are the exception rather than the rule and that birds with such tendencies are outlaws just as are the gangsters and racketeers of our own race.

When the sharp-shinned hawk captures the song sparrow, he is performing his function in the gigantic pattern of which he is a part. He is not eliminating the song sparrow from the face of the earth, but he is maintaining the standards of alertness and strength, which are necessary for the survival of the present and future generations of song sparrows. Not only the predator, but his quarry as well, benefit from this interrelation.

No different is the interdependence between the red-tailed hawk and the field mouse. But since man does not consider the field mouse an essential to his livelihood, he arbitrarily considers the red-tailed hawk a "useful" species, while he condemns the sharp-shin for attacking a type of wildlife that appeals to his esthetic fancy. Actually both are performing an identical function.

Hawks have been the victims of prejudice and intolerance for so long that they are today being systematically eradicated on their southward migration across the United States. This eradication is reaching alarming proportions. Through lack of public education, indifference and downright degradedness, they are being shot for no other reason than that they provide a moving target. During their autumn migrations they must fly through hundreds of miles of blazing shotguns to reach their winter quarters. Those which are shot are left where they fall, dead or wounded. Although we like to believe that ours is an enlightened country, no satisfactory action

Richard Pough

A one-day slaughter on Hawk Mountain before the area was made a sanctuary.

has as yet been taken on any but a small scale to eliminate this vandalism.

With wings and tail particularly adapted for soaring, the hawks migrate southward along routes where air currents may be utilized to the greatest advantage. Wind striking mountainsides produces rising air currents, and as a result, during migration, large numbers of hawks concentrate along mountain ridges that run in a southerly direction. The strength and direction of the wind, together with other meteorological conditions, influence the flights; on windy days following a low-pressure area, hawks passing a given point may number in the thousands, while on days of little or no wind there may be no flight.

The conditions attending these migrations, particularly the concentrations of flight along narrow mountain ridges, increase the dangers that beset the birds. Open fields and rock outcrops atop the mountains afford spots from which the birds may be ambushed. Hawks decoy easily, and the shooters lure them by means of whistling, dangling former victims from treetops, or even tying live pigeons to poles.

To the non-killer who has witnessed a hawk slaughter, the hawk-shooter is in a class by himself. He does not respect nature; rather, he sees himself able to command it. He shows no mercy for the dying birds at his feet. He makes no effort to retrieve the kill, for he has no use for it. He does not obey the laws protecting certain species of hawk. He is not a sportsman. Sometimes egged on by those who would have us believe that "the only good hawk is a dead one", but more often by his own selfish desire to shoot at a moving target, his sole purpose is to knock as many

birds as possible from the sky—laws, mercy and good sense notwithstanding.

One day last October, at the Larksville Mountain blinds, near Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, I saw over 150 hawks hit. How many of them were killed outright I cannot say, but many were left maimed, to die a wretched death from starvation. I walked about in the woods below the blinds and found many of the fallen birds. The sight of magnificent red-tailed and red-shouldered hawks cowering in the underbrush or beneath rocks in their last agonies is one not easily forgotten. There were some with severed wing tendons. Theirs was a sure death of starvation, for the wings could not heal, and lacking the power of flight the birds could capture no food. Some had broken feet or broken necks, and others were bleeding to death. Dead hawks were suspended in the branches of trees, and their carcasses were scattered about the blinds. They were displayed as trophies by the killers, and they were strung on poles, their feet cut off for "souvenirs".

Such wholesale killings have been taking place since the latter part of the nineteenth century, and they have accomplished nothing that might justify their continuance. We find local conditions involving human enterprises where some predator control is economically necessary, but nowhere do conditions warrant a declaration of "total war" against *all* predatory birds. The sooner public attention is directed to these killings, and public sentiment against the practice is exerted, the sooner it can be eliminated.

At Drehersville, Pennsylvania, near the Schuylkill gap in the Kittatinny Ridge, was formerly situated one of the worst of all the hawk slaughterhouses. This spot, known as Hawk Mountain, was the mecca for killers from miles around. Each autumn they came to take their toll of migrants from a high, steep outcrop of rock that commands a superior view northeast along the ridge. Each year killing went on to such an extent that nearby hardware stores found it profitable to station truckloads of shotgun shells at the trail's entrance for use by the hunters; and a junk dealer in Reading collected enough scrap brass to pay for several trips to the mountain each season.

In the summer of 1934, Mrs. C. N. Edge, of the Emergency Conservation Committee of New York, leased Hawk Mountain and proclaimed it a sanctuary. Thus was established the world's first sanctuary to birds of prey. Much has been accomplished in the nine years of the sanctuary's existence to bring about a better understanding of the functions of natural predators. Many people visit the sanctuary each autumn to watch the flights, and among these people there is a sizable group of reformed hawk-shooters. They have agreed unanimously that watching is better than killing.

But Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is not the final answer to the problem. It is only a step in the right direction. On other ridges that stretch across Pennsylvania and neighboring states, similar slaughtering continues unabated. It cannot be hoped that shooting sites can be bought one by one or collectively for sanctuaries. Ultimate success must be achieved through legislation and aroused public opinion.

Three years after the establishment of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, the Pennsylvania Legislature extended protection to all but three species of native hawks. The three unprotected species are the goshawk, Cooper's hawk and sharp-shinned hawk, which rely almost exclusively on birds for their food. The goshawk, the largest of the three, is the only one capable of inflicting damage upon the larger species. Its range is for the most part restricted to the northerly parts of the United States and Canada. The only argument in defense of the two latter species is the fact that there were songbirds in abundance when white men first came to this continent, despite the fact that both the Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawks are known to have existed since Pleistocene time.

Enforcement of Pennsylvania's hawk law has been a difficult problem. Since there is no bag-limit or season limit involved, and since the hawks have never been placed in the classification of game birds, most of the attention of the state's wardens has been directed to other types of wildlife protection. It has been too freely assumed that the hawk-shooters will take only the three legal species. I have witnessed many hawk-shoots and have never known a day to pass when protected birds were not shot. Little or no control is exerted over the killers.

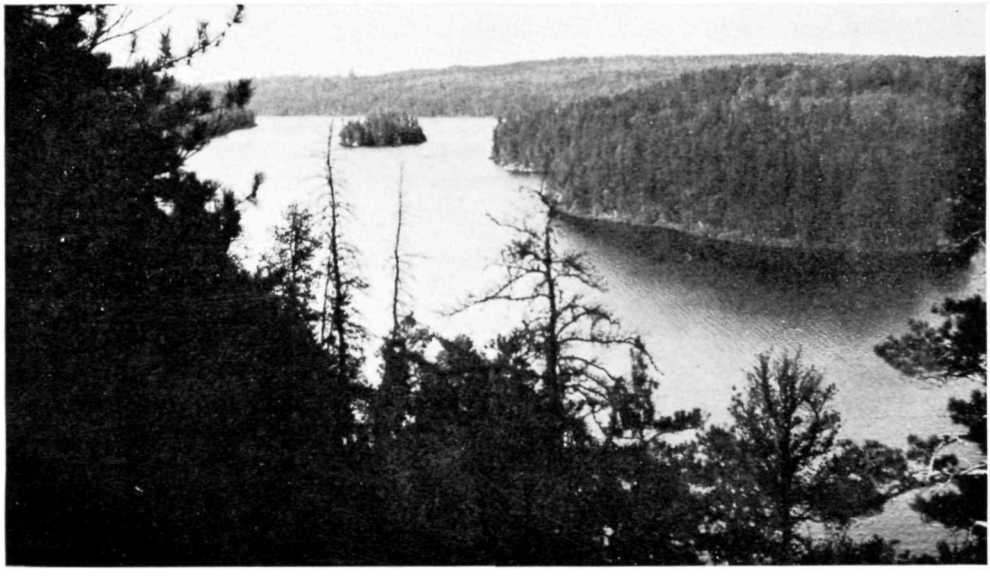
It is not easy to identify with the naked eye all the species of hawks which are encountered. Even the best trained observers are sometimes unable to make accurate identification. The obvious result is that many protected hawks are mistakenly shot. The loophole in the law is that the three bird-eating hawks are permitted to be taken at any season, and inability to identify is the cloak of protection the hunters wear when taking illegal birds.

It may be safely stated that conditions revolving about local politics, clashes of personality, and the ability of the killers to detect the presence of wardens make it possible for them today to take any species of hawk with little or no danger of serious consequence.

Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin have passed laws extending protection to *all* hawks; in other states the number of protected species ranges from none to ten or more. Beyond these three pioneer states in hawk-protection, there are no regulations as to bag-limit or open season, and there are no laws requiring the hunters to kill birds outright. Federal Government regulations control only the bald eagle, our national emblem. Nowhere within the continental United States may bald eagles be legally shot.

Various types of legislation might be proposed to eliminate the Frankenstein which today besets our birds of prey; but certain it is that hawk-shooting, particularly when carried on under the banner of conservation, must be eliminated from the American scene.

With its coves, islands and heavily forested shores, Sarah Lake is one of hundreds in Minnesota's border lakeland.



Midwesterners, Your Border Lakeland Is At Stake

By WALLACE G. SCHWASS

Photographs by the Author

THE people of the Midwest are sometimes surprised to learn that not far from their back yards there are nearly ten million acres of wild land, wherein is located the world's finest canoe country. It is known as the Quetico-Superior Wilderness, and is comprised in part by the Superior National Forest in Minnesota, and the Quetico Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada. This superb area, of recreational and economic importance to two nations, is today threatened with ruin.

Spread across the international boundary, and lying between Rainy Lake on the west and Lake Superior on the east, this region is a land of granite hills and valleys. The hills, covered with a thin layer of soil, support a forest of evergreens interspersed with paper birch; while the valleys are filled with water, forming a maze of lakes. Waterfalls and rapids join the lakes, and it is possible for a canoeist to travel for months without crossing his route. The country is open to rich and poor alike, and is readily accessible to nearly one fourth of our people.

The border lakeland is scenic and rich in flora and fauna. Each lake is unlike its neighbors in size and shape. Some are hemmed in by steep cliffs with waterfalls plunging over them, and some have islands, while others are fascinatingly broken by jutting points and high headlands, that form bays and quiet coves grown with water lilies.

The canoeist may round a point, perhaps on a calm and misty morning, and there in the shallow water along the shore of a cove he will see a doe and fawn. A splash of the paddle, and both will disappear in the dark aisles of the encircling spruce forest. Again the traveler may come unexpectedly upon a moose feeding on lily stems in a reedy arm of a lake. Surprised, the moose will take off over a ridge to a tamarack bog beyond.

Then one day the canoeist will paddle by Louisa Falls which thunders in two gigantic steps over the ridge which holds Louisa Lake on a plateau above; and on another day he will climb the rocky portage beside the valley into which drops exquisite Canyon Falls. During the journey there will be calm days and days of high wind, and with the latter comes the thrill of fighting the primeval elements as the canoe is tossed over white waves.

Although the canoeist spends most of his time traversing the lakes, he is not constantly on the go, for he also spends days in camp where he loafs on the spongy needle-covered ground in a grove of giant Norway pines. He will swim in the cold water along the rocky shore, or hike over the trails to explore bogs tucked away in depressions of the hills. In the bogs he may photograph nature's treasures such as the white Indian pipe, the red-blooming pitcher plant and orchids like the delicate purple fringed orchis, the yellow lady slipper and the fragrant and tiny arethusa which looks like a creation in a Chinese print. Near camp can be seen large shamrock spiders whose green coloring is the envy of any Irishman; and beavers can be observed reconnoitering in the nearby cove.

Camp is always a welcome place, but particularly so after a hard day of paddling and portaging over lichen-covered hills, and down through hollows and

sphagnum bogs. In the evening one is deliciously exhausted. After supper on a wind-swept point that shelters a patch of white water lilies, the camper may see the northern lights spreading across the sky, while a great horned owl hoots from the distant shore. Presently the moon turns the lakeland into a world of fantasy.

With the first light of dawn the silence is broken by the loud, wavering call of the loon—a call which many people feel gives them the most poignant and beautiful impression of the north country.

In 1909, far-seeing statesmen and conservationists recognized in this region a conservation project of major importance. Through presidential proclamation, Teddy Roosevelt established the Superior National Forest in Minnesota, and in 1919 the Quetico Provincial Park was created in Ontario. The national forest and the park together comprise but a small portion of the region.

In the autumn of 1925, the International Joint Commission which had been set up to deal with boundary questions, opened hearings to determine the best use of the waters of the Rainy Lake watershed. Several witnesses were heard, but E. W. Backus was the only one who had a general plan. He proposed the building of seven dams on the border lakes, the water to be used for the development of power. This scheme involved raising the water levels to a height of from five to eighty feet in several lakes.

The plan aroused immediate opposition, with the result that a brief was presented against Backus calling attention to the recreational value of the area, and pointing out that fluctuating water levels behind the dams would utterly destroy the country along the lake shores. To defeat the Backus proposal, the Quetico-Superior Council was formed. Two leaders of the Council were Mr. Ernest Oberholtzer and Mr. Frederick Winston. The American Legion offered its support to the Council, and to this was added the support of thirty local, state and national organizations.

The Council proposed opposition to commercial development in the Rainy Lake and Pigeon River watersheds. It proposed opposition also to any change of water levels, and to the cutting of timber along shore lines. To bring these proposals into effect, two bills were passed in the 1930 session of Congress creating a law known as the Shipstead-Newton-Nolan Law.

Next, the Council succeeded in having similar legislation enacted by the Minnesota Legislature. Enactment of the latter was almost unanimously supported by the State Legislature.

In 1934 the Quetico-Superior Committee was established by President Roosevelt to work toward the carrying out of the Council's program to save the area, and to reestablish the lumber industry. Calling for a treaty between Canada and the United States, the program would establish a regulatory body composed of citizens of both countries whose duty it would be to see that no roads or other developments are constructed within a designated wilderness area reserved for canoeists, fishermen and wildlife; to see that selective logging is practiced where logging is permitted; to see that burned-over and logged-over lands are reforested; to see that there is adequate fire protection and tree disease control; and to see that wildlife is increased to the carrying capacity of the range, with the wilderness area maintained as a refuge, and controlled hunting allowed in the balance of the region.

Moose, once common but now scarce because of over-hunting, can be brought back, particularly in the Rainy Lake country which in the past was the best moose territory in North America. Woodland caribou, so seriously threatened with extinction in all North America today, and now vanished from this area because of over-hunting and fire, should be reintroduced. Deer are fairly common in the southern portion, and a few elk have been introduced, although more should be brought in from overcrowded ranges elsewhere. Black bear, wolves and

The Quetico-Superior Wilderness, the world's finest canoe country, may yet be saved from ruthless exploitation if conservationists everywhere will fight for it.

lynx are still to be found here, although they are quite rare. They should be encouraged for their work in maintaining balanced populations of other species.

The region's fur resources have declined due to over-trapping, but under proper management the area could again team with beaver, muskrat, mink, marten, fisher and wolverine. This, too, is the breeding ground for countless waterfowl, herons and songbirds. If properly managed, the Quetico-Superior wilderness might rival the Yellowstone National Park as a wildlife preserve.

Minnesota has until recently been cooperative in furthering consolidation of the area by the U. S. Forest Service. A few months ago, however, the State Government made known its change of policy toward the matter by publishing an editorial in the Minnesota Conservation Department's magazine, "Conservation Volunteer". This editorial applying the argument of state's rights to oppose the Quetico-Superior plan, was distributed throughout the nation wherever dislike for the Federal Government was known to exist.

More recently, the Minnesota State Legislature, with the approval of the Governor, passed two bills. One of these reaffirmed the state forest status of the Kabetogama and Pigeon River areas. The other requires the prior approval of each specific purchase by a state board consisting of the Governor, the Attorney General and the Conservation Commissioner. This board has granted blanket approval for purchases within the originally proclaimed boundaries of the Superior National Forest, but is withholding approval of purchases in the Kabetogama and Pigeon Rivers areas.

Rather than directing its funds and attention to a vast region of national importance which can better be administered by the Federal Government, the state should direct attention to its many state forests, farm forests, and so on.

Though the state has used the argument of state's rights as a smoke screen, it is known by every one acquainted with the situation that the two bills were backed by private lumber and power interests. These interests have always fought the Federal

Government and the Quetico-Superior plan. With their single motive of quick personal gain, they will bring about destructive exploitation of the area instead of its protection and the regulated use of resources for the benefit of the people of this and future generations.

Arrayed against these interests are the Izaak Walton League, the Quetico-Superior Council, the President's Quetico-Superior Committee, the Wilderness Society, the National Parks Association, the American Legion and the Canadian Legion. The last two have asked that the forest be dedicated as a peace forest in memory of Canadian and United States soldiers who died together for democracy in World War One.

It cannot be denied that a large part of the Quetico-Superior Wilderness is in serious danger of destruction, yet it is probable that little exploitation will take place within the area before the war ends.

Though this new blow to the preservation of Minnesota's border lakeland is the most serious since the days of the Backus proposal, it is inevitable that the constructive plans of conservationists will win out. The people of the United States should not rest content until the Superior National Forest encompasses the 3,584,000 acres within the proposed U. S. Forest Service purchase units, of which only about 2,000,000 are now owned by the Government.

Conservationists in Minnesota, as well as those throughout the nation, should bring this matter to the widest public attention by publication of articles on the subject. They should also encourage the U. S. Forest Service to hold to its original program in spite of the recent reversal of attitude on the part of the state.

The Quetico-Superior Council at 1218 Flour Exchange, Minneapolis, Minnesota, will welcome suggestions, and it will gladly supply information upon request.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Fear has been expressed by some people that it is planned eventually to make a national park of the Superior Wilderness. Such fear is, of course, due to the fact that if the area were made a national park, its timber and other natural resources could no longer be utilized. The attitude of the National Parks Association toward such a proposal is that the region, first of all, does not measure up to national park standards; and, second, most of its forests have already been cut and are, therefore, not fit for inclusion in a national park. The Association, however, does approve of the carrying out of the Quetico-Superior plan as discussed in the foregoing article.

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE AND THE U. S. ARMY

All but two of the Army Service Commands have requested additional copies of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for distribution to the camp libraries. Approximately 300 copies of each of the previous four issues have been contributed; but now the number is increased to 664. The cost of printing and mailing that many copies amounts to $125.00. To make this contribution possible, members are again asked to send in their donations at the earliest moment.

Your executive staff feels sure that the entire membership approves of sending the magazine to our fighting men, for we know that its articles of entertainment, as well as those of a controversial nature, together with the pictures, bring a few moments of pleasure to all who read and see them. In this connection, one of our readers has written, "As men are caught up in the mechanically grinding forces of war, they crave news and pictures of those places, people and institutions which represent the finer side of our modern life".

Time is Running Out on the Everglades

By JOHN H. BAKER

Executive Director, National Audubon Society
Trustee, National Parks Association

WHEN you think of Florida, you think not only of a state with an entity of its own, but of a part of the United States particularly dear to all Americans, millions of whom have vacationed there and millions of whom hope, some day, to bask in Florida's sunshine, explore its wilderness and gaze upon the spectacularly beautiful bird life which is at home there.

For years, the Everglades have touched off the imaginations of all of us. For years, the dream of making part of the Everglades into a national park or federal wildlife refuge has been coming closer and closer to reality. Many have been the obstacles to overcome, some caused by desire for exploitation, some by lack of scientific knowledge. Although there have been many mistakes made in drainage and land-use, with consequent economic waste, time has shown us the error of our ways, and now points to a present and future course of correction and restoration. Time has brought together federal and state agencies, engineers, biologists, agriculturalists and a host of interested citizens who are cooperating to save for wise use what is left of the 'glades.

It was only natural back in the early days of this century, that Florida should fall prey to the enthusiasm for reclamation that swept the country. Surely, it was believed, those two and a half million acres —the 'glades of south Florida which stretch from Lake Okeechobee and the West Palm Beach Canal to the heads of the rivers on the southwest coast—should be drained and put into agricultural crops to the greater glory of the state and the enrichment of its citizens! Accordingly, in 1904, a program for draining the Everglades was launched. But this project, like many another reclamation project throughout the country, was conceived and initiated without proper consideration of geological, hydrological, vegetative and wildlife conditions. The results have been of vast economic damage to Florida. Time has brought experience and knowledge, however, and now offers the opportunity to take advantage of what we have learned, if we act quickly and before it is too late.

The solution involves an engineering problem in water control that should be entrusted to a qualified hydraulic engineer who is suitably empowered to carry into effect an intelligent water-control and land-use plan, backed by adequate legislative and administrative authority. To understand why the problem is primarily one of water control, let us consider some facts with regard to the Everglades region.

At the time that the glaciers were receding and the seas advancing, a sand ridge was thrown up along Florida's eastern shore; this served to hold fresh water on the area known as the Everglades. There succulent plants and sawgrass decomposed, forming muck and peat topsoils, respectively. The subsurface structure is of porous rock, either Fort Thompson limestone or Miami oölite. The topsoil is relatively new; so much so that some of it, such as that known as Loxahatchie peat, is unfit for agricultural use. Throughout much of the area there exists a layer of marl between the topsoil and the porous rock; where this is present, there is in effect a waterproof seal, the existence of which is essential if water is to be controlled for agricultural or other uses. Where such marl seal does not occur, water control is out of the question.

As to rainfall in Florida, there's plenty

of it! The annual average is about fifty-five inches. It is estimated that about seventy-five percent of the water on the 'glades escapes by evaporation or transpiration, and that about twenty-five percent flows into the Atlantic Ocean through man-made canals. It is estimated that in a recent year 4,075,000 acre-feet of water were discharged into the ocean through these canals, and that of this amount only 175,000 acre-feet were let into those canals from Lake Okeechobee. Therefore some 3,900,000 acre-feet were drained from the 'glades—about two-acre feet per acre of muck or peat land in the 'glades. At this season of the year the discharge of just one of the canals draining the 'glades, the North New River, is about 140 cubic feet per second, whereas the entire fresh-water consumption of the city of Miami is but approximately sixty-five cubic feet per second.

Now, while it is essential that we know on which parts of the 'glades the water can be controlled, it is also vital that we know the quality and depth of the topsoils. We cannot measure the time required to build an inch of soil, but we can measure quite accurately the time it takes an inch of Everglades soil to evaporate into the atmosphere. When there is water on the 'glades, bacteria in the submerged soil are relatively quiescent; once the lands are drained, the bacteria become active and the consequent loss of soil through oxidation is startling in amount. Under normal conditions raw Everglades lands, after drainage, will lose about one inch per year in elevation. If brought into cultivation, they will lose about one and a half feet during the first ten years and one inch a year thereafter. The town of Belle Glade on the southeastern shore of Lake Okeechobee, in the muck belt, has lost some six of its twenty-two feet of elevation since 1913. This means that even the best of the agricultural lands in the glades have quite limited life, and it is therefore all the more important that that life be, in so far as possible, lengthened through the institution of scientific control of the water table.

The tremendous loss of topsoil as a result of cultivation; the enormous depletion of organic soils as the result of devastating fires consequent upon drainage; the intrusion of salt water into the fresh water supplies of the cities of Florida's eastern shore, as a direct result of the lowering of the water table in the 'glades; the prevalence of damaging frosts in east coast agricultural areas where frosts were comparatively unknown in the days when ample water covered the 'glades; the damage to crops from the acrid smoke of the recurrent fires; the disastrous effects of periodic floods and droughts in the absence of water-control policy based on scientific data—all these and other lesser problems combined to induce such general alarm that arrangements were made for exhaustive studies by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, beginning in 1940.

That service now finds that not more than twenty percent of the Everglades area, or some 500,000 of the 2,500,000 acres involved, are suited to agriculture. It finds the minimum depth of soil for agricultural lands in the 'glades to be five feet. This is because a drainage ditch, to be effective, should be three feet deep, and also because such ditches should be constructed only in areas where there exists a marl seal above the porous rock. Furthermore, the depth of topsoil must be sufficient to permit the construction of such ditches for water control without cutting into the marl seal or the porous rock underneath; and, of course, the depth of soil must be such as to give the lands sufficient agricultural life to warrant investment therein. It naturally follows that a large portion of the Everglades is best adapted to use as natural water-storage basins and as national or state parks or wildlife refuges.

Laws relating to the Everglades area enacted up to this time appear to have concerned themselves largely with means of exploitation rather than conservation and

wise use. There are at present several state set-ups such as the Everglades Drainage District, the Everglades Fire Control Commission, and sundry sub-drainage districts. There are conflicts of interest between those who want a certain water table for one reason and those who want a different water table for another reason. There appears to be no central authority with the power to act in accordance with known facts and with regard to what, in its judgment, is in the best interests of the people of the state as a whole, or even of the Everglades area in particular. Continuation of attempts to control devastating fires in the 'glades by other means than control of the water table would seem to be utterly futile. There is not much that fire wardens can do under present circumstances but jump up and down and shout. Probably it would be advisable for Florida to merge the existing state organizations concerned with the present and future of the 'glades and empower the merged authority to carry into effect a long-term land-use program based on the now known scientific facts. It would seem necessary that adequate provision be made for condemnation of lands for fair compensation.

We all know that one of the outstanding characteristics of the Everglades is their spectacularly beautiful bird life. But they are also of unrivaled quality as a natural reservoir and breeding ground for many other kinds of wildlife, while the plant life is varied and extremely interesting. It is in recognition of such attractions as the fascinating fauna and flora therein, that progress has been made with the plan to establish within the 'glades an Everglades National Park.

The National Audubon Society has devoted much time, thought, money, and energy to the protection of the birds and other wildlife in the glades and on nearby lands and waters, and is therefore vitally interested in the adoption of a wise land-use plan based upon scientific facts. In its efforts toward that end it has fortunately enjoyed, and hopes to continue to be privileged to enjoy, the friendly cooperation of all Florida interests and of the agencies of the Federal Government. If such a plan be at last put into effect, the preservation of the wildlife, as well as of the soils, waters, and vegetation, will be reasonably assured and the people of south Florida will be benefited through the retention of natural values of the utmost aesthetic, recreational, and economic consequence.

JACKSON HOLE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Thunder caused last March by the sudden establishment of Jackson Hole as a national monument has rumbled across the land. It has reverberated beneath the dome of the nation's capitol, and its echoes have not yet died away.

Cattlemen of the area, believing themselves deprived of grazing rights, staged a cattle drive across the Hole in defiance of the Government; the State of Wyoming has filed a suit challenging the legality of the act; and Wyoming Congressmen have been urged to take action, with the result that the following bills have been introduced: H. R. 2241 to abolish the monument; S. 1046 to remove Presidential power to establish national monuments by proclamation (vigorously opposed by the National Parks Association); S. 1056 and H. R. 2591 to amend section 2 of the Antiquities Act. Furthermore, a Senate amendment has been added to the Interior Appropriation Bill 1944 to prohibit use of any funds provided by the bill, to administer the area as a monument.

Grazing rights do not cease with establishment of the monument. (See *The Parks and Congress*, page 31.)

A LETTER FROM BOSTON

WE BELIEVE all who have followed the New England controversy in the January-March and April-June issues of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE will be astonished by the following letter from Mr. Victor M. Cutter, Chairman of the Boston office, National Resources Planning Board, in which he expresses regret that we should have accepted his publication No. 68 at its face value, and that we did not check with him to find out if it presented his plan accurately.

Dear Mr. Butcher:

We were at fault in allowing to escape us the expression "high backbone of New England" in our publication by Mr. Comey, even though he did qualify this by stating, "In the mountainous districts it will be located for the most part along the sides of mountains and ridges affording views of the highest peaks".

You were at fault in publishing your article without advising us of your intention or without submitting it to us for checking. We feel that you were still more at fault in not writing us for information on the routes suggested in our plan before you published a criticism of it. We think you were further at fault in not making it clear in your publication and correspondence that the New England region of the National Resources Planning Board is not an action agency but rather one which attempts to integrate and harmonize "the ideas and plans of all local, state, and federal agencies", as I stated in the Foreword to Mr. Comey's report.

We make recommendations from a regional point of view for consideration, acceptance, or rejection by policy-forming and action agencies, in the hope that these may result in coordination of all the plans being made by the local and state governments in our region.

We, therefore, feel that your correspondence and publication, even if misinformed, has served a useful purpose and we do not resent it. We do feel that in order to clarify the situation and to inform your public accurately on the subject of scenic highways in New England, you should publish this letter.

In October 1942 we prepared a map on which this parkway was shown. Censorship regulations prevent us from making that map public. Nevertheless, we will be glad to show it to you or your representative if you are able to visit our office. We can also describe the provisions of our proposals for new parkways. If you had inquired as to the proposed location of the New England parkway, we would have informed you as follows:

1. that the route tentatively suggested by us passes over no mountain tops whatsoever and only for a stretch of twenty miles does it pass through a corner of what may properly be called a wilderness area;

2. that we consider a road over the mountain tops of the Green Mountains, White Mountains or any other mountain in New England fantastic, entirely prohibited by expense of construction and because it would irreparably scar the scenery in our region;

3. that in five stretches only our tentative recommendations fail to follow existing public roads or private roads commonly open to public travel. These stretches are as follows:

a. Parts of the Berkshire Hills. In this section no area is more than a mile and a half from existing roads.

b. Western New Hampshire, between Hanover and Wentworth.

c. The White Mountains, between Lincoln and Crawford Notch and between Randolph and Milan. Comments received since the Regional Plan was issued for review by officials lead us now to believe that existing roads or truck trails could be followed in the White Mountain sections, except for a by-pass of the city of Berlin. Thus this section could be handled without "desecrating" any wilderness area.

d. The Dead River section of Maine, between Flagstaff and the Forks. This section would pass north of the Dead River Reservoir proposed by the U. S. Corps of Engineers, and hence on the opposite side of this reservoir from the Appalachian Trail. The region is now extensively worked for its pulpwood. We propose that large parts of it, and of the Kennebec Gorge section be set aside as park so that it may be preserved for the benefit of tourist and hiker. Which is to be preferred from the standpoint of recreation, a woodland area cut over about every thirty years but inaccessible except through unmarked woods trails, or a park-protected area to which the public has access from a parkway along one border?

e. From the Forks to Moosehead Lake, following roughly the Kennebec River. This area now has no through roads, but several roads now lead into it, to serve camps.

As pointed out above, all other sections of the parkway would follow existing roads, such as the "central route extending through the central portion of the state" of Vermont, authorized by the Vermont Legislature in 1937, and the Ripogenus Dam road now used so frequently and eagerly by lovers of the Katahdin wilderness. Our aim was to link these interesting stretches together into a continuous route and thus make them more readily accessible to the millions who are entitled to enjoy them.

We fail to see how such a parkway as this would destroy or desecrate the New England wilderness sufficiently to offset the expansion of the recreational opportunities of the region. However, if you disagree or have any suggestions as to how we could better the above plans and, consequently, modify our recommendations to the various agencies which will definitely locate and construct any additions to our highway system, we will certainly give your criticisms and suggestions careful and fair consideration.

We would like to help your organization and publication in the formulation of plans and recommendations for fire protection, insect control and in the widespread deforestation which is taking place in New England as a result of the call for lumber during the present emergency.

In conclusion, it may safely be said that no sound recommendation can be made in New England for the skyline highway to which you so properly and strongly object. May I add that personally I have never recommended such a skyline highway and did not advocate such a scar as a recommendation to be made by the planners for the future of New England.

Sincerely yours,

Victor M. Cutter.

Mr. Cutter says we failed to make clear the purpose of the National Resources Planning Board. This we did on page 16 of the January-March issue.

In paragraphs 7 and 8 he uses the words "mountain tops", stating that he considers a proposal to build roads in New England in such locations as "fantastic". Let it be borne in mind by opponents to mountain roads that the so-called skyline highways usually dodge the little summits along the crests of ridges, but this makes such roads no less "skyline highways". "Mountain tops" is a phrase that needs careful definition. Let us not be deceived.

We appreciate Mr. Cutter's invitation to submit suggestions for locating his proposed highway, but this will hardly be necessary. Our request and that of the people of New England is simply, "hands off the mountains".

We leave it to our readers to decide whether the change from truck trail to super highway as mentioned in Mr. Cutter's paragraph "c" would be "desecrating any wilderness area".

New Englanders have reason to be pleased with this letter, we feel, because it gives proof of the marvelous display of opposition which they have shown toward the skyline highway plan. Alert to the threat of invasion of their mountains by this needless and destructive road, New Englanders will be on guard more than ever after the war when postwar plans begin to materialize.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

John R. White

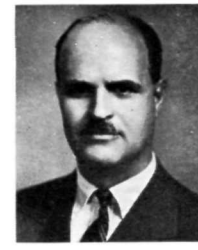
Colonel John R. White (*Flowers for Cattle*) has been a national park superintendent for twenty-four years, having been in charge of Grand Canyon National Park, Death Valley, Cabrillo, and Channel Islands national monuments. He is now superintendent of Sequoia National Park. Previous to employment with the National Park Service, Colonel White had performed numerous jobs for the Philippine Government; had served in the U. S. Army; and had been connected with the American Red Cross and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Wallace G. Schwass

Wallace G. Schwass (*Midwesterners, Your Border Lakeland is at Stake*) was born in Chicago. He received his B.S. and LL.B. degrees at Northwestern University. After being admitted to the Illinois Bar, he became an associate member of a law firm. Interested in the outdoors, he writes with authority on the Quetico-Superior, for he has made two canoe trips into it. He has also canoed into the Steel River country of Ontario and has camped anywhere from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Grand Tetons. An ardent conservationist, he is a member of the Wilderness Society, the Save-the-Redwoods League. The American Forestry Association, the Wild Flower Preservation Society and the National Parks Association. He believes that North Americans must prepare the blueprint for a postwar conservation program.

Raymond Dick (*Going, Going, ——, the Forest of the Porcupines*) was born in Duluth. At the age of five he moved with his parents to the wilds of northern Minnesota where he learned to love the woods and nature. At thirteen he went to live on Michigan's upper peninsula, and later attended the School of Forestry and Agriculture at Michigan and Washington state colleges. For many years he has been engaged in business and farming, and for the past ten years he has worked to arouse public interest in the conservation of forests and wildlife. Mr. Dick helped organize the Save-the-Porcupine Mountains Association, of which he is secretary.

J. Charles Tracy (*Hawk Slaughter*) has his home at Forty Fort, Pennsylvania. He is an ardent conservationist and takes an interest in birds for birds' sake. Recently he has brought to the attention of several conservation organizations the needless slaughter of hawks, and has written articles on the subject.



John H. Baker

John H. Baker (*Time Is Running Out on the Everglades*) is Executive Director of the National Audubon Society, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association. In 1933, while in the banking business, he was elected Chairman of the Society's Board of Directors. In 1934 he gave up banking to devote his entire time to the Society. He has been interested in birds since boyhood. Recently he has spent much time in the Everglades, in Florida Bay and on the Florida southwest coast, and has traversed the area by plane, car, boat and on foot. In cooperation with federal and state agencies, he has worked unceasingly to help solve the problems that have been preventing the early establishment of the Everglades National Park.

OUR ANNUAL MEETING

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES

TIME: May twenty-seventh. Place: The Cosmos Club, Washington, D. C. Present were President William P. Wharton, and fifteen other Trustees, as well as Executive Secretary Devereux Butcher and Mr. Newton B. Drury, Director of the National Park Service, guest speaker.

From Remarks of the President

Because of the war, projects for new national parks, monuments, or other important reservations have made little progress during the past year. The preservation of the Tensas Swamp in Louisiana has faded pretty well out of the picture, and preservation of the Porcupine Mountains area in Michigan has gotten no further. Work on the Everglades continues, but it is slow.

Pressure for opening the parks to cutting of timber and to livestock grazing is coming to a head. The California Legislature has demanded opening the California parks to grazing, while pressure on Olympic National Park has become strong enough to force the opening of the Queets Corridor—an authorized but not yet acquired extension to the park. Observers expect this pressure to increase.

The creation of Jackson Hole National Monument has raised doubts and fears in the minds of your Executive Committee, in view of our previous opposition to the proposal to add this partly commercial area to Grand Teton National Park.

Outstanding is the situation in Minnesota regarding the Quetico-Superior Wilderness, caused by the sudden opposition of the State Government to further acquisition by the Federal Government of lands to be added to the Superior National Forest to round out the Quetico-Superior plan.

The year ahead will probably call for a strong stand for the preservation of the integrity of the National Park System amid the stresses of war.

From Report of the Executive Secretary

Four hundred copies of the last four issues of the magazine have been sent to the twelve Army Service Commands for distribution to their camp libraries because we have felt that the Army camps offer an opportunity to reach men whom we could reach under no other circumstances. Few may become inspired to take part in any form of conservation work after the war, as a result of having read the magazine, but unquestionably some seed will fall on fertile ground, and by this the nation will someday profit.

From the Address by Director Drury

First discussing Jackson Hole National Monument, he said that the region is one of the great natural areas of the country, the preservation of which enhances the Grand Teton National Park, and that it would be a blow to the National Park and Monument systems if, through the Barrett Bill (H. R. 2241), it should be abolished.

The threat to cut timber in Olympic National Park, he said, is the most serious problem confronting the Park Service. Mr. Drury said he had lately visited the park and had looked over the Queets Corridor outside the park where so-called selective logging operations are now going on. He stated that even where selective cutting is practiced, the forest is forever impaired for national park purposes.

In regard to the grazing threat, he said that there had been some disturbance in the vicinity of Lassen Volcanic National Park in California, but that things had now calmed down. He added that the matter would need watching.

International Treaty

Mr. Coolidge gave a short account of plans for implementing the carrying out of the International Treaty for Nature Protection. He said there was cause to hope that funds would be granted to the Pan American Union to pay the salaries of a consulting biologist and technical assistant in the Division of Agricultural Cooperation.

Mr. Coolidge then told the Board that at the recently held annual meeting of the American Committee for International Wildlife Protection, plans were made for a committee to be appointed for postwar planning to consider the national park concept on a world-wide scale.

Everglades National Park

Dr. Bartsch said that the Everglades Drainage District bond issue had been reduced from $18,000 to $5,000. The greatest threat to the establishment of the park, he said, was the continued search for oil. He added that there is a chance of exchanging state lands outside the proposed park area for private lands within the area, and expressed the hopeful thought that the park might be established before our next Annual Meeting.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Park Service Appropriations 1944

RESOLVED that the Trustees of the National Parks Association note with regret the drastic reduction in appropriations for the National Park Service made by the House of Representatives below the recommendations of the Budget Bureau in the Interior Department Appropriation Bill. In our opinion these reductions will seriously handicap the Service in carrying out its responsibilities to preserve for future generations the national parks and monuments and other reservations committed to its care, and to make them available now to the men of the armed forces and other war workers in this time of strain and stress. We therefore respectfully urge the Senate Sub-committee on Interior Appropriations to restore the Budget estimates for the National Park Service—particularly the fund for forest fire prevention, and the general fund for park protection.

(NOTE: The above resolution, together with a letter, was sent to the members of the Senate Sub-committee on Interior Department Appropriations on June 3.)

Olympic National Park

RESOLVED that in view of the continued and increasing pressure for the cutting of Sitka spruce and other species of timber suitable for airplane stock within the present Olympic National Park, the National Parks Association hereby reaffirms its unalterable opposition to any commercialization of the resources of the national parks. Only if a point is reached in the war effort when it appears to the satisfaction of the responsible Government authorities that such timber is imperatively required, should any of the irreplaceable forests of the Olympic National Park be sacrificed. In our judgment, furthermore, that sacrifice should be made, not by permitting cutting within the park boundaries, but by permanently excluding certain forest areas from the park. Let no one be deceived by the assertion that so-called selective cutting can safely be allowed within the park. The inevitable result of such logging will be the complete wreckage of the primeval forest.

General Economic Exploitation

RESOLVED that the National Parks Association hereby emphatically reaffirms its unalterable opposition to all private economic exploitation of the National Primeval Park and Monument systems, whether that exploitation affects timber, forage, minerals, water or any other materials. The distinguished characteristic of the system is its primitive condition, and its purpose is to preserve outstanding examples of the primeval wilderness. Any precedent of economic exploitation sows the seeds of dissolution of this magnificent American heritage.

THE PARKS AND CONGRESS

78th Congress to July 1, 1943

H. R. 1388 (Jennings) To authorize the acceptance of donations of land for the construction of a scenic parkway to provide an appropriate view of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park from the Tennessee side of the park. Introduced January 1. Reported upon favorably by the Interior Department. Voted out favorably by the Public Lands Committee on June 15th.

S. 380 (Hayden) To authorize the participation of states in certain revenues from the national parks and monuments and other areas under the administrative jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Introduced January 14. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys. The Committee is awaiting a report from the Interior Department.

H. R. 2241 (Barrett) To abolish Jackson Hole National Monument. Introduced March 19. Hearings have been held but no action taken. The Committee on the Public Lands has requested funds to send an investigating committee to Jackson Hole.

S. 1056—H. R. 2591 (Robertson-Barrett) To amend section 2 of the Act entitled "An Act for the preservation of American antiquities", approved June 8, 1906, with respect to the creation of national monuments. Introduced May 3. The Committee on the Public Lands is awaiting a report from the Interior Department.—This amendment provides that before the President can establish a national monument by proclamation, the state in which the area is located shall give its approval.

S. 1046 (O'Mahoney and McCarran) To repeal section 2 of the Act entitled "An Act for the preservation of American antiquities", approved June 8, 1906. Introduced April 29. Reported out of the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys June 4. Reported to the Senate on June 9.—This bill would abolish the power of the President to establish national monuments by proclamation.

H. R. 2719 making appropriations for the Interior Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1944. Passed House May 20. Passed Senate June 18.—The Senate made the following increases among others for the National Park Service: The Director's office, from $20,000 by the House, to $26,000; for forest protection and fire prevention, from $140,000 by the House, to $170,000. An amendment by Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming provides that no part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for administrative functions occasioned by the establishment of Jackson Hole National Monument.

H. R. 1975 (Cannon of Missouri) First Deficiency Appropriation Bill for 1943. Passed House February 26. Passed Senate March 12. Signed by the President March 18. Public Law No. 11.

H. R. 1398 (Englebright) To amend the Act of June 13, 1933 (48 Stat. 139) to read as follows: "That the mining laws of the United States, be, and they are hereby, extended to the area included within the Death Valley National Monument in California, or as it may hereafter be extended, subject, however, to the surface use of locations. entries, or patents under general regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior." Introduced January 21. Reported upon unfavorably by the Interior Department.

S. 37—H. R. 647 (Truman-Short) To provide for the establishment of the George Washington Carver National Monument. Introduced January 7 and 6. Passed House April 19. Passed Senate June 15.

S. 1152 (McCarran) To provide for the conservation of wildlife on public lands and reservations of the United States. Introduced June 1. Referred to the Senate Public Lands Committee which is awaiting reports from Agriculture and Interior departments.—Backed by grazing interests, this bill contains provisions that would prove of detriment to wildlife conservation, even in national parks, and would permit the sale of wildlife meat. Sportsmen and other conservationists, beware!

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1214 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

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WHY THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

ORIGIN OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM AND SERVICE

Wanderers penetrating the wilderness that is today known as Yellowstone National Park told tales of the natural wonders of the area. To verify these tales an expedition was sent out in 1870. 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. The party made its report to Congress, and two years later, 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 stretched across the continent.

Since 1872 twenty-five other highly scenic areas, each one a distinct type of original wilderness of outstanding beauty, have also been spared from commercial exploitation and designated as national parks. Together they comprise the National Park System. To manage the System the National Park Service was formed in 1916. In its charge are national monuments as well as other areas and sites of varied classification.

COMMERCIAL ENCROACHMENT AND OTHER DANGERS

Most people believe that the national parks have remained and will 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; and that during World War I certain flower-filled alpine meadows in the parks were opened to grazing. The building of needless roads that destroy primeval character, the over-development of amusement facilities; and the inclusion of areas that do not conform to national park standards, and which sometimes contain resources that will be needed for economic use, constitute other threats to the System. A danger also grows out of the recent establishment of ten other kinds of parks lacking the standards of the world-famous primeval group. These are designated by descriptive adjectives, while the primitive group is not. Until the latter are officially entitled *national primeval parks* to distinguish them from the others, they will remain subject to political assaults.

THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

The Association was established in 1919 to promote the preservation of primeval conditions in the national parks, and in certain national monuments, and to maintain the high standards of the national parks adopted at the creation of the National Park Service. The Association is ready also to preserve wild and wilderness country and its virgin forests, plantlife and wildlife elsewhere in the nation; and it is the purpose of the Association to win all America to their appreciation.

The membership of the Association is composed of men and women who know the value of preserving for all time a few small remnants of the original wilderness of North America. Non-political and non-partisan, the Association stands ready to oppose violations to the sanctity of the national parks and other areas. When threats occur, the Association appeals to its members and allied organizations to express their wishes to those in authority. When plans are proposed that merely would provide profit for the few, but which at the same time would destroy our superlative national heritage, it is the part of the National Parks Association to point the way to more constructive programs. Members are kept informed on all important matters through the pages of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.

THE NATIONAL PARKS AND YOU

To insure the preservation of our heritage of scenic wilderness, 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 and other wilderness country. Join now. 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, and patron membership $1,000.00 with no further dues. All memberships include subscription to NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE.

THE NATIONAL PARKS AND OTHER AREAS
OF PRIMITIVE WILDERNESS
WITH THEIR VIRGIN FORESTS
AND THEIR ORIGINAL PLANTLIFE AND WILDLIFE
HAVE BEEN BEQUEATHED TO US
BY THE GENERATION WE HAVE SUCCEEDED.
WE, TOO, MUST FULFILL OUR TRUST
DURING OUR TIME,
AND DELIVER THESE SUPERB AREAS UNIMPAIRED
TO THE GENERATION FOLLOWING OURS.