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(Rev. Sept. 1960)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
(Park or Office)

FILE NUMBER OR SUBJECT:

PLEASE RETURN THIS FILE PROMPTLY TO

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT FEBRUARY 1960
(Activity)

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FROM: _____
(Date)

TO: _____
(Date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] 1, 19[illegible]

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Acting Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Narrative Report for February 19[illegible]

General

Weather. There was very little snow during February and the weather was extremely cold for about two weeks. There were [illegible] days with sub-zero temperatures at Mammoth. The maximum temperature was 4[illegible] degrees and the minimum was -[illegible]. Precipitation was .[illegible] inches. The minimum temperatures around the park were: [illegible] -[illegible]; Lamar -17; Old Faithful -3[illegible]; Northeast -[illegible]; Lower Fall -[illegible]; [illegible] River -[illegible].

Increase or Decrease in Travel. February visitation totaled 566 in 1[illegible] vehicles, as against [illegible] visitors in 1[illegible] vehicles for the same period last year, a decrease of [illegible] per cent. Tourist lines of West Yellowstone carried 1[illegible] people on round trip from West Yellowstone to Old Faithful, and 7[illegible] made the round trip from West Yellowstone to Madison. Mr. Young gave 6[illegible] school children and teachers a free ride for nature observation. In February 1[illegible], 7[illegible] people made the round trip to Old Faithful.

Inspections. Forester Lyman Barrows, of Glacier National Park, and Research Scientist Vincent Schaeffer of Schenectady, were at Old Faithful from February 1[illegible] to 1[illegible] conducting operations in the Upper Geyser Basin including seeding of steam clouds from geysers and hot pools with silver-iodide and studying geysers to see if they generate electricity when they erupt.

Mr. Lowell Berry, Director of Personnel, Department of Interior, met with 1[illegible] members of the Yellowstone force the evening of February 1[illegible]. There were short talks on various operations in the park. Mr. Berry was taken on a Sno-Cat trip through Hayden Valley on the 1[illegible], where he observed the wildlife of Yellowstone.

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Special Activities. Superintendent Garrison, Assistant Superintendent Gastellum, Acting Chief Park Ranger Sylvester, District Ranger Reynolds and Park Ranger Hoener left the Park February 2 to attend a Congressional hearing in Cody on the proposed Zoning of Yellowstone Lake.

Yellowstone was privileged to welcome Director of Personnel Newell Terry on February 12-13-14. Assistant Superintendent Gastellum and Personnel Officer Miller attended a meeting of Interior Agencies addressed by Mr. Terry in Billings, later driving him to Yellowstone. On February 12, a staff meeting was held to acquaint Mr. Terry with the many active projects now underway in the Park, particularly those of which there is considerable Congressional interest. On Saturday, February 13, Mr. Terry was given a Sno-Cat trip into the Canyon and Hayden Valley sections of the Park. He was accompanied by Messrs. Garrison, Gastellum, Beal, Way and Glen Bean. Park Naturalist McIntyre drove Mr. Terry to Lamar Valley to witness wildlife on February 14 and then to Billings to pick up his plane. Mr. Terry's orientation in Yellowstone will enable him to better understand our magnificent resources as well as the many problems we face in the protection of this public property.

Rangers Sylvester and Hoener spoke to a joint meeting of the Lions and Rotary Clubs, Chamber of Commerce and Sportsman groups at Lander, February 3, on the elk reduction program, earthquake activities, and Yellowstone Lake zoning.

Law Enforcement Officer Howard H. Chapman and Management Assistant Lennart Y. Berg conferred with Field Solicitor A. E. Bielefeld in Billings, on the Harry Ashley Tort claim on February 11.

North District Park Ranger William S. Chapman assumed the duties of Acting Chief Park Ranger on February 9, when Frank E. Sylvester departed for Badlands National Monument where he will assume the position of Superintendent.

Park Landscape Architect Frank E. Mattson, Park Engineer C. A. Rowe, and Programs and Plans Officer Bean attended meetings with the Bureau of Public Roads in Denver on February 2, 3, and 4.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. McNeece of the Sky-Line Sportsman's Association, Inc., Butte, Montana, discussed elk reduction program with Acting Chief Park Ranger Sylvester on the 6th.

On February 3, Park Naturalist Beal and Park Engineer Hyde talked to Boating Clubs in Bozeman, Montana

Region Two Engineer Luther Peterson was in the Park February 5-9.

Chief Park Naturalist McIntyre remained in the Region Two Office until February 5, on the interpretive assignment for Yellowstone.

Superintendent Garrison spoke at the School of Public Administration, Montana State University, February 16.

Superintendent Garrison made a statement at the special United States Senate Appropriations Sub-Committee hearing conducted February 3 at Cody, Wyoming on proposed Yellowstone Lake zoning regulations.

Superintendent Garrison and Park Engineer Rowenet with Wyoming Highway Commission in Cheyenne on February 24.

Law Enforcement Officer Howard H. Chapman was in the Region Two Office February 29 to assist with proposed rules and regulations for boating on Yellowstone Lake.

Park Engineer Rowe, Landscape Architect Mattson and Programs and Plans Officer Beam were in the Western Office Division of Design and Construction February 29 through March 8.

Park Naturalist Hewitt attended the Cooperating Associations meeting held in Washington on February 15 and 16, and returned to the Park on the 20th.

A Special Use Permit was completed for use of a broadcast site on Bunsen Peak by United States Forest Service.

Mr. Eliot Davis, West District Ranger, was the guest speaker at the annual Father and Son Banquet for the Ashton, Idaho Community. He showed slides and spoke on the work of the Park ranger. There were 400 men and boys present.

The Federal Service Entrance Examination was held this month with 12 examinees.

There was a Staff Meeting on February 11.

Administration

Personnel, James W. B. Packard, reassignment from Sub-District Park Ranger at Lamar, To Lake Sub-District Park Ranger, South District.

Joe Way, Sub-District Park Ranger at Lake, reassignment to Lamar.

Frank E. Sylvester, Assistant Chief Park Ranger, transfer to Badlands National Monument as Superintendent, effective February 12.

Howard E. Crane, Foreman II Maintenance (General) returned to duty effective February 1.

Lester E. Snodgrass from seasonal carpenter to Career-Conditional Carpenter, Permanent, Position No. 35.

Elmer B. Armstrong, temporary, to Timber Farmer Career-Conditional. Appointment, (Subject to Furlough), effective February 2.

In-Service Training. Park Rangers Darrell L. Coe and Robert P. Wood are attending the W. B. Lewis Session of the National Park Service Training Center at Yosemite National Park which convened February 8. They will return to Yellowstone about May 1.

Management Assistant Robert L. Burns presented a one-hour lecture with slides to employees and their families on Big Hole Battlefield National Monument, its history and administration, February 12.

Park Naturalist Beal presented the U.S. Forest Service slide series on the Hebgen Earthquake at a training session for all employees at the canteen February 12.

Miscellaneous. The National Federation of Federal Employees held their monthly meeting on February 1, and the March meeting was held on February 29.

The regular monthly meeting of the American Federation of Government Employees was held February 8.

There was a "Hello There" and "Good-Bye" potluck party on February 10 for Frank E. Sylvester who was leaving to assume his new position as Superintendent at Badlands National Monument; and for Glen T. Bean, new Plans and Programs Officer from Bryce National Monument, and Darwin E. Williams new Procurement Officer.

Marriages. George Mattson and Beverly Bruegger were married in the Chapel at Fort Huenene, California, February 25. George Mattson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Mattson.

Accidents and Public Safety. A one car accident occurred on February 28. Milton Richards, the son of Dwight Richards of the Engineering Office, ran off the road on a curve between Mammoth and

Gardiner. The car rolled over several times. Milton suffered a back injury and is in the Memorial Hospital in Livingston.

Cooperative Activities

Publicity. On each Thursday, the Yellowstone Weekly News was issued to keep employees, concessioners and others currently informed of Park happenings.

There were six press releases issued during February..February 9: Transfer of Frank E. Sylvester; February 12: Sapphire Pool; February 15: Retirement of James C. Kimberlin; February 15: Retirement of Joseph Joffe; February 19: new members on Yellowstone National Park Council; February 19: Nelson Murdock, new Chief Park Ranger.

Religious and Chapel Use. The Chapel was used every Sunday for the regular Sunday School and Protestant church services.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. The text and layouts for the exhibit panels on the Nez Perce Campaign of 1877 are completed. The Museum cataloguing is approximately 23 per cent complete. There are approximately 12,000 items to be catalogued.

Research and Observation. Mr. Fischer, Park Naturalist, is writing a manuscript of twelve chapters on the seismic history of the Park and the structural control and geology as it pertains to earthquakes. Giantess Geyser and Grand Geyser erupted on February 19 for the first time since August 18, 1959. Sapphire was active 9½ days during the month. On February 22 Bonita Pool played 3 to 4 feet. This was the first known eruption of Bonita since 1938.

Natural History Association. On February 17 the Association donated $250 to the National Park Service employees and alumni newspaper, The Courier.

Maintenance. The road to Cooke City was kept open all month. The snowplows made nine trips to Gardiner and one to Reese Creek during the month. About three days of plowing were accomplished between Mammoth and Norris.

Protection and Ranger Service. South District Park Ranger Reynolds, Park Ranger McLaren and Supervisory Park Ranger Maney were on a 100-mile inspection ski patrol from South Entrance through the Thorofare area of the Park. They were gone from February 20 through 27th.

Park Rangers Howard H. Chapman, Lloyd Hoener and Robert E. Howe conducted a three-day ski patrol to Hellroaring Creek, Slough Creek and Buffalo Plateau.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. ANTELOPE. Many of these animals may be seen at most anytime between Gardiner and Mammoth.

BIGHORNS. Several sheep have been observed during the month on the cliffs between Gardiner and Mammoth.

BISON. A herd of approximately 100 were observed in the Slough Creek area. On February 9 in the Old Faithful area near the Freight Road 90 bison were seen.

ELK. Direct elk reduction stopped February 3 because of lack of snow, and resumed on February 15. The herd was decreased 221 by direct control during the month. Elk trapping operations continued all month. A total of 51 elk were live trapped and turned over to the Montana Department of Fish and Game.

RED FOX. One of these animals was observed in the Lamar area, running along the road in front of a government-operated vehicle.

Insects and Tree Diseases Forestry Aid Reeves returned from Missoula where he has been working with the U.S. Forest Service on all phases of Blister Rust Control work for this season. Work will begin in Yellowstone on June 7.

BIG HOLE BATTLEFIELD NATIONAL MONUMENT

Management Assistant Robert L. Burns presented a one--hour lecture with slides on the history and administration of the Big Hole Battlefield National Monument on February 12 to employees and their families.

Management Assistatn Burns also showed slides of the Monument and lectured on Big Hole Battlefield National Monument to 33 persons at the Gardiner PTA meeting on February 15.

Design and Construction

Plans, Maps, and Surveys: Emphasis was placed by technical personnel this month on bringing completion reports and project construction proposals up-to-date. The Division of Construction and Maintenance also spent considerable time on plans and planning for the day labor construction projects for next season.

New Construction: The only construction project active this month was the rehabilitation of the storehouse; all others are stopped because of the cold weather. The work on the storehouse by Reed Nielsen Construction Co. went well and Construction Representative Brown expects the project to be completed by the first week in March except for the outside cement work which should wait until the ground thaws in April.

Bids for Grading and Slide Stabilization of the North Entrance Road were opened on February 23 in the Region Nine Office of theBureau of Public Roads in Denver, Colorado. It appears now as if the contract will be awarded to the low bidder, Nelson Brothers Construction Company of Salt Lake City, Utah, for $152,346.85. The final award should be made as quickly as possible for this work to be completed before the heavy travel season begins.

Conferences and Meetings: Park Landscape Architect Frank Mattson, Park Engineer Gerald Rowe, and Programs Officer Glen Bean attended a meeting on February 2 and 3 in the Bureau of Public Roads Office in Denver, Colorado. Others in attendance were Supervising Landscape Architect Charles Krueger of WODC, Regional Engineer Luther Peterson and Assistant Regional Programs Officer Harvey Reynolds of the Region Two Office and Federal Highway Projects Engineer Dan Harrington and staff members of the Bureau of Public Roads. Particular emphasis was placed on the review of projects to be constructed next summer. The meetig was of great value in working out controversial details of projects and in reaching agreement on the scheduling of bids; we hope that the meeting becomes an annual affair.

Luis A. Gastellum
Acting Superintendent

In triplicate

Form 10-771 attached

Copy to: Region Two w/c Form
Darrell L. Coe-Yosemite
Robert P. Wood-