Memorandum

To: Director

From: Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Report for November 1959

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of November 1959:

General

Weather. The weather during the early part of the month was cold and around the middle of the month the temperature dropped in excess of 20 degrees below zero for about a week. The minimum temperature at headquarters was -27 degrees on November 13, and the maximum was 58 degrees on November 1. Precipitation was .61 inches.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. Visitor travel for the month was computed partially by self-registration and partially by actual count. Visitors recorded were 355 motor vehicles carrying 1,225 visitors, as against 1,220 motor vehicles carrying 4,160 visitors for November 1958, a decrease of 70.6 per cent. Yearly travel through November 30 was 1,438,056, as against 1,462,016 for November 1958, a decrease of 2.4 per cent.

Inspections. Mr. Earl L. Durbin, Chief, Qualifications and Board Section, Tenth U. S. Civil Service Region, conducted an audit of the operations of the Yellowstone Park Board of Civil Service Examiners, November 2-4.

Mr. Theodore J. Wirth, Supervisory Landscape Architect, left the Park on November 9 for the Western Office of Design and Construction, San Francisco.

Mr. Newell Joyner, Museum Curator, Regional Office, Omaha, was in the Park from November 12 through the 24th. While here he assisted the Museum Curator with preliminary work on the accession files.

Mr. Leroy Pickett, auditor from the Washington Office visited the Park on November 21 and 22.
Special Activities. Chief Park Resource Maintenance attended the annual Society of American Foresters meeting in San Francisco on November 15-18. On the same trip he presented a slide talk on Zumwalt Lake to the trainees at the Yosemite Training Center.

Superintendent Garrison addressed the Fifth Session of the National Park Service Training Center in Yosemite National Park on November 9. He also conferred with the Western Office of Design and Construction personnel November 11, 12, and 13 on plans for Yellowstone National Park.

Superintendent Garrison spoke to three geological groups at the University of California at Santa Barbara on the geological problems that have developed after the earthquake. These talks were arranged for by Dr. Norris of the Geological Department and Dr. Lesser Sands, Dean of Education of the University.

Assistant Superintendent Gasteilum gave the principal address at the Federal Career Day ceremonies to the faculty at Montana State College at Bozeman on November 15, and participated in several panel discussions. At the faculty luncheon at the Montana State University, Missoula, on the 18th, he was the principal speaker. In the afternoon he addressed the student group on Federal Careers.

Museum Curator Joyner, Region Two, inspected the Cottage Hotel on November 18 for possibilities of using the building for historical exhibit purposes.

Superintendent and Mrs. Garrison left the Park on November 21 for the Superintendents' Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia, December 1-3. They also attended the Testimonial Dinner given in honor of Horace M. Albright in Washington, D.C. on December 4.

Mr. Eliot Davis, District Ranger at West Yellowstone, showed his slides of the earthquake to the West Yellowstone Lions Club on the 24th.

Mr. Joseph Joffe, Management Assistant, left the Park November 30 for a special 10-day assignment in the National Park Service Office of Information in Washington, D.C. relieving Mr. Cullinane, Chief of Information.

Mr. Robert R. Robinson, Equipment Supervisor, was on a temporary assignment in the Washington Office from November 30 until December 5, assisting Mr. Rittase, Chief of Property Management Section, Branch of Property and Records Management.

Mr. Louis L. Gunzel, Forester (Fire Control), reported to the Region Two Office on November 30 for a Special Assignment for two weeks training with the Division of Ranger Activities personnel, to evaluate fire control plans for Yellowstone National Park.
The NPS mess hall and road camp at Old Faithful closed November 5.
The South Entrance road was closed to public travel on November 7.

Administration

Personnel. Mr. William B. Foster, Plumber, promoted to Foreman III, Maintenance, effective November 2.

Mr. Leslie H. Plummer, conversion to Career-Conditional Status (Subject to Furlough), Foreman II, Mixed Gang (Roads), effective November 2.

Mr. George D. Marler, Park Naturalist (Geologist), GS-7, promoted to same, GS-9, effective November 9.

Mr. Frank L. English, Electrician, resignation, Career-Conditional Status, effective November 13.

Mrs. Ruth C. Carlson, GS-3, Mail & File Clerk, Temporary Appointment, effective November 23, vice Mrs. Flora A. House (Career), resigned, effective November 20.

Mr. Richard Frisbee, Park Ranger Naturalist, was furloughed November 27.

Mr. William T. Jump, resignation from Foreman II, Mixed Gang (Roads) to Truck Driver, Light Duty, effective November 29.

Mr. Lowell K. Higgins, Park Ranger Naturalist, was furloughed November 30.

In-Service Training. The initial meeting of the Management Development Program was held on November 6 when a number of the supervisory personnel held a session on appraisal counselling.

Chief Park Naturalist McIntyre conducted 21 employees on an orientation field trip from Mammoth to Biscuit Basin and return on November 7, to acquaint personnel with earthquake damage and repairs.

The first Evening Orientation of Park Employees and their families was held in the Canteen on November 20, starting with a Potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. Superintendent Garrison gave an illustrated talk on the values and preservation of wilderness areas. Assistant Chief Park Ranger Sylvester informed the group on how and when the National Park idea came into being and the relation of the Yellowstone legislation of 1872 to the National Park Service Act of 1916. Stan Jones, (former Death Valley Park Ranger) album of "Songs of the National Parks" slide tape program was presented.
Eighteen Park Rangers participated in a Red Cross Standard First Aid Course class on November 30. Instructors were Sub-District Ranger, Dale H. Ness and Howard H. Chapman, Law Enforcement Officer.

Miscellaneous. Two new booklets have been compiled by the Park ladies containing data new employees would like to have. (1) entitled YOU IN YELLOWSTONE, giving data on living in the Park, schools, churches, doctors, etc. (2) LIVE WITH BEAUTY, which is a get-acquainted booklet for the wives of new National Park Service employees.

A farewell party was given James Kimberlin at the Lamar Unit on November 1 on the occasion of his retirement.

George Mattson, son of Frank and Mildur Mattson, graduated with Distinction from the U. S. Navy Officer Candidate School at Newport, Rhode Island, November 20, with the rank of Ensign, U. S. Navy, Civil Engineering Corps. George was among the top 25 students in a class of over 700 Officer Candidates.

Births. A son, Thomas Scott, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Hyde, on November 5, at the Memorial Hospital, Livingston, Montana. Mr. Hyde is a Supervisory Civil Engineer for the National Park Service.

Accidents and Public Safety. Two Class Minor and two Class A motor vehicle accidents were reported during the month, due to skidding on ice.

Cooperative Activities

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

Three press releases were issued. November 2: Accommodations closed for winter; November 6: Road reconstruction at West Yellowstone; November 12: Superior Performance Award of $200 to Robert N. McIntyre.

Religious and Chapel Use. The Yellowstone Park Chapel was used every Sunday for regular Protestant Sunday School and Services.

Interpretive Services. Special interpretive services were provided for Professor John Montagne and 20 students of the Montana State College Geology Club on November 1.

The Mammoth Museum remained open all month, Monday through Friday.
Museum Activities and Exhibits. All field exhibits were closed on November 4. An Exhibit plan for the Mammoth-Tower Road on the Blacktail Bear Creek Plateau, titled "Winter Wildlife" was prepared on November 2. Another Exhibit plan for the Gallatin Range to be located on Swan Lake Flat has been prepared.

Photographic and Visual Aids. The film "Geyser Melodies" was loaned to Natchez Trace Parkway on the 24th.

Twenty-seven slides pertaining to the zoning of Yellowstone Lake were loaned to Howard Brady of Casper, Wyoming, for a special program he will present in December.

Concessioners. The Yellowstone Park Company mess at Old Faithful closed on the 13th.

All concessioner facilities in the Park with the exception of the General Store and Service Station at Mammoth are closed.

Maintenance. Due to extremely cold weather all construction crew work was shut down for the season on November 18.

The slide area in the Gardner Canyon on the Mammoth-Gardiner road continued to show considerable movement during the month.

Buildings and Utilities. Commercial power became available at Old Faithful on November 16. This completes commercial power to all areas covered by the present Montana Power contract.

Building Fire Protection. An inspection for fire hazards in the buildings in Mammoth Village was begun on November 30.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. ANTELOPE. Small bands have been observed in the vicinity of the North Entrance.

BEAR. A grizzly was the last bear seen this fall, near Canyon Village on November 4.

BISON. A herd of 24 was seen near the Fountain Paint Pots and a herd of 35 was seen near the Lower Geyser Basin. Another herd of 20 was observed near Nez Perce Creek. Herds of 43 and 56 have been reported near the Northeast Entrance. A herd of 100 were observed near Trout Creek dump on the 28th.

DEER. Seven are wintering in the Old Faithful area.

ELK. A band of 36 were observed near Canyon Hotel. As many as 300 have been observed near the Northeast Entrance.
MALLARD. Five malle were seen in the Gallatin on the 22nd.

SWAN. On the 26th, 76 swans were observed between Canyon and West Thumb. Twenty-six of these were young.

BIG HOLE BATTLEFIELD NATIONAL MONUMENT.

INSPECTIONS. Management Assistant Robert L. Burns made an inspection trip to Big Hole Battlefield National Monument on November 22 and 23. Everything was found to be in order. The 22nd was the last day of the hunting season.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES. Park Naturalist Beal, Museum Curator Neaghe, Management Assistant Burns and Regional Curator Newell Joyner discussed the Museum Records Program for Big Hole Battlefield National Monument on November 12.

On November 27, Dr. Merrill D. Beal presented the National Park Service with three copies of A History of the Nez Perce Campaign 1877, prepared under terms of a cooperative agreement between the National Park Service and Idaho State College.

Lemuel A. Garrison
Superintendent

In triplicate

Copy to: Region Two

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