



10-23 June 1941)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-02.3

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT
NOVEMBER 1947

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IMPORTANT

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the tional Park Service and should not be separated or papers thdrawn without express authority of the official in charge. All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room. Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the egrity of the official records.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

ICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Summary of the November 1947 Monthly Narrative Report for YELLOWSTON: NATIONAL PARK

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WEATHER:	Frequent general storms occurred during the month and snow fell on 22 days.	1
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:	Superintendent visited Bozeman and left November 16 for Denver to be gone until at least the first week of January. All roads in interior park closed November 3. Gardiner-Cooke road will be kept open all winter. Yellowstone Park Company demclishing old Shaw & Powell camp buildings at Willow Park. Earthquake recorded in park November 23. No damage reported.	1
IN-SERVICE TRAINING:	No in-service training undertaken during month but plans made for winter. One-hour training movie to be presented on December 5. Regular weekly news letters have been issued.	1
PLANS, MAPS AND SURVEYS:	Several drawings were prepared during month.	2
GENERAL PUBLICITY:	Two press releases sent out during month, one on closing of reads and the other arrest of two men for killing elk in park. 114,000 broadsides on hand.	2
MAINT ENANCE:	Snow plowing and sanding operations necessary throughout month. Retary plow opened road to south gate to get fuel oil to contractor. Three heavy duty trucks and 3 tractor scrapers received during month.	2
NEW CONSTRUCTION:	Concrete work for north pier on Moran-Yellowstone Project Section "C" completed and footings for south pier to be poured next week. Contractor expects to move out about December 9. All clearing completed and nearly all brush and timber has been burned. Concrete footings and walls for foundations and basements poured for two residences at Mammoth. Work slowed up due to cold and stormy weather. Final shipment lumber for prefabricated walks received. About 3/4 of new seats in place and logs on hand to complete rehabilitation of amphitheatre at Old Faithful.	Que,

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YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

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CONCESSIONERS:	Assignment and Acceptance transferring contract from Pryor and Trischman to Pryor Stores, Inc., approved October 6 to be effective May 28, 1947. Mrs. Pryor and Miss Trischman left for California.	Page 2
	Huntley Child visits park. Dr. Lueck visits park in connection with new five-year contract.	3
INTERPRETIVE SERVICE;	Regular weekly metion pictures shown each Tuesday in Canteen.	3
MUSEUM ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS:	No museum work accomplished during month. Park museum received two photostat copies of original Congressional Act establishing park.	3
RESEARCH AND OBSERVATION:	No field trips made into park after November 5. Sixty-one birds thought to be trumpeter swan observed and six whistling swans observed near Beach Spring. Dr. Samuel M. Beal's manuscript on History of Yellowstone National Park reviewed. Will be published by Prairie Publishing Company of Casper.	3
NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:	November-December "Yellowstone Nature Notes" issued. Special meeting of board of directors of Yellowstone Library and Museum Association held November 14. Loaned \$1,000 to Rocky Mountain Park to publish "Plants of Rocky Mountain National Park." Curtis K. Skinner selected to serve as member of board of editors for "Yellowstone Nature Notes."	3
	Attempt made to employ competent librarian but without success.	4
INCREASE OR DECREASE IN TRAVEL:	All roads except Gardiner to Cooke closed November 3. Total of 304 vehicles carrying 1,111 persons entered park during month.	
RANGER SERVICE;	Boundary patrols major activities of members ranger force. All elk seasons except Park County closed November 15. Poaching on Gallatin section made necessary night patrols. Intensive patrols of north boundary continued and night patrols through Stevens Creek area. Thorofare and Bechler ranger stations closed for winter. Some special patrols required in Snake River District. Rangers repairing and renovating corrals, chutes and other structures for use in connection with buffalo reduction. New bison squeeze built and installed to aid in disease investigations.	Ž4.

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Two hunters arrested for killing elk inside park. LAW ENFORCEMENT: Animals congregating on regular winter range. WILDLIFE AND FISH CULTURAL ACTIVITIES Plans made to live-trap about 200 antelope. State of Montana to cooperate in trapping operations - ANTELOPE: and all animals to be allotted to State. 4 Buffalo drifting to Lamar and Yellowstone valleys. BUFFALO: Testing and reduction program to start early in January. Improvements made to facilitate handling and reduce manpower required. L Fish and Wildlife Service requested ear-tagged COYOTES: coyotes be collected during January, February and March 1948. Fish and Wildlife Service plans to trap and tag additional coyotes during January. Survey made of elk in Callatin area after close ELK: of hunting season. 2,127 counted. 190 taken by hunters. Considerable poaching in Gallatin section and ranger patrols necessary. Ilk in northern herd congregated in lower valleys after storm of November 2-3. Winter forage saved for approximately a month. Hunting in Gardiner-Jardine area unfavorable. 119 taken to November 30. Heavier migration expected in December. Several elk illegally shot in Stevens Creek and Crevice areas. I'wo poachers arrested for killing elk in park. FISHING AND FISH Annual fish Planting Report prepared and sub-PLANTING: mitted. FOREST FIRE Daily fire dangers plotted on Forest Service PROTECTION: summary sheets. 1947 Fire Personnel Location maps, Fire Occurrence maps and fire weather sheets prepared. Work begun on forest fire protection section of Annual Forestry Report. BUILDING FIRE Routine inspections made of fire protection PROTECTION: facilities and equipment at Mammoth. New fire extinguishers ordered. Inspection of masonry chimneys and buildings made after earthquake. All oil burning and gas heating appliances also inspected. Electrical appliances which might constitute fire hazard repaired.

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Meeting held in Ogden November 13 to discuss

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ACCIDENTS:	Four accidents investigated during month.	6
PERSONNEL:	Transfer Semingsen to Everglades approved. Clerk-Stenographer Kathleen Evans resigning December 12 to get married.	6
MISCELLANEOUS;	Federal Employees Union held November 3. Mrs. Thomas Bowman died November 3. Mrs. Charles Novicki died November 5. Daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. George Marler, twins born to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kurtz, baby boy adopted by Mr. and Mrs. James Bartee, daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Van Cott, and daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kowski. Evelyn E. Kumor and Roger H. Miller married November 8.	7

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

FICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

December 8, 1947.

MEMCRANDUM for the Director.

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of November 1947.

Weather Conditions. Frequent general storms occurred during the month and snow fall was recorded on 22 days. Precipitation at Mammoth was 1.43 inches as compared with 1.64 inches in November 1946, 1.59 inches in 1945, 1.67 inches in 1944, and 0.60 inch in 1943. The maximum temperature of 62° was recorded on the first day of the month and the minimum of -6° on the 20th. A minimum temperature of -19° was recorded at West Yellowstone on the 22nd. At the end of the month the snow depth at Mammoth was 9.5 inches and at Snake River 26 inches was measured.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers made a trip to Bozeman on November 11 to confer with Mr. J. E. Haynes and while there attended Rotary. On the 16th he departed for Denwer on official business and beginning December 1 will be on annual leave for a month. Assistant Superintendent Johnston was designated Acting Superintendent during his absence.

Assistant Superintendent Johnston returned from two weeks annual leave on November 3.

Due to the heavy snowstorm of November 2 all roads in the interior of the park were closed to tounists beginning on the 3rd. The road from Gardiner to Mammoth and the northeast entrance and Cooke will be kept open throughout the winter.

The Yellowstone Park Company started demolishing the eld Shaw & Powell camp buildings at Willow Park on November 3. These buildings were constructed about 1913 but were abandoned in 1917 after automobiles were admitted into the park.

An earthquake was felt throughout the park on November 23 at 2:46 a.m. Many of the park people were aroused from their sleep but no damage was reported. The quake was felt throughout Montana and as far west as Spokane, south to Salt Lake City and Denver and north to Canada.

In-Service Training. The program during the month was limited to the preparation of plans for the winter. Actual training of Protection Division personnel was not possible due to the press of urgent work but specific job training of members of the Protection Division will be started as soon as urgent protection work permits. A special one-hour training movie has been reviewed twice and will be presented as an In-Service Training feature on December 5 to all Division heads and other personnel. The regular weekly news letter has been issued in conjunction with the Protection Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Plans, Maps and Surveys. Brawing No. YEL-2264, existing development Old Faithful, has been completed except for the utilities, part of which can be placed on this sheet. Drawing YEL-2269, 3 sheets, first, second and third stages of development for Old Faithful, has been completed. Drawing No. YEL-2351, residential area, government and concessioners, Old Faithful, has been completed. This was prepared to enable assignment of residential sites for concessioner use in the spring. Supplement to YEL-2192, employees residence, special drawing for kitchen cabinets, will be combined with the "asconstructed" drawings for these buildings in accordance with earlier arrangements.

General Publicity. The various press associations were advised on November 5 of the closing of the roads to tourist travel. On November 20 a press release was sent out to a few newspapers in the vicinity of the park and to press associations regarding the arrest of two hunters found killing elk in the park. A total of 114,000 Yellowstone broadsides were on hand at the end of the month.

Maintenance. Winter set in with a vengeance at the beginning of the menth and continued throughout the entire month. Snow plowing and sanding operations were continuous. A rotary snowplow was sent to the south entrance to enable contractor McLaughlin to receive additional fuel oil. All road camps were closed except at Mammoth. During the month three additional heavy duty trucks were received from surplus as well as three small air borne tractor scrapers.

New Construction. On Section "C" Project, Moran to Yellowstone Approach Road, under contract to McLaughlin, Inc., the concrete work for the north pier was completed and footings for the south pier will be poured within the next week. The pier itself will not be run this winter as the contractor plans on moving out about December 9. All clearing is completed and nearly all brush and timber has been burned. Snow depth of about 32 feet has slowed the work materially.

Concrete footings and walls for foundations and basements have been poured for the two new residences at Mammoth. Side walls and part of the roof sections are up on Project No. 432. Work has been slowed somewhat by stormy and cold weather.

Final shipment of lumber for the prefabricated wooden walks has been received and work will be continued on prefabricating during the winter.

Three-fourths of the new seats are in place and logs are on hand to complete the rehabilitation of the amphitheatre at Old Paithful.

Concessioners. On November 10 this office received a copy of the Assignment and Acceptance transferring Contract I-lp-989 from Anna K. Pryor and Elizabeth Trischman to Pryor Stores, Inc., which was approved by Acting Secretary Chapman October 6, 1947, to be effective May 28, 1947. Mrs. Pryor and Miss Trischman left the park on November 11 for their winter home in Los Angeles.

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General Publicity. The various resus associations were a first on November 5 of the clusing of the rosas to tourist train. On overhear due press release was sent out to a few ners appare i the vicinity o the park and to press associations reparting the arrosal five bushors found willing old in the park. A total of ill, 006 Ye leastons proceduides one on a dast the end of the month.

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Huntley Child, Jr., Manager of Lodges and Camps, Yellowstone Park Company, was in the park on November 17 to discuss plans for next season's operations.

Dr. Alfred M. Lueck, medical officer, was in the park on November 19 to discuss arrangements for a new five-year contract for the park medical service.

Interpretive Service. The regular weekly motion pictures of an educational character have been presented on Tuesday evenings in the Canteen.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. No museum work has been accomplished during the month other than the changing of some of the accession materials in their storage location in the building.

The Yellowstone Park museum received from Mr. W. M. Nichols, President of the Yellowstone Park Company, two photostat copies of the original Congressional Act establishing Yellowstone National Park and signed by President Ulysses S. Grant. Mr. Nichols was able to secure these for the Museum through U. S. Grant, 3rd, Major General, United States Army, retired, whose grandfather signed the original act. General Grant also provided Superintendent Rogers with two letters which will accompany the two copies of the original act received.

Research and Observation. No field trips were made out into the park after November 5 but on this trip all of the museums were checked and all way-side exhibits to be sure that shutters, doors, and all things were in order. Two trumpeter swan were seen near Trout Creek, six near the Mud Volcano area, two below Fishing Bridge, forty-three at the Lake Outlet and eight at Mary Bay, or a total of sixty-one birds which were thought to be trumpeter swan because of their size, call, and habits. Also, six swan were seen near the Beach Spring at Mary Bay which were definitely identified as Whistling Swan.

The manuscript of the History of Yellowstone National Park prepared by Dr. Samuel M. Beal was reviewed by the Chief Park Naturalist and suggested changes and comments were sent to Dr. Beal. Dr. Beal's book will be published by the Prairie Publishing Company of Casper, Wyoming.

Natural History Association. The November-December issue of "Yellowstone Mature Notes" was edited and multilithed and 349 copies were placed in the mail at the close of the month.

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Yellowstone Library and Museum Association was held at the residence of T. Paul Wilcox, Chairman of the Board, on November 14. This meeting was held to consider the request of the Rocky Mountain Nature Association for funds with which to publish the book "Plants of Rocky Mountain National Park" by Ruth Ashton Nelson. It was decided to help the Association by letting them use \$1,000 without interest to publish the book. This action is not to be considered as establishing a precedent whereby the Association will make a practice of granting such aid to any other Association, It is considered an act of aid at a time when publishing funds are not available. At the same meeting the Board selected Mr. Curtis K. Skinner to serve as a member of the Board of Editors for "Yellowstone Nature Notes."

Anthey Cild. dr., Manager a sode of Canta, To sestens Fark Conner, and in the pair on Morenter 17 to discuss plans for next ceasen's operations.

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A special mosting of the Board of Himotors of the Tellowstone Library and Wuseum Asseciation was hold at the residence of . Foul wilder, Crairman of the Board, on Forence in Follows held which to consider the request of the Board Wountain Estimation for Tunds with which to publish the host follows of Locky Mountain Estimate Park" by . ut. Ashter Melson. It has decided to help the Association by letting them use .1,000 without interest to publish the the hook. This action is not to be considered as calabitating a recorder whereby the Association will make a practice of granting such aid to any other Association. It is considered an act of aid at a time such publishin frants are not evaluable. At the same meeting the Board erlacted Mr. Curtic K. Winner to earn as a member of the Board of Laters for "leitowedone Earn Totes."

Attempts have been continued by the Association to secure the services of a competent librarian but as yet no one has been available for employment.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. All roads in the park, except the one from the North Entrance to the Northeast Entrance, were closed to public travel after the general snowfall which started November 2. A total of 304 vehicles carrying 1,111 persons entered the park during the month as compared with 224 vehicles and 515 persons for the same month last year.

Ranger Service. Most of the areas adjacent to the park were open to huntint during the early part of the month making boundary patrols a major activity
for park rangers. All of these open seasons, except the elk season in Park
County, Montana, were closed after November 15 but poaching activities in the
Gallatin area, where five elk were illegally killed, made it necessary to maintain a night patrol of the road in that section. These patrols, in addition
to the Montana Fish and Game Department patrols of the area outside the park,
checked the poaching activity. Intensive patrols of the north boundary were
continued and included night patrols of the road through the Stevens Creek
area.

The Thorofare and Bechler stations were closed for the winter but patrols of the latter area were continued. Open seasons on fur-bearing animals required some special patrols, particularly in the Snake River District.

Several rangers were assigned to assist with the work of repairing and renovating the corrals, chutes and other structures to be used in connection with the bison reduction. Extensive repairs and maintenance work was necessary in order to place the facilities in operating condition. A new bison squeeze was built and installed to aid in the disease investigations.

Law Enforcement. Two hunters, who killed four elk inside the park near the north boundary, appeared before the United States Commissioner and were ordered to pay fines of fifty dollars each. Two rifles, owned by the hunters, were ordered confiscated.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. ANTELOPE. These animals congregated on their regular winter range from the lower Gardiner River to Reese Creek during the month. Definite plans have been made to live trap about 200 early in December for further reduction of the park herd. The State of Montana will actively cooperate in the trapping operation and all animals will be allotted to the State for transplanting purposes.

BUFFALO. As a result of the almost continuous snowstorms of the period, buffalo in the Lamar area have drifted from their high summer range to the Lamar and Yellowstone River valleys. They have already become grouped in sizeable herds, and it is believed that by the first of the year they can be corralled for testing and reduction purposes rather rapidly. These operations, therefore, are being tentatively planned early in January. Considerable repair of fences, chutes and other buffalo handling operations at the Lamar Unit has been in progress throughout November. Some improvements have been made to facilitate handling and reduce manpower required.

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coyotes be collected during January, February and March 1948. Plans to collect as many as possible have been made accordingly. The Fish and Wildlife Service plans to trap and tag additional coyotes during January.

ELK. Following the closing of the elk hunting season in the Gallatin area on November 15, a survey of the elk remaining on the winter range was made by the U. S. Forest Service and the Montana Fish and Game Department. The count was made by air and ground on November 17 and 2,127 elk were counted. Total figures for the 1947 hunters' kill, as compiled at the game checking station, were 190.

Considerable poaching of elk within the park in this section has taken place and the extra ranger patrols were initiated during the month. Five elk are known to have been illegally shot in the area along the road between Bacon Rind and Specimen Creeks.

Elk of the Northern Yellowstone herd, which were conspicuously absent from the winter range throughout October, first congregated in the lower valleys after the rather heavy snowstorm of November 2-3. On the morning of November 4 six hundred elk were counted from the road between Tower Junction and Lamar Ranger Station. This first heavy downward migration occurred just one month to the day later than in 1946. Winter forage was thus unused for a beneficial thirty-day period.

The elk hunting season, which opened in the Gardiner-Jardine area on October 15, has been rather unfavorable to hunting. Official report from the State Game Checking Station at Carbella gave a total of 119 as having been checked through the close of November 30. This figure does not include so-called "local kills" and those taken during the early season (September 15 - October 15) in the Hellroaring-Cooke area. At the close of November many elk bands had migrated to the vicinity of the north park boundary and it is likely that considerable numbers will pass into the open hunting territory beyond the park in early December.

A number of elk have been illegally shot within the park in the Stevens Creek and Crevice areas. Two poachers were apprehended in the latter area on November 19 after they had killed four elk within the park. Arraigned before the U. S. Commissioner, they were each fined \$50 and their rifles ordered confiscated.

FISHING AND FISH PLANTING. The annual Fish Planting Report was prepared and submitted during the latter part of the month.

Forest Fire Protection. Daily fire dangers for each of the Park's nine fire weather stations was plotted on U. S. Forest Service summary sheets. Before this was done all ten-day fire weather sheets for each station were checked for mistakes. Upon completion the summary charts were transmitted to the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station for their information, comment and criticism.

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1947 Fire Personnel Location maps, Fire Occurrence maps and fire weather data sheets were prepared for the Director's, Regional Director's and Park's copies of the Fire Atlas.

Work was begun on the section of the Annual Forestry Report pertaining to forest fire protection.

Building Fire Protection. Routine inspections were made of the building fire protection facilities and equipment in the Mammoth area. Some new equipment and materials were ordered for repairing and servicing fire extinguishers. An earthquake of sufficient severity to awaken most of the residents of the Mammoth community occurred at about 2:46 a.m. on November 23. An inspection of all masonry chimneys and buildings failed to reveal any apparent damage. All oil burning and gas heating appliances were also inspected shortly after the earthquake occurred. Ne damage was reported.

An intensive campaign has been initiated to repair all electrical appliances which may constitute a fire hazard. Several defective extension cords on heating appliances such as irons, radiant heaters, sandwich toasters, etc., have been found and repaired or replaced.

Insect and Tree Diseases. A meeting of U. S. Forest Service, National Park Service and Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine officers was held in Ogden, Utah, on November 13 to discuss and prepare plans for control of the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic which seems to have originated in the Caribou National Forest and is spreading northward toward Yellowstone National Park. Bureau of Entomology representatives reported that their fall survey, both by air and on the ground, revealed that the forests in Yellowstone were comparatively free of insect infestations and that the few infested trees discovered did not warrant initiation of control measures. Intensive control work will, it is hoped, be continued in the Targhee and Teton National Forests and in Grand Teton National Park and Jackson Hole National Monument in an effort to hold down any further spread of the epidemic infestation.

Accidents. Two "Class A" and two "Class B" motor vehicle accidents were investigated. One single vehicle accident involved a government-owned truck. Two of the accidents occurred on the road in the Gallatin area.

Personnel. The transfer of District Park Ranger Earl M. Semingsen to the position of Chief Park Ranger, Everglades National Park, was approved on November 24.

Kathleen E. Evans, Clerk-Stenographer, CAF-4, tendered her resignation to become effective December 12. Miss Evans is the daughter of Assistant Chief Park Ranger W. Leon Evans and is to be married in the Mammoth Chapel on December 20.

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Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of the Federal Employees Union, No. 465, was held in the Canteen on November 3.

Mrs. Thomas A. Bowman, 46, wife of Carpenter Foreman Thomas A. Bowman, died in a Salt Lake City hospital on November 3. Burial was in Mountain View . Cemetery in Livingston on November 8. Her son, Alfred Bowman, is employed as Assistant Fostmaster at Mammoth.

Mrs. Charles Novicki, mother of Mrs. Suzanna Bowman and Mrs. Victoria Kurtz, died at Sheridan, Wyoming, on November 5. Burial was in Sheridan on Armistice Day.

Mord was received that a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. George Marler on October 22. Mr. Warler has been a Park Ranger Naturalist in the Yellowstone for a number of years and his wife was employed as Librarian by the Yellowstone Library and Juseum Association last winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kurtz are the proud parents of twin boys born at the Park Hospital in Livingston on November 15. The twins, Daniel Francis and Charles Henry, weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and 6 pounds, 5 ounces, respectively. Mr. Kurtz is the Yellowstone Park Postmaster and Mrs. Kurtz has been employed as Personnel Clerk with the National Park Service here. So far as the records for at least a quarter of a century show these are the first twins born to any Yellowstone Park parents.

is employed as an Electrician in the park and Mrs. Bartee has been employed as a relief telephone operator.

in Livingston on November 21. Mr. Van Cott is employed as a Clerk-Stenographer in the Naturalist Division and Mrs. Van Cott is a former Yellowstone employee.

A daughter was born to Park Ranger and Mrs. Frank Kowski at the Park Hospital in Livingston on November 29.

Evelyn E. Kumor and Roger H. Miller were married in Livingston at the Holbrook Congregational Church on November 8. Reverend A. W. Seebart officiated. Miss Kumor is employed as a Clerk-Stenographer in the Superintendent's office while Mr. Miller is employed as an Automotive Mechanic Foreman. The couple left for a month's honeymoon on the West Coast.

Fred T. Johnston, Acting Superintendent.

In quintuple.

cc: Regional Director, Region Two, in duplicate.
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