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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-02.3

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

AUGUST 1953

	ROGERS	
✓	HAMILTON	
✓	JOFFE	
	ANDERSON	
	STONE	
	[illegible]	
	PR[illegible]	
	MOLDENHAUER	
✓	MATTHEWS	
✓	COLLINS	
✓	BROWN	
✓	CHADWICK	
✓	McCONNELL	
✓	EDWARDS	
✓	GAFFREY	T.G.
✓	KITTREDGE	
	WOHLBACH	
✓	ROBINSON	
	WIGGINS	
	McMULLIN	

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

FFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Summary of the August 1953 Monthly Narrative Report
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

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Report 1ml

FFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

September 3, 1953

Memorandum

To: The Director

From: Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Report for August 1953

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of August 1953:

Weather Conditions. Light showers amounted to only .33" precipitation and were attended by considerable lightning resulting in forty forest fires.

The maximum temperature at Mammoth was 89°, recorded on the 7th, and the minimum of 37° was recorded on the 11th. The average maximum was 77.86° and the average minimum was 45.12°. High winds were experienced almost daily, the worst being on the 13th, 24th and 25th.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers made a trip to West Yellowstone August 6 with Messrs. Shanklin and Dominy who were here on survey from the Secretary's Office. On the 8th he went to Jackson Hole for conferences with Harold Fabian and Superintendent Freeland.

Resident Landscape Architect Mattson made trips to Teton August 5, 20-21 and 27-28. He returned via Omaha from a period of annual leave August 10-14, stopping at the Regional Office and returning with a new Government automobile.

Chief Ranger Brown, Biologist Kittams and District Ranger Frank Anderson of West Yellowstone District attended the 22nd annual meeting of the Upper Gallatin Conservation Committee held August 20-23 at the Cinnamon Creek Forest Ranger Station between Bozeman and West Yellowstone.

A meeting with R.E.A. officials from Cody and Livingston was held at Mammoth August 18 to discuss the possibility of bringing additional power into the park.

On August 18 the Bozeman Chamber of Commerce sponsored a meeting of Chamber of Commerce officials from neighboring states and other interested persons at the Mammoth Hotel Recreation Hall to discuss road improvements in the park. Director Wirth, Congressman

D'Ewart of Montana, Congressman Saylor of Pennsylvania and Congressman Wier of Minnesota were among those participating in the meeting, which was attended by a number of Yellowstone officials. As a result of the meeting, an organization known as the Yellowstone-Teton Development Association was formed, with Dr. Paul McCleve of Bozeman as Chairman and William Mackay of Red Lodge, Ted Amschel of Jackson Hole, Roy Wilson of Gardiner, H. P. Christiansen of Thermopolis, Dean Chaffin of Bozeman and Charles Stark of Idaho Falls as members.

A meeting was held in the Canteen the evening of August 20 with Director Wirth and members of the Yellowstone organization and their families on quarters rental increases.

On August 21 a meeting was held in the Park Engineer's Office with Director Wirth and other Washington and Regional officials as well as Yellowstone concession and Park Service officials to discuss proposed development program.

A population census was conducted in the park on August 7, 10 and 12 and showed a total average for the three days of 15,679 people in the park, 3,381 of which were employees and 12,298 visitors. Of the 3,381 employees, 824 were with the National Park Service, 2,377 with the concessioners and 181 with contractors and others. Last year's census taken on August 8, 11 and 13 showed a total of 15,905 people in the park, 3,491 of which were employees and 12,414 visitors.

New wage schedules for ungraded employees of the National Park Service in Yellowstone National Park (Construction #4-53 and Operation and Maintenance #9-53) were approved August 7 and became effective August 16.

The Local Civil Service Board held an examination August 11 for Stenographer-Typist, GS-1-4, with one competitor. Payroll Supervisor Hotchkiss conducted the examination.

On August 23, the practice of writing automobile license numbers on all entrance permits was started. Prior to this date only the season permits contained the license numbers.

The Government mess house at Mammoth was closed Sundays starting August 23.

<u>Inspections</u>. William Pincus, Assistant Director, Bureau of Land Management, in August 1. Lawrence F. Cook, Chief Forester, NPS, Washington, arrived August 2 and departed August 7 with Frank W. Childs, Regional Forester, who arrived in the park July 15. John F. Shanklin, Technical Review Staff, Office of Secretary of Interior, and Floyd E. Dominy, Assistant Secretary Aandahl's Office, in South August 3 as members of survey team investigating National Park Service's Washington, Regional and field offices, departing August 6.

Clyde E. Learned, Design Engineer, Bureau of Public Roads, Denver, and Albert C. Spann, District Engineer, BPR, Cheyenne, in South August 5, out 9th. F. V. DuPont, Commissioner, BPR, Washington, D. C., in West August 6, out 9th. Earl Disque, Landscape Architect, Washington Office, in August 6, departed 8th. William E. Robertson, Regional Engineer, in August 7, out 13. John A. Schmid, Highway Maintenance Engineer, Region Two, arrived August 8 on assignment as Project Engineer for Canyon Campground Roads project. Ryland E. Johnson and Engvald O. Bybuth, Supervising Auditors, NPS, Washington, who arrived June 29 and July 5, respectively, on audit of Yellowstone Park Company records, left for that Company's office at Helena August 8, returned 16th and departed again for Helena 22nd. Charles Lessig, Chief, Architectural Design, Washington Office, in August 9, out North 15th. Merrill J. Mattes, Regional Historian, in South August 11, out following day. George D. Forney, Project Engineer, U. S. Geological Survey, in August 13 with party establishing basis control for topographic mapping. Howard W. Baker, Regional Director, Donald E. Lee, Chief of Concessions Management, NPS, Washington, and Benjamin F. Dickson, Regional Chief of Concessions Management, in South August 15, Mr. Lee out 21st to Glacier and Messrs. Baker and Dickson out South 22nd. Conrad L. Wirth, Director, Thomas C. Vint, Chief of Design and Construction, Thomas J. Allen, Assistant Director, and Paul McG. Miller, Chief Engineer, Washington Office, in South August 16, Messrs. Vint and Miller out South 21st, Mr. Wirth out South 22nd, and Mr. Allen out 23rd. Robert G. Hall, Assistant Regional Director, in August 17, out 22 to Teton. Wallace Johnson, Landscape Architect, Washington, in West with house trailer August 27 on tourist camp survey, expects to depart for Teton September 2. Harold Mundel, Deputy Regional Director, General Services Administration, Denver, in August 18. George E. Cavin, District Supervisor, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Agricultural Research Administration, Grasshopper Control, Cheyenne, in August 27 on grasshopper survey in Lamar area. C. D. Curtiss, Deputy Commissioner in Charge of Finance and Business Management, Bureau of Public Roads, Washington, in East with family August 29, out South 31st. George F. Baggley, Superintendent, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Nevada, in August 30 with Mrs. Baggley.

Publicity. The July comparative travel figures were released to the park's mailing list August 5.

A total of 43,000 Yellowstone broadsides remained on hand at the end of August.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Earl Disque, Landscape Architect in the Washington Office, reviewed proposed road maintenance plan and vista cutting projects with Messrs. Mattson and Wohlbrandt.

The Road System Plans for Yellowstone were revised during the month and forwarded to the Regional Office.

Assistant Park Engineer Thuring spent the entire month at Lake on construction projects and Assistant Park Engineer Cummings at Canyon on the new campground projects.

Maintenance. August continued dry with high winds and with many forest fires developing due mostly to lightning. The entire road maintenance crews were called to fight fire, delaying maintenance operations by about two weeks. Many men are leaving to return to school and it has been impossible to replace most of them.

Special items included the replacing of 6,000 feet of rotted guard rail with treated guide posts, reprocessing 4.5 miles and seal coating 8 miles. About two-thirds of all rustic road signs have been repainted and several new ones placed.

All roads are in fair condition, with very few pot holes, but a good many rough sections remain.

The regular ditch cleaning crew is working on the Tower Fall to Canyon section.

Construction. The Strong Company of Springville, Utah, contractor for completion of road job 1F3, G4 at Canyon, has made very good progress. They have on hand a lot of good road equipment. Grading on this project is about 73% complete, base course surfacing 52% complete, bituminous surfacing 32% complete, drainage structures 94% complete, curb and gutters 97% complete, and removal of old structures 90% complete, with entire job about 51% complete.

The water and sewer project for the Canyon campground under contract to the Cop Construction Company of Billings is still making good progress. All concrete at the reservoir is complete, the 6-inch force line about 99% complete, the 8-inch main feeder line to village 75% complete, the small water lines for the five individual loops about 20% complete, the sewer lines about 25% complete, and the job as a whole 60% complete.

The Studer Construction Company of Billings, awarded contract for Canyon campground roads, moved on the job and started operations on August 12, at the present time having completed about 85% of all clearing and are starting grading operations.

Notice was received that bids will be opened in the Denver office of the Bureau of Public Roads on September 9 for grading and surfacing 4.075 miles on the east end of the Norris-Canyon road.

Other construction projects active during the month were: Construction of Walks in Thermal Areas, Account 323.02, 95% complete; Construction of Roads and Walks, Fishing Bridge Cabin Area (portion), Account 323.04, 80% complete, grading and curbs complete; Campground

Roads and Walks, Old Faithful, Account 323.12, 99% complete; Construction of Roads and Walks, Lake Hotel Cabin Area (portion), Account 323.14, 90% complete, surfacing 25% complete; Pump House for Sewage System, Lake, Account 331.04, 86% complete, equipment being installed; Comfort Stations (2), Old Faithful Campground, Account 331.14, 1% complete, foundation being excavated; Sewer System for Campground, Old Faithful, Account 332.06, 95% complete; Water Line Extension, Hotel Cottage Area, Lake, Account 332.07, 90% complete; Sewer Line Extension, Hotel Cottage Area, Lake, Account 332.08, 90% complete; Sewage Disposal System, Hotel Cottage Area, Lake (portion), Account 332.11, 100% complete; Utilities, Canyon Campground Area, Account 332.15, 60% complete, 20% concrete walls poured; Utilities, Tables, Fireplaces and Comfort Stations, Old Faithful Campground, Account 333.02, 96% complete; Main Sewer System, Lake, Account 332.16, 2% complete, concrete walls being constructed.

Complaints. Eleven letters of complaint were received during the month, as follows: (1) inability to get single cabin accommodations and discourtesy of cabin office personnel, (2) dumping of slop jars outside cabin doors, (3) handling of reservations, (4) location and crowding of cabins, (5) hotel rates, lack of bath and necessity for tour visitors to use hotels and hotel dining rooms, (6) unsatisfactory accommodations, unfriendly service and apparent uncleanliness of Old Faithful Lodge windows, (7) clearing of trees from Fishing Bridge campground, (8) condition and uncleanliness of cabins, (9) handling of reservations and closing of lunch hour at Roosevelt Lodge before time posted, (10) services in registering for bus tour at West Yellowstone resulting in delay, and (11) lack of modern trailer courts and inability to get ice.

Concessioners. On August 5 an all-time record house count of 8,505 visitors were accommodated in the various hotels, cottages, lodges and tourist cabins in the park.

On August 18, 1953, Acting Director Tolson executed the agreement terminating Concession Contract No. I-1p-989 under which Pryor Stores, Inc. has provided concession facilities in Yellowstone National Park. The agreement terminated the contract as of January 5, 1953, on which date Hamilton Stores, Inc. took over the operations conducted by Pryor Stores, Inc.

The Mammoth Grill hours were curtailed on August 23 to 7:00-9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m., and 5:30-8:00 p.m., whereas the Grill had been open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Haynes Mammoth auto camp shop was closed August 24, Roosevelt Lodge after breakfast August 30, and Hamilton's Mammoth cafeteria and campground store August 31.

The addition to the Haynes Shop at West Thumb has been finished.

Work has continued on the Hamilton Stores, Inc. two dormitory additions to their West Thumb Store, with framing and roofing complete and work being done on interior partitions, painting, and plumbing and electrical installations.

The Yellowstone Park Company continued work on its cottages at the rear of the Lake Hotel and also on the public laundry and bathing facilities at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge and the boat dock at Lake.

Religious Services and Chapel Use. The regular religious services as scheduled for the 1953 season were conducted by the Ministerial Association of Cody, the Park County Ministerial Association of Livingston, the Christian Ministry in the National Parks group, the Latter Day Saints and the Roman Catholics. These services were held in the Yellowstone National Park Chapel, the outdoor amphitheaters and in the lodge recreation halls.

The Roman Catholics held a special service at all of the designated areas where religious services are conducted on August 15. The Christian Ministry in the National Parks group of student ministers conducted special services during the month also. These consisted of a presentation of Handel's "Messiah" in the Yellowstone National Park Chapel at Mammoth on August 7 at 9:00 p.m. with a chorus directed by Robert Moore, at the Old Faithful Lodge recreation hall Friday evening at 9:00 p.m., August 14, with a chorus directed by Richard Lapo and at Canyon Lodge Sunday, August 16, with the chorus directed by Muriel Dunlap. The student minister program presented a communion service in the Chapel at 9:00 p.m. on the evening of the 31st.

Interpretive Services. The regular interpretive program was conducted throughout the month in conformance with the schedule as set up for the 1953 season with the exception of closing activities at Roosevelt Lodge the night of August 25, completely discontinuing the program at West Thumb on the 28th, reducing the program at Canyon beginning August 20 and slightly curtailing the program at Old Faithful, Fishing Bridge and Madison Junction after August 27.

On August 1, 633 Boy Scouts were given special services by members of the Naturalist Division at Mammoth, Canyon and Old Faithful.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. The vandalism exhibit was installed at the Old Faithful museum on the 4th. This case was raised

14 inches higher than the others and places the exhibit material more nearly at eye level. The fungi exhibit was altered and installed at the Mammoth museum on the 8th.

Considerable work was done on plans for the revision of the exhibits in the Old Faithful museum.

All of the museums and wayside exhibits were available to the public throughout the month.

Research and Observation. Dr. Ralph Scorah of the University of Missouri was granted permission to conduct some research studies on boiling and superheated pools. This work was done on August 12, with Chief Park Naturalist Condon and Park Naturalist George Marler assisting Dr. Scorah and his co-worker, Dr. Love. At the time the tests were made Surprise Pool had a temperature of 205°C and boiling temperature at that time was about 199°F. Dr. Scorah made 16mm colored motion pictures of the boiling effects caused by the presence of various metals placed in the waters. Wire coils were used and these each reacted in a different manner when placed in the superheated non-boiling water. The wire coils caused various degrees of boiling intensity to take place. The types of coils used were galvanized wire, rusty iron wire, aluminum wire and copper wire. The most violent boiling reaction occurred when a coil of copper wire was placed inside a coil of aluminum wire and this combination caused the water inside the coil to raise as much as six inches above the surrounding surface.

The Highland Spring on the Mammoth Hot Spring Terraces, which has been very active since last April, is still spectacular and has a very heavy flow of water issuing from the crack or fissure at the brink of Highland Terrace. This water is coming out with considerable force, some of the jets shooting out 5 to 6 feet. Many of the trees which are in the path of the water flow have died and others are dying.

The Black Dragon Cauldron above the Mud Volcano area is still active but has changed its physical character considerable due to the absence of sufficient water to make the mud highly fluid.

Two permits to collect specimens were issued during the month. A permit to collect insects for the San Diego Natural History Museum was issued to J. A. Powell and J. O. Hunt and a permit to collect gases, water samples and rock specimens was issued to Giovanni Boato of the University of Chicago. Mr. Boato was participating in a research study being conducted by the University of Chicago on the isotopic analysis of nitrogen, hydrogen and carbon.

On August 21 the Trout Creek dumpground was visited in the evening. At that time 17 different grizzly bears were counted. One female with two very healthy appearing cubs joined the group at the dump site.

A large herd of bison were located in the upper end of Hayden Valley and 181 animals were counted, with many others apparently being present in draws and ravines where visability was obscured. On the 22nd a large lone bull bison was seen on Nez Perce Creek. This animal was especially interesting in view of the fact that he had only one horn. The other one had been broken off down next to the skull, making him an odd appearing animal for from one side he appeared perfectly normal and from the other side he looked like a mulley animal.

Park Naturalist Wayne Replogle continued his study of the Bannock Indian trail during August and completed the manuscript for use in the preparation of a pamphlet telling the story of the old Bannock trail and the Indians of the Yellowstone region.

On the 22nd a very interesting geyser was observed in eruption about 1½ miles up Nez Perce Creek. This geyser emitted a large volume of water which drained out into Nez Perce Creek through a drainage channel. Its eruption was a violent boiling action similar to that which occurs in the Sapphire Pool. For a number of years on making trips into the Nez Perce valley evidence has been seen of a large volume of runoff from this geyser vent, but at no time has the opportunity presented itself to see the geyser in eruption until on the 22nd when it happened to be playing at the time a visit was made to this area.

Mr. Jack E. Smedley, geologist with the U. S. Geological Survey, was in the park for about 10 days near the close of the month and at that time made a paleontologic and stratigraphic survey of the Madison formation of the Gallatin Range. Mr. Smedley and his assistant measured sections of this strata on Quadrant Mountain and on Bannock Peak. They collected representative fossils from the formation and when these are classified a sample set will be made available for the Yellowstone Park collection.

Natural History Association. The executive secretary of the Yellowstone Library and Museum Association wrote to several printers making inquiry concerning the costs of publishing a book on the plants of Yellowstone, this book to be authored by either McDougall and Baggley or Dr. Ray J. Davis.

The Association received 10,000 copies of the Story of Old Faithful Geyser from the Edwards Brothers Lithoprinters by August 25. These publications were distributed to information desks for sale. This is a revision of the original issue of this publication which came out in late June.

The May-June Nature Notes, published by the Association, were placed in the mail on August 10 and the July-August issue on August 26.

Mrs. Herma Baggley was in the executive secretary's office on August 31 and at that time the possibility of Mrs. Baggley and Dr. McDougall preparing the manuscript for a new book on the plants of Yellowstone was discussed. Mrs. Baggley is going to determine whether or not they could prepare a manuscript for a complete new edition of the plant book, and if they can do this job the book will be prepared by them; if they cannot Dr. Ray J. Davis is very anxious to attempt preparing such a publication.

Mrs. Alice Quist was employeed by the Association as clerk during the month and Mrs. Lucile Wagner as librarian.

Total book sales by the Association during August 1953 were $9,855.34.

In-Service Training. A special in-service training school in welding was held in the Government garage August 27 for a group of National Park Service employees, Yellowstone Park Company employees, and some Gardiner men. Mr. R. H. Russell of Eutectic Alloys Corporation directed the four-hour training school and provided the trainees with a great deal of valuable information in this special field.

The Yellowstone Weekly News was issued each Thursday during the month to keep employees, concessioners and others currently informed of park happenings.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. A total of 415,327 persons entered the park in August as against 434,871 in August last year, a decrease of 4.4%. The heaviest percentage decrease toward the end of the month is probably due to the starting of schools in many places a week before Labor Day. Travel reached the million mark this year on August 19 whereas last year the millionth visitor entered August 18. Travel for the year to the end of August was 2.2% behind last year, 1,154,835 against 1,182,014. West Entrance continues to lead in travel with 347,198 visitors, East second with 300,439, South third with 286,507, North fourth with 141,536 and Northeast last with 79,155. South Entrance is the only one to show an increase in travel over last year, 15.4%, probably due to the completion of the Moran-Yellowstone approach road which had been under construction.

Special Visitors. J. Fred Corkill, Vice President, Pacific Coast Borax Company, who arrived July 31, departed August 3. Hans Podeyn, Chief of German Mission to Mutual Security Agency, arrived August 3 from Glacier, out South 7th. Charles Jones, Member, Pennsylvania Supreme Court, in August 4. John A. Haeseler, Woodbridge, Connecticut, in August 5 for 2 or 3 weeks taking pictures for Film Strips for American Museum of Natural History. Bernard L. Gladieux, Assistant to the President, Ford Foundation, in August 7 and 8. Robert F. Kennon, Governor of Louisiana, in West August 7 for three

days. Francis Cherry, Governor of Arkansas, in West August 8. Walter Weber, well known artist, explorer and author and Staff Artist, National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C., in East August 9 getting information for wildlife conservation subjects, out 26th. Dr. E. O. Nichols, Jr. of Plainview, Texas, and Closter, N. J., in August 11 through 14 securing interviews for series of articles for FIELD AND STREAM. Ghalib Toufiq, Chief of Police, Jidda, Saudi Arabia, who arrived July 11 for month's training in law enforcement, etc., left 10th. Miss Betty Trones, Minneapolis Aquatennial Queen, accompanied by Aquatennial officials and Howard Sharp, Secretary-Manager, Wyoming Commerce and Industry Commission, in August 14 and out 15. James M. Listen, Feature Writer, BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS, in August 14, out 15, writing story on Yellowstone. General Edward J. Tracy, U. S. Air Force, who was seasonal park ranger here in 1925 and 1926, in August 14. Dr. H. S. Conard, of Grinnell, Iowa, seasonal ranger in 1924-26, in August 17. T. C. Wu, Governor of Formosa, in August 17, out 20. Mrs. Margaret Boardman and Mrs. Robert Chambers, Garden Club of America, New York City, in August 19, out 21. Dr. Roger Tory Peterson, internationally known naturalist, artist, author and lecturer, and James Fisher, Editor, British New Naturalist Series and Director, Royal Society for Protection of Birds, in August 21, out 23. Ralph Adams, Ralph Adams Productions, North Hollywood, California, in South August 25 for educational pictures on rangers and park operations. William Woodruff, Clerk, Senate Appropriations Committee, in August 27, out 31. Stewart French, Legal Counsel for Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, in August 28 and 29. Carl Tolpo, landscape and portrait artist at Chicago, spent entire month in park painting picture of Grand Canyon.

Nine Congressmen visited the park during the month, as follows: Joseph F. Holt of California, in East August 7, out West 8th; Donald L. Jackson of California, in East August 7, out 9th; Clifton E. Young of Nevada, in East August 12 and out South 13th; Russell V. Mack of Washington, in South August 15, out 19; Wesley A. D'Ewart of Montana, in August 19 for road improvement meeting; John P. Saylor of Pennsylvania in South August 16, out North 19; Samuel W. Yorty of California, in August 17, out South 19th; Roy W. Wier of Minnesota, in Northeast August 17, out 19; John E. Moss, Jr. of California, in East August 25, out 26.

Ranger Service. Again control of forest fires took precedence over other activities and limited them to a minimum. Forty reportable fires occurred during August, a period of maximum park visitation. Other activities included law enforcement, compilation of park census, rescuing lost persons, getting injured persons to hospital, preparing accident reports, preparing maps and other materials used during review on the 6th of the White Lake Fire, etc.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. FISH PLANTING. Fish plants, totaling 330,000, were made in the Gallatin River, Slide Lake and Squaw Lake during the month, bringing the total fish plants for the season in various park waters to 939,100, consisting of 62,000 rainbow, 99,500 brown, 20,800 brook, 400,000 grayling and 356,800 blackspotted.

BEARS. Bear damages reported during the month totaled 28, injuries 15, and dead bears 4, including 3 hit by cars along the roadway and 1 killed by rangers for control purposes. The total bear damages for the season to date is 56, injuries 34 and dead bears 15.

TRUMPETER SWAN. An aerial census of trumpeter swans in and near Yellowstone National Park was taken August 6 with Biologist Kittams as observer in a Fish and Wildlife Service plane. Sixty-one trumpeter swans, including 51 adults and 10 cygnets, were counted in the park and 57 swans including 41 adults and 16 cygnets were counted just outside the park, making a total of 118, including 92 adults and 26 cygnets. Seven less adults were counted in the park than last year but the same number of cygnets, whereas on waters near the park there was a gain of 25 adults and 8 cygnets over last year.

RANGE. Field checks by Biologist Kittams of photographic plots indicate forage production on critical Gallatin and lower Yellowstone range is only slightly below the rather good crop of last year. Apparently grass made good growth during the short periods of warm weather last spring before the soil dried out. Continuing dry weather has apparently ended growth of herbaceous vegetation on most of the non-critical, upper winter range.

Forest Fire Protection. Forty fires were reported and suppressed during August. Accounts were also established for seven non-statistical fires.

Only two of the forty reportable fires were organized for on a "project fire" basis. The Stonetop Mountain fire only reached a size of something less than ten acres; however, due to the fact that it blew-up with terrific potentiality, in a bad fuel type, eighty-five men were dispatched to it and by this action it was suppressed immediately. The manpower was then used to strengthen the forces on the Chipmunk Creek fire. The Chipmunk Creek fire was suppressed when 122 acres in size, only about 50 acres of which were clean burn, the remainder being spotted over 75 acres.

By the end of August the number of lightning fires experienced in the park this year, 56 reportable fires, outnumbered any other year for which atlas records have been kept.

Blister Rust Control. Blister Rust Control work was carried on in both the Mt. Washburn and Carnelian Creek areas with work progressing very satisfactorily. The entire blister rust control man-

power was called to the Chipmunk Creek fire on August 24. Due to men leaving early the crew was reduced to 25 men by August 18 and this along with time lost to fires reduced the acreage worked this season to slightly less than what had been expected.

A Blister Rust display was erected at Dunraven Pass on August 8.

Wood Utilization. Wood cutting limits for the Fishing Bridge and West Thumb areas were defined. Mr. Oscar Roseborough, wood contractor for the Yellowstone Park Company, has cut 1,200 cords so far this summer and expects to complete the season cutting early in September.

Haying Operations. Haying operations started at the Lamar Unit on August 1 and continued through the month. By the end of the month approximately 140 tons had been cut, baled and stacked. The hay is of good quality, with a short crop expected for the year. The total amount of hay to be cut this year will be approximately 250 tons. Kenneth V. Meigs of Livingston, Montana, is the contractor for putting up the hay at $14.90 per ton.

Forest Insects. No adult Spruce Budworms were found within the area sprayed in the vicinity of Undine Falls while they were quite abundant in Douglas Fir stands elsewhere throughout the park.

Trails. Trail maintenance work lagged considerably during the month due to so many of the men being engaged on the many fires throughout the park. One man was used all through August as a secondary lookout in the Snake River district. Several men terminated due to returning to school and by the end of the month only eight men remained on the various crews. Maintenance was finished in the Old Faithful district and continued in Lamar, Canyon and the West Yellowstone district at Bechler. The Wapiti Lake project was terminated August 29 with approximately 80% of the work completed. The erection of new trail signs continues in all districts and should be completed except for remote locations by the end of the season.

Accidents and Public Safety. A total of 43 accidents occurred during the month, of which 25 were Class A, 10 Class B, 5 minor, and 3 non-reportable.

Mr. W. D. Manning of Beaumont, Texas, received a compression fracture of the spine in an accident caused by brake failure on the road from Dunraven Pass to Tower Fall. Attempts were made to stop the vehicle by running it into embankments along the road, but these failed and rather than run into the parked vehicles at Tower Fall parking area the car was deliberately driven off the road down an embankment toward Antelope Creek. A tree finally stopped it after the car traveled 580 feet.

Law Enforcement. Thirty-six cases were investigated and brought before the U. S. Commissioner as follows: Speeding 14, Other Traffic 9, Fish 6, and Miscellaneous 7. Total fines imposed $1,165 ($195 suspended). A jail sentence of 15 days and a fine of $15 was imposed on Yellowstone Park Company employee Charles Ham Loggins for assault and drunken and disorderly conduct. One case involving too many fish in possession was handled by U. S. Game Management Agent Roahen. Three men were apprehended at Beula Lake and fined $74 each. Joseph T. Plock, bus boy at Mammoth Hotel, is being held in jail pending arrival of New York State parole officers.

The case involving seven boys from Jackson, Wyoming, who vandalized traffic signs and a trailer on the South Entrance road on July 11 was heard before the Commissioner and a satisfactory conclusion obtained. The signs are being replaced, the damage to the trailer was paid for, and the boys were fined and placed on probation.

Chief Ranger Brown, Assistant Chief Rangers Chapman, Garry, McComas and Edwards, and District Ranger Hart were authorized as Special Deputy U. S. Marshals on the 17th. U. S. Marshal Riley visited the park on the 3rd to pick up a prisoner and again on the 17th to discuss law enforcement matters. F.B.I. Agent Bassett also visited the park on the 11th to discuss several cases under investigation.

Births. On August 24 a son, Michael Earl, was born at the Mammoth Hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow W. Rhoten of Gardiner. Mr. Rhoten is a former employee of the park and Mrs. Rhoten the daughter of former blacksmith Earl Hochstrasser.

Deaths. Eugene C. Richard, 49, Marksville, Louisiana, died in the Mammoth Hospital August 17. He had been confined to the hospital for two weeks following a heart attack. His body was shipped to Marksville for burial.

Marriages. Avonelle Brown, daughter of Chief Ranger and Mrs. Otto M. Brown, and Adam LaVerne Remboldt of Milton-Freewater, Oregon, were married in the Yellowstone Park Chapel on August 16. They will make their home in Denver, Colorado.

Maudie Lee Epperson and Glen Wohlbrandt were married at Gardiner on August 23. Miss Epperson is the daughter of seasonal Equipment Operator and Mrs. James C. Epperson of Gardiner and is employed here as seasonal Clerk-Stenographer and Mr. Wohlbrandt is the son of Park Engineer Philip H. Wohlbrandt and is in the park on furlough from the U. S. Air Force.

Personnel. Dale H. Nuss entered on duty August 16 as Park Ranger, GS-5, by Reassignment (Indefinite) and Change of Headquarters from a similar position at Shenandoah National Park. He has served several years as seasonal Park Ranger in Yellowstone National Park.

William D. Keller, Clerk-Stenographer, GS-4, in the Chief Ranger's Office, resigned at the close of August 31, having accepted a position as commercial teacher at Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Kentucky.

The following changes in seasonal personnel were made during the month: Donald R. Heinicke, Excepted Appointment, Fire Control Aid (Smokejumper), IGS-5, August 2; Ruth C. Carlson, Clerk-Typist, GS-3, resigned at close of August 14 and Sally R. Hasty entered on duty in that position August 17; William W. Waterous, Storekeeper (General), terminated August 26; Glyndon G. Abbie, Messenger, CPC-1, terminated at the close of August 28 and Rosemary Proper was appointed August 31 for the remainder of the season. Charles D. Rice, Student Assistant Landscape Architect, terminated August 27; Honora J. Anderson, Telephone Operator, terminated August 29; Wayne F. Replogle and Herbert T. Lystrup, Park Naturalists, GS-5, terminated August 19 and 27, respectively; Jack D. Morgan received temporary appointment as Fire Control Aid, General, August 25, 1 p.m.; eleven Park Ranger-Naturalists, nine Park Rangers, and four Fire Control Aids were terminated during the month.

Edmund B. Rogers
Superintendent

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