



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-02.3

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1952

	ROGERS	
✓	HAMILTON	<i>H</i>
✓	IOFFE	<i>J</i>
	ANDERSON	
	STANTON	
	GABB	
	PROFF	
	HOL	
✓	MAT	<i>M</i>
✓	COM	<i>CO</i>
✓	BRO	<i>BR</i>
✓	EY	<i>EY</i>
✓	CHA	<i>CH</i>
✓	JAY	<i>JAY</i>
	M	
✓	KIT	<i>KIT</i>
✓	WCH	<i>WCH</i>
	ROB	
	WIGGINS	
	McMULLIN	

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NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.



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YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 8, 1952

Memorandum

To: The Director
From: Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park
Subject: Monthly Report for September 1952

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of September 1952:

Weather Conditions. Weather Bureau figures are not immediately available but this month will probably be recorded as one of the driest Septembers on record. Total precipitation amounted to 0.21" with the precipitation falling on the 9th, 10th and 12th. Temperatures throughout the month were unusually warm with 17 days a temperature of 70° or higher being recorded and temperatures 60° or higher on 26 days. The minimum temperature of 24° was recorded on the 14th. Only three days during month had minimum temperatures of 32° or lower. The above indicated weather conditions resulted in park travel continuing on about the same percentage of increase as was maintained all summer. The dry weather resulted in continued high fire danger all month with a number of small fires occurring. The grass and other forage became exceedingly dry which may result in poor food for the game animals this winter.

Special Activities. Superintendent and Mrs. Rogers and District Park Ranger and Mrs. Arthur Jacobson departed September 2 to attend "Area Operation" at Glacier National Park September 4-10, returning on the 11th. On September 27 Superintendent Rogers presented a talk and Park Naturalist Condon showed movies to the Montana Motor Court Association meeting at Livingston.

Assistant Superintendent Hamilton made a trip to Livingston on September 3 to see about machinery for cleaning out the Mammoth reservoir. On the 23rd Mr. Hamilton, Park Engineer Wohlbrandt and Engineer MacDonald from the Regional Office, attended a meeting at West Yellowstone sponsored by the Asphalt Institute on road construction and maintenance methods. The meeting was also attended by Assistant Superintendent Miller and Engineer Montgomery from Glacier.

Administrative Assistant Joffe departed September 19 for Las Vegas, Nevada, to attend the Utah-Nevada Hotel Association convention September 21-23, returning the night of the 25th.

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Resident Landscape Architect Mattson made a trip September 14 to Grand Teton National Park with Messrs. Vint and Paul Miller from the Washington Office and Hall from the Regional Office, returning on the 17th.

Carl J. Gruener, Park Ranger, departed September 8 for Washington, D. C., having been selected as representative for Region Two to attend the Fourth Departmental Management Training Program which began September 22.

Mechanical Supervisor Robinson departed September 8 for Arco, Idaho, and Missoula, Montana, to bring back surplus equipment, returning on the 10th.

Storekeeper Fillmore made a trip on September 15 and 16 to Riverton and Boysen Dam in Wyoming to secure surplus equipment from the Bureau of Reclamation.

Assistant Chief Ranger McComas left September 22 for Big Hole Battlefield National Monument for an inspection and closing down of the area for the season. He returned on the 24th.

A trip was made on September 25 and 26 by Smokejumper Squad Leader Gorsuch to return the Smokejumping equipment to the Forest Service at Missoula, Montana.

A meeting of the Directors of the Dude Ranchers Association was held at the Canyon Hotel September 6, which was attended by Administrative Assistant Joffe.

The school term for both the Mammoth Grade School and the Gardiner Junior High and High School started September 2. Mrs. Walter Stebbins and Mrs. Ralph Reed continue as teachers for the Mammoth School which consists of the first six grades, the older children being transported to Gardiner by bus.

September 6 was the final Saturday of the season for the six-day week for wage board employees.

On September 19 the Local Civil Service Board held an examination for Stenographer, for which there were two competitors. Personnel Assistant Proper conducted the examination.

The fall meeting of the Absaroka Conservation Committee was held in the park September 27 and 28. Congressman Wesley A. D'Ewart of Montana conducted the meeting. The officers of the previous year were reelected, as follows: Wesley A. D'Ewart, Chairman; Stanton J. Ware, First Vice Chairman; Robert A. Hamilton, Second Vice Chairman; and George H. Kern, Secretary.



The collection of the motor vehicle license fee was discontinued at the close of September 30.

Inspections. The following National Park Service officials visited the park after the first of September en route to "Area Operation" in Glacier National Park: Christopher Mullady, Regional Counsel, Region Two, in September 1; R. A. Gibbs, Superintendent, Chalmette National Historical Park, in 1st; Ray B. Ringenbach, Superintendent, Gran Quiuira National Monument, in 1st; Johnwill Faris, Superintendent, White Sands National Monument, in 1st; John M. Davis, General Superintendent, Southwestern National Monuments, Santa Fe, in 1st; Fred W. Binnewies, Superintendent, Bandelier National Monument, in 1st; John C. Preston, Superintendent, and Robert P. White, Assistant Superintendent, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, in 1st, and again 12th on return; Carl P. Russell, Superintendent, Yosemite National Park, in South 2nd; George F. Emery, Superintendent, Petersburg National Military Park, in 2nd; Mrs. Wilhelmina Harris, Superintendent, Adams Mansion National Historic Site, in 1st; Ross Maxwell, Superintendent, Big Bend National Park, in 2nd; Harvey H. Cornell, Assistant Regional Director, Region Three, in South 2nd; James V. Lloyd, Assistant Regional Director, in 1st; Clarence H. Schultz, Superintendent, Homestead National Monument, in 1st; Robert R. Budlong, Superintendent, Scotts Bluff National Monument, in 1st; William J. Kennedy, Superintendent, Effigy Mounds National Monument, in 2nd; and the following visited the park on return to their areas from the conference: Charles E. Shevlin, Superintendent, Isle Royale National Park, in 11th; S. Herbert Evison, Chief of Information, NPS, in 11th; Edward D. Freeland, Superintendent, Grand Teton National Park, in 11th; George A. Palmer, Superintendent, Vanderbilt Mansion National Historical Site, in 12th; Sam P. Weems, Superintendent, Blue Ridge Parkway, in 12th; Newell H. Foster, Superintendent, Statue of Liberty National Monument, in 12th; John B. Cabot, Regional Architect, in 12th, Ira B. Lykes, Superintendent, Shiloh National Military Park and Cemetery, in 12th; Dr. Harold C. Bryant, Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park, in 12th; Perry E. Brown, Superintendent, Platt National Park, in 12th; Paul R. Franke, Superintendent, Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks, in 11th; Paul McG. Miller, Chief Engineer, NPS, and Thomas C. Vint, Chief of Design and Construction, NPS, in 12th, out 14th to Teton; Robert G. Hall, Assistant Regional Director, in 12th, to Teton 14th, returned 17th and on to Glacier; Merrill J. Mattes, Regional Historian, in 12th; Harry T. Thompson, Assistant Superintendent, National Capital Parks, in 14th; William A. Schnettler, Chief of General Services, NPS, in 11th; Francis R. Oberhansley, Superintendent, Hawaii National Park, in 14th; James R. McConaghie, Superintendent, Vicksburg National Military Park, in 11th; Francis D. LaNoue, Assistant Superintendent, Rocky Mountain National Park, in 11th; John H. Diehl, Highway Engineer, Region Three, in 17th; and Earl M. Semingsen, Superintendent, Wind Cave National Park, in 18th. Dr. Ralph W. Chaney, Department of Paleontology, University of California, Berkeley, and Member of Advisory Committee on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments, in September 9 on return from "Area Operation" at Glacier, out 12th.



Albert R. Stocker, Architect, Region Two, in September 5, out 6th. Barnes MacDonald, Highway Engineer, Region Two, in 4th, to Teton 19th, returned 22nd, out 28th to Teton. William E. Robertson, Regional Engineer, who arrived August 27, departed September 1 for Glacier. John G. Lewis, Assistant Superintendent, Bryce Canyon National Park, in September 5. D. M. Armstrong, Park Ranger, Mt. Rainier National Park, in September 8 en route to Teton to assist in elk hunting season. Charles Schuster, Landscape Architect, Region Two, who has been on assignment in Yellowstone for three months, left September 6. Ralph Corlew, Division Engineer, Bureau of Public Roads, Denver, and D. C. McFarlane, Engineer, BPR, Cheyenne, in 12th, out to Tetons 19th. B. W. Matteson, Division Engineer, and Clyde E. Learned, Design Engineer, Bureau of Public Roads, Denver; J. R. Bromley, State Highway Engineer, BPR, Cheyenne; and Mr. Span, BPR, Ogden, Utah, in September 24, out 25. Alton O. Stinson, Engineer, BPR, Denver, who arrived in the park August 1 with party for survey of east section of Canyon-Norris road programmed for reconstruction, left September 20. Ed Anderson, Engineer, BPR, moved in September 2 from the south approach projects to Canyon in connection with the project under contract there. James R. Miller, Fire-Weather Meteorologist, Weather Bureau, Boise, Idaho, in 10th regarding wind equipment at Dot Island. W. S. Swingler, Assistant Chief, Forest Service, Washington, D. C., in September 11. John C. Gynn, Area Leader, and Clarence Chapman, Pathologist, Blister Rust Control, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Spokane, Washington, in 8th, out 10th. C. E. Myers, Building Engineer, Public Services Administration, Public Buildings Division, Denver, in September 2 in connection with Post Office Department work. James C. Evenden and Robert Denton, Bureau of Entomology, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, in September 17 to inspect bud worm infestations. Herbert E. Schwan, Range Conservationist, Forest Service, Denver, in September 18. Judge Wayne Hackett, U. S. Commissioner, Rocky Mountain National Park, in September 29, out 30. A. E. Wilde, State Director, U. S. Savings Bonds Division, Cheyenne, Wyoming, in South September 29, out East 30th. George W. Miller, Assistant Superintendent, and Richard T. Montgomery, Engineer, Glacier, in September 24 on return from road meeting at West Yellowstone September 23. Karl T. Gilbert, Park Ranger, Rocky Mountain, in September 4 to deliver surplus equipment.

Publicity. A story was given the Associated Press at Helena on September 5 by telephone on the closing dates of the various operations in the park and on the arrest of W. Russell Thompson of Gallatin Gateway Inn for illegally transporting passengers through the park.

In-Service Training. The Yellowstone Weekly News was issued each Thursday during the month with a view to keeping employees, concessioners and others currently informed of park happenings.



Plans, Maps and Surveys. Tom Vint, Chief of Design and Construction, and Paul Miller, Chief Engineer, from the Washington Office, made a short visit to Yellowstone the middle of the month, checking on roads and construction projects.

Regional Engineer William Robertson was also in the park the first of the month on inspection of our construction projects.

The annual road inspection was made from September 12 to 18 with Mr. Ralph Corlew and D. C. McFarlane, representing the Bureau of Public Roads, and Barnes MacDonald of the Regional Office. The weather was ideal for this work.

Maintenance. September was unusually good for road maintenance; however, we were handicapped by the lack of labor. Most of the young fellows left the fore part of the month to return to school and a large number of the remaining left when we returned to the five-day week. No new help was available and it was necessary to combine camps. At the end of the month only three camps were open, Mammoth, Old Faithful and Lake; however, all roads were being patrolled and snow fence and snow stakes being set.

Nine miles were reprocessed or half-soled during the month-- 5 miles on the Gallatin, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles on Route 3, 1 mile on Route 4, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles on Route 1E.

Chap seal coating was completed on 21 miles of Route 8 and 5 miles on Route 1E.

About three-fourths of all special items in this year's road program have been completed.

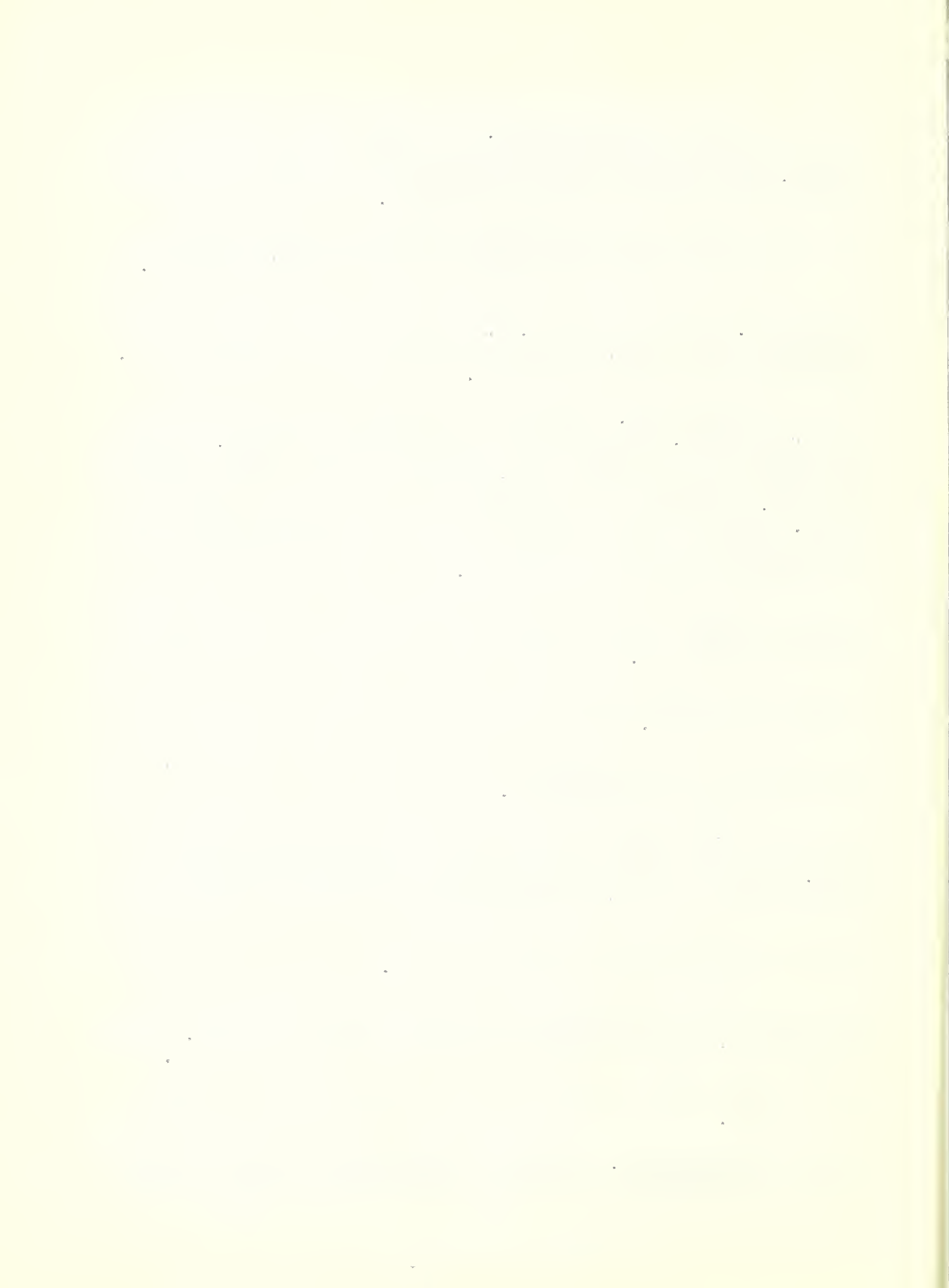
A large log retaining wall was replaced along the north rim of the Grand Canyon near Grand View for protection of the foot path. The stairs leading to the top of the lower falls are nearly 50 years old and need complete rebuilding, which is a major project.

Most roads are in fair to good condition with the exception of the Gallatin section, which is only fair.

At the end of the month maintenance was discontinued on the Red Lodge road and signs erected at each end stating the fact. Ordinarily there is quite a little snow on this section by October 1.

The average number of men on road work during the month was about 45.

Construction. Work has been completed and final inspection made of the two Moran to Yellowstone South Boundary (South Approach



Road) construction projects, Section D, Unit One, Grading and Surfacing 6.945 miles, under contract to the J. E. Jones and A. L. Hurley Company, contractors, of Cody, Wyoming, and Section D, Unit Two, Grading and Base Course Surfacing, 8.35 miles, under contract to the J. J. Dooling Company, contractors, Denver, Colorado, and they have been recommended for acceptance. The one inch bituminous mat that was placed was a little thin in places and should be sealed in the spring.

No work has been done on the 1-F3, G4 project at Canyon, bituminous surfacing, parking areas and connecting roads, under contract to Strong Company of Springville, Utah, but it is expected that they will move in to this job early in October.

The Cop Construction Company of Billings, Montana, was advised September 23 of the acceptance of their bid of \$134,431.15 for the construction of a water and sewer system in the Canyon area.

Other construction projects active during the month were:

Account 323.12, Campground Roads, Old Faithful.--All work complete except seal coat on Loop C.

Account 323.14, Roads and Walks, Lake Hotel Cottage Area.--Grading nearly all complete, curbs about 90% complete, base material being placed, and will be ready for final bituminous mat in spring.

Account 332.11, Sewage Disposal System, Lake.--Will start pouring concrete at dosing tank in next day or two. Manholes all complete except one, and pipe all in place. Money for construction of sand filter is not available. This job was held up for a while because of steel shortages.

Account 333.02, Utilities, Tables, Fireplaces, Comfort Stations, Campground, Old Faithful.--The crew is placing last of tables and fire places in Loop C. Street lights are all in place and the job is about 90% complete.

Account 331.12, Comfort Stations (2), Old Faithful Campground.--Same as last month.

Account 331.14, Remove Old C.C.C. Buildings in New Lake Utility Area.--Job nearly complete.

Account 323.05, Construction of Roads and Walks, Old Faithful Lodge Area.--Complete except for bituminous mat.

Account 323.01, Campground Roads Canyon.--Plans submitted; expect to contract work.

Account 332.15, Water and Sewer, New Area, Canyon.--Let out for construction by contract, but no work started.

Account 323.02, Construct Walks in Thermal Areas.--Work not started. Will be prefabricated at Mammoth this winter.

Account 232, Clean Mammoth Reservoir.--Work nearly complete.

Complaints. Two letters of complaint were received during the month, as follows: condition of lodging facilities and lack of modern facilities in the cabins.

Concessioners. The Mammoth tourist cabins and cafeteria and Lake Hotel closed September 1, also Canyon Lodge after breakfast; Lake Lodge dining room after breakfast September 3; Mammoth Hotel dining room after dinner, Thumb tourist cabins and cafeteria after breakfast, also Thumb boat house and saddle horse and bus service September 6; Old Faithful Lodge dining room after breakfast, Canyon tourist cabins, cafeteria and repair shop September 8; Lake Lodge cabins, Old Faithful and Canyon telegraph offices September 10th; Mammoth Hospital 11th; Mammoth Grill after lunch and Mammoth repair shop, Canyon Hotel and Old Faithful Inn (with exception of rooms to remain open until 17th) on September 12; Old Faithful Lodge cabins and Fishing Bridge boathouse closed 15th; Pryor Canyon Store and filling station 20th; Mammoth Hotel and Cottages September 22; Mammoth Coffee Shop after breakfast 23rd; Fishing Bridge tourist cabins, cafeteria and repair shop 30th. September 4 was the last day for starting the 2½-day bus tour and September 6 the last exit day. The Mammoth Grill hours were reduced on September 1 to 7:00 - 9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., and 5:30 - 8:00 p.m., and the cafeteria hours to 7:00 - 9:00 a.m., 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m., and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on the 2nd.

The Haynes Inc. picture shops at the various locations were closed as follows: Canyon Lodge September 1, Lake Lodge on the 2nd, West Thumb on the 6th, Old Faithful Lodge on the 8th, Canyon on the 9th, Old Faithful Inn on the 11th, Canyon Hotel on the 12th, Fishing Bridge on the 15th, Tower Fall on the 17th, and the Old Faithful Shop on the 29th, the Roosevelt Lodge Shop having closed August 29 with the closing of the Lodge itself. It is expected their Mammoth Shop will close on October 1.

The telegraph office at the Mammoth Hotel was closed September 11 and teletype service installed in the National Park Service fiscal office.

The Yellowstone Park Company moved its offices from Mammoth to Gardiner on September 29.

The Hamilton Stores Inc. new employees dormitory at Old Faithful is nearing completion and should be ready for occupancy next spring.

The Yellowstone Park Company has completed the ramp for the addition to the Fishing Bridge garage, the addition to the garage



itself to be added next spring. Progress has been made on the addition to the cabin office for public baths, laundry and dormitory at Fishing Bridge.

The Yellowstone Park Company started September 24 moving some 40 cabins from the Mammoth tourist cabin area to the West Thumb tourist cabin area. Two cabins were moved daily.

The new mail schedule became effective on September 7, the mail leaving the Mammoth Post Office at 10:00 am. Sunday mail service was discontinued after September 14.

Religious Services and Chapel Use. There was a regular meeting of the Superintendent's church committee on September 9 at which time certain aspects of the religious services program for the winter months were discussed and decisions made on them.

On the evening of the 10th the Committee on the Christian Ministry (Protestant) in Yellowstone National Park for the National Council of Churches of Christ of the United States of America met in the conference room and reviewed plans for the development of a Protestant student ministry in Yellowstone National Park and made plans toward the establishment of a resident minister to conduct inter-denominational services in Yellowstone and Gardiner, Montana, during the winter months. This committee was fully organized and responsibilities distributed to sub-committees.

During the month a special sub-committee of the Student Ministry Committee arranged with the ministers of Livingston, Montana, to conduct the religious services during the coming winter at Mammoth and Gardiner. The first of these church services will be held in the Yellowstone Park Chapel on October 5.

The last services conducted by the regular student ministry program which was in force during the past season were held by Rev. Warren W. Ost in the Yellowstone Park Chapel on September 14.

The first regular meeting of the Yellowstone Park Sunday School was held at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday the 21st, and Sunday School has been held regularly since that date.

Interpretive Services. All interpretive services throughout the park continued through Labor Day, September 1, and from that date on tapered off to a complete closing of activities as of September 30. Hikes continued at Old Faithful through the 14th, cone talks and museum information service through the 25th. At Mammoth the talks and walks terminated on September 6 and museum information service on September 30. Talks and walks at Fishing Bridge terminated on the 7th and the museum information service on the 11th. At Canyon the talks and walks terminated on the 3rd. The Madison Junction museum rendered information service and museum talks to

bus groups and interested parties through the 8th. All other stations closed by or before September 1.

Chief Park Naturalist Condon gave a talk on "Geyserland" in Livingston on the evening of the 27th to the Annual Montana Motor Court Association Convention. There were 42 persons present at this talk.

Park Naturalist Elmore projected pictures for the Absaroka Conservation Committee's annual fall program in the canteen on the evening of the 27th. There were 100 persons in attendance.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. The Norris Museum was closed on the night of September 1, Madison the night of the 8th, Fishing Bridge the night of the 11th, Old Faithful the night of the 25th and the Mammoth museum remained open throughout the month.

The self-guiding nature trail introductory signs were taken down on the 7th of September and the trail labels taken in from the trails.

The high-powered binocular viewer which has been at Lake Butte throughout the summer was taken down on the 9th and returned to park headquarters for storage.

New fluorescent lights were installed in the biology room at the Fishing Bridge museum by the Electrical Division on the 10th of September. This new lighting is a marked improvement for the biology room.

Park Naturalist Elmore devoted several days time during the month of September to the preparation and completion of plans for the moose exhibit which is to be installed at Willow Park.

Research and Observation. Mr. Kenneth Armitage, Park Ranger Naturalist, terminated his services in that capacity on the 16th of September and entered on duty as a National Park Service Collaborator on the 17th. Mr. Armitage is continuing his limnology study of the Firehole River and other Yellowstone Park streams. It is anticipated that Mr. Armitage will continue his studies until October 18 and will return to Yellowstone early next spring.

On the 4th and 5th the Giantess geyser was in eruption in the Upper Geyser Basin, and at the time of this eruption there was a great deal of additional activity taking place on Geyser Hill which indicates that virtually all of the features found on this great mound of sinter are subterraneously connected. Ear Spring overflowed heavily, as did Doublet Pool. The Infant Geyser continued to erupt violently after the beginning of the Giantess eruption, the Bee Hive erupted and a small vent near the Lion Geyser erupted. There was increased activity

in the Lion group. All of this increased activity and flooding seemed to be attributed to the violent eruptions of the Giantess Geysler. This geyser continued to erupt through the 4th and on through the 5th. On the 5th one of the unusual occurrences of the summer took place when Park Ranger Naturalist Armitage, with a large hiking party on the afternoon geyser walk, was fortunate enough to see the Giantess in eruption, to arrive at the Grand Geysler just in time to witness it begin its period of play and to leave the Grand Geysler and arrive in front of the Giant Geysler just in time to see this feature begin its interval of play. This was an unusual experience for anyone who has constantly watched and chased geysers, but the hiking party undoubtedly gathered the impression that Yellowstone was a three-ring circus and that the geysers were always all going off.

On September 5 Chief Park Naturalist Condon spent considerable time watching the bears at the Rabbit Creek dump near Old Faithful. On that occasion he saw 23 different black bears and was able to identify 15 of these as males, two as yearling bears and one cub. The other five were females. There was one exceptionally large black bear and one very large brown colored black bear which had a very bad scar on the left side, part of which was still a running sore. On this particular evening only four grizzly bears came into the dump. The maximum which has been reported by those watching this dump area was a visitation of 17 different grizzly bears during one night's observations.

Mr. George J. Neurburg, geologist for the U. S. Geological Survey, was issued a collecting permit to collect rock specimens and also samples of sulphur from hydrothermal areas. Mr. Neurburg was in the park on September 7.

On the 13th and again on the 21st Chief Park Naturalist Condon visited the upper reaches of Hayden Valley for the purpose of observing bison and also to make observations of other phenomena in the area. On both occasions large herds of bison were seen. On the 13th a total of 307 animals were counted and it was thought that additional ones were hidden in ravines and could not be seen.

A bear den near Rainy Lake is under observation and if it is occupied this winter attempts will be made to get photographs of these animals in hibernation. District Park Ranger John Bauman reports having seen bears enter and leave this den and it is hoped that something will choose this for winter use.

James Simon of the Jackson Hole Wildlife Park, reported seeing what he thought to be a wolf in the Hayden Valley near the Trout Creek dump on the 27th. A park visitor reported seeing a three-legged wolf in the vicinity of Trout Creek on the 29th.

The moose have been commonly seen at Pelican Creek, at Willow Park and other sections of the park throughout the month, moose having been seen at Willow Park on the 30th and at Pelican Creek on the 2nd

and on the 27th. Park Naturalist Watson saw a bull and cow moose along the Gardner River below the Chinaman's garden between Mammoth and Gardiner and these animals are not commonly reported from that section of the park.

In the aspen thickets between the hot spring terraces and the hoodoos there has been rather an interesting moose show throughout most of the month. On occasions there have been as many as four bull moose, two cows and one calf seen there. The bulls have been witnessed by some to be thrashing their antlers in the brush and on occasions are reported to have called or challenged one another.

The trumpeter swan moved from their nesting areas and toward the middle of the month and near the end of the month they were commonly seen on the Yellowstone River in Hayden Valley, on the glacial lakes and ponds in Lamar Valley, on Swan Lake and the beach Spring lagoon at Mary Bay. Five swan were seen on one pond in the Lamar Valley on the 13th by Chief Park Naturalist Condon. A check on the cygnet population at the month's close revealed that probably there was only a population of three cygnets survived to flight age.

A large female bull snake measuring $67\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length has been retained in the museum basement throughout a good part of the month. Photographs have been made of it. It has been held in captivity to prevent tourists from probably killing it. She was recovered from the tourist cabin area, taken away, and returned to the cabin area, so it was determined that since people were apt to kill her it would be best to keep her in captivity. She readily eats dead as well as live mice, and on one occasion consumed five of these animals at one feeding.

On September 29 an attempt was made by the geyser basin cleanup crew, Chief Park Naturalist Condon and Mechanical Supervisor Robinson to make Morning Glory Pool erupt and thus disgorge the rubbish which has gone clear down into the lower reaches of this pool. The water level was pumped down about $31\frac{1}{2}$ inches with a small pump. The beginning temperature of the pool was 169°F . and the maximum temperature reached was 186°F . Since the pool did not erupt on this day it was determined to try it again on the 30th. On the 30th, with two pumps working, the water level was lowered 42 inches. The water temperature at the beginning of this operation was 177°F . and when the pumps refused to pump more water due to the high temperature of the water the temperature had reached 197°F . The pool did not erupt nor give indications of eruption. At this point an attempt was made to bring this about by inserting soap, and although it raised the water temperature 1° no eruption took place. Efforts to clean the pool by this method were discontinued.

Natural History Association. The natural history association was busy at the close of the month terminating its fiscal year's business. The book sales terminated at Mammoth on the 30th, at Old



Faithful on the 24th, at Fishing Bridge on the 11th and at Madison Junction on the 8th. Mrs. Alice Quist was employed as clerk for the Association. Plans call for the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of this Association for Friday, October 17.

The July-August Yellowstone Nature Notes were placed in the mail on September 3.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. A total of 132,164 persons entered the park this month as compared with 126,996 for the same month last year, or an increase of 4.07%. The total travel for the present travel season through September 30 was 1,330,387 persons as compared with 1,166,346 for the travel season ending in 1951, or a total increase of 14.06%. The total travel this year exceeded all previous records. All entrances showed an increase over last season as indicated by the following percentages: North - 26.97%; West - 7.25%; East - 7.01%; South 23.44%; and Northeast - 27.25%

Visitors. General Holland M. Smith (Ret.), U. S. Marine Corps, in September 1, out 3. David Rockefeller, member of the Rockefeller family of New York, in 2nd, out 4th. Halbert W. Hoard, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who was an employee in the park in 1923 and 1924, published and delivered a newspaper called the "Yellowstone Daily Tourist", and was one of the first to deliver mail into interior of the park, in 11th with wife and daughters, out 12th. Fred A. Noble, Manager, Glacier Park Transport Company, and Mrs. Noble, and J. H. Atkinson, Superintendent, Waterton Lakes National Park, Alberta, Canada, and Mrs. Atkinson, in 26th, out 28th. Dr. Edith Ebers, Munich, Germany, in 26th, out 27th. Otto T. Mallory, Chairman, Inter-departmental Recreation Committee, National Recreation Association, Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Mallory, in 26th, out 27th. Helena Huntington Smith Pringle, author and writer, Washington, D. C., in 3rd, out 7th, returned 21st, out 29th; writing article on vandalism for Saturday Evening Post. Ernst Peterson, Saturday Evening Post photographer, in 20th, out 23rd. Congressman Wesley A. D'Ewart of Montana in 27th; presided at Absaroka Conservation Committee meeting 28th. Seven groups of Northern Pacific Railway ticket agents made tour of park during month, the first arriving September 6 and last on the 17th.

Ranger Service. The winter assignments were made for the Protection Division and part of the rangers moved to their winter locations. The snowshoe rations were partially packed and stored in the outpost cabins the latter part of the month. Minor repairs were made on patrol cabins and a winter wood supply cut and stored.

The sale of entrance station permits was continued through the 30th; and patrol cars partially operated due to limited personnel. All ranger stations were manned through the month and service rendered to park visitors to the extent of available personnel. It was necessary to man the Thorofare Station with two men and carry on boundary patrol

in connection with the opening of the big game season in that area on the 10th. A boundary patrol has been maintained in the Hellroaring and Slough Creek drainages since the 15th, when the early hunting season opened in that area.

The unusually dry weather which has been in effect all month made it necessary to keep two primary lookouts manned all month. Fire suppression on a few small fires required the time of a number of rangers and delayed doing important field work.

The grounds crew at park headquarters started the erection of the protective fences around the shrubbery and small trees. This is a job entailing putting up a few miles of fence and requires considerable time and expense.

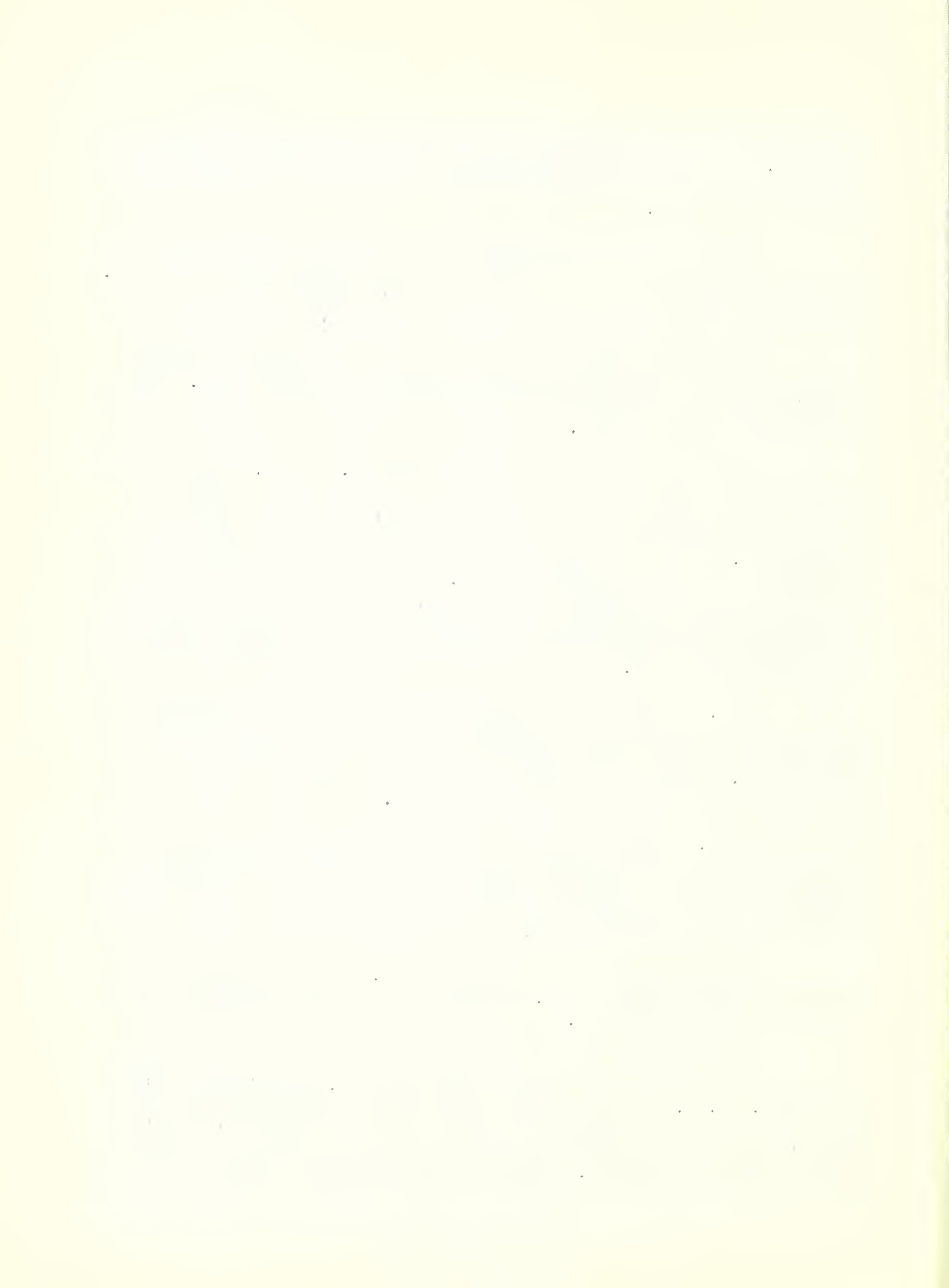
Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. BEARS. Seven persons reported being injured by bears during September which brought the total of such incidents to 39 for the season. Fourteen cases of property damage caused by bears raises the season total of these incidents to 81. One bear was killed as a control measure and two were accidentally killed by motor vehicles. Numerous bears continued to frequent park roads throughout the month. The Montana Fish and Game Commission opened a special bear hunting season in the Cooke area on September 25, apparently to dispose of troublesome animals which had moved out of the park.

ELK. Montana game wardens reported that approximately 30 elk were killed during the first week of the hunting season which opened on September 15 in the Hellroaring, Buffalo, Slough Creek and Cooke areas. Warm, dry weather hampered the hunters and conditions were generally unfavorable for good hunting.

FISH. The Mammoth water supply reservoir was drained on September 18, in preparation for cleaning the basin. Park rangers, assisted by Fish and Wildlife Service personnel from the Lake hatchery, salvaged about 300 eastern brook trout and removed them to the Gardner River where they were released.

The Emigrant hatchery furnished 17,000 #1½ blackspotted trout for Slough Creek and 18,000 of the same species and size for the Lamar River on September 3.

ABSAROKA CONSERVATION COMMITTEE. The fall meeting of this organization was held at Mammoth on September 28, with Chairman D'Ewart presiding. R. H. Lambeth, State Game Warden, Montana Game and Fish Department, reported that his department was prepared to transport elk from the park traps to the hunting areas this winter in connection with the elk lift program. A proposal to investigate the possibility of hunting in the park as a means of removing surplus elk was made by



A. C. Grande, a former member of the Montana Fish and Game Commission. A motion to create a special sub-committee to investigate and report on this matter was carried. Chairman D'Ewart will appoint a committee of three members to present the report next spring.

Forest Fire Protection. Five Class "A" lightning fires, one Class "A" smoker fire, and one Class "B" fire, which originated from a dump, were reported and suppressed during September.

Fire Cache Supervisor Murphy checked the various fire caches over the park, taking inventory and preparing equipment for winter, however, due to the continued fire hazard no great amount of equipment can yet be brought to headquarters.

Most fire control aids had to leave for school during early September and by the end of the month there were only four men on the force.

Blister Rust Control. The blister rust crew checked out on September 6, the Carnelian Creek Camp having been moved out and equipment stored and inventoried.

Wood Utilization. A crew cutting fuel wood for Government use started work on September 4. A supply was cut at the Lamar Unit on that date. The crew moved to the Lava Creek burn and cut 50 to 60 cords for use at Mammoth. After that they moved to Old Faithful, cut a small stockpile there and then moved to the Snake River Ranger Station where they will finish cutting the balance of the wood for this year from the stockpile of right-of-way wood there.

Insect Infestation. James C. Evenden and Robert Denton, Bureau of Entomology, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, in company with District Ranger Grimm, went over the spruce bud worm infested areas around Reese Creek and Undine Falls to determine the status of the insect and in case the Service wishes to conduct a control program this coming spring.

Building Fire Control. The Supplemental Building Fire Hazard Inspection Report has been completed and submitted to the Regional Director. This report deals mostly with what recommendations have been carried out, brigade training and what steps have been taken for visitor and personnel protection.

Twenty-four $1\frac{1}{2}$ -quart CCl_4 fire extinguishers were received during September. These have been issued to the various districts for recommended installation. To date installations have been completed in all districts except Lake. The completion of this program will give all Government buildings the extinguisher protection as recommended in the Building Fire Hazard Inspection Report.

Mechanical Supervisor Robinson and Supervisory Park Ranger Wykert will represent Yellowstone at the Building Fire School to be held in Yosemite National Park October 13 to 17.

Trails. By the end of the month, all trail men were terminated except one who is carrying on with the trail marking program in the Snake River district. Routine maintenance has been completed in all districts for the season and progress was satisfactory considering the amount of money available for this work. In addition to routine clearing, several special projects were completed this season. Work in the Snake River and Lamar districts has been especially satisfactory due to those district rangers being able to devote more time to the supervision of operations. During September the trail crew consisted of only 5 men as many of the members terminated to return to school.

Trail marking is being stressed and 500 new markers have been fabricated and painted. Each district ranger has been requested to submit a list of trail signs needed and these have been received from Old Faithful and Snake River. A sign router has been purchased and it is planned to carry on quite an extensive sign making program this winter.

Trail men assisted on several fires in the park during September.

Hay Contract. The hay cutting operations at Lamar were completed on September 19, with a total of 242½ tons baled and stacked. This is about 100 tons under last year. Due to a rather large hold-over from last year's crop, this is considered sufficient for our needs unless an unusually long winter is encountered. There is urgent need to cultivate the present hay land to provide for our future needs as there has been a decided decline in the crop the last few years.

Law Enforcement. Seventeen law enforcement cases were tried before the U. S. Commissioner during the month. A breakdown of the cases is as follows: Speeding 7, Failing to register 1, Rocks tossed in geyser 1, Drunk and disorderly conduct 1, Operating motor vehicle for profit 1, Driving off designated road 1, Feeding bears 1, First degree murder 1, Excess number of fish 2, Unauthorized campfire 1.

A total of \$280.00 in fines was assessed in connection with the above cases.

Miss Mary J. Larson, Yellowstone Park Company employee, was charged with first degree murder on September 13 when it was determined that she had strangled her new-born female infant by means of a rag around its neck and deposited it under a cabin in the Fishing Bridge area. The Federal Bureau of Investigation was called in to assist in the investigation. She was bound over to the U. S. District Court in Cheyenne, Wyoming, for hearing.

Accidents and Public Safety. A total of 24 motor vehicle accidents were reported during the month, 16 being Class "A" and 8 Class "B". Of this number 17 involved visitors only, one involved a visitor and a concessioner employee and two involved visitors and Government employees, three involved concessioner employees only and one involved a visitor and an oil tanker from Billings. There were no serious injuries sustained in any of the accidents but considerable property damage resulted.

Marriages. Patricia A. Shanstrom and Theodore H. Stump were married September 18 at the English Lutheran Church in Livingston. Miss Shanstrom has been employed as a seasonal Clerk-Stenographer with the National Park Service in Yellowstone for several years.

Births. A daughter, Julia Louise, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Theodore S. Roeder at the Mammoth Hospital on September 8. Mr. Roeder is a seasonal Ranger Naturalist in the park.

Deaths. George Hanford, brother-in-law of Robert R. Robinson, Mechanical Supervisor, died suddenly at his home in Alhambra, California, as result of heart attack. Mr. and Mrs. Hanford had visited the park this summer and a number of times in previous years. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson attended the funeral of Mr. Hanford in California.

Orla E. Smith, father of Arthur V. and Claude B. Smith, seasonal truck drivers, died at the Wanigan Cabins near Emigrant, Montana, September 18, following an extended illness. Funeral and burial were at Gardiner, Montana, September 22. Mr. Smith was employed in the park for a number of years as truck driver.

Ralph S. Corlew, Engineer, Bureau of Public Roads, Denver, Colorado, died of a heart attack September 26 while inspecting Trail Ridge Road in Rocky Mountain National Park. Mr. Corlew had been in Yellowstone Park earlier in the month on a road inspection trip.

A new-born female baby was discovered dead under a cabin in the Fishing Bridge tourist cabin area on the morning of September 13. It was determined that Mary J. Larson, unwed mother, a Yellowstone Park Company employee, had strangled the baby by means of a rag around its neck and deposited it under the cabin. She was charged with first degree murder and bound over to the U. S. District Court at Cheyenne, Wyoming, for hearing. The infant was buried in Mountain View Cemetery in Livingston.

Personnel. Helen M. Abbie, WAE Telephone Operator, GS-2, was appointed August 31 to permanent Telephone Operator, GS-2, vice Elizabeth B. Allan, retired. A. Irene Minish, formerly night telephone operator, assumed the duties of the vacant day position and Mrs. Abbie was assigned the night shift.

Harold R. Jones, Park Ranger, GS-5, Wind Cave National Park, was transferred to the position of Park Ranger, GS-5, Yellowstone, effective September 14. He arrived in the park September 13.

Gerald A. Rowe was promoted September 14 from Engineer (Civil), GS-7 to Engineer (Civil), GS-9, which position was reallocated September 12.

District Park Ranger Arthur Jacobson departed September 19 for reassignment and change of headquarters, effective September 25, to the position of Superintendent, GS-7, George Washington Carver National Monument, Diamond, Missouri.

Genevieve E. McCabe, Payroll Clerk, GS-4, resigned at the close of September 19 and James A. French was appointed to that position on September 22.

Peter Rorwick, Mixed Gang Foreman, who reached the compulsory retirement age of 70, retired at the close of September 30 after more than 20 years of service with the National Park Service in Yellowstone. Mr. Rorwick was honored at a picnic at the Mammoth Campground the afternoon of September 27 and square dance at the Canteen the same evening.

Frank L. Ward, Operator General (Mobile Power Equipment), was furloughed at the close of September 23.

Valjher G. Jacobson, seasonal Statistical Clerk, was terminated at the close of September 1 to accompany Mr. Jacobson to "Area Operation" and in his transfer to George Washington Carver National Monument. Terminations of other seasonal employees included Donna L. Romann, Clerk-Stenographer, September 12 (noon); Patricia A. Shanstrom, Clerk-Stenographer, and Beverly M. Tecca, Clerk-Typist, at the close of September 15; Alma G. Hood, Telephone Operator, September 2; Thomas D. Ellis, Storekeeper (General), August 31; and Thomas J. Hamilton, Storekeeper (General), September 5. Dale H. Nuss, seasonal Park Ranger, terminated at the close of September 3 to accept permanent employment as Park Ranger in Shenandoah National Park. The services of 32 other seasonal Park Rangers and of the remaining 17 Park Naturalists and Ranger Naturalists were terminated during the month. Vernon W. Wright, Messenger, terminated at the close of September 2; Rosemary Proper entering on duty in that position September 4 and terminating on the 10th. Lee R. Springer, Jr., Engineering Aid (Survey), GS-3, carried on the Region Two payroll, resigned at the close of September 12.

Edmund B. Rogers
Superintendent

In duplicate
cc Region Two, in quintuple

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