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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK



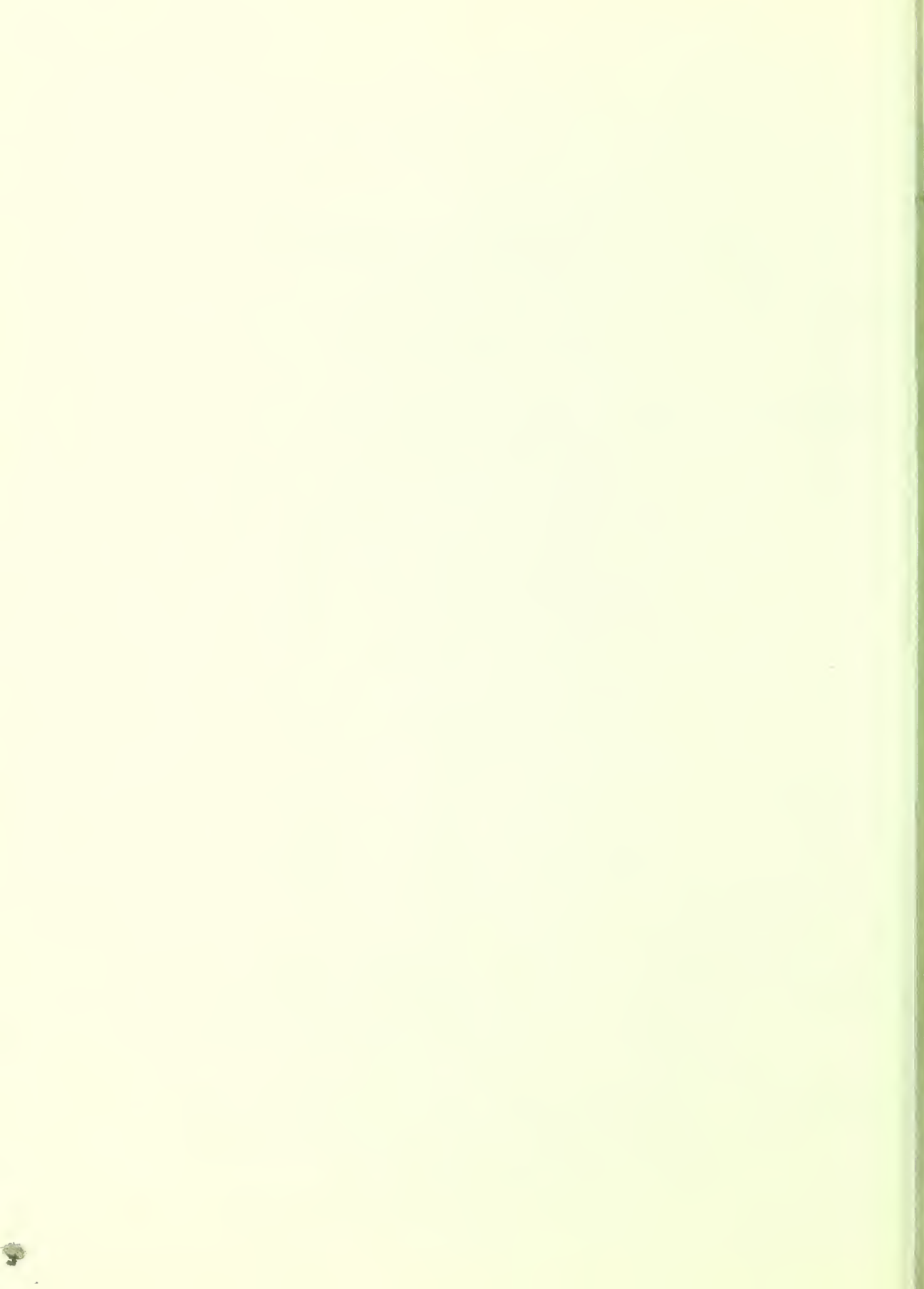
FILE NO. A2823

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

MAY 1955

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

A2823

Report Inl

ICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Summary of the May 1955 Monthly Narrative Report  
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

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<u>WEATHER:</u>	Precipitation high. Harroth maximum 76°, minimum 26°, park maximum 76°, minimum 29°. Storms closed roads. Ice off Lake Flst. 1
<u>SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:</u>	Rogers to Bozeman with Haynes, to W. Yell. with Hamilton, Wohlbrandt, Mattson re Gallatin Road, to Billings with Joffe, Haynes, Parkes on Good Will Tour, to Cody Club meeting with Joffe, Haynes, Child, J. Nichols, Pevah, gave program, Governor there; to Helena to get Horace Sutton. McMillin & Wanning to Utah for surplus. Wohlbrandt, Miller, Anderson, Proper, Olson wage survey. Way to Billings for Weasel parts. Chapman to Missoula on fire matters. Barrows & Nelson to Missoula fire weather & danger school; Barrows on to Glacier. Meeting with Telephone Co. men. Road openings. Fee collection began 25th. Main fishing season opened 30th. Gallatin Cons. Comm. meeting. Old F. & F. B. postal stations opened. 20th Anniversary Rogers as Supt. W. Yell. checking station replaced; info station. Permit transferring Gallatin Road to Montana as reconstructed. C. S. exams. 1-3
<u>INSPECTIONS:</u>	USFS men in re spruce budworm. Weather Bur. man in re weather stations. FBI men in. USGS men in re Inspiration Point & topographic mapping. Gallatin Forest Supervisor in. Montgomery, WODC, in. Dunn, P&W Service in Lake Fisheries Station. 3-4
<u>PUBLICITY:</u>	456,500 broadsides on hand. 4
<u>PLANS, MAPS AND SURVEYS:</u>	Mattson plans. Mattson, Wohlbrandt, Rogers, Hamilton field review Gallatin road. Wohlbrandt wage survey, inspection Inspiration Point, Gardiner airport, observed Teton plow, etc. Asst. Ingrs. on road-stripping. 4-5
<u>MAINTENANCE:</u>	Snowplowing. Most crews on. Road patching, bridge repair, placing walks, fireplaces, rock barriers F.B. campground, center-lining roads, redecoration in hospital, sign painting, etc. 5
<u>CONSTRUCTION:</u>	Active projects listed. Contract projects closed down. 5

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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<u>CONCESSIONERS:</u>	Old Faithful Store opened 1st; other openings. C.A.Hamilton here. Nicholases to Helena & to park. Y.P.Co. offices to Mammoth. Opening dates. J. Nichols & other Co. officials here. work resumed O.F.Lodge flooring. Colors picked for lodge bldgs. Mrs. Haynes back from St. Paul. Opening dates shops. Addition to O.F.Shop; propane plans approved. 5-6
<u>CHAPEL USE:</u>	Sunday School through 22nd; awards. Church. Congregational meeting on Winter Ministry. Baccalaureate. 6
<u>INTERPRETIVE SERVICES:</u>	Movie loaned to Dist. Ranger at West for showings. Movie in Canteen. Talk to geology class in park. Conducted field trip Gardiner General Science class. 6
<u>MUSEUMS:</u>	Mammoth Museum open; at O.F. 23rd. O.F.Museum exhibit materials sent to Wash.; rocks collected for same. 7
<u>RESEARCH AND OBSERVATION:</u>	Black Dragon's Caldron active; less fluid. Black Growler temp. changes & noisy. Changes at Norris. Sapphire Pool with snow pellets. Cranes & nest observed. Bison calves, moose, grizzly & cub, swans observed. Mammoth Springs changes, especially near Highland Terrace where water through fissure. Osprey nesting. Crane example protective coloration. West Thumb thermal changes; drop water level Fishing Cone. Turner continued study frog. 7-9
<u>NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:</u>	Rock books for sale. Nature Notes. Turner book on reptiles & amphibians for sale. 9
<u>IN-SERVICE TRAINING:</u>	Staff meeting. Weekly News. Ranger Conference. Pierson to farm machinery school. Barrows & Nelson to fire weather school, Missoula. Fiscal training sessions; entrance procedure session. Condon movie. 9-10
<u>TRAVEL:</u>	40,904 in 12,475 cars; 11.4% less than last May. 10
<u>VISITORS:</u>	S. Brandborg, Nat'l Wildlife Fed. in on elk study; Paul Brunn, <u>Miami Beach Sun</u> ; Horace Sutton, N. Y. travel writer; R. L. Hoke, Publicity Dir., Williamsburg Foundation; S. K. Banerji, Consul General of India. 10
<u>RANGER SERVICE:</u>	Stations opened, new employee permits, law cases, etc. 10-11
<u>WILDLIFE: FISH:</u>	Plantings listed. Men to Ennis Hatchery help mark fish. Lake Hatchery opened. 11
<u>BEAVER:</u>	Girdling pine at Madison; beaver moved. Beaver that had flooded highway moved selves after removal dam. 11



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<u>ELK:</u>	11
Brandborg, Kittams, Chapman horseback trip re elk; tagging. Elk dispersed on winter & summer ranges.	
<u>CANADA GOOSE:</u>	12
Goose protecting nest from grazing elk.	
<u>RANGE:</u>	12-13
Observations Kittams; study with Brandborg; pictures for him. Callatin Cons. Comm. meeting. Photographed range study plots.	
<u>FOREST FIRE PROTECTION:</u>	13
Studies on burning index meters for step-up plans. Barrows & Nelson attendance Fire Weather-Fire Danger School, Missoula. Chapman to Missoula re snakejumper program, etc.	
<u>FOREST INSECTS:</u>	13-14
Proposed program spruce budworm spraying by Forest Service. Studies on outer boundaries infestation.	
<u>BLISTER RUST:</u>	14
Robert Franklin to be Foreman. John Gynn expected for preliminary & training. Supervision operations turned over from Barrows to Edwards.	
<u>ACCIDENTS AND SAFETY:</u>	14
2 vehicle accidents. Amendments boat regs. in Fed. Register; made part of boat permit form.	
<u>LAW ENFORCEMENT:</u>	14-15
3 arrests fishing closed waters, 1 for failure stop at entrance, 1 for disorderly conduct released until June 7. FBI Agent in re theft saddles. Freeman assigned to traffic patrol North Loop. Commissioner away 2 weeks.	
<u>DEATHS:</u>	15
Fred Williams, Bozeman, wildlife enthusiast, died.	
<u>BIRTHS:</u>	15
Sons born to Mr. & Mrs. Thomas F. Ela and Mr. & Mrs. Lyford Dore.	
<u>PERSONNEL:</u>	15-16
John Rohm, Ranger, back from Training Conf. & transferred to Wind Cave. John Galle, Fiscal Acctg. Clerk, resignation. Thomas Somerville pos. reallocated to Fiscal Acctg. Clerk, GS-7. Ellen Bratlien Clerk-Steno in Personnel & Files. Delmar Peterson, Roger Contor & Harvey Jamison new Park Rangers, GS-5. Seasonal appointments.	
<u>MISCELLANEOUS:</u>	16-17
NFFE meeting. AFGE meeting. Yell. PTA meeting & election. "Spring Frolic". Schools closed; baccalaureate & graduation. Representatives to Montana State Fed. of Fed. Employees, Missoula.	

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

June 9, 1955

Memorandum

To: The Director

From: Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Report for May 1955

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of May 1955:

Weather Conditions. Above-normal precipitation for May was recorded at the Mammoth weather station. The last ten-year average is 1.88 inches and the total this month was 2.14 inches. Snow fell on several occasions. Precipitation was recorded on 17 days.

Maximum temperature recorded at Mammoth was 76° on May 21 and minimum was 26° on May 7 and 28. Park maximum was 76° at East Entrance on the 20th and at Mammoth on the 21st with minimum of 15° at South Entrance on the 9th.

Some the roads which had been opened were closed by late snow-storms but this was only for short periods as is usual this time of year.

The ice in Yellowstone Lake began to break up on the 26th and was out of the main part of the Lake on the 31st.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers made a trip to Bozeman May 12, accompanied by J. E. Haynes, President of Haynes Inc., for research work at the library on his legislative history of areas of the National Park System. On the 17th he, with Assistant Superintendent Hamilton, Park Engineer Wohlbrandt and Landscape Architect Mattson, went to West Yellowstone to confer with Montana Highway and Bureau of Public Roads officials on Gallatin road reconstruction and transfer to the State of Montana. Mr. Rogers, Administrative Assistant Joffe, Park Photographer J. E. Haynes, and Jack Parkes, Manager, Hamilton Mammoth Store, went to Billings on a Good Will Tour with the Livingston Chamber of Commerce on the 19th, returning the following morning. On the 23rd Messrs. Rogers, Joffe, Haynes, and Hantley Child, Jr. and John V. Nichols, Vice-Presidents of the Yellowstone Park Company, and Trevor S. Rovah, Vice-President of Hamilton Stores, Inc., went to Cody, Wyoming, for the Cody Club Meeting, providing the program. Wyoming Governor Milward Simpson was also in attendance. They returned the following



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day. Mr. Rogers made a trip to Helena the 26th and 27th to meet Horace Sutton, nationally-known travel writer, and bring him to the park.

Electrical Supervisor McMullin and Truck Driver Manning left May 3 for Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah, for surplus equipment, returning on the 6th.

Park Engineer Wohlbrandt and Shop Foreman Miller left May 4 for Billings, Montana, and Cody, Wyoming, on wage board survey and returned the 6th. On the 5th and 6th Personnel Assistant Proper and Painter Foreman Olson made a trip to Idaho Falls and Pocatello, Idaho, and on the 17th Mr. Miller and Administrative Officer Anderson went to Livingston and Bozeman to gather similar information.

District Ranger Way made a trip to Billings May 9 and 10 to take delivery on Weasel parts.

Assistant Chief Ranger Chapman went to Missoula May 12 on fire control plans and personnel matters, returning the 13th.

On May 15 Forester Barrows and District Ranger Nelson left for Missoula where they attended a Fire Weather and Fire Danger Training School on the 16th to 18th. Mr. Nelson returned the 19th, whereas Mr. Barrows continued to Glacier and returned May 21.

A meeting of Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company and Yellowstone officials was held May 10 in the office of the Superintendent to discuss the proposal that that Company take over the telephone facilities in the park. It was decided that further review of the proposal and survey of Park Service requirements would be made in the near future.

The road on the west side of the park from Mammoth to West Entrance and Old Faithful was opened to travel May 1, the Norris-Canyon Cutoff and road to Lake May 14, East Entrance May 19, South Entrance and Continental Divide between Old Faithful and West Thumb, May 21, and Dunraven Pass May 28. Thus, all park roads were open to travel by the end of the month as well as all approach roads with the exception of the Red Lodge-Cooke road which is expected to open June 7. The road from Moran to the South Entrance was opened May 12 by Teton personnel, the plows continuing into the park to meet Yellowstone plows on a reimbursable basis.

The collection of motor vehicle license fees was started May 25 with gates open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fees remained the same as for last year: \$3.00 for automobiles, \$3.00 for house trailers, and \$1.00 for motorcycles for 15-day permit, and \$6.00, \$6.00, and \$2.00, respectively, for the season.





The main fishing season in the park opened May 30 as usual, with Yellowstone and Squaw Lakes to open June 15, Yellowstone River between Lake and Canyon and tributaries, Riddle, Grebe and Wolf Lakes and the stream between Grebe and Wolf Lakes July 1, and tributaries to Yellowstone Lake July 15.

The Upper Gallatin Conservation Committee held its annual meeting at the Cinnamon Ranger Station northwest of Yellowstone Park on May 22. Biologist Kittams and District Ranger Gilbert from West Entrance represented the park at the meeting.

The Old Faithful Postal Station opened May 12 and that at Fishing Bridge on the 26th.

May 25 was the anniversary of the 20th year of service in Yellowstone for Superintendent Rogers. He transferred to this position from that of Superintendent, Rocky Mountain National Park, May 25, 1935.

The old checking station at West Entrance was razed May 19, having been replaced by three new checking booths with six traffic lanes. The new information and orientation station a short distance inside the entrance has been completed except for exhibits and will be opened about June 20, providing for dispensing of information by ranger personnel from a separate building and relieving pressure on the gate, this being on an experimental basis.

A special use permit was signed by State of Montana Highway Commission and Superintendent Rogers in May which provided for the turning over of that portion of the Gallatin Road, U. S. Highway 191, inside the northwest corner of the park to the State of Montana. National Park Service crews will continue maintenance of the road until improvements are started and the transfer will take place gradually with the State taking over maintenance of sections as they are reconstructed. It is expected that 4.3 miles at the south end of the section will be contracted and placed under construction in July and 11.2 miles contracted for construction this fall, the balance of the 21 miles involved to be constructed in 1956.

The Local Civil Service Board held an examination May 11 for Accountant and Auditor, GS-5-6 and Accounting and Auditing Clerk, GS-4 with three competitors, and one May 20 for Stenographer-Typist with two competitors. Personnel Assistant Proper conducted the examinations.

Inspections. Clarence Sutliff, Assistant Regional Forester, Missoula, and William Ibenthal, In Charge of Timber and Fire Control, Gallatin National Forest, in May 4 and met with park officials on spruce budworm control.

A. R. Lowery, Meteorologist in Charge of Weather Bureau Office, Cheyenne, in May 9 to discuss operation and procedures of park weather stations.





Richard N. Hosteny, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Butte, in May 13, FBI Agent Fred M. Bassett of Butte in May 31, and FBI Agent Mason Melvin in 11th and 24th in law enforcement matters. Mr. Melvin makes frequent trips to the park on law enforcement and his headquarters was moved on the 20th from Butte to Bozeman.

W. H. Hansen, Geological Survey Office, Denver, in May 23 to investigate Inspiration Point; out to Glacier May 25.

Tom Terrell and Dave Fellin, U. S. Forest Service, Missoula, in May 24-28 on spruce budworm control program.

James C. Urquhart, Forest Supervisor, Gallatin National Forest, Bozeman, in May 25.

Richard T. Montgomery, Engineer, Western Office, Division of Design and Construction, San Francisco, in May 25 and out to Glacier; to return to park June 5 and remain on assignment most of the summer.

William A. Dunn, Superintendent, Yellowstone Fisheries Station, Fish and Wildlife Service, arrived May 27 to handle operations at Lake Hatchery for the summer.

Marvin E. Richey, Cartographer, U. S. Geological Survey, and William B. Upton, District Engineer, Topographic Branch, U. S. Geological Survey, Denver, arrived May 31, to be in charge of topographic mapping in the park and vicinity for the summer, Mr. Richey to work north of the park and Mr. Upton within the park.

Publicity. A total of 456,500 Yellowstone broadsides for 1954 and 1955 remained on hand at the end of May.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Landscape Architect Mattson prepared plans on the following: adjustable locking gates for west entrance; site plans for Yellowstone Park Company oil storage tanks for steam plant at Gardiner; parking areas on Park Street, North Entrance, Gardiner; single and multiple unit pit latrine; signs for west entrance station operations; park entrance sign, Gallatin Road, Grayling Creek.

Mr. Mattson and Park Engineer Wohlbrandt with Messrs. Rogers and Hamilton took part in field review with State of Montana and Bureau of Public Roads officials on Gallatin Road.

Mr. Wohlbrandt spent three days on wage board survey, some time with W. H. Hansen of Geological Survey on inspection of Inspiration Point, and, together with other park officials, meeting with Forest Service officials regarding Gardiner airport and possibility of Park Service doing some grading of the airport for the Forest Service, and to Lewis River Divide on South Entrance to observe operation of Bros snow plow owned by Grand Teton.





Assistant Engineers Schmid and Ketcham spent most of the month spotting road center line and running the paint striping machine, with about 45 miles of road re-striped.

Maintenance. Spring opening of roads was completed in the park on May 26 when the snow plows finished plowing on the Canyon-Tower Fall section. Plowing out the Red Lodge road would have been nearly through had it not been for new snowstorms and drifting snow making it necessary to re-plow all the high areas. At the end of the month all road maintenance crews were in operation except the Rock Creek Camp on the Red Lodge-Cooke Road. Heavy rain and snowfall kept the roads wet and caused many pot holes. Crews were kept busy patching. A crew started replacing the laminated wood deck on the Lewis River Bridge. This bridge does not have over eight or ten more years life before it will need to be completely replaced. Other work included the placing of 600 feet of prefabricated wooden walks at the Mammoth terraces, work on the West Entrance checking station and utilities, pouring of 400 prefabricated fireplaces for Canyon and Fishing Bridge campgrounds, placing rock barriers at Fishing Bridge campground and hauling material for oil mat for same, painting road center-line, redecorating two large rooms and two smaller offices in hospital and painting large number of rustic signs for West Entrance and Canyon areas.

Construction. Active projects during the month included Account 323.18, Fishing Bridge Campground Road, work resumed on placing of barriers, project about 20% complete; Account 323.20, Walks in Thermal Areas, 600 feet of walks placed on Mammoth Terraces; project 80% complete; Account 331.15, West Entrance Checking Station and Utilities Connections, work 98% finished; Accounts 333.3 and 333.4, Campground Facilities, Tables, Fireplaces, etc., concrete bases poured on 200 fireplaces in each project, Canyon and Fishing Bridge, tables out on bid, and projects 5% complete. Contractor construction projects remained closed down for season.

Concessioners. The Hamilton Stores, Inc. Lower Store at Old Faithful opened May 1 when visitors were first admitted to the west side of the park and provided meals and lodgings of an informal character until other facilities were opened at that location May 10. Their Lake Store and service station opened May 14 and the Mammoth Coffee Shop and Fishing Bridge and West Thumb Stores and service stations opened May 25. C. A. Hamilton, President of that company, arrived at Old Faithful May 5 from his winter headquarters at Santa Monica, California.

W. M. Nichols, President, Yellowstone Park Company, and Mrs. Nichols left their winter headquarters at La Jolla, California, May 4 for the Company's Helena office, arriving there the 6th. They moved to the park May 25. The Reservations Office of the Company moved from Gardiner to the Mammoth Hotel on May 7 and on the 9th Huntley Child, Jr., Vice-President in charge of the Lodge Division, moved his office up.







The tourist cabins, cafeteria and repair garage at Old Faithful opened May 10 and those at Fishing Bridge on the 25th. The telegraph office opened in the Mammoth Hotel May 16 with Elmer A. Swayze again as Manager and the teletype machine was taken from the Government fiscal office for the summer. John Q. Nichols, Vice-President, arrived May 20 and Fred Burke, Assistant Auditor, and H. H. Buck, Manager, Hotel Division, arrived May 11. Work was resumed on replacement of wooden floors with concrete floors at Old Faithful Lodge main building which project is 85% complete. Colors were selected by Park Landscape Architect Mattson for the exteriors of their Fishing Bridge and Tower Fall cabins.

Mrs. J. E. Haynes returned May 7 from St. Paul, Minnesota, where she had been interviewing employees for Haynes Inc. for the season. The Haynes Shop at Mammoth opened May 2, at Old Faithful May 12 and at Fishing Bridge May 31. On May 2 Haynes Inc. started construction on the addition to the Old Faithful Shop. Propane plans for this addition and for their Tower Fall Shop were approved.

Religious Services and Chapel Use. The Yellowstone National Park Chapel was used by the community for religious services during May. The regular Sunday School service was held each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. through May 22. On this date a special Sunday School service was held and awards given Sunday School members who had earned them.

The regular Protestant services of the Winter Ministry were held each Sunday in the Yellowstone Park Chapel at 11:00 a.m. Student Minister William Henning conducted the services. Following the regular church service on May 22 a special congregational meeting was held to hear the report of the activities of the 1954-55 Winter Ministry program. The last service to be conducted by the Winter Ministry was held on May 29.

Baccalaureate services for the Gardiner High School and Eighth Grade were held in the Chapel the evening of May 15 with William Henning as speaker.

Interpretive Services. The 16 mm. motion picture "Wild Animal Heaven" was loaned to the district ranger at West Yellowstone and was used for four public showings with a total attendance of 267 persons.

The movie "Your Yellowstone" was shown in the Canteen on May 18 to an audience of 140 people by Chief Park Naturalist Condon.

On May 17 Seasonal Park Naturalist Biddulph, who is a professor at Ricks College in Redburg, Idaho, brought into the park a geology class of 11 students. These students were given a one and one-half hour talk on the geology of Yellowstone and the significance of its other natural resources.

On May 12 Mr. Condon took the General Science class of the Gardiner High School consisting of 18 pupils and their teacher on a field trip to the geyser basins along the Firehole River.





Museum Activities and Exhibits. The Mammoth Museum was open all month except on May 14, 15 and 21.

Shipments of negatives and photographic prints for use in the preparation of exhibits for the Old Faithful Museum were shipped to the Museum Laboratory in Washington, D. C. on May 18 and 31. Rock specimens for use in the preparation of the exhibits at Old Faithful were collected on field trips on the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 27th of the month.

Old Faithful Museum was opened for public use on May 23.

Research and Observation. This season the Black Dragon's Caldron is active along the entire 104-foot fissure with the most activity being at the southern end of the fissure. From all appearances the mud in the Caldron is becoming less fluid than in the past and if it is not replenished with water from some source it is conceivable that the Caldron will dry up in some sections.

In the Norris Geyser Basin the Black Growler Steam Vent is exceedingly hot with a record temperature of 224°F. being taken there on May 7. On May 12 another temperature reading made at this site recorded only a temperature of 212°F. The steam vent is creating a much greater roar than for the past several years. In the Norris Geyser Basin there have been a number of pronounced changes occur and accompanying these is the development of two large mud caldrons on the southwest side of the main trail in the Basin, the change in character of the Coloidal Pools from a boiling, turbid pool to an eruptive geyser and the greatly increased activity in the Fireball Geyser with eruptions reaching an estimated height of 30 to 40 feet.

On May 3 in the Biscuit Basin a very unique and interesting phenomena was observed in the Sapphire Pool just prior to its eruption. On this day there were innumerable snow squalls with much of the snow being of the pellet type. When the Sapphire Pool would reach a superheated state prior to eruption and a snow squall would come up the pellets striking in the pool caused intense boiling at the site where each pellet struck and with the hundreds of snow pellets causing this intense boiling it created a pattern of unusual beauty as well as being unique in character.

Sandhill cranes were observed at the Lower Geyser Basin and at a swamp near Nymph Lake. A nest of this species was found near Nymph Lake and has been observed for the balance of the month. At the month's close incubation had not yet been completed.

Several bison calves have been observed in the Lower Geyser Basin. Moose have been observed in the Swan Lake-Willow Park area on all field trips. On the evening of May 7 a female grizzly bear with her 2½ year old offspring was observed grazing on the green grass near Clearwater Springs. These bears were unafraid and proceeded about





their normal business, each of them demonstrating some amusing antics and on two occasions they reared up to trees and proceeded to scratch their stomachs and chins and then turned around and scratched their backs by rubbing up and down. These same bears remained in this area about ten days.

Trumpeter swan have been observed on Swan Lake, at the Blacktail Lakes and at Trumpeter Lake in the Lamar Valley. A pair have also been observed nesting on Beach Spring Lagoon at Mary Bay. The pair on Swan Lake are also nesting. Other birds observed seem to be transient.

The Mammoth Hot Spring Terraces were thoroughly explored on several occasions during the month and there have been a number of interesting shifts in the activity there during the winter. At the close of May there is intense activity at Opal Spring at the base of Capitol Hill, a good flow of water from Cavern Spring, a decrease of water from the old swimming pool spring, an increase in Palette Extension Spring with a decline in Palette Spring. The Minerva Spring and Terrace continues to be one of the most beautiful on the terraces and there has been a pronounced increase in the flow of water at Cleopatra Spring and Terrace. A sizeable area consisting of many acres is flooded by Naiad Spring and Jupiter Spring. On the upper terraces Canary Spring has shifted its activity over to the base of the glacial moraine on the southern end of Main Terrace and a sufficiently large volume of water flows from it and Blue Spring on Main Terrace to flood some of the Upper Terrace on down to the Old Reservoir site below Jupiter Terrace. The large spring on Main Terrace at the site of the old Periodical Lake is currently very active and floods a large portion of the Main Terrace. Cupid Spring is active from four vents and is very colorful. There is no activity at Narrow Gauge Terrace. Two small spring vents are active at the Prospect Springs. Probably the most unusual and interesting activity on the Terraces at the present time is the shift in activity which has taken place on Highland Terrace where the spring which was very active last year and the year before in an area where there has been no activity for probably more than 150 years has moved on west along the big crack or fissure at the edge of Highland Terrace. The new zone of activity has a very heavy flow of water out of the fissure which has formed a pool with a diameter of about 30 feet and out of one edge of the pool the water is flowing into a huge crack and flows for some distance along this crack to tumble down through the big fissure on the very steep slope disappearing with a roar into nowhere.

Osprey were observed nesting during the month on pinnacles in the Grand Canyon, on Eagle Nest Rock in the Gardner River Canyon and at the nest on the pinnacle above the drinking fountain at the beginning of Firehole Canyon.

The sandhill crane nest which is located very near the road in the swamp next to the sharp curve south of Bijah Spring below South Twin Lake is a classic example of the protective coloration of birds.







On May 12 this bird was shown to the High School Science Class and although it was relatively close at hand they were unable to distinguish the bird on the nest until they were able to study it with binoculars.

There have been some very interesting changes in the West Thumb Geyser Basin during the winter months and of most pronounced importance is the change in the volume of water in the large pools adjacent to the road in front of the Hamilton Store and the drop in the water level at Fishing Cone. This is the first time that Park Naturalist Condon remembers having seen the water level down as low in Fishing Cone.

Mr. F. B. Turner arrived in the park on May 23 to continue his detailed study of the western spotted frog and as part of his study he has been making tape recordings of the sounds made by these animals.

Natural History Association. During the month a stock of books entitled The Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals which will be sold by the Yellowstone Library and Museum Association was received from the Houghton Mifflin Company. The copy for the March-April issue of Nature Notes was completed and is ready for final stenciling and distribution. Four thousand copies of a new book, Reptiles and Amphibians of Yellowstone National Park by Frederick B. Turner arrived on May 31.

In-Service Training. A general staff meeting of division heads and other park officials was held in the conference room on May 13.

Yellowstone's Weekly News was issued each Thursday to keep employees, concessioners and others informed of park happenings.

The Park Ranger In-Service Training Conference was held at Park Headquarters May 16-20. One day was spent on general instruction in protection problems and procedures. Included was information about Mission 66 by Mr. Condon; and reports on the Region Two Protection-Interpretive Conference at Black Hills, given from the point of Protection by Mr. Garry; Interpretation by Mr. Herkenham and materials presented, and fire control by Messrs. Gunzel and Chapman. Seven men then took First Aid Training for 20 hours under District Ranger Grinn and the remainder received instruction in mountain climbing and rescue under Chief Ranger Brown. The last two days of the conference were devoted to Fire Training, including practice in building fire control. Some time was used to supply information on the Blister Rust program, and a review was given of material presented at the Forest Service Weather School at Missoula, Montana. Two training films were presented the evening of the 18th by Park Naturalist Condon. Dr. Brosius gave instructions in the use of the inhalator the evening of the 19th.

Head Animal Keeper Pierson attended a farm machinery school at Chadbourne, Montana, on the 18th.





Forester Barrows and Fire Dispatcher Nelson attended a fire weather measuring school held by the U. S. Forest Service at Missoula, Montana, May 16-18.

On May 16 and 23 meetings were held in the fiscal office for inter-office training on storehouse and fiscal activities, the first two meetings of a series which will be continued off and on during the summer season. Some 15 to 20 employees have attended and all employees are invited to attend future meetings. Fiscal Accounting Assistant Gabbert is in charge of the meetings. On May 23 a meeting was held in the conference room with the Fiscal Accounting Assistant, Fiscal Accounting Clerk and Cashier and several permanent and seasonal rangers to discuss gate procedures for the summer.

A new movie has been edited from the personal film library of Chief Park Naturalist Condon, and was presented to the members of the Mammoth community and the trainees of the conference on the evening of May 18. The 16mm motion picture is entitled "Your Yellowstone" and is a treatment of the natural resources of Yellowstone National Park.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. The sale of permits at the entrance stations was started on May 25, the same date as last year. total of 40,904 visitors entered the park during the month in 12,475 vehicles, compared with 46,187 persons in 14,081 vehicles last year, reflecting a decrease in travel of 11.4%. All park roads were open to public travel by May 28. The approach road between Red Lodge and Cooke was still closed by snow at the end of the month, but is expected to be open for travel by June 7.

Special Visitors. Stewart Brandborg, National Wildlife Federation, in May 20 to make study and report on Yellowstone elk problem; out 27. Paul Brunn, Columnist, Miami Beach Sun, Miami, Florida, in West and out May 21. Horace Sutton, nationally known travel writer and broadcaster, New York City, who has regular column in Saturday Review of Literature, met in Helena by Mr. Rogers and brought to the park May 27; gathering information on Yellowstone, Glacier and Grand Teton for articles; out to Teton 26th with R. L. Hoke, Publicity Director, Williamsburg Foundation, Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, who arrived May 28 from Des Moines. S. K. Banerji, Consul General of India, San Francisco, California, through park May 29 en route to Idaho Falls.

Ranger Service. Ranger stations were opened and placed in operative condition for the summer. Materials and supplies were obtained, and seasonal rangers were instructed in their assignments of protection activities as they entered on duty. Entrance stations were manned and entrance permit selling began May 25. Gate hours were set from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Chief Ranger's Office was busy in getting materials and supplies ready for summer activities, keeping reports and correspondence current, preparing manual revisions and other mimeographed material. The work necessary for the new system of



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The first part of the report deals with the general situation in the country and the progress of the war. It is followed by a detailed account of the operations of the various units and the results achieved. The report concludes with a summary of the work done and the recommendations for the future.

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employee permits was finished and permits prepared with assistance from the Naturalist Division. Assistant Chief Rangers McGowan, Chapman and Edwards spent a major portion of their time in reviewing employee applications and more than half the correspondence from that office has been letters to seasonal employees. Several law violations were time consuming and presented unusual and difficult problems of presentation before the U. S. Commissioner. Most of the Protection Division time the week of May 16-20 was used in the Ranger Conference.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. FISH PLANTING. Fish planting in park streams was accomplished as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Streams</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>No. Planted</u>
5-13-55	Gibbon River	Brown	26 per lb.	7,768
5-16-55	Firehole River	Brown	26 per lb.	10,400
5-17-55	Firehole River	Brown	26 per lb.	18,457
5-23-55	Madison River	Rainbow	3	9,904
5-23-55	Gibbon River	Rainbow	4&5	7,883
5-23-55	Slough Creek	Native	4	7,410
5-23-55	Lamar River	Native	4	9,093
5-24-55	Firehole River	Rainbow	4 & 5	9,987
5-25-55	Firehole River	Rainbow	4 & 5	9,486

Rangers Gunzel and Budge accompanied Biologist Kittams to the Ennis Fish Hatchery in Montana on the 12th to assist the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in marking fish.

The Lake Hatchery was opened on the 5th by Fish Biologist Ball. J. A. Thompson was in charge until Mr. William Dunn, who was ill, arrived May 27.

Beaver. Extensive girdling and cutting of lodgepole pine by beaver occurred at the Washburn, Langford Doane campsite at Madison Junction. Two beaver were live-trapped and moved to Willow Park.

The beaver that were flooding the highway near the Northeast Entrance evidently became discouraged by our continued removal of their dam and moved to a new location.

Elk. Stewart Brandborg of the National Wildlife Federation, Washington, D. C., Biologist Kittams and Assistant Chief Ranger Chapman made a horseback trip in the Lamar area on the 26th to inspect wildlife conditions and tag elk calves. Of two elk calves tagged one was killed by coyotes before the party was out of sight and a coyote was observed hunting for the other calf.

Elk dispersed during the month so that now many are on high winter range and some are on summer range.







Canada Goose. On May 17, a Canada goose was observed protecting her nest on an island of the Madison River from an elk. The bull elk had grazed within a few feet of the nest and apparently wanted to eat the tall grass even closer to the nest. But the defensive action of the goose, standing erect with wings and neck extended, appeared to discourage the elk for he went no closer and soon the goose settled back on her nest.

Range. According to observations of Biologist Kittams the only snow remaining on the winter range is in drifts at high elevations. Grass growth during May has been slow due to rather low temperatures. Soil on critical range remained dry during the first two weeks of the period. Rain and occasional snow during the remainder of the month was well above normal, resulting in total precipitation at Mammoth of 2.14 inches (normal for May is 1.87 inches) and improving moisture conditions considerably.

Various portions of the northern Yellowstone range were examined by him and Stewart Brandborg, assistant to the Conservation Director of the National Wildlife Federation, between May 23 and 26. On range below Gardiner, native forage plants and those seeded on previously tilled areas in about 1936 have suffered during the past two years. This is a good time of year to observe plant survival because new growth is easily distinguished. Probably the loss of a significant portion of plants in this area can be attributed to the recent dry seasons and low vigor of the plants.

At higher elevations prospects for spring growth of forage are good. Utilization last winter was moderate on much of the non-critical range. On many sites fescue has been taken almost completely; whereas, bluestem wheatgrass was left, indicating lower palatability of the latter in winter. On Specimen Ridge, high winter range, most forage was consumed last winter.

Arrangements were made by Mr. Kittams to provide a number of range pictures for Mr. Brandborg's use in reporting the northern Yellowstone range situation to the National Wildlife Federation.

The Upper Gallatin Conservation Committee met on May 22, with two representatives from Yellowstone attending, Biologist Kittams and West Yellowstone District Ranger Karl Gilbert. Reports of observers indicate that snowfall was unusually light until March and that a considerable portion of the elk herd remained in the park all winter. It was agreed that utilization of even non-critical range in the Daly-Tepce Creek area was generally heavy. Good discussion of ways to manage the elk herd is encouraging.

Utilization of grass and sagebrush on certain portions of the range along lower Firehole River and Nez Perce Creek was almost complete again last winter.

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All photographing of range study plots has been completed and negatives have been developed.

Forest Fire Protection. Studies were made to determine what readings on the new Model 8 Burning Index Meter should be used for preparedness and step-up plans. The five-day cumulative fuel moisture totals, used to obtain Severity Index, appear to provide the best guide for preparedness action.

The Fire Weather-Fire Danger Training School held at Missoula, Montana May 16-18, under direction of the Forest Service Fire Laboratory was attended by Messrs. McLaren from Grand Teton, Spurgeon and Miller, Glacier, and Nelson and Barrows, Yellowstone. In addition to explanation and use of the new Model 8 meter considerable time was devoted to maintenance and repair of weather instruments and weather forecasting. One of the objectives of the school was to train at least one man on each forest and park in use of burning index readings, weather station operation and instrument maintenance. An important phase of the school was the agreement of representatives from National Forests in Regions 1 and 4, Weather Bureau, Indian Service and National Park Service to use the same fire danger rating system in the Northern Rocky Mountain and Intermountain areas. Mr. Barrows served as instructor on step-up plans and as chairman during the last day of the meeting.

Fire Chief Chapman made a trip to Missoula May 12-13 to confer with Forest Service officials regarding plans for the 1955 Smokejumper Program and regarding Smokejumper Squad Leader Milligan's appointment.

Forest Insects. On April 29 Clarence Sutliff, in charge of Control Planning, Forest Service, Missoula, advised Yellowstone by telephone that funds were available for spruce budworm control on the Gardiner-Yellowstone unit. The following week Forest and National Park Service representatives met at Yellowstone and it was agreed that the Forest Service would handle the aerial spray contract, chemical purchase and other expenses for the control job in and adjacent to the park. Concurrence for control in the park was given by the Superintendent with the understanding that a study of the effects of DDT spraying on flora and fauna would be conducted. Later it developed that a long term research project could not be financed with Forest Pest Control Funds and in an effort to have a study made by the Division of Forest Insect Research the Forest Service received the following telegram from Dr. James A. Beal, Washington, D. C.: "Regarding Parkers' telephone call today. Prior studies by Fish and Wildlife Service indicate no harmful effects of DDT at one pound per acre to wildlife and fish. Additional study on proposed Gardiner-Yellowstone project not recommended." Mr. Lowell Adams, Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist at Missoula, called Mr. J. P. Lindaska, in charge of research for that Service in Washington, D. C., who stated that a study of the effects of DDT upon fish inhabited water during the spray period to combat any

All procedures of the study were approved by the Institutional Review Board at the University of California, Los Angeles.

For the purpose of this study, the term "parent" was used to refer to the biological parent of the child, regardless of whether the parent was the biological mother or father. The term "child" was used to refer to the biological child of the parent, regardless of whether the child was the biological son or daughter. The term "family" was used to refer to the biological family of the parent and child.

The study was conducted in a laboratory setting. The laboratory was located at the University of California, Los Angeles. The laboratory was equipped with a computer system and a video camera. The computer system was used to record the data from the video camera. The video camera was used to record the behavior of the parent and child during the study. The study was conducted in a room that was soundproofed and had a one-way mirror. The parent and child were seated at a table in the room. The parent was instructed to interact with the child in a natural manner. The child was instructed to play with a set of blocks. The parent and child were observed through the one-way mirror. The data from the video camera was recorded on a computer. The data was then analyzed to determine the relationship between the parent and child's behavior during the study.

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adverse publicity might be worth while. Mr. Linduska stated that any further study would be unproductive. In view of the above information the Superintendent approved control without a research study.

Bids for plane service and chemicals will be opened June 1 and a 4,000 foot air strip at the Gardiner airport is being constructed by the Forest Service financed with control funds, along with \$799 from Park County and \$2,000 raised by Gardiner citizens. It is planned to use the air strip as a base for all aerial spraying in the unit as large planes of the DC-3 class can be accommodated.

During the latter part of May Forester Barrows worked with Forest Service entomologists Tom Terrell and David Fellin in determining the outer boundaries of the infestation. To date we have found heavy infestation in the Hellroaring and Little Buffalo Creek drainages, light budworm populations as far east as the Lamar Canyon and medium infestation up the Yellowstone River as far as Quartz Creek. Spruce budworm had not been reported previously in these areas. The brood studies made by the Forest Service from bark samples taken at Tower Fall showed heavier budworm populations than were found in other Northern Rocky Mountain areas.

Blister Rust Control. Robert Franklin, Blister Rust Control Foreman, GS-5, will be in charge of the crews this summer and will enter on duty June 1. U. S. Forest Service Area Leader John Gynn is expected June 4 to assist in preliminary work and training of crews.

Supervision of blister rust control operations in Yellowstone was officially turned over from Forester Barrows to Assistant Chief Ranger Edwards on May 10.

Trails. Plans were completed for building the Soda Butte bridge, Lamar District, and work will start the first part of June.

Operations in the trail sign shop were discontinued for the season on May 13.

Accidents and Public Safety. Only two accident reports were received during the month. Both were Class A and involved park visitors. On the 5th a visitor from Canada ran into a fallen tree near Old Faithful and on the 15th a collision between two vehicles occurred near the Norris Geyser Basin which was attributed to poor visibility caused by steam vapor.

New amendments to the Boat Regulations were published in the Federal Register on May 4. These were mimeographed and are part of the new Boat Permit Form.

Law Enforcement. Three persons were cited by park rangers and pleaded guilty to charges of fishing in closed waters. They were fined

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a total of \$30. A college student from Bozeman was arrested and pleaded guilty to a charge of failure to stop at a park entrance when he attempted to "run" the North Entrance and was fined \$25 by the U. S. Commissioner. One man was charged with disorderly conduct on the 24th and released the following day on \$500 bail bond until the trail which was set for June 7.

F.B.I. Agent Melvin was in the park on the 2nd to investigate the theft of 11 new riding saddles reportedly stolen from the Yellowstone Park Company's Horse Barn. The value of these saddles is about \$1,000.

Supervisory Park Ranger Freeman was assigned to traffic patrol of the North Loop Road, but was not able to make many patrols due to the Ranger Conference and the need to press him into service in the Chief Ranger's Office in the absence of District Ranger Reynolds.

U. S. Commissioner Brown was away from the park May 3-15 on annual leave in Denver.

Deaths. Fred B. Williams, 79, of Bozeman, outstanding wild-life enthusiast, passed away at the Deaconess Hospital there on May 13. He was President of the Upper Gallatin Conservation Committee and also attended most of the meetings of the Absaroka Conservation Committee in Yellowstone. He represented the Bankers Life Insurance Company and was acquainted with a large number of the Yellowstone personnel.

Births. A son was born to District Park Ranger and Mrs. Thomas F. Elna at the Park Hospital in Livingston on May 8. He has been named Evan Dennett.

A son, Daniel George, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lyford W. Dore at the Park Hospital on May 22. Mr. Dore is a Fireman (Low Pressure) with the National Park Service.

Personnel. John F. Rohn, Jr., Park Ranger, GS-5, returned May 2 from the Sixth Departmental Management Training Conference in the Washington Office and departed May 4 for Wind Cave National Park on promotion and change of headquarters to the position of Supervisory Park Ranger, GS-6, effective May 8.

The resignation of John W. Galle, Fiscal Accounting Clerk, GS-5, to enter in partnership at the North Gate Texaco Station at Gardiner was effective at the close of May 6.

Thomas J. Somerville, Jr. was promoted May 12 from Fiscal Accounting Clerk (Cashier), GS-5, to Fiscal Accounting Clerk, GS-7, due to the reallocation of the position.

Miss Ellen M. Bratlien entered on duty as Clerk-Stenographer, GS-4 in the Personnel and Files Office May 13 by reinstatement from the Veterans Administration.

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Delmar G. Peterson received a promotion from Park Ranger, GS-4 (seasonal), to Park Ranger, GS-5, and Roger J. Contor was given Probationary Appointment as Park Ranger, GS-5, on May 22. On May 31 Harvey M. Jamison received a Career-Conditional Appointment as Park Ranger, GS-5. All three were selected from the Park Ranger, GS-5 Civil Service register.

Seasonal appointments during the month included those of Roy Close as Storekeeper (General), GS-3, May 2; Mrs. Beulah M. Kitchens, Time, Leave and Payroll Clerk, GS-4, May 9; Vivian Ann McCabe and Mrs. Marjorie A. Somerville, Clerk-Typists, GS-3, May 23; Raymond C. Easton, Project Clerk, GS-4, May 23; Phyllis E. Reed, Messenger, GS-1, and J. Josephine Leamer, Statistical Clerk, GS-3, May 25; and Elmer Lamprecht, Storekeeper (General), GS-3, May 31. George D. Marler, Park Naturalist, GS-5, and Ted J. Parkinson, Park Ranger (Naturalist), GS-4, returned to duty from furlough May 1 and 23, respectively, and eighteen Park Rangers (General), GS-4, entered on duty during the month by return to duty from furlough or by excepted appointment.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of Local 465 of the National Federation of Federal Employees was held in the Canteen May 2.

On May 9 the American Federation of Government Employees held its regular monthly meeting in the Canteen.

At a meeting of the Yellowstone Park Parent-Teachers Association held in the Canteen May 10 the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Norman B. Herkenham, President; Thomas F. Eln, Vice-President; Mrs. Alice H. Quist, Secretary; and Mrs. Anna M. Biastoch, Treasurer.

The annual "Spring Frolic" dance was held in the Canteen May 21.

The Gardiner School closed May 24 and the Yellowstone Park Elementary School on the 25th. Baccalaureate services for High School and Eighth Grade graduates were held May 15 in the Yellowstone Park Chapel with Resident Minister William Henning, speaker, and Graduation Services were held May 20 at the Gardiner School, with Rev. Paul McCleave, speaker. The High School graduates were Richard Fillmore, Thomas Garry, Jr., Ronald White, Vernon Wright, Terry Berens, Wanda Riley, Shirley Epperson and Richard Horn, with Thomas Garry Valedictorian and Ronald White Salutatorian, and the Eighth Grade graduates were Barry Nelson, Michael Coleman, Jon Fillmore, Marianne Condon, Caroline Proper, Kay Edwards, John Morrison, Robert Willard, Curtis Anderson, Tom Mozley, Wendall Olson, Mary Rigler, Dolores Ludwig, and Judy Doney. The majority of the graduates were children of Yellowstone Park employees residing at Mammoth or Gardiner.

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The Montana State Federation of Federal Employees Convention was held at Missoula May 23 with Dan S. Nelson, Mrs. Helen B. Tracy and Miss Alice A. Kohout representing Yellowstone Park Local 465.

Edmund B. Rogers  
Superintendent

In duplicate

Copy to Region Two

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The following information was obtained from the records of the State Department and the Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C., on the subject named above.

Edward J. Connelley  
Special Agent

La Grange, Ill.

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