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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-02.3

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#### **IMPORTANT**

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge.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

NEWTON B. DRURY,

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-22371

Director.



### UNITED STATES

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Yellowstone National Park Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

Office of the Superintendent

Summary of the January 1949 Monthly Warrative Report for YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Page Unusually cold. Sub-sero Masmoth on 22 days. WEATHER: maximum 320, minimum -300, believed coldest month on record here. -450 West Yellowstone. Comparative snow depths. 1 Supt. Rogers left Denver 9th for Washington: SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: Johnston Acting Supt. Johnston and Mattson to Bozeman re. Montana Power and West Thumb area. Johnston to Helena meeting called by Director. Montana State Park Commission. 1 Johnston to Missoula to address opening of School of Public and Private Instruction. Condon, Myquist and Kowski enrelled in school. Joffe Acting Supt. Johnston's absence. New Efficiency Rating Committee appointed. Staff meetings held. New Safety Committee and Board of Survey appointed. Local C. S. Board held exam for Clerk CAF-5-6 for man from Butte and Secretary CAF-5-6 exam for 3. Two men and Snogos participating in relief of persons and livestock in Wvoming storm-stricken areas. Mattson to funeral of mother in Minnesota and to Ragion Two on assignment. Four men to Hammond, Indiana for surplus equipment. 2 E. R. Kalmbach and Waldon B. Robinson, F.&W.L. INSPECTIONS: Service, Denver, in 13; Dr. Kalmbach out 21st. Leonard Koski, U.S.G.S., Boise, in 19th. 1950 F.Y. estimates completed. Revisions to PCP FLANS, MAPS AND and time spent on plan and profiles of roads at SURVEYS: C. F. swimming pool block. 3 Special article for Highway Magazine prepared by PUBLICITY: Condon; also article to Region Two for possible publication. Information furnished Casper (Wyo.) Tribune for special edition. Picture requests filled. 47.800 broadsides on hand. 3

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MAINTENANCE:	Gardiner-Cooks road kept open. Frost boils developed in roads. Road ciling equipment cleaned and ready for operation.	3
NEW CONSTRUCTION:	No work major road construction. Installation furnace and radiators in school rooms, library and community room.	3
CONCESSIONERS:	Proposed rates for Y. P. Co. received and for- warded for approval.	3
IN-SERVICE TRAINING:	Weekly news letter. Protection Division training of 68 hours to 17 men on Sound Driving Practice. Training officer spent several hours in preparation of outlines for future use. Plane for training program for spring months.	2
MUSEUM ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS:	Some checking done on museum items and most time spent on preparing statistical data for Wilson F. Clark of Cornell Univ. re. inter- pretive services 1932-38.	Section of the sectio
RESEARCH AND OB-	120 hours spent on research for Mr. Clark of Cornell Univ. re. interpretive services 1932-38. Considerable amount library reference work done in answering correspondence.	4
HATURAL HISTORY	Two new books purchased, I new and I rare volume. Yellowstone and Grand Teton Trails by Joyce and Josef Muench expected to be on sale this summer. Dummy for January-February Mature Notes prepared.	24
INCREASE OR DE- CREASE IN TRAVEL:	Many entered park to view wildlife and ski despite cold weather. 316 vehicles carrying 856 people compared to 219 vehicles with 439 people last January.	Ž4.
	19 snowplanes with 35 people in West. Y.P.Co. winterkeeper purchased snowplane. Representative U.S.G.S., Boise, and two men from Montana State College Experiment Station attempted trip to Lake in "Snowbugs" and broke down.	es es
RANGER SERVICE:	Hunting patrols discontinued on 4th. Number of ski patrols made. Two rangers out all night in -37° due to blinding storm. Repair to elk traps, trapping and shipping live elk, snow removal from buildings, repair to riding and pack equipment, wildlife observations, waterfowl	
	census, inservice training, highway patrols, etc.	5

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VISITORS	Josef Muench, photographer, in.	Page 5
WILDLIFE AND FISH CULTURAL ACTIVI- TIES: ANT ELOPE:	Antelope concentrated in lowest winter range.	5
BUFFALO:	205 counted lower Pelican Valley and limited number appeared near Lamar Unit. 2 bulls observed moving over Mist Creek Divide from Lamar to Pelican.	6
ELK 3	Funting season Park County Montana closed 4th. 2,537 checked out and 300 additional estimated, total 2,837 reduction. Migrations. 17 live elk to C. V. Barton, Klamath Falls, Oregon, and 2 to City of Idaho Falls. 30 to be secured for shipment to Mexico.	6
COYOTES:	Migration studies continued by F.&W.L. Service officials.	6
WATERFOWL:	Estimate prepared for F.&W.L. Service: Ducks, 1654; Canada Geese, 346 and Trumpeter Swans 144. Many waters closed by ice, reducing census for park.	6
FEREST FIRE PRO-	Annual Forestry Report submitted.	6
	Info. re. wage rate schedule forwarded Reg. Forester, Missoula, for determination rates. Forest Service to sponsor meeting later to establish firefighting rates. Inquiries sent former fire control aids.	7
TRAILS:	Annual Trail Equipment Inventory Report com- piled and submitted to Park Engineer for transmittal. 2 kitchen and mess outfits ordered.	7
BLISTER RUST CONTROL:	Plans being made and requests to Region for additional funds. Personnel selection initiated. Inquiries made manufacturers re. chemical eradication equipment.	7
ACCIDENTS:	Mrs. Wayne Alcorn fractured leg while skiing.	7
PERSONNEL:	Charles C. Schmid transferred from Region as Storekeeper (General) CAF-6, arriving 10th. Notice of promotion Deate T. White to Supervisor, Constr. and Maint. (Roads) received 14th, eff. December 26.	7

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BIRTES:	Son born to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bowman.	7
DEATHS:	Mrs. Frank Mattson, mother of Landscape Architect Mattson, died 27th at Minneapelis. Mrs. Edward Swainson, mother of Mrs. Howard Kocher, died 12th at Livingston. "Con" Peterson, West Yellowstone, died in automobile accident.	8
MISCELLANBOUS:	Regular meeting F. E. U.; election of officers. Annual meeting Federal Credit Union; election of officers.	8

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3	Mrs. Frank Matten. mother of Lenison, 6 tohi- seet Matheon, diet 27th at Vinnenpelt 21s. d Svainson, mother of Fra. Mowert Konher, 61s. 12th at 11vingeton. 'Cod' Peterson, Asar Telioretons. died in subscobile scoider.	THE STATE OF THE S
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### UNITED STATES

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Yellowstone Matienal Park Yellowstone Park, Myoming

Office of the Superintendent

February 8, 1949.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of January 1949.

Weather Conditions. Unusually cold weather prevailed during the entire month with sub-zero temperatures being recorded on 22 days. A maximum temperature of 32° was recorded at Mammoth on the 13th with a minimum of -30° occurring on the 10th. Official past records were not checked but it is believed that this month was the coldest on record here, at least for a number of years. The lowest temperature recorded in the park was -45° at West Yellowstone on the 9th. Total precipitation for the month was 1.15" as compared with 1.53" in 1948, 0.63" in 1947, 1.13" in 1946, 3.46" in 1945 and 3.99" in 1944. There were 12 clear days, 6 partly cloudy and 13 cloudy.

Comparative snow depths from various stations in the park this month are as follows:

Casoade	1949	1948 60"	1947	1946	1945 52"	1944 36"	1943
Lamar	27"	20"	10"	16"	10.5"	4"	30"
Manmoth	14.5"	10"	9"	22.5"	5"	5"	364
Northeast Entrance	45"	33°	46"	20.7	20.7"	13.9"	54"
Snake River	40"	39"	46"	52"	35"	25"	Op es
Tower Falls	32"	31"	2019	21.5"	13.5"	11"	36"
West Yellowstone	40"	25"	40"	37'	22	12"	83"

The snow is dry and powdery due to the extremely cold weather and has not packed to any extent.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers was in Denver until January 9 when he left for Washington, D. C. for assignment in the Concessions Division in the Director's Office. Assistant Superintendent Johnston was Acting Superintendent during Superintendent Rogers' absence from the Yellow-stone.

Acting Superintendent Johnston made a trip to Bozeman on January 14 in company with Resident Landscape Architect Mattson to discuss with Montana Power Company officials the bringing of power into the park and to go over plans for the West Thumb area with Huntley Child of the Yellowstone Park Company and Fred Willson, their architect. On June 24 he made a trip to Helena to attend a meeting called by Walter R. Rankin, Director, Montana

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State Park Commission of the Montana Advisory Council on Outdoor Recreation. The Region Two Office was represented at the meeting by Guy D. Edwards and Danial Burroughs. On January 31 Mr. Johnston went to Missoula to address the opening meeting of the School of Public and Private Instruction sponsored by the Montana University. Park Maturalist Condon and District Park Rangers Nyquist and Mowski enrolled for the school and will be in attendance throughout the month of Pebruary. During Mr. Johnston's absence from the park Administrative Assistant Joffe was Acting Superintendent.

A new Efficiency Rating Committee for 1949 was appointed on January 6 consisting of Superintendent Rogers, Chairman, Assistant Superintendent Johnston and Administrative Assistant Joffe. Chief Ranger Skimmer and Park Naturalist Condon were appointed as alternates.

Staff meetings for all division heads were held in the Superintendent's Office January 4, 11 and 18 to discuss matters pertaining to the park.

A new Safety Committee for 1949 was appointed by the Acting Superintendent on January 17 consisting of W. Leon Evans, Chairman, William G. Proper, Clerk, Deate T. White and Arnold G. Quist, Members. These same members comprised the Committee in 1948.

A new Board of Survey for 1949 was appointed by the Acting Superintendent on January 26 consisting of Philip H. Wohlbrandt, Chairman, Robert J. Carr, Clerk, Roger H. Miller and Lloyd W. Seasholtz, with Joseph Joffe and Deate T. White as Alternate Members. The same membership comprised the Board in 1948.

The Local Civil Service Board held a special examination for Clerk CAF-5 and 6 for John S. Landon of Butte, Montana, at the request of the Thirteenth Civil Service Region, on January 26, and an examination for Secretary CAF-5 and 6 on the 27th at which there were three competitors.

The Yellowstone participated in the relief of stranded persons, cattle and sheep in the storm-stricken areas of Wyoming by loaning to/o Snogos and drivers. They departed from the park on January 25, one plow going to Rock Springs, Wyoming, and the other to Newcastle, Wyoming. The Government equipment loaned by various agencies of the Department of the Interior was coordinated by Mr. Albin D. Molohon of the Bureau of Land Management, Billings, Montana.

Resident Landscape Architect Mattson left the Park on January 27 for Eveleth, Minnesota, to attend the funeral of his mother, who died in Minneapolis on January 26. On the return to the park Mr. Mattson will report to the Region Two Office on February 7 for a week's assignment in that office.

Master Mechanic R. R. Robinson, Automotive Mechanic Foreman Roger H. Miller, and Mixed Gang Foremen Elmer F. Armstrong and Walter W. Stebbins left the park on January 31 by train for Hammond, Indiana, where they were to receive some surplus equipment for the Yellowstone which they plan to drive back to the park.

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Inspections. E. R. Kalmbach, Director, ildlife Research Laboratory, Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, Colorado, and Meldon B. Robinson, Predatory Animal Officer in Mr. Kalmbach's office, arrived in the park on January 13 to continue studies on coyote migrations. Dr. Kalmbach departed January 21.

Leonard Koski, U. S. Géological Survey, Boise, Idaho, in January 19 to make water gauge readings and read snow courses.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. The 1950 Fiscal Year estimates were completed for Yellowstone, Custer and Big Hole and mailed to the Region Two Office at the end of the month. Some time was spent on the annual revision of the Project Construction Program; also, some time was spent on the plan and profiles of the roads at the Old Faithful Swimming Pool Block (new location) near Hamilton's Upper Store.

Publicity. We press releases were issued from the park during the month but a special article for the Highway Magazine was prepared by Park Maturalist Condon and submitted to the Regional Director for review and approval on January 31. Mr. Condon also prepared another special article on the park which was sent to the Region Two Office for possible publication. Information on the park was furnished the Casper, Wyoming, Tribune for possible use in their forthcoming special edition. Requests for pictures of the park to illustrate several articles were fulfilled.

A total of 47,800 Yellowstone broadsides for 1947 remained on hand at the end of the month.

Maintenance. Very cold weather with considerable snow and high winds continued throughout the month. However, it was possible to keep the road from Gardiner to Cooke open nearly 100% of the time. Sanding of steep hills and icy spots was not quite so heavy because of the extreme cold. Frost boils are developing in numerous spots, which indicates the necessity for considerable patching in the spring. Several pieces of road oiling equipment were cleaned and put in readiness for operation.

New Construction. There was no work done during the month on major road construction.

The installation of the furnace was completed and radiators installed in the school rooms, library and community room, Job 201-23, account 410, Major Repair and Rehabilitation.

Concessioners. The proposed rates for the 1949 season for the Yellow-stone Park Company were received in the park on January 17. Following review here they were forwarded on January 21 to our Region Two Office with our recommendation for approval.

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In-Service Training. Nembers of the community and all employees have been kept advised of park happenings through Yellowstone's Weekly News Letter. Protection Division in-service training included a total of 68 hours of actual training to a group of seventeen men, using the cutline of Sound Driving Practice. Several hours were spent by the inservice training officer in the Protection Division in the preparation of other outlines for future use but these have not been reviewed or prepared in complete form. Plans are being prepared for an in-service training program to be carried out during the spring menths as work and other conditions permit.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. The project of checking all museum accessioned and catalogued items was well under way in December and it was expected that it would be well on the way to completion by the end of January. It was necessary, however to stop work on this project to comply with a request from Chief Naturalist Doerr to supply Wilson F. Clark of Cornell University with required statistical data on the interpretive services offered in Yellowstone National Park from 1932 to 1938. Checking of museum cards will be resumed in February and perhaps completed.

Research and Observation. Approximately 120 hours were spent during the month by members of the Naturalist Division on research to obtain the information desired by Mr. Wilson F. Clark of Cornell University on the interpretive services of Yellowstone National Park from 1932 to 1938.

A considerable amount of library reference work was done during the month to answer correspondence requesting detailed information on the history of the park and its flora and fauna.

Natural History Association. Book sales during the month were very light and the amount of time spent in the interests of the Association was small during the period. Two books were purchased by the Association during January, Historical Geology by Dunbar and Warren and California Illustrated. The former is a very recent publication while the latter is a rare volume published in 1892 containing a section on Yellowstone. It now seems assured that the new book Yellowstone and Grand Teton Trails by Joyce and Josef Muench will be available for sale during the coming summer as Mr. Muench recently advised us that it appeared certain that the book would be ready at least by May.

The dummy for the January-February 1949 issue of Yellowstone Mature Notes was prepared during the latter part of the month. This issue will be multilithed and mailed early in February.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. The extremely cold weather was not conductive to visitor travel but many people did enter the park to view the big game animals between Mammoth and Cooke and to ski in the park. A total of 316 vehicles carrying 856 people entered the park as compared with 219 vehicles and 439 people for the same month last year.

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Included in park travel were nineteen snowplanes through the West Entrance carrying 35 people, most of them going as far as Old Faithful and one trip to West Thumb and return. All the snowplanes are locally owned in the town of West Yellowstone. This is the first winter that snowplanes have entered the park for purely pleasure trips and it appears that this mode of travel is becoming more popular. One of the Yellowstone Park Company winterkeepers, stationed at Yellowstone Lake, recently purchased a new snowplane for his own use.

A representative of the U.S. Geological Survey from Boise, Idaho, accompanied by two men from Montana State College Experiment Station at Bozeman, Montana, attempted to go to Lake Yellowstone in two motorized toboggan type of "Snowbugs". One machine broke down nine miles from Mammoth and the other one broke down three miles from Canyon. The two men from Bozeman returned via skis while the U.S.G.S. representative continued via snowplane to Lake and out of the park via Moran, Wyoming.

Ranger Service. Regular hunting patrols along the northern boundary of the park were discontinued January 4, when the Montena elk season was closed. Occasional patrols of this area have been made since the lith. Extended interior and boundary ski patrols of the park were made during the month, including a trip from Nammoth to Bechler River Station via Lake, Thorofare, and Snake River. On this trip District Park Ranger Lee Coleman and Fark Ranger Dan Welson camped out one night near the south boundary without shelter or food with the thermometer reading -37 below zero. Neither man suffered any ill effects except in experiencing a very uncomfortable night. A sudden storm which came up reduced visibility to a few feet causing them to lose the trail and wander off their course. A ski patrol was also made from Mammoth to Lamar Station via Lake, Pelican Creek, and Upper Lamar River. The patrols were made during adverse weather conditions with tempera tures reading below zero each day. On the patrols, snow was removed from buildings, a waterfowl census was made, possible peaching activities checked and general wildlife observations recorded. Patrols were also made to Slough Creek, Hellroaring and along Yellowstone River. Other protection division activities included repair of elk traps, trapping and shipping live elk, repair of riding and pack stock equipment, entrance station duties, preparation of reports and correspondence, highway patrols and In-Service Training.

Visitors. Josef Muench, nationally known free lance photographer, whose pictures appear regularly in Ford Magazine, Arizona Highways and other magazines, arrived January 30 to obtain Yellowstone pictures. Due to adverse weather he stayed but two days but expected to return later in the spring.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. ANTELOPS. The lowest and most restricted portion of the winter range, extending from Stevens Creek to Cinnabar, was used by the antelope during the entire month. Few of these animals were observed elsewhere as snow prevented foraging at higher elevations and they showed no tendency to drift farther down the Yellowstone River valley.

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BUFFALO. On January 19 and 20, park rangers counted 205 buffalo in the lower Pelican Valley area. These animals were in fair to good condition as the snow, which averaged 33 inches in depth, was loose and permitted access to forage. Buffalo in the Lamar area have appeared only in limited numbers in the vicinity of the Lamar Unit and had required no feeding by the close of the month.

On January 21, two buffalo bulls were observed moving over the Mist Creek divide from the Lamar River drainage to the Pelican area.

ELK. The elk hunting season in Fark County, Montana, closed at 5 p.m on January 4. Hunters checked 2,537 elk through the Carbella station and officials of the Montana Fish and Game Department estimated that 300 additional were taken making a total reduction, by hunting, of 2,837 for the season.

Severe weather conditions featuring very low temperatures and high winds continued during the entire month. After the close of the hunting season, large numbers of elk moved beyond the park boundary to winter range along the Yellowstone River. By the close of the month the elk were well distributed over the winter range with the largest noted concentrations appearing in the vicinity of Lamar headquarters and in the Eagle Creek-Trail Creek areas. The Hellroaring slopes, which carried very large numbers of elk prior to 1943, showed evidence of only light to moderate use.

C. V. Barton, Klamath Falls, Oregon, received 17 live elk at the Mammoth trap and the City of Idaho Falls, Idaho, received two. Mear the end of the month, trapping operations were resumed to secure 30 elk for shipment to an applicant at Monterray, Mexico.

COYCTES. E. R. Kalmbach, Director, and Weldon Robinson, Biologist, Wildlife Research Laboratory, Denver, Colorado, arrived in the park on January 13 to continue migration studies. Mr. Kalmbach reviewed the operation, secured desired pictures of coyetes and tested a device for attracting coyotes. He left the park January 21 after completing this work but Mr. Robinson remained to continue the trapping, tagging and collection work.

WATERFOWL. A waterfowl estimate was prepared for the Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the national cooperative undertaking. Fark rangers visited most of the park waters used by ducks, geese, and swans during the winter and submitted these estimates: Ducks, 1,654; Canada geese, 346; and Trumpeter swans, 44. Continued low temperatures had closed many park waters which usually are open and resulted in a reduced waterfowl census for the park.

Forest Fire Protection. The Annual Forestry Report was forwarded to the Regional and Director's Offices.

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Information concerning our present wage rate schedule was compiled and forwarded to the Regional Forester's Office at Missoula, Montana. This information will aid them in determining firefighters wage rates as well as their regular wage scale. The Forest Service intends to sponsor a meeting at a later date with other interested agencies for the purpose of establishing this year's fire fighting wage rates.

Inquiries were sent to those fire control aids whose services were satisfactory during the 1948 season to determine their availability for the coming season.

Trails. The Annual Trail Equipment Inventory Report was compiled and submitted to the Park Engineer for transmittal to the Region. Two kitchen and mess outfits were ordered for trail crew use.

Blister Rust Control. Plans for the coming season's blister rust control operations are being made. Requests to the Region for additional funds were made. These funds are necessary to carry the work until July 1 and to secure the necessary materials and equipment in order that the initial work can be brought to a close this season. Blister Rust Personnel reports were gone over and those employees suitable for rehiring were screened out for contact as to their availability. Inquiries were made to manufacturers regarding equipment for chemical eradication of Ribes.

Accidents. There were no motor vehicle accidents reported during the month. One skiing accident occurred on the 15th when Mrs. Alcorn, wife of Park Naturalist Mayne B. Alcorn, fell on the recreational ski hill and suffered multiple fractures of the left leg below the knee. She had slowly skied down a gentle slope and had practically stopped in loose snow when she fell over and broke her leg.

Personnel. Charles C. Schmid, whose transfer from the Region Two Office to the position of Storekeeper (General) CAF-6 was approved by the Director December 16 and who entered on duty December 30, the day of his departure from Omaha, arrived in the Yellowstone January 10.

Notice of the promotion of Deate T. White, Road Foreman, CFC-10, \$4,730.40 per annum, to Supervisor, Construction and Maintenance (Roads), P&S-3, \$4,855.80 per annum, was received in the park on January 14. The promotion became effective December 26, 1948.

Births. A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bowman in the Park Hospital in Livingston on January 28. Mr. Bowman is Assistant Postmaster at Mammoth. Mrs. Bowman was formerly Secretary in the Superintendent's Office.

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Deaths. Mrs. Frank Mattson, mother of Resident Landscape Architect Mattson, died at Minneapolis, Minnesota, on January 27. Mr. Mattson left the park the following day to attend the funeral of his mother in Eveleth, Minnesota.

Mrs. Edward Swainson, mother of Mrs. Howard Kocher, died at Livingston, Nontana, on January 12 after a prolonged illness. Mr. Kocher is employed as an Automotive Mechanic in the park.

"Con" Peterson, long-time resident and businessman of West Yellowstone and a staunch supporter and friend of the park, was killed in an automobile accident near Pond's Lodge between West Yellowatone and Ashton, Idaho, on January 26.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of the Federal Employees Union, No. 465 was held in the Canteen on January 10. Election of officers was held and the following were elected: William A. Nyquist, President; Wayne B. Alcorn, Vice-President; Robert J. Carr, Treasurer; Betty Lee Proznick, Secretary; John W. Galle, Guard; Executive Committee, Thomas F. Ela, Walter H. Kittams, Arnold G. Quist, Harvey B. Reynolds and Howard S. Kocher.

The Yellowstone Federal Credit Union held its annual meeting and election of officers January 25. The new Board of Directors elected for the ensuing year were: John W. Jay, Thomas M. Thompson, Charles E. Fuller, Robert J. Carr and Frank T. Hirst. The Credit Committee elected consisted of Arnold G. Quist, Irene Evans and Warren G. Hetchkiss. The Supervisory Committee consisted of William G. Proper, Catherine L. Gillum and Evelyn K. Miller.

Fred T. Johnston, Acting Superintendent.

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