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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 143

LONTHLY REPORTS

May, 1927

MAY 1927

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June 5, 1927.

Dear Sir:

The following is my report on conditions in Yellowstone National Park, and on the activities of the National Park Service, for the month of May, 1927:

000 - General

Toward the end of May and on June lat I wrote several special reports to you on conditions in Yellowstone Mational Park. These told of the unusual weather conditions which resulted in keeping the snow at unusual depths on many sections of the main highway section. I also explained the difficulties that would be encountered in opening the park for the 1927 season and the extraordinary costs that would be involved. I returned to the park from my absonce on duty as Assistant Director (Field) on May 14th. I found then that conditions were discouraging owing to the late spring and the exceptionally bad weather so far encountered in May. There were a few days of good weather about the time of my return. The weather turned cold and stormy about May 17th and continued stormy until the end of the month and for the first week of June. With the exception of the spring of 1917, and to a lesser degree the spring of 1920, this year has produced the most adverse weather conditions within our knowledge of Yellowstone Park operations. As this report is written, it is still impossible to cross the Continental Divide between Old Faithful and West Thumb. Dunraven Pass between Grand Canyon and Tower Falls has 8 or 10 miles of road full of deep, drifted snow. Sylvan Pass is closed and cannot possibly be opened before June 18th, and the south entrance road is in equally bad condition. The road from Mammoth Hot Springs to Old Faithful was opened on May 16th, and on May 27th the first crew succeeded in reaching Canyon Junction from Norris. A big washout near Alum Oreek made it impossible to get to Lake Yellowstone until Sanday, June 5th. On that date, with the park engineers and my assistant, I got through to Lake Yellowstone and to a point approximately 2 miles south of West Thumb. We also got out on the Cody Road nearly 6 miles. Other sections of this report will give more details of the extraordinary conditions surrounding our efforts to open the park for the current season.

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110 - Status of work

Upon my return to Yellowstone after a long absence over the winter months I found the business of the park in exceedingly good order. Office work was about current. The property was in exceptionally fine condition and order and I have never seen the shops so well kept nor have I ever seen them running with such efficiency. Much work has been done in spring cleanup. The employees of the park were going about their work with fine spirit. Taking everything into consideration it gave me an immense amount of pleasure and satisfaction to come back and see this big park running so smoothly and with so much efficiency.

While the ranger force has suffered some losses by resignation its work also was up to its usual high standard. The engineering department I regard as entitled to special commendation because throughout the winter it has been entrusted not only with the activities that have always belonged to that department but also the work of the shops. The outlook for the summer is good. Everything points to a big season and I would not be surprised if we had a total travel of from 200,000 to 210,000 people. All of the park operators were in the park by the end of May getting ready for the summer and proceeding with construction plans. The Yellowstone Park Hotel Company and the Yellowstone Park Camps Company both have large building programs to carry out during the summer and fall. An immense new wing will be constructed on Old Faithful Inn and the Old Faithful Lodge central buildings will be largely reconstructed and a new lodge with service units and new recreation hall will be the principal additions to the existing central structure. Many smaller improvements are contemplated in all parts of the park. It is estimated that more than \$600,000 will be expended by the operators during the coming summer. Add to this nearly \$300,000 that will be expended on road construction and improvement and we have a total improvement program of nearly \$1,000,000. This is as large a program as the park can successfully handle during a season that promises to be rather short on account of the very late spring.

120 - Park inspections by

121 - Experintendent: As already stated, I returned to the park on May 14th. I had to leave on the 15th for a business trip to St. Paul and returned on the 18th. While I inspected every activity at headquarters during the first week I was here I did not go into the upper park until May 25th. On that date I inspected the roads between Old Faithful and West Yellowstone. A thorough inspection was made of the Old Faithful center of interest with the President of the Yellowstone Park Camps Company and with Landscape Engineers Vint and Davidson. I was at Old Faithful again on May 28th with the landscape engineers and with several of the park operators for the purpose of staking out the new wing to be built on Old Faithful Inn. On June 1st I made my first inspection of the road to the Grand Canyon and on Sunday, June 5th, I reached Yellowstone Lake and West Thumb on the first inspection trip made to those sections this year. All of the trips into the upper park were made with considerable difficulty and the first trip to the Canyon was especially hard.

123 - National Park Serviceofficers

Assistant Landscape Engineer Davidson arrived on May 21st and

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Associate Landscape Engineer Vint arrived on May 22 and after making a study of the Mammoth auto camp grounds and designating sites for certain new buildings in this camp ground the landscape engineers went to Old Faithful where they spent 4 or 5 days studying the location of new buildings to be constructed there this summer. They also planned the new cabin site in the automobile camp ground and designated sites for a new picture shop, new bathhouse and other improvements in the camp ground. Returning to headquarters they made a study of the grounds here at headquarters, arranged for some more planting to be done and inspected the landscape work that is being accomplished at Gardiner by the public utilities. On June 1st Mr. Vint left for Grand Canyon. Mr. Davidson is still here supervising landscape activities.

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The status of the different allotments to Yellowstone National Park as of May 31st, is as follows:

APPROPRIATION 46433 TELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, 1926.

	Allotments	Expended	Balance
Previously reported Expended during May	\$353,083.00	352,903.85	179.15
expended during May.	\$353.083.00	352,903.85	179.15
APPROPRIATION 46433	Yellow Stone	NATIONAL PARK,	1926-27.
Previously reported Expended during May	28,700.00	27,345.74	1.354.26
welding an and rul weld	28,700.00	27.364.78	1.335.22
APPROPRIATION 47433	YELLOWSTONE	NATIONAL PARK,	1927
Previously reported Expended during May	340.586.00	303,446.08 16,546.23	37,139.92 16,546 23
and and and and	340,586.00	319,992.31	20,593.69
APPROPRIATION 42436	ROADS AND T	RAILS, NATIONAL	PARKS
Previously reported Expended during May	137.876.37	111.937.82 85.11	25,938.55
	137,876.37	112,022.93	25,853.44
APPROPRIATION 47406	INSECT INFES	PATION, NAT'L P	ARKS, 1927
Previously reported Expended during May	2,500.00	1,041.10 580.00	1,458.90
	2,500.00	1,621.10	878.90
APPROPRIATION 47433	Yellowstone 1	RATIONAL PARK,	1927-28
Previously reported Expended during May	30,000.00	1,169.27	28,830.73 1,120.42
arbanada antra wah	30,000.00	2,209.69	27,710.31

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140 - Labor Situation

From all I can find out there is an abundance of common labor although it is not easy to secure skilled men such as carpenters, plumbers, etc. We have far more applications for laboring positions than we have positions available at this time. I anticipate, however, that our labor situation may be far less favorable a little later. The construction of the new hotel wing at Old Faithful and other improvements by the operators will require a force of 250 men. Our new road building activities will, in addition to our regular operations, call for at least as many men as we had last year - between 400 and 500, and if contractors get to work on the Gallatin and Cub Creek Road projects they will be in the market for a considerable number of men. The State of Montane is entering upon a 2-1/2 million dollar road building program and will be a keen competitor for labor. There may be so much competition for labor that before the summer is over we will be forced to raise our rates of pay, although we will never do this unless absolutely forced to this step.

150 - Equipment and Supplies

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Considerable foresight has been used in laying in ample supplies for the spring crows and about all the equipment we can use is available except the oil sprayer which has not yet arrived. With the exception of this oil sprayer we seem to have had prompt delivery on equipment and supplies. The new 3-1/2 ton White truck which is part of the road oiling outfit was delivered about June 1st. New dump trucks and other road equipment has arrived.

imployees of the transportation department were engaged in hauling rations, cosl, freight, express and market supplies from Gardiner to Manmoth. Employees of the commissary were engaged in receiving and storing supplies, issuing supplies and equipment, painting equipment, repairing cement floor in oil house, checking out road camps, and taking over equipment cards from plumbing shop, paint shop, stables and electrical shop.

200 - Maintenance, Improvements and New Construction

Road maintenance was continued around Mammoth and the new equipment given a thorough tryout. May 26th the 75 Holt tractor which we received from friends of the park was sent out with two graders to do heavy maintenance work. This consists of cleaning ditches, scarifying the surface of the road and reshaping. 14 miles of this work was done this month. Due to the weather, which was very stormy all during the latter part of the month we could make no progress with the work. Our other tractor was laid up for repairs which had failed to come during the winter when ordered.

No more experimental oiling was done due to the cold rainy weather but the experiments made so far look very hopeful. An order was placed for

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The road to Norris Junction and Old Faithful was opened to light traffic the 19th. Considerable snow stayed on this road all the rest of the month and as a result the surface is in very poor shape. The road from Norris to Canyon was opened May 27th but due to subsequent heavy snows it was necessary to put another snow crew across that road May 30th. This time the road was opened sufficiently so that truck traffic could make it through and then with good weather starting the last day of the month, the road will be ready for tourist traffic in a week.

May 27th the crew at the east entrance moved up into Sylvan Pass and started to shoot the drifts. The snow is much heavier and deeper than usual and as this work is extremely arduous the crew was doubled in number. More than a foot of damp snow has fallen since they started to shoot, with this covering their work, the elements will have a difficult time in helping us get rid of any of the snow.

May bit the maintenance crew was organized for the East Forest road. Due to heavy storms which made the roads impassable the crew did not get started until the 10th. By the end of the month they had graded and repaired the road as far as Pahaska which is about three miles from the east entrance. The Shoshone river is lower than it has been for years, at this time of the year, and as there is so much more snow than usual, the prospects of saving the road from damage by the high waters is not very good although we are taking every precaution to see that the channel is clear and that our revetments are in good order.

During the month, the Gardiner River reached a high water stage and as the old slide on the west side of the river had nearly filled the channel, measures were taken to shoot out the slide before the river had washed to the road. The channel was widened from fifteen to twenty feet and thereby saved the road from wash although we did lose about 3 feet of width.

220 - Improvements - Buildings

The carpenter spent most of the month on equipment repair besides the usual small building repairs. The living quarters at the hospital are in process of being enlarged but the work is not complete. Three rooms will be added to the building to adcommodate Dr. Windsor and family.

Painting Department: The Master Painter did the following work during the month: Painted truck \$537; painted tops of cars \$13 and \$18; did miscellaneous work about buildings, auto camps and reservoir; working on old and new signs; painted bathroom at Mr. Lord's quarters and museum; stained and varnished new equipment for office. On leave 3 days.

Plumbing department: The following work was done by the Master Plumber and his assistants: Six steam plants and four hot water plants were operated during the month, consuming one cord wood, and 38 tons of coal. Installed new toilet in bachelor building; repaired ice boxes; turned water on in buffalo corral; repaired 18 Majestic camp stoves;

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made 45 Henry Sibley stove pipes; repaired 130 Sibley stoves; installed new bath supplies in Judge Meldrum's quarters; installed sprinkler system on lawns at Marmoth, using 400 feet 1" pipe and 8 faucets; made flower stand with running water for museum; repaired 24" pipe line supplying water to Manmoth; repaired cement work at intake in Glen Creek; commensed ditching and oiling for mosquito control work.

Electrical department: The following was done by the Electrical department during the month of May: Built 5 spans for new power line at automobile camp grounds; made some telephone line repairs and took about 75 fallen trees off park telephone lines; put in wiring for electric lights and electric range in hospital annex; spent two days repairing and cleaning governors in power plant machines; inspected and eiled all motors at garage and shops.

Garage: The following work was done in the shops and garage during the month: Completely overhauled two Holt 75 caterpillars, Nos. 1 and 2, 1 Galion motor road grader, No. 1, 1 Mack dump truck, No. 531, two Ford cars, Nos. 542 and Ford (bootlegger car); also F.W.D. tank trucks, Nos. 518 and 512; built 2 steel oil tanks for trucks 518 and 512.

230 - New construction - roads

Firehole Road: May 20th a crew, with Mr. 0. A. Weisgerber, as foreman, left for the Firehole and spent the remainder of the month setting up camp and everhauling the air compressor, the steam showel and other equipment which was too heavy to bring to Manmoth last fall. By the end of the month the steam showel was ready to work and some excavation was started. The other equipment will be in condition within two weeks and a large crew will be put to work. Bad weather hampered the work and as the roads were impassable until the day before the crew went out it will be some time before the job will be complete.

240 - Improvement of approaches to park

It appears that a large amount of work will be done during the summer on approach roads to the park. On the Gallatin road Gallatin County, the Northern Pacific R.R., and the C. M. & St. Paul have made up a fund of \$9,000 which has been matched with an equal amount by the Forest Service. This fund of \$18,000 will be used in improving that section of the Gallatin road which has not heretofore been reconstructed. Most of the work to be done will be in the vicinity of Karst's camp, some 30 miles north of the park.

On the north approach road from Livingston, Park County funds matched by Federal aid money will be used in continuing the new permanent highway from the end of last year's work to Chico Hot Springs and beyond. It is possible that enough funds will be found to continue this road to Carbella, thus making it possible to drive from Livingston to a point approximately 10 miles morth of park on a fine high standard road. There will remain to be constructed, if the work is completed to Carbella this year, only about 10 miles of road to Gardiner and a new bridge across

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the Yellowstone River at Gardiner.

On the Oody road the contract entered into last year for the widening of the road westward from the Shoshone dam was completed several months ago. The next project to be undertaken involves the improvement of the section of state highway immediately east of the Shoshone National Forest. Whether the work will be done this year or not I do not know. Surveys have been under taken. On the south approach roads considerable money will be expended in betterments, particularly on the Heback Canyon road. The Gros Ventre flood which occurred on May 18th washed out the new bridge over the Gros Ventre River which was part of the main highway between Jackson and Moran. This involved a loss to the State of \$50,000 It is understand this bridge will be replaced this year. At this time I do not know of any special work contemplated for the west approach roads except at considerable distances from the park. The park is bound to benefit, however, by the Montana road construction program which involves expenditures of approximately \$2,500,000. This sum of course includes more Federal aid money than State funds.

260 - Landscape work

As pointed out in another paragraph Lambcape Engineers Vint and Davidson were here during the month of May and Mr. Davidson is still here, as this report is written. They have been selecting sites for new buildings to be erected by the Covernment and by park operators during the summer and have done a large amount of landscape work in the camp grounds perticularly along the lines of rearranging cabins in the housekeeping sections and in planning for the establishment of new cabins to be built this year. They have devoted much time to contemplated work of the park operators and have been in consultation with officers of the public utilities and their architects. Landscape Engineer Davidson has devoted a good deal of time to planning for the improvement of the grounds at headquarters and the Hammoth camp grounds. All of the work done by the Landscape engineering division has been very important and has been accomplished to the satisfaction both of this office and the park operators. Mr. Vint will return in a few days to continue his activities. He had to leave on June 1st to visit the north rim of the Grand Canyon in connection with the planning of the new lodge to be built there.

300 - Activities of other agencies in the park

310 - Public Service Contractors

Yellowstone Park Hotel Company: The following new construction, repairs and renewals were accomplished by this company during the month: Gardiner: Reinforced concrete bailding for acetlyene generator plant completed; heavy wagons repaired; rock fence at south end of property built; finished work in shop on 294 buses, trucks, etc. Menmoth: Drivers' bunkhouse and mess house completely repaired; concrete wall built around gas tank; construction counlesary completed; foundation for laundry completed and concrete tunnel On the works who has anisynt action has been been been have pression the second of the most and antiparts and antiparts at an antipart of the second of the most at a second of the seco

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from laundry to hotel 90% completed; graded and filled in lawn in front of girls' dormitory; road in rear of hotel commissary and in rear of transportation store room completed; miscellaneous work on Manmoth Hotel completed. West Yellowstone: repair work on mess house and bunkhouse completed; water tank moved to top of hill. Engineering Department: Two new sinks installed in mess house at Manmoth; 3 new wash racks for Transportation company; steam line in concrete platform to clean garbage cans; telephone conduit from Manmoth to new engine room for all lines; new automatic stoker in engine room: 1-1/4 mile telephone line - 6 wires West Yellowstone; usual repair work and preliminary work at all hotels prepatatory to opening them. Paint Department (Gardiner): Finished lacquering of 219 buses, touring cars, trucks, etc. Manmoth: Painted transportation bunkhouse inside and out; painted outside of McDonald and Lindelef's houses; painted all rooms second floor Manmoth Hotel; one coat paint on addition to construction commissary.

Yellowstone Park Camps Company: (A report on the work done by this company will be submitted shortly as a supplement to this report.)

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400 - Flora, fauna and natural phenomena

410 - Ranger service

The activities of Chief Ranger Woodring have consisted of general supervision of all protection department activities consisting in part of ditch cleaning at the hay ranches, repairs and maintanance of headgates, irrigation of hay lands, repairs to fences, buildings and equipment, cooperation with the Engineering Department and park concessioners in the work of opening the roads to the upper park and the erection of a new snowshoe cabin at Crystal Spring. A pack train of 10 animals has been organized and fully equipped and materials for the erection of a new snowshoe cabin at Fawn Pass have been transported to within 4 miles of the site selected for the building; this work will be completed just as soon as snow conditions in the pass will pemit. The north and west entrance stations were opened to travel on June 1st and rangers are now on summer season assignment at the principal points of interest along the loop road.

Assistants Chief Ranger Trischman, Douglas and Liek have been directly in charge of the spring season work in their respective suspervisory territories. They also assisted with the building of the new snowshoe cabin at Crystal Spring.

Assistant Chief Ranger Greer has been employed throughout the month in the detail work of the Chief Ranger's office, consisting in part of report compilation, correspondence with applicants selected for summer season service, the preparation of memorandums, circulars, duty rosters, etc., governing the activities and duties of park rangers, communication service with outlying stations, preparation of supply requisitions for all summer stations and numerous miscellaneous duties of a supervisory character.

All other members of the ranger department have been employed throughout the month at the usual miscellaneous duties in preparation for the opening of the tourist season. There has been some delay in transferring the men to their summer stations on account of snow and weather conditions which have kept the roads closed to visitors prior to June 1st. The work has consisted principally of cleanup maintenance and repair of trails, buildings and grounds and emergency repairs to telephone lines. All the principal loop stations were garrisoned prior to the admission of tourist travel on June 1st.

460 - Birds

The month was reported by the Weather Bureau as the most severe of record for any month of May since the record began. And this condition has been reflected in the wild life, particularly in retarding the nesting of birds.

Apparently, the nesting of Mallard ducks is fully a week, perhaps two weeks, later than usual, and this is doubtless the case with the other duck species, as well as being typical of the general situation regarding the nesting of birds for the month.

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Ave weeks, later that hashing of mained toose is fills a secon, permaneie of sparing, the second, and this is weakthese the same with the other inch sparing, so well as being typhes) of the moverh withouthes regaring the mething of the south. As the month ended the number of migrants arriving was about average. Crows, black--billed magpies and robins are known to have been among the birds whose egg-laying was completed before the last of the month.

Rangers working along the Gardiner river near the water gauge reported a nest made of sticks, and supposed to be that of an owl, in a cottonwood tree near the river. Investigation by the Park Naturalist showed the nest in question to be apparently the abandoned one of a hawk or a pack rat. In a second trunk of the same tree, however, there was a cavity occupied by three young of the Western horned owl. A description of these young and the nesting cavity is contained in "Nature Notes from Yellowstone Park" for May 31st.

There have been more reports than usual of the Western or Louisiana tanager, and this species - the most gorgeously colored song bird in the Park appears to be more abundant than ever. The Townsend solitaire, another interesting bird of the region, also seems to be exceptionally numerous.

The outstanding ornithological features of the month were the flocks of Brewer and Think-billed red-winged black birds and the many bluebirds constantly to be seen about the lawns and buildings of the Manmoth community.

More rock wrens than usual have been noted, and it is to be hoped that this very interesting bird, one of the most characteristic of the Park, is on the increase.

470 - Animals

Wild an imal and forage conditions have rapidly improved throughout the month and very few late season losses have occurred. There is every indication of a normal annual increase in all the herds.

Elk: There were no unusual elk movements during the month al though there has been a moderate drift to the higher elevations. Large bands are now frequenting the slopes of Everts and Sepulcher mountains, the entire Blacktail an toy much estate the common of al provid modeling one needs availage. Others, black-office's sugples and solid modeling modeling to have been available solid and any loging and sampleted being ballary of her of the needs.

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district and along the Yellowstone River from Crevice Basin to Slough Creek. Large bands are also ranging the elopes of Specimen Ridge and moving up on the north slope of Mt. Washburn. The first calf elk reported this season to date was observed in the Hellroaring District on the 24th. Several have since been seen in the Mannoth District. The following late spring season lesses were observed during the month: Bulls 13, cows 51, calves 63, total 127, which, together with 440 previously reported makes a season total of 567 exclusive of shipments and the lesses caused by hunters. This total consists of the following: Bulls 26, cows 81, calves 211, unclassified 149. Forage conditions are excellent, herd conditions are good, and most of the calving will occur before the spring migration.

Deer: The deer have been seen in their usual numbers in the Mannoth, Gardiner, Crevice and Hellroaring Districts during the month. The Mannoth band is seen daily on the lawns and parade grounds at headquarters and a band of 35 frequents the hay field at Gardiner. No fawns have been reported this season to date but the annual increase will occur within the next few weeks and during this period they will be rarely seen except along the trails where they are not too frequently disturbed by visitors.

Antelope: Most of the antelope have moved up to their summer range in the vicinity of Tower Falls, Slough Creek and Buffalo Ranch. The herd is in excellent condition and all reports indicate a normal increase this year.

Moose: Cows and yearling calves have been recently seen at numerous points along the highways. A few are seen almost daily on the meadows between Mannoth and Morris and along the road between headquarters and Tower Falls. They rival the bears as an early season attraction for park visitors.

Sheep: There is nothing of special interest regarding sheep at this time.

Buffalo-Lamer River Hord: The herd is in excellent condition. The drift from the winter feed ground started early in the month of April and the various bands have since been ranging along the Lamar and Yellowstone Rivers; from the slopes of Mt. Morris to Slough Creek and Hellrearing most of the bands have moved down below the Lamar River Canyon. There was a loss of 3 cows from calving during the month, leaving a herd total of adults and yearlings of 815. The 1927 calf erop consists of 105 to date exclusive of the losses that occurred during and following the cold wave of April 17th to 21st. The total of these losses is 22. The losses were very unusual in point of numbers. They resulted almost entirely from low temperatures and other adverse weather conditions that immediately killed all night time arrivals.

There is nothing of interest to report concerning the Gold Creek-Pelican Creek herd at this time.

Predatory Animals: There were no noteworthy activities in connection with predatory animal control during the month. The season total of coyotes destroyed consist of 258 as compared with 243 last year and 172 in 1925. district of almost the provident of the structure of the provide the bing from a setter where the structure of a structure of the provident the provided of the data warms along of by. Sumplices, the flows and dis provided by a manual to have one provident to are sufficient of these and dis provided by a manual to have an a provident to are sufficient of the flows and the provided by a strucne of the set provident to the set sufficient of the provident to the provided which, the there is a low of the flow of the set of the provided by and the structure of all sets and the set sufficient of the set of the provided by and a structure of the the set sufficient of the set of the set of the set of all the structure of a structure of the set of the set of the set of the set of a structure of all sets and the low of the set of the set of the set of a structure of all the set of a structure of a structure of the set of the set of the set of the set of a structure of all the set of the set of the set of the set of the structure of a structure of the set of the set of the set of the and the structure of the set of the set of the set of the set of the association as a structure of the set of the set of the set of the association as a structure of the set of the set of the set of the association as a structure of the set of the set of the set of the association as a structure of the set of the set of the set of the set of the association as a structure of the set of the set of the association of the set of the set of the set of the set of the association of the set of the set of the set of the set of the association of the set of the association of the set of the set of the set of the set of the association of the set of the association of the set of the association of the set of the set of the set of the set of

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Small Animals: There is nothing of special interest to report concerning small animals at this time.

Bears: black and brown bears are now appearing daily in their usual numbers at Manmoth, Morris, Old Faithful, Lake, Canyon and Tower Falls. Grizzlies have also appeared in the Canyon and Lake districts. The usual minor depredations have been reported in connection with their search for food.

Buffelo and Other Ranch Operations: The activities at the Buffalo and other ranches have consisted of ditch cleaning, repairs to headgates, fences and the irrigation of hay lands, repairs, maintenance and improvements to buildings and grounds and the care of ranch, saddle and pack horses. Eleven acres of new ground have been seeded to rye at Buffalo Ranch. Unusual precipitation has prevented the seeding of additional acreage to date. 835.77 tons of hay were fed at Buffalo Ranch during the past winter season, 359.86 tons were fed at the Slough Greek, Gardiner and Yancey Ranches, making a total of 1195.63 tons fed at all ranches in the park. The balance on hand consists of the following: Buffalo Ranch 150 tons, Slough Greek and Gardiner Ranches 246 tons, and Hoppe Ranch 143.74 tons, total 539.74 tons.

480 - Matural Phonomena

<u>Mammoth Hot Springs</u>: The upper levels of the Mammoth formations are not returning to activitity approximating last season's even at the last of the month of May. This may be due to the fact that the snow at the higher elevations has not molted and the ground water is still below normal for this time of year, or their activities may have been transforred to the lower benches. There is a wast amount of water on Jupiter and Mound Terraces and Minerva, Cleopetra and Hymen are also very much alive.

It is probable that bats began to reappear in Devil's Kitchen at the very last of the month as they have again been observed there. A mouse, a pine siskin, a rock wren and three hermit thrushes suchered by carbonic acid gas were found in Styrian Cave.

Upper Geyser Basin: The Caile was in active eruption on Sunday, May 22nd, for over an hour and again on May 24th. At this time it appeared to play up to 100 feet and showed a greater display of power than at any time last year. It plays violently and with a great roar for 45 minutes.

The check on the Daisy recently shows about 75 minute intervals and considerable volume.

Old Faithful has played at 64 minute intervals and generally to its full height.

There is no reason to believe that the Giant, Giantess or the Beehive have played recently, but the smaller ones show little change.

The question is often asked, do spring flood waters materially affect or increase geyser activity? It does not seem that after the normal water supply is established in the underflow that it could, as the vents entering the geyser tubes can only let in so mich and the tube can only held so much but when the underflow is below normal it would seem that this might cause a lessening of activities in some geysers. Provine of pairshed Schnam in galding at some information Lincols

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490 - Miscellaneous

Snow conditions prevented tourist travel to the park interior prior to June 1st. The sale of penmits began at the morth and west getes on this date. Travel conditions are fairly good between the north and west entrance stations with side trips to Old Faithful and Tower Falls. The road from Morris to Canyon and Lake will probably be opened to travel about June 10. Travel between Old Faithful and Thumb will be permitted on or about June 15th. The road from Thumb to Snake River from Lake Junction to Sylvan Pass station and from Canyon to Tower Falls through Dunraven Pass will be opened to travel about June 19th. All roads were opened to travel on or before June 1st last year with the exception of Dunraven Pass and Mt. Washburn. (The north entrance was opened on May 16th, the west entrance on May 17th, the south entrance on May 29th and the east entrance on June 1st.) There was no tourist travel during the month of May this year with the exception of a few visitors to park headquarters via the north entrance.

The road from Manmoth to Tower Falls and from Old Faithful to West Yellowstone was opened by concessioners with motor trucks on May 1st and 2nd. The road from Manmoth to Norris and Madison Junction was opened for nucessary travel on May 16th. The first motor vehicle to reach Cooke City this season arrived at its destination on May 18th.

The ice on Yellowstone Lake began to break up on the 17th and largely disappeared within a week.

500 - Use of Park Facilities by the Public

510 - Increase or decrease of travel

All park travel prior to June 1st has been via the north entrance station. It has consisted principally of local visitors to park headquarters. This travel has been registered at the north gate throughout the month, showing a total of 139 visitors in 46 cars as compared with 2259 visitors in 809 cars during the month of May last year and 552 visitors in 194 cars during May 1925. The total preseason travel to date consists of 1724 visitors in 620 cars as compared with 3086 visitors in 1033 cars during the same period of preseason travel last year, and 1733 visitors in 587 cars prior to June 1st, 1925.

520 - General weather conditions

TEMPERATURE: Monthly mean, 41.0°, is 6.4° below normal, and with one exception the lowest May average since the record began in 1887. Except for 3 or 4 days of moderately warm and mostly fair weather near the middle of the month, decidedly cold and stormy weather prevailed with temperatures consistently below normal. In fact, the unseasonably cold, wet, stormy April and May of this year, constitutes one of the most backward springs of record.

PHECIPITATION: Total, 2.96 inches, is 1.05 inches above normal, and has been exceeded but three times in May during the 40-year period of record.

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SMOWFALL: Total, 13.8 inches, is more than three times the normal amount, and is the greatest in the May record, with the exception of 18.8 inches in 1892.

WIND: Average hourly velocity 8.3 miles; normal 8.0 miles. The maximum velocity for a five-minute period was 54 miles per hour from the south on the 17th, with an extreme velocity of 70 miles per hour for one minute. The previous maximum velocity for all months of record was 54 miles from the south on March 14, 1921.

SUAMMINE: Percentage of possible 28; normal 54. The month received 26% less sunshine than any other May since the Weather Bureau record began 24 years ago. Number of days clear 0, partly cloudy 11, cloudy 20, with .01 inch or more precipitation 19. This is the only May of record without a clear day. The average May has 6 clear days, 13 partly cloudy, and 12 cloudy.

521 - Snow Depths: Under date of June 1 detailed report was submitted to the Director covering this subject.

540 - Special Visitors:

On May 27th Mr. H. J. Heuver, Bureau of Fisheries Representative at Lake Yellowstone, arrived in the park via Gardiner. He has a crew of about 10 men.

Mr. C. A. Snyder, Montana Plant Superintendent of the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Company, Helena, Mont., came in via Gardiner on May 26th. Mr. Snyder was accompanied by Mr. C. J. Herman of the Helena division of the above company, and Mr. Murray MacNeill of the Denver office. They went to Old Faithful on the 27th returning the same evening, and had a conference with Superintendent Albright and Mr. Michols of the Yellowstone Park Hotel Company regarding telephone service.

Mr. R. C. Reamer, Architect of Seattle, Sashington, accompanied by Mr. Paul N. Carlson and a Mr. Sullivan, contractors of Spokane, Wash., entered the park at Gardinor on the night of May 27th and proceeded to Old Faithful on the 28th. These men built the Milwaukee Hotel at Gallatin Gateway and have the contract to build the addition to Old Faithful Inn. They spont the night of the 28th at Manmoth and left via Gardiner on the morning of the 29th. Mr. Reamer is the architect who designed Old Faithful Inn and the Canyon Hotel. He will design the addition to Old Faithful Inn. Large off work? security that work is more three three additionals B. B. B. Sto services in the bay success, with the succession of all the touse to 1000.

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Rospital and medical service: Dr. Richard R. Brady, the Hesident Physician, reports 40 office calls and 56 house calls during the month.

Post Office: Work in the post office showed a marked increase over the winter months, due to influx of employees coming in for the tourist season.

Church Services: Episcopal services were held in the Chapel by Rev. John F. Como, evening of May 8th and morning of May 22nd. English Lutheran services were held by Nev. Webster H. Clement on Wednesday evening, May 4th, in the lodge room at Park headquarters. Methodist services were held in the lodge room evening of Wednesday, May 25th, by Rev. Otto G. Ponath. Tentative arrangements for regular Sunday services in the chapel were made, for final approval and publication later.

Gros Ventre flood: On May 18th a flood, caused by the breaking of the Gros Ventre dam in the Gros Ventre river in the Jackson Hole country, wiped out the town of Kelly, Wyoming, taking a tell of six lives and leaving 50 families homeless. The six persons who lost their lives were caught in a wall of water 20 feet high, released when the dam, formed by a slide June 24, 1925, from Sheep Mountain, went out under pressure from melting snows.

The entire town of Kelly, built on the river bottom lands and having a population of 75, was wiped out. The wave of water took everything before it and piled up a raft of timber more than 200 feet in length. As these piled up against bridge after bridge en route down the Gros Ventre and Snake Rivers, the wave flattened out over the lowlands and by the time the water reached Idaho Falls its force practically had been spent.

The Forest Service reports the Swan valley bridge, a span of 400 feet, torn loose, while the approaches to Jackson bridge have been washed sway. Several smaller bridges were carried away and access to the immediate vicinity of the washout is impossible. The road damage is estimated at \$75,000.

Governor Emerson inspected the slide and the channel the river cut through the slide material. He stated that this channel was at least 500 feet in width and about 70 feet deep. He does not believe that the valley has any more to fear from floods for in his opinion any small slides which may block the new channel will be washed out before any great quantity of water will accumulate in "Catastrophe" Lake. We hope the Governor's opinion is correct.

What caused the flood? There are two theories, the first is that the south side of the slide area which filled last was mainly made up of loose materials, mainly yellow clay and sandstone, and that the natural seepage water so saturated this material that the high water pushed the great mass of this material out bodily letting the flood down. The other theory is that a slide which came in from the north sent a wave of water over the slide and that this rush of water carried enough of the soft material on the south side away to start the water through and that thereafter the water washed rapidly enough to cause the flood.

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Very truly yours,

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The Director, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Superintendent.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

TRAVEL REPORT

YELLO IS TONE National Park for the Month of MAX 1927.

	This	This Travel	This Month	Last Travel	Increase for Travel Year		
	Month	Year	Last	Year		-	
		To Date	Year	To Date	Number	Percen	
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rs reentry							
torcycles							
Total motor vehicles	46	620	809	1033	413	-40	
rscns entering via motor vehicles	139	1724	2259	3086	1362	44	
rsons entering via other private transportation							
Total persons entering via private transportation	-139-		- 2259-				
HER TRANSPORTATION:							
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rsons entering via trains							
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Total other transportation					advance restances and the second s		
GRAND TOTAL ALL VISITORS	-139-	1724	- 2259-			44	
		Selected and a select of the second	This Year	Last Year	Increa	ase	

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATUS OF PERSONNEL

YBLOW TONE National Park for the Month of MAY 1927

		This Month Last Year
Number of employees beginning of month,	66	66
Number of additions,	3	
Total,	. 69	67
Number of separations,	3	3
Number of employees close of month,	66	64
	0	Q
Aggregate amount of annual leave taken,		111-1/2
Aggregate amount of sick leave taken,	12	
Aggregate amount of leave without pay,		

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATUS OF PERSONJEL

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		Number of additions,
73	. 63	Total,
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111- /?	\$	Aggregate amount of annual leave taken
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REPORT OF PARK REVENUES

YELLONS TONE National Park for the Month of MAY 1927

	This Last Year Year
rk revenue on hand beginning of month	00 00
zeivəd	55.36
Total	55.36 382.25
nitted	55.36 382.25
hand close of month	0000
rk revenues received this year to date	\$ 216,374.74
k revenues received last year to date	343,182.57
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Percent of increase	

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REPORT OF TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BUSINESS

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otal No. of local calls	9663 489	11711 584	-2048 95	-17 -16
eceipts from measured service calls eceipts from coin boxes				
'TO"AL RECEIPTS			<u></u>	n
DNG DISTANCE BUSINESS				
o. Outbound calls	127 203	202	-75 -70	-37 -25
TOTAL LONG DISTANCE CALLS				
eak load in calls per day	29 60.46	25 74•46	4 14.00	16 -17
LEGRAPH BUSINESS				
ssages via Western Union				

OTAL RECEIPTS TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH DEPT-

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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* Indicated by K. W. H.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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ndicated by K. W. H.

June 14, 1927.

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The Director, National Park Service, Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Director:

There are enclosed herewith Circulars 2, 3, 4 and 5, and Meteorlogical Summary, which please attach to the monthly report for May, 1927.

Very truly yours,

Inclosures.

HORNCE M. ALBRICHT Asst. Superintendent. Jue il . 19 .

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Der r. Dir tor:

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Department of the Interior National Park Service Yellowstone Mational Park

May 24th 1927

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTEIDENT

Circular Number 2.

To All Park Rangers

No ranger will be allowed to travel outside his own Station District and visit other sections of the park, on either Official or Unofficial business, without a regulation travel order. No such order will be issued except by authority of the Chief Ranger's Office.

Travel orders are issued to each station and are numbered consecutively. When a man is going to travel from one station to another in the park permission will be secured from the Chief Ranger's Office and if such permission is granted the station chief will issue the required travel order and will indicate whether the trip is official or unofficial.

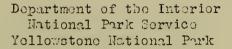
As soon as the trip is completed the travel order will be returned to the Station Chief who will promptly mail it to the Chief Ranger's Office. He will also indicate the time of the beginning and the ending of the trip, and the purpose of the same.

The ranger in charge will be hold responsible for prompt returns on all travel orders issued by him, Credit will not be given for meals authorized by travel orders until return has been made to the Chief Ranger's Office.

> SIGNED. HORACE M. ALBRIGHT Superintendent.



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May 24th 1927

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Circular Number 3.

To All Park Rangers

From and after this date and until further notice rangers will not be paid by the Government for meals served to other rangers or any park employees.

There are read camps in the vicinity of each Station, and rangers, truck drivers and other Government employees will be directed to these camps for their means.

Rangers traveling on official status, will upon presentation of travel order be furnished with meals at road camps free of charge, provided they comply strictly with the conditions of the travel order which requires the signature of the cook for all meals served with the date of the service indicated in the proper column.

Rangers will not be credited for meals served them while treveling on official status until the trevel order has been received at the Chief Ranger's Office.

> SIGNED. HCRACE M. ALBRIGHT, Superint indent.





Department of the Interior National Park Service Yellowstone National Park

May 24th 1927.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Circular No. 4.

To All Park Rangers

Motorcycle rangers will be governed by the provisions of Circular No. 3.

They will be charged at the approved rate for meals served them at read camps in their own Districts, but when traveling on Official status to points outside their station districts will, upon presentation of travel order, be furnished with meals at read camps free of charge provided they comply strictly with the conditions of the travel order.

The Government will not pay for meals served them at ranger stations, except by special authority of the Superintendent.

> SIGNED. HORACE M. ALBRIGHT, Superintendent.



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Department of the Interior National Park Service Yellowstone National Park

May 25th 1927

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

Circular No. 5

To All Park Rangers

The attention of all rangers is called to paragraph 41 of the Manual for Park Rangers:-

"Unusual Events: - <u>Special Reports</u>. Unusual occurrences such as accidents, deaths, changes in natural phenomena, etc., will be reported at once to the Chief Ranger's Office by phone.

This should be followed by a detailed written report of the same. This is an important duty in connection with the ranger work.

It is necessary that complete record be kept of all occurrences of this character, and especially in the case of accidents resulting in personal injuries or death.

Rangers will immediately investigate all reports of accidents or deaths; they will proceed at once to the scene of the incident and gather full details by interviewing the parties involved. The names and addresses of all persons in interest, and witnesses should be included in the written report to the Chief Park Ranger.

Statements of the witnesses of the event are especially valuable and should be taken at once in writing".

Do not fail to report special incidents involving only slight personal injuries or minor damages to property, as complications often result from occurrences that might be considered of no importance. The telephone report is desired only in order that we may keep in touch with events in the park, but the written report of the ranger or rangers who make the investigation is necessary for record purposes.

Rangers should never rely on second hand information, but should interview the people concerned.

In addition to the cause, time and place of events resulting in personal injuries or death the name and address of the attending physician, if any, is required and a full written report of all obtainable information should be promptly submitted to the Chief Park Ranger's Office.





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