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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-02.3

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

AUGUST 1949

What about swan count?

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This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge.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,
Director.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—22371

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Yellowstone National Park
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

Office of the Superintendent

Summary of the August 1949 Monthly Narrative Report for
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Guadalupe Mountains National Park
Salt Flats, Texas 79821

Superintendent's

Summary of the Legal and Economic Surveys of the
Guadalupe Mountains Park

TENANCY:

Tenants on the Park are subject to a tenant's lease, which provides for a tenancy from year to year, subject to termination by either party upon 30 days' notice. Leases are signed by the Superintendent as the Park's official. Therefore, tenants are not required to make rental payments or perform other duties. Tenants are responsible for their own improvements, and they are responsible for their own taxes.

PRESENT OCCUPANTS:

Park Ranger and wife (Mr. and Mrs. [illegible]) live in the Ranger Station and perform the duties of Ranger and Park Superintendent.

INSPECTIONS:

[illegible]

INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES:

[illegible]

VEGETATION:

[illegible]

TOPOGRAPHY:

[illegible]

FIRE, PLANT AND INSECTS:

[illegible]

WILDLIFE:

[illegible]

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Yellowstone National Park
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

Office of the Superintendent

September 7, 1949

MEMORANDUM for the Director

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

Weather Conditions. The weather was again characterized by unusual dryness. The total precipitation at Mammoth was 0.56" as compared to the August mean of 1.21" and the 1.43" average of the previous five years. The maximum temperature of 95 degrees was recorded on the 15th and was noticeably higher than the previous five year average of 86 degrees. The minimum temperature of 34 degrees was recorded on the 13th and compares closely to the previous five year average of 32.6 degrees. Lack of moisture and the high temperatures were reflected in the high level of fire danger ratings and in the increased incidence of forest fires.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers left for Glacier Park on August 15 in company with Chief of Concessions Taylor, returning on the evening of the 17th. On August 24 he made a trip to Grand Teton National Park with Freeman Tilden, Collaborator for the National Park Service, and on August 30 he took Miss Isabelle Story to Grand Teton National Park.

Assistant Superintendent Johnston made a trip to Butte on August 3 with Chief Clerk Anderson to confer with Glacier Park officials who had come to Butte to meet them. On the evening of August 15 Mr. Johnston and Resident Landscape Architect Mattson attended a meeting at West Yellowstone in connection with the further development of the Madison River and Hebgen Dam. On the 25th, in company with Messrs. Mattson, Vint and Jerome Miller, he attended a meeting in Gardiner with a delegation from the Gardiner Lions Club in connection with the parking problem along the main street in Gardiner.

Resident Landscape Architect Mattson, who went to Glacier National Park on July 21 on matters affecting that area, returned to the Yellowstone August 3. He visited Grand Teton National Park on the 9th, returning on the 10th, and he accompanied Messrs. Vint, Miller and Lovelady to Grand Teton on the 21st, returned on the 24th. On August 30 he accompanied Park Naturalist Condon to Custer Battlefield National Monument to discuss the Custer Master Plan. He expected to return September 1.

On August 1 a plane made a forced landing on the road between Lake Lodge and Lake Junction. Eugene B. House of Pocatello, Idaho, was the pilot. He was able to make a takeoff from the road in about an hour.

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Yellowstone National Park
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

Office of the Superintendent

August 1, 1

MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. [illegible]:

Following is the result of a survey of the Yellowstone Lake
Park Service fly casts to August 1st.

Water conditions. The [illegible] drought. The total precipitation [illegible] normal mean of 1.07" and the 1.[illegible] average for the previous fifty years. The [illegible] temperature of 71 during the first [illegible] only higher than the previous two years [illegible] temperatures of 70 or more [illegible] the previous five years of 3.[illegible] degrees. Lake [illegible] high temperatures have resulted in the [illegible] and in the increased [illegible] of [illegible].

Special Activities. [illegible] on August 1st [illegible] in company with Chief of Ranger Activities Tobin, [illegible] the winning of the [illegible]. [illegible] a trip to Fort [illegible] National Park with Frances Tobin, [illegible] Park Service [illegible] Junior, and on August [illegible] National Park.

Accident Investigation. [illegible] with Chief Ranger Anderson to Junior [illegible] had come to Lodge in very [illegible]. [illegible] and Resident Technique in [illegible] [illegible] in connection with the [illegible] Indian Dam. [illegible] Junior, he attended a meeting [illegible] Ranger Alone Club in connection with the [illegible] [illegible] in Yellowstone.

Resident Conference Activities Tuesday. [illegible] were on duty 22 on residents attending [illegible] August 3. [illegible] the 11th, and the conference [illegible] Lodge on the 12th, returned on the [illegible]. [illegible] Naturalist Department to Canyon [illegible] Center Master Plan. [illegible] to review Canyonlodge [illegible].

On August 3 a dance was held [illegible] Lodge [illegible] Lake and Lake Hamilton. [illegible] Junior [illegible] the office. [illegible] to make a [illegible] in [illegible].

The Local Civil Service Board held an examination for Park Ranger in the Canteen Building on August 15 in which there were 52 competitors. All three members of the Board participated in the examination. A special examination for one competitor for Park Ranger was held by Mr. Proper on August 23. Mr. Proper also held examinations for Storekeeper and Clerk on August 3 in which there was one competitor in each.

The Interior Missouri Basin Field Committee held a meeting at the Mammoth Hotel on August 24 and 25. Superintendent Rogers addressed the gathering on the 25th. Those present included W. G. Sloan, Field Committee Chairman; Don Huff, Secretary; Paul L. Flickinger, W. D. Wattson, and W. H. Farmer of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; Guy D. Edwards, National Park Service; K. F. Vernon, Avery A. Batson and C. T. Judah of the Bureau of Reclamation; Henry C. Beckman, Geological Survey; L. B. Moon, P. T. Allman and Paul Zinner of the Bureau of Mines; Albin Molchon and R. D. Nielson of the Bureau of Land Management; H. F. Mossbaugh and D. H. Jansen of the Fish and Wildlife Service; Robert Davis of the Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado; and Cliff Conaway of Mr. Sloan's staff.

Inspections. George Walker, Forester, NPS, in August 1, out 13. He returned on the 21st and left on the 30th. Marlow Glenn, Fiscal Accountant and Auditor, NPS, in August 3, out 9. A. C. Warning, Federal Prison Inspector, Tacoma, Washington, in August 3. Paul R. Franke, Assistant Chief Naturalist, NPS, in August 4, out 7. Carl P. Swartzlow, Regional Naturalist, Region Two, who arrived July 31, departed August 5. Oliver G. Taylor, Chief of Concessions, NPS, in August 8, out 15. Maynard Barrows, Forester, Region Two, NPS, who arrived July 31, left August 13. He returned August 23 and left August 30. John Pickett, U. S. Attorney, Cheyenne, Wyoming, in August 15. Thomas C. Vint, Chief of Development, NPS, Jerome C. Miller, Regional Landscape Architect, Region Two, NPS, and Raymond T. Lovelady, Regional Architect, Region Two, NPS, in August 19, out 30. C. L. Edwards, Regional Director, Thirteenth Civil Service Region, Denver, in August 21, out 28. Laurence F. Cook, Assistant Chief Forester, NPS, in August 22, out 28. B. W. Matteson, Division Engineer, Clyde E. Learned, Design Engineer and W. C. Curwen, Engineer, Bureau of Public Roads, Denver, in 24, out 25. Isabelle Story, Editor in Chief, NPS, in August 27, due leave September 1. Winston W. Galbraith and Clarence A. Knight, Investigators, General Accounting Office, Seattle, Washington, in August 28. George F. Baggley, Superintendent, Lake Mead National Recreational Area, in August 29. C. T. Wright, Sanitary Engineer Director, U. S. Public Health Service, Denver, in August 3, out 4. Guy D. Edwards, Chief Recreation Planner, Region Two, in August 21st, out 26th.

In-Service Training. There were no definite in-service training program activities carried on during the month by members of the Naturalist Division other than to publish the Yellowstone Weekly News Letter which carried some items of training value.

Publicity. The August travel figures were mailed to the general travel mailing list on August 2. The AP and UP were kept advised regularly by phone in connection with the fires which occurred during the month. Numerous stories and pictures in connection with the park fires were carried in papers throughout the country. A story regarding the rescue of two boys from the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone was phoned the AP and UP on August 23.

Joseph R. Lacourciere of Station WBRW, Meriden, Connecticut, made a wire recording for broadcast from his Meriden station while he was in the park on August 24. Administrative Assistant Joffe and Assistant Chief Ranger Evans participated in the preparation of the broadcast.

A total of 62,000 Yellowstone broadsides for 1949 remained on hand at the end of the month.

Complaints. Five letters of complaint were received during the month, as follows: excessive grocery prices at Hamilton Stores, Inc.; inability to secure AAA automobile service; NPS sign misleading; condition of lodge cabins and discourtesy and indifference of Yellowstone Park Company employees; lack of cabins and high rate for same, discourtesy and indifference of cabin and cafeteria employees, and necessity to reregister for cabin each morning.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Several days were spent by the Engineers with Messrs. Vint, Miller and Lovelady going over existing work and proposed new developments. Construction plans for the utilities in the Old Faithful campground were nearly complete. Field surveys were started on the water system at the Thumb proposed new development area.

Maintenance. The month was dry and hot and favorable to maintenance operations and some progress was made despite extremely heavy traffic and several large fires. Nearly every road maintenanceman was used on fires from 3 to 10 days. All roads are in fairly good condition. The hot weather caused some additional rolling but most of the rough spots are on sections to be reprocessed. Approximately 6 miles at different locations were reprocessed, most all sections needing some additional material hauled in.

Rails on 8 bridges were repaired and some new guard rail placed. Repair of the Lewis River Bridge rail is underway. This job gives promise of being much more complicated than was expected.

Roads in the Fishing Bridge and Thumb campground areas have been graded and given a bituminous dust coat.

The average number of men employed on our road maintenance work during the month was 130. All regular road camps were manned the entire month.

Most footpaths have been cleared and repaired and are in better shape than for many years.

Pentachlorophenol treatment for guard rail, guide posts and bridge timber has been used whenever possible. Extremely good penetration on dry wood has resulted.

Roadside cleanup has been carried on by regular maintenance crews but it has been impossible to keep up with the amount of rubbish accumulating along the roadsides. The regular cleanup crew was not used for lack of transportation. In addition to the increase of 10 to 15 per cent in labor rates, the increased rental rates, now including the amortization item, have increased our maintenance cost since July 1.

New Construction. Strong and Company, Contractors on the Canyon project 1F-3, G-4, have made very good progress during the month. Grading work is about 98% completed. Base course material has all been crushed and approximately 80% placed on the road. Nearly all concrete work (headwalls and drop inlets) is finished and general cleanup work is underway.

The chip sealing job from Mammoth to Firehole Cascades, contracted by Peter Kiewit Sons' Company, was completed on July 30 and final inspection and acceptance was made on August 2. A little too much oil was used on some sections which made the pavement black and rather smooth.

All seat and table logs for the campground tables under Account 470, Campground Extension, Fishing Bridge and Old Faithful, have been treated. Some additional material has been ordered under Account 471, Utilities, Tables, Fireplaces and Comfort Stations, Old Faithful. Plans are approved and construction is expected to start soon under Account 500, Campground Roads, Old Faithful. Under Account 513, Minor Road Construction, Widening South Entrance Road to Checking Station, this job is nearly complete except for striping.

Concessioners. The heavy travel during August resulted in the accommodations at the various locations being taxed to capacity nearly every night and many visitors had to sleep in their own cars or go outside to seek accommodations. The condition was little better outside as these accommodations likewise were overtaxed and there were reports of overcharging by establishments outside the park.

Religious Services and Chapel Use. The Yellowstone Park Church Committee shipped the old Estey organ which was given to the community by the Hon. John W. Meldrum to his nephew, Mr. Jack Meldrum of Buffalo, Wyoming, on August 18. This organ was no longer needed in the community in view of the fact that we now have a Hammond electric organ and Mr. Meldrum as an heir of the former U. S. Commissioner was anxious to retain this instrument as a family heirloom.

The regular religious services as scheduled for the summer were conducted throughout the month and were well attended at all points where given.

At the close of the month the Church Committee began exploring the possibility of obtaining student ministers to conduct the Protestant services at Mammoth, Old Faithful, Lake and Canyon during the 1950 season. Letters were written to members of the Park County Ministerial Association seeking expressions of their opinions on this matter.

Interpretive Services. The interpretive services program as planned for the summer season was interrupted at mid-month by severe fire hazards and several large fires to which a large number of personnel of the Naturalist Division were sent. This severely handicapped the interpretive activities, but all museums were kept open, evening campfire talks given and many of the conducted trips taken. The members of the permanent naturalist staff took an active part in the activities. Park Naturalist Alcorn talked on "Winter Life" at Camp Roosevelt on the 11th and West Thumb on the 16th. Park Naturalist Watson talked on "Popular Misconceptions of Park Phenomena" at Fishing Bridge on the 3rd, West Thumb on the 10th and Old Faithful on the 17th. Chief Park Naturalist Condon talked on "Yellowstone National Park" at Old Faithful on the 10th, "Yellowstone's Large Mammals" at Fishing Bridge on the 12th, "Yellowstone Bird Life" at Fishing Bridge on the 15th, "Yellowstone National Park" at Camp Roosevelt on the 17th, "Yellowstone National Park" at Old Faithful on the 24th and "Yellowstone Winterlife" at Camp Roosevelt on the 25th. District Park Ranger Frank F. Kowski gave a very interesting talk in the amphitheater at Old Faithful on the 3rd.

The interpretive services program at Tower Fall was discontinued the night of the 31st when Camp Roosevelt closed. Park Ranger Naturalist Rentchler on duty at that station terminated his services.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. The grizzly bear hide of the large female grizzly in the Mammoth museum had to be repaired during the month since some vandal had attempted to remove the claws from one paw and although unsuccessful had damaged the paw. The felt matting on which the hide is placed was worn in spots and this was repaired.

Two detailed memoranda were prepared during the month. One was a proposal to reorient the Obsidian Cliff field exhibit so that it would demand more public attention and better serve the people. The other was prepared on the subject of refraining from developing the present Grand View observation platform and developing a new point along the Canyon rim which seems to be much more desirable and a safer location.

A large number of bison skulls were obtained from a cache near Blacktail Deer Creek, and were taken to the Old Faithful museum for use in replacing the specimens which have deteriorated in the courtyard area.

The Yellowstone Park herbarium at the Yellowstone Park headquarters museum at Mammoth has received a great deal of use during the month of August by visiting botanists and all have been favorably impressed with this unit and have gotten considerable value from it.

Research and Observation. Park Ranger Naturalist William B. Sanborn plans to conduct a special research project on the interpretive program of the National Park Service as a whole in all parks and its value to the people. Mr. Sanborn will conduct this research as part of his program of training for his doctorate. Studies will be conducted under the auspices of the University of Washington in Seattle. Mr. Sanborn hopes to be given a collaboratorship appointment in the National Park Service so that he can better have access to materials which will be helpful to him.

The Giantess Geyser erupted on the 4th of August and provided a spectacular hydrothermal display for the visitors in the Old Faithful area.

Collecting permits were issued during the month as follows: on August 8 to Arthur H. Moeck and Alvin L. Throne to collect lepidoptera for the Milwaukee Public Museum; to Dr. Michael J. D. White from the University of Texas on August 10th to collect flies and grasshoppers; to William H. Berninghausen on August 15 to collect sedimentary rocks and minerals for the University of Iowa; and to Frederick J. Kuellmer from the University of Chicago to collect geological specimens from the mixed rock area on Sheepeater Cliff.

During the month of August a family of great horned owls have spent virtually every night hunting for mice and other rodents on the lawns of the park headquarters. The peculiar call of this bird is regularly heard most of the night and occasionally they have been seen perched on the peaks of buildings.

Natural History Association. Miss Joan Swartzlow was employed August 6 as librarian for the balance of the season. The Association replenished its book stocks since sales progressed to the point where some items were on the verge of being sold out.

The Association multilithed and mailed the July-August issue of Nature Notes, with a total of 352 copies being sent out in the mail and 150 distributed locally.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. A total of 380,786 people entered the park as compared to 350,611 during August of 1948, a gain of 8.6 percent. The total travel for the season on August 31 was 1,020,813 as compared to 905,609 in 1948, a gain of 12.7 percent. The North Entrance showed the greatest gain of 23.5 percent, followed by the Northeast Entrance with 19.5 percent and South Entrance with 17 percent. The West and East entrances followed in that order.

Yellowstone's millionth visitor for the 1949 season was checked in at one of the park gateways August 30. This is the second time in the park's history that a million persons have visited the park in one year, the first occasion being 1948 when the millionth visitor arrived on September 23.

A count of automobiles by states entering the park during the weeks of July 11-15 and August 15-19 showed California motorists at the top of the list. Other states comprising the first 10 include the following in the order named: Illinois, Iowa, Washington, Utah, Montana, Minnesota, Texas, Idaho and Michigan.

Visitors. M. M. Goodsill, General Passenger Agent, Northern Pacific Railway Company, in August 1. Howard R. Driggs, President, American Pioneer Trails Association, New York City, in 14th. C. J. Collins, General Passenger Agent, Union Pacific Railway, Omaha, Nebraska, in August 17. L. L. Perrin, Publicity Director, Northern Pacific Railway, St. Paul, in August 22. James M. Mead, former U. S. Senator from New York, in August 22, out 24. Freeman Tilden, Author and Collatorator for the National Park Service, in August 23 to gather material for a book. Congressman Charles A. Halleck of Indiana in east and out west August 29. Congressman Clair Engle, California, in south August 30. Andy Anderson, Houston Press, Houston, Texas, and Bill Shannon, Outdoor Editor, in August 1. Dale Carnegie, nationally known writer and lecturer and author of the best-seller "How to Win Friends and Influence People" in August 4. Howard H. Hays, President of the Glacier Park Transport Company and former Yellowstone Park concessioner, in August 4. J. S. Jeffries, Superintendent of Hotels, Glacier National Park, in August 4. Bert Harwell, National Audubon Society and former Chief Ranger Naturalist, Yosemite National Park, in August 7. A. E. Stoddard, President, Union Pacific Railroad, in August 9.

Ranger Service. Foresters Larry Cook and George Walker from the Director's Office, Maynard Barrows from the Regional Office as well as eight men from Mt. Rainier, four from Rocky Mountain and two from Mesa Verde National Parks spent a few days here due to our forest fire emergency assisting us with control of several fires.

The ranger families were all moved to their winter locations during the latter part of the month; however, many of the rangers will continue to remain assigned to their summer stations until the stations are closed for the winter.

Seasonal Park Ranger John B. Umhau resigned effective August 15 at his own request to make preparations for return to college this fall.

Normal operations of the protection division were curtailed due to the occurrence of forest fires, although sufficient personnel were retained at all stations, including checking stations, to carry on essential operations and provide protection for the park visitors. Two assistant chief rangers, most of the distract and park rangers, as well as a number of seasonal rangers and naturalists were used for varying periods on fire control.

On August 24 two young boys, both park visitors, were rescued from Yellowstone Canyon and on the 30th one park operator's employee was rescued from the Canyon. In both instances the boys had climbed down into

the Canyon in an unauthorized place and were unable to return. Several man hours of rangers' time were spent in bringing the men out to the road.

The efforts and time of all rangers, while not on fire fighting duty, were utilized in furnishing service and protection to the continued large crowds of park visitors, also in carrying out law enforcement, highway patrols and maintenance work.

Preparations have been made for patroling the northern and southern boundaries in connection with the fall hunting season which will start September 10 along the southern boundary and September 15 along the northern boundary.

Orders have been placed for rations for the patrol cabins for the winter as well as cutting and storing wood for the cabins and other necessary fall maintenance work.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. Numerous bears, which continued to frequent the park roads, were a source of great enjoyment to record numbers of visitors. Traffic congestion resulting from motorists stopping to watch these interesting animals approached serious proportions but most of the injuries received by persons who became too familiar with the bears were not of a serious nature. Extended observations provided rather conclusive proof that the bears are surprisingly tolerant of human beings who treat them as though they were completely domesticated. Acts of viciousness have been rare and it was not considered necessary to dispose of any black bears during August. Two mature female grizzly bears were destroyed in the Fishing Bridge Campground as their presence was a hazard to campers and their property. This brought the total of bears killed for control purposes to seventeen for the season.

Twenty-one persons were scratched or bitten by bears during August to bring the total of persons injured by these animals to forty for the season. Eight incidents involving damage to property by bears were reported, bringing the total for the season to twenty-five.

ELK. Deficient precipitation during the growing season has resulted in a serious shortage of forage on the northern winter range this year. Officials of the National Park Service, Montana Fish and Game Department and the Forest Service made observations of current forage conditions and informally discussed possible management measures which may be initiated to remove large numbers of surplus elk before the critical period of next winter. An outline of plans to effect a drastic reduction of the northern Yellowstone elk herd was submitted through the Regional Director, Region Two and to the Montana Fish and Game Department, Gallatin National Forest and the Absaroka Conservation Committee for approval.

FISH. Streams remained clear and at low levels during the month and anglers found difficulty in making limit catches. The usual decline in catches made on Yellowstone Lake and Yellowstone River were noted but skillful

fishermen and those who visited the more remote waters, achieved good to excellent results while novices were often disappointed by their lack of success.

A record of fish planted in park waters during August is as follows:

Waters Stocked	Species	Size	Number	Source
Yellowstone Lake	Blackspotted Trout	Adv. fry	550,000	Lake Hatchery
Lewis River	" "	" "	200,000	" "
Gallatin River	" "	" "	150,000	" "
Squaw Lake	" "	" "	192,000	" "
Aster Creek	" "	" "	100,000	" "
Midway Lake	" "	" "	50,000	" "
Middle Creek	" "	" "	25,000	" "
Gallatin River	Rainbow Trout	2½ to 3	20,000	Ennis Hatchery

Forest Fire Protection. Thirty-one fires were reported during the month of August. Of these fires 3 were Class B, 3 were Class D, 2 were Class E and the remaining 23 were Class A. The fire danger was high during the first half of August but from the 15th to the 21st it was very high or extreme, reaching a peak of 80 on August 21st. With this extreme fire danger it was impossible to suppress 5 small fires in remote areas and they blew up to Class D or E proportions soon after being reported.

Fire suppression duty occupied the time of all fire control aids during the month and no maintenance work was accomplished. Following the suppression of these fires the reconditioning work was begun in the fire caches and the balance of the season will be devoted to this work.

Blister Rust Control. Initial Ribes eradication work was accomplished in 350 acres during August with a total of 511 man-days. 112,600 Ribes plants were destroyed. Because it was necessary to use the blister rust control crews on fire suppression during much of the month nearly 500 man-days work were lost.

During the 1949 season 1,670 acres have been initially worked with a total of 1,757 man-days. To date 401,100 Ribes plants have been destroyed. 3,503 gallons of spray have been used.

Trails. During the first 17 days of August trail crew consisting of 1 foreman, 1 packer and some 4 to 6 laborers worked on the Shoshone Lake trail from the first meadow to the Shoshone Lake cabin. They also cleaned the blow-down on the Bechler trail approximately 1 mile from the Shoshone Lake Meadows. A cement floor was put in the patrol cabin. In addition to the above work the following man-days were spent on trail work throughout the month: Lamar, 23 man-days; West Yellowstone 23 man-days; Snake River 46 man-days.

Building Fire Protection. The August routine of follow-up building fire hazard inspections was broken up because of the forest fire emergency. However, some drills have been held in all hotels and lodges and at least one in each has been observed by Park Service officials. The regular August report is being prepared. Exit diagrams were placed in each guest room in both the Mammoth and Lake Hotels. These diagrams were placed in each room so that guests may be prepared to determine the nearest exit in case of fire before leaving his room.

Accidents and Public Safety. Visitors and park concessioner employees suffered 89 injuries according to reports received during the month. Injury reports for 14 Service employees were received but a part of these resulted from activities in connection with control of forest fires. A total of 103 personal injury reports were received but no fatal injury was recorded.

Seventy-two motor vehicle accidents occurred during the month of August. Forty-two of these accidents were classified as Class B and thirty as Class A. Four of the Class B accidents caused serious but not critical injuries to one or more occupants of the cars involved, while eight of the accidents resulted in minor injuries to those concerned.

Two accidents involved government vehicles. One of them caused considerable damage to the vehicle and minor injuries to the driver. No other cars were involved in either accident.

Law Enforcement. Twenty-eight law enforcement cases were presented before the U. S. Commissioner during the month with twenty-seven convictions and one dismissal resulting. One jail sentence was imposed and fines totaling $525.00 were assessed against violators. There were 13 cases of speeding, 1 drunken driving case, 1 fishing violation, 2 cases of defacement of natural features, 2 cases of drunk and disorderly conduct, 3 cases of operating a boat beyond the authorized distance from shore (one case dismissed), 1 petty larceny case, and 1 case of illegal retail of fruit products. Two auto theft cases, 1 assault and robbery case, and 1 pyromania case were bound over to the U. S. District Court in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Other cases investigated during the month included seven cases of petty larceny, four cases of grand larceny, and two cases of burglary.

Births. A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Murray at the Mammoth Hospital on August 14. Mr. Murray is employed as an Electrician with the National Park Service here.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. James A. Miller at the Mammoth Hospital on August 22. The Millers are from Iowa City, Iowa, and were touring through the park.

Deaths. Word was received that Dr. Frank E. A. Thone died at his home in Washington, D. C. on August 24 at the age of 58. Mr. Thone was a park ranger in the Yellowstone during the seasons of 1922, 1923 and 1924 and carried on ranger naturalist activities during most of his employment here.

The many friends of Olaf T. Hagen in the park were saddened to learn of his passing of a heart attack at his home in Omaha on August 27. Mr. Hagen had visited the park on several occasions and was extremely interested in the Yellowstone historical background.

Leo Stahlder, 48, Fall City, Nebraska, died of a heart attack at the Old Faithful tourist cabins on August 19.

Mrs. Clara Pilch, wife of Ludwik Pilch, National Park Service Janitor, died at the Mammoth Hospital August 31 after a long illness.

Marriages. Loren Penny and Rogene Nordstedt, both of Denver, were married in the Mammoth Chapel at 8:00 p.m. August 20. Rev. A. W. Seebart of the Livingston Congregational Church performed the ceremony.

Personnel. The July report failed to carry an item to the effect that Robert R. Robinson, Jr. was promoted from Master Mechanic, CAF-8, to Mechanical Supervisor, CAF-9, effective July 24, 1949.

Lloyd W. Seasholtz was promoted to Electrical Supervisor, CAF-9, from Electrician, CPC-10, effective August 7.

Louis M. A. Pytleske entered on duty as a Voucher Clerk in the Fiscal Office effective August 18 by transfer from the Navy Department in California.

Edmund B. Rogers
Superintendent

cc: Region Two, in quintuple
Files (2)

JJoffe:ekm

Files (2)

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