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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

	✓	ROGERS	
	✓	JOHNSTON	27
	✓	JOFFE	28
	✓	ANDERSON	29
		STANTON	
		FULLER	
	✓	MATTSON	30
	✓	CONDON	31
	✓	SKINNER	32
	✓	EVANS	33
		CHAPMAN	
		FINCH	
		JAY	
	✓	AITAMS	34
	✓	WATLESANDT	35
		ROBINSON	
		WIGGINS	
		McMULLIN	

FILE NO. 207-02.3

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1950

IMPORTANT

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NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.

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

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Summary of the April 1950 Monthly Narrative Report for
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

		Page
<u>WEATHER:</u>	Generally cool and stormy. Precipitation high. Maximum Mammoth 62°, minimum 3°. Snow packed & icy. Snow depths.	1
<u>SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:</u>	Rogers to Bozeman library, Livingston Ministerial Assn. conference, Billings Commercial Club Community Cooperation Dinner and Custer B.N.M. Joffe to Billings Community Cooperation Dinner and Helena Highway Dept. Traveler Counselor School.	1
	Gardiner High School proposal passed. 1950 census. New meal rates approved. Mattson to Glacier. New School Board appointed.	2
<u>INSPECTIONS:</u>	Weldon B. Robinson, Howard Baker, Maynard Barrows, William E. Robertson, in.	2
<u>IN-SERVICE TRAINING:</u>	First Aid School. Weekly news.	2
<u>PUBLICITY:</u>	Chicago Tribune article by Laurence Heron from info. furnished by park. Pictures furnished for articles. Press release re. opening dates. Article to AP by Joffe while in Helena.	2
<u>PLANS, MAPS AND SURVEYS:</u>	Plans for utilities Lake hotel cottage area. Topography Fishing Bridge campground. Lake sewer system plans.	3
<u>MAINTENANCE:</u>	Weather unfavorable for maintenance. Extensive breakup. Rock crusher operated. Mammoth snow fences and stakes removed. Crew to Gallatin. Norris footpaths damaged by pools. Load limit. Snow hard; double shift may be required to meet opening dates. Plows to O.F. 21st & West Yell. 24th; open to public 28th. Plows at Canyon 25th and 4 miles from Lake 30th. Opening road to Mt. Washburn. Road and snow crews totaling 22 men.	3
<u>NEW CONSTRUCTION:</u>	PS&E papers on Moran-Yellowstone section reviewed 4	

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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
FOR THE YEAR 1907

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FOR THE YEAR 1907

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
FOR THE YEAR 1907

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		<u>Page</u>
<u>CONCESSIONERS:</u>	Dr. Carlson to Cheyenne for deposition on bear injury suit. Hayneses visit park and open office at Mammoth. Povah arrived. Y.P. Co. on Mammoth Laundry. Helppie opened Hamilton O.F. Store. Amendment concessioners' regulations establishing 48-hour work week. Mrs. Pryor arrived.	4
<u>RELIGIOUS SERVICES AND CHAPEL USE:</u>	Easter Sunrise Services. Other church services. Play presented in Chapel. New Sunday School board and officers.	4
<u>INTERPRETIVE SERVICES:</u>	Colored motion films loaned Oakland school and Mt. Rushmore and slides loaned.	5
<u>MUSEUM ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS:</u>	Norris Museum roof damaged by snow. Work done in storage areas. Bison & elk skulls treated. Artifacts received from George Ash, La Jolla.	5
<u>RESEARCH AND OBSERVATION:</u>	Thermal activity at Mammoth; footpaths needing repair. Osprey, swan & other birds & animals observed. Photography of road opening & animals. Playful bison observed.	6
	Changes in Norris thermal area; trees broken by ice deposit from steam vent.	7
<u>NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:</u>	Books & maps received. Nature Notes. Miss Joan Swartzlow to be librarian.	7
<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE IN TRAVEL:</u>	671 vehicles with 1915 persons compared to 796 vehicles and 2304 persons last April, 16.8% decrease. Cold, stormy weather.	8
<u>VISITORS:</u>	Kenneth R. Jones, American Red Cross, in.	8
<u>RANGER SERVICE:</u>	Training in cash register operation; instruction manual prepared. Ranger manual revisions, forms & office supplies prepared. Preparation for ranger moves.	8
<u>WILDLIFE AND FISH CULTURAL ACTIVITIES: COYOTES:</u>	Collection of tagged coyotes. Robinson, F&WL Service, in.	8
<u>BISON:</u>	Herds observed. Calf seen. Heavy utilization & damage range forage.	8
<u>ELK:</u>	Following receding snow; lower range practically depleted; returned end month due storms. Paper on elk disposal revised.	9

	<u>Page</u>
<u>BADGER:</u>	Badger observed near Apollinaris Spring 9
<u>BEARS:</u>	Troublesome bear at Lake disposed of. 9
<u>RODENT CONTROL:</u>	114 ground squirrels disposed of. 9
<u>WILDLIFE RECORDS:</u>	History of Bison in Y.N.P. & Wildlife Atlas revised. Fish planting records completed. Manual revision provides for annual animal census report each district. 9
<u>FOREST FIRE PRO- TECTION:</u>	Chapman attended Missoula meeting re. fire-fighter rates. Stepup plan revised. 5 attended Glacier fire school. Training aids. 9
<u>BLISTER RUST CONTROL:</u>	Senior Checker selected. Workers accepted. 10
<u>BUILDING FIRE PRO- TECTION:</u>	Mammoth Hospital fire escape possibilities explored. Pressurized can extinguishers placed and on hand; one demonstrated at Glacier. 10
<u>TRAILS:</u>	Crews selected except foreman. Crew to work on Yellowstone River trail beginning May 1. 10
<u>ACCIDENTS AND PUBLIC SAFETY:</u>	Summary of traffic accidents. One Class B motor vehicle accident. 10
<u>BIRTHS:</u>	Son born to Mr. & Mrs. Wm. S. Chapman. 10
<u>DEATHS:</u>	Mrs. George A. Sproul, Lyle L. Bressler and Earl Hall deaths. 11
<u>MARRIAGES:</u>	Lawrence W. Vickrey and Nell Dean Pack married. 11
<u>PERSONNEL:</u>	Lyford Dore and Fireman (Shovel, Crane, Stationary) vice Ralph Reed, reassigned to Power-house Operator vice E. A. Allan, retired. Walter Kittams on military leave. Edward Schultz, Storekeeper (Gen.) r.t.d. Transfer of Catharine L. Gillum to Reclamation Service, Stockton, Calif. Intra-Agency Transfer & Promotion of Wm. A. Nyquist to Washington Office. Wm. G. Proper promoted to new position Personnel Assistant, GS-7. Virginia Fuller appt. seasonal Statistical Clerk, GS-3. 11
	Transfer of Robert Upton from Petrified Forest to Park Naturalist GS-7. Arnold G. Quist returned from trade school. Robert J. Carr promoted to Accounting Clerk, GS-5. 12
<u>MISCELLANEOUS:</u>	N.F.F.E. meeting; movies shown by Joffe. 12

Abstract of 1998-1999

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

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 4, 1950

Memorandum

To: The Director

From: Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Report for April 1950

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of April 1950.

Weather Conditions: Generally cool and stormy weather characterized the weather conditions during the month with precipitation falling on 14 days. Only nine days were reported as clear. Unusually severe storms for April occurred during the latter part of the month, when normally fair weather would be expected. Total precipitation for the month amounted to 1.79" as compared with 0.76" in 1949, 1.17" in 1948, 1.09" in 1947, 0.36" in 1946. The maximum temperature of 62° occurred on the 21st with a minimum of 8° on the 30th. A few representative snow depths at the end of the month are as listed:

Canyon	49.4"	Sylvan Pass	108"
Lake	34.2"	Lewis River Divide	110"
East Entrance	13.3"	South Entrance	24"

The snow is packed hard with layers of ice alternating with layers of packed snow. This condition coupled with continued cold weather has slowed the snow removal from park roads considerably.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers visited the library in Bozeman on April 6 and April 13 to obtain data in connection with his project covering the legislative history of the National Park Service. On the 14th he attended conference in Livingston with members of the Park County Ministerial Association regarding church services in the park, and he made a trip to Custer Battlefield National Monument and Billings on April 26, spending the night in Billings and attending the 13th Annual Billings Commercial Club Community Cooperation Dinner. The following day he returned to Custer for further conference with Superintendent Luce and returned to the park that night.

Administrative Assistant Joffe also attended the Community Cooperation Dinner in Billings on the night of the 26th and attended a Travel Counselor School at Helena sponsored by the Montana Highway Department on April 10 and 11.

DEPT. OF THE ARMY

Election was held in Park County Montana on April 1 to provide for the establishment of a new high school in Gardiner. The members of the Gardiner community expended every effort to get the voters out for the election and were rewarded in seeing the passing of the proposal.

The 1950 census enumeration was begun on April 1 and work got underway in the park on April 3. Mrs. W. Verde Watson was appointed as census enumerator for the Yellowstone.

A new schedule of meal rates was approved by the Washington Office on April 7 and became effective April 2. The schedule provided for a single meal rate of \$1.10 and \$2.50 per day.

Resident Landscape Architect Mattson went to Glacier National Park on April 9 to handle matters affecting that park, returning to the Yellowstone on the 14th.

On April 18 the Superintendent appointed a new School Board for the Yellowstone beginning July 1, 1950, which included W. Verde Watson as President, Mrs. Deate T. White, Member, and Mrs. Charles C. Schmid, Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Watson and Mrs. White were hold-over members while Mrs. Schmid was appointed for a 3-year term to succeed Mrs. Elmer F. Armstrong.

Inspections: Weldon B. Robinson, Predatory Animal Officer, Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, in April 4 to continue studies on coyote migrations; departed April 19. Howard W. Baker, Associate Regional Director, Region Two, in north from Glacier April 23, out 27. Maynard Barrows, Forester, Region Two, in north from Glacier April 23, out 24. William E. Robertson, Engineer, Region Two, in Gardiner April 24, out 27.

In-Service Training. The Protection Division arranged a First Aid School as part of the In-Service Training Program of the division. Kenneth R. Jones, Field Representative, Pacific Area, American Red Cross, served as instructor for the school from April 3 to 6, inclusive. One employee of the Engineering Division completed the advanced course. One Park Naturalist, one Property Clerk, and fifteen Park Rangers completed the instructor course.

The regular weekly newsletter was issued to all employees, keeping them current on park activities.

Publicity. The Chicago Tribune of April 2 carried a very good Yellowstone article by Laurence T. Heron from information furnished by the park. A number of pictures were furnished from the park for illustrating articles on the Yellowstone, several having been furnished for publicity in Germany. On April 26 a press release was sent to the Associated Press, United Press and several papers in the vicinity of the park with regard to the opening of roads and services for the 1950

season. Another article with regard to the 1950 season was furnished the Associated Press, Helena, by Administrative Assistant Joffe while he was in Helena on April 11 attending the Travel Counselors School.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Plans were completed for the roads, sewer and water in the Lake hotel cottage area and submitted to the Regional Office for approval. Topography for the Fishing Bridge campground is being plotted. Plans for the main Lake sewer system were completed except for the design of the dosing tank and sand filter. These also were submitted to the Regional Office for approval.

Resident Landscape Architect Mattson spent a large part of the first and third weeks of the month on master plan preparation.

Maintenance. April was very unfavorable for maintenance. High winds and snow together with cold weather prevented making much headway in repairing surface failures. Spring breakup has been much more extensive than anticipated on the Mammoth-Lamar section and the West Entrance-Madison Junction section is also breaking up extensively. Heavy patching has been carried on whenever weather would permit.

The old rock crusher was operated for a few days getting out material for the Mammoth-Gardiner section. Snow fences and stakes in the Mammoth area were removed, but because of the unfavorable weather it would have been more desirable to allow them to remain standing for a later period.

A small crew was sent to the Gallatin section on April 17.

About 100 feet of footpath in the Norris Geyser Basin has been damaged by numerous hot pools breaking out in the pathway. A restricted load limit was placed on all park roads temporarily. Snow plowing operations started shortly after the first of the month and a full crew was organized and put in operation on the 17th. Snow depths have not been excessive but the snow is extremely hard and icy and double shifts may be required to meet the tentative opening dates. The snowplows reached Old Faithful on April 21 and West Yellowstone April 24. These roads were open to travel by the public on the 28th. The plows working on the east side of the park reached Canyon April 25 and by the end of the month were four miles from Lake. Plowing to Cooke was also needed several times during the month, which is rather unusual. Work was started on opening the road to Dunraven Pass on April 5 to permit late skiing on the Mount Washburn slopes.

At the end of the month crews were located at Mammoth and Gallatin and the snowcrew at Norris with a total of twenty-two men.

1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work done during the year.

2. The second part of the report deals with the work done in the various departments of the country and the progress of the work done during the year.

3. The third part of the report deals with the work done in the various departments of the country and the progress of the work done during the year.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the work done in the various departments of the country and the progress of the work done during the year.

5. The fifth part of the report deals with the work done in the various departments of the country and the progress of the work done during the year.

6. The sixth part of the report deals with the work done in the various departments of the country and the progress of the work done during the year.

7. The seventh part of the report deals with the work done in the various departments of the country and the progress of the work done during the year.

8. The eighth part of the report deals with the work done in the various departments of the country and the progress of the work done during the year.

New Construction. P.S.&E. papers for the Moran-Yellowstone Boundary (South Approach Road) Unit 2, 1-D and Portion A, Grading and Surfacing 8.380 miles were received in the Superintendent's office and reviewed together with the title sheet.

Construction of Section 1-D and portion of C, Grading, will become active when the snow leaves.

There was no field work on major road construction during the month.

Concessioners. Dr. Norman L. Carlson, Resident Physician, left the park on April 1 on a trip to Cheyenne, Wyoming, in order to have depositions taken in connection with a bear injury suit which has been filed against the Government. He returned on the 5th. During his absence Mrs. Dwight Richards looked after the medical service in the park.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Haynes visited the park from Bozeman on April 3 and on the 19th Mr. Haynes moved to the park with a crew and opened his office at Mammoth.

Trev Povah, General Manager, Yellowstone Park Service Stations, arrived in the park April 15.

The Yellowstone Park Company started work on its Mammoth Laundry on April 17.

Gar Helppie, Manager, Hamilton Stores, Inc., arrived in the park with a crew on April 25 and proceeded to Old Faithful to open up the store and take care of visitors who were to be permitted to travel on the west side of the park beginning April 28.

On April 25 the Secretary of the Interior approved an amendment to the concessioners regulations establishing a 48 hour regular work week with time and one-half for overtime to become effective May 1.

Mrs. Anna K. Pryor, President Pryor Stores, Inc., arrived in the park via the West Gate April 29.

Religious Services and Chapel Use. Special 6 a.m. Easter candlelight services were held in the chapel on April 9. Rev. E. A. Syms presented the sermon and the service was well attended by people from the park and nearby areas.

Rev. Webster Clement conducted Lutheran services in the chapel on the evening of April 24. Rev. E. A. Syms conducted services in the chapel on the evenings of April 23 and April 30 in addition to the Easter services.

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On April 13 the Library Board presented a program in the chapel which consisted of a one-act play put on by Montana State College students, and an organ concert presented by Mr. Richard Bailey of Montana State College.

The residents of the community elected a new Sunday School board and officers at a public meeting on April 11. Mr. Frank Mattson was elected Sunday School Superintendent, Dennis Hess, Assistant Superintendent and Robert Hursh, Secretary-Treasurer. Sunday School board members are Mrs. Arthur Jacobson, Mr. Thomas F. Ela, Mr. J. Stanley Fillmore and Mrs. W. Verde Watson.

Interpretive Services. There were no outside interpretive activities carried on by the members of the Naturalist Division during April, but some of the Division's interpretive visual aids materials were sent out on loan. A 1600 ft. colored moving picture on Yellowstone was loaned to the Technical Adult School in Oakland, California, for their use in the course "Travel in the National Parks."

An 800 ft. colored motion picture was loaned to the Superintendent of Mount Rushmore National Memorial for his use in presenting programs to civic groups in the vicinity of that area. A representative set of 100, 2x2 Kodaslide were sent on loan to Morgan Levelle for his use in presenting a number of programs on Yellowstone Park at Van Nuys, California.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. The museums at Old Faithful, Madison and Norris were examined during the month and no serious damage from rodents or the weather was observed except at Norris. This museum has a section of the cornice from the roof broken off by the over-load of snow and it will be necessary to make physical repairs to the structure before the season begins.

Three days during the month were given over to placing in order the red storehouse and laboratory storage areas. Many accessioned specimens were transferred from the museum to the laboratory storage and also much material was moved from the red storehouse to the laboratory storage and both areas were placed in neat, usable order.

Two bison scalps were treated with salt in order to preserve them pending possible requests from institutions for them as specimens to mount. The skulls of these animals and an additional number from elk and bison have been placed in an enclosure so that scavengers can clean them. These will be used at the various museums and areas where they might add atmosphere.

The headquarters museum received a shipment of old records, pictures and literature from Mr. George L. H. Ash of La Jolla, California. Many of these items are valuable additions to the park's historical records and will be accessioned as part of our museum artifacts.

Research and Observation. Opal Spring at the base of the terraces and the new spring on the Palette Spring terrace level are very active and exceedingly beautiful. The old Palette Spring is still active and exceedingly beautiful. The old Palette Spring is still active but flows a very small quantity of water. There are four very active springs in the Angel Terrace area; a new one having developed out near the edge of the old terrace basins where the springs were so active in the 1920's. The terrace basins and algal growth in this vicinity are of unusual forms and color. Narrow Gauge Terrace and spring continues to be exceedingly active with water coming out of many vents along the crest of the terrace and has built up a large series of terraces and basins all along this large rib of travertine. The Minerva Terrace and Springs are very active flowing down over the sinter in several directions for a long distance. The Cleopatra Terrace and spring is completely dry and gives no sign of possible activity there. The Main Terrace is very active at the site of Blue Spring and has flooded an extensive area of basins with some of the water flowing down over the front of Jupiter.

The foot paths over the terraces are in a very poor state of repair. The board walks which were installed have some broken planks in them which must be fixed before they will be safe for heavy travel and the asphalt walks have virtually all weathered out and in many places there are deep pits which make walking dangerous. Before the season gets under way an extensive program of walk improvements should be carried on in this area.

The osprey nesting at Eagle's Nest Rock in Gardiner Canyon were first observed by Chief Park Naturalist Condon in their nesting site on April 5. The Northern violet-green swallows were vying with the blue-birds for nesting sites at Mammoth on April 8 and Western robins and mountain bluebirds were seen in numbers on April 2. Sandhill cranes were seen and watched for some time in April 15 near Nymph Lake and on April 19 a pair were observed doing their mating dance in the meadows at Norris. On a trip to Frying Pan Springs area on the 15th elk in large numbers were seen on the slopes of Terrace Mountain, near Roaring Mountain and Nymph Lake. Moose were seen in Willow Park and the Hoodoo areas. Three trumpeter swan were seen on Nymph Lake and one lone swan was sitting on the snow out at the edge of Swan Lake. This bird was observed when going out to Nymph Lake and in the same place later that day when returning.

On April 19 the day was spent in the field by Park Naturalists Watson and Condon. At that time a number of pictures were made of the road opening operations and natural history subjects. Bull elk still carrying their antlers were observed at Roaring Mountain. A group of bison on the Madison River below Madison Junction proved to be of exceeding interest in that it was the first time that either of the naturalists had observed mature bison in such a playful mood. These huge animals

were playfully jumping and gambolling about like young lambs. They would chase each other around and they would bunt and push each other and occasionally would roll about in the dust. They all seemed especially delighted with the spring-like weather. Many of the elk observed were in poor flesh and the bison, although very active, did not appear to be as healthy and vigorous as those observed in the Lamar Valley area. Evidence of two dead deer was observed along the Firehole River above the Firehole Cascades.

In the Norris Geyser Basin there have been several interesting changes in the activity of the hydrothermal phenomena. One of the major changes of importance has been that there is an apparent dividing of the steam release from the Black Growler Vent with the development of a new vent about 10 feet down into the Valentine Crater rim from the Black Growler Vent. These two roaring vents are undoubtedly supplied their energy from a common source for observation of them for several minutes indicated that violent bursts of pressure were simultaneous in the two vents and the pressure at the old Black Growler Vent is not as great as in other years due to this division. The loud roaring noise is not as evident as in the past because with the pressure released from two vents it is no longer as rigidly confined and does not make as much noise.

Last year and the year before comments were made with respect to the apparent change in the prevailing breeze in the vicinity of the Black Growler Vent which has brought about the deposition of vapors on the lodgepole pine forest which encroaches upon the geyser basin and the subsequent destruction of many of these trees by this ice mass. This past winter the same sort of situation has prevailed and a strip of trees some 30 feet wide and probably 100 feet long has been broken down by the influence of ice which probably has had its origin from the vapors of the Black Growler steam vent.

Natural History Association. Several shipments of books for resale by the Association have been received during the month in addition to which 2,000 U. S. Geological Survey topographic maps of Yellowstone Park were obtained for resale purposes.

The Association published Yellowstone Nature Notes and 390 copies were placed in the mail on April 21.

Additional supplies were purchased by the Association for the future publication of Nature Notes.

Final arrangements were made by the Executive Secretary for the employment of Miss Joan Swartzlow as librarian for the 1950 season and it is anticipated her entry on duty will be on June 15.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. Travel was slightly less than for the same period last year. A total of 671 vehicles carrying 1915 persons entered the park during the month as compared with 796 vehicles and 2304 persons for April 1949, or a decrease of 16.8%. The reason for the decrease is attributed to the cold, stormy weather this year as compared to the warm, balmy weather last April. The road from the north to west entrances was opened to travel on April 28, while it was opened on April 30 last year. However, a severe blizzard prevailed on the 28th and 29th this year and practically no travel occurred on these two days.

Visitors. Mr. Kenneth R. Jones, Field Representative, American Red Cross, San Francisco, California, was in the park from April 3 to 6 conducting a First Aid Course.

Ranger Service. A representative from the National Cash Register Company spent one day in the park training all available rangers in the detailed operation of the new cash registers which will be used at all park entrance stations this summer. In connection with this training a Manual of Instructions explaining the operation and procedure of the registers, including the collection and handling of fees, has been prepared. Copies of the manual will be sent to the Regional Office and the Director. The park administrative and report manuals have been revised and brought up to date and all required mimeographed forms for the summer have been prepared. Office supplies have been prepared for all field stations. Preparations have been made for moving the rangers to their summer field stations as soon as road and other conditions will permit.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. COYOTES. Collection of tagged coyotes was intensified during April to recover tags from the animals which were drifting up country during the spring. Biologist Robinson and one assistant collected nine coyotes on the northern winter range area during April and park rangers collected three. Robinson remained in the park from April 4 to 19 and expects to return and make more collections during late May.

BISON. Most of the Lamar bison were found in the Horseshoe area during April but some drifted down country to Hellroaring and two small bunches were seen on Specimen Ridge. The first calf was seen on April 9 but appeared to be four or five days old at that time. Utilization of range forage in areas used by the bison was very heavy and trampling was noted to be causing additional damage to the vegetation.

ELK. Elk followed the receding snow up country to secure forage as utilization of grasses and other palatable plants was practically complete on range areas which had been available during the winter. Snow and unseasonably cold weather during late April caused large numbers of elk to return to the lowest parts of the winter range within the park causing further damage by trampling during periods of alternate thawing and freezing.

Chief Ranger Skinner revised his paper "Problem of Surplus Elk in Yellowstone National Park" and the graph and tabulation which accompanies the paper was brought up-to-date. This paper has proved of great value in presenting the background for current management practices.

BADGER. Several park employees observed a badger which frequented the area near Apollinaris Spring where the snow was about three feet in depth when the road was opened after mid-April. Badgers are known to inhabit the forested plateau areas of the park but are more commonly seen on the northern and lower parts of the park.

BEARS. A mature black bear, which had hibernated in the vicinity of the Lake Hotel, proved quite vicious after he emerged. He attempted to break into the winterkeeper's quarters, chased the employees, and forced them to remain indoors. Upon investigation it was decided to dispose of the animal which was in very poor condition and had been responsible for repeated damage to buildings before he hibernated last fall.

RODENT CONTROL. Control of ground squirrels in the Mammoth area was started on April 20 and 83 were disposed of by the end of the month. Thirty-one were disposed of in the Tower Falls area making a total of 114. Storms and cold weather prevented continuing the work the last week of April.

WILDLIFE RECORDS. Seven copies of "History of the Bison in Yellowstone National Park" were brought up-to-date by recording all pertinent data collected during the past year. The Wildlife Atlas also was completed by entering all new data. Two separate permanent fish planting records were completed so that they are now current. The Park Ranger's Report Manual has been revised to provide for the submission of an "Annual Animal Census Report" from each ranger district.

Forest Fire Protection. On April 12 Assistant Chief Ranger Chapman attended the meeting held at Missoula, Montana, by the Forest Service for the purpose of establishing forest fire fighter wage rates for the coming season. All interested governmental agencies were represented. It was the general consensus of opinion that wage rates would probably remain very close to the present ones during the coming season and with one exception the rates will be the same as last year. The rate for strawboss was raised from \$1.25 per hour to \$1.40 as it was felt that in general the \$1.40 rate was more comparable to the wages ordinarily received by that class of man.

The Step-up Plan was revised in order to more adequately man our secondary lookouts, provide for aerial detection and also to provide for a full-time dispatcher to go on duty when the fire weather and fire load became sufficiently high to warrant the action.

Assistant Chief Ranger Finch, District Park Ranger Jacobson and Park Rangers Hess, Nelson and Harry Reynolds attended the Regional Fire School in Glacier National Park April 17-21.

Several new training aids were completed during the month.

Blister Rust Control. A Senior Checker with considerable experience has been selected for employment with the Blister Rust Control Crew for this summer. At the close of the month twenty-three men had accepted work on the Blister Rust Crew.

Building Fire Protection. Possibilities for obtaining some sort of practical fire escape for the Mammoth Hospital were explored during the month.

Twenty-six of the new type pressurized can extinguishers were placed in emergency locations in Mammoth. The remainder of the six dozen on hand will be kept for emergency use throughout the park. One of these extinguishers was taken to the Regional Fire School at Glacier where it was demonstrated. It appeared to be the consensus of opinion that it was equal to a one-quart carbon tetrachloride extinguisher on both Class A and B fires.

Weather conditions during the last week of April delayed the testing of hose in the outdoor hose houses and the training of the Mammoth fire engine crew.

Trails. By the end of the month selection had been made for filling all trail positions with the exception of a foreman. A small crew will be assigned to work on the Yellowstone River trail May 1.

Annual inventories of trail equipment and requests for equipment needed were made out and turned in to the Regional Office.

Accidents and Public Safety. A complete summary of traffic accidents which occurred during 1949 was prepared and submitted with an occurrence spot map and traffic volume records. The analysis was used to prepare recommendations for improving the traffic safety on park roads. This is the third summary and analysis which has been prepared and submitted by the Protection Division.

One Class B motor vehicle accident was reported during the month, involving a Yellowstone Park Company employee and the son of a Government employee. No injuries resulted.

Births. A son was born to Assistant Chief Ranger and Mrs. William S. Chapman at the Park Hospital in Livingston on April 2. He was named Jon Ross.

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Deaths. Mrs. George A. Sproul, 90, mother of Mrs. Cecil A. Lord, died at Camden, Maine, April 2. Mrs. Sproul lived in the Yellowstone for a number of years during the time that Mr. Cecil A. Lord was Park Engineer.

Lyle L. Bressler, Chief Clerk at Grand Teton National Park, died in that park on April 6. Mr. Bressler visited the Yellowstone on numerous occasions in connection with park work during his employment in Grand Teton.

Earl Hall, merchant of Gardiner, Montana, died in a Billings hospital on April 13. Mr. Hall was a member of the W. A. Hall family who have conducted a general store in Gardiner for more than sixty years. He was a member of the Montana Legislature for several terms. He was present at the dedication of the North Entrance Arch by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1903. Services were held in Livingston on April 15 and he was buried in Bozeman, Montana.

Marriages. Lawrence W. Vickrey, Fiscal Accounting Clerk (Cashier), was married to Mrs. Nell Dean Pack of West Yellowstone in Idaho Falls on April 30.

Personnel. Lyford W. Dore entered on duty as Fireman (Shovel, Crane, Stationary) on April 2 vice Ralph Reed who was reassigned to the position of Powerhouse Operator, Ungraded, on April 2. Mr. Reed succeeded Mr. E. A. Allan who retired at the close of business March 31, 1950.

Walter Kittams, Biologist, was on military leave from April 3 to 17.

Edward M. Schultz was returned to duty as Storekeeper (General), GS-3 on April 5.

The transfer of Catharine L. Gillum, Accounting Clerk, GS-5 to the position of Voucher Clerk GS-5, Bureau of Reclamation, Stockton, California, was approved April 6. Her transfer became effective at 8:00 a.m. April 29. She expected to depart for Stockton on May 1.

The Intra-Agency Transfer and Promotion of William A. Nyquist, District Park Ranger, GS-7 to Chief, Management and Protection Section (Budget Analyst), GS-9, Washington Office, was approved effective at the close of business April 7. Mr. Nyquist and his family departed for Washington by automobile April 9.

William G. Proper, Personnel Clerk, GS-5 was promoted to the newly established position of Personnel Assistant, GS-7 effective April 7.

Virginia T. Fuller was appointed as Statistical Clerk, GS-3, seasonal, April 10.

The transfer of Robert F. Upton, Park Naturalist, GS-7, Petrified Forest National Monument, to the position of Park Naturalist, GS-7, Yellowstone, became effective 8:00 a.m. April 20. Mr. Upton arrived in the Yellowstone on the 29th.

Arnold G. Quist, who has been on annual leave since December 27 attending a trade school in Kansas City, Missouri, under the G.I. Bill, returned to the park April 27.

Robert J. Carr, Property Clerk, GS-4 was promoted to the position of Accounting Clerk, GS-5 vice Catharino L. Gillum effective April 30.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of the National Federation of Federal Employees, Local No. 465 was held in the Canteen April 3. Several reels of park pictures were shown by Administrative Assistant Joffe.

Edmund B. Rogers
Superintendent

cc: Region Two, in quintuple
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