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CONFERENCE ON NORTHWEST WILDERNESS SET IN PORTLAND

The FWOC, representing 32 hiking and mountaineering clubs in the Western states, has called a conference to exchange "conflicting views on values of undeveloped wild country found in national forests and parks". Many renowned speakers in the field of conservation are scheduled to participate, as well as representatives from labor and forest management. This offers to us a rare and timely treat, as the viewpoints expressed at this conference will, in effect, attempt to crystallize the thinking of the conservationists on the continuing threat of reduction and/or commercialism of our wilderness areas, as well as setting forth the values of these areas.

A sign-up sheet is posted at Hendershott's, with space for expected time of departure, number of passengers wanted, length of time you expect to stay, etc. Bob McDill, TRIPS chairman (RI 6-2908), will serve as coordinator, so that as many interested Obsidians and friends as possible will be able to attend.

The complete program is printed so that those planning to attend may choose the topic or speaker which they may want to hear, if unable to attend both days.

FIRST DAY . . . SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1956 "INVENTORY OF AREAS" SECOND DAY . . . SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 1956 "WILDERNESS VALUES"

<p>9:00 Call to Order - Leo Gallagher</p> <p>9:15 "Inventory of Wilderness, Wild and Limited Areas of Washington and Oregon" - Richard Bowe, USFS, Portland, describes some 10 such areas.</p> <p>10:15 "National Park Wilderness of Washington and Oregon" - Conrad Wirth, Director, National Park Service.</p> <p>11:15 "Wilderness Areas of British Columbia" - Speaker from the BCFS.</p> <p>12:00 Noon Luncheon - Speaker, Dave Brower, Exec. Dir. of the Sierra Club.</p>	<p>9:00 "Scientific Values" - James Kezer, Obsidian, Prof. of Biology, U. of O.</p> <p>9:30 "Values to American Labor"-Al Hartung Pres., International Woodworkers of America, CIO.</p> <p>10:30 "Human Values" - Fred M. Packard, Exec. Sec., National Parks Assoc.</p> <p>12:00 Noon Luncheon - Speaker, W. H. Ober- teuffer, Boy Scout Executive, "Values to American Youth".</p>
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AFTERNOON . . THREATS TO THE WILDERNESS AFTERNOON . . CONFLICTS WITH THE WILDERNESS

<p>2:00 Mining - Kay Wolfe, ret. USFS information representative.</p> <p>3:30 "Commercial Threats" - Lyle Watts, former Chief Forester, USFS.</p> <p>6:00 Banquet - Howard Zahnizer, Exec. Sec. The Wilderness Society, Speaker. Motion Pictures and slides, "The Proposed Glacier Peak Wilderness Area", Phil Zalesky, Everett, Wash. Mountaineers.</p>	<p>2:00 "Forest Industries" - Ed Heacox, Managing Forester, Weyerhaeuser Timber Company, Tacoma.</p> <p>3:30 "Effects of Wilderness on Game Management" - (speaker hoped to be Frank Defresne, editor of "Field and Stream")</p> <p>4:30 ADJOURNMENT</p>
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ALL MEETINGS AND BANQUET AT THE MULTNOMAH HOTEL. KARL ONTHANK, PRESIDENT FWOC, PRESIDING AT LUNCHEONS. RESERVATIONS FOR BANQUET (\$3.00 per plate) MAY BE MADE WITH PAUL GERHARDT, 425 N. W. SKYLINE BOULEVARD, PORTLAND 1. SEE YOU THERE!

AUGUST FIFTH TO NINETEENTH

"The Best Yet"

Now that spring has finally arrived -- people's thoughts are turning to gardening, fishing, and walking the high country, as soon as possible, Your OUTING COMMITTEE is planning what we think will be the most outstanding Summer Camp to date, barring neither the Tetons nor Glacier. Our bus will be piloted by Clancy Bankhead, which will relieve you of the drudgery of driving so you can give full attention to the scenic wonders of British Columbia and Alberta. Our destination this summer will be the biggest concentration of National Parks in all of North America. We plan to visit and explore Jasper, Banff, Yoho, and Kootenay National Parks. Our first camp site will probably be Johnston Canyon, located equidistant from Banff & Lake Louise.

The second week will find us in the Jasper area, traveling past the Columbia Ice Fields, where we will see Mt. Edith Cavell, Angel Glacier, & Miette Hot Sprgs. where we will rejuvenate our tired legs & feet. To return, we will probably go out the North end of the Park, then south down the middle of Alberta.

For a thrilling climax to our summer vacation we will traverse Glacier Park after a night at our beloved St. Marys Lake. Come to our Obsidian Night in May, see colored slides of the areas, and get full information on "The Best Yet".

Gene Sebring

SPRING AT THE COAST

Instead of "Winter at the Coast", the theme for the weekend of March 24-25 has advanced a season. But the details remain the same, and are herewith repeated so that no one goes hungry or has to sleep in the oyster beds. Bring TWO potluck dishes, one for Sat. night & one for Sun. noon. Sun. breakfast will be furnished. Cost not over \$2.50 per each; with children who bring own sleeping gear guests of the club. Children are welcome on this "family trip" outing. A tour through a lighthouse still highlights the agenda, so call Mary Cavagnaro (DI 5-6704) if you haven't already signed.

WATCH REGISTER-GUARD FOR IMPROMPTU POTLUCK FOR DR. & MRS. OLAUS MURIE, COMING FROM MOOSE, WYO. FOR WILDERNESS CONFAB. HE IS PRES. OF THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY.

OUTSIDE FUN

MARCH 24-25 Coast Trip to Beachcomber's Rest. Ray and Mary Cavagnaro, Ldrs.

APRIL 1 Easter, All Go To Church.

APRIL 8 Ski McKenzie with Ray Sims, leave at 10 A.M. from Park Blocks.

APRIL 15 Hobo Breakfast at Armitage Park, 8:30 A.M.; bring own breakfast and service; coffee, wood, and outdoor atmosphere will be furnished. Helen and Paul Weiser, hosts.

APRIL 22 Weyerhaeuser Logging Area; visit the old forgotten cemetery. Bob Medill, Ldr.

APRIL 29 Chase Gardens Tour; Wayne Bailey, Ldr.

INSIDE FUN

MARCH 30 Friday, the regular Natural History Society meeting will feature Dr. J. Arnold Shotwell, curator of the Natural History Museum, U. of O. speaking on "Recent Fossil Finds in Oregon". Room 207, Chapman Hall, 8:00 p.m.

APRIL 2 "first Monday Picture Night" -- Joe Daniel will show his "honeymoon pictures" at Friendly House - Mardi Gras - etc.

APRIL 7 & 8 Northwest Wilderness Confab, Multnomah Hotel, Portland.

APRIL 12 Thursday, Ned Graves, past Obsidian, and presently Western Rep. of National Parks Assoc., will show slides of Canadian Rockies, our Summer Outing locale. May be that Philip Hyde, one of country's leading scenic photogs, will be along, displaying photos of national parks and monuments. Natural History Society sponsored, 207 Chapman Hall, 8 p.m.

APRIL 14 Regular Sat. Night Potluck and Polka Party at River Road Clubhouse -- 6:30 p.m.

APRIL 20 Regular Obsidian Friday Night, Search & Climbing Committee entertains with thrilling pics and wary words at Skinner's Butte, 7:30 p.m. Business meeting first.





A NEW KIND OF TRIP

A new function for Obsidians, and what fun it was; the Greyhound bus trip to Benson High in Portland for the showing of the superb color moving picture of the two Swiss expeditions to Mt. Everest, one before and one after the monsoon season, 1952.

The personable young Swiss, Norman Dyhrenfurth, whose parents were climbers of similar renown, did the narration as well as the photography, and took us through the foothills in beautiful fall color, -- across the flimsy footbridges spanning the roaring creeks, making camp after camp (the natives do most all the work), and finally arriving at the foot of the long glaciers which protect the mountain from all but the hardest and best equipped.

The use of rope bridges to cross the widest of the crevasses proved the highlight of the show, and the audience seemed to share the bitter disappointment of the party as oxygen supplies ran out within 800 feet of the summit. It was with interest and believing that the crowd of 1500 or more heard the narrator admit that it was a stroke of luck as well as ability that gave Tenzing and Hillary their conquest a year later, "on one of the few days in the past many years the wind velocity on the route of the final summit dash dropped below 100 miles per hour". (There were many fine shots of Tenzing on the film).

After a dinner in downtown Portland, -- during which Marian Anderson swished by the table, the bus returned home in the wee hours of the morning. Those attending: Mildred Ball, Walt Banks, Lyle Campbell, Mrs. Campbell, Dale & Henry Carlson, M. & B. Castellloe, R. & M. Cavagnaro, Kay Faye, Jerry Fehly, Betty & Ray Harris, Lillian Johnson, Arlene & Ernie Keasling, Mary & Bob Medill, Norene Von Ohlen, Lloyd Plaisted, Dorothy Ruse, Virginia & Gene Sebring, Ray & Jim Sims, Roxie & Louie Waldorf, and Helen & Paul Weiser.

Ray Sims

WINTER OUTING ANOTHER SUCCESS

The Winter Outing at Mazama Lodge was attended and enjoyed by 30 Obsidians and guests. One casualty, that of Dorothy Scherer (crushed leg bone at ankle end) -- dampened the enjoyment on Sunday. But Dorothy was a good sport, as usual, and seemed quite cheerful through the whole thing. (Cast came off Monday-Mar.19).

Our thanks to Mazamas, and Margaret and Bill Oberteuffer, our hosts, and for good skiing, eating, dancing, relaxing.

BOARD NOTES

Membership - Dave Burwell found the pressure of forestry too great, resignation regretfully accepted; Merle Simmons welcomed as new Associate.

Conservation - Karl Onthank described Wilderness Confab of last year at Berkeley -- and some of the results which were subsequently seen, i.e., some packers carrying out trash, instead of running an empty string of animals. Description of coming NW Wilderness Conference, present status of Three Sister's Wilderness controversy, and Senator Neuberger's bill to cancel Beaver Marsh license; each adequately covered. Board granted request for funds for postage (\$25) on flyer envelopes currently being addressed by Obsidian women (and unwary husbands). Lengthy official statement of this committee was shown, and passed for publication in this issue.

Climbing and Search - Gene and Ray are continuing their worthwhile training program for Boy Scouts and Explorers, scheduling two such meetings in March. The April Obsidian Night was also reserved for their use.

Entertainment - The monthly 2nd Sat. & 3rd Fri. planned programs are meeting with continued success. For those who enjoy an active off-season schedule, you have the best the Committee has to offer.

TRAIL ings... We wish Mark Sebring speedy recovery from his recent hernia operation. He's home again, and happy . . . Also Dorothy Scherer, who found the glide on Glade a bit too.....

Donna & Al Lindley greeted new little Jennifer Ann on February 20.

Blaine & Shirley McGillicuddy live in Monterey Park, Cal.; Blaine attends UCLA. Helen & Allen Meriwether live in Denver where Al works for Geological Survey... They have 2 boys, Paul & Davis (b. Jan. 5)

Karl Onthank is winging his way to Washington to participate in the Senate hearing as SAVE THE MCKENZIE and FWOC rep. to kill the Beaver Marsh Project. He requests further notes to Sen. Dick Neuberger, (D.Ore.) Senate Office Bldg., Wash. 25, DC, asking a yes (to revoke lic.) vote at climax of hearing, beginning Mar. 21.

The Princesses are making plans for the all-club
RUMMAGE SALE Sat. May 26
31 W. 7th St.
Will appreciate contributions of
rummage and sales help.
CALL US

OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF THE SCIENCE & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REGARDING THE PROPOSED POWER PROJECT OF THE EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD ON THE UPPER MCKENZIE

(The following is another in the current series of factual and editorial comment on Lane County's effort in the nationwide battle to conserve natural beauty. While those of us in Lane Co. are kept ever-mindful of the status of this issue via press, radio, and TV it behooves this organization, as one dedicated to conservation, and this publication as its voice, to keep informed the 30% of its "subscribers" residing outside the area of influence of the "heat of battle". While some may feel the ammunition is being wasted on an already sympathetic and informed membership, the printing of past and present material remains as much a matter of principle as of necessity. No one will deny that we need all the help which can be mustered, both presently and in the future, from near and far, on any issue of the magnitude of Beaver Marsh and its implications. We would rather err in the direction of too much material, than be looked upon by other clubs and outdoor enthusiasts as not doing everything possible during the present emergency to adequately inform those on the periphery, of our own problems in our own locality, as those problems, we know, will affect many besides residents of Lane County. Ed.)

The Committee on Science and Conservation (hereinafter called the Committee) wishes to take this opportunity to issue a statement regarding the proposed Beaver Marsh Project (hereinafter called Project) of EWEB. Many highly misleading statements have recently been made about this proposed power installation and for this reason we feel that it is desirable for the Committee to call attention to a number of facts that should aid in the clarification of the basic issues that are involved in this highly controversial question. Jim Jeppesen's stimulating article in the last issue of the Obsidian Bulletin presents an excellent description of the Upper McKenzie and we suggest that all Obsidians who are not thoroughly familiar with the area under dispute should read this article with care.

The EWEB has implied that the power project can be installed without major damage to the natural beauty of this last remaining relatively unaltered portion of the McKenzie. It is the duty of this Committee to warn all Obsidians (and the many other outdoor enthusiasts who are periodically exposed to this publication; Ed.) that the Project will, in fact, largely destroy the natural beauty of the Upper McKenzie. Perhaps the most tragic result of the proposed installation will be the destruction of the Upper and Middle Falls. It seems to us almost unbelievable that any organization could be so intent upon achieving its own specific ends that it would suggest the destruction of these two mighty spectacles of the Cascades. Obsidians should keep continuously in mind the fact that water will be piped from Clear Lake around the two falls to the newly created pond at Beaver Marsh; it is from the energy of the falling water in this pipe that the generators in the power plant at Beaver Marsh are to be driven. No water will be allowed to move from Clear Lake over the falls during the winter (the non-tourist season) except for that portion of floods that the Water Board cannot use in its plant. During the summer, water will be released from Clear Lake for the falls at the rate of 40 cu ft/sec during the daylight hours only. During the hours of darkness of the summer months no water will be released from Clear Lake for the maintenance of the falls. The average discharge of water from Clear Lake over a 7 year period was 512 cu ft/sec (1952 report of the Geol. Survey), an amount with which the proposed 40 cu ft/sec during the daylight hours of the summer must be contrasted.

It is interesting to note that if the flow of water emerging from Clear Lake into the channel of the Upper McKenzie is compared with that entering at Beaver Marsh, an increase of 152 cu ft/sec can be demonstrated, indicating the effect of underground sources in increasing the total quantity of water in the river bed. The EWEB has recently been making much of this fact, implying that this water will maintain the falls even though the major source at Clear Lake is cut off. It is a very unfortunate fact that nobody has any idea just where these underground sources enter the stream. If this water comes in below the falls, as may be en-

4 tirely possible, it will have no effect whatsoever in maintaining these two major scenic spectacles of Oregon. Indeed, in view of the great porosity of the volcanic rock that makes up the bed of the Upper McKenzie, it seems very probable to this Committee that the 40 cu ft/sec of water during daylight hours of the summer will be insufficient to bring about any flow of water in the McKenzie between Clear Lake and Beaver Marsh. It is distinctly probable that the Project will give us nothing but a dry stream bed in this area that is now one of the great scenic spots of the Northwest.

The amount of space available does not allow for a complete discussion of all the items which have become confused because of false implication and misrepresentation. It seems to us, however, that one of the most misrepresented of all the issues involves the precise meaning of the withdrawal of the original objections of the State Game Commission to the Project. The Committee has found that many citizens have been led to believe that this withdrawal indicates responsible members of the Commission are giving their approval to the whole Project. There are even those who believe that the lack of objections by the Commission gives assurance that the natural beauty of the Upper McKenzie will be adequately protected by EWEB. One of us (Kezer) investigated this last summer and was able to obtain the facts by personal interview with one of the employees of the Commission at the regional office.

The facts, as obtained from this interview, are these; when EWEB first proposed its plan for the Project it became evident to the Commission that the proposal would have a bad effect on the fish population of the Upper McKenzie; accordingly, objections to the project were filed. EWEB then sent a representative to the Game Commission and offered to meet the objections to the extent that was possible and still allow for the proposed installation. This kind of cooperation on the part of a utility was a new experience for the Commission; other utilities, when confronted with similar objections, had responded only with uncooperative belligerence. It is not difficult to understand that when confronted with courteous cooperation of this kind, the Commission had no alternative but to withdraw its objections. During this interview it was emphasized that the withdrawal of the original objections indicated only one thing; that it was estimated that the total number of fish in the Upper McKenzie would not be greatly affected. It was pointed out that the effect of the Project on the area as a whole is a matter that the Commission has no authority to judge and at no time did that consideration enter either into their original objections or their withdrawal. The withdrawal of the Commission from the dispute had to do only with their estimate of the effect of the proposed installation on total fish quantity and is not to be interpreted in any other way.

It is particularly important to note that there are no scientific data on Clear Lake that allow for an accurate estimate of the effect of the expected fluctuation on the justly famous cutthroat and rainbow trout populations. The Commission has neither the funds nor the man-power for the collection of fundamental scientific data on the lakes and streams under its jurisdiction. Lacking such data, it was necessary for the Commission to make a guess in resolving its dispute with EWEB. It was decided that some fish would be gained by the dam at Fish Lake, some would certainly be lost by the fluctuation of Clear Lake, and some would perhaps be gained at the Beaver Marsh Pond. Thus, it was estimated that the sum of fish would perhaps remain about the same as at present. This rather optimistic point of view by the Commission is rendered suspect by the possibility (admitted by EWEB) 1) of failure of the Fish Lake Dam to impound water, and 2) of the possible dry stream bed mentioned earlier. Under any circumstances, it is extremely important for us to understand the Commission's withdrawal from this controversy has to do only with fish, and has no meaning in terms of the over-all effect of the proposed Project.

To the three of us who have been chosen by the Obsidians as their Science and Conservation Committee, it is clear that the basic issue is this: The citizens of Eugene must choose whether the Upper McKenzie is to remain the magnificently beautiful natural area that it is today, or whether that beauty is to be permanently destroyed in order to secure a small amount of peak-taneously possible. One or the other must be chosen.

It is our hope that all Obsidians will make this issue clear to their friends and neighbors.

Prof. Frank Sipe, U. O. Biol. Dept., Chairman
Dr. James Kezer, Asst. Prof., U. O. Biol. Dept.
Myron G. Stahl, Pres. Save The McKenzie Assn.