

High Country News

5, No. 7

Lander, Wyoming

Friday, March 30, 1973

Thanks!

What has happened to High Country News since March 2 is nothing short of miraculous. Those of us who work (and breathe and eat) in the environmental arena have had to rely on miracles in the past. This time, it appeared to be too big to pull off. But that was before our readers got their chance.

It is difficult to gauge the depth and strength of concern for environmental matters. It is especially difficult for me because of my isolation and lack of communication. Then, too, Wyoming has not exactly been a hotbed of environmentalism.

But the West is in ferment. Concern for many aspects of the area as we have known it are surfacing. And with our growing concern here, there is growing concern among those not of this area that we will go the way of their areas.

So what is the future of High Country News? Obviously, it is not going to expire. With this issue, we are on stronger footing than we have been. Since March 2, we have gained 161 subscriptions for a total of 2262. As of March 29, 176 individuals had contributed \$6,900, an average of \$41.42 per person. The \$30 suggestion was taken up by 47 people, and more continue to come in every day. A number of state, regional and national groups have contributed either money or helpful services.

Individual contributions to our cause have so far ranged from \$1,000 to \$2. Some have preferred to make a continuing commitment while others have made a pledge. Some have written beautiful letters which they have asked us not to print. Some have done marvelous things for the paper which we have no way of recognizing.

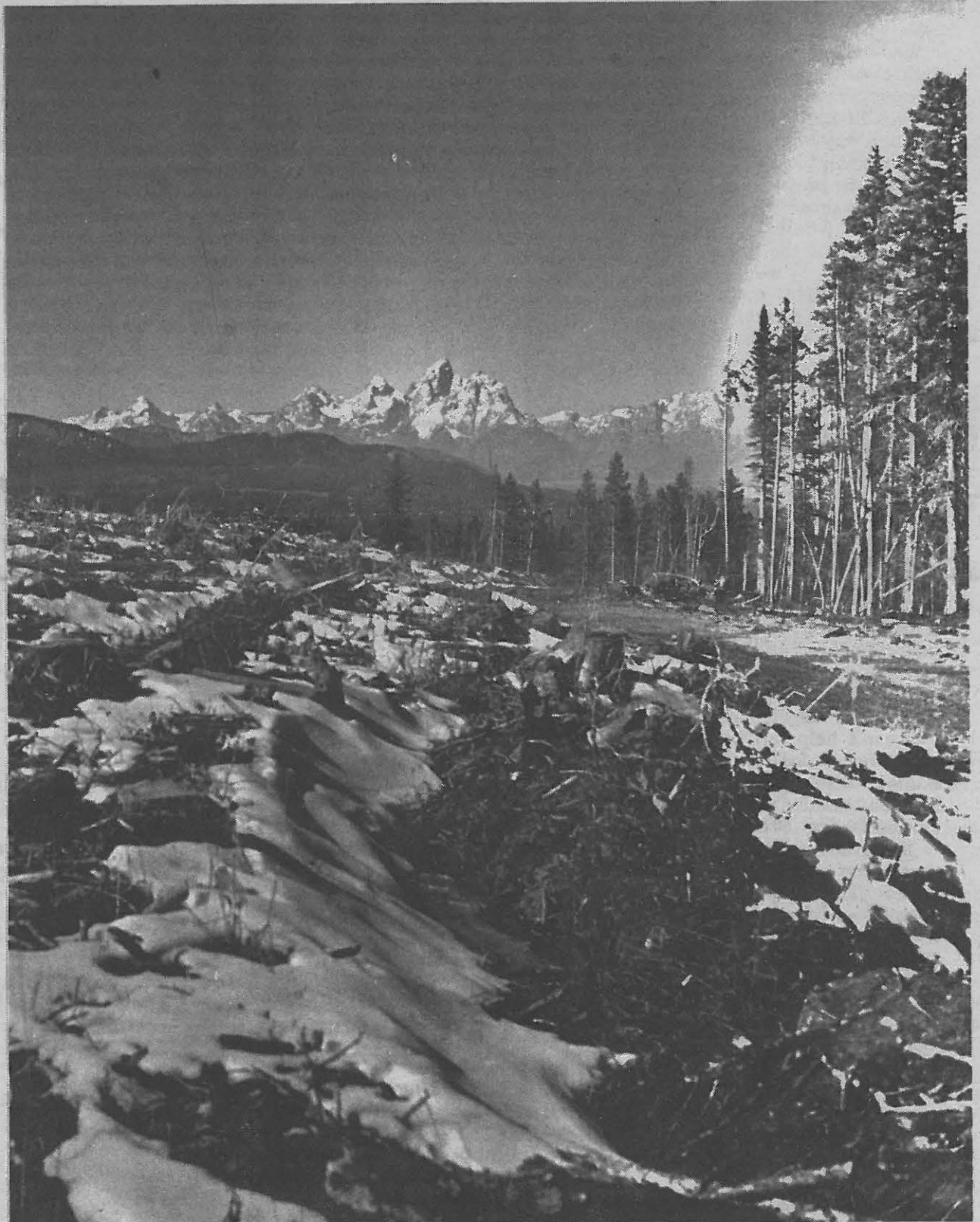
With what we now have in hand, our bank note for \$7,500 can be paid. That represents a saving of \$106 a month over the next eight years. I will start drawing a salary of \$400 per month and Marge and Mary Margaret will each get a raise. We are sorry to say that our great girl Friday, Anne Turner, is going to be leaving us. She wants to travel and then return to school.

A very wonderful article about the plight of the paper was done by Charlie Meyers, senior and ski editor of The Denver Post. A direct result of that we obtained at least a few new readers.

There are more heartening developments which indicate eventual success of the paper. But we are under no illusion that we can succeed without the support of most of our readers. As every environmental organization knows it is a continual battle to keep up, let alone draw ahead.

I have hopes that the new strength of the paper will allow us to do some things to improve it. I would like to have your suggestions, and we will then discuss them in future issues.

So many wonderful letters and contributions need to be acknowledged that we may not get them done right away. We ask your patience. But all of us here do want to express our deepest thanks to all of you who have done so much.



Timber Mining in the Shadow of the Tetons

A temporary restraining order against U.S. Plywood-Champion Papers and the U.S. Forest Service has been issued in federal district court in Cheyenne to prevent construction of a road into another area on the Teton National Forest. Conservationists and game biologists have been protesting against timber sales in the outstandingly scenic area for years. The protests were to no avail because of the political power of the timber company. As a result, timber mining has occurred on the high, steep slopes of the mountains east of Jackson Hole, as shown here. At the same time, the world famous elk hunting area has suffered irreparable damage.

The restraining order was obtained by the Wyoming Outdoor Coordinating Council and two, independent guides and outfitters. The suit has since been joined by the Wyoming Wildlife Federation.

The legal action received informal backing through a resolution by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. The Commission action resulted from letters by Department field men protesting road building and timbering in the area. It is one of the few remaining areas remaining untimbered in which part of the Jackson Hole elk herd summers. It is also important for elk calving.

HIGH COUNTRY

By Tom Bell

Each day the letters come pouring in and as you read them, you alternate between humbly crying and joyfully cheering. People whom we have never met except through the pages of a little paper write us as they would a long lost friend.

Somehow we have created another bond between people from across a far-flung land. The warmth which flows to us is an expression of the feeling many people have for the Good Earth which must sustain us all. We here merely put into black and white what we feel, and those whom we touch respond accordingly.

We could just as well have captioned our "Friends of High Country News" page the "Friends of Earth." But there is already a viable, magnificent group known as Friends of Earth with whom we have close bonds. And that in a way is another miracle.

It is going to take the combined efforts of every soul on earth to preserve and protect our planet so it is still livable for those who come after us. It hasn't been just individuals who have rallied around us here. It has also been most of the national conservation organizations. For they see, as we see, that all of us are vulnerable and they have held out a helping hand. We have all come to see that our strength lies in growing numbers.

Against us are arrayed the most powerful economic and political forces the world has ever known. And these forces will not easily give up the power they have attained. It is not that the forces are inherently evil, although some of them are. It is mainly that the power they have attained has made them arrogant of natural laws and forces which cannot be ignored. The inexorable and immutable laws of nature cannot be changed by a mere exchange of money in the marketplace. They cannot be changed for any amount of money.

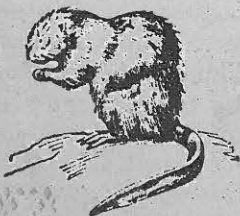
We must realize that love of Man and love of Good Earth seemingly places all of us who espouse such love in the minority. Such a realization should not lead us to arrogance in our own right. That would lead to the downfall of Mankind on Earth.

When you read more of the letters from our readers in this issue, you can't help but be hopeful. When you look down the list of Friends of High Country News, you can't help but be grateful. But we are a pitifully small band compared to those thousands and even millions who give no thought for the future, or if they do are blinded by unreality or ignorance of the consequences.

Nevertheless, our numbers are growing and some of those who have been apathetic are becoming uneasy or fearful. The National Audubon Society, once a society of bird-watchers, recently passed the quarter-million membership mark. The Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club and the other great organizations continue to grow as the conflict over natural resources envelops our whole society.

High Country News is but one small instrument of change. Thanks to you, our readers, it will be a viable instrument. And, once again, I can't tell you how heart-warming it has been to me personally. Little did I dream when I took over as editor that it would build to mean so much to so many. In no way do I look upon what I have done as a sacrifice. I did what I did because I wanted to; and because I felt it was only right. So did my wife who stood beside me and the staff who joined me here. This Good Earth has been most kind to me, and so has my great country. I am only repaying a debt of gratitude. I now extend that debt to all of you, too.

And so my prayer: Dear God, give me the strength and courage to assume the responsibility which so many of my kind and concerned fellows have given me. Please help me forsake any power which might breed arrogance or contempt. Keep me humble and honest and true in what I do. And let us all continue to work together for the kind of world in which we want our children to live.



Letters To The Editor



Friend Tom:

Your March 2nd edition of **High Country News** left us both with a deep sense of loss and sadness for you, your staff, for we Wyomingites and the American public in general. We were depressed for days.

Then, we read your March 16th edition — Tears were in our eyes after reading Marge's column and the letters from subscribers, but we were elated to know that the publication would continue and that you had such strong support.

If only the apathetic American public would wake up and realize we as a nation cannot continue in our present trend of greed and self-centeredness, grabbing for every dollar and grasping for pleasures, without soon paying the ultimate price.

WE NEED YOU and those like you, to get us off our "duffs" and so something about preserving the country we say we love! Even those who openly oppose you cannot seriously believe you are wrong in your ideals and beliefs.

We admire and support you, Tom, and pray for everyone's sake that others will do likewise.

We enclose our check for what our budget will allow for now, and hope it will help in some small way.

Your friends,
Don & Sharon Davis
Lander, Wyoming

* * *

Dear Mr. Bell:

I hope that the enclosed may help. You and your staff are wonderful with your tremendous dedication to the true values of man and nature — values which are so essential to the maintenance of all forms of life on our planet — yet values which all but the very few like you find it so convenient to ignore.

Man's environmental illiteracy and his material obsession probably will be the death of him, but the more power to you for trying to do something about it.

Sincerely,
W. C. Rastetter
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. Bell,

Please accept the enclosed check from the Ecology Club at Grant Jr. High. We call ourselves the "Aud Squad" inasmuch as we have associated our activities with the Audubon Society.

We hope the money will help you continue with your environmental efforts. The club enjoys your publication and finds it extremely helpful in keeping current on topics of concern to us. We have raised the money by selling recycled paper scratch pads, aluminum drives, and biodegradable detergent sales. The Aud Squad feels that it is particularly important for people to become involved in environmental efforts, and hopes that your paper will continue to be published.

Sincerely,
Alan S. Wuth
Sponsor, Aud Squad
Denver, Colorado

(Continued on page 5)



HIGH COUNTRY NEWS

Published bi-weekly at 140 North Seventh Street, Lander, Wyoming 82520. Tele 1-303-332-4877. Copyright 1973 by HIGH COUNTRY NEWS, Inc. 2nd class postage paid at Lander, Wyoming 82520.

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Subscription rate \$10.00
Single Copy rate 35¢
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Guest Editorials

Reprinted from THE IDAHO STATESMAN, March 18, 1973.

Veto Saves Idaho Streams

Governor Andrus deserves credit for his vetoes of the bill gutting the 1971 Stream Protection Act, and an accompanying bill for the regulation of lake alterations.

The stream bill, had it become law, could have opened the door to almost unrestricted alteration of streams. As the governor said, the streams are a public resource of tremendous value, and one that deserves protection.

There were some legitimate complaints. The governor recognized them and responded. He cited new regulations which should speed up consideration of applications for stream alterations, for logging and for flood control.

Protection for lake beds is to be transferred from the Department of Water Administration to the State Land Department, which has jurisdiction over lakes. The governor, chairman of the land board, expressed sympathy, for the interests of lake shore land owners.

So, while he vetoed the bills, the governor did respond to complaints about application of the existing law.

The stream act amendments would have cut the heart out of the present law, eliminating language saying the state policy is protection of streams. It would have allowed many alterations to take place without application for a permit, allowing the state no control or guidance to limit the potential damage.

At best effective enforcement would have been impossible. At worst the bill could have been interpreted to grant almost unlimited license for alterations.

Adjacent land owners who have flood problems have a legitimate interest in alter-

ations. But the stream beds belong to the public, and their protection is a public trust. Alterations can destroy their capacity to sustain fish life, destroy their natural beauty, cause pollution and create further problems downstream. Alterations for flood control should be regulated.

A majority of Idahoans have indicated in several opinion surveys their preference for stream fishing, their interest in preserving the streams, their preference for protecting a quality environment.

The governor could not have signed the stream bill without agreeing to the abandonment of the basic policy of protection.

He was under strong pressures, and it took courage for him to act as he did. He can expect criticism from people who have had difficulty with stream alterations.

But the problems should be remedied by changes in administrative procedure. They didn't require a basic change in policy, a bill drafted by a lobbyist for stream alteration interests.

Passage of stream protection in 1971 was a significant achievement. This year the legislature overreacted to a backlash of complaints against it. The record shows that 99 per cent of the applications for alterations under the law have been granted.

Governor Andrus recognized the problems of a minority who have legitimate interests in stream alteration. But he also recognized the basic interest of a majority of Idahoans in protecting the streams as much as possible, for the use and enjoyment of this and future generations.

Reprinted from the DESERET NEWS, Feb. 6, 1973.

Land Planning A Necessity

Land has been defined as America's most valuable natural resource. All other resources — water, air, timber, minerals, wildlife — are dependent on it.

Yet neither Utah nor the nation has had a definitive policy or law to regulate land use. The 1973 Utah Legislature is seeking to correct that oversight by means of several land use bills, chief among them being SB130, the Utah Land Use Act.

The lack of land use planning in Utah has been exhibited in several ways: Subdivision of mountain and desert land with little or no regard to availability of water or adequate sewage disposal, including many areas that should never have been subdivided at all; lack of roads, access, or improvements to many such subdivisions; and impairment of watershed values in subdivided mountain and canyon lands.

In addition, ugly scars have been gouged in the land by strip mining ventures and other debilitating uses.

In past years, Utahans believed each man could use his own land any way he pleased. But as the state and nation grow, that idea has to give way to overriding considerations of health, safety, order, convenience, and the welfare of the people.

The purpose of SB130 is to insure that all decisions and actions affecting the land resources of the state be made to attain the highest quality of social, physical, and economic environment attainable.

Toward that end, SB130 proposes forming a State Land Use Commission of five and a Citizen's Land Use Advisory Committee of up to 50 persons representing every area and element of the state.

In addition, the bill authorizes multi-county planning districts and directs the Land Use Commission to prepare both short-range and long-range action plans, the latter for submission to the Legislature.

One of the bill's most controversial features may be its requirement for a Commission permit before any development involving areas or activities defined as of "critical state concern." Yet without such authority, the bill would be toothless and ineffective.

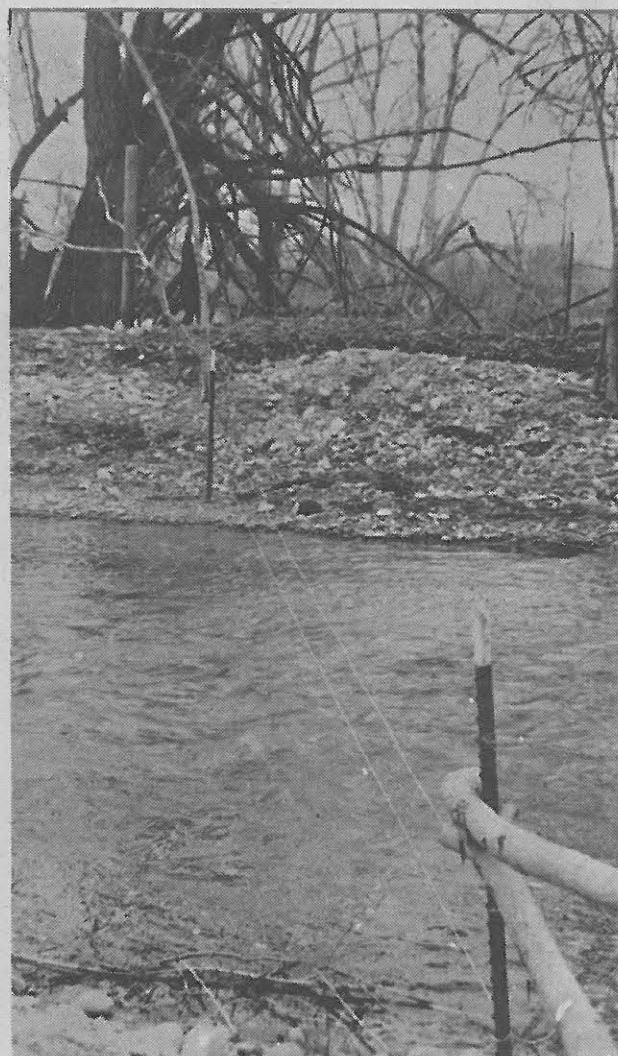
Included in these areas of critical concern are wild and scenic rivers, wildlife refuges, lands within 1,000 feet of scenic roads and highways or the high-water mark of a navigable body of water, archeological and historical sites, among others.

Activities of critical concern include siting and construction of airports, highways, mass transit systems, solid waste disposal sites and facilities, high-voltage transmission lines, power plants, water supply systems, petroleum and natural gas pipelines, new communities, and others.

All these impinge in some way or other upon the health, safety, or environmental concern of the people. And for that reason, land use should be one of the fundamental concerns of the current Legislature.



High Country News-3
Friday, Mar. 30, 1973



Reprinted from the BILLINGS GAZETTE,
March 20, 1973.

New Mining Act A Good One

Montana's Legislature has passed a new strip mining and land reclamation law which has all the appearances of being a good one for Eastern Montana's coal fields development.

Whether it is good depends upon how it is administered.

It contains the necessary safeguards and apparently gives the Department of State Lands sufficient discretion and flexibility to keep it updated.

There are specifics on reclamations such as burying harmful material, preventing water pollution and erosion and requiring approximate contour restoration and permanent revegetation.

The state can refuse to issue annual permits if its conditions aren't met concerning proposed operations. The track record of the company also counts.

Provision is made for suspension of mining for noncompliance, revoking the permits and daily fines up to \$5,000 for willful violation.

The legislation also contains a further safeguard for the public interests. Provision is made for ordinary citizens to force the state to act if it is dilatory in its supervision.

With diligent and conscientious enforcement — which we expect to be the rule, not the exception, and adequate provision for hiring enough of a qualified staff to do the job, Montana will be able to make certain the land is not ravaged and left virtually useless.

The legislation is fair. It puts all companies on an equal footing.

If they feel they cannot operate in a manner which restores the land to usefulness then it is just as well they should go elsewhere.

We expect the enforcing agency to take this stand and stick with it.



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MGM COUNTRY NEWS

Continuing Commitment

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Kenneth J. Morgan, Kemmerer, WY
Dr. & Mrs. Howard R. Smith, Pinedale, WY

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Design Associates, Wilson, WY
Northern Plains Resource Council, Billings, MT
Grand Teton Lodge Company, San Francisco, CA
Students and faculty of Greybull High School, Greybull, WY



Our Friends Respond...

High Country News-5
Friday, Mar. 30, 1973

Dear Mr. Bell,

Enclosed is my check for \$10 for my subscription renewal and an extra \$30 to do my part to keep up your fine contribution to Ecology. You do a fine informative job and I hope other people beside me let you know how your readers feel.

Keep up the good work and I feel optimistic about your future. There are not many publications left who really tell the truth.

Sincerely,
Jean Guyton
Lakewood, Colo.

* * *

Dear Tom Bell,

Enclosed is \$25 to renew my subscription in April and the rest a gift to help your wonderful paper.

Some of us are relatively poor in worldly goods but all of us will be very poor indeed if America becomes the unbeautiful.

Best wishes to you and the staff in the great fight for our beloved land.

Irv Dier
Elkhorn, Nebr.

* * *

Dear Mr. Bell:

I was very interested in the article about you and your publication in Sunday's Denver Post. How right you are that Wyoming papers don't publish news on the environment.

Enclosed is my check for \$15.00, \$10 for a subscription to your paper and \$5.00 to help with your expenses.

Sincerely,
Harrison
Cheyenne, Wyoming

* * *

Dear Mr. Bell:

Enjoyed the article about you and the High Country News in last Sunday's Denver Post.

Having moved from Detroit a little more than a year ago, I have empathized with your work but have been personally lazy. After the recent session of the legislature, however, it has become obvious to me that I can no longer afford the luxury of apathy.

Enclosed please find payment for a year's subscription to your fine publication.

Thank you for caring,
Bill Fuller
Casper, Wyoming

* * *

Dear Tom:

I got my High Country News today, and was so elated to read that you might be able to keep publishing that I'm not going to waste time coming to the rescue.

By the way, you had an article in past issues about Carroll Noble of Cora. I had the privilege of meeting this man some years ago, and I must say, he is the finest, greatest man I have ever met.

By the way, I am a transplanted native. My father lives in Hudson and I get back every year. I meant to stop in and say hello.

If I weren't so preoccupied raising a family, I would be totally involved in your fine undertaking.

Sincerely,
John Samietz, Jr.
Milpitas, California

* * *

Dear Tom:

I have long marveled at your efforts with High Country News. You have endeavored to change people and their perceptions of the earth. More importantly, you have lived the cause which you espouse. Your acts and your life have now given you power — perhaps beyond that which you ever desired — and a terrible responsibility thrust upon you by us, your readers.

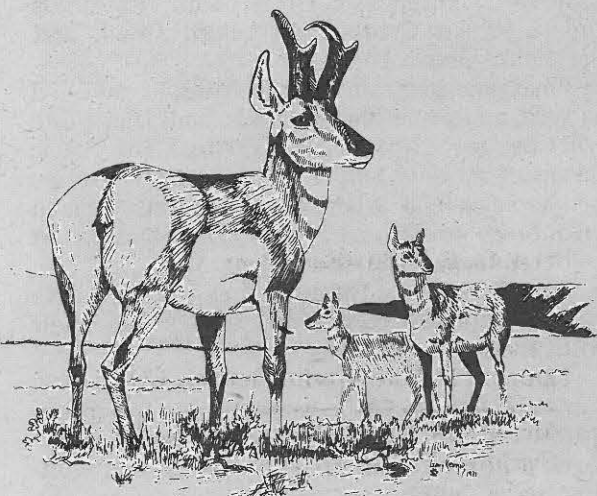
March, 1973, will probably be a turning-point, for you and for us. It must mark the challenge which Thoreau once offered:

"If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them." I have never respected any man more than you.

Sincerely,
Ken Morgan
Kemmerer, Wyoming

I pledge \$30 per month for the next 12 months, or longer if I am able, as a friend of High Country News.

* * *



Never has a contribution gone for a worthier cause.
Right on there, Tom!

Good luck!
Helen and Arnold Bolle
Missoula, Montana

* * *

Dear Mr. Bell,

What a loss to a worthy and lofty cause the cessation of High Country News would create. Enclosed is a check and one will follow monthly for, we hope, as long as the need is there.

Dr. Smith and I are also praying for a miracle — it couldn't happen to a more worthwhile publication, its editor and staff.

Gratefully,
Mrs. Howard R. Smith
Pinedale, Wyoming

* * *

Dear Mr. Bell & Staff:

Please find enclosed my subscription for enrollment in the Lucky One Thousand who sincerely believe in the cause being so well fought for by you people.

It is with a sense of relief and joy that I read in your March 16 issue that there is good hope that your enterprise will survive. You are sorely needed, more than ever now, and you must not be permitted to leave the scene.

Whatever the outcome, this contribution is yours and must not be returned.

Most Sincerely,
Kenneth D. Seyffert
Amarillo, Texas

Dear Tom,

Here is a contribution which looks to the future. It is in the form of 3 gift subscriptions. If 1000 of us give 3 new subscriptions to people who are receptive, and if 2/3 of these people re-new next year, we will have more than doubled the financial base of the newspaper. HCN must become self-sufficient if it is to be assured of survival. This is our opportunity to put it squarely on its own feet.

If my above expectations are fulfilled, HCN will have a minimum stable readership of nearly 4000 after renewals next March. (I am sure that Mr. Bell keeps a record of all contributions, so if you have already made one, send in the name of a new subscriber for each \$10.)

With hope for the future,
Larry Edwards
Rock Springs, Wyoming

* * *

Dear Mr. Bell:

Enclosed is a check for \$30 to use as you see fit. I sincerely hope that High Country News can be continued. The paper is just too important to die!

If I can afford \$30 for a Wyoming Non-Resident deer permit than I can afford \$30 to help the cause of preserving the West that I love.

Good luck. I know we'll make it somehow.

Sincerely,
James N. Boone
Plainfield, Indiana

* * *

Dear Mr. Bell,

Hopefully High Country News will overcome the "jinx" (?) that I apparently have on publications. For instance, several months after I subscribed to Pace magazine, it went out of business. Earth Times fell by the wayside about a month before I would have subscribed to it. Harper's had some fine environmental articles before I subscribed. Then just last week, I find that Clear Creek (to which I've subscribed from the beginning) has also run dry. (Yes, until half a year ago I was a Life subscriber as well.)

So it was very overwhelming to receive the 16 Mar issue of High Country News several days ago in which you appeared (for the moment anyway) to have overcome my "jinx."

A niche certainly exists for High Country News. I would say that perhaps 99.9 per cent of the Omaha-area residents feel they will have little if no impact on your area in the years to come. (Our current pop. of 550,000 is expected (?) to swell to perhaps 870,000 by the year 2000. Wyoming, for example, is expected (?) to furnish coal to keep the electricity and artificial gas (from gasified coal) flowing into Omaha homes, businesses and industries.)

I'm currently unemployed, otherwise the enclosed check for your personal cause, Tom, would be larger. Long live you and your (our) High Country News.

Yours truly,
John Weber, Jr.
Omaha, Nebraska

* * *

Wish it could be more but I'm out of work right now. God Love You.

Jim Hyland
San Luis Rey, California

(\$20 enclosed. Ed.)

Wilderness Struggle Shapes Up

by Ken Robison
Editor, Editorial Page

A struggle is developing over the future of the Salmon River, the Idaho Primitive Area, the adjoining Salmon River Breaks Primitive Area and adjacent lands.

Since the 1930s the primitive areas, drained by the Salmon River system, have been managed to preserve their "wild" unspoiled quality. The Salmon has remained a free-flowing river.

The Forest Service is required (by the 1964 Wilderness Act) to recommend to Congress whether to continue the wilderness type management of the primitive areas by classifying them as wilderness by law. Some of the adjacent unroaded areas have also been studied for possible designation.

After the workshops this month, a single proposal will be offered by the Forest Service later in the year. Then will come formal hearings.

The procedure is basically the same for the Salmon. Consideration of including it in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system (the Middle Fork is already included) is required under the law that created the system.

The primitive areas and adjacent unroaded lands of similar character, part of the Salmon River watershed, form a large chunk of unspoiled country.

It is described as a land cut by breathtaking canyons, and broken by rocky crags. It has mountain lakes and clear streams, and gentler, verdant rolling country. Here is a rich diversity of wildlife, bighorn sheep and mountain goat, elk and deer in abundance, self-sustaining populations of cutthroat trout, salmon and steelhead. The vistas are vast. There is peace and solitude, mystery and adventure. The quality of the natural environment is high.

Nationally advertised as a large, unspoiled, primitive wilderness, the area draws numerous out-of-state visitors, but half of the visitors live within a 200-mile radius.

Its use doubled in the six years after 1965, reached 200,000 visitor days in 1971 and is projected to reach 1.3 million in less than 30 years.

Those figures contradict a widely-advertised myth that few people go into wilderness areas. Use of wilderness in some states is already at or near the saturation level.

Nineteen roads reach the areas, but only two penetrate them for any distance. People fly in to hunt and fish. About 3,500 a year float the Middle Fork and others go up the Salmon River on jet boats. Others hike or pack into the primitive areas, or adjacent areas.

The area has considerable timber and the timber industry would like to open a large part of it to roads and timber cutting. The mining industry is also interested.

People who would like to keep the area wild and unspoiled say that opening the area would reduce or destroy the high qualities which make it exceptional.

Roads would be accompanied by erosion and siltation of the streambeds (an extreme example nearby is the loss of the salmon fishery in the South Fork Salmon River because of erosion from too many roads). Self-sustaining resident trout fisheries would be eliminated, to be replaced by planting operations. Increased human activity in the area would sharply reduce the numbers of rare bighorn sheep and mountain goat. (The Forest Service says declassifying the entire area would virtually eliminate them.)

A wild area of exceptional quality would be reduced nearer the level of other, more abundant areas already open to roads and timber cutting.

At these workshops people are offered six alternatives. None of them are acceptable to conservationists, but most seem to be choosing

alternative B-4, with added recommendations.

B-4 would allow continued use of aircraft flying into the area, and airfields. It would allow continued operation of jet boats on the Salmon River. Most conservationists do not oppose those uses. They are primarily concerned about boundaries. How much of the existing wild area will remain wild?

Even B-4 would exclude large areas around the Big Creek and Monumental Creek (Thunder Mountain) roads, allowing road-building and logging. These large exclusions are considered unnecessary. A narrow non-wilderness corridor could be left along those roads, or they could be closed off and "put to bed."

There is a sizable list of high quality adjoining wild areas that might be included. One reason would be to protect the watersheds of the Middle Fork and the Salmon from erosion and pollution. Another is that they are also high quality areas, many with high lakes, and quality streams.

Among them are the South Fork Salmon River area, Camas Creek, Yellowjacket, Warm Springs, Clear Creek, Vanity Lakes, Soldier Lakes, Blue Bunch Mountain, Sulphur Creek, Chilcoot, Pinnacle, Dixie Tail, Reynolds Creek, Wheat Creek, Big Mallard Creek and Bargamin Creek areas.

Whatever portion of Idaho that is retained as wild in the 1970s or 1980s is all that there will be for future generations. The basic question is: how much less wilderness are we going to have in Idaho? As roads are pushed into more and more areas, the quantity of wild country is diminished.

The arguments for retaining the primitive areas — and adjacent wilderness — in their wild state include these:

This high quality wild area is a treasure; something that can be matched by few other states. Its greatest value is as a quality watershed, a home for an unusual diversity of wildlife, as a laboratory, as a remnant of the frontier past, as a refuge for man from industrialized society, as a place where we and our children can seek the kind of adventure and personal experience that only such wild, quality areas can offer.

A few days in the Primitive Area, on the

Salmon or the Middle Fork, may be the experience of a lifetime. That is worth more than adding a relatively few board feet to the national timber supply.

We have millions of acres of roaded areas in Idaho to provide easy-access recreation. If we want to retain quality areas, then limited access is a virtue.

While this area is large, it is only about 1.4 to 2 million acres of a total of 53 million acres in Idaho.

Nothing would be lost by designating this area wilderness — while much would be lost that is not done. There are no timber jobs dependent on this area now. On the other hand, aside from the wildlife and the natural quality of this area, it plays a role in a growing recreation industry.

In the future the problem will not be too few people, but too many. Getting into the area is mostly a matter of desire, not money.

As Idahoans find their favorite recreation spots more crowded in the future, more are likely to make use of quality back country areas where you can find solitude.

Grazing in the area could continue with wilderness status. But there is no domestic livestock grazing (only pack stock) in the Idaho Primitive Area now, and little in the Salmon River Breaks area.

While a substantial amount of timber might be cut in the primitive area, access to some of it would be difficult, and much of the steeper country would not permit timber cutting.

The maximum projected timber harvest is only a little more than one half of one per cent of the logs now being exported to Japan.

There are 500 million acres of commercial timber land in the U.S. outside of national parks and wilderness areas, and areas of potential wilderness designation. Those are about 20 million acres.

The Forest Service says the most promising ways to meet future lumber needs are 1) better management of lands already available to timber cutting and 2) less waste of wood.

Sixty per cent of U.S. timber land is producing at only about one-third of its potential.

(Continued on page 10)



Fascinating displays of big game animals are a part of the lure of the Salmon River and the two primitive areas which are a part of one vast wilderness component. The Forest Service report on alternative plans says complete declassification of the Idaho Primitive Area and the Salmon River Breaks Primitive Area could lead to complete elimination of bighorn sheep and mountain goats.

Rainbow Bridge Decision Hailed

High Country News-7
Friday, Mar. 30, 1973

Photo by National Park Service

David Brower, President of Friends of the Earth, hailed the Feb. 28 ruling by Federal District Court Judge Willis Ritter as a victory for the integrity of the National Park System. (Judge Ritter ruled that the Interior Department must take steps to insure that Lake Powell does not invade Rainbow Bridge National Monument, a sandstone formation in Southern Utah near the Colorado River.)

The lawsuit on which Judge Ritter ruled was filed by Friends of the Earth, the Wasatch Mountain Club, and Utah river guide Kenneth Sleight.

The following is the complete text of Brower's statement on the decision:

The action ordered by Judge Ritter is a law-and-order decision that will delight people all over the world who have been learning of the magnificence of the Glen Canyon country, in the upper Colorado River system. It will, we predict, also turn out to be of everlasting benefit to the residents of the seven Colorado River states.

Regulating the level of Lake Powell so as to prevent its waters from entering Rainbow Bridge National Monument will produce the following benefits, to the immediate states and to the world:

1) The promise of Congress and the Eisenhower Administration to protect the Monument will be adhered to. Without that promise there would have been no Glen Canyon dam at all, or any Upper Colorado River Storage Project. The Bureau of Reclamation has played fast and loose with that guarantee, and the court has properly brought the Bureau up short.

2) The sanctity of the National Park System will have been saved from a damaging precedent that could threaten national parks everywhere.

3) The overengineering of the Colorado River will be corrected in part. U.S. Geological Survey studies kept from Congress at the time of project authorization proved that the building of Glen Canyon Dam would provide excessive storage capacity for the river and lead to diminishing returns.

4) The power head at Lake Mead can regain the level it lost because of overstorage at Lake Powell.

5) Further data, not disclosed at the time Congress was considering the Glen Canyon project, indicates that the filling of Lake Powell to its maximum 3700-foot level would produce inordinate water losses. The north-west-tilt of the strata of the Navajo sandstone in the Lake Powell basin would lead water out of the basin and the losses would not be recoverable. Seepage losses at Glen Canyon have already exceeded Bureau of Reclamation predictions drastically. This water would be lost to all, in a region that cannot afford such losses. They would be charged to the Upper Basin states.

6) The scenic resource of the Glen Canyon area, now of major importance in the economy of Utah and Arizona in particular, will be spared further impairment. The most spectacular parts of all are now lost permanently beneath the waters of Lake Powell — the wind-blown land of pteridophytes and sand that will occupy the area in a century or two when Lake Powell silts in and goes out of action. The unique places lost forever would have qualified for a series of unequalled national parks. They are ended.

But much arid-land beauty remains — superb sandstone sculpture and tapestries rising above what will now become a stabilized lake. Here there will be perpetual enjoyment of terrain otherwise doomed to inundation and silting in, and wildlife and flora can build a new and living shore.

With but minor fluctuation, Lake Powell can produce substantial amounts of hydroelectric power through the Glen Canyon dam turbines. Hoover Dam can produce more than



Rainbow Bridge, that towering monument of natural artistry, has suddenly assumed importance beyond more than a symbolic confrontation between developers and conservationists. As Dave Brower points out in the accompanying article, a commitment was made by the U.S. Congress to protect the sanctity of the National Park System. Conservationists had just won one of the historic opening battles in the development of the Upper Colorado River. Echo Park Dam which would have been in Dinosaur National Monument had been narrowly defeated and Congress then went on to pass the Colorado River Storage Act of 1956. Written into that act was the statement that — it shall be the intent of Congress that no dam or reservoir constructed under the Act shall be within any national park or national monument. National publicity had been focused on the issue with the result that House mail had run 80-1 against a dam at Echo Park and against any attempt to break down the National Park System by putting dams or reservoirs in them.

Strangely, Congress seemed to contradict itself a few years later when it authorized Glen Canyon Dam. It was pointed out at the time that water would intrude upon Rainbow Bridge National Monument as Lake Powell filled. Conservationists have now won a first-round battle to protect Rainbow Bridge from any further intrusion of water. U.S. District Court Judge Willis W. Ritter recently ruled against the government.

Both Utah senators, as well as representatives of the other Upper Basin states, have reacted. The politically opposite Senators Frank Moss and Wallace Bennett have drawn together in offering an amendment to the Colorado River Storage Act which would delete the protective clause for national parks and monuments. If the amendment should be successful, the National Park System would again be wide open to the threat of dams and reservoirs. This could become a critical issue once more as the energy crisis unfolds. The Yellowstone River, originating in Yellowstone National Park, could be eyed as a candidate for water storage.

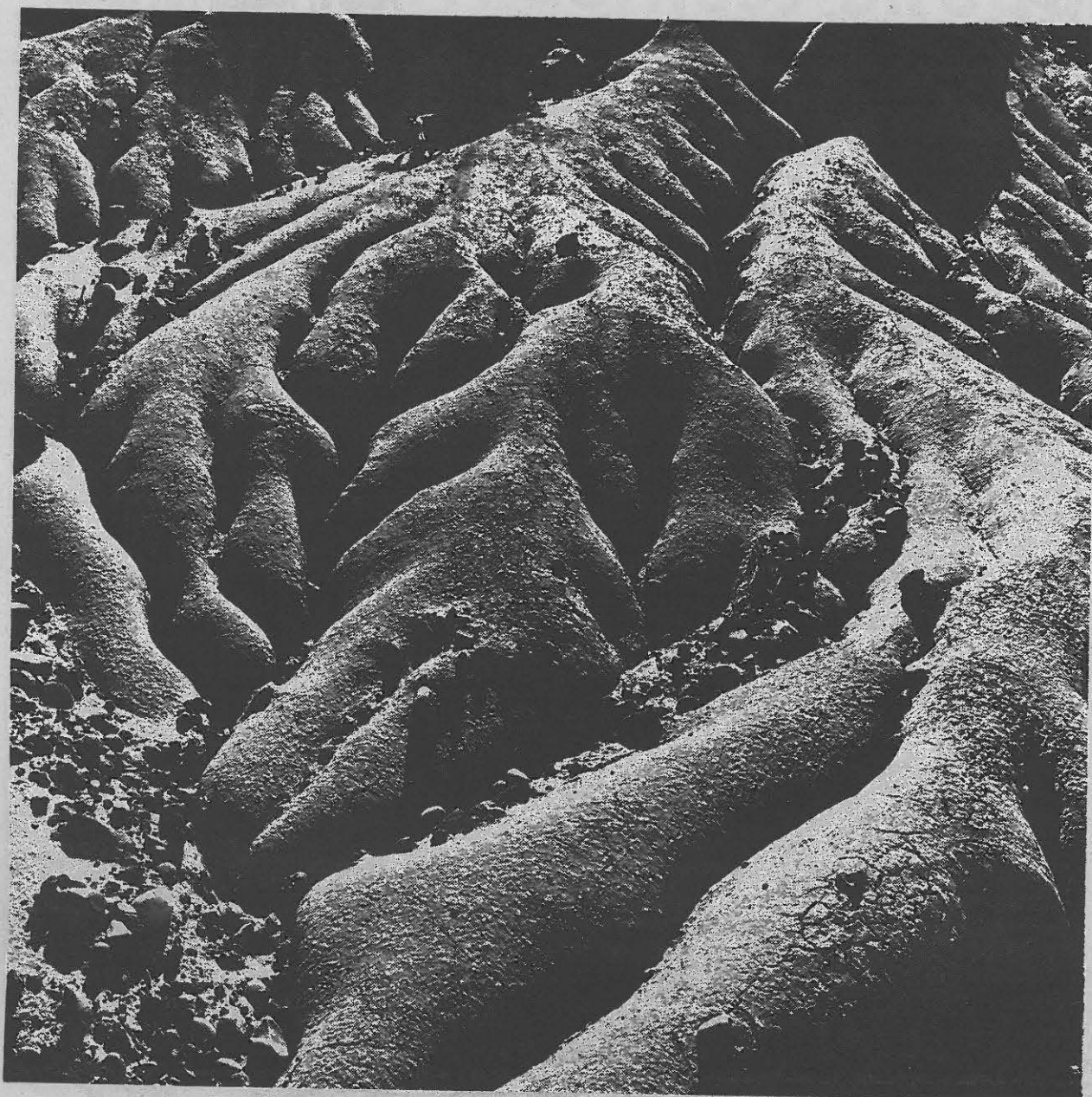
Those concerned with our National Park System should write their U.S. Senators and express their thoughts on this issue. Write your senator, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510.

it otherwise would have. Heavy losses of water due to overfilling, seepage, and evaporation, will be spared to run through both Glen and Hoover turbines. A scenic resource will have been saved that can produce recreational revenues and enjoyment in perpetuity.

We are grateful to the court, and to the talented individuals — James Moorman, Victor Kramer, Owen Olpin, and James Lee — who

presented the case so skillfully and convincingly. We hope that the Upper Basin States and the present Administration, with new evidence before it and, a reminder that a promise made is a promise to be kept, will accept this stay of execution as a blessing for all of us.

Further, considering the snowpack in the
(Continued on page 14)



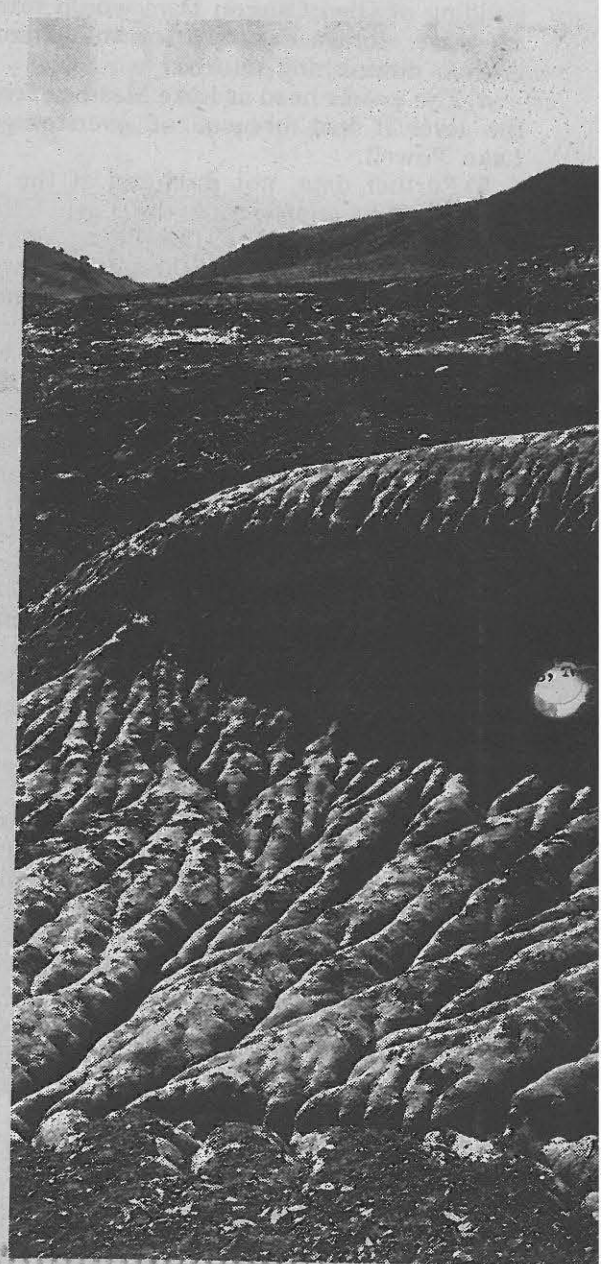
BAD

Forty million years ago what is now the
tropical climate. The Rockies were young
size of fox terriers still roamed the North Ar
that marked the formation of the Absaroka
tons of volcanic ash, remaining buried u
crust started a process of rapid erosion a

Except for archaeologists in search of fossil
through the Basin are drawn on by the m
bleak hills and gullies evidently have little t

But once really seen, the badlands have a
wind and water have sculpted freakish shapes
and spires. The steep, unstable slopes offer n
in the soil itself. Deer trails slip through the v
but the badlands are mostly a place of death,

Like the ruins of Pompeii, these formations
and in their eerie silences hang, not only an



NDS

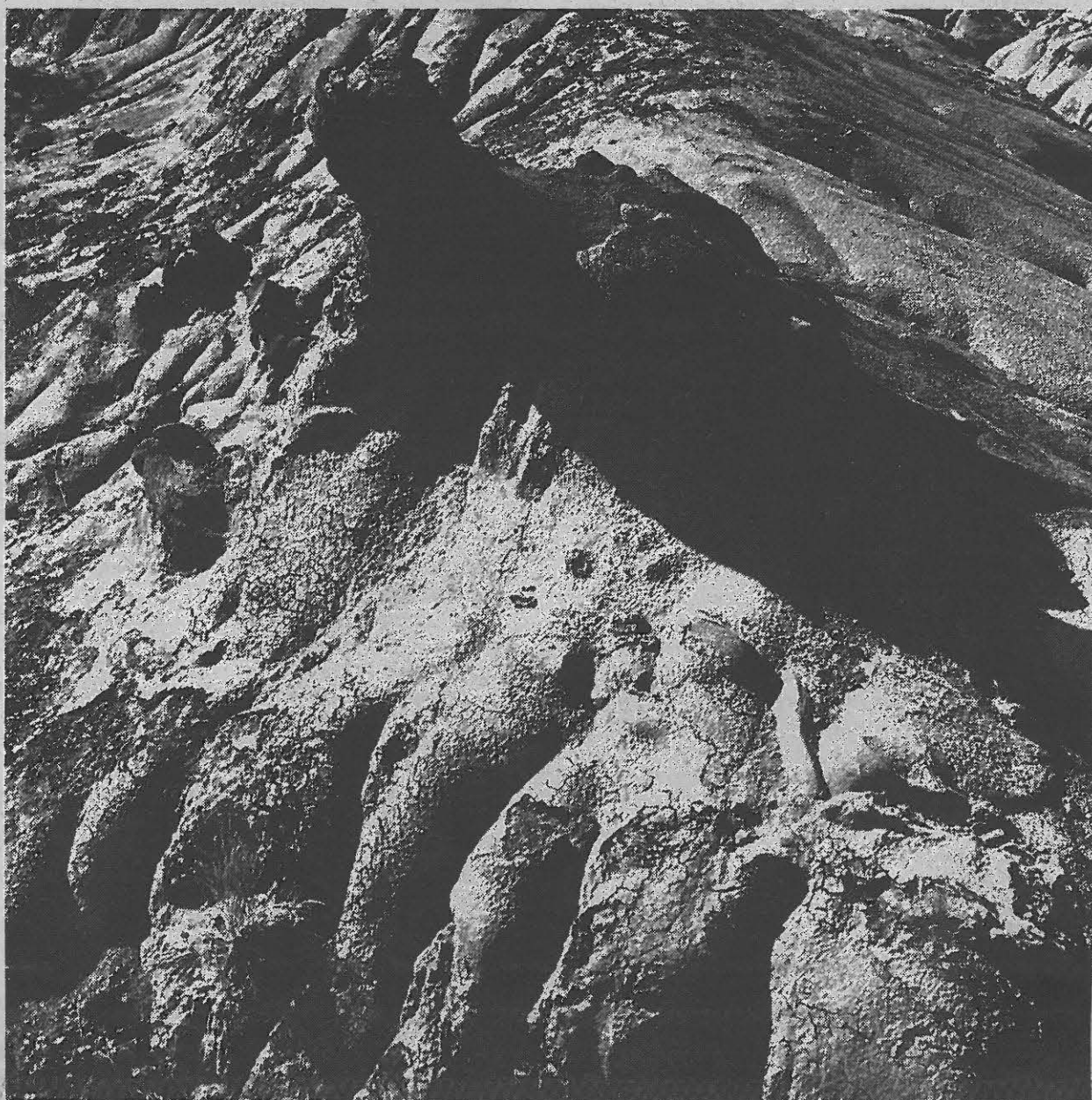
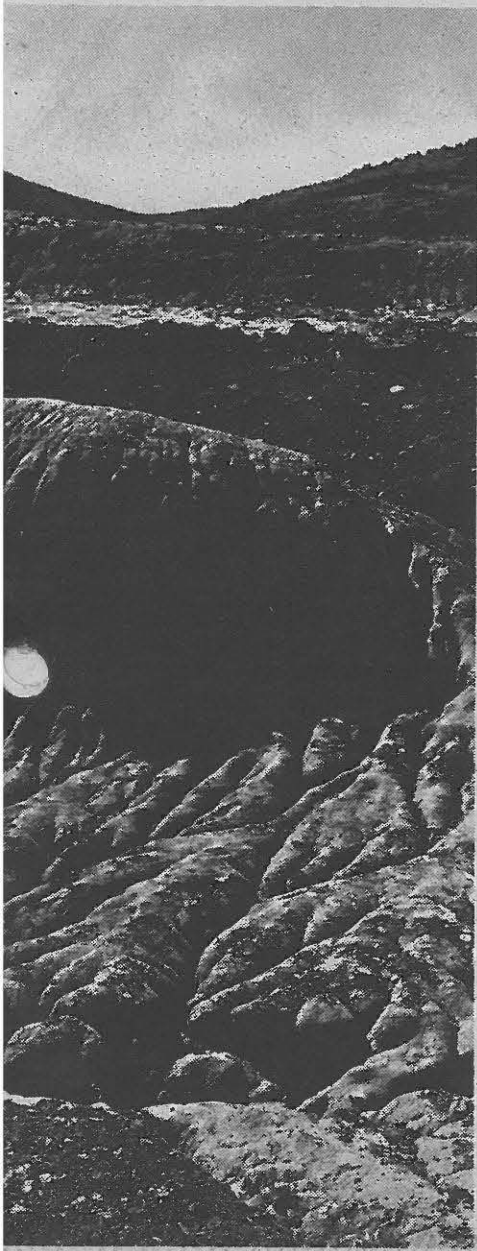
in northwest Wyoming had a sub-
s, zebras, and prehistoric horses the
t. With the violent volcanic outbursts
ent community was smothered under
when more uplifts of the earth's
e world.

familiar with the badlands. Travelers
horizon, for the baking stretches of

ic of their own. The patient forces of
laystone — columns, grottoes, domes,
grass, but lurid reds and purples glow
horses hide among the remote peaks,
e only sound, as barren as the moon.
its to a ruined world once full of life;
out the enigma of the future.



Text and photos by Lynne Bama



"Squeaking Wheel" Gets The "Grease"

Many of the sheep ranchers who have been complaining loudest about losses they claim to have suffered from coyotes, according to the National Audubon Society, are those who year after year have been getting the fattest subsidy checks from the Federal government.

National Audubon cites names and dollar amounts in a statement prepared for the hearings on predator control legislation scheduled for March 19-20 in Washington by the House Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife.

In 1971 alone, according to the Audubon Society, the nation's sheep and goat raisers collected at least \$128,740,000, in subsidies and other aid from U.S. taxpayers. What's more, adds the Society, by far the largest share of the money has been going, over the years, to a comparatively few big ranches.

The Society's figures, compiled from public records, include price supports for wool and mohair (\$112,224,000); lower than going-rate grazing fees for use of the public lands (representing a savings of \$14,816,000), and federal predator control programs to protect their livestock (\$1,700,000). In addition, the wool industry is protected by tariffs and import restraints, so that the consumer is obliged to pay more for wool products.

National Audubon has been campaigning against indiscriminate poisoning and shooting of coyotes, eagles and other wildlife in the name of predator control. Following, from information submitted for the hearing record by the Society, are names of some ranchers who got sizeable subsidy checks, price supports for "wool and unshorn lambs," in 1971:

— Wealthy Wyoming rancher Van Irvine, who was implicated in that year in the thallium poisoning of 22 bald and golden eagles, received at least \$219,488.39. Since the U.S. Department of Agriculture subsidy lists give ranch names, rather than owner's names in some cases, it is possible that Irvine received additional subsidies for other ranches which could not be identified as his.

— Herman Werner, Irvine's ex-father-in-law, who has been charged in federal court with the helicopter killing of 363 golden eagles, 3 bald eagles and 7 Canada geese, received at least \$110,152.50 in 1971 subsidies. Although the eagle shooting was brought to light in the summer of 1971, Werner has still not been tried.

— William I. Moore, a stockholder in the Buffalo Flying Service which was hired to shoot the eagles, entered a plea of no contest for the flying service to 75 counts. The Service was fined \$500, and the other 74 counts suspended. Moore's Seven Up Ranches, Inc. received \$67,795.22 in subsidies.

— A defendant in a related eagle shooting case, Dean Visintainer of Craig, Colorado, pleaded guilty to 62 counts. He was fined \$1700 and placed on probation for six months. The Visintainer Sheep Company received \$46,083.59. In 1972, Visintainer was a nominee for Wool Grower of the Year.

— Vern Vivion, immediate Past President of the National Wool Growers Association, which lobbies for higher tariffs, use of predator poisons and low grazing fees, also received a fat government check in 1971. The Leo Sheep Company, a family corporation of which Vivion is vice president, received \$116,006.55. Clarence A. Brimmer, Attorney General for the State of Wyoming, is Secretary-Treasurer of the Leo Sheep Company.

The Audubon study also showed that by far the largest chunks of subsidy money went to a comparatively few big ranches; for example, in Colorado during the year studied more than a third of the total subsidy was divided among about 3 per cent of the ranch owners.

One of the biggest bonanzas to the sheep industry is the low fees charged by the government for grazing rights on public lands. In 1971 the Forest Service charges 78 cents per

animal unit month (AUM) and the Bureau of Land Management charged only 64 cents, when fees charged by private land owners averaged \$4.15 per AUM. On that basis, and conservatively figuring on four months of grazing during the year, the Audubon Society calculated that the 4,500,000 sheep and goats that were grazed on BLM lands handed the ranchers a saving of \$10,988,000, and the 1,500,000 head grazed on Forest Service lands saved them \$3,828,000.

And, adds the Society, as with the subsidies, it was the big ranchers who reaped the biggest benefits; the Bureau of Land Management in 1969 had 14,419 grazing permittees, but less than 700 of them — only 5 per cent — got more than half the forage.

Government-financed control of predators is in itself a direct subsidy to the industry, the Society said. In 1971, the estimated expenditures of the Interior Department for protecting sheep from coyotes in the western states were about \$1,700,000. In addition, state and local government funds are used for predator control.

The wool growers claim that the ban on use of predator poisons has caused their losses to skyrocket, but their claims of losses are just that, asserts National Audubon; claims unsubstantiated by hard evidence. Scientific studies of the problem have invariably shown that actual losses are far less than ranchers' estimates, according to the Society.

Loss figures are gathered by the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, which sends out questionnaires to the wool growers. The large operators are contacted by telephone or personal interview. Replies are kept confidential and in some cases destroyed after tabulation. In one such survey in Wyoming, 21% of the ranchers replied, and it is on the basis of these limited responses that the statistics are prepared.

The fact is that the wool industry has many real economic problems, says the Audubon Society, but instead of concentrating on these problems the sheepmen are trying to make predators the scapegoat for the industry's ills.

Photo by Verne Huser



A four-wheeled drive vehicle negotiating this steep hill in Oregon exemplifies the center of a swirling controversy. Such off-road activities may someday be curtailed because of growing concern for the land. Proposed federal regulations to control use of off-road vehicles on public lands have run into road-blocks of opposition. The Wyoming Snowmobile Association recently went on record as opposing any more closing of lands by regulation or wilderness classification. The Montana Wilderness Association has protested to Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz that the regulations are written for everybody but the mining industry. MWA President Doris Milner wrote Butz that, "We urge that the exemption for ORV's engaged in mining activities be stricken from the regulations and that the regulations be interpreted as applying equally to all ORV's." Regulations proposed by the Bureau of Land Management also exempt mining interests from the provisions.

Both the BLM and the Forest Service have extended until April 16 the deadline for commenting on the use of off-road vehicles. Basically the regulations have been proposed to enable the two agencies to forbid travel off of designated roads or trails. The regulations are to implement President's Executive Order banning off-road vehicle travel on public lands. The Executive Order and regulations are for the purpose of protecting land, water and wildlife resources from over-use and abuses.

Concerned citizens should write to the U.S. Forest Service, Division of Recreation, South Agriculture Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20250, or to The Director, Bureau of Land Management, Interior Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20240.

Wilderness Struggle Shapes Up . . .

Up to 18 per cent of the total volume of softwood harvested annually and 31 per cent of the hardwood are not used for products.

Neither the Idaho economy nor national timber supplies are dependent on the primitive areas.

Essentially the wilderness advocates say that a fraction, perhaps three per cent, of the land in the U.S. should be left in its wild state, particularly areas of outstanding quality, like

the Idaho primitive areas.

Wilderness in Idaho might be more than three per cent of its total land area, but this is part of a quality environment, one reason Idaho has clear, unpolluted streams and a variety of wildlife. Idaho also provides part of the national supply of timber, minerals, potatoes, cattle and other products.

There is mineral activity in the area, and
(Continued on page 12)

Montana Levies Coal Taxes

The Montana Legislature adopted a taxing measure on strip-mined coal which will nearly quadruple present taxes. However, the Senate killed a House passed measure which would have prohibited the deduction of reclamation costs in the computation of net-proceeds taxes paid by mining firms to the counties. Instead, the Legislature voted to grant counties one cent per ton of the new levy.

"..Noted & Quoted.."

"In the past a favorable economic climate has encouraged only complacency and neglect (in regard to energy research). The little research and development being done has been forced by necessity. Pollution by power plants and ravaging of land by strip-mining were the subject of little research until the environmental movement compelled it. . .

"Nearly 75% of the present amount currently allocated for energy research and development is for nuclear energy. The remainder, scattered throughout the federal agencies, is grossly inadequate to deal with the short-term problems of environmental controls; to carry forward creative efforts on unconventional energy sources such as solar energy; and to improve the efficiency of conventional energy technologies such as petroleum and natural gas recovery techniques and electrical power generation and transmission."

Senator Henry M. Jackson
Comments upon introduction
of national energy research and
development bill in Congress.

* * *

"With all the emphasis at my command, I report to this Committee that a revolution is brewing in Appalachia. The people are not going to stand by any longer while strip miners rip up their homeland. The people have been waiting with rising impatience for Congress to act to stop this wholesale destruction of the forests, soil, hills, streams and the homes of the people. If Congress just passes one of these innocuous bills designed to quiet the public outcry while meeting the demands of the National Coal Association and the American Mining Congress, then there'll be a Boston Tea Party which won't be a tea party. And in the western states of Colorado, Wyoming and Montana, where billions of tons of strippable coal reserves are being eyed eagerly by the strip miners, I am sure the people in those states are determined that they not be turned into instant Appalachia."

Rep. Ken Hechler
Comments on strip mining
legislation before Senate
Subcommittee on Mines
and Mining.

* * *

"The bill recently transmitted by the Administration certainly is not the answer. It is a retreat of last year's recommendation — a gutless bill which lacks any conviction of commitment to the land. Among its provisions are these weaknesses: reclamation requirements could be delayed up to three years or even longer. It lacks specifics to demand complete reclamation. It would be weak, ponderous, and slow in enforcement. In no way does it assure the detailed requirements for revegetation that are vital to reclaiming strip mined land in the West after the coal is gone."

Rep. John Melcher
Comments on S.923 before
Senate Subcommittee on
Mines and Mining.

The increased tax on coal is based on the energy producing value as measured in British thermal units. Top-grade coal will be taxed at 33 cents per ton, up from a former level of 10 cents. The next highest grade was increased from eight cents to 27 cents, the third grade from six cents to 22 cents, and the lowest grade from four cents to 12. In neighboring Wyoming, severance taxes on coal are levied at 19.2 and 17.6 cents per ton for the top two grades.

An official for the Decker Coal Co., operating just across the Montana line from Wyoming, charged that his company lost contracts for 526 million tons of coal because of Montana's existing tax structure. Calvin S. Robinson, a lobbyist for Decker, said Montana stood to lose \$266 million in revenue. He said Decker lost contracts for coal to AMAX Coal and Atlantic Richfield. AMAX has an operating mine south of Gillette, Wyoming, and Atlantic Richfield has announced it will open one.

Robinson said Montana's present tax is 268 per cent more than Wyoming's and would be many times greater under the newly passed version. In spite of that fact, representatives of coal companies and coal gasification firms continue interest in Montana's low-sulfur coal. Last week, two companies announced they had briefed Gov. Thomas Judge on new developments planned for Powder River coal.

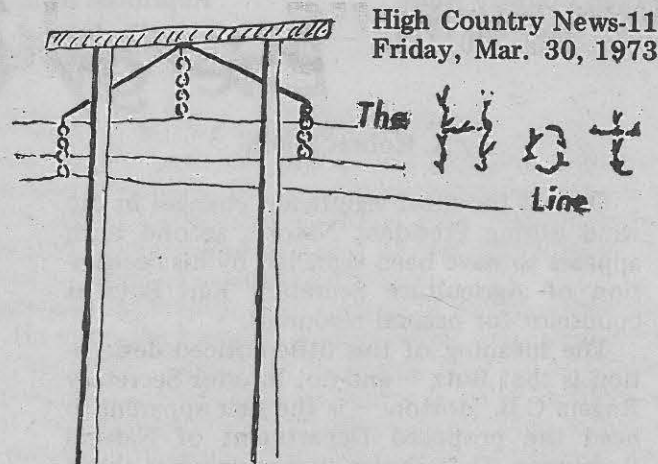
Dole Named

Hollis M. Dole, former Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Mineral Resources, has been named by Atlantic Richfield Co. and the Oil Shale Corp. to head up an oil shale development program. Atlantic Richfield announced that Dole would be senior executive of the program which it said would be an effort "directed toward development of the first commercial oil shale facility in the U.S." Dole will be headquartered in Denver.



Jack O. Horton, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Lands and Water, told the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee that he favors substantial modification of the 1872 Mining Act. As an administration spokesman, he said he would favor enactment of a new law which would allow the government "to more effectively control environmental impact of mining operations and restrict use of land to the purpose intended and give industrial interests greater certainty of tenure." Failing that, he said he would support legislation that would combine a location-patent system with a leasing system.

Shown above is one of the consequences of the 1872 Act. A mining claim location for uranium on Green Mountain in central Wyoming causes extensive damage to land, water and forest resources.



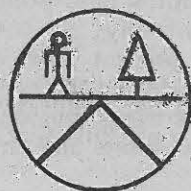
New economic development of any kind must prove it will not cause deterioration of air quality. The Environmental Protection Agency says it will soon issue regulations covering construction of complexes such as shopping centers, sports stadiums, highways, and other developments. Builders will have to prove their developments will not violate air standards, even indirectly before construction can be allowed.

* * *

Sea water to remove sulfur from smoke has been claimed as a major advance in reducing air degradation. Two Norwegian companies reported success in desulfurizing smoke from 2 percent sulfur oil over a six-month prototype operation period.

* * *

Eleven of the world's oil exporting countries have called for price increases on crude oil following the 10 percent devaluation of the American dollar. The eleven countries supply 80 percent of the oil used in Western countries.



Energy Crisis May Be Achilles Heel

by A. Robert Smith

One of the most significant changes in the wind during President Nixon's second term appears to have been signalled by his designation of Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz as counselor for natural resources.

The meaning of this little-noticed designation is that Butz — and not Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton — is the heir apparent to head the proposed Department of Natural Resources. That choice speaks volumes about future policy direction in the continued struggle between conservationist-preservationist-environmentalist forces and commercial-industrial-producer forces in the resource field.

The outspoken Butz makes no bones about his sympathies. The environmental protection movement, he told a group of conservationists in a private meeting last year, is a roadblock in the path of American progress. The current fuel shortage in the Midwest, he told an Indian audience recently, can be blamed in part on environmentalists who have caused delays in building the trans-Alaskan oil pipeline.

His top priority job, Butz has since said, is to find ways of solving the energy shortage.

These recent developments tend to confirm an inside report published last month by Kevin Phillips, a former Nixon administration official who currently publishes a biweekly newsletter. Phillips forecast that Nixon's 1973 energy crisis policies will be aimed at undermining "environmental extremism" and the New Politics of the McGovern wing of the Democratic party.

The administration's new policies, he continued, should eventually:

1. Reverse the present tide of excessive environmental shackles on the economy.
2. Drive a further wedge between organized labor, oil state Democrats and the McGovern wing.
3. Contribute to a shift in political coalitions beneficial to the productive sector and the GOP.

"The implications of the energy crisis make it an Achilles heel of both environmental

excess and the New Politics," Phillips observed. "Environmental issues are likely to be low-keyed at first until the energy crisis jells with the public, showing John Q. Public how he is hurt."

Butz's connecting the winter fuel shortages to the Alaskan pipeline battle, still pending in the D.C. Court of Appeals, appears to implement this administration strategy.

"The energy-crisis clash between environmentalism and productivity dovetails with the Nixon administration's strategy of political re-alignment," Phillips continued. "It's no coincidence that the Democrats most hostile to environmental extremism — the AFL-CIO-Scoop Jackson labor axis, the John Connally oil Democrats and the George Wallace 'anti-exotic' faction — are exactly those that sat out the 1972 Democratic presidential campaign."

Phillips, author of the highly-touted book of several years ago, "The Emerging Republican Majority," said:

"The following political groupings will be especially angered by an environmentalist-whetted energy crisis: the energy-resource states (Rocky Mts., South Central, Appalachians); manufacturers and blue-collar workers in energy-deficit areas of industrial Northeast and Midwest. And if vastly increased dollar flows for Middle East oil boost Arab states' threat to Israel, Jews will also sour on environmentalists."

"Inasmuch as the energy-resource states and the blue-collar workers are already key targets of the GOP's New Majority tacticians, the administration's 1973 energy crisis program should serve it in good stead," concluded the former aide to John Mitchell.

For Morton, who has been the administration's chief public promoter for a Department of Natural Resources, it is painfully ironic that the job of running that king-sized amalgamation of Interior-Agriculture will go to Butz. Less inclined to pop off than his predecessor, Walter Hickel, who was fired by Nixon, Morton is taking his caretaker role at Interior quietly thus far.

Photo by Ernst Peterson



The appointment by President Nixon of Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz as counselor for natural resources is regarded as bad news by environmentalists. Butz is known to espouse the cause of the timber industry in clearcutting the national forests. Termed by the Bolle Report as "mining" rather than "timbering" the resource, such practices as this shown here on Montana's Bitterroot Forest should not be condoned by the public.

Conservationists, however, are likely to sound the alarm over the apparent downplaying of environmental protection in head-to-head battles with productive interests. They had expected Morton to head up the new department and were hopeful about that prospect.

"Morton has done a good job," said one of their leading spokesmen. "He's had a balanced approach."

The designation of Butz makes them fearful that the "balanced approach" is out the window for the next four years.

"Commercial interests, quite the opposite, are elated at this portent. In the West the two industrial interests most affected by the environmental crusade — oil and timber — look forward to more partiality toward their interests from the federal government."

For the oil industry, this could mean opening up more areas of the outer continental shelf for leasing by agencies under Butz's ultimate jurisdiction, from the Gulf of Alaska to the Gulf of Mexico, plus sympathetic regulation of the industry's long-stalled plans for exploiting the great oil fields of Alaska's North Slope.

For the timber industry, it could mean more intensive harvesting of national forests along lines advocated by such major producers as Weyerhaeuser, and holding the line on further expansion of the wilderness system and National Parks at the expense of commercially-valuable timberland.

Efforts to halt strip mining for coal by federal statute are likely to be doomed, as well as bills such as that introduced by Rep. John Dellenback, R-Ore., to prohibit any future mining claims being honored in wilderness areas.

It is also conceivable that the administration will ask Congress to suspend the requirements of the national environmental policy act (NEPA) for those industries needed to solve "the energy crisis" — namely, oil, nuclear power, coal and natural gas. The House last year passed a bill lifting some NEPA requirements for nuclear power plants but when conservationists mobilized against it the bill was blocked in the Senate.



Struggle . . .

continuing mineral potential, but no large mineral operations at present. Under wilderness status, exploration could continue until 1984 and mining of claims perfected before that time might occur after that.

Because of the steep, narrow canyons, potential impact of mining could be severe. Salmon and steelhead runs were eliminated on Panther Creek because of pollution from the old Blackbird mine.

Wild river status would protect the Salmon against dams, and protect the adjacent canyon lands. The jet boats on the Salmon could remain, as could the existing private land holdings.

At the workshops people are seated at tables and asked to consider the alternatives, air their differences, and arrive at a conclusion. They are also given forms to fill out, stating an individual preference.

The procedure has some flaws, but is an apparent serious effort by the Forest Service to sample public feeling.

Later this year the Forest Service is to offer single proposals for the primitive areas and the river and then there will be public hearings on those. The controversy is just warming up. The future of the primitive areas and adjacent lands could be the conservation battle of the decade in Idaho.

Western..... Roundup

High Country News-13
Friday, Mar. 30, 1973

Photo by Charles W. Smith



Evidence has come to light that the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is about to peddle several of the nation's outstanding wildlife refuges. Among them are the Jackson Hole National Elk Refuge in Wyoming (shown above), the Kenai Moose Range in Alaska, and the Charles Sheldon and Desert Wildlife Ranges in Nevada. The Bureau justifies the giveaway by pointing out that its appropriation for the year ahead is \$900,000 short of needs and that transfer of wildlife refuges to the states would be a saving. Besides, it is argued, this is more evidence of President Nixon's desire to decentralize federal government and return decision-making to the state and local level. The fact is ignored that state and local land use planning wallows in a sea of social and political inconsistency. To turn over more areas would invite more special interest inroads on areas now off-limits.

Briefly Noted...

Colorado's former Lt. Gov. Mark Hogan, now a real estate developer, says Coloradans should adopt their own "rational state plan." He said a citizen movement to protect the environment and regulate growth was "an essential first step to progress."

* * *

An assistant professor of geography and urban planning at the University of Denver says Colorado will continue to grow "contrary to the wishes of many people." Dr. William A. Howard says, "Colorado is a desirable place to live. . ." and that growth can be directed but can't be controlled.

* * *

Dean Prosser, member of the National Wild Horse Advisory Board and Wyoming State Brand Inspector, says he foresees few claims for horses now running free on the public lands of southwest Wyoming. There may be as many as 5,000 in the Red Desert and adjacent areas.

* * *

Nevada sheepmen may get the predator control program in that state doubled after testifying to losses before the Legislature. The budget may be increased to \$300,000 per year and would provide for nine more men to work full-time in predator control.

* * *

High prices for long haired furs have greatly increased trapping for coyotes and bobcats in the West. Such intensified trapping has led to increased accidental trapping of eagles and other birds of prey. Earlier it had been reported from Idaho that trapping of eagles was going on to obtain feathers for sale.

* * *

The Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation have signed an agreement with the Montana Fish and Game Department which should benefit both the Indians and sportsmen. The Department will help manage fish and game on the Reservation in return for fishing and some hunting privileges on non-tribal lands.

Glacier Policy Questioned

The president of the Flathead Chapter of the Montana Wilderness Association has written President Nixon of dissatisfaction with an in-house Park Service report on Glacier National Park Superintendent William J. Briggie. Bob Muth of Kalispell said he was appealing to the President because of a feeling of personal frustration.

Muth said Briggie had apparently been cleared of questionable management policies. He cited the transfer, retirement or resignation of 33 permanent employees in the three years of Briggie's tenure at Glacier. But he specifically cited the case of Park Naturalist B. Riley McClelland, a 16-year National Park Service employee. McClelland called attention to environmental management practices in Glacier that he believed were not in the best interests of natural area resource management.

McClelland was subsequently ordered transferred to a desk job in Omaha which he neither requested nor wanted. He declined the transfer and initiated a formal grievance after offering to stay at Glacier in a lower position.

Muth cited McClelland's case as only one symptom of the deeper problems in Glacier National Park. He asked the President to intervene "on behalf of the integrity of the National Park Service" and said such intervention "would go far to restore faith in the individual's voice still having a part in a democracy."

Governor Vetoes Bills

Governor Cecil Andrus has vetoed two special-interest bills passed by the ultra-conservative Idaho Legislature. Amendments to the 1971 Stream Protection Law would have destroyed its original intent. A companion bill which would have withdrawn protection of lake shores from the stream protection law was also considered unacceptable.

In vetoing the bills, Andrus said, "... The intent of the existing law, passed in 1971, is the protection of the streams and their environments, recognizing that they are a valuable public resource. This was a milestone in recognizing values of a majority of Idaho people."

Land Use Planning Rejected

Idaho joined Utah and Wyoming in not getting significant land use planning legislation this year. The governors of all three states requested some kind of legislation from their respective legislatures. The best that Wyoming and Idaho could get was an authorized study but in Wyoming the funding for the study is so minimal as to be of little value to the state. The Utah Legislature did not even authorize a study in spite of strong media support. (See editorial, page 3.)

Now, Utah Gov. Calvin Rampton says he will implement "by administrative order" a proposed land use study which passed the State Senate but didn't get out of House committees.

In Wyoming, the chief of state planning for the past five years is leaving the Department of Economic Planning and Development. Three others in the Department are also leaving, including one man who had been a planner for four years. Only two staff members are left in the planning division, the supervisor of planning and a planner on special assignment to the Powder River Basin development study. The Wyoming Legislature severely cut planning funds for the biennium.

Sheepman Calls It Quits

Van Irvine, one of Wyoming's largest and most controversial sheepmen, has decided to call it quits. Irvine has announced he will sell 10,000 ewes from his Diamond Ring Ranch at an auction May 1. He said coyotes had put him out of business, with losses running up to 40 percent.

The Diamond Ring Ranch has been implicated in a number of illegal activities in recent years including fencing public lands and spraying sagebrush on public lands. Irvine himself was charged with killing game animals and loading the carcasses with poison in 1971. On July 12, 1971, he pleaded no contest on 29 game violations and was fined \$679.

Comments Urgently Needed

In what may be literally the last countdown for remaining unroaded and undeveloped wild lands on the national forests, the public has a chance to express its wishes. The U.S. Forest Service has filed a draft environmental impact statement with the Council on Environmental Quality. In the statement the Forest Service has proposed 235 roadless areas encompassing approximately 11 million acres for further wilderness study. These were chosen from a candidate list of 1,448 roadless areas comprising some 56 million acres.

The national conservation organizations believe the Forest Service inadequately treated many of the roadless areas which it left off the wilderness study list. Conservationists believe there should be more time taken to adequately study and consider more of the candidate areas. In many instances, the Forest Service did not have resource data available which might have resulted in a different decision. Some areas were not even considered by the Forest Service for various unknown reasons.

The public has until April 18 to comment on the Forest Service proposals. Millions of people who do not live near these wilderness areas may not know about specific areas. But they can comment on the general issues outlined above. Those who are concerned about leaving an adequate wilderness heritage to their children should make their wishes known. Write John R. McGuire, Chief Forester, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250.

Thoughts from the

Distaff Corner

By Marge Higley

Exponential. A smooth-sounding word that rolls easily over the tongue. It doesn't sound ominous at all, but it can turn out to be pretty explosive when used along with words like population growth and energy consumption.

Webster defines exponential as: "of or relating to an exponent" — which isn't all that helpful even when you know that an exponent is that little number above and to the right, which tells you how many times to multiply something times itself. Roughly translated, what it all means is something like: "Don't just stand there and add more numbers each year — get in there and multiply them just as fast as you can!"

Now we'll just relate that to population increase and energy use, and what do we get? Well, what most of us get is — perplexed and confused!

Maybe an example would help to clarify things. Let's go back a few generations — to about 1900, when Penelope married Oliver and they set up housekeeping. They burned coal for cooking and heating, read by kerosene lamps, and traveled by foot, bicycle, or horse-drawn conveyance. Penelope washed clothes on a washboard and cleaned her carpets by hanging them on the clothesline and beating the dirt out of them. To cool and freshen the air, they opened a window.

In time, Oliver and Penelope had four children, who grew up and got married and set up housekeeping. So there were four households, plus Penelope and Oliver. They cooked and heated with gas, and read by electric light. They traveled by automobile, cleaned carpets with vacuum cleaners, and washed clothes in an electric washing machine.

In time, each family had four children who grew up and got married and set up housekeeping. So now there were 16 households, plus the four mentioned above, plus Oliver and Penelope. At least half of them were two-car families. They all owned electric toasters and can openers, and even electric brooms to supplement the vacuum cleaners. Electric washing machines had become automatic, and sat proudly beside automatic clothes dryers. Electric refrigerators were, of course, indispensable.

In time, each family had four children who grew up and got married and set up housekeeping. So there were 64 households, plus 16, plus 4. By now, we can omit, but not subtract, Penelope and Oliver. (The secret of this formula is to remember — you can add and multiply, but you can never, never subtract or divide!)

Now all these families have more money, and more leisure time, so we must add boats, motorcycles, snowmobiles, campers, and four-wheel drive vehicles. Home laundries are augmented by rows and rows of washers and dryers in laundromats, for the convenience of travelers. Home kitchens are filled with shiny electric appliances — freezers, self-cleaning ovens, trash-mashers, roasters, broilers, frying pans, blenders. Family rooms and living rooms contain TV sets, radios, stereos, tape recorders and movie projectors. Bathroom medicine cabinets are filled with electric shavers, electric toothbrushes, hair dryers, and even electric combs. In warm climates, air conditioners are considered a necessity.

What it all adds (and multiplies!) up to is this: in just four generations we have come from just two people, each using a minimum of the nation's energy, to 84 people, each using up gobs and gobs of energy.

"Aha!" you say — "you can't figure it that way because people aren't having such large families now." True. But also true is the fact that because of advanced medical technology, the grandparents are not only living longer, but are leading more active lives. But just for the sake of argument, figure it at three children per family — the total still mounts with ever-increasing speed. Plus another fact. — Each exponential person is using more energy — exponentially!

Now let's project that into the future, to about 1980. Or, to make it doubly interesting (pardon — I mean quadruply interesting!) let's go one more generation, to the year 2000. Then all we have to do is multiply the increase in population by the increased use of energy.

There must be some simple mathematical formula to



What would the world be, once bereft
Of wet and of wildness? Let them be left,
O let them be left, wildness and wet;
Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet.

GERARD MANLEY HOPKINS: Inversnaid

Read About Our Dilemma!

The circulation department here at High Country News is on the horns of a horrible dilemma! Normally, we send out renewal notices and second reminders at fairly regular intervals, so renewal notices for subscriptions which expire in March had been mailed before the decision was made to cease publication. When the time came to send second notices to the February subscribers, we thought that the paper was done, so naturally we didn't mail out those cards. Nor did we replenish our supply of renewal notices from the printer, for the April renewal notices, because we didn't really anticipate needing them.

Now all that has changed, and we're "back in business" again, although we are three batches of cards behind-times. (We still don't have the renewal cards we just ordered from the printer, but they're promised soon.)

Those, however, are just little problems. The real crux of our great big dilemma lies in those generous, lovely contributions which are pouring in from near and far. We are listing all of them, and noting each one on that subscriber's individual file card. Now, for all of you who have been so generous, we surely wouldn't feel right about turning right around and sending you a renewal notice! But unfortunately, the addressograph can't read, and it even prints the addresses face down, so the operator can't, either. We hang a little pin in, for instance, the number 4 slot, and as we run the plates through, all the addresses flagged for April are printed on the renewal cards. (At least, when the machine is operating properly, that's what happens!)

Theoretically it would be possible for us

Distaff . . .

achieve this! Maybe if we multiply the grandparents, times the parents. . . times the children. . . plus the dogs and cats. . . and then multiply this total by all the cars. . . times the washing machines. . . times electric toothbrushes.

I hope that I've made it perfectly clear that "exponential" can, in time, turn out to be a pretty frightening word!

to check each card against your file card, but if we did that it would be about next October before we got the cards mailed. So we're asking you contributors to please do a little more thing for us. If, in the next several months, you receive a renewal notice which you don't deserve, will you please mark "paid" and return it, or even just throw it away. We aren't about to take you off our mailing list!

Incidentally, if any of you readers wonder when your subscription expires, just look at the numbers following your name. The first three are the month and year your subscription expires.

Report Advertising

If you note advertising which you believe to be false, misleading, not in the public interest, or what you consider to be unduly exaggerated ecopornography, you can do something about it. Cut the ad out of the newspaper or magazine, write a letter of protest, and send both to the National Advertising Review Board, 850 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Recently, a New York environmental group, Public Action to Protect Environmental Resources (PAPER), filed a complaint against Weyerhaeuser Co. The group asked for a ban on advertisements extolling the virtues of clearcutting in forests. PAPER says Weyerhaeuser's ads stress four themes: that clearcutting is "Nature's Way"; that no ecological damage results from tree farming; that wildlife thrives as a result of these practices; and that clearcutting is consistent with man's social and aesthetic needs. The complaint says "Each of these four claims is false and misleading."

Rainbow Bridge . . .

Rockies that will melt to produce maximum Colorado River flow in May and June this year, we call upon the Secretary to order the beginning of the necessary drawdown at once and thus protect Rainbow Bridge as the law and now the court — requires.

Photo by Harold L. Perry for WHOA!

High Country News-15
Friday, Mar. 30, 1973

Environmental Eavesdropper

LOONEY LIMERICKS

by Zane E. Cology

We are gratefully well aware
That many people DO care!
With thankful elation
We accept each donation
To help us hang right in there!

* * *

One of Scotland's most fertile fishing grounds, the Sound of Raasay, is to be used for a torpedo range. Fishing boats will have to be banned because the torpedoes to be tested home in on sound.

* * *

The Greek Public Power Corporation wants to build a powerplant at Philippi, where the armies of Mark Antony and Octavian defeated the forces of Caesar's slayers, Brutus and Cassius, some 2,000 years ago. The plant would be fueled with peat, a material which burns with thick, heavy smoke. Some 4,000 farm families are engaged in the new battle against the Power Corporation.

* * *

An engineering professor at the University of Illinois has computed that paper packaging by McDonald's uses the equivalent of sustained-yield forest products from a 315 square mile forest area over a one-year period. Dr. Bruce M. Hannon also calculated that for every McDonald's customer in 1971, the energy equivalent of 2.1 pounds of coal was consumed. He says the energy content of the food on McDonald's menus is only one-tenth of the energy used to get it from the farm to the customer.

* * *

Boy Scouts picking up litter along roads in western Pennsylvania found that disposable diapers rated second only to beer cans. The diapers have been cited as a possible public health problem.

* * *

The Texas Trinity River Project by which the Dallas-Fort Worth area would have become an inland port was defeated in a special \$150-million bond issue. Environmental concerns were cited as having had a big effect on the outcome. Local commercial interests and public officials reportedly spent as much as \$225,000 for advertising alone.

* * *

The Idaho House of Representatives voted 40-18 against a bill which would have allowed advertising of contraceptives. Some of the remarks made against the bill: "(it)... would encourage immorality," advertising would "... only increase the use of this product," advertising would be "an invasion of family privacy."

* * *

A research analysis of grassland ecosystems in the western United States has been extended through a grant of nearly \$2 million from the National Science Foundation. The grant was made to Dr. George M. Van Dyne of Colorado State University.



Two of the horses killed when they were either driven or frightened over a cliff in the Lemhi Mountains of Idaho show the nostrils clamped shut by hog rings. Such inhumane treatment is used to restrict the animals' breathing when they are driven. This and other photos were obtained by Harold L. Perry, a field representative of the Humane Society of the United States, acting for Wild Horse Organized Assistance, Inc. (WHOA!). Perry reached the scene, at the 9,000-10,000 foot level, by helicopter after he was alerted by Mrs. Velma B. Johnston (Wild Horse Annie).

MUSTANGS

Mesteños of the singing mane
run silently
unshod across the ageing plain;
your haunted eyes
know we, not you, are on the wane.

we spurn the dust
you know we must return to
and yearn to touch
the shape of time,
too old for us
too old and too sublime

Old ones of the hunted eyes
sing loudly
to flamboyant skies;
your wild head toss
in tribute to your foe's demise.

but in permitting you
the vengeance you deserve
we're admitting to
our ignorance,
you scorn us not
for scorn has no significance.

Eohippus of the primal wood
elusive
as the cosmic mood;
your seed is strong
and mocks what man misunderstood.

Jane Edmonds

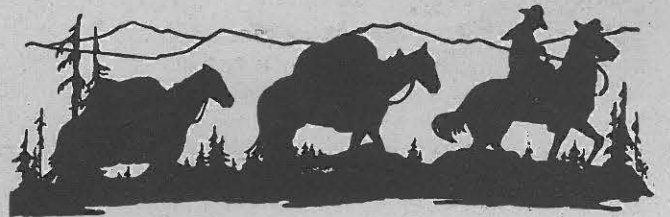
Two goofs don't make a right, so I take this means of correcting two recent ones. In the February 16 issue, Mrs. Don (Sharon) Davis did a book review on Mustangs, A Return to the Wild. She did not receive credit. In the March 16 issue, HCN correspondent Verne Huser did the article on the Salmon River — Idaho Primitive Area entitled Wilderness Proposals Need Support. His by-line was inadvertently left off. To both I offer my abject apologies.

The editor.

WHOA!

WHOA! (see above) is an organization dedicated to assisting in the preservation of wild and free-roaming horses and burros. It was through the quick action of WHOA! that a helicopter was dispatched to the scene above. And it was because of such action that there will hopefully be no repeats of the roundup which took place in Idaho.

If you have concern for the wild horses of the West you can support WHOA! It is a tax-deductible foundation. The address is Box 555, Reno, Nevada 89504.



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Man Passed This Way

Rising some 200 feet above the valley floor, El Morro is a massive mesa-point of sandstone, forming a striking landmark. It was named by the Spanish conquistadors, who used the place as a camping spot in the 17th century. The word "morro" means headland. These sheltered coves also served later American travelers to the West.

Many of the travelers left a record of their passage by cutting inscriptions into the soft sandstone, thus giving the landmark its other name, "Inscription Rock." Two years before the founding of Jamestown, and 15 years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, the first Spanish inscription was made by Don Juan de Onate, in April, 1605.

But the Spaniards were not the first to record their presence. On the very top of El Morro lie ruins of Zuni Indian pueblos abandoned long before the coming of the Spaniards. And carved on the rock itself are hundreds of petroglyphs left by these ancient people.

In the years following the conquest of Mexico, stories reached the Spaniards of seven golden cities far to the north, called Cibola. The basis for the rumor was actually the six villages of the Zuni Indians. In 1540 the famous expedition of Francisco Vasquez de Coronado took Hawikuh, the first of the six Zuni pueblos, probably passing El Morro on the

way to Acoma. Forty-three years later, an expedition headed by Antonio de Espejo and Fray Francisco Beltran came from Acoma to Zuni, certainly by way of El Morro, which is mentioned in the journal of Diego Perez de Luxan as "El Estanque del Penol" — The Pool by the Great Rock.

In the summer of 1598, the expedition of Juan de Onate came up the Rio Grande and founded, beside San Juan pueblo, the first Spanish settlement in New Mexico. Onate made trips to all the New Mexico pueblos. In 1604 he finally made the trip westward beyond the Hopi villages, crossing western Arizona to the Colorado River and descending that stream to its mouth. On his way home in the spring, he stopped at El Morro and carved on it the earliest known inscription: "Passed by here the Adelantado Don Juan de Onate, from the discovery of the Sea of the South, the 16th of April of 1605." The "Sea of the South" was the Gulf of California.

Nearly a quarter of a century later, a reinforcement of the corps of friars made possible the extension of the missionary sphere to include the Zuni and Hopi pueblos. Establishment of Franciscan missions at Hawikuh and Halona in August, 1629, is commemorated by a poem carved on El Morro in praise of the strength and valor of Gov. Don Francisco Manuel de Silva Nieto, who alone made it possible to carry the faith to Zuni, according to his statement.

Neither the Hopis nor the Zunis took kindly to conversion. Over a period of years Spanish priests and friars were the victims of violence by the Indians. Spasmodic native resistance to the Spanish conquistadors culminated in a plot by which, in August, 1680, all the pueblos rose in revolt, killing priests and laymen at the pueblos.

The first stage in the Spanish reconquest came in 1692, when Don Diego de Vargas visited all the pueblos and, without bloodshed, received their submission to the Spanish crown. De Vargas left this inscription on the rock: "Here was the General Don Diego de Vargas who conquered for our Holy Father and for the Royal Crown, all of New Mexico at his own expense, year of 1692."

The last incident of the reconquest was the unsuccessful campaign of Gov. Don Feliz Martinez against the Moqui villages in 1716. Don Feliz also left a message on El Morro, that he intended "the reduction and conquest of Moqui." But this was never accomplished.

The 18th century was a relatively quiet period in Spanish New Mexico. Travelers passed by El Morro and left their names, notably the Bishop of Durango on his way to Zuni in 1737 on an ecclesiastical inspection in connection with his claim to authority over the New Mexico missions. The last Spanish inscription is dated 1774.

Soon after the occupation of Santa Fe by the army of Gen. Stephen W. Kearney in 1846, American Army officers traveled over the territory. Lt. J.H. Simpson was accompanied by the artist R.H. Kern, who copied the early inscriptions in September, 1849. After Simpson's visit, many other names, including those of emigrants, traders, Indian agents, soldiers, surveyors, and settlers, were added to the rock.

One early traveler of special interest was Lt. Edward F. Beale. In 1857 Beale's caravan passed El Morro en route to Zuni on the west coast. The camels had been imported for use in the arid Southwest. They didn't work out and eventually they were turned loose in the desert. Unlike the horse which quickly readapted to the continent on which they both originated, the camels died out.

El Morro National Monument, 58 miles southeast of Gallup, N. M., was established on December 8, 1906.



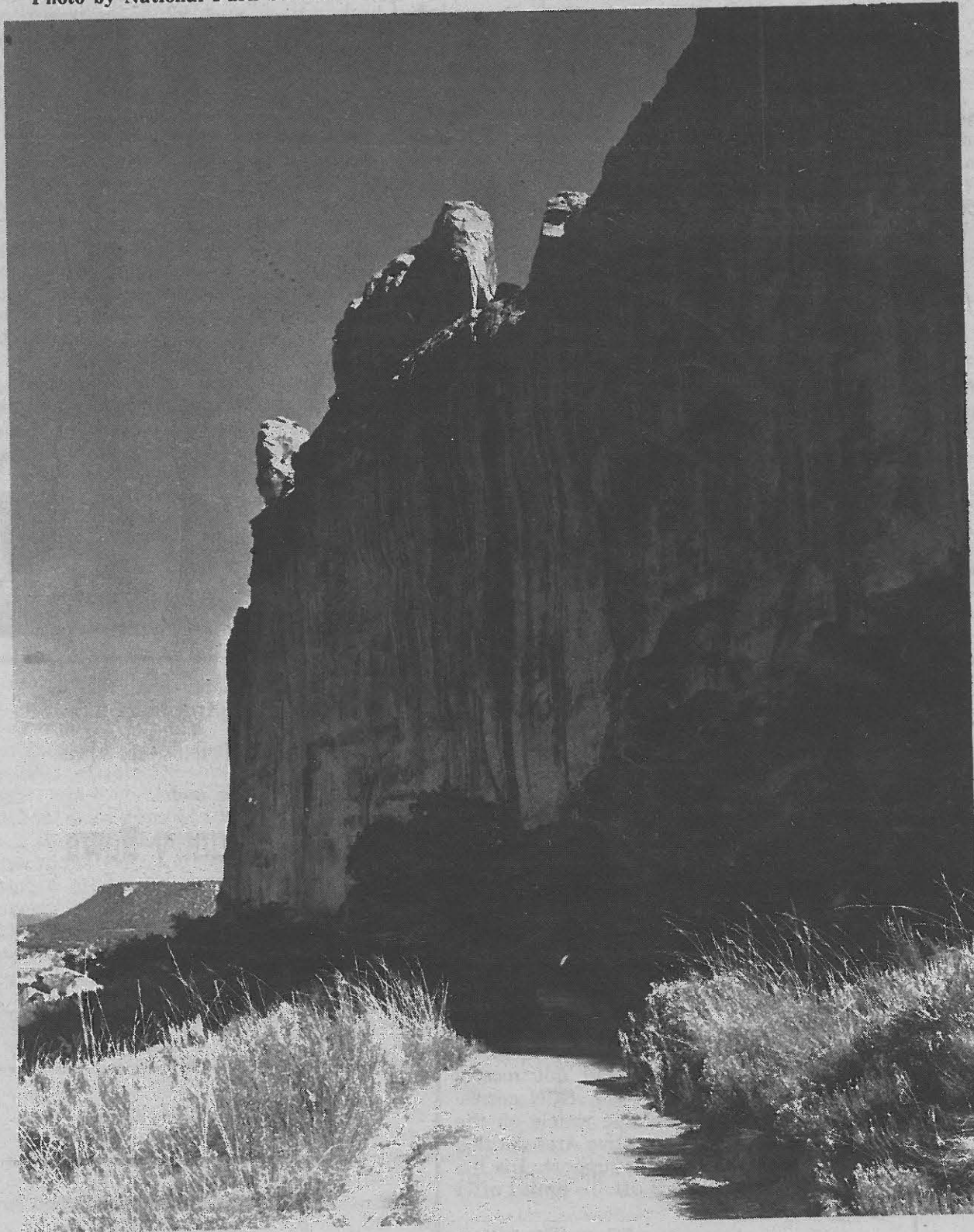
Take A Good Look

If you see some odd colored waterfowl, don't report it to your psychiatrist, report it to the Fish and Wildlife Service. Over 400 mallards in South Dakota have been marked with red and yellow on wing and tail so their movements can be followed.

Wynn Freeman, administrator of the management division for the Montana Department of Fish and Game, said that there was a serious outbreak of Dutch Duck Plague on Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge, South Dakota. The waterfowl have dispersed and are migrating. Biologists want to know where they go.

Dutch Duck Plague is a highly contagious disease of waterfowl. Some 26,000 have died on the Lake Andes Refuge since the outbreak. The disease does not affect humans.

It is important that game workers track down the movements of the migrating ducks. If you spot one please call the Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge in South Dakota, 605-487-7603, or call a Montana branch of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Inscription Rock in El Morro National Monument, New Mexico.