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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-002.3
1927 & 1928

NEVER DESTROY

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORTS
1927 & 1928

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STEPHEN T. MATHER,
Director.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

FOR

JANUARY, 1927

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

CALIFORNIA

February 5, 1927.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith report on Yosemite National Park for the month of January, 1927.

000 -- General

January brought 4.55 inches of precipitation, compared with 3.76 inches for last year. The total precipitation to date is 19.15 inches, compared with 10.96 inches for the corresponding period last year. There was 11 inches of snowfall during the month on four different occasions, and eight days on which it rained. There were thirteen clear days, six partly cloudy days, and twelve cloudy days during the month.

The most interesting data for the January report is the great increase in automobile travel to the Park. During the month there were 3,792 private automobiles, with 8,849 visitors. Of this number, 449 were return cars.

The total number of private automobiles entering the Park from the beginning of the Travel Year, October 1, 1926, to January 31, 1927, is 8,489. This is a gain of 8,175 cars over the same period last year, when only 316 machines registered at the various Park entrances. A similar comparison of the total number of visitors in the first four months of the travel season shows that we had 31,216 this year, compared with 3,969 last year, or an increase of 27,247 people to date.

The following Sunday and holiday travel for the month is of interest:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Cars</u>	<u>People</u>
January 1	653	2,305
January 2	311	1,098
January 16	382	987
January 22	166	577
January 23	480	1,818
January 30	521	2,019

While a heavy travel was anticipated during the holidays, we did not expect, and were not prepared to cope with, the avalanche of travel that actually came. This heavy travel has brought up a large number of new problems. Hundreds of cars that came into the Park brought basket lunches

with them, the parties locating their picnicking places wherever their fancies led. The result was that nearly all of the bright, sunny places in the Valley, from the standpoint of the motorist, became public picnic grounds, even though these locations happened to be on someone's front lawn. The same practice has been followed all during the month, there being from 100 to 200 parties picnicking at various points in the Valley.

In addition to this, there has been a certain amount of demand for camping in the public camp grounds. On a number of occasions from 75 to 100 parties camped out from Cascades to Mirror Lake, even though it was necessary for them to brush away the snow in order to put up their tents or find a place to roll their beds. The latter practice was followed by most of the campers; that is, their beds were rolled on the ground without any tent protection of any kind. This all indicates that before another winter season, not only will a suitable winter camp ground have to be developed, but, also, suitable picnicking places where water and sanitation facilities can be provided.

100 - Administration

110 - Status of Work

The office work is in exceptionally good shape this year, all of the current work being up to date, and many old jobs have been completed. A saving in expense is being made beginning January 15 by not filling the position of Cashier vacated by Mr. Albert Womniak last November. Mrs. Gertrude Hannah has been filling the position up to January 15, and from that time on we hope to be able to get along without filling this position for the next two months.

Outside work is also making satisfactory progress.

120 - Park Inspections by:-

121 - Park Superintendent

Various inspections were made by the Superintendent of all work and operations going on in Yosemite Valley. Frequent visits were made to the new hotel, fish hatchery, and landscaping work along the El Portal and Valley roads.

Considerable time was spent in inspecting the operation of the Arch Rock Checking Station with view to finding a solution of the checking work at that station, which up to the present time has been very unsatisfactory. With regard to this, I am convinced that a much simpler permit should be utilized, the permit to carry nothing more than its serial number, the date, and license number of the car. I am also convinced of the necessity for eliminating the checking out of traffic at the station, and in order to facilitate and expedite the issuing of permits, it will be necessary to move the station from its location between the incoming and outgoing roads to a location on the right side of the incoming road.

I also feel certain that if cash registers are to be used on checking stations, a much simpler and less bunglesome type should be developed than that which was tried out last summer.

123 - National Park Service Officers

On January 13 Assistant Landscape Engineer Vint and Associate Highway Engineer MacBeath of the Bureau of Public Roads arrived. Both left the Park on the 15th. While here, time was spent by Mr. Vint and Mr. MacBeath on a study with myself and others of the park organization on road locations around the new hotel and in front of Camp Curry and on a study of means of protecting the El Portal Road pavement.

Superintendent Harry P. Karstens of Mount McKinley National Park and his wife and son arrived in the Park on Sunday, January 2, and left here on the 4th. Mr. Karstens spent most of his time while here informing himself as to Yosemite methods of park operation.

127 - Other Agencies

On January 13 Mr. Dutton of the State Engineering Department visited the Park for the purpose of locating and making plans for the installation of a septic tank to be used in connection with the new fish hatchery.

130 - Finance & Accounts

Considerable progress has been made in the effort to reduce expenses during the winter months, particularly those of maintenance, repair, and operation. As a measure of economy, on January 16 the mess operation at the Officers and Rangers Club was closed down, and the boarders taken care of at Boarding Camp No. 1. This saves the salary of a cook and a waiter, and on January 20 the housekeeper resigned, which saves her salary for a period of a few weeks.

Stock which were expected to be used this winter were kept in last fall, but due to lack of work, sixteen head were sent out during the month, leaving ten head of Park Service stock and two head of the contractors' stock on hand.

170 - Plans, Maps, and Surveys

Engineering draftsman spent a month in drafting maps and making various tracings and blueprints, etc. Resident Engineer Taylor had sufficiently recovered from his recent illness to enter on duty on January 24.

200 - Maintenance, Improvements, and New Construction

210 - Maintenance

The usual maintenance, repair, and operation work was carried on during the month. The roads in the upper end of the Valley which have not yet

been paved have been quite badly cut up because of the heavy travel and their softened condition from melting snows and rainfall.

250 - New Construction

(a) Fish Hatchery: The State Fish Hatchery is nearing completion. The following work, however, is still to be done:

1. Stone veneer on exterior of the building to be placed.
2. Painting of the interior and exterior of the building.
3. Painting of fish troughs.
4. Connection to be made with the Government 14-inch watermain for service and auxiliary water supply.
5. Digging cess pool and making sewer connection to it.

Everything will be in shape for use by the Fish and Game Commission as early as they require the building this spring.

(b) Ahwahnee Hotel: Work has progressed nicely during the month. Most of the concrete floors have been poured. The log framing has been completed for the dining-room. The plaster work is well along in the kitchen. Some of the main building rooms have been partitioned off, the ceiling net work is in place, and the plastering in the main part of the building above the first floor is begun. The exterior rockwork has been continued during the month. A bituminous coating was placed on the concrete roof during the month. There have been no marked delays in any of the construction work.

(c) New Road Improvement: Representatives of the Allied Contractors and Will Moring, who have the concreting and asphaltic macadam road work, were in the Park the latter part of the month and made arrangements to start work very shortly.

300 - Activities of Other Agencies in the Park

310 - Public Service Contractors

The Sentinel Hotel has been crowded to capacity every weekend during the month, and the company has opened up all satisfactory accommodations at the Lodge and at Camp Curry on weekends to take care of the large number of visitors.

The company has arranged to furnish additional service in the village store on Sundays, the store now being open from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m., instead of from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., as in the past. On week days the store is open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

315 - New Contracts

The contracts for continuing the road improvement during the coming season have been executed by the Allied Contractors, Inc., and Will Moring for a total of \$29,145.78 and \$313,200.83, respectively.

400 - Flora, Fauna, and Natural Phenomena

420 - Museum Service

Open hours have been from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., daily except Sundays, when the hours are from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Usually, however, the museum is opened before 11:00 a.m. on Sundays, and often it is kept open until after 5:00 p.m. to take care of the large number of visitors. Twenty-four hundred visitors were entertained during the month.

Library: Mrs. Grace Ewing continues to serve local residents in the branch of the Mariposa County Library housed in the Yosemite Museum. Two afternoons and one evening each week visitors are invited to take out books.

Accessions: Nine beautifully colored lantern slides were presented by Dr. Castler.

C. W. Michael gave ten arrow points found near Mono Pass and samples of ore from the old mine at the same place.

The Yosemite School gave a large framed picture of 1910 school pupils in Yosemite.

Three geology reprints were given by Dr. David White of the Geological Survey.

Workman Charles Nelson found and donated a small saucer-like mortar of Yosemite Indian origin.

G. E. Reynolds presented a bound volume of 1926 Out-Of-Door Sections of the Stockton Record.

Chief Naturalist Hall procured the following items from Government surplus and turned them over to the Yosemite Educational Department:

- 4 map holders
- 1 Kodak roll film tank
- 1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "x8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " plate tank
- 1 4"x5" plate tank
- 1 Promo film pack tank
- 1 detector galvanometer
- 1 pruning knife
- 1 level
- 1 blow torch

- 1 jig saw frame
- 1 small draw shave
- 1 machinist's hammer, small
- 1 set of 6 chisels
- 1 doweling tool
- 1 No. 1-B Kodak tripod
- 1 5x7 Century camera with Bausch & Lomb F8 lens
- 405 books for Museum Library
- 1 B. & L. Gallopticon - incomplete

Improvements: Carpenters, electricians, and rangers have assisted during the month in making necessary additions and improvements to the museum building and cages, etc.

500 - Use of Park Facilities by the Public

510 - Increase in Travel

Attention is invited to Table No. 1, which shows an increase of 690% in our visitors to date, compared with last year. Reference is also made to the opening paragraphs of this report, showing the increased use being made of the Park during the winter months.

520 - General Weather Conditions

Form No. 1009 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau, giving weather data in detail, is attached.

540 - Special Visitors

On the 19th Mr. and Mrs. William Kersley of Hollywood and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McHobb of Chicago arrived in the Park, remaining until the 21st. This party was taken care of at the Rangers' Club House, in accordance with instructions from the Director. While here, their time was spent sightseeing and taking both movie and still pictures of the winter scenery. Information Ranger Lloyd was assigned to give the party all necessary attention, information, and assistance.

600 - Protection

610 - Police Protection

On January 2 John J. Kratzner was charged with driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor, transporting liquor, and possession of fire-arms. Mr. Kratzner, driving Geo car #800095, collided with Mr. Archer B. Stuart, driving Studebaker roadster T-55825. The force of the collision threw Mr. Kratzner out of the Geo roadster after it struck a pine tree several feet off the road, and also threw the wife and two children of Mr. Stuart out of the Studebaker car. One of the children was so badly cut that it was rushed to the hospital for treatment. Mr. Kratzner was also cut over

the eye and had two stitches taken in the wound. It was evident that Mr. Kratzner had been drinking, and at the trial he was found guilty of transporting liquor, for which he was fined \$50, and \$10 for not declaring the fire-arm at the Ranger Station. The charge of intoxication was dismissed.

On January 2 Willard Shannon, alias "Red" Shannon, was charged with luring a Mr. Lage, a salesman with a Lincoln car, to a lonely place in Amador County, and there murdering him and taking the car. Shannon and the car were traced through Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne Counties, and also into Yosemite National Park. In Lincoln car #D-916 he arrived at the Arch Rock Checking Station about 9:30 a.m., January 1, 1927, his car being #117 in the long line of cars waiting to be checked in on that day. Shannon visited at the home of his foster mother, Mrs. Mead, who now lives in Camp No. 17 in one of the cottages belonging to the Yosemite Park & Curry Company. He had with him on this trip a Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Derick, whom he had picked up at Merced. These people were en route to the Park and had car trouble, and he invited them to come along. This car checked out at the Arch Rock Station on January 1, about 1:30 p.m., and it was after they were gone that this Office learned that he was wanted for a charge of murder.

A Roy Savelle, employed at the Sentinel Hotel as dishwasher, was a pal of Shannon's, and Shannon tried to induce Savelle to leave the Park with him on January 1. Savelle refused to quite without giving his employers notice, however, and Shannon was to return the following Saturday. Shannon wired Savelle from Santa Maria, California, saying, "Impossible to meet you Saturday. Will call in about a week". This information was given to the authorities, and Shannon's car was recovered near Santa Maria, but he had evidently taken a stage into San Francisco, where his trail was lost. All of the information possible concerning Shannon and Savelle has been secured and furnished to the authorities as clues on which to work.

900 - Miscellaneous

Medical Service

Dr. G. A. Hunt handled 270 office calls and 41 house calls, or a total of 311 calls during the month. There was one major operation for appendicitis and two minor operations. There were sixteen accidents reported and eight hospital cases for a total of 53 hospital days, and one private case for three hospital days. There was one birth.

Publicity

A letter received from Mr. Roy Hewitt, Manager of the Radio Broadcasters Company of Hollywood, California, in January, expressed his pleasure concerning the Yosemite National Park material sent him for broadcasting purposes. The dissemination of Park information through such sources undoubtedly reaps many benefits, due to the popularity of the radio as a universal educational factor.

During the month arrangements were also made with Mr. Don Bois, Manager

of the Touring Bureau of the Automobile Club of Southern California, by which this Office has been granted the privilege of telegraphing the Touring Bureau collect any report dealing with local conditions that may be of interest to the prospective Park visitor. This co-operative agreement will tend to bring the Automobile Club of Southern California in closer contact with the work of the National Park Service in Yosemite and make the former organization of greater service to its many members. A similar arrangement is expected to be worked out with Mr. George S. Grant, Manager of the Touring Bureau of the California State Automobile Association in San Francisco.

An article was prepared for "Motorland" during the past month and will appear in an early issue of this magazine, which is published by the California State Automobile Association.

Information Ranger Lloyd was detailed to the party of Mr. and Mrs. William Horsley and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McHabb, who were at the Rangers' Club House from January 26 to 28, inclusive. Prior to departing, they expressed their appreciation of the courtesies extended them, and Mr. Horsley loaned Mr. Lloyd his motion picture camera for the second time, supplementing this with four reels of unexposed film.

Photography

Photographs were furnished Mr. Eugene Swarswald, publisher of "Pictorial California", and Mr. Hanna, editor of "Touring Topics", the latter being the magazine of the Automobile Club of Southern California. Pictures were also made of the timbered area that has been saved for the Park through exchanges with the Yosemite Lumber Company along the Wawona Road. Other pictures were taken during the month, including general winter scenes, the fish hatchery, and the new hotel.

Yosemite Lumber Company

The Yosemite Lumber Company did not operate during January, one man only being employed at each of their logging camps as watchman.

Very truly yours,

W. B. Lewis,
Superintendent.

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

KPL:RN

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

TRAVEL REPORT

Yosemite

National Park for the Month of January

	This Month	This Travel Year To Date	This Month Last Year	Last Travel Year To Date	Increase for Travel Year	
					Number	Percent
<u>PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION:</u>						
Cars first entry	3343	6201	20	218	5983	2744
Cars reentry	449	2288	3	98	2190	2255
Motorcycles	25	39		3	36	1200
Total motor vehicles	3817	8528	23	319	8209	2578
Persons entering via motor vehicles	13489	27010	69	556	26154	3055
Persons entering via other private transportation	3	37	4	151	94	72
Total persons entering via private transportation	13492	27047	73	987	26060	2640
<u>OTHER TRANSPORTATION:</u>						
Persons entering via stages ..	296	1393	17	805	588	75
Persons entering via trains ..	483	2776	715	2177	599	27
Persons entering otherwise						
Total other transportation..	779	4169	732	2982	1187	40
<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL VISITORS</u>	14271	51216	805	3969	27247	686

	This Year	Last Year	Increase	
			Number	Percent
Automobiles in public camps during month	110	3	107	3566
Campers in public camps during month	442	7	435	6214

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATUS OF PERSONNEL

~~YOSEMITE~~ National Park for the Month of January, 1927

	This Month	This Month Last Year
Number of employees beginning of month,	108	110
Number of additions,	4	1
Total,	112	111
Number of separations,	11	14
Number of employees close of month,	101	97
Number of promotions during month	0	0
Aggregate amount of annual leave taken,	178½	155
Aggregate amount of sick leave taken,	21	15½
Aggregate amount of leave without pay,	5½	0

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REPORT OF SALES OF PUBLICATIONS

January, 1927

	Number	Value
<u>GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS:</u>		
On hand beginning of month,	2563	\$ 398.35
Received during month,	None	None
Total,		
Sold during month,	32	3.90
On hand at close of month,	2531	\$ 394.45
<u>NON-GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS:</u>		
On hand beginning of month,	None	
Received during month,	None	
Total,		
Sold during month,	None	
On hand at close of month,		
Cash on hand beginning of month,		6.10
Sales during month,		3.90
Total,		10.00
Remitted during month,		—
Balance,		\$ 10.00

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REPORT OF PARK REVENUES

Yosemite National Park for the Month of January, 1927

	This Year	Last Year
Park revenue on hand beginning of month,	967.12	
Received,	12,169.29	
Total,	13,136.41	
Remitted,	12,566.57	
On hand close of month,	769.84	

Park revenues received this year to date,	\$ 122,424.19
Park revenues received last year to date,	151,213.67
Increase, Decrease	28,794.48
Percent of Increase, decrease	19%

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

*ELECTRICITY GENERATED, SOLD, USED, ETC.

Yosemite

National Park for the Month of January, 1927

	This Month	This Travel Year To Date	This Month Last Year	Last Travel Year To Date	Increase for Travel Year	
					Number	Percent
Current generated,	947590	3170790	765030	5380020	-2209230	-45%
Sold to park operators,	583872	1269655	209696	1492550	- 222895	-15%
Sold to others,	101000	809189	215800	2517200	-1708011	-67%
Furnished to other Governmental agencies,	19497	46734	18040	36839	+ 9895	+ 27%
Used by National Park Service, lost in transit, etc.,	343221	1045212	241494	1533431	-288219	-22%
Total current generated, . . .	947590	3170790	765030	5380020	-2209230	-45%

Amount receivable from the sale of electricity, \$ 5,615.56

* Indicated by K. W. H.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REPORT OF TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BUSINESS

Yosemite

National Park for the Month of January, 1927.

	This Month	This Month Last Year	Increase	Percent Increase
LOCAL BUSINESS				
Miles of circuit maintained,	160	130	30	23%
No. of telephones connected,	105	74	31	42%
No. of measured service calls,	171	25	146	584%
No. of other local calls,				
Total No. of local calls,	15338	11402	3936	35%
Peak load in calls per day,	809	744	65	9%
Receipts from measured service calls, . . .	17.10	2.50	14.60	584%
" " coin boxes,	-	-	-	-
" " telephone rental,	549.21	96.50	452.71	469%
TOTAL RECEIPTS	566.31	99.00	467.31	472%
LONG DISTANCE BUSINESS				
No. Outbound calls,	587	286	301	105%
No. Inbound calls,	545	215	330	153%
TOTAL LONG DISTANCE CALLS	1132	501	631	126%
Peak load in calls per day,	47	25	22	88%
Receipts from Long Distance business, . .	516.96	140.28	176.68	126%
TELEGRAPH BUSINESS				
Messages via Western Union,	20	21	-1	-5%
Messages via				
TOTAL MESSAGES	20	21	-1	-5%
Receipts from telegraph business,	191.65	99.39	92.26	93%
No. of money transfer messages,	13	19	6	51%
Amt. " " receipts,	11.57	8.02	3.55	44%
TOTAL RECEIPTS TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH DEPTS	1086.49	546.69	739.80	213%

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

COOPERATIVE OBSERVERS' METEOROLOGICAL RECORD:

Month of January, 1927; Station, Yosemite; County, MariposaState, Calif.; Latitude, 31; Longitude, 119 Hour of Observation, 4 P.M.
Time used on this form, 700

DATE.	TEMPERATURE.				PRECIPITATION.				FRESH- FALL WIND DIRECTION.	CHARACTER OF DAY, SUNRISE TO SUNSET.	+ MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA.
	MAX. METL.	MIN. METL.	RANGE.	* SET MAX.	TIME OF BEGINNING.	TIME OF ENDING.	AMOUNT IN INCHES.	DEPTH OF SNOW ON GROUND AT TIME OF OBSERVATION.			
1	49	23	26						None	Clear	
2	54	25	29					3"	"	Cloudy	
3	54	28	26					3"	"	Clear	
4	57	28	29					2"	"	Cloudy	
5	53	27	26					2"	"	Clear	
6	59	32	27		10 N	1 P M	1.20"	3"	"	Cloudy	Snow and rain
7	56	33	23					5"	"	Clear	
8	55	33	22					4"	"	Cloudy	
9	53	31	22					2"	"	P. C.	
10	50	28	22		9 AM	4 PM	1.00	2"	W	Cloudy	Rain
11	49	27	22					1"	None	"	
12	49	26	23					1"	"	Clear	
13	54	27	27					3"	"	"	
14	55	25	30					2"	"	P. C.	
15	54	26	28					Spots	"	P. C.	
16	54	33	21		10 N		.40	"	"	Cloudy	Snow melted as it fell
17	50	23	27				.05	"	"	Clear	
18	48	24	24					"	S W	P. C.	
19	46	26	20		4 PM			"	None	Cloudy	Rain and snow
20	45	32	13			3 PM	.80	3"	"	"	
21	43	28	15					2"	"	P. C.	
22	44	26	19					2"	"	Clear	
23	47	23	24					1"	"	"	
24	47	19	28					Spots	"	P. C.	
25	48	20	28					"	"	Clear	
26	46	26	20		3 PM	7 PM	.10	1"	"	Cloudy	Snow
27	45	21	24				.40	3"	"	"	
28	45	26	19		10 AM	4 PM	.60	2"	"	"	Rain and snow
29	46	25	21					1"	"	Clear	
30	49	22	27					2"	"	"	
31	55	25	31					Spots	"	"	
MEAN	1570	799	771				4.55	11"			

* Reading of maximum thermometer immediately after setting.
† Thunderstorms, hail, sleet, and melted snow.

F. S. Hornsley

Cooperative Observer.

(IN TRIPLICATE.)

See cover for instructions.

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Post-Office Address.

Yosemite Calif.

TEMPERATURE.

Mean maximum, 50.64Mean minimum, 25.77Mean, 38.20Maximum, 54; date, 5thMinimum, 10; date, 24thGreatest daily range, 56-25-23

PRECIPITATION.

Total, 4.55 inches.Greatest in 24 hours, 1.20 inches; date, 6th

SNOW.

Total snowfall, 1.1 inches; on ground 15th, trace inches;at end of month, trace inches.

NUMBER OF DAYS—

With .01 inch or more precipitation, 8Clear, 13; partly cloudy, 6; cloudy, 12

DATES OF—

Killing frost, _____

Thunderstorms, _____

Light, _____

Hail, Moderate, _____

Heavy, _____

Sleet, _____

Aurora, _____

REMARKS:

8th Snow - rain10 Rain16 Snow melted as it fell