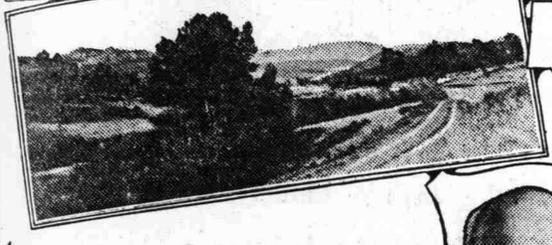
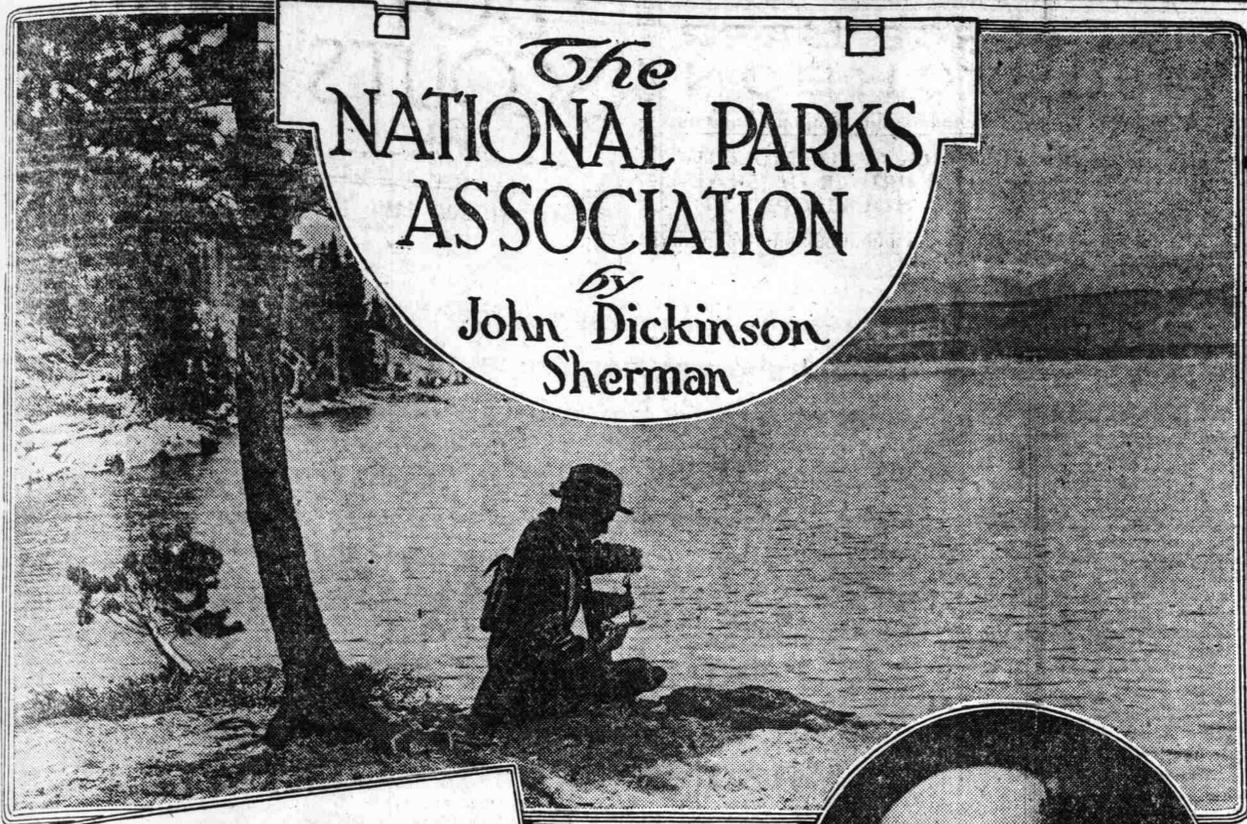


The NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

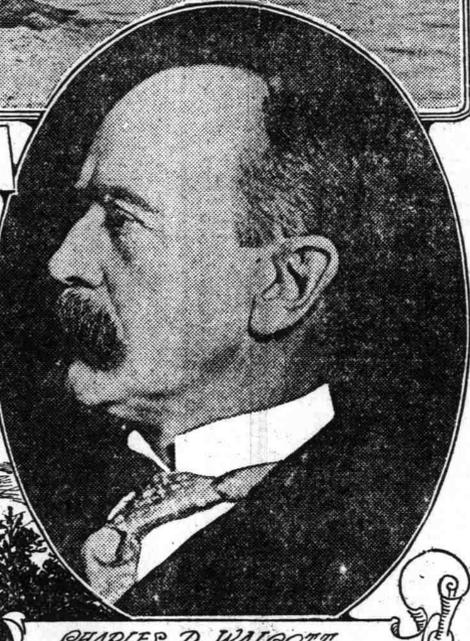
By John Dickinson Sherman



ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK SCENES



FRANKLIN K. LANE
SECRETARY OF INTERIOR



CHARLES D. WALCOTT
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

THE National Parks association is something "new under the sun," despite the dictum of the adage. It is organized by unofficial friends of the national parks to enter a field of the national park movement which it is not the function of the federal government to occupy. This national park movement is the liveliest cause which is not primarily a cause growing out of the great war. Our entrance into war in 1917 caused temporary postponement of the plans then well under way for the organization of this association. In its place the National Parks Educational committee was formed to hold the ground already gained and to organize the association at a propitious time. The committee has done its work and the National Parks association is now doing business, with headquarters in the Union Trust building, Washington, D. C.

The purpose of the association is splendidly patriotic. Wholly independent of the federal government, it will closely co-operate with the national park service, the new bureau of the department of the interior established by congress to administer the national parks.

It is nonpolitical and one of its purposes is to keep politics out of the national parks. It stands for the outdoor life, for recreation amid scenic beauty; for "See America First"; for the development of the national parks as great economic assets of the nation; for keeping billions of American dollars at home—before the war something like \$500,000,000 a year was spent by American tourists abroad in sightseeing, of which Switzerland alone got more than \$200,000,000.

Yet, notwithstanding these many activities, the main purpose of the association is educational. It says to the people of the nation who are to use these public playgrounds:

"Do you know that our national parks are nature's great laboratories and museums—that the splendid spectacles which our national parks present are not only 'wonders,' not merely 'scenery,' but also the conspicuous exhibits of a passing stage in the eternal progress of creation—that they show us, upon a mighty scale, the processes by which she has been and is making America—that you may double your pleasure in these spectacles by comprehending their meaning and that an intelligent study of them will introduce you to a new and wonderful world? Let us know America, and let us really know it. Let us know its natural as well as its national history. Let us differentiate and distinguish and appreciate. Then only shall we know."

The purposes of the National Parks association may therefore be concisely summed up thus:

To interpret the natural sciences which are illustrated in the scenic features, flora and fauna of the national parks and monuments, and circulate popular information concerning them in text and picture.

To encourage the popular study of the history, exploration, tradition and folk lore of the national parks and monuments.

To encourage art with national parks subjects, and the literature of national parks travel, wild life and wilderness living and the interpretation of scenery.

To encourage the extension of the national parks system to represent by consistently great examples the full range of American scenery, flora and fauna, yet confined to areas of significance so extraordinary that they shall make the name national park an American trademark in the competition for the world's travel; and the development of the national monuments into a system illustrative of the range of prehistoric civilization, early exploration and history, land forms, American forest type, wild life, etc.

To enlist the personal services of individuals and the co-operation of societies, organizations, schools, universities, and institutions in the cause of the national parks and monuments.

The National Parks Educational committee consisted of 25 members. Charles D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, was chairman. The vice chairman was William Kent, former congressman from California and the donor of Muir Woods National monument to the nation. Henry B. F. Macfarland of Washington was chair-

man of the executive committee and the secretary was R. S. Yard of the national parks service.

Among the outdoor men were Belmore Browne, explorer, author and artist; Henry G. Bryant, explorer and president of the Geographical society of Philadelphia; William E. Colby, president of the Sierra club; George Bird Grinnell of the Boone and Crockett club and Glacier National park pioneer; George D. Pratt, president of the Camp Fire club, and Charles Sheldon, explorer, hunter and author.

The American Game Protective and Propagation association and the American Bison society were represented by their presidents, John B. Burnham and Edmund Seymour. George F. Kunz, president of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation society, was a member. The colleges contributed W. W. Atwood, department of physiography at Harvard; President John H. Finley of the University of the State of New York; E. M. Lehnerts, department of geology of the University of Minnesota and a pioneer in national parks classes. Others well known were Arthur E. Bestor, president of the Chautauqua institution; Dr. J. Walter Fewkes, chief of the bureau of American ethnology; LaVerne W. Noyes, president of the board of trustees of the Chicago Academy of Sciences, and Mrs. John Dickinson Sherman, conservation chairman of the General Federation of Women's clubs (the only woman).

This personnel assures the co-operation of many public-spirited organizations, popular and learned, from the beginning. The officers of the association are: President, Henry B. F. Macfarland of Washington, D. C. Vice presidents, Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia university; John Mason Clarke, chairman of geology and paleontology, National Academy of Sciences; William Kent of California; Henry Suzzallo, president of the University of the state of Washington. Treasurer, Charles J. Bell, president of the American Security and Trust company of Washington. Executive secretary, R. S. Yard. Chairman ways and means committee, Huston Thompson.

Congress conceives the national parks as concrete possessions of the people. As such, it provides for the protection, maintenance and development of the parks. What use the people will make of them is for the people to determine.

Here, then, is where the National Parks association finds its work. It is, in effect, an organization of the people themselves to enable them to use effectively the magnificent reservations which congress creates and the national parks service maintains and develops.

It will be seen that, while the functions of the governmental bureau and the popular association do not overlap, they are nevertheless intimately associated. In a practical way the two are partners, each with its individual duties, both working toward a common end.

To emphasize this individuality, the National Parks association is entirely separate and distinct from government. The association is nongovernmental and nonpartisan.

The association purposes to be of use to its members. It will, among other things, issue a series of beautifully and usefully illustrated popular-science papers upon the scenery and the wild life of the national parks and monuments; issue bulletins reporting national parks development, state and other movements affecting national parks, progress of significant bills before congress, and the progress of association activities; place members' names on bureau lists to receive new government publications concerning na-

tional parks and popular science; keep members informed concerning new books on American travel, exploration, archaeological research, plant and animal life, and the meaning of scenery; refer travel and route inquiries from members to that governmental or other agency, railroad, or automobile association, which will give each inquiry the kind of attention it needs.

The association has prepared an elaborate plan of popularizing natural science through universities and schools, public libraries, writers and lecturers and artists, and motion picture activities. A feature of its work will be the assembling of material by intensively studying the parks, through committees, separately and as a system, especially their history, nomenclature, folklore, geology, fauna and flora; by collecting this material in ready reference shape as the basis of a practical library; by compiling a working bibliography, by park and subject, of material of every sort available especially in the library of congress and the scientific libraries of the government departments.

The association will establish volunteer working committees of scientists, professors, students and other public-spirited members, and will utilize, as far as possible, the machinery already established and in operation by university and school organizations, state and county educational organizations, state park organizations, scientific institutions, the national government, public-spirited organizations of all sorts, automobile and highway associations, business organizations, like railroads, automobile manufacturers and national parks concessioners, whose business will be helped by the work of the National Parks association.

The executive committee is assured of one subscription of \$5,000; it is planned to secure five-year pledges amounting to a minimum of \$10,000 a year. It also expects at least 3,000 members at \$3 a year.

The association already reports results. The University of the City of New York has prepared sets of national parks lantern slides. The University of Minnesota has been sending study classes to the national parks for two years; Chicago sends one to Rocky Mountain National park this summer and Columbia will send one next year. Columbia has also included a lecture course on the meaning of scenery in this season's summer school. A prominent studio has arranged film stories to show how glaciers work on Mount Rainier, how the Grand canyon was cut; how water carved the Yosemite valley, etc.

If well handled, the National Parks association, with a large membership, may do a great work; it has a large field and a great opportunity. It may even succeed in forcing congress to adopt a consistent park policy. About 500,000 people now visit the national parks every year and the increase promises to be very large. There is, therefore, a body of national parks enthusiasts numbering several millions.

While the association is organized on a nonpolitical basis, it will presumably have to go into politics to accomplish its ends, since the agricultural department is waging a campaign to secure the control of the national parks from the interior department and is setting up the national forests and the forest service as scenic and recreation rivals of the national parks and the national parks service. Also, in its plans to increase the national parks system it will encounter both the open and secret opposition of the forest service, the biggest and smoothest running political machine in the United States.

CO-OPERATING TO CUT MEAT COST

"Rings" Furnish Animals for Slaughter and Members Receive Different Cuts.

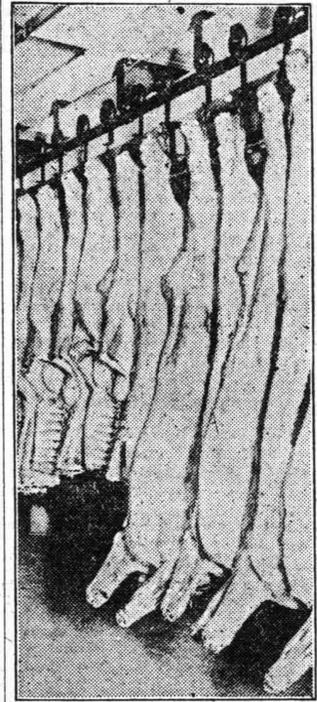
START IS MADE IN SPRING

Slaughtering is Done by Man Hired for Purpose Who Usually Receives "Fifth" Quarter for His Pay—No Dividends Paid.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Beef clubs or rings and co-operative butcher shops are two of the plans being used by American farmers to reduce the cost of meat for their tables. The co-operative butcher shop is regarded as an outgrowth of the beef clubs, which in varying forms have been in operation for many years.

Typical examples of the beef clubs have been reported to the U. S. Department of Agriculture from the coastal plain of South Carolina. Many of the clubs have a membership of eight farmers, but most of them have sixteen. Operations of the club start



Some American Dressed Beef.

In the spring, when the first member on the list furnishes a beef for killing. The slaughtering is done by a man hired for the purpose and who usually receives the "fifth quarter," such as the hide, heart and liver, as his pay. The beef is divided into as many parts as there are members of the club.

The next week a second member furnishes the beef, and so on for eight or sixteen weeks, the various portions of meat being rotated among the members so that each gets a proportionate share of the choice cuts and of the poorer cuts.

The beef is weighed after the animal is dressed and thus the pounds furnished by each member are known. At the end of the season settlement is made by any members who have not furnished their full shares.

How Plan Developed.

In an Iowa farming community objection was found to these beef rings because each household had to consume a stated amount of beef on stated days during the week in order that the available supply would be disposed of economically. This tended to make the beef diet monotonous and ultimately led to the amalgamation of the beef rings into a co-operative butcher shop.

Each member owns one share of stock in the project, and in his turn furnishes one head of cattle or as many sheep or hogs as are desired for slaughter. The members are credited with the dressed weight of the live stock provided minus a shrinkage of 15 per cent. They receive coupon books equivalent in value to the amount of meat furnished, allotments being apportioned equal in steaks, roasts and boiling pieces.

Each member is privileged to purchase as much or as little meat as he wishes and at any time he can "cash in" on his coupon book at the prevailing prices. Surplus meat is sold to the local trade at from 5 to 7 cents lower per pound than the retail butchers charge for similar cuts in grades of meat, it is reported.

Good Meat Required.

It is required that all animals be in prime market condition when they are delivered at the co-operative shop; that they be subjected to both ante-mortem and post-mortem examination, and that the cattle must not be more than two years old at the time of slaughter.

Like the beef rings, this meat distributing organization is strictly co-operative and distinctly under farmer control. It pays no dividends. In fact, the project is so managed that the surplus is just enough to reimburse the butcher for his services and to cover operation expenses.

RELATIVE VALUE OF LAND AND PRODUCT

Recent Investigation Made by Bureau of Crop Estimates.

There Has Been Much Disparity, First on One Side and Then on Other, Between Two Movements—Farm Labor a Factor.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Farm land value has not advanced in the same degree as the composite price of crops and live stock has from the beginning of the war in 1918. Results of a recent investigation by the bureau of crop estimates, United States department of agriculture, revealed that, although farm land value alone gained in 1915 and led in the relative advance in 1916, it lost its lead in 1917 and, moreover, fell far behind the relative gain in the price of crops and live stock in that year and in 1918.

From 1914 to 1915 farm land value, not including that of buildings, increased 11 per cent, while the price of crops and live stock lost 3 per cent. In the following year land value went up 23 per cent above 1914 and price of crops and live stock also advanced, but only by 12 per cent. A reversal of the relativity of these movements appeared in 1917, when land value gained only 38 per cent on 1914 and crops and live stock gained 74 per cent. The divergence increased in 1918, since the gain above 1914 was 50 per cent for land value and 97 per cent for crops and live stock.

Farm land value is supposed to be related, at any rate largely related, to the net profit of farming, and in fact it is often somewhat affected even by single years of high or scant profit, yet the value of farm land advanced in 1915, although the price of crops and live stock declined, in comparison with 1914, and gained relatively much more than price did in 1916; but, on the other hand, its relative gain in 1917 and 1918 was far from equaling that of price. There has been much disparity, first on one side and then on the other, between the two movements of land value and produce price.

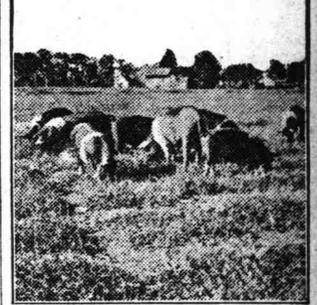
Perhaps a scarcity of farm labor weakened the demand for farms in the last two years, and perhaps, also, the net profit of farming, because of extraordinary high cost of production, was not as great as the high price of products would indicate superficially.

SWAT PEDIGREED-SCRUB HOG

Buyers Should See That Animals They Are About to Purchase Have Good Quality.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Thousands of purebred scrubs are scattered through this country, according to hog extension men of the United States department of agriculture, who are devoting their efforts to eliminating inferior pedigreed animals. This, they say, applies to all kinds of live stock, but is perhaps more general in the hog industry. Pedigrees are necessary and valuable to the hog breeder, yet the pedigree is the means of fooling a lot of farmers, particularly those



Hogs Kept Under Clean Conditions, as on Good Pasture, Are Better Able to Resist Cholera and Other Diseases.

who are about to start into the purebred hog business and who have not had enough experience in judging to select animals of good standard type. Buyers should not be contented simply with purebred animals, but should see in addition that the animals they are about to purchase have good quality, say the department hog specialists.

FOR CONTROL OF WHEAT PEST

Hessian Fly Can Be Held in Check by Plowing Infested Stubble in Summer or Fall.

For the control of the Hessian fly, plow under deeply all infested wheat stubble during summer or early fall, where this is practicable and does not interfere with the growing of clover or important forage grasses. If volunteer wheat starts, kill it by disking or plowing while it is still young.

EARLY LAYING DISCOURAGED

Stunts Growth of Pullets and Tends to Production of Undesirable Small Eggs.

The pullet that lays very young is not as a rule the best layer; early laying stunts the growth, tends to the production of small eggs, and breeding from such pullets in time results in the production of an inferior strain of birds.