

High Country News

The Outdoor and Environmental Weekly

Vol. 2, No. 19

Friday, May 8, 1970

Snows Keep Park Closed

Late seasonal snowstorms will delay opening of the roads through Yellowstone National Park, officials of the park announced today. Superintendent Jack K. Anderson said severe avalanche conditions, unseasonably heavy snowfall and equipment breakdowns will prevent the traditional May 1 road opening.

Anderson said the snow removal program was on schedule until last week when the crews began encountering difficulties. Avalanches on Sylvan Pass have slowed progress considerably by continuously blocking the road after it was once plowed.

He said the crews have been working weekends and overtime in an effort to meet the May 1 date, but all indications are now that the opening will be delayed several days.

Anderson said the roads will be open as soon as possible, but he warned that they will be subject to intermittent closures because of bad weather. He further advised that travelers planning a trip through the park should inquire locally before starting their trip. Contact the Superintendent's Office for up-to-date information on road conditions.



Trains May Run In Park

Yellowstone National Park may have a new "people-carrying module" which would run on a single rail. Feasibility studies will be conducted on the new system of transportation this summer.

The studies will be done in connection with a prototype system which would be constructed near Canyon Village. The trains would run from the Village to the north rim of Yellowstone Canyon in the Grand View area and back to the Village.

Park Service spokesmen said the track would be no wider than a normal foot trail. The system would be built as a pilot project in an attempt to limit the use of automobiles.

The Park Service said public hearings would be held if the system appeared feasible.



PHOTO BY CHAS. E. HIGLEY

The Elephant Head rears above the Wiggins Fork near Double Cabin, some 30 miles north of Dubois, Wyoming, in the Shoshone National Forest.

Dubois Claims To Be World Rock Capitol

Dubois, Wyoming, is a leading contender for rock capitol of the world. In fact, the residents will tell you they do live there.

It cannot be denied that the country around Dubois has its share of beautiful rocks. The rockhounds come from near and far to collect the famous Wiggins Wood. Actually, petrified wood and fossilized material comes from a wide area stretching from the northwest to the northeast of town.

Dubois lies cupped in great mountains. The southern extension of the Absaroka Mountains comes

down to the north. From northwest to southeast, the vast Wind River Range towers over the valley.

Big game animals look down on Main Street. In fact, (Please turn to page 4)

The Wyoming Gem and Mineral Society State Show is slated for June 19-21 in Rawlins. The show will be held in the Jeffrey Memorial Center.

Show chairman is C. Earl Harper, 616 West Buffalo, Rawlins 82301. He may be contacted for show particulars.

Environmental Congress To Be Held In Wyoming

Wyoming's First Environmental Congress will be held in Casper on May 16. Featured speakers for the event are Mike Frome, conservation editor for Field and Stream Magazine, and Dave Brower, president of Friends of the Earth and former executive director of the Sierra Club.

Governor Stanley K. Hathaway will set the tone for other state officials in discussing a view of Wyoming's environment.

Wyoming's congressional delegation will discuss and explore the question. Can We

Maintain Wyoming's Quality Environment?

Two other panels will focus attention on access to public and private lands, and hunting and fishing opportunities in the future.

Tom Bell, executive director of the Wyoming Outdoor Coordinating Council, said conservationists and those concerned with Wyoming's environment are expected from all quarters of the state and from the Rocky Mountain region.

The Outdoor Council and its participating members are sponsoring the conference.

Set 1970 Hunting Seasons

The 1970 big game hunting seasons established this week by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission show few changes being made from the 1969 hunting seasons.

The quotas for antelope and sheep permits were slightly increased, the number of moose permits decreased and the mountain goat quota remained unchanged for this hunting season. In 1970 there will be 4,085 more antelope permits available than there were in 1969. Sheep permits are up by 20 while moose permits decreased by 56 licenses. The increase in antelope permits resulted as several areas in the 1969 hunting orders were divided and due to present game populations certain areas of Wyoming will require more hunting pressure. Sheep permits were increased to more evenly distribute hunting pressures and because the Crescent Mountain hunting area was divided.

The Black Hills second deer season was discontinued this year according to the new hunting orders. A second deer season for the taking of an antlerless deer in two areas on the eastern slope of the Big Horn mountains is written into the 1970 hunting orders.

Copies of the Official 1970 Big Game Hunting Orders are not yet available but should be in the hands of the license selling agents by mid-June. Summary maps are being printed and will be ready for distribution by mid-May.

HIGH COUNTRY

By Tom Bell

White-crowned sparrows were hopping around in the lawn outside our dining room window this morning. A solitary bronze grackle eyed them suspiciously as he picked morsels from the grass nearby.

I look forward to this time of year and again in the Fall when birds are on migration. Only then do we get to see many species that we would never see otherwise. And, of course, the return of spring brings with it the pleasantries of birds neighboring and singing in the world around us.

My Peterson's Guide to Western Birds has many notes on the coming and going of our little feathered friends. It is interesting to jot down the species and the dates of sighting each Spring. There isn't much variation between years. And the correlation between the appearance of a certain species and the budding of particular plants is almost remarkable.

Mourning doves appear a little before or about the same time as the native gooseberries show wisps of green. But this year was different. The doves appeared at least two weeks before the bushes budded.

Barn swallows have twice appeared at our garage in a wet, spring snow. They then put up for the night in the garage rafters and I leave the doors open for their easy access.

Quite often, flocks of little birds get caught in late, spring snows which force them to hold up their northward flights. It is then we get to see an interesting variety. There may be a half dozen species of birds which will only be seen that one time in a whole year.

I greatly look forward to seeing three particular birds. When mourning doves appear, Spring can't be far behind. When the Audubon warblers show up, Spring is ready to burst upon the scene. And when yellow-throats are singing lustily one bright morning, there can be little doubt.

The chronology of the seasons is fascinating. What determines the setting of the time clocks in little birds or in swelling buds is still somewhat of a mystery. Length of day, and with that a gradual warming, can't explain all.

There is another interesting fact which appears amongst my notes. Species have appeared in recent years which were not present in earlier years.

The lazuli bunting now can be seen quite regularly. Several of these brilliantly colored little fellows appeared in our yard last year and stayed for several days. It was only the second time that I noted them in our location.

The yellow-billed cuckoo is considered quite rare here. Yet, I saw one along our little stream several years ago and found a dead one the next year.

One of my desires as I grow older is that I be allowed to keep my sight and my mobility. For if I get to live out my three score years and ten, one of my ambitions is to keep closer track of all the beautiful little birds who do so much to brighten and cheer our world.



Guest Poem by Merdella Chippewa, 11 year old Indian girl living on the Wind River Indian Reservation, Wyoming. Merdella attends the Mill Creek School at Ethete, Wyoming. Her poem was illustrated by her brother Ethan.

WYOMING

Way down in the West,
Where the paintbrush grows,
There's a land called Wyoming,
That everybody knows.

It's a wonderful land,
With mountains so tall,
And lovely green grass,
That surrounds us all.

It's never too hot,
And it's never too cold,
I love this land,
That isn't very old.

The wildlife is abundant,
With fish in the streams,
Wyoming has the answer,
To every sportsman's dreams.

I'm not one to wander,
I've no desire to roam,
I like "Wyoming,"
So I'll keep it my home.



PHOTO BY TOM BELL

Guardians of the mountain top. Even though life has drained away, they stand in silent grandeur high in the Wind River Mountains of Wyoming.

Letters To The Editor





Editor:

For several years I visited my sister in Worland, Wyoming, while her family lived in that community.

As long as I live I shall always remember looking to the west in the morning in search of the Tetons, and then at sunset looking towards the east and worshipping the Bighorns.

Since that time I have subscribed to Wyoming Wildlife. I hope that your paper will make my memory more vivid of your country until I am able to return.

Forest Black
Westerville, Ohio

Editor's Note: We won't attempt to compete with Wyoming Wildlife but we hope we can help fulfill your yearning for our mountains. Come out and see us anytime. Thanks for your interest.

Editor:

I saw your ad in the Dayton Daily News so here I am already mailing for the High Country News.

I once lived in Lander, Wyoming. Also Payette, Idaho, many years ago. I love the West and would love to have the paper.

Thanks.
Katy Baker
Xenia, Ohio

HIGH COUNTRY NEWS

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Editor's Note: We appreciate your love of the West and hope the paper brings back fond memories. Thanks for your subscription.

* * *

Editor:

Please send me your copies of the High Country News and bill me. I will send you a money order in full.

I have been wanting to get a newspaper like this for a long time. I would like to know much more about the West for I am lanning on moving there in the next few months. Thanks.

George Rothye
196 1/2 Elmwood Ave.
Newark, Ohio 43055

Editor's Note: Thanks for your order. We hope our paper will be helpful to you.

NOTES - FROM OUR READERS:

Really a groovy newspaper - I find I want to keep all the copies or parts of them for future reference.

Jacklyn Mesenbrink
Evergreen Park, Ill.

* * *

Thank you very much for this newspaper. Even though we are not able to come out there this year, we certainly appreciate your paper very much.

Dennis Grudynski
Watertown, Wisc/

* * *

Thank you for your informative weekly. And it's fun to read.

Mrs. Dorris I. Grube
Somerset, Wisc.

Model Firearms Laws Are Made Available

The National Shooting Sports Foundation has made a compilation of model firearms legislation, the Wildlife Management Institute reports.

The publication, intended for use by legislators, government agencies, sportsmen and conservationists, contains 20 pages, 11 x 8 1/2 inches, and gives examples of such laws as pre-emption in the field of gun registration and licensing; contiguous state purchases; hunter orange and hunter safety; lawful transport; constitutional provisions on the right to keep and bear arms, and mandatory penalties for crimes committed while armed. Editorial commentary ac-

companies each example presented.

The need for quality model firearms bills is greater than ever since hundreds of pieces of firearms legislation are being introduced in legislative bodies at every level of government. There are 35 state legislatures in session during 1970, and in many instances where new legislation recently has been enacted sportsmen are suffering under provisions of poorly drawn, unclear laws.

The book can be obtained, free of charge by writing to the National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc., 1075 Post Road, Riverside Connecticut 06878.

Guest Editorial



from

THE IDAHO STATESMAN

April 22, 1970

The Charge Is Pollution

It is 1970 and a trial is underway.

Judge: The charge is very serious. You are accused of overpopulating and polluting the earth. You are accused of the attempted destruction of all life on the planet. How do you plead?

Man: Innocent. I know it's messed up a bit, but . . .

Prosecutor: Let me ask you a few questions. What happened to the passenger pigeon? How come the bald eagle is disappearing? Why aren't there so many salmon on the Columbia and the Snake? Where have all the buffalo gone? Why are some of the lakes dying?

Man: So I've made a few mistakes. Look at the good side. Automobiles, airplanes, electricity, open heart surgery, color tv, our standard of living has never been better.

Prosecutor: How come children in Los Angeles are advised not to breathe deeply on smoggy days?

Man: OK, so the breathing isn't so good as it was. Everything else is better.

Prosecutor: How much garbage do you think you can put into the Earth's atmosphere? It's only two and one half miles thick.

Man: I never gave it much thought before. You've got to put that crud somewhere.

Prosecutor: At the present birth rates you'll double the population of earth in less than 40 years. How do you plan to feed all these people?

Man: We'll fertilize more. Use better strains of plants. And there's always the sea.

Prosecutor: You can't possibly feed all those people. You're dumping tremendous amounts of garbage into the sea. You're destroying the estuaries which are the most productive areas for food.

Man: Look, don't tell me those things. I've got enough to worry about — Vietnam, racial tension, busing, arms control, inflation, the New York Mets. This ecology stuff makes me sick.

Prosecutor: But what do you do about it?

Man: When I want to get away from it all I go off and fish somewhere. Of course the water really stinks in some of these

reservoirs. There's still some good streams though. And some dandy mountain lakes.

Prosecutor: How long will they be there?

Man: Well, when they're gone you can always go to Canada or Alaska.

Prosecutor: You spend money to keep your house painted and repaired. Why not do the same to take care of the earth?

Man: I've got other things to do. My taxes are sky high. The schools are overflowing. I've got to keep building new hospitals.

Prosecutor: Don't you think the population increase has something to do with those expenses? And what about the cost of pollution to people's health? What about the loss of fishing waters and wildlife habitat? Whenever you destroy a species you change the ecological balance.

Man: I'm more worried about my bank balance. What did the brown pelican ever do for me? It's not my fault if he can't take DDT.

Prosecutor: Paul Ehrlich says some of the earth's basic resources will be exhausted midway through the next century with present population growth rates. Doesn't that disturb you?

Man: Other generations will have to worry about that. You're giving me a headache. That guy Ehrlich is an alarmist.

Judge: I think your basic problem is ignorance. I'd be inclined to leniency if you were willing to clean this mess up. But it appears that you haven't learned very much.

Man: Science and technology will come up with the answers. Why should I worry?

Judge: But you have to change the technology that's fouling the air, the water and the land. It won't happen automatically. You've got to make sure that it does.

Man: Do you mean that feeding people and taking care of the earth is more important than things like Vietnam and going to the moon? I can't do everything, you know.

Judge: I think you're getting the point. I'm putting you on probation. It won't be necessary to punish you. If you don't change your ways you'll suffer enough.



Eve M. Soran

Woman Is Named To Game & Fish Post

Mrs. Eve M. Soran, 6533 Moreland Avenue, Cheyenne, has been named chief fiscal officer by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission currently meeting in Cheyenne. She assumes the position left vacant by the death of Philip F. Leslie April 10.

During the past five years, Mrs. Soran has been administrative accountant in the Game and Fish Commission's accounting section. She began work with the commission in July, 1957 in the general accounting section.

She was awarded the commission's meritorious service award in 1969 for outstanding and devoted service. She has been employed by the commission for 13 years.

Mrs. Soran's appointment marks the first time a woman has been named to head one of the Game and Fish Commission's five major divisions. The chief clerk of fiscal division is responsible for the supervision of the fiscal division of the commission including all hunting and fishing license sales, accounting and bookkeeping.

Rockhound Describes Pastime, Rocks To Find

Olin Atwood of Lander, Wyoming, is a rock-hunting minister, or, to put it another way, a ministering rockhound, whichever you prefer. At any rate, he is one of the true breed of warm-hearted, open-handed westerner who devoted spare time to hunting beautiful stones.

He has written a column, The Rockhound, in the local paper for the past three years. I am indebted to him for the use of some of his columns in explaining the workings of a rockhound, and telling devotees where to look for their favorite rocks.

In one of his earliest columns, he asked, what is a rockhound? And he suggested the following: "First of all, he is a person who is considerate of others. No doubt you have heard of the game (or fish) hog. Surely, you know about the hunter who shoots first and looks afterward; or the fisherman who crowds into your favorite spot."

"Well, some of us are rockhounds like them! I don't leave anyone else's

gates open, willfully trespass on private property, carry a gun and shoot at anything that moves, and, in short, commit depredations on everyone and everything.

"One of the surest ways to ruin the rock hunting for everyone is for just one rockhound to trespass, leave a pasture gate open, or some other such thoughtless act. Be considerate!

"Second, leave some for the next fellow. Many rockhounds have the bad habit of taking everything they can find and then hoarding it. If you have more than you can use, the share your rocks with others.

"One of the real joys of being a rockhound is the privilege of sharing. Surely, someone else has something different from your treasures. If he does, then make a trade and enlarge your own collection. We have friends from Illinois to California because we have shared with them.

"Third, take someone with you. There are folks who would like an afternoon in the hills but have no way of going or do not know where to go.

Take them along and you may strike up a friendship that will last a lifetime.

"In short, a 'rockhound' is a 'square-shooter,' an 'honest Joe,' a 'right guy.'"

"This may sound like a Sunday sermon but every word is true. If you will follow these suggestions and act as you would when special friends come to call, you will never be sorry."

Olin has many columns devoted to agates. As he says, "Agates are one of the finest semi-precious gems that the rockhound can hunt. They are probably more widespread than any other gem."

Sweetwater agates are some of the most famous of all western agates. Tiffanys sent collectors when Indians still created an unhealthy climate in Wyoming Territory. They found agates the size of a man's fist. That size is no longer found on the surface.

The agates are found generally north of the Sweetwater River Fremont County, Wyoming. The nearest town is Jeffrey City, formerly known as Home on

the Range. The agate beds are only a little way north of the historic Oregon Trail as it follows the Sweetwater River.

Today, any size of agate is difficult to find. The Sweetwater agate beds have been combed clean by the thousands of rockhounds who have come year after year. The almost ever-present wind still unearths a few each Spring but they become more difficult to find with each passing year.

Montana agate is best known for the original sites along the Yellowstone River in that state. However, it is also found to the south in Wyoming. Along the Wind

River in Fremont County it is known as Wind River agate.

It is a nodule type agate ranging from clear to light brown. It is marked by "sunbursts" and dendrites which often form figures.

These figures take the shape of animals, trees or form pictures.

Fairburn agates are found from about Douglas, Wyoming, east to northern Nebraska and southern South Dakota. Anywhere north of Crawford, Chadron or Merriman, Nebraska, is appropriate to inquire of local beds.

Near Guernsey Reservoir

(Please turn to page 4)




**How about an
away-from-home
treat?**

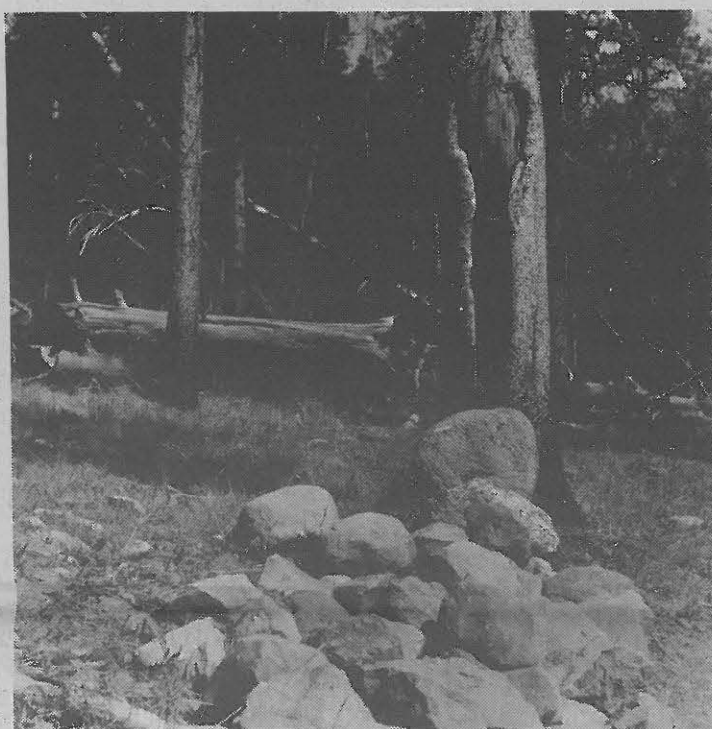
**Live a little, try our delicious Brazier Burger
fixed just the way you like it.**

*And for those warm days coming up —
try our ice cream specialties.*

*At the West end
Lander, Wyoming*



Peace and quiet at Double Cabin



The grave beneath the pine tree

Place Of Tragedy Is Now Peaceful Scene

Many rockhounds visit the Double Cabin area at the confluence of Wiggins Fork and Frontier Creek without ever knowing the significance of the name.

Set back in the lodgepole pine under towering Norton Point is a tumble-down, log cabin. On closer inspection, you will note a grave with the inscription of the departed carved into a pine tree.

Possibly unnoticed in the center of the small clearing lies another grave, unmarked. And thereby hangs a tale out of the old West.

Back about the turn of the century, three trappers occupied the small cabin. During the early part of the winter, one of the men died. His partners buried him under the pine.

The winter drew on. The remaining men began to suffer cabin fever and before long were at each other's throats. Their quarrel became so bitter that they divided the cabin in two, even to the small fireplace which adorned one end. A line was drawn down the middle and neither was to violate the other's half.

But the inevitable happened. One day, one of the men overstepped his line and met his fate. The survivor put

the body outside in a snowdrift. When spring came, he headed north over the mountains and was never seen again.

The body was found and laid to rest in the clearing.

All is now peaceful and quiet at the little clearing at Double Cabin.

Dubois . . .

(Continued from page 1)

moose have been known to make forays into town. Kid fishing in either Horse Creek or the Wind River, within the city limits, sometimes produces lunkers.

The area is famous for dude and guest ranches. Those who are looking for a real western vacation can find what they want here.

Two wilderness areas lie within close proximity to Dubois. The proposed Washakie Wilderness is to the north in the Absaroka Range and the Glacier Primitive Area is to the south. The latter is so named for the great glaciers which adorn the highest point in Wyoming, Gannett Peak.



Rocks To Find . . .

in eastern Wyoming, a type of agate occurs in bluffs above the lake called Youngite. It is a milky or bluish agate with flecks of yellow or dull red or both in it.

Fortification agate is also found in eastern Wyoming near Keeline.

Dryhead agates are found north of Lovell, Wyoming, in southern Montana. The site is now in the Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area. These are described as being of "fortification" type agate. That is, it is formed in pockets in the rock and is laid down in concentric layers on the inside of the pocket. The colors range from pale cream through rich red and the layering makes the material quite beautiful.

Spanish Point agate is found on the west slope of the Bighorn Mountains in Wyoming.

Turritella agate is so-called because of the snail shells embedded in a black matrix. It is found in Wyoming near Baggs in the southern part of the state and east of Riverton in the central part.

The famous Oregon thunderegg agate is found near Prineville, Sweet Home and Nyssa. The thunderegg is the official Oregon state rock.

Some of the most beautiful of agatized material is derived from once-living animals and plants. Throughout the West, petrified forests of all types of trees and plants are found. Dinosaur bones, mammoth teeth, sharks teeth, oolite, algae, and many other once-living forms are preserved in rock.

The petrified forests of Arizona are probably the most colorful as well as the most famous. But Utah has some of the same type of wood.

Yellowstone Park has seven different petrified forests, one upon another. The prehistoric forests grew in what was once a much

more temperate climate. Many different species of trees grew and flourished, among them the redwood. At intervals of thousands of years, volcanic eruptions in the vicinity of Yellowstone would cover the forests with ash. Water flowing through the material replaced the wood cells with agate.

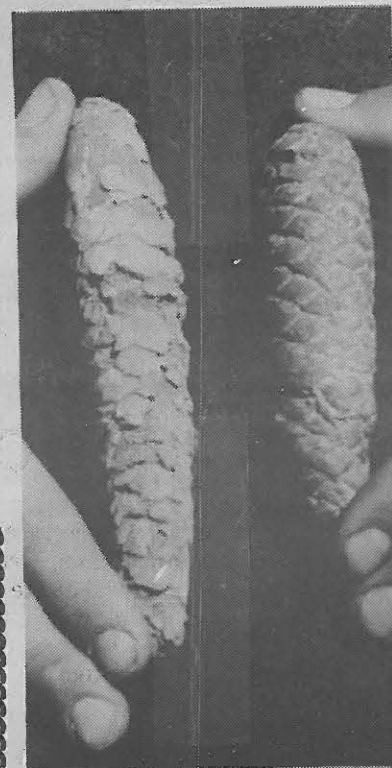
Today, you can find
(Please turn to page 11)

Hainescraft

The Best in Wyoming Jade

Custom Made Jewelry
Large Selection of Polished Rock Specimens

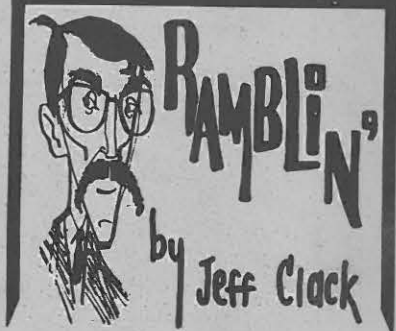
P. O. Box 552
or on U. S. 26-287
Dubois, Wyoming



Petrified cones of pine and spruce, Wiggins Fork



A large agatized and crystallized cast of a section of tree, Wiggins Fork



Cycle '70 has started. It's the same as cycle '69, or cycle '68, or any year past. It's a continuous thing, but it could be stopped.

I don't mean the year, that is fine, but what HAPPENS during the year is what needs to be evaluated and corrected. As I write this, the weather in Colorado is just turning to a temperature that makes everyone want to get out. Spring fever has hit, and so have the "spoilors."

With the good weather barely beginning, and people finally getting out in mass to visit the mountains or lakes, the yearly olympics of "who can throw the most garbage around" is in full swing. I know; my car was barely missed by a flying can (while driving) to Divide west of Manitou Springs.

The country can hire vast armies to pick up along the roads, but that doesn't work. We put stiff penalties on littering our byways, but you catch one and 1,000 go free. You talk to the people; they nod their heads but don't hear. It's a form of apathy that will eventually catch the eyes and ears of the public, but by then it will be too late.

The spoilors are also the ones who neglect their fires and burn down vast areas of timberland. They drive where there are no roads, tearing up the land. They dig for treasures and leave the diggings as they see fit.

It is predicted that by the year 2000 the area from Fort Collins to Pueblo, Colorado will be one vast city. Currently, there are stretches of beautiful land between many of these towns and cities in the area, so even the kindly old gent driving to work sees something more than another building. But, in the year 2000, this will be different. Everyone will have to drive into our mountains and forests for a breath of fresh air, a sight without the clutter of buildings and streets, or to feel nature underfoot. By that time also, the spoilors will have destroyed even this.

It is possible for all of us who enjoy our environment to strike out. We've got one strike against us; only two to go. Which shall it be? Two more strikes, or shall we knock the ball beyond the fence? With teamwork, and only teamwork, everyone working together, can we win the ball game.

I pick up mine, you pick up yours; if everyone watches every can, every scrap, every cigarette butt, then there is a chance. It's tough and it is going to get tougher, but humanity has won in the past and we can again.

Put yourself on the winning team. This is one ball game that no one can afford to lose. It's a matter of survival.



An avid "rockhound" hammers at a boulder in the Ochoco Mountains east of Prineville, Oregon. Searching for, cutting and polishing of agates, opals, quartz, garnet and other precious stones is a popular hobby in Oregon. Mountainous and coastal areas of the state abound with a variety of such stones. This scene is at the Sheep Creek Agate Beds, maintained for free public use by the Prineville Chamber of Commerce. There are many other free and commercial rock hunting grounds in the area. (Oregon State Highway Department Photo 7255)

Oregon Known For Assorted Stones

The area around Newport and Agate Beach, Oregon, is one of the finest agate hunting areas in the world for one unusual reason—because the supply of stone is never exhausted.

The Pacific Ocean "relentlessly renews the agate supply every year," as one agate expert puts it.

And because the storms are hardest in the winter, the "off season" from October through April is the very best time to hunt for the fine agates one can find in the Newport-Agate Beach area.

There is nothing new about the search by mankind for the beautiful agate stones. The art of agate cutting is a most ancient one, since we find it practiced by the Samaritans as far back as 4000 B.C. in the making of necklaces. The name itself is derived from that of a river in the south of Sicily, between Camarina and Gela, spoken of in ancient geography as Achates, now called Dirille. According to Pliny it was the place where the first Agate was found.

Down through history the agate has played no little part in the affairs of men. Romance, mystery and death have stalked in its wake. On her index finger Lucretia Borgia is reputed to have worn a set cunningly hollowed out, in which was secreted a deadly poison that might charge the wine of an enemy by a deft removal of the diminutive stopper. The hilts of daggers that have done their swift, gruesome business have been fashioned from this beautiful stone. Yet in the various forms of rings,

brooches, pendants, stick-pins, earrings, necklaces and watch charms have agates been bestowed as the token of love and friendship from time immemorial.

Agates are classed as gem stones, and are the birthstones for the month of June. They have a hardness of 7.5 and take a high polish. When cut and polished they glow with a warm, soft luctre and their natural beauties become manifold. In their beauties we find many strange images, capriciously molded by Mother Nature while the stone was in formation.

Agate is a massive variety of quartz formed in cavities in rock or cavities left by the decay of vegetable and animal matter. It is composed of oxygen and silicon, and in most cases contains oxides and metals which give it its colors. Water percolating through the ground picks up this silicon and these oxides, then deposits them in these cavities.

Agates are classified under the name of moonstone agate, a brilliant, clear stone; carnelian, a bright red transparent stone; ribbon agate, colors formed in stratas; cloud agate, a transparent stone with dark formations through it; and moss agates which are of two kinds, those containing mineral crystals and crystallization of color matter. Landscapes, trees, mosses and animals have been traced in the lines formed by the absorbent deposit of the foreign mineral, chiefly oxides of iron

or manganese. Chrysoprase is an applegreen, translucent stone; iris or rainbow agate is the only known single gem stone that gives seven iridescent colors. Others are sard, tiger eye, onyx, asure quartz, fortification agate, sardonyx, and agatized honeycomb coral.

Agatized wood is opaque and is found in various colors.

Jasper is an opaque quartz containing oxide of iron, clay and many other impurities, and is found in various colors, red, brown, yellow, green, and the various combinations. The bloodstone or heliotrope is a dark green jasper with small, blood-red blotches.

Water agates, the rare find of the happy agate hunter, are usually clear agates which contain water. The movable bubble is air. Some have been found that had the shape of clam shells, bear claws and other odd shapes. But water agates of any kind are very scarce and the person who finds one usually keeps it at hand for some time to come. He considers no excuse too small to permit his bringing it forth and exhibiting it with conscious pride.

In Oregon, agates are found in many areas in Newport; north on Otter Rock Beaches; Agate Beach and at Newport Beach; south at Yachats, Bob Creek, Ten Mile and Heceta Head.

The hunting is best during the winter and spring as the tides uncover great beds of gravel at that time of year. Oregon is the leading cutting center for these gems in

North America.

In hunting for agates, look on the beaches for loose gravel on top of the sand. The stones are washed out of the bank and are concentrated in this gravel. Most agates are translucent and when held to the sun or other strong light the formations inside can be seen. The opaque agates such as jaspers must be judged by color and hardness. It is best to hunt on an outgoing tide for it is then the gravel has been freshly agitated and the stones are found to be most plentiful. The mild winters of the coast allow one to hunt at all times of the year with comfort.

Art Shows Scheduled

Summer art show calendar for the Wyoming State Art Gallery is as follows:

May 3 to May 16, Water colors by Jean Goedicke

May 17 to June 5, Paintings by Bill T. Harwood.

June 7 to July 5, Rinehart's North American Indian photographs.

July 6 to July 19, Etchings by Hans Kleiber

July 19 to August 15, Water colors by Roy Kerswill.

The State Art Gallery is located in the Wyoming State Museum, State Office Building, Cheyenne.

* * * *

The grizzly bear's eyesight is poor, but their hearing is excellent and their sense of smell is unsurpassed.

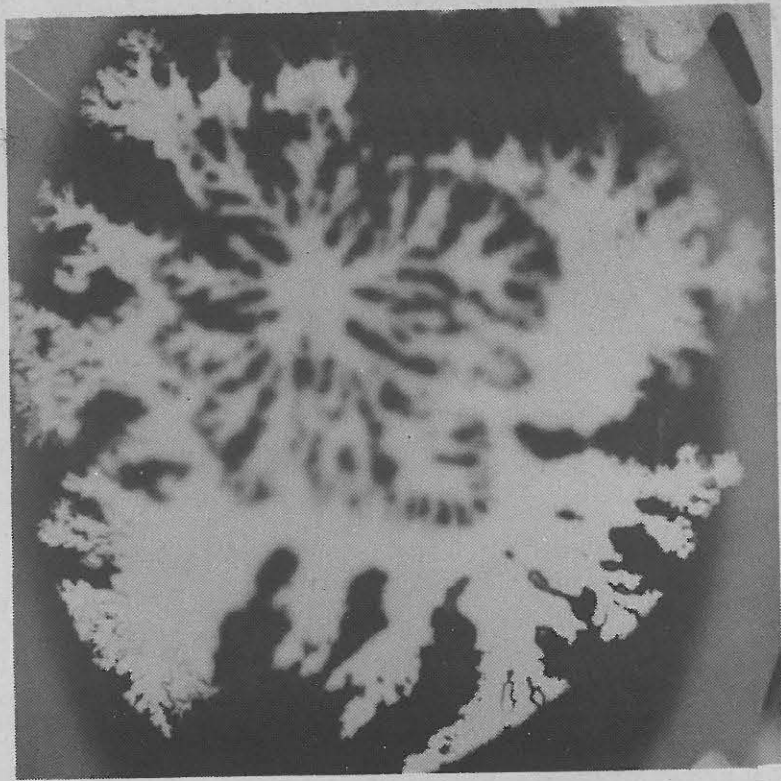
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PHOTO COURTESY OREGON STATE HIGHWAY DEPT.

A teenage "rockhound" shows colorful slices of agate from a "thunderegg" found near Prineville, Oregon. The egg-shaped lava-covered agate nodules normally are not this large but thousands two to three inches in diameter are found yearly in the mountains of central and eastern Oregon. Agates, opals, garnets and other semi-precious stones are found in both coastal and mountainous areas of the state.



The filigree of dendritic material shows through in this print made from an agate setting in a mounted necklace pendant by Otto Howe of Lander, Wyoming.



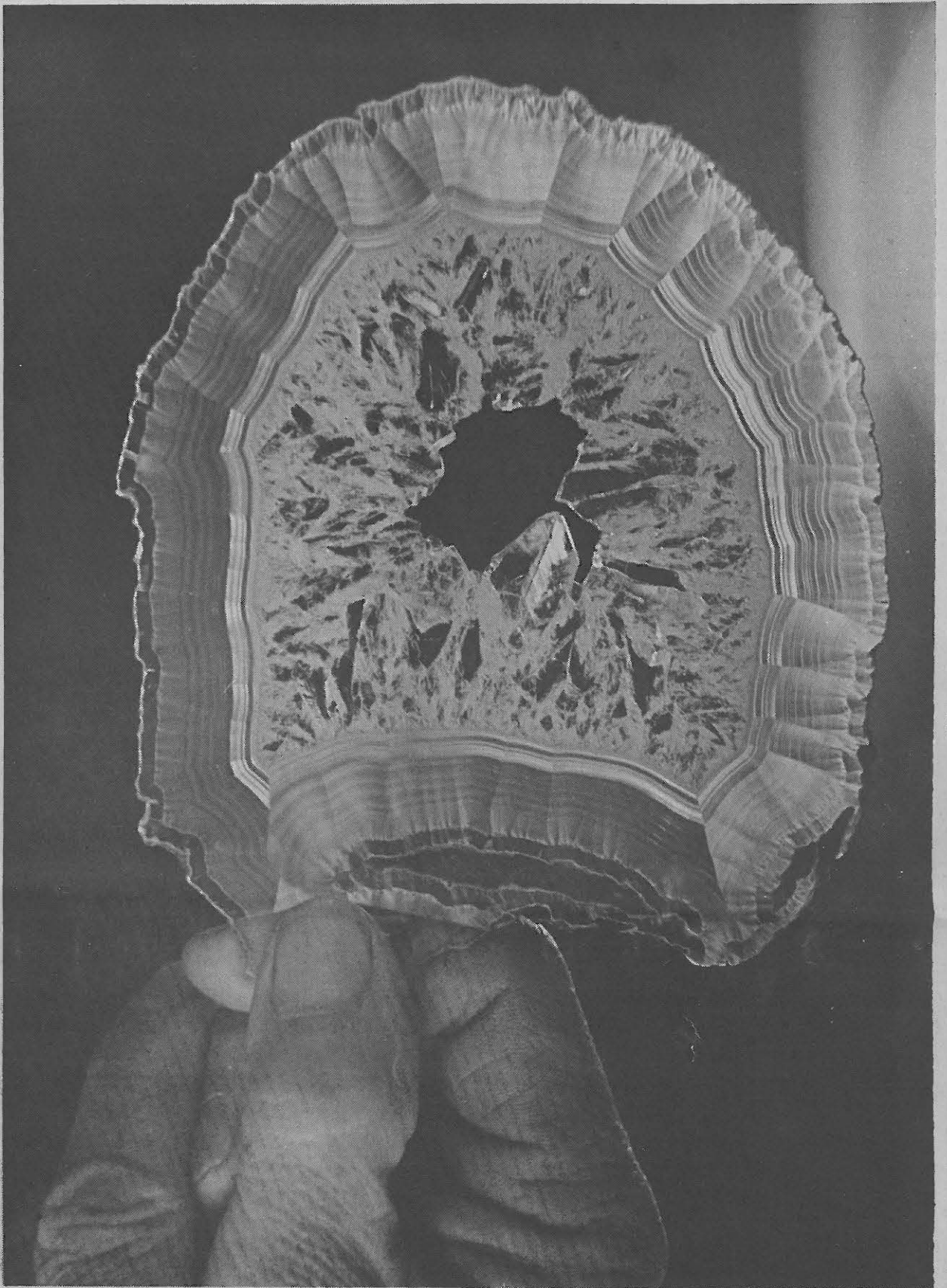
Photos by Ron Johnston

"Outer Space" was the title given to this slice of Lysite agate from near Prineville, Oregon, made by Otto Howe of Lander, Wyoming. It was awarded by professional photographer Ron Johnston and received a Tops in Competition award in the 1964 position at Chicago.

...ID BEAUTY

Photo by Pat Hall

...hounds know that the beauty
...is often hidden. Like a dia-
...n the rough, the true quality
...beautiful rock lies within. A
...artisan can bring out the
...through long hours of pat-
...d often tedious work.
...etimes slices of rock are the
...ay to reveal the fantastic cre-
...uch as those shown here.



This beautiful slice of petrified wood is an example of the stony treasures that can be found in the Wiggins Fork area of Wyoming. Called "Iris Wood" by its discoverer, Joe Walsh, of Lusk, Wyoming, slices of these petrified tree limbs reflect the entire spectrum of colors when held to the light. The growth rings in the wood are particularly well preserved.



...to this print made from a thin
...site, Wyoming. The slice was
...yoming. A color print submit-
...Harold Alexander of Lander re-
...ard at the 75th Internatinal Ex-

Presented by Chicago

Pioneer Wyoming Rockhound Has Famous Jade Collection

By Marge Higley

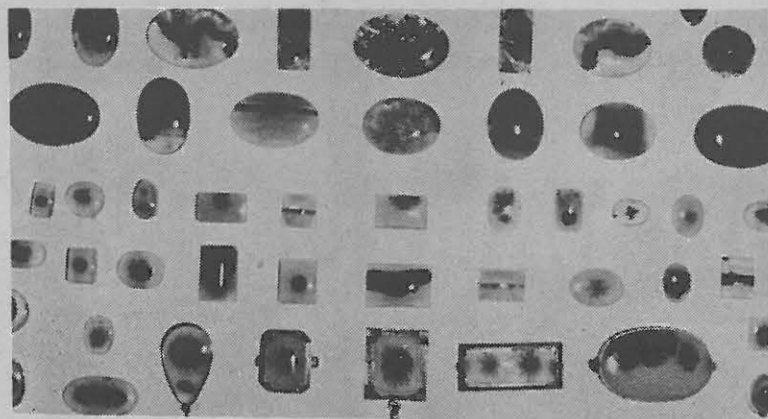
"Exquisite! Exquisite!" breathed Chang Wen Ti, connoisseur of jade and president of the Chinese Jade Pagoda Company. He sat in the living room of Biford Foster's home in Lander, Wyoming, 9000 miles from his native land. In his hand he held a heart-shaped pendant of jade---chatoyant jade, which is as rare as it is beautiful. As he turned it back and forth so that the light would reflect from the lustrous heart of the stone, his "exquisite" referred not only to the quality of the jade, but also to the skill with which it had been fashioned into a lovely piece of jewelry. Chang was trustee of some twenty million dollars' worth

use a small space in the back part of the garage to set up his workshop.

Today's amateur lapidarist can purchase any or all of his equipment, including power-feed saws with diamond blades. But thirty years ago only professionals used diamond blades, and the amateur built his own "mud-saw," using a blade of heavy metal rotating in a mixture of oil and carborundum grits for a cutting agent. Biford's first saw blade was cut from a scrap piece of auto-body metal. In his spare time he built all his equipment---saw, grinder, sanders and polishers. Then he started learning how to use it. He worked late at night, during

them are Fremont County agate, jasper, wood and jade.

Because of his interest in rocks, it is not surprising that Biford met a traveling mineralogist, John A. Corbin, of Roseburg, Oregon. In the summer of 1934 the elderly John Corbin left his home in Oregon riding a bicycle, and gathering rock specimens along the way. These specimens he placed in large knapsacks on each side of the bicycle, and when the sacks got full he would ship the rocks home from the next town he passed through. Leisurely he traveled east to Montana, then down through Yellowstone Park and on south to Lander. Here he asked about the location of



Pendants, rings and cabochons fashioned from Wind-river agates by Biford Foster. Foster has been offered \$2,000 for the center pendant in the square setting. It is a yellow sunburst in nearly clear agate.

might still be propping up their fence posts with jade boulders!"

It was not until the next year that Biford had occasion to recall that piece of jade. Two local men, Bill Marion and Lloyd Curtis, decided to prospect a vein of serpentine which Mr. Marion had found earlier, and among the specimens they brought back was one especially beautiful piece of green rock. They took it to Biford to have it cut and polished. Remembering John Corbin and the small green pebble, he exclaimed "Serpentine, hell! That's jade!"

During the next few years chunks of the green rock were occasionally brought in by shearers, rockhounds and prospectors, who wondered if perhaps the stuff was marketable. But buyers remained singularly unimpressed. Jade was found in China or New Zealand, but not in Wyoming -- Therefore this couldn't possibly be jade! In due time some samples of it were brought to the attention of Dr. John Marble, of The National Museum of Washington, D. C., and other expert mineralogists, who concluded that it was indeed jade (nephrite). Much of it was comparable in quality to fine Chinese jade.

By the spring of 1945 there was a mad rush for the "green gold." Many local residents staked claims and spent all their spare time jade-hunting. A lot of jade was found--some of it in huge boulders weighing thousands of pounds. Much of it has since been shipped to China and to other countries, as well as all over the United States. At first many of the jade prospectors were happy to sell their finds at \$1.50 or \$2.00 a pound, but those who were in no hurry to sell later became aware of the true value of their treasure. The same quality jade now sells for \$25.00 to \$40.00 a pound.

Biford's collection of polished gem-stones soon contained many beautiful pieces of jade, including

black and many shades of green. For several years he supplied a local jewelry store with jade jewelry, and a firm in Los Angeles bought all the heart-shaped pendants he was able to supply. The chatoyant pendant which so impressed Chang Wen Ti still glows in its' proper place in the collection, although he has been offered as much as \$250.00 for this single piece. Biford staked no claims and did very little jade hunting. He really didn't have to, because, as is the way with rockhounds, he cut and polished the jade that other people found, and in return was given a "slab" or a "chunk" of their material. "Besides that," he laughs, "my sister was one of two women who found a jade boulder weighing over 3000 pounds, so I don't really have to worry about running out of jade to work with."

Biford has long since retired from the garage and now has his workshop in his home. He once decided to make a string of jade beads--perfectly matched, and graduated in size. By now he has finished five necklaces, and has two more nearly completed. Each string requires about seventy-five hours of patient work. Anyone who has ever cut and polished jade will tell you that it is one of the most difficult materials to work. Ordinary methods produce a dappled "orange-peel" appearance which spoils the true beauty of the stone. Well-polished jade is the result of experience, know-how, and painstaking workmanship.

To make his beads, Biford first saws the jade into cubes of approximately the correct sizes. The corners are then ground off and the pieces placed in a bead mill until they are perfectly round. A hole is carefully drilled through the center of each bead, which is then "doped." (Attached with hot wax to a dop-stick for easier handling.) The exposed half of the bead is sanded with progressively finer sand-

(Please turn to page 11)



PHOTO BY CHAS. E. HIGLEY

Biford Foster at work in his rockshop.

of uncut jade which he had helped to smuggle out of China just before the Japanese captured Shanghai. He was in Lander because jade had been discovered in Wyoming. This year was 1945, but this story really goes back as far as 1932, at which time there were but a handful of amateur lapidarists in this country.

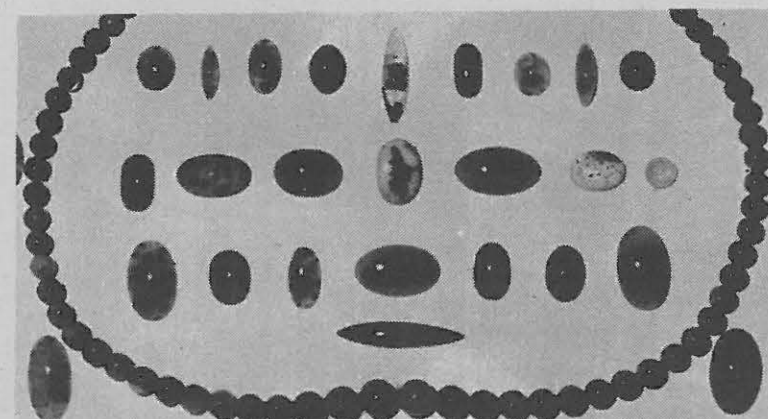
The March, 1932 issue of Scientific American carried a short article on gem-stone cutting for the amateur, by J. H. Howard. An editor's note stated that a manual, "The Working of Semi-precious Stones," also by Mr. Howard, was available for \$1.00. Biford Foster, working as night floor-man for a Lander garage, read the article with great interest and mailed his dollar for a copy of Mr. Howard's book. In the past he had picked up quite a few agates and carried them home. But until he read the magazine article he didn't really know what to do with them. Now Mr. Howard's little book told him what equipment he would need and how to build it, and Biford's boss gave him permission to

the "slow hours" for the garage--sometimes working as many as four or five hours a night. Because of his capability for precision workmanship, and aided by what lapidarists call an "eye for symmetry," he was soon turning out specimens that were expertly cut and polished.

The area around Lander abounds in various types of agate, jasper, and petrified wood, and by the spring of 1939 Biford had built up a large collection of mounted specimens, which was taken to Thermopolis to be shown at a meeting of the Wyoming Mineral School, conducted by state mineralogist C. S. Dietz, of Cheyenne. Three years later the first annual state-wide convention of Wyoming Mineralogists was held at Rawlins, and again Biford's collection was shown and received much favorable comment. One mess agate was declared by authorities at that convention to be "The finest agate in the State of Wyoming." Today the collection contains over 400 specimens, and is valued at thousands of dollars. Most of

the Sweetwater agate beds, and was directed to Biford Foster.

Speaking of their meeting Biford says, "I looked at that old man and I looked at that bicycle, and I thought of the hot dusty 65 miles to the agate beds--well, I just felt so sorry for him that I told him if he could wait until the next day I'd take him out there in my car." The offer was eagerly accepted and the trip to the agate beds was made--seemingly without incident. During the search for agates Mr. Corbin had picked up a small green stone about the size and shape of a fifty-cent piece. He looked it over carefully and asked "Say did you know there was jade in this country? Here--take a good look at it so you'll recognize it if you find any." They continued picking up agates but no more jade was found that day. John Corbin pocketed his small jade "slick" and continued on his travels, leaving not even a ripple of excitement behind him. Looking back on that trip today Biford says "I guess if it hadn't been for John Corbin our ranchers



A necklace and various settings made by Biford Foster from Sweetwater agates.

Water Skiing Thrills Millions; Here's How to Join in the Sport

Water skiing has come a long, long way since Fred Waller strapped on the first pair of water skis back in 1924 and went skimming across Long Island Sound into sports history.

Both went on to great success, Waller as inventor of the Cinerama movie process, water skiing as a thrilling-yet-safe sport enjoyed last year by more than 10-million persons.

Johnson Motors, the out-board people, estimate water skis and related accessories will account for a whopping \$32-million in marine and sporting goods store sales in 1970. Many more millions will be spent on boats and motors to tow the skiers.

Most Popular on Water

From prestigious tournaments like the Masters at Callaway Gardens, Ga., to the aquatic extravaganzas at Cypress Gardens, Fla., from little lake to big ocean, water skiing is one of the most popular of all water sports.

It's also one of the safest, thanks to a few easily-followed common sense rules and practices that have long been part of water skiing.

First, be sure you know how to swim, then buckle on an approved flotation device such as a ski belt or life jacket. Most states require one; in all, it's good water skiing sense.

Skiers should check their equipment to make sure it is in good working order, with no loose parts or splinters. And beginners should learn to look straight ahead, avoid clowning and dangerous stunts, and stay away from docks and boats.

Avoid the Shallows

After a fall, clasp both hands overhead to let the driver know you're okay. If there's other boat traffic nearby, hold a ski up in the air after falling so you'll be easily noticed.

Avoid skiing in shallow water. Five feet is the minimum depth experts consider safe for adults. Never attempt fast landings on shore (it's surprising how rough a sand beach can be at the end of a misjudged landing attempt), and don't jump from the boat while it's moving.

Don't ski until exhausted, don't ski in front of another boat and never ski at night. There simply won't be enough light to let you enjoy the sport.

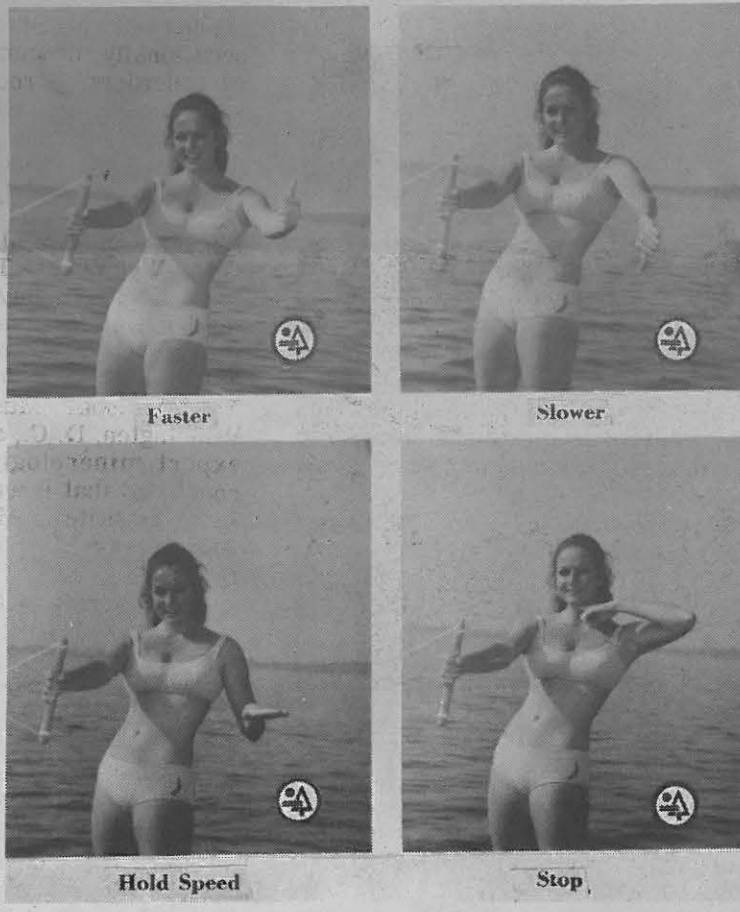
These days it takes three to water ski the way water should be skied: the skier, the driver and the observer.

Water skiing is safe, simple, fun. A little common sense is all it takes to discover why Fred Waller's

"slats" have become a multi-million dollar, multi-million participant sport in five short decades.



Water skiing is fun, of course, but it's even more enjoyable when it's all recorded on film. And today's easy-to-operate instamatic cameras make it possible to enjoy summer the year 'round — through the magic of pictures and home movies.



Universally accepted hand signals like those pictured above help the water skier communicate with the boat driver (through the observer), and make for safer, more enjoyable skiing. The signals as shown above mean faster, hold speed, slower and stop.

Environmental Eavesdropper

LOONEY LIMERICKS

by Zane E. Cology

Industrialist Oliver Gist
Made money hand over fist.
He thought it a joke
That his factories belched smoke,
Till his customers ceased to exist.

Congressman George E. Brown, Jr., of California has introduced a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to disallow any personal exemption for children in excess of two per family.

The British government has made male sterilization operations free under the National Health Service Law. About 20,000 men submitted to the operation last year and more than 40,000 are expected to seek one this year. The vasectomy operation permits a normal sex life without fear of pregnancy.

Governor Keith Miller's veto of a bill legalizing abortion was overridden by the Alaska Legislature.

Changing Times Magazine reports that "environmental-ecological education" is likely to be the decade's most important new addition to the school curriculum. It says, "Everyone from preschoolers to graduate students will be taught EEE. The Office of Education is readying an all-out program to place EEE in the nation's school and college curriculums."

W. Herbert Hunt, son of billionaire Texas oilman H. L. Hunt and managing partner of Penrod Drilling Co. of Dallas, told a Casper, Wyoming, oil meeting that the oil industry has helped the ecology of the Gulf of Mexico. He said, "In 20 years the number of offshore drilling platforms have increased from about 60 to 2,300 today. In this period of time, the fish catch in the Gulf of Mexico has increased by 600 million pounds annually from what it was."

An oil slick caused "heavy pollution" when it washed onto the Louisiana shore recently. The oil slick originated about 14 miles offshore. It was the largest oil spill since a Chevron Oil Co. drilling platform spewed 20,000 barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico.

A former Special Assistant Attorney General to the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission recently charged that flaring of natural gas in the new Hilight oil field was extremely wasteful. Tom Watt, a Gillette attorney, said, "enough gas is being vented today from Hilight Field to fulfill the entire natural gas requirements of Wyoming on a day-to-day basis, even with present restrictions." He noted that the restrictions were from 800,000 cubic feet per day to 550,000 cubic feet.

Governor Stanley K. Hathaway, chairman of the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, said, flaring of natural gas in the Hilight Field was "only a temporary situation. Gas flaring will be eliminated in a few months." He said, "The commission has been very responsible and has tried to fulfill its responsibility to conservation and at the same time not let the momentum of development die. If we make economic factors so tight that they (the producers) can't afford the cost of drilling programs - you hurt the state then, too." He conceded that there is wasting of gas. He said nothing of contributions to air pollution.

The Idaho Fish and Game Department says any further dams in Hells Canyon of the Snake River would serve to further deplete preferred river fishing rather than enhance recreational values. A report issued by the department refutes statements made by power companies wishing to build the dams.

Department Says Boating Accidents Down From 1968

Statistics released this week by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission reveal boating accidents and deaths reported to the Commission in 1969 were down from 1968.

Boating accidents in 1969 numbered 24, three less than in 1968 and fatal accidents were listed as 5—one less than the year before.

Capsizing ranked first among the reported causes of accidents and fatalities last year. Collisions were listed as second in number of accidents. Accidents resulting from falling overboard

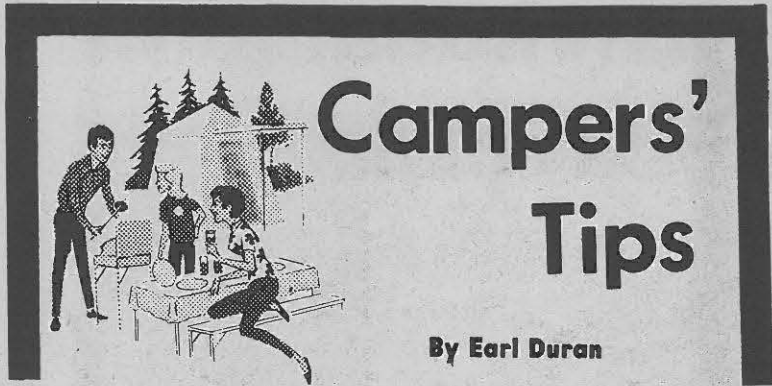
ranked fourth in cause but second in fatalities.

In nearly every fatal accident, life jackets were available to boaters, but were not being worn at the time of the accidents.

Although the number of accidents was down during 1969, the number of boating violations and subsequent court actions increased. Convictions for boating safety law violations were up nearly 20 percent over the year before. Boating without a current boat registration certificate was listed as one

of the major violations resulting in court actions.

Wyoming laws require persons involved in boating collisions and accidents resulting in death, injury or damage exceeding \$100 to file a report with the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission within 48 hours. Reports are confidential and are not used as evidence in judicial proceedings. A copy of the Wyoming motorboat laws is included with each boat registration issued by the Game and Fish Commission.



Campers' Tips

By Earl Duran

Spring is here and summer can't be far behind. What particular interest is that to us? Well, after being cooped up all winter and tied down to the every day duties of labor, it's a chance to get out in the rolling hills, along the sparkling lakes, climbing the towering mountains, browsing the cascading rivers, gazing upon the lovely valleys. A chance to enjoy the freshness of the great outdoors, seeing nature bursting out in full bloom. The coolness of the high country beckons, the weekend drives to the favorite picnic or camping area, a chance to clamber along the stream fishing, the wife basking in the warm sun and the children hiking about and discovering the brightest colors of the new plants and flowers, or the little scurrying wild animals whose strange forms and habits are shaped by this harsh environment.

April showers bring May flowers, true. But beware, that pretty little flower with its sweet scent, or that bright new shining leaf that will look good pressed in a book or mounted in a scrapbook just could be poison. . . .

SUMAC is a member of a family of botanical species that is found in most swampy areas, grows as a bush or tree and sometimes attains the height of 20 feet. Its appearance is similar to plain sumac, except that its leaves are smooth edged instead of sawtoothed and its berries greenish-white instead of red.

OAK grows as a shrub or bush, is found in the Central States, has three notched, non-shiny, oaklike leaves.

Genus Toxicodendron, better known as poison ivy, is the most common poisonous plant found in America. Poison Ivy, native only to North America, made its presence felt as far back as 1607 in Jamestown. It has a close resemblance to English Ivy, but is most readily recognized by its clusters of three pointed leaves which are shiny green in spring and mottled red and orange in the fall. It is found growing up trees and fence posts. . . .

All parts of the plant, root, leaf, and branch, are toxic.

Some may be affected more severely than others, but as in most cases the individual resistance varies. No one is totally immune.

One doesn't necessarily have to come in contact with the plant itself. You can touch your dog, a camp stool, clothing, or anything that has rubbed against poison ivy, even to the smoke from burning ivy. Ivy reddens the skin, causes severe itching, and sometimes raises blisters. If you come in contact with poison ivy, wash exposed areas with strong laundry soap, as soon as possible. Relief can be obtained with lotions or sprays with a calamine base, or with a thick boric-acid solution. This treatment works also on oak and sumac. Your doctor can prescribe shots or tablets for relief, but there is no total immunity against poison ivy.

MRS. NIMROD'S COOK BOOK

by Jessie French

DANDELION GREENS

- 1 gallon dandelion greens
- 1 or 2 horseradish leaves (optional)
- Salt and pepper
- 1 tblsp. butter
- Mayonnaise dressing (optional)

Dandelions should be used before they blossom, as they become bitter after that time.

Cut off the roots, pick the greens over carefully, and wash them well in several waters. Place them in a kettle, add a little boiling water, and boil until tender. Salt the water just before cooking is completed. When tender, lift them into a colander.

Remove and discard the horseradish leaves. Press the dandelions to drain off all the water, and chop. Add butter, salt and pepper.

Serve the mayonnaise at the table, so that those who wish to do so may spread the greens with it. This goes well with fish, and is a good way to remove the dandelions from a portion of the lawn.

Divide Trail Is Protested

The proposed Continental Divide Trail through the Bridger Wilderness Area of Wyoming is opposed by a large group of Wyomingites. A petition of opposition has been sent to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation Regional Office in Denver. The petition was signed by 475 people, mostly students and faculty at the University of Wyoming, Laramie.

Del Owens, a University professor and spokesman for the group, said copies of the petition had also been sent to the Wyoming congressional delegation, the Wyoming Outdoor Coordinating Council, The Wilderness Society, the supervisor of the Bridger National Forest, and others.

The petition says, "We believe that a wilderness area, once designated as such, should be uncompromisingly set aside and protected, with minimum "promotion" and with no special efforts made to channel people into it other than those who of their own volition decide to use it.

"We believe that the outright encouragement of heavier foot and horse travel in the wilderness constitutes an idealistic, nonrealistic approach to the continued wise protection of the often-delicate ecological structure and balance of such an area.

"We believe that to offer a wilderness as an incidental "link" in a publicized national trail system simply because it chances to lie along the Continental Divide, is to take an unwarranted, voluntary risk with regard to its future preservation - and at a time of diminishing wilderness this does not seem consistent with cautious, long-range management.

"Therefore, at this time when the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation is conducting its feasibility study, we would like to register our conviction that the Continental Divide Trail is NOT feasible in Wyoming."



Photo credit Wyo. Archives

A portrait of Indian War Army Scout Frank Grouard is shown beside his revolver, a recent acquisition at the Wyoming State Museum in Cheyenne. The book is the 1894 edition of Joe De Barthe's fascinating "Life and Adventures of Frank Grouard".

Indian Scout's Gun Acquired By State

The Wyoming State Museum has recently acquired a firearm believed to be an authentic possession of the noted Indian War Scout, Frank Grouard.

Grouard saw action at the Battle of the Rosebud, Reynold's Powder River Fight, Slim Buttes Battle, Dull Knife Battle, and the famous "Sibley Scout."

As a young man, Grouard was captured by the Hunkpapa Sioux. His life was spared according to the wishes of the later famous Sitting Bull, and Grouard eventually won most of the practical privileges of a regular tribal member. After six years with the Indians, he voluntarily left and so went to work for the Government as an army scout.

After the Plains Indians were rather firmly established on reservations, Grouard continued as an employee of the army. One of his assigned chores was chasing the road agents that infested the Cheyenne-Deadwood state route during the Black Hills gold rush. According to Grouard, "When I started after them, I most generally got them."

Later, while stationed at Fort McKinney, near Buffalo, his success ration was not quite as good. The thieves and roughnecks were better organized and more numerous. When he did catch up with some of them, there were often too many to successfully contend with, and his choice was more than once simply whether to back out or get killed.

At a road ranch near Buffalo in 1878, one horsethief named McGlosky made the mistake of shooting at Grouard and missing. He died that night from the single bullet fired in return.

Crows, Cheyennes, Sioux, or Arapahoes wandered off their reservations on hunting or visiting expeditions from time to time. Potential trouble arose in their contacts with white settlers in their old hunting grounds. Instead of sending a regiment of Cavalry from Fort McKinney to see about these Indian

problems in the late 1870's and 1880's, the army usually sent Frank Grouard, who could settle matters quietly and effectively.

Since his death in 1905, some controversy has arisen concerning whether Grouard was really the outstanding character his biographer says he was. Possibly as good an index as any of his value to the Government is his pay scale. His rate of pay after December, 1877 was \$150.00 per month. At that time a private soldier made \$13.00 and a First Sergeant, \$22.00 per month. General Crook is reported to have stated in official correspondence in 1876 that "I would rather lose a third of my command than Frank Grouard."

The revolver at the State Museum is a "U. S." marked Colt .45 Single Action Army Model of the Pattern altered by Springfield Armory in 1898 for use as an artilleryman's sidearm. Stamped in the backstrap metal beneath the grips are the words: "FRANK GROUARD-BUFFALO, W. T."

There may still be some old-timers around who remember Grouard. Anyone having information on Grouard which is not given in his biography, or any information (including heresy) concerning this gun, is cordially invited to write to the Wyoming State Museum, State Office Building, Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001, and add his comments to the information file accompanying the revolver.

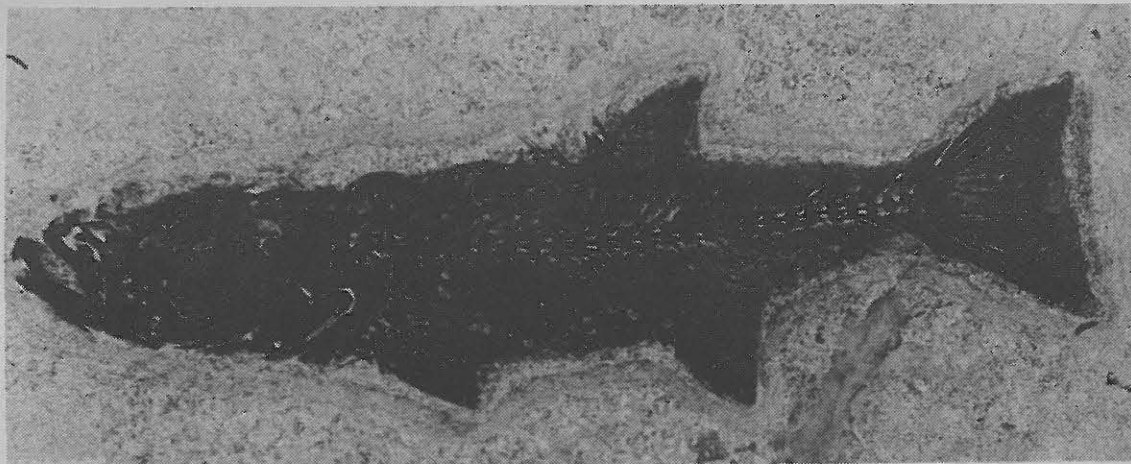


Two major types of trees are found in the United States--the evergreen trees and those trees which lose their leaves in the fall. The former are called coniferous trees and many of them bear the familiar "pine cones." The trees that lose their leaves in the fall are known as deciduous trees which means "falling off," and that is exactly what the leaves do.

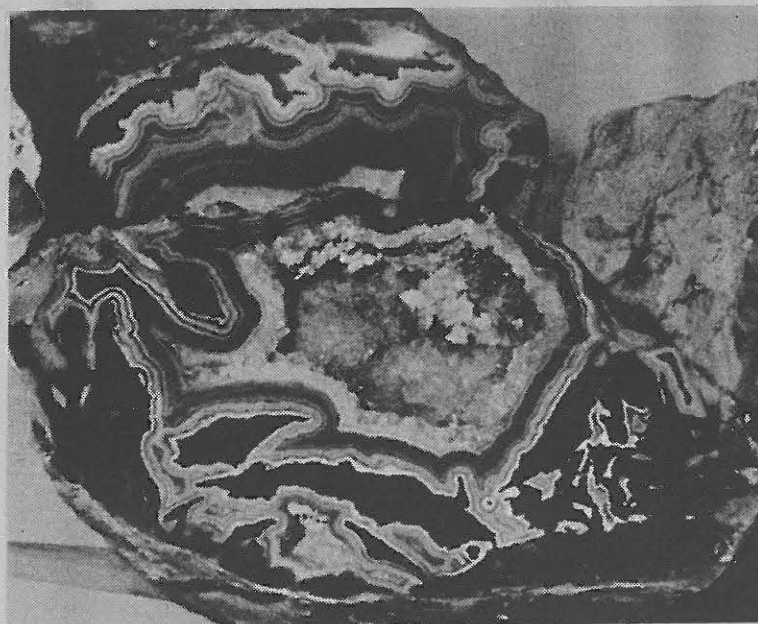
TRAVEL THE HUSKY ROUTE
24-Hour Service --
Stop For Ice, Stereo Tapes
Welcome To The West!
ALL CREDIT CARDS WELCOME --
ALL MAJOR BRANDS OF OIL
Your Goodyear Dealer at
LANDER
South of Lander Wyoming on Highway 287
HUSKY

Photos courtesy Norman Rock Shop,

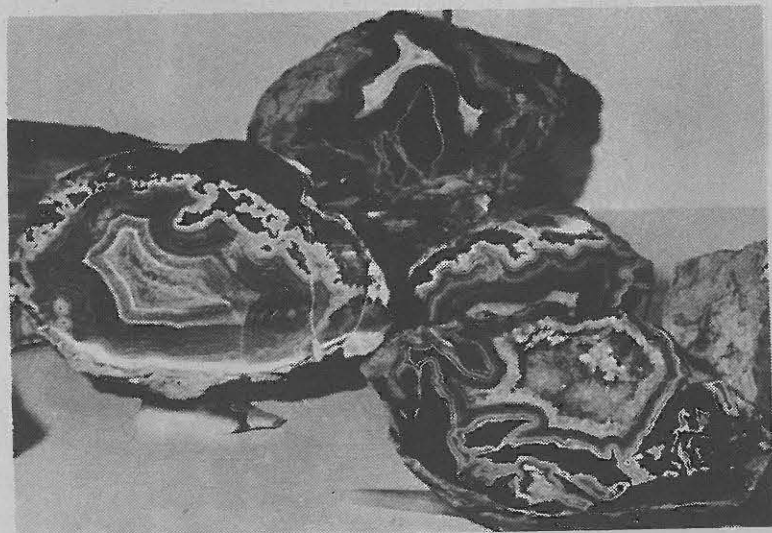
Lander, Wyoming



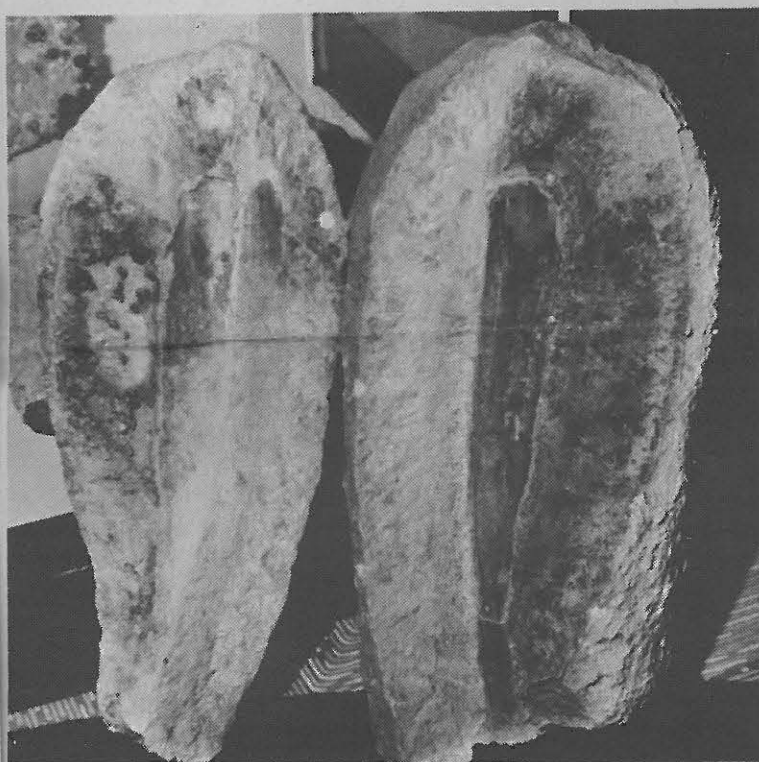
Fossilized fish, Kemmerer, Wyoming



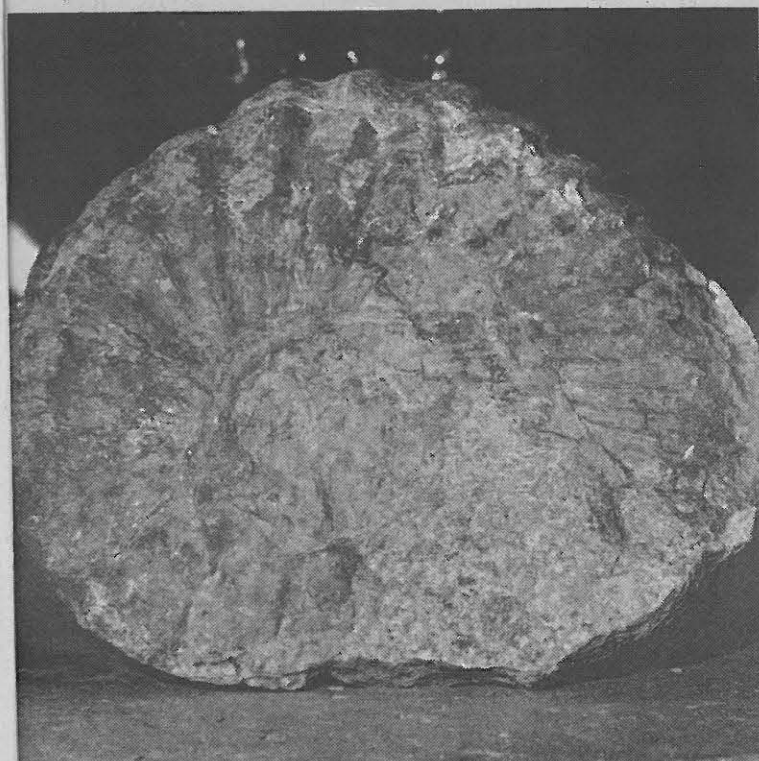
Lysite agate which shows the fortification type in which the material is layered in concentric rings.



Lysite agate, Wyoming



Fossil cane, Farson, Wyoming



Fossilized ammonite, Wyoming

A ROCKHOUND'S CODE OF ETHICS. . . .

1. I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
2. I will keep informed on all laws, regulations, or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
3. I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
4. I will use no firearms or blasting materials in collecting areas.
5. I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings, etc.
6. I will leave all gates as found.
7. I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
8. I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
9. I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
10. I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supply.
11. I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
12. I will support the rockhound project, H.E.L.P., which means - "Help Eliminate Litter Please" and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
13. I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
14. I will report to my club or federation officers, the Bureau of Land Management, or other proper authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations and for public educational and scientific purposes.
15. I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
16. I will observe the "Golden Rule," will use "Good Outdoor Manners," and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public image of rockhounds everywhere.

Taken from the Rocky Mountain Mineralogical Society Bulletin.



Rocks To Find . . .

petrified pine cones, walnuts, and grape vines twining around petrified tree limbs. The tree rings are clearly outlined in cross sections of tree and limb casts.

The petrified forests extend north into Montana and south as far as the breccia cliffs north of Dubois, Wyoming. The famous Wiggins Wood comes from along Wiggins Fork of the Wind River northeast of Dubois.

Petrified wood of one kind or another can be found all over Wyoming. The stumps of cycads are found around the Black Hills in northeastern Wyoming and around Eden-Farson in west central Wyoming. Palm wood is found across the Red Desert in central Wyoming to Evanston at the southwestern corner. Petrified cane, Eden Valley Wood and Blue Forest Wood come from around Eden-Farson.

Many different kinds of fossils and petrified bone are found throughout the West. Beautifully colored dinosaur bone comes from around Grand Junction, Colorado, on into Utah to the west.

Fossilized fish in which the skeleton is imprinted as a cast in sandstone is found in many locations. Some of the famous ones are from Fossil Buttes near Kemmerer, Wyoming, and near Eden-Farson.

Como Bluffs, Lusk, Green River, and Evanston, Wyoming, are famous for various fossil finds of reptiles and mammals now displayed in the Smithsonian Institution in our nation's capitol. Huge ammonites and other marine fossils are displayed at the Greybull, Wyoming, museum. Many of the same kind of fossils are found in eastern Wyoming around Newcastle.

A great many of the agates, fossils, petrified woods, and other rockhound prizes are located on the vast public lands of the West. The Bureau of Land Management and the U. S. Forest Service have well-drawn maps of the areas they administer. Local offices of these agencies are most helpful in directing

people to known areas of sought-after rocks or fossils.

If you are a professional, you will know your way around and know who to contact to find what you want.

The amateur will have to depend on local rockhounds whom they can contact and government bureaus or chambers of commerce. Whatever category you fit into, good hunting!

Park Has Books For "Earth Day"

A selection of books to commemorate "Earth Day," April 22, are available at the Moose Visitor Center, Grand Teton National Park. Supt. Foy L. Young said the books form a thinking man's guide to the problem facing wildland in our changing world. The books are sold through the Grand Teton Natural History Association, a non-profit society.

The books available are: "It's Your World," "Will Success Spoil the National Parks?," "Man and Nature in the National Parks," and "Wilderness and the American Mind."

Several other books have been on order and the Association hopes to have them on hand this week.

Rockhound . . .

(Continued from page 8)

paper, and then polished on a leather buff with a fine polishing powder until it attains a beautiful sheen. The dop-stick is then removed and placed on the polished half of the bead, and the sanding and polishing of the other half is completed. The final operation is to string the beads together in properly graduated sizes, and the finished product is a necklace of breath-taking beauty with the waxy translucent luster and inner glow that only perfectly polished jade can have.

Jade connoisseur Chang Wen Ti has gone by now to join his honorable ancestors, but if he were still living and could see a string of Biford's jade beads, surely he would again murmur, "Exquisite! Exquisite!"



Winter shadows have softened to Spring by now
But there is hardly a time when there is no beauty in
the Tetons of western Wyoming.

Park Elk Hunting Plans Announced

Governor Stanley K. Hathaway and Assistant Secretary of the Interior Leslie L. Glasgow today announced plans for the 1970 annual reduction of elk numbers in Grand Teton National Park, beginning October 4, and ending November 30 unless quotas are reached before the latter date.

Public participation is an integral part of the program, as it has been in past years. Only designated portions of the park would be involved.

The elk reduction program is part of a long-range cooperative plan to restore historical migration and distribution habits so that elk numbers can be better controlled by hunting on lands outside of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks.

Public hunting is not permitted in the national parks. However, in establishing Grand Teton National Park, Congress recognized the necessity to control the numbers of elk which annually migrate through the park. Public Law 81-787, enacted in 1950, provides for cooperative wildlife control action by the State of Wyoming and the National Park Service, when necessary to insure "the proper management and protection of the elk." For 17 of the last 19 years this cooperative program for controlling elk numbers in Jackson Hole has been practiced in Grand Teton National Park.

Dr. Glasgow, the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, Parks and Marine Resources said the joint recommendations this year

provide for the issuance of 2,500 special permits to qualified persons licensed by the State of Wyoming.

Accepted applicants will be deputized by the Department of the Interior as special Park Rangers in order to participate in the elk management program.

The first 1,000 permits will be valid for the full period, October 24 through November 30; the second 1,500 permits will be valid only for the period November 7 through November 30. The season is being divided in this manner to avoid first day congestion, distribute the reduction action over the entire season and to make the heaviest removals from the late-migrating segments of the herd as they move from Yellowstone National Park to the National Elk Refuge.

The total management needs of this elk herd are being studied by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, the National Park Service and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife of the Department of the Interior and by the Forest Service Department of Agriculture. These cooperative studies provide factual information used to guide the management of the elk herd.

Applications for the Grand Teton Elk Management Permits will be accepted by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission at Cheyenne, Wyoming for holders of valid Wyoming Elk Hunting Licenses beginning on May 1 and ending June 25, 1970 at 5:00 p. m. A drawing will then be conducted by the commission to fill the foregoing quotas.

Bowhunters Get Season

The 1970 big game hunting orders approved this week by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission provide bowhunting privileges in all areas during regular hunting seasons and during special bowhunting seasons following the precedent set in 1969.

Bowhunters may hunt in any area for ten consecutive days immediately preceding the regular opening date for a particular area. To hunt during the special season, archers must obtain an archery hunting permit for the species being hunted. Permit fees are: resident-\$1; nonresident-\$5.

To qualify for an archery permit, an applicant must possess a valid big game license for the species being hunted and a special permit if one is required by the regular season. A special archery hunting permit is required for each species hunted.

Firearms are not allowed in the hunter's possession while participating in the special bowhunting season.

Special permit requirements, if any, and the species and sex of the animal which may be hunted during a special archery season are determined by the rules and regulations of the regular season following the archery season.

Archery hunting permits may be purchased from deputy game wardens, district offices and the Cheyenne office of the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, Box 1589, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001.

* * * *

The grizzly bear's eyesight is poor, but their hearing is excellent and their sense of smell is unsurpassed.

Land And Water Fund Would Be Increased

An amendment to the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 which would provide a minimum of \$300 million annually for the purposes of the fund has been introduced in the Senate by Senator Henry M. Jackson (Wash.) and Senator Gordon Allott (Colo.), the Wildlife Management Institute reports.

The measure (S. 3505) has been referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of which Jackson is chairman.

Introducing the amendment Jackson said that action must be taken now if we are to insure quality recreation and environment for present and future generations. He pointed out that when he introduced an amendment to the Act in 1968 which proposed to guarantee an annual income for the fund of \$200 million for five years, the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation had information showing that a \$400 million annual level for five years, rather than \$200 million, was necessary to finance authorized federal acquisitions, needed federal acquisitions and a fair share of the fund to states and local governments. And this figure did not make allowance for the inflationary rise in prices of recreational lands and waters. Even at that time the Bureau had figures showing a 10 percent increase in such lands as compared to a 6 percent increase in prices for most rural lands.

President Nixon's proposed new legislation, which possibly would increase the fund above the \$200 million currently authorized by accelerating the sale of

surplus property, Jackson believes, "unnecessarily proposes a complicated and uncertain formula that may increase the fund by a small amount or might result in no increase at all depending on the sale of surplus federal real estate in any given year." Before the 1968 amendments, neither the states nor the federal agencies could predict how much would be available to them in any fiscal year, complicating budgeting and planning for their recreation programs. The \$200 million guarantee remedied this to some extent, the Senator said, even though this is the first year the fund has been promised that the full amount would be requested. The administration bill will take us back to where we were before, he said.

State Acquires Fishing Access

A new fishing access site on the Bighorn River some 10 miles south of Hardin has been acquired by the Montana Fish and Game Commission, according to Wesley Woodgerd, Chief of Recreation and Parks for the fish and game department.

Woodgerd said that the Two Leggin's Site includes 30 acres and is situated along the road to Yellowtail Dam. Bighorn Lake, formerly called Yellowtail Reservoir, is situated upstream and acts as a settling basin to catch silt from the murky Bighorn River. Consequently, quality of water in the river at the fishing access site is good.