

Senate Finds Many Abuses in National Parks

N.Y. Herald Tribune 8-10-25

Stiff Entrance Fees Deter Tourists, Who Also Complain of High Foodstuff Prices and Hotel Rates

To Ask Sweeping Changes Only One Tourist Camp in All Grand Canyon; 'Gas' Gouging, Water Costly

From the New York Herald Tribune's Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Severe criticism of the National Park Service and the methods of the government in handling national parks is foreshadowed in a report which will be made to the Senate at the next session by the Senate Committee on Public Lands. The committee has taken considerable testimony and will take more and this testimony is now being studied by officials of the committee and a report is being mapped.

All indications are that the committee will not only condemn some features of the present methods and do so in blistering fashion, but that sweeping changes of policy are likely to be recommended.

The broad question facing the committee is whether the national parks, of which there are about thirty, with more yet to be created, are to be opened up to the American people as great, free places of play and recreation or whether they are to be held virtually under lock and key and the public admitted to them only under sharp restraints. The question is each year becoming more important as the tide of automobile travel increases and the number of visitors to the parks increases.

Finds Stiff Entrances Fees

The committee has taken much testimony on the general subject of the

national parks, but it has gone especially into the affairs of the Grand Canyon, or Grand Canyon National Park in the Southwest.

The autoist, for instance, who wants to enter a national park and go about in his own machine is likely to find that he cannot enter without paying a stiff entrance fee. In some cases the committee found this was \$7. He finds a situation wherein it is a good deal cheaper for him to go about in the busses or conveyances of the concessionaire than to use his own machine. As for hotels and foodstuffs, he is at the mercy of the concessionaire also.

In the Grand Canyon it was found that the Fred Harvey Company, known in the West and especially along the lines of the Santa Fe for its restaurant service, had the concessions for the hotels, restaurants and transportation. Independent tourist travel is discouraged. In the whole Grand Canyon there is only one tourist camp, and evidence before the committee indicated it was so located as to be unpleasant for the tourist, in an area subjected to odors from hotel garbage.

Gasoline Gougers in Grand Canyon

Indicative of the policy to discourage autoists, the committee found exorbitant prices charged for gasoline inside Grand Canyon. It is alleged tourists have to buy water for drinking purposes. If a tourist goes to a hotel, he has to pay prices as high as charged by the high-grade hotels in the great cities. These prices are prohibitive for persons of small means.

Among other things, there are allegations of favoritism to railroads. It is found to be the case, according to what the committee has learned, that as to a number of the parks some one railroad will be found to be getting the bulk of the business of each park.

Altogether there are about 8,000,000 acres in the national parks. In committee circles it is declared the parks are to-day a long way from being play places for the American people, but instead are so hedged round with restraints and restrictions and hampered through granting of concessions of privileges in the nature of monopolies that much of their value to the public is lost.

FAST MESSAGE



BE BRIEF

21 WF OA M

GLACIER PARK AUG 11 1925

W P KENNEY

STPAUL

YESTERDAY AUG 10TH WITHOUT ANY WARNING AS TO WHAT HE WAS GOING TO DO
MATHER WITH RANGERS AND MEN CAME FROM ST MARY GOING DIRECT TO SAW MILL
SITE WITHOUT STOPPING AT HOTEL AND PROCEEDED TO WRECK SAW MILL BUILDING
WITH 13 CHARGES DYNAMITE WHICH PARTIALLY WRECKED THE BUILDING TODAY
GOVERNMENT MEN HAVE COMPLETELY DISMANTLED THE BUILDING SOME DAMAGE TO
MACHINERY FULL REPORT BY MAIL

HA NOBLE

630A12

FAST MESSAGE



BE BRIEF

42WFPR

GLACIER PARK 8AM AUG 11 1925

W P KENNEY,

STPAUL

STEPHEN MATHER WAS AT MANY GLACIER YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND DYNAMITED
BUILDINGS HOLDING SAWMILL MACHINERY WILL GO UP TODAY AND GIVE YOU
FULL REPORT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE MATHER LEFT HERE LAST NIGHT TRAIN
FORTY FOUR STOPPING OFF AT GREATFALLS AND MOTORING TO YELLOWSTONE
G-91.

H A NOBLE

955A

DAY LETTER



BE BRIEF

38 WF OA M

GLACIER PARK AUG 11 1925

W P KENNEY

STPAUL

YOUR A-11 WIRED YOU 310 PM WILL SEND YOU FURTHER PARTICULARS AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE G-102

H A NOBLE

655AM12

FAST MESSAGE



BE BRIEF

St. Paul, August 11, 1925.

West

H A Noble

Glacier Park

G-91. Can you not get report from Many Glacier on telephone of just what happened and what was damaged, who did it and if we had been notified to take out buildings and other particulars that we would like quickly. A-11

W P Kenney

Many Glacier, Mont
August 12 1925

Mr. M. J. Lines,
Chief Spl. Agent,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

This is to advise that on the afternoon of August 10th, at about 2.45 PM Stephen A Mather director of the national park service, drove into Many Glacier in one of the park service cars, accompanied by Ass't Supt J Brooks. Following them in one of the motor transportation busses, was Ranger J J Marvell from St Mary's and seven men in charge of foreman J King. .

Director Mather stopped his car just east of the dormitory where Major W A Welch, director of Palasades Interstate Park, New York, got in and the party moved to the road in front of the hotel, where they were met by Mr Geo Heffsinger of the Park Saddle Horse Company after a halt of a minute they proceeded down the road towards the saw-mill. Mr Heffsinger came back to the front of the hotel where he spoke to some guides who he had posted there. These guides six in number went up to the hitch rack and followed the cars down the road. I followed soon after on a horse and caught up with the guides just as they were turning in on the saw-mill road. I had no more than arrived when Director Mather came up from out of the saw-mill, and after telling me of his official position he then ordered me from the grounds. I complied with his order but raced down to the hotel where I found Mr A J Binder the manager and advised him of my suspicions as to what was going to occur at the mill.

Mr Binder and I walked back to the mill where we met Mr Mather who ordered us from the grounds, but we refused to move and he called to Ass't Supt Brooks and ordered him to put us off the grounds but we again refused to move and no further move was made to eject us from the saw-mill grounds.

Foreman King with his force of men were at work in the mill setting the powder preparatory to the blowing up the old mill building. The guides from the Park Saddle Horse Co were posted as guards at different points in the vicinity of the mill. Ass't Supt Brooks supervised the work of placing the powder and looked after the guards while Ranger Marvell went out on to Lake Mc Dermott and ordered all boats ashore.

Mr Binder questioned Mr Mather's authority regarding the destruction of the saw-mill, and further told him that it looked like grandstand play, and that if he was sincere in trying to rid the park of the old buildings which he claimed were spoiling the beauty of the park, he should have demolished all the old buildings before the start of the season or at the close and not at this time when we had 400 or more guests in the hotel. Mr Mather replied that he knew what he was doing and was financially responsible for his act. He also inferred that Mr Budd had knowledge of what he was about to do here. He also said that the Hotel Co would never be allowed to make any additional buildings at Many Glacier. He spoke of Mr L W Hill and said he was holding back the progress of the park. He said that he had notified the Hotel Co about these old buildings and they had done nothing so that this prompted him in his present act of destroying the sawmill. He

[8-12-1925]

also told Mr Binder to stick with him and he would wear diamonds and that Mr Hill would soon be out of control of the Great Northern Ry and the Park.

About 4 PM Mr Brooks came up out of the mill and advised Mr Mather that the men had finished their work and the building was ready to be blown up. He (Mather) told Mr Brooks that he wanted to touch the fuses off himself as he wanted to assume all the responsibility. He then turned to Mr Binder and asked him if he wanted to touch off one of the fuses. This was ignored by Mr Binder and he and I retreated to a place of safety. It wasn't long before the 13 shots went off which did but little damage to the building other than knock off a few boards off the roof and sides. It did not so much as knock the smoke stack down. I think the principal damage was done to the machinery and I think it was the intention of director Mather to ruin the machinery in this building.

I would judge from Mr Mather's conversation that this was all done because of a personal grievance against Mr Hill as he spoke of him in no kindly terms. I have also since learned that he told Mr Beck at the entrance that the blowing up of the mill was the answer to the calling down Mr Hill gave Mr Krabel Supt of Glacier Park last June.

The saw-mill was so situated that it was seldom seen and then only from the lake and its appearance from the lake wasn't half as bad as the ranger station which is situated across the lake and on a well traveled train and road. Mr Binder asked him why he did not go over and blow up the ranger station if he really wanted to get rid of the things that were spoiling the beauty of the park and Mr Mather's reply was, You mean to infer that those who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones. Mr Welch the director of Palasades Park also agreed with Mr Binder that the rangers station was about the worst eye sore in the park.

The conversation between Mr Binder and Mr Mather which lasted for about three quarters of an hour switched from one subject to another all of which was carried on by Mr Mather and I say from his line of conversation and his acts on this day that he was mentally irresponsible, whether this was caused by great mental anger or the strain he was under I am unable to say but he did not talk like a sane man and this opinion was shared with me by Mr Binder

I am also advised by the ranger Joe Harvell that the bus occupied by these seven men and himself also contained 100 lbs of dynamite fuses and caps and were in the bus from St Marys to Mary Glacier. This ordered brought up here in this bus by Ass't Supt Brooks and no doubt at the instructions from Mr Mather.

Major W A Welch arrived at Mary Glacier some time during the morning of August 10th and I understand he rode up here with Mr Roe Emery of the Motor Transportation Co and made an inspection of the machinery in the saw-mill before it was blown up. Mr Mather in his conversation with Mr Binder stated that he had sent him up in advance for the purpose of ascertaining the condition and value of this machinery.

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The work of tearing down the building is being conducted by the Government under the charge of Ranger Joe Marvell and Foreman King. The Hotel Co has made no objections to their work of completing the job that the Government started out to do.

Yours truly,

Thos H Reagan

H A Noble
H G Keith

GLACIER PARK HOTEL COMPANY

OPERATING HOTELS AND CHALETs IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

"THE SWITZERLAND OF AMERICA"



GENERAL OFFICE
JUNE TO OCTOBER
GLACIER PARK, MONT.

NOVEMBER TO MAY
GREAT NORTHERN BLDG.
ST. PAUL, MINN.

H. A. NOBLE,
GENERAL MANAGER

GLACIER PARK HOTEL
MANY-GLACIER HOTEL
GOING-TO-THE-SUN CHALETs
TWO MEDICINE CHALETs
CUT BANK CHALETs
ST. MARY CHALETs
SPERRY GLACIER CHALETs
MANY-GLACIER CHALETs
GRANITE PARK CHALETs
BELTON CHALETs

ON THE MAIN LINE OF THE
GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

Many Glacier, Mont.,
Aug. 12, 1925.

Mr. M. J. Lins.,
Chief Spl. Agent.,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

This to advise that on the afternoon of August 10th, at about 2.45 PM., Stephen A. Mather director of the national park service, drove into Many Glacier in one of the park service cars, accompanied by Ass't. Supt. J. Brooks. Following them in one of the Motor Transportation busses, was Ranger J. J. Harvell from St. Mary's and seven men in charge of foreman J. King.

Director Mather stopped his car just east of the dormitory where Major W. A. Welch, director of Palisades Interstate Park, New York got in and the party moved to the road in front of the hotel, where they were met by Mr. Geo. Noffsinger of the Park Saddle Horse Co. after a halt of a minute they proceeded down the road towards the saw-mill. Mr. Noffsinger came back to the front of the hotel where he spoke to some guides who he had posted there. These guides six in number went up to the hitch rack and followed the cars down the road. I followed soon after on a horse and caught up with the guides just as they were turning in on the saw-mill road. I had no more than arrived when Director Mather came up from out of the saw-mill, and after telling me of his official position he then ordered me from the grounds. I complied with his order but raced down to the hotel where I found Mr. A. J. Binder the manager and advised him of my suspicions as to what was going to occur at the mill.

Mr. Binder and I walked back to the mill where we met Mr. Mather who ordered us from the grounds, but we refused to move and he called to Ass't Supt. Brooks and ordered him to put us off the grounds but we again refused to move and no further move was made to eject us from the saw-mill grounds.

Foreman King with his force of men were at work in the mill setting the powder preparatory to the blowing up the old mill building. The guides from the Park Saddle Horse Co were posted as guards at different points in the vicinity of the mill. Ass't Supt. Brooks supervised the work of placing the powder and looked after the guards, while Ranger Harvell went out on to Lake Mc Dermott and ordered all boats ashore.

(Over)

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(Continued)

Mr. Binder questioned Mr. Mather's authority regarding the destruction of the saw-mill, and further told him that it looked like grandstand play, and that if he was sincere in trying to rid the park of the old buildings which he claimed were spoiling the beauty of the park, he should have demolished all the old buildings before the start of the season or at the close and not at this time when we had 400 or more guests in the hotel. Mr. Mather replied that he knew what he was doing and was financially responsible for his act. He also inferred that Mr. Budd had knowledge of what he was about to do here. He also said that the Hotel Co would never be allowed to make any additional buildings at Many Glacier. He spoke of Mr. L. W. Hill and said he was holding back the progress of the park. He said that he had notified the Hotel Co, about these old buildings and they had done nothing so that this prompted him in his present act of destroying the saw-mill. He also told Mr. Binder to stick with him and he would wear diamonds and that Mr. Hill would soon be out of control of the Great Northern Ry and the Park.

About 4 PM, Mr. Brooks came up out of the mill and advised Mr. Mather that the men had finished their work and the building was ready to be blown up. He (Mather) told Mr. Brooks that he wanted to touch the fuses off himself as he wanted to assume all the responsibility. He then turned to Mr. Binder and ask him if he wanted to touch off one of fuses. This was ignored by Mr. Binder and he and I retreated to a place of safety. It wasn't long before the 13 shots went off which did but little damage to the building other than knock off a few boards off the roof and sides. It did not so much as knock the smoke stack down. I think the principal damage was done to the machinery and I think it was the intention of director Mather to ruin the machinery in this building.

I would judge from Mr. Mather's conversation that this was all done because of a personal grievance against Mr. Hill as he spoke of him in no kindly terms. I have also since learned that he told Mr. Beck at the Entrance that the blowing up of the mill was the answer to the calling down that Mr. Hill gave Mr. Krabel Supt. of Glacier Park, last June.

The saw-mill was so situated that it was seldom seen and then only from the lake and its appearance from the lake wasn't half as bad as the ranger station which is situated across the lake and on a well traveled trail and road.

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ON THE MAIN LINE OF THE

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(Continued)

(3)

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Mr. Binder asked him why he did not go over and blow up the ranger station if he really wanted to get rid of the things that were spoiling the beauty of the park and Mr. Mather's reply was. You mean to infer that those who live in a glass house shouldn't throw stones. Mr. Welsh the director of Palasades Park also agreed with Mr. Binder that the rangers station was about the worse eye sore in the park.

The conversation between Mr. Binder and Mr. Mather which lasted for about three quarters of an hour switched from one subject to another all of which was carried on by Mr. Mathers and I say from his line of conversation and his acts on this day, that he was mentally irresponsible, whether this was caused by great mental anger or the strain he was under I am unable to say but he did not talk like a sane man and this opinion was shared with me by Mr. Binder.

I am also advised by the ranger Joe Harvell that the bus occupied by the seven men and himself also contained 166 lbs of dynamite fuses and caps and were in the bus from St. Marys to Many Glacier. This ordered brought up here in this bus by Ass't Supt. Brooks and no doubt at the instructions from Mr. Mather.

Major W.A. Welsh arrived at Many Glacier some time during the morning of August 10th, and I understand he rode up here with Mr. Roe Emery of the Motor Transportation Co, and made an inspection of the machinery in the saw-mill before it was blown up. Mr. Mather in his conversation with Mr. Binder stated the he had sent him up here in advance for the purpose of ascertaining the condition and value of this machinery.

The work of tearing down the building is being conducted by the Government under the charge of Ranger Joe Harvell and Foreman King. The Hotel Co has made no objections to their work of completing the job that the Government started out to do.

Cy, Mr. H.A. Noble
Mr. H.G. Keith.

Yours truly

Thos. H. Reagan

GLACIER PARK HOTEL COMPANY.

Glacier Park, Mont. Aug. 12th, 1925.

Mr. W. P. Kenney,
Great Northern Railway,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

Referring to my telegram to you of August 11th with reference to the wrecking of the Many Glacier sawmill building by Stephen Mather.

Mr. Mather in company with Major W. A. Welch, Director of the Palisades Interstate Park, New York, were on the west side of the Park and came over Logan Pass to Sun Camp staying there the night of August 9th. On Monday he went to St. Mary and Many Glacier. At St. Mary they were met by J. P. Brooks, Assistant Superintendent National Park Service, with six men and a foreman brought over from fire-fighting crew at Belton and went direct to sawmill site at Many Glacier without stopping at hotel to notify us what he intended to do, arriving there between three and four P.M. He had already ordered Park Saddle Horse Company to have five guides with horses meet him at Many Glacier. The Park Saddle Horse Company presumed that they were being drafted for a fire-fighting crew. The guides were placed as guards at different points around the sawmill to warn tourists and to keep them away from sawmill site account ballasting. One ranger was in a row-boat on the lake to keep tourists away from that direction. The six men and foreman brought over from Belton superintended by J. P. Brooks, proceeded to place dynamite on the supporting posts of the sawmill building. Thirteen shots were exploded, but they were poorly placed, as only portion of sides blew out and one corner of building fell in. Roof and smoke stack did not fall in. Mr. Mather was directing the operation and stood at a distance watching the performance. The crew of six men and the foreman in charge of Ranger Harvell are completing the wrecking of the building and piling up the lumber. We are letting them go ahead with the work. The machinery will be taken out and away from the old site and moved to another point, which I am unable to say where it will be. The machinery apparently was not damaged to a great extent, but upon closer investigation it may be found that some damage was done and also that some damage may be done during the process of removing the machinery.

Manager Binder and Special Agent Regan after learning what was about to take place, went over to the sawmill to

protect against destroying our property. They were met by Mr. Mather who shook hands with Mr. Binder and Mr. Binder asked him if he realized what he was doing, to which he replied as follows: "Yes, if any financial loss I can stand it" and then ordered Mr. Binder and Regan off the site. Both refused to go saying they had a right to be there. He then ordered Brooks to show them off the ground. Brooks proceeded to take Regan by the arm but Regan pushed him away and Binder told Regan not to go until he (Mr. Binder) told him to go.

After this and while they were waiting for the men to place the dynamite charges, Mr. Mather carried on quite a conversation with Mr. Binder, which was something as follows:

Mather - We will not stand for any additions to buildings.

Binder - I did not know the Hotel Company were going to make any additions.

Mather - Yes, they are, I heard so from guests.

Binder - Did you notify anyone of your intentions to wreck the building?

Mather - Yes, Budd is with me and knows about it.

Binder - Just who did you notify and when?

Mather - Notified Hotel Company last summer at Many Glacier Hotel.

Binder - Who did you tell about it?

Mather - My speech at the Many Glacier Hotel last Summer.

Among other things, Mather made the following remark: "L. W. Hill is through. From now on you are going to work for a different class of people. Follow us and you will wear diamonds". He said that he had orders from Washington not to pay any attention to L. W. Hill, that they that are at Washington will not even answer L. W. Hill's telegrams.

Mather also made the following remark:

"I want to touch this off myself. If there is anyone going to jail, I am the one". He also stated that he had not even informed Mr. Kraebel of his intentions to wreck the building and that he will have his men tear down the remainder of the building, pile the lumber, etc., and if a budget could not stand for the expense, he would raise the money himself.

Mr. Mather seemed very nervous, talked very emotional and said a great many other things. After the show was over he returned directly to Glacier Park Hotel and left on the midnight train for Great Falls and Yellowstone. Evidently everything was arranged for in advance, the bringing over of the men from Belton and the arranging for saddle-horses at Many Glacier.

The only thing that I can find in our files from the National Park Service in regard to the old sawmill buildings, is in a letter dated May 28, 1924 from Mr. Kraebel to Mr. Noble which reads in part as follows:

"I want also to discuss the disposition to be made of the old sawmill which still stands at Many Glacier in a conspicuous place." I can not find that any reply had been made to this and to my knowledge this is the only mention that I have seen regarding the sawmill building.

I presume we will have to find some suitable place for the sawmill machinery after it is removed from the sawmill plant. I believe we could find room for it in one of the other three buildings which still stand which house our surplus material.

I would like to have you advise me regarding the storage of the machinery or what other action to take.

Yours very truly,

A. A. Deegmann
Asst General Manager.

AAA-S.

P. S. - I am enclosing snapshots taken of the sawmill building shortly after the explosion.

aaa

[Aug 12, 1925]

Great Falls Tribune

Aug. 12, 1925.

Page 6

GLACIER SAW MILL DYNAMITED BY NATIONAL PARKS DIRECTOR

Mather Overrules Hotel Management, Claiming Old Building Detracts From Scenic Effect; Will Survey Yellowstone Area

Tribune's Glacier Park Bureau.

Glacier Park.—Himself lighting the fuse to the first of a battery of 13 charges of TNT, Stephen A. Mather, director of the national park service, Monday caused the destruction of an old sawmill building at the edge of McDermott lake, a mill which had been used in the preparation of material for the erection of the large hotel at Many Glaciers.

This action upon the part of the director was taken because of the failure of the hotel company to remove this and other buildings which Mr. Mather felt was spoiling the beauty of the park in the vicinity of the hotel. While crossing the park in company with his daughter, Miss Bertha F. Mather and her classmate, Miss Harriet Gilbert, of Harrisburg, Penn., and Major W. A. Welch, director of Pulasades Interstate park, New York, he advised this scheme of ridding the park of objectionable structures.

Calling to his aid Assistant Superintendent Brooks, of Glacier park, and Foreman King, with a force of men, the work of setting the powder was

explosives and fuses were obtained and commenced. Manager Binder, of the Many Glaciers hotel, appeared and made protest against any move for the destruction of the building, but Director Mather remained obstinate and in a short time the east side of the mill building was blown out. The men were ordered to tear down the balance of the structure Tuesday morning and Mr. Mather then decided to let the other building stand with the expectation that they will be removed by the hotel company without further action by the park service.

Mr. Mather, who came into the park last Friday night, remaining with his party at Belton, went out on the fire lines about the forest fire then raging near Apgar. On Saturday the party traveled by auto to the end of the present road leading up toward Logan pass from where they took saddle horses to the bureau of public roads camp on the New Logan Pass highway, where they remained over night. On Sunday they crossed the pass to Sun camp, then by boat to St. Mary, and on up to Many Glacier, coming into Glacier Park hotel in time for a late dinner Monday evening, which was made a birthday affair in celebration of the 10th birthday of Miss Mather.

They left Glacier park at midnight for Great Falls, where they will be met by Mr. Mather's automobile, recently brought there from Los Angeles, in which they will travel through to Yellowstone park Tuesday. In Yellowstone Wednesday will be commenced a tour of that park and several other parks of the west by the commission appointed by members of President Coolidge's cabinet to investigate the proposed extension of Yellowstone park, the Grand Canyon park, and the Rocky Mountain park and the proposed Cliff City park, near Santa Fe, which extensions must be made from national forest. This commission is composed of Dr. Henry Temple of Pennsylvania as chairman; Colonel Greeley of the forest service, Director Mather of the park service, Maj. W. A. Welch and Charles Sheldon of New York. This commission will also take up the subject of co-ordination between the forest and park service.

Director Mather stated that splendid work had been performed by the Great Northern railway in laying out the present highway in the park and in erecting hotels for the accommodation of the public, but that it had not observed his desires for the removal of unsightly buildings and this led to his rather spectacular action of Monday.

Speaking of the Logan Pass highway, now under construction, and for which about \$800,000 has been appropriated this year, in addition to \$35,000 being expended in the construction of a highway up Two Medicine river, Major Welch stated that this will make the greatest avenue of travel in the northwest.

"With the completion of the Logan Pass highway," said Director Mather, "we intend to have adequate hotel accommodations further along the line, either by the Great Northern interests or by others, if they do not care to participate. I expect that the future great hotel will be in the vicinity of St. Mary, with Chalets on top of Logan pass or under the lee of the pass to take care of the motorist who may desire accommodations or who may be caught out in a storm."

"The Logan Pass highway should be completed in two years, if congress shall provide the needed funds, and it should be ready for the traffic of the season of 1928. We have a splendid contractor on the west side, who has done excellent work on the Pacific roads and who is working under the direction of the bureau of public roads. To my notion this is the finest piece of work ever conducted by the bureau."

When asked if any further improvement work is under contemplation for Glacier park, Director Mather countered with the query, "Isn't this enough? We have got this big job started with money stripped from the other parks and I think that with the faith the appropriations committee of congress has in us we will be able to continue with the work."

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Calling to his aid Assistant Superintendent Brooks, of Glacier park, and Foreman King, with a force of men, the work of setting the powder was

explosives and fuses were obtained and commenced. Manager Binder, of the Many Glaciers hotel, appeared and made protest against any move for the destruction of the building, but Director Mather remained obstinate and in a short time the east side of the mill building was blown out. The men were ordered to tear down the balance of the structure Tuesday morning and Mr. Mather then decided to let the other building stand with the expectation that they will be removed by the hotel company without further action by the park service.

Mr. Mather, who came into the park last Friday night, remaining with his party at Belton, went out on the fire lines about the forest fire then raging near Apgar. On Saturday the party traveled by auto to the end of the present road leading up toward Logan pass from where they took saddle horses to the bureau of public roads camp on the New Logan Pass highway, where they remained over night. On Sunday they crossed the pass to Sun camp, then by boat to St. Mary, and on up to Many Glacier, coming into Glacier Park hotel in time for a late dinner Monday evening, which was made a birthday affair in celebration of the 19th birthday of Miss Mather.

They left Glacier park at midnight for Great Falls, where they will be met by Mr. Mather's automobile, recently brought there from Los Angeles, in which they will travel through to Yellowstone park Tuesday. In Yellowstone Wednesday will be commenced a tour of that park and several other parks of the west by the commission appointed by members of President Coolidge's cabinet to investigate the proposed extension of Yellowstone park, the Grand Canyon park, and the Rocky Mountain park and the proposed Cliff City park, near Santa Fe, which extensions must be made from national forest. This commission is composed of Dr. Henry Temple of Pennsylvania as chairman; Colonel Greeley of the forest service, Director Mather of the park service, Maj. W. A. Welch and Charles Sheldon of New York. This commission will also take up the subject of co-ordination between the forest and park service.

Director Mather stated that splendid work had been performed by the Great Northern railway in laying out the present highway in the park and in erecting hotels for the accommodation of the public, but that it had not observed his desires for the removal of unsightly buildings and this led to his rather spectacular action of Monday.

Speaking of the Logan Pass highway, now under construction, and for which about \$800,000 has been appropriated this year, in addition to \$35,000 being expended in the construction of a highway up Two Medicine river, Major Welch stated that this will make the greatest avenue of travel in the northwest.

"With the completion of the Logan Pass highway," said Director Mather, "we intend to have adequate hotel accommodations further along the line, either by the Great Northern interests or by others, if they do not care to participate. I expect that the future great hotel will be in the vicinity of St. Mary, with Chalets on top of Logan pass or under the lee of the pass to take care of the motorist who may desire accommodations or who may be caught out in a storm."

"The Logan Pass highway should be completed in two years, if congress shall provide the needed funds, and it should be ready for the traffic of the season of 1928. We have a splendid contractor on the west side, who has done excellent work on the Pacific roads and who is working under the direction of the bureau of public roads. To my notion this is the finest piece of work ever conducted by the bureau."

When asked if any further improvement work is under contemplation for Glacier park, Director Mather countered with the query, "Isn't this enough? We have got this big job started with money stripped from the other parks and I think that with the faith the appropriations committee of congress has in us we will be able to continue with the work."

FAST MESSAGE



BE BRIEF

St. Paul, Minn., August 12, 1925 9:00AM

W. P. Kenney

Care Car A-1

Train No. 3 out of here last night.

Noble wires from Park yesterday as follows. Quote. Yesterday August 10th without any warning as to what he was going to do Mather with rangers and men came from St. Mary going direct to Saw Mill site without stopping at Hotel and proceeded to wreck saw mill building with thirteen charges dynamite which partially wrecked the building. Today government men have completely dismantled the building. Some damage to machinery. full report by mail. End quote. B-6

C. H. Trembly

FAST MESSAGE



BE BRIEF

29-V R BR

ST PAUL 915AM AUG 12 1925

W P KENNEY

CARE CAR A-1 TRAIN NO 3 OUT ST PAUL LAST NIGHT

NOBLE WIRES FROM PARK YESTERDAY AS FOLLOWS. QUOTE YESTERDAY AUGUST 10TH WITHOUT ANY WARNING AS TO WHAT HE WAS GOING TO DO MATHER WITH RANGERS AND MEN CAME FROM ST MARY GOING DIRECT TO SAW MILL SITE WITHOUT STOPPING AT HOTEL AND PROCEEDED TO WRECK SAW MILL BUILDING WITH THIRTEEN CHARGES DYNAMITE WHICH PARTIALLY WRECKED THE BUILDING. TODAY GOVERNMENT MEN HAVE COMPLETELY DISMANTLED THE BUILDING. SOME DAMAGE TO MACHINERY, FULL REPORT BY MAIL. END QUOTE. B-SIX

C H TREMBLY 1040AM

FAST MESSAGE



BE BRIEF

113 WF RO SY

GLACIER PARK 345PM AUG 14 [1925]

C H TREMBLY

STPAUL

B-25. WISH YOU WOULD MAIL TO ME IN MAIL POUCH TONIGHT IF POSSIBLE
A-18.

W P KENNEY 448P

*Not received
Here with
CPM*

FAST MESSAGE



BE BRIEF

St. Paul, Minn., August 14, 1925 2:00PM

W. P. Kenney
Care Car A-1
Glacier Park, Montana.

Have long letter from Azmann, dated 12th, enclosing snap shots in regard to
Many Glacier saw mill. Assume Azman has seen you and will give you copy of
his letter. Will hold letter here in case you wish anything done with it.
here. B-25

C. H. Trembly

[Aug 12 1925]

Mrs. M. J. Lewis
St Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: This note up attached given out
by Mr. Mather. He informing me on
Aug 10th, that he would make a statement
to the press. This his effort
Yours truly
Chas. H. Reagan.



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