

NY Herald

[with 9-5-1925]

10 Aug 1925

# PARKS TO SUPPLY NEXT U.S. SCANDAL

## Senate Committee Makes Charges That Railroads Control Reserve

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—Charges that the national parks are being "Prussianized" and are badly administered by the interior department and its national park service feature a preliminary report of the senate subcommittee investigating the public domain.

This report deals with conditions in the Grand Canyon national park, said to be typical of the administration by the present government agencies of the 29 other national parks and monuments where 20-year exclusive concessions are the rule, allegedly resulting in exorbitant prices to the public, the harassing of private land and cattle owners, and big profits for the fortunate concessionaires.

### SENSATION PROMISED.

The senate subcommittee on public lands, acting under a broad resolution inquiring into the national forests, parks, mineral lands and Indian reservations, is promising sensational disclosures.

Charges, rumors and strong undercurrents of political strife surround the inquiry in its present early stages and Sen. Cameron (R., Ariz.) has gone to Swampscott to see Pres. Coolidge, supposedly on a mission to prevent Secretary of the Interior Work, Director Stephen Mather of the park service, and other officials from stifling the investigation.

### SPIE WORK HINTED.

Work, Mather and others whose official conduct is under fire deny they have tried to put the quietus on the inquiry and assert they welcome it. They retort that the charges of maladministration are inspired by spite and petty political motives.

become patrons of the Santa Fe, using its automobiles and hotels—rates being as high as \$35 a day—and otherwise paying money into that concessionaire's treasury.

### LOOK FOR PROFITS SHARED.

Though the contract Mather made with the Santa Fe in 1920 calls for a 4 per cent return to the government on the gross revenue derived by the railroad from the Grand Canyon national park, the committee charges Mather had failed to scrutinize or audit this. The committee reports itself unable so far to find out either from the interior department or from the railroad how much the profits are or how much is being returned to the government.

The committee has also brought out that the chief forest ranger, drawing a salary of about \$3,000, is T. Scoyen, who is a son-in-law of Assistant Secretary of Interior Finney, one of the chief witnesses in the oil scandal cases.

The preliminary report disclosed that testimony so far before the subcommittee criticizes the granting by Mather of a twenty year exclusive right to the Fred Harvey company, a subsidiary of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railway system, to operate hotels, tourist camps, stores, and all other services to the public visiting Grand Canyon and Arizona.

Sen. Cameron has been the aggressor in inquiring into this situation. A quarter of a century ago he and Buckey O'Neill, a famous character of those days, started a railroad to their mining concessions there and might have flourished had not the Santa Fe, which sold them used rails, foreclosed a mortgage and taken their road. Today the Santa Fe features the attractions of its trip to the Grand Canyon.

### FEW MOTOR TOURISTS.

Under the interior department's policy this road has been able to discourage traffic to this national park save that which it conveys itself, according to the subcommittee, and automobilists find it next to impossible to get there.

Road building has been prevented, tourist camps have been made unendurable, and the only way in which the visitors can enjoy the park is to

FAST MESSAGE



BE BRIEF

St. Paul, Minn., August 17, 1925 9:00AM

H. A. Noble, - Glacier Park, Montana.

Yours yesterday. Mailing copy this morning your letter September 13th  
1922 in regard to old saw mill. B-70

W. P. Kenney

DAY LETTER



BE BRIEF

30

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GLACIER PARK AUG 16 1925

W P KENNEY

ST PAUL

SEE YOUR LETTER SEPT 16TH 1922 WHICH REFERS TO MINE OF SEPT 13TH 1922  
WITH REFERENCE TO OLD SAW MILL. UNABLE TO LOCATE MY LETTER OF 13TH  
PLEASE SEND ME COPY

H A NOBLE

150PM

15-1A

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

RALPH BUDD,  
PRESIDENT

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

At Glacier Park, Montana.  
August 16th, 1925.

Dear Mr. Hill:

I came here yesterday from the West. It rained two days all over the line and everything is very fine as a result, - fires all out and air clear, snow pretty well down on the mountains but warming up here now.

The attached letter from Mr. Aszmann to Mr. Kenney and the newspaper clipping tells the story of Mather running amuck in the Park. I note he says he had the matter up with me and I am with him. That is pure bunk. I never even saw Stephen Mather or had a line from him about anything except the Stevens' monument location, which he turned down, and I had to handle direct with Work.

I expect to be here a week and then go back to Portland for the organization of a Regional Advisory Board on August 27th. Expect to make the trip from Many Glacier to Calgary, Banff, Windemere and Spokane.

Hope you are having good weather and that you all are well.

Yours very truly,

*Ralph Budd*

[8-19-25]

Memorandum dictated by Mr. Kenney for attached file.

In connection with the attached report and for the record, I might state that many people spoke about Director Mather on that date, - his apparent lack of control and his wild statements and the fact that after he had arrived at the entrance hotel, he seemed to want to talk about this to everybody and he spent several hours in explaining to anybody that would listen to him, including a half hour's conversation with the boot-black in the hotel, and many others, that the Great Northern was not running the Park; that he had taken this action because of Mr. Hill's talk with Superintendent Kraebel in June and that he was financially able to stand for his action.

Everybody that mentioned his talk on the subject, made the same expression that they thought he was out of his mind. Another indication of his mental condition is the fact that the day previous (I believe) he was coming down the road from Lewis' Hotel and he met 14 busses containing 158 eastern insurance men who were making a trip in the Park. He got out of his car and hollered to each driver to shut off and appeared very excited and made him stop and he took each bus in turn and delivered to them a lecture on the Park; told them his position in connection with Park matters and gave them a regular harangue, concluding with the statement that they might think the Great Northern and the Transportation Company were running the Park, but such was not the case and that he wanted them to understand, as he said, that "we are running the Park".



[8-19-1925]

-2-

I understand he sent a telegram to Secretary of the Interior Work telling him that he had told the Great Northern a year ago that day to remove this eye-sore, meaning the saw-mill, and that they had not complied and he had that day personally blown the building up with dynamite and that he was aided and abetted by Major Welch.

Director Mather's action in blowing up this saw-mill, differed in no way from I.W.W. methods except that so far as we know, Director Mather has no red card. There is no question but what he could get it if he called the attention of that organization to his work in this instance. It was the most high-handed, unwarranted and illogical thing that has probably ever occurred in any Park and committed by a Government Official, is particularly deplorable. The only charitable way to view it is that the serious illness of Mr. Mather has left his mind impaired because no sane man, filling the position occupied by Mr. Mather, would ever think of doing such a thing. This is the opinion of all the people whom he talked to and with whom I had any talk on the subject.

W. P. Kenney.

Glacier Park 8-19-25

GLACIER PARK HOTEL COMPANY.



Glacier Park, Mont. Aug. 24, 1925.

*West*

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

Dear Sir:

Please see my letter of August 12th with reference to the destruction of the old saw-mill at Many Glacier Hotel.

Upon my recent visit to Many Glacier I went over to the saw-mill and find that the National Park Service with their men have dismantled the building entirely and have piled up the salvaged lumber and have covered the planer and the edging machine with a canvass. The balance of the machinery such as the boiler and engine attached and the water pump are not protected.

I would like to have you advise as to what to do with the machinery.

Yours very truly,

*A. A. S.*  
Assistant General Manager.

AAA-S.

GLACIER PARK HOTEL COMPANY.



Glacier Park, Mont. Aug. 24, 1925. .

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

Dear Sir:

With further reference to my letter  
of August 12th regarding the destruction of the old saw-  
mill at Mary Glacier Hotel.

I am enclosing herewith copies of all the  
correspondence that I can find in our files that has refer-  
ence to the saw-mill buildings. I am unable to find  
that any direct request or demand was made upon the Hotel  
Company to remove the saw-mill, with the exception of letter  
written by J. R. Eakin, Superintendent, September 1st, 1922,  
copy of that letter is attached to the file.

This for your information.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. A. S.", written in dark ink.

Assistant General Manager.

AAA-S.  
encl.




15-1 A

St. Paul, Minnesota, August 25, 1925.

L. W. Hill, Esq.:

I am sending you herewith a copy of the  
Special Agent's report on the blowing up of the saw-  
mill at Many Glacier, which I think you will want to  
note.

Ralph Budd.



Encl.

l-m

On Line, S.P.& S. Ry., August 27, 1925

Mr. Louis W. Hill:

I do not know whether you have heard it or not, but Howard Noble has been compelled to undergo another operation and is critically ill. I understand the doctors have very little hope for his recovery.

Ralph Budd.

15-1c

CLUETT, PEABODY & CO., INC.  
ARROW COLLARS, SHIRTS, AND HANDKERCHIEFS  
GOTHAM ATHLETIC UNDERWEAR

500 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET  
CHICAGO

September 4, 1925

Mr. Louis W. Hill,  
Chairman of the Board,  
Great Northern Railroad,  
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Mr. Hill:

Mr. W. H. Williams, Chairman of the Board of the Denver & Rio Grand Western and the Missouri Pacific,- with whom I had the most cordial relations during two terms as Divisional Fuel Administrator in New York City,- was kind enough to write you concerning my trip which covered the Canadian Rockies, Alaska and the National Parks, and he sent to me your very kind letter assuring him that I would have every courtesy shown me on your road.

I wish to advise you that your assurance was fulfilled to the letter and that everywhere on the Great Northern I received nothing but the most kindly consideration and courtesy, and, I wish to express to you my very great appreciation of everything that you did to make my trip comfortable and enjoyable.

It may interest you to know that I am a member of the St. Anthony Club of New York and Boston, graduating from Williams in the Class of '93, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Class of '96.

I trust that some day I may have the pleasure of meeting you, and beg to remain,

Very cordially yours,

*Alfred E. Cluett*

Vice President.

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At Glacier Park  
Sept. 5, 1925

Mr. L. W. Hill:

You might have seen the attached clipping from the St. Paul  
"Daily News" of August 30th, but it brings out more strongly the  
fight against Mr. Mather and the National Park Service that is  
being waged by Senator Cameron, regarding which I wrote you today  
in another letter.

W. P. Kenney.



At Glacier Park  
Sept. 5, 1925

Mr. L. W. Hill:

The New York "Times" has been running a campaign against the National Park Service and through their work and that of Senator Cameron of Arizona, who has been against the Santa Fe and the Park Service for a long time, an investigation has been made and is now in process.

You will note the attached clipping from the New York "Herald" of Monday, August 10th, relating to the criticism of the National Park Service by this investigating committee from the Senate. You will note they are particularly after the Grand Canyon National Park and this is due, I am sure, to the activities of Senator Cameron. This also accounts for the next to the last paragraph about one railroad getting the bulk of the business. He has been trying to get the north rim of the Park developed to an extent that will invite the coming of the Union Pacific through their San Pedro Line in order to take away some of the business from the Santa Fe.

After what we noticed on our recent trip to Canada, I would not be surprised to see the Senate force a change in the method of the National Park system in connection with the concessions and privileges in the Park. I don't think they would hurt us any because if we did not have a monopoly of the hotel and camp privileges, they could not force us to construct additional facilities where we did not want them and as our primary object is to get passengers for the railroad, we would accomplish that purpose just as well through private initiative as though we invested our own money.

I think probably the net result of this will be that there will be a change in the method at present in vogue, which, on the whole, are not satisfactory to us and also in the personnel of the head of the Park System, which is also decidedly unsatisfactory. All in all, I think we will be benefited rather than hurt by any change in methods that is adopted as a result of this investigation.

W. P. Kenney.



[1925]

# \$1,700.00 REWARD

*For*

## JOSEPH and WILLIAM WHITEHEAD

Brothers disappeared Sunday, August 24, 1924, on the trail between Granite Park Chalets and the Lewis Hotel in Glacier National Park, Montana.



JOSEPH H. WHITEHEAD

Age, 29.

Height, 5 ft. 11 in.

Weight, 175 lbs.

Gray eyes.

Dark brown hair.

Ruddy complexion.

Wore glasses with dark rims.



WILLIAM A. WHITEHEAD

Age, 22.

Height, 5 ft. 11½ in

Weight, 155 lbs.

Brown eyes.

Dark brown hair.

Dark complexion.

Wore glasses with dark rims.

Both wore hiking clothes: gray knickers, gray wool shirts, high tan laced hiking shoes, soft felt hats. Carried light packs. Both wore sweaters: one gray, the other tan.

Sons of Mrs. Dora B. Whitehead, 3040 Warren Avenue, Chicago.

Notify: Charles J. Kraebel, Supt. Glacier National Park, Belton, Montana.



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