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To: Craig Evans
James Kern
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From: Glenn T. Seaborg

Subject: HIKANATION Route Through California

I am enclosing my latest description of the California portion of our Cross Country Hike. The chief modification is to re-route the San Francisco portion going up the Pacific coastline to Fort Mason the first day, thus adding an additional day to the hike. Mike McReynolds and I and others explored this first day route last Sunday.

Another feature of this revised itinerary is to include interesting portions of the hike for each of the four two-day weekends. Thus the days of rest which always come on Fridays are forced to conform with this, but I believe they always come at satisfactory places.

If you find this to be a satisfactory schedule, please let me know and I will begin the process of getting permission for the overnight camps at the numerous locations between San Francisco and Nevada.

Attachment

ROUTE ACROSS CALIFORNIA FOR CROSS COUNTRY HIKE

(HIKANATION)

Glenn T. Seaborg

Day 1 - Golden Gate Park (Polo Field) to Fort Mason [8 miles,
 300 foot altitude gain]

Saturday, Start at Polo Field (Golden Gate Park). Proceed along
April 12 bicycle path starting at southwest corner of the Polo
 Field to Kennedy Drive (toilets available here), left
 on Kennedy Drive to the Pacific Ocean (a distance of
 about 1/2 mile), along the beach about 1/4 mile to the
 Cliff House, along Point Lobos Avenue to El Camino Del
 Mar, left at El Camino Del Mar a few hundred yards to
 its end. Then proceed along old (abandoned) El Camino
 Del Mar (part of which is only a trail) to Land's End,
 up some stairs and on a trail passing by Harding Golf
 Course; then along El Camino Del Mar (on sidewalks)
 through Sea Cliff (residential area) about 1/2 mile,
 into the Presidio and immediately on a trail down to
 Baker Beach (toilets are available here). Proceed
 along Baker Beach about 1/4 mile, climb up the sand
 dunes to Lincoln Blvd., follow a path along Lincoln
 Blvd., pass through the entrance area of the Golden
 Gate Bridge on down to Fort Point. Continue along the
 Fort Point Access Road, then about 2 miles along the
 Golden Gate Promenade to the St. Francis Yacht Harbor.
 Go around to the right, proceeding along Marina Blvd.

Day 1 to Fort Mason, which has a grassy area suitable for
(cont.) overnight camping and nearby Fort buildings where
toilets and water should be available.

Day 2 - To Aquatic Park, Berkeley [12 miles, level]
Sunday, Continue through Fort Mason to the extension of Van
April 13 Ness Avenue, then along Beach Avenue and other parallel
streets past Ghiardelli Square and through Fisherman's
Wharf. Go along The Embarcadero past the many ship
piers and the Ferry Building to Harrison St., right on
Harrison St. to an entrance to the Bay Bridge (about 3
miles from Fort Mason), across the Bay Bridge, off the
Bay Bridge at Powell Street, along Christie Avenue, La
Coste St., Bay St., the Highway 80 Freeway entrance to
the Aquatic Park, past the Bird Rescue Center, along
the east edge of the water on a trail to a picnic area
[with drinking fountains and toilet] opposite Dwight
Way. This is about 9 miles from the entrance to the
Bay Bridge and about 12 miles from Fort Mason.

Day 3 To Tilden Park [7 miles, 1000 foot altitude gain]
Monday, Continue east on Dwight Way to Prospect St., then
April 14 on to the upper rim of Memorial Stadium (a distance of
about 3 miles). Alternatively, go east about 5 blocks
and walk the last 1/2 mile through the University of
California campus. Then proceed past Haas Clubhouse,
and continue on the University of California Trail (a
broad fire road) that goes close to the Space Sciences

Day 3
(cont.)

Laboratory, then go along Grizzly Peak Blvd. a short distance, enter Tilden Park (East Bay Regional Park District, EBRPD) on the Grizzly Peak Trail (which takes off to the left as you look toward Tilden Park along Golf Gate Road), proceed on this to its end, then on the trail down to Lake Anza and along the lakeshore to the left (west) to the beach and picnic area. This is a distance of about a mile from the Golf Gate entrance. Hence from the Aquatic Park, along Dwight Way (or through the University of California campus), the U.C. Trail and on to Lake Anza must be about 7 miles. At Lake Anza there are a drinking fountain, a snack bar, toilets, a pay phone, and Tilden Park Office. (Another alternative route is to leave the University of California Trail after about 2 miles, go right and then left on fire roads through University of California Open Space, enter Tilden Park at South Gate, follow the Vollmer Peak Trail and cross trails to Lake Anza.)

Day 4 -
Tuesday,
April 15

To Briones Park [12 miles, 1,500 foot altitude gain]
Hike up to Inspiration Point, then proceed on East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) land (permit required), on Inspiration Trail, down and across San Pablo Dam Road. Turn right on the Old San Pablo Dam Road and hike on this until you reach the Oursan Trail. Hike along the Oursan Trail, cross the bridge over San Pablo Creek, then along the other side of San

Day 4
(cont) Pablo Creek back (toward the left) on Oursan Trail, on to the junction with the Oursan-Bear Creek Trail. Here take the trail to the right (the Oursan-Bear Creek Trail), go along the spillway, continue on the Oursan-Bear Creek Trail along the right side of Briones Reservoir. Have lunch at a point with a view of Mt. Diablo across Briones Reservoir and of Inspiration Point in the opposite direction. Continue on Oursan-Bear Creek Trail to its end, leave EBMUD land, go on to Bear Creek Road and hike on this to the entrance of Briones Park (EBRPD), enter the Park and proceed to the nearby picnic area [drinking fountain and toilets].

Day 5 - To Walnut Creek Open Space [14 miles, 1,000 foot altitude gain]

Wednesday
April 16 Proceed on the Homestead Valley Trail and Russell Peak Trail to Lafayette Ridge, then the Lafayette Ridge Trail. At the east end of Lafayette Ridge (end of EBRPD land), hike across the Petar property (Kip Brown property) to the Ken Brown part of Briones (EBRPD), then on down to the corner of Pleasant Hill and Springhill Roads. Proceed north along Pleasant Hill Road to the Walnut Creek Acalanes Ridge Open Space, across Acalanes Ridge, then along Mokelumme Aqueduct to Larkey Park [drinking fountains and toilets]. Continue along the Contra Costa Canal, going through the Highway 680-24 underpass, crossing Walnut Creek, to Heather

Day 5
(cont.) Farms Park [a good place for lunch; drinking fountains, snack bar, pay phone, and toilets]. Continue generally along Ygnacio Canal (crossing Ygnacio Valley Road), climb a ridge, cross La Casa Via St., then proceed up Corvey Court past a housing development, then climb a hill to enter the toe of Shell Ridge. Cross some fields, pass through some fences, then enter Walnut Creek Shell Ridge Open Space. Proceed on the Hiking and Riding Trail to the far end of the Shell Ridge Open Space; then left down to Ranger Ron White's ranch.

Day 6 - To the top of Mount Diablo [10 miles, 2,500 foot altitude gain]

Thursday,
April 17 Continue across Diablo Foothills Regional Park (EBRPD), on the Hiking and Riding Trail, then continue on the Wall Ridge Fire Trail to Rock City in Mount Diablo State Park. Take the Summit Trail to Pioneer Camp (elevation about 2,800 feet, has water spigots) then on to the top (summit) of Mt. Diablo (elevation 3,850 feet). [Drinking fountain, toilets, snack bar, pay phone, here.]

Day 7 - Rest on top of Mount Diablo.
Friday,
April 18

Day 8 - To Black Diamond Park [12 miles, 1,000 foot altitude gain]

Saturday,
April 19 Hike down to Prospector's Gap on Devil's Elbow Trail, then on down to Big Spring. Continue on to the Middle Trail, then to the right on the Middle Trail, then Donner Trail to the Mt. Diablo Park Donner Canyon entrance (point of exit from Mount Diablo State Park), then continue on a trail easement and sidewalks to downtown Clayton [a good place for lunch in the central city park]. Hike three miles on Black Diamond Way, enter Black Diamond Park (EBRPD) over the gate and up the paved road past Jim's Place. Continue on Black Diamond Trail (a road), which, near the end, joins with the Nortonville Trail, past the Somersville Cemetery (could cut across to this) to the campground at old Somersville [water and toilets]. Continue on the Stewartville Trail, past (near the beginning) the archeological dig in Somersville. Continue on Stewartville Trail (a road), Miner's Trail (a narrow path, not well maintained) and again on Stewartville Trail to the intersection with Oil Canyon Trail to the overnight camp [with water and toilets scheduled to be installed before March].

Day 9 - To Brannan Island State Recreation Area [16 miles, 300 foot altitude gain]

Sunday,
April 20 Continue on Oil Canyon Trail (a road, previously paved), leaving Black Diamond Park, on to the entrance

Day 9 (presumably) of Contra Loma Park (EBRPD). Hike along
(cont.) the road to the official entrance (with its flag
andkiosk) of Contra Loma Park, then along the Bike Path
to the right around the Lake to the Contra Costa Canal
(leaving Contra Loma Park), then along this to Lone
Tree Way. The distance from the Stewartville-Oil
Canyon campground is about 3 miles. Continue through
Antioch along Sunset Lane to Tregallas Road, then right
along Tregallas Road to Hillcrest Ave., then left along
Hillcrest Ave. to Wilbur Avenue, then along Wilbur
Avenue to the Antioch (Nejedly) Bridge (about 5 miles).

Next walk up the steps, then walk across the
Antioch Bridge (about a mile and a half). Continue
along Highway 160 to Brannan Island State Recreation
Area (about 6 miles), then in about a mile to the Group
Camp Area [water, toilets, river swimming]. Here Group
Camp No. 4 is a good spot for an overnight stop.

Day 10 - To Ko-Ket Resort [15 miles, level]
Monday, From Brannan Island go out through a gate and proceed
April 21 east on Twitchell Island Road, then across the
Sevenmile Slough and right on Brannan Island Road.
Then left (north) on Jackson Slough Road and Terminous
Road to Isleton, then right on Highway 160 and Isleton
Road to Ko-Ket Resort (or neighboring Meader's Beach).

Day 11 - To Clarksburg Park [16 miles, level]
Tuesday, Continue on Isleton Road to Walnut Grove, then on River
April 22 Road through nearby Locke (an interesting historic

Day 11 Chinese town) and on to the bridge across the
(cont.) Sacramento River (just below Courtland) and on along
South River Road to Clarksburg Fishing Access [a public
park without water].

Day 12 - To Discovery Park, Sacramento [16 miles, level]
Wednesday, Proceed north on South River Road, passing Clarksburg
April 23 at 2.5 miles, then further north about 4 miles and
cross the bridge to Highway 160 (at Freeport). From
Freeport continue north along an abandoned railroad
track, passing Florin Avenue after another 3-1/4 miles,
Land Park [with its city zoo, water, toilets, etc.] at
another 3-1/2 miles. Continue along the railroad
tracks going on an overpass over Highway 50, along an
old paved road to the left of the railroad tracks for a
while then along the railroad tracks, under Highway 80,
past Old Sacramento (1/2 mile from our destination),
under Highway 16, up through an opening in the railing
and across Jibboom Street, along a levee road through
Tisconia Park (a narrow strip on the south side of the
Sacramento River at its confluence with the American
River). [Toilets available, no water, and neighboring
motels.] Walk on Jibboom Street bridge over the
American River into Discovery Park [drinking fountains,
toilets available, overnight camping requires
permission].

Day 13 -
Thursday,
April 24

To C. M. Goethe Park, Sacramento [14 miles, level]

Hike on the Jedediah Smith National Recreation Trail, a 9-foot wide paved bike trail paralleled about 90% of the way by a dirt hiking and horseback riding trail. The dirt trail has some up and down (never more than 5 or 10 feet) and offers many alternatives. The trail heads generally east, first along the right side of the Natomas East Main Drainage Canal, then across to the left side of the American River, which it joins at California Exposition Park. Proceed to the left of the narrow Campus Commons Golf Course (of Sacramento State University). [This is 7 miles from the start, and it has a drinking fountain and one toilet.] Then proceed along the left side of the American River to the Footbridge which crosses to Sacramento State University. This is about 8 miles from the starting point and by crossing the Footbridge this could be a stopping place (at Sacramento State) especially in inclement weather. Pass under Howe Street, at about 8-1/2 miles, where there are toilets. Continue to the Jedediah Smith picnic area, a little more than 9 miles from the start. [There is a drinking fountain here, no toilets.] Continue on to Watt Avenue, which is ten miles from the start.

Continue along the Jedediah Smith National Recreation Trail on the left (north) side of the American River (and assuming the Trail is extended beyond its present terminus at about 2 miles) about 4

Day 13 (cont)

miles to the Footbridge (to be constructed) opposite the end of Arden Way. Cross the Footbridge to the right (south) side of the American River to C.M. Goethe Park [green grass, water, toilets, car access].

Day 14 -

Rest at C. M. Goethe Park, Sacramento

Friday,

April 25

Day 15 -

To Negro Bar Park, Folsom [15 miles, 700 foot altitude gain]

Saturday,

April 26

Proceed up the right side of the American River about 2 miles, to Cordova Community Park [green grass, water, toilets, road access]. About four miles further (a total of 6 miles from C. M. Goethe Park) are two green grass areas [with water, toilets, access road] in Lower Sunset Recreation Area that are less than a mile apart. About a mile further is Sunset Boulevard. [The area below the bridge here has water and toilets.] Pass under Sunset Boulevard, continue about 3 miles (total of about 10 miles from C. M. Goethe Park) to the eastern terminus of the Jedediah Smith National Recreation Trail just short of the Folsom Lake Recreation Area. Just before this there are the Anadromous Fish Hatchery and the Nimbus Fish Hatchery which should have water and inside toilets, and have road access. At the eastern terminus of the Jedediah

Day 15 (cont.)

Smith National Recreation Trail (at Hazel Avenue), go left along Hazel Ave. across the American River. (Do not cross Hazel Avenue.) Then go down to the left and under Hazel Avenue, then up a trail to the Overlook. Here cross a paved parking lot, go through an entrance labelled Riding and Hiking Trail and start on this trail heading east and north. The trail becomes a gravelled road down near the edge of Lake Natoma. Continue on this about 3/4 of a mile. The best route is to head up the hill to the left on a trail. Continue on this trail, staying to the right (on a couple of occasions when a trail branches off to the left). The trail goes through woods, comes out at Main Avenue. Cross Main Avenue and continue east to the left of Main Avenue, across Sunset Avenue, further (about 1/4 mile) along Main Avenue (still to the left), cross Main Avenue at a bend and go up a bluff, pass Rolling Wood Bluff (a housing development) on the left, continue on the road with a chain link fence on the right (protection from the steep bluff above Lake Natoma), go on the trail down from the bluff, continue on through Negro Bar Park, which has a number of picnic areas with water and toilets. (Can follow a Nature Trail part of the way. See entrance kiosk to the park on the left). Near the end (bridge over Lake Natoma at Greenback Lane or Riley Street) there is an excellent picnic or camping area in Negro Bar Park [with drinking

Day 15 (cont.)

fountains, plumbed toilets, showers, and swimming beach].

The distance from Nimbus Dam Overlook is about 5 miles, no net elevation gain (trail parallels Lake Natoma) but there is about 700 feet of elevation gain and loss.

The alternate route, which is lower and nearer Lake Natoma, follows a gravel road which becomes a rocky road (follow under the electric wires) that ends at Mississippi Bar. The trail up from here to join the other trail goes over many piles of rocks (from Placer mining days) is difficult to follow, would require an expert guide.

Day 16 - To Rescue [13 miles, 1,200 foot altitude gain]
Sunday, From Negro Bar Park cross the bridge over Lake Natoma
April 27 (Greenback Lane or Riley Street), continue through Folsom on Riley Street to Natoma Street, continue on Natoma Street which soon becomes Green Valley Road, continue on Green Valley Road. At a distance of about 10 miles from Negro Bar Park camp ground there is Pleasant Grove House (a Pony Express Station in the town of Rescue). Continue on Green Valley Road another 3 miles to the Rescue Fire Station, next to the Post Office and across Green Valley Road from a country store. Next to the Fire Station is a picnic area, suitable for an overnight stop.

Day 17 - To City Park, Placerville [10 miles, 1500 foot altitude gain]

Monday,
April 28 Follow Green Valley Road to Placerville (elevation 1,860 feet). Green Valley Road runs into Placerville Drive. Go east on Placerville Drive, then go on Pierroz Road, Cold Springs Road, Middletown Road, Canal Street (across Highway 50), Main Street, Sacramento Street (Highway 49), Pacific Street, Benham Street to City Park. [Water available, rest rooms in Park Administration Building or Swimming Pool Building, barbecue facilities.]

Day 18 - To Mt. Danaher Ranger Station (California Dept. of Forestry), Camino [10 miles, 1,800 foot altitude]

Tuesday,
April 29 Follow Main Street to Broadway, then Broadway to Carson Road, go under Highway 50, and then follow Carson Road. Proceed on Carson Road past El Dorado National Forest Work Center (Placerville address on Carson Road) and Boa-Vista Picnic Area to the point where Carson Road is interrupted so automobile traffic must go a short distance on Highway 50. However, a hiker can follow the paved road by the Forest Ranger Station, on past the Camino Seventh Day Adventist Church to the continuation of Carson Road in Camino. This runs into Pony Express Trail Road. Continue beyond Camino on this to Mt. Danaher Ranger Station (10 miles from City Park in Placerville), go left into Mt. Danaher Ranger Station, (elevation about 3,400 feet) California Department of Forestry.

Day 19 - To Bridal Veil Picnic Area (near Riverton) [14 miles, 600 foot elevation gain, then 600 foot elevation loss]
Wednesday, Continue on Pony Express Trail Road to Pollock Pines
April 30 (elevation 3,980 feet), then go right onto Highway 50
and go east along Highway 50 to Bridal Veil Picnic Area
(elevation about 3,400 feet), entering the Picnic Area
via a road to left (north side) of Highway 50 about 6
miles from Pollock Pines (and about one mile before
bridge across the South Fork of the American River at
Ice House Road). The Picnic Area, about 1/3 mile in
from Highway 50, has water, toilets, barbecue
facilities, river swimming.

Day 20 - To Kyburz [12 miles, 1,500 foot altitude gain]
Thursday, Continue down Highway 50 about 1-1/4 miles to Riverton
May 1 (elevation 3,231 feet, Pony Express Station, nothing
here now), go over the bridge across the South Fork of
the American River. Start east up the road on the left
(north) side of Highway 50 at the junction with Ice
House Road. The beginning is a dirt trail, 8 feet
wide, soon with small pine and cedar trees growing in
the middle between the wheel ruts. After about 1/2
mile it becomes a 10-12 foot wide asphalt road for a
little more than a half mile. Then it becomes a dirt
trail again, soon overgrown with trees, then a narrow
trail paralleling close to Ice House Road. This passes
Cleveland Corral (an old water trough still there),
then after a couple hundred yards goes past (or

Day 20 (cont)

through) the El Dorado National Forest Recreation - Information Center [drinking fountain, toilets, day picnic area]. The trail beyond this becomes difficult to follow but is marked by numerous numbered wooden stakes (perhaps private property). At one point the trail goes up to, and follows Ice House Road about 50 yards before going down again. This rough trail crosses a stream (perhaps difficult to cross in April) then after 1/4 mile comes out on Webber Mill Road (at the end the trail becomes a road and is marked private property).

Alternatively, at the El Dorado National Forest Recreation-Information Center come up to Ice House Road, follow this 0.7 miles to Webber Mill Road. The distance on this Pony Express Trail from Riverton to Webber Mill Road is about 2.5 miles. Continue on Webber Mill Road 7.0 miles to Highway 50 (avoid 2 very rough roads to the right within a couple of miles from the start of Webber Mill Road), then 1.5 miles along Highway 50 to Kyburz [altitude 4,082 feet, Pony Express Stop, restaurant, garage, gasoline station, store, Post Office, motel].

Day 21 - Rest at Kyburz
Friday,
May 2

Day 22 - To Strawberry Lodge [10 miles, 2,000 foot altitude gain]
Saturday, Take Kyburz Drive to the left (across from the Kyburz
May 3 Motel), proceed on this on the north side of Highway 50
to about 100 yards before its end (it ends on Highway
50), then cut across to the left about 100 yards to
Kyburz Dump Road, proceed on this about 200 feet to the
Pony Express Trail (north of Highway 50) and continue
about 4.5 miles (an electric cable, often at the
surface of the ground, helps one follow the trail at
several places) to Wright's Lake Road, passing Fred's
Place (no visible evidence remains), coming out on
Wright's Lake Road about 0.5 miles above Highway 50.
(Could go down Wright's Lake Road about 200 yards, then
proceed east on an old road to the left; however, this
road rapidly turns into a dim trail which is difficult
to follow and has to come down to Highway 50 after
about 1.5 miles. This would be difficult to follow
without a knowledgeable guide, especially if there is
snow on the ground.) It is better to go down Wright's
Lake Road to Highway 50, then follow Highway 50 about
2-1/4 miles to highway marker 55.⁸⁹ (about 1/4 miles
beyond, i.e. east of, Pyramid Camp Ground). Starting
at marker 55.⁸⁹ on Highway 50 take Pony Express Trail
just north of Highway 50. The first 100 yards is swamp
area, then there is 1/3 mile of broken asphalt,
followed by dirt, then asphalt road. Proceed by a new
house, close to Highway 50 (marker 56.³⁴) then go
about 150 feet, cross a creek. Continue on a trail, go

Day 22 (cont.)

down to Highway 50 (marker 56⁵³) then almost immediately go back up the hill on a trail (avoid going back extreme left on a trail along a pipeline to 2 water tanks).

The trail continues through manzanita brush, becomes a road to be traversed for about 150 yards. About 50 yards from the end of the road go up (left) on a trail through manzanita brush (freshly cut to make the trail). Follow the yellow ribbon markers carefully. Enter an area of pine and cedar trees. Trail merges into remnant of an old road. Follow road back toward right about 50 yards then go left on trail (yellow markers help). Trail goes down near Highway 50. Continue on trail to Strawberry Lodge (elevation 5,800 feet) [Pony Express Station, lodge, store, garage.] This portion, from marker 55⁸⁹, is about 2-1/2 miles.

Alternatively it is possible to leave Highway 50 about 2/3 mile sooner (i.e., further west). Starting from Highway 50 at about 100 yards east of marker 55²⁴, go up left on an old asphalt road 125 yards. There take a trail left almost straight up to an old road overgrown with trees, follow this about 1/3 mile until it dead ends at a narrow road-trail, go down right on this to about a hundred yards before it runs into Highway 50, turn left here on an overgrown road about 1/4 mile, then turn right onto a trail (must be

Day 22 (cont.)

alert here -- there are some small branches of trees blocking the road -- the trail is reached by brushing between some small evergreen trees), go down this trail about 1/4 mile to Highway 50 (at marker 55⁸⁹). The total distance of this portion is about a mile.

Day 23 - To Echo Summit (Little Norway) [8 miles, 1,800 foot altitude gain]

Sunday, Proceed south of Highway 50 and the river. After
May 4 crossing to the south of the river on a bridge a few hundred yards east of Strawberry Lodge, hike on the Pony Express Trail about (old Highway 50) 1 mile, cross the South Fork of the American River at Slippery Ford (this is a crossing that may be difficult in May) with the remnants of the old stone house to the left. Veer to the right up past a house to a private road, follow the private road to Highway 50, then follow Highway 50 (there is a path outside the railing on the right side) a short distance (0.5 mile) to Camp Sacramento. Alternatively, proceed from Strawberry Lodge 2 miles along Highway 50 to Camp Sacramento. Continue 7 miles along Highway 50 to Echo Summit (elevation 7,382 feet). Could stop overnight at Little Norway (lodge, post office, store, elevation 7,300 feet), about 1 mile before Echo Summit. Alternatively, could continue down Hawley's Grade, used by the Pony Express, [about 1 mile] to the Alpine Campground (no toilets or water) at

Day 23 (cont.)

terminus of Hawley' Grade (2 miles from Little Norway) on South Upper Truckee Road in the southern part of Meyers (elevation 6,400 feet), or along Echo Lake Road, then old Highway 50 to KOA campground (open all year, 4 miles from Little Norway) in Meyers.

If there is not too much snow it is possible to largely avoid Highway 50 by going from Strawberry Lodge to Pow Wow, just 2 miles short of Little Norway, as follows. Proceed on the Pony Express Trail to the bend in the trail just above Slippery Ford. About 200 feet beyond the bend take a trail (to be marked by blue ribbons) up the hill to the Camp Sacramento-Lover's Leap Trail (probably need a guide for this portion). Then go left (east) on this Trail to Camp Sacramento (might go down a ski slope just before Camp Sacramento to avoid deeper snow in Camp Sacramento, which is shielded from the sun). Total distance to Camp Sacramento about 2 miles. If there is not too much snow, stay on the right (south) side of the South Fork of the American River by walking along a road about 1/4 mile, then cross Sayles Canyon Creek (could be difficult in May) to Sayles Canyon Tract. Alternatively, cross the River on the bridge at Camp Sacramento, proceed along Highway 50, then cross back over the river on a bridge to reach Sayles Canyon Tract. Continue on a road (old Pony Express Trail) about 1/4 mile, then a trail about 1/4 mile, a logging road about 1/2 mile to Bryan Creek Tract, then about

Day 23 (cont.)

1/2 mile on a road through Bryan Creek Tract, about 1/4 mile on a trail across old Sierra Sky Ranch (abandoned in 1968), past an old wooden platform that used to contain a snow avalanche gun, then about 1 mile on a road through Aspen Creek Tract, about 1/4 mile on a trail, about 1/2 mile on a road through the old Phillips ski area and Alder Creek Tract, then cross a bridge over the South Fork of the American River, and proceed about 100 yards along Highway 50 to Pow Wow (a total of about 4 miles from Camp Sacramento to Pow Wow). From here continue about 2 miles along Highway 50 giving a total of about 8 miles from Strawberry Lodge to Little Norway.

Day 24 - To Sorensen's Resort (or Kit Carson or Snow Shoe Springs Campground [12 miles, 1,500 foot altitude gain])

Monday, Starting at Little Norway, proceed about 100 yards
May 5 east, then go south and mainly east on the Pacific
Crest Trail (to the right of and near Highway 50, i.e., south of Highway 50) about 1 mile (or, alternatively, take the Pacific Crest Trail north of Highway 50 about 100 yards, then head east on the Hawley Grade trail and road, marked with blue, metallic diamonds on trees), then proceed down Hawley's Grade (starts on Marker 67⁰¹ off to the right of Highway 50 a hundred yards past the horse shoe bend) about 1 mile to South Upper Truckee Road (elevation 6,400 feet), then along this

Day 24 (cont.)

and Highway 89 (or parallel side roads) over Luther Pass (elevation 7,740 feet) to the junction with Highway 88 (in Toiyabe National Forest, a Forest Service Campground here, not available to the public), then left on Highway 88-89 about 1/2 mile to Sorensen's Resort (elevation 7000 feet, store, hot showers) or another 1/2 mile to Kit Carson Campground (toilets and water available) or Snow Shoe Springs Campground (toilets and water available).

If we start from the KOA campground in Meyers, proceed 14 miles along Highway 89, or parallel side roads, to Sorensen's Resort or one of the Campgrounds.

Day 25 - To Ace Hereford's Ranch [10 miles, 1,500 foot altitude loss]

Tuesday,
May 6 Proceed on Highway 88-89 to Woodfords (6 miles), then on Carson River Road to Ace Hereford's Ranch (elevation 5,500 feet). (Alternatively, from Woodfords, proceed south on Highway 89 through Markleeville and on over Monitor Pass (elevation 8,314 feet) to Highway 395, then north into Nevada. However, Monitor Pass is predicted to be closed due to snow in May.)

Look for roads and trails to head directly east to Highway 395 starting near Ace Hereford's Ranch, otherwise head north on Highway 88 into Nevada, then east through Centerville on Highway 56 to Gardnerville (about 12 miles from Ace Hereford's Ranch), then south on Highway 395.

SUMMARY

A total of about 265 miles in 22 hiking days (3 days of rest) for an average of 12 miles per day. A total of about 20,000 feet of altitude gain for an average of about 1,000 feet climb per day and about 750 feet downhill per day. Of the 265 miles about 115 miles (43%) are on trails (including an abandoned railroad track and very rough, nearly unused back road in the Sierras), about 90 miles on roads or highways, about 30 miles on levee or back roads, and about 30 miles on city streets.