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BAT CAVE by C. M. Senger

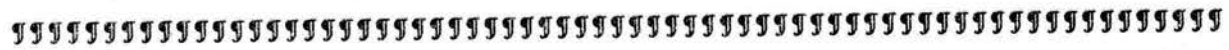
N.E. 1/4, Sec. 22, T. 36 N., R.3 E; Skagit County

This cave is about 3/4 mile NE (65°) of the community of Blanchard, Washington. It is apparently a block creep cavern on a cliff near the top of a rise. The cliff area barely can be distinguished in the trees when looking from the store at Blanchard. There appears to be no well-defined trail to the cave. There is a rather gentle slope from the road to near the foot of the cliff. This area is marshy and covered with logging debris, brush, and a stand of alder and related trees. It is crossed from NW to SE by a number of old logging roads which extend up the slope. One of these roads runs along the base of the ridge to the end and then turns north up the ridge and apparently ends at the top of a hump south of the main peak. The cave is less than 100 yards west of the end of this road. I have been told that there also is a sort of trail from a wide spot in Tobacco Road about 1/4 mile to the east. The shifted block is against the cliff and perhaps 15 feet below the top of the cliff at the north end and 30 or so feet from the cliff and much lower than the cliff at the south end. There are several small, deep pits at the north end which are separated by broken rock with some small openings here and there. A block or so south the cleft is filled loosely with larger fragments of rock in what appears to be a rather unstable formation. The opening to the "cave" is at the south end under some overhanging rocks. There is a drop of 10 feet from a rock which slopes downward to another sloping rock. There is then another drop of 6 feet or so to a fairly stable floor. One large rock at the first level slipped to the next level when we entered. There is another rock which appeared to be about ready to come loose and extra caution should be observed when entering.

The "cave" is a room perhaps 10 by 20 feet with some short side passages. There apparently was another entrance to the north which is now closed by recently-moved rock. This probably could be opened with little effort. There are some other passages and cavities in the surrounding area but all we examined were small and many had overhanging rocks which appeared to be rather unstable.

The face of the cliff above the area and the west face of the block itself appear to be solid, and no significant openings were seen in the talus material on the slope below the face of the block. However, we did not look south of the "cave", either above or below, and there might be something over a small ridge of rock in the cleft.

This trip was made by Edward Prentice, Robert Senger, and the writer on February 13, 1965.



ANOTHER TRIP TO SENGERS TALUS CAVE by Verne Frese

On the weekend of April 17th and 18th, a small group of Cave Pigs spent two days at Clyde Sengers Talus Caves. Bob Brown, Ted Lloyd, Dennis Frese, Jim Parent and I were met at the Oyster Bar by Mr and Mrs Colehour and Clyde and Bob Senger. Sunday morning Judy Williams and her brother Mark from Bellingham came up.

Bob and Ted slept in their tent on top of the cliff, judging from the way the wind blew during the night I, at least was glad that the rest of us decided to sleep down below. Luckily a large rock that formed the floor of a rock shelter happened to have the soft side up and made a comfortable mattress. (Note: You should always select a rock that has its soft side up to sleep on.) The weather was good except for a short rain shower Sunday afternoon, and all in all this was a very pleasant trip.

It seemed peculiar that every time I made the traverse from the Main Entrance to Lost Lamp Lake, I seemed to notice rooms and passages that looked unfamiliar, and sometimes prominent features such as the Spiral Staircase seemed to be missing. It wasn't till Ted Lloyd pointed it out that I realized that there are several alternateroutes that can be taken. One of these leads to a small room opening on Bob Brown Crevasse from which a rock can be dropped at least 40 feet into Lost Lamp Lake (a dropped rock landed in 2 seconds.)

I discovered an entrance that overlooked another lake only to have it pointed out that I was just looking down at Lost Lamp Lake from another point. But this is typical of the way I get confused.

I would appreciate receiving stories and rumors about these caves from people who know about them. Especially I would like more details about the Spanish gold that was hidden there in the early days. Also about the Great Train Robbery in which the robbers with their ill gotten loot made their getaway in that direction, and the bank robbery loot that was hidden in that area in the 1930's. After seeing the way we have opened up new rooms and passages, it is easy to believe that large amounts of loot could be hidden by closing off a room with rocks. In fact, there is one story of an extremely long tunnel that someone closed off because there seemed to be a danger of falling rocks, and Judy Williams says that the Main Room is quite different now than it used to be.

I tried to do some mapping and started at the Main Entrance. I mapped back about 150 feet, when I got lost. I decided that if I couldn't keep track of where I was, I certainly couldn't expect to get an accurate map. Also it is impossible to keep track of the different levels on one sheet of paper.

Sunday afternoon, the Colehours, Bob, Ted and I went around the west side of the mountain to the Lizard Lake Area but only had a little time to spend there and we still aren't quite sure which way is the best to go, even though two of us did return by the Lily Lake trail and thus went all the way around the mountain.

By the time we got back to the car, my 60lb. pack felt like a hundred lbs. and I was soaking wet but not from rain.

Safety

The recent tragedy of the death of Jim Mitchell, NSS member and officer of the Boston Grotto, in Schroeder's Pants Cave, New York, makes the following particularly timely. For, while the full details may never be known, it appears that Jim simply "froze to death," or, more accurately, died of exposure. The seriousness of the problem of exposure is shown not only by this accident, but by the concluding sentence of the safety and rescue chapter of the definitive text British Caving (London: RKP, rev. ed. 1962, p 544):

Eight years later a doctor [O.C. Lloyd] who has attended nearly every pothole accident in the Pennines has said in a recent lecture, 'Get the injured man out as quickly as possible with the least fuss. The niceties of first-aid can be carried out where it is warm, dry, and clean. Pothole victims die from exposure, only rarely from their injuries.'

EXPOSURE, A SERIOUS CAVING HAZARD

by Jack Knight

Recently, the Cave Research Group of Great Britain circulated to all its members a reprint of an article by Dr. O.C. Lloyd entitled "Cavers Dying of Cold," which discussed in detail two accidents in the Mendip Hills, England. The subject was discussed further by C. Ineson, in the Newsletter of the Cave Research Group, who compared this paper with one which appeared in The Climber entitled simply "Exposure."

From the spelunker's point of view, the most alarming observation made is the extremely short time for which the average person can survive when immersed in water of the temperature normally experienced in a cave. Since some time elapses before the condition of a person suffering from exposure gives rise to alarm, this means that treatment must be begun as soon as possible.

Briefly, the details of the two fatal accidents discussed are as follows:

1. A large party carrying diving equipment descended Swildon's Hole in the Mendip Hills. One of the party, an inexperienced caver acting as a porter, was inadequately dressed for such a trip into an active stream cave, and became cold and tired. Heavy rain caused the stream to rise, and the diving was abandoned. On the way out, he was not able to climb the 40 foot pit, down which a considerable amount of water was pouring, and by the time he had been hauled to the top through the cold water (temperature about 40°F) he was unconscious. He recovered consciousness at the top and was able to stand with support, though unable to converse. While being taken out of the cave he died suddenly, one and a half hours after his condition had first given rise to alarm.

2. A young woman on her first caving trip, also lightly dressed, descended Longwood Swallet with a college party. All were soaked very shortly, and turned back after one hour in the cave. By the time the 40 foot entrance pit

had been reached after a slow return--one member of the party had sprained his ankle--heavy rain was causing a large stream to pour down the shaft. After being soaked in an unsuccessful attempt to climb the ladder, she showed signs of exhaustion and the Mendip Cave Rescue Organisation was called out. When they arrived half an hour later she was found to be unconscious and fifteen minutes later she died, one hour after her condition had first caused concern.

Both articles mentioned at the beginning explain that the body has two characteristic temperatures, that of the skin--which can vary considerably--and that of the interior, which must be maintained between very close limits. It is depression of the internal temperature that causes the symptoms of exposure. Under cold conditions, the skin blood vessels close down, restricting the flow of blood and lowering heat losses. From then on heat is lost through the fatty layer of the subcutis, which is a poor conductor, to the skin. If the rate of cooling is not excessive, a heat balance which can last a long time can be achieved by means of shivering. This is the body's way of generating heat in the muscles by friction losses.

If the rate of cooling is severe, conditions are different. In Dachau concentration camp during the war, prisoners were dressed in flying clothes and immersed in water at varying temperatures for different lengths of time. As the body temperature decreased from its normal value of 98.5°F, the following effects were observed: At 93°, foaming at the mouth, slowing of the pulse, muscular rigidity. At 88°, clouding of consciousness, as shown by poor answering of questions. At 85°, heart becomes irregular and death occurs between 75° and 80°. (These are body temperatures, not bath temperatures, which were much lower.)

Dr. Lloyd also quotes results obtained from a study of shipwrecked sailors, and gives a graph showing survival time plotted against sea-water temperature. The curve is given roughly by the equation $H = 100 / (73 - T)$, where H is the survival time in hours and T the water temperature--for temperatures below 70°--in degrees Fahrenheit. This is only a rough curve, however, and gives maximum survival time for people of a high degree of fitness. For the average person the survival time may be considerably less than this. Water flowing into a cave in the winter will be at about 40-45°, and to get soaked to the skin and then have to remain still for prolonged periods can be extremely dangerous.

Symptoms which may indicate that a caver is suffering from exposure include: Unreasonable behaviour, tiredness, complaints of cold, numbness, falling, failure of or abnormality in vision, slurred speech, sudden shivering fits, unexpected bursts of energy, and violent language. Also noticed may be cramp, pale colour, and fainting.

With regard to treatment, the subject's body temperature must be brought back to normal as soon as possible. Slow warming without providing a great deal of insulation is not only useless but may be dangerous. The reason for this is that the body temperature continues to drop for a further ten to fifteen minutes after treatment has been started. This is because the skin blood vessels open up and the central blood supply is suddenly cooled by the skin, which can cause the temperature to drop to dangerous levels. This accounts for the deaths which have occurred in subjects shortly after rescue. Rubbing with a towel is no use unless the skin has already been warmed, and alcohol is worse than useless

(EXPOSURE: continued from page 37)

because it dilates the skin blood vessels and causes further heat losses. If the body temperature is below 89°, the only effective treatment is rapid immersion of the subject in a hot bath at 113-130° if fully clothed or about 113° stripped.

The best cure of all is prevention: Have an adequate meal before a wet caving trip, and plenty of food during the trip. If you expect to get wet, wear enough clothing to retain body warmth. Wool is better than cotton, and retains heat longer if close-fitting than if loose. Wear any waterproof clothing you can get--even if water leaks in, it will soon warm up to body temperature and you will not change it for a fresh lot of cold water each time you wade through a pool. For a long trip in wet conditions, a wet suit such as those used by SCUBA divers is the best bet. If wet through, try to remain active, and most important: if you notice any of the above mentioned symptoms in yourself or in any member of your party, GET THE *J/ \$? ! ¢ @ - & + # § = † % OUT OF THERE.

(Reprinted from THE WINDY CITY SPELEONEWS, Vol. V, No.2 April, 1965)

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AND IN THE NORTHWEST by W. R. Halliday

Well, for one thing our caves are colder than Tennessee - or New York. And sometimes wetter.

Frankly, our eager cavers have been close to this point in the Snoqualmie caves on more than one occasion.

Let's consider Hellhole, Danger, Newton and Lookout Caves out of bounds except in optimum weather. Or except in immersion suits, of one kind or another. Cascade Cave? Too early to tell. Let's not find out the hard way.

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OREGON GROTTO NEWS by Steve Knutson

The Oregon Grotto is going great guns - about 30 members at last count, and good participation at meetings, even from some out-of-towners. The energy of the grotto administration is being spent on educational programs for the members; climbing, rope handling, safety, first-aid, etc., but, no regular newsletter for a while, anyway.

If you're still interested in dirt caves, there is one nice(?)(!!) one in loess (ash deposit from Crater Lake-Mount Mazama eruption) on the south side of the North Umpqua Highway (highway cut) a mile or two east of Eagle Rock campground. It is in the first high cut (going east) which exposes the loess deposit, and is about 30 feet above the road level. Entrance is 10 feet high and 15 feet wide; goes in for 25 feet that size, tapering slightly.

continued

OREGON GROTTO NEWS (continued)

At that point 3 branches, all leading generally stright into the cut, each is 3 feet in diameter, evolve from the entrance passage. One is at stream level and the largest stream issues from it. The stream has cut channels in the cave floor and the material washed out forms a sort of quicksand (soft). The stream is not really very large.

The cave looks rather dangerous and probably won't last long.

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correspondence

from Clyde Senger, Bellingham, April 30th

As is usually the case, we were short of time when we stopped at the Mt. St. Helens area last weekend. We drove down the logging road in Sec. 20 but it became too muddy for the car about 1/4 mile beyond the sharp turn at the south. It looked like a truck had almost gotten stuck in several places recently. By the time we reached the power lines it was so late we decided to do a little looking on the flow rather than try to find Bat Cave. I don't know whether or not you have bothered to record the small surface openings, but we found three. Two were near a large mound of upthrust material just north of the power lines, and the third was about 100 yards beyond to the northwest. They were complex and had low ceilings for the most part. I looked over 100 to 150 feet of passage, one of which was quite complex with a room with two openings between two tubes and a place in one tube where I could stand up. There was another passage I did not explore which seemed to be the direction from which the lava originated. The other openings appeared to be similar and perhaps smaller but were not checked. That lava is hard on the hands, knees, and back! No bats there, but we did see some Myotis in the lower part of Ape Cave about 10:30 P.M. Ther were too high to reach.

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NOTES FROM THE APRIL MEETING OF THE CASCADE GROTTO

Luurt Niewenhuis, Field Trip Chairman for the grotto, who recently had a bad accident, is recovering at Group Health Hospital and expects to be out of the hospital very shortly. Acting as Field Trip Chairman in Luurt's absence will be DON DILLELY. Current field trip information can be obtained from Don at PProspect 6-9615, (when he isn't out crawling in a cave himself).

The job of assisting the Secretary-Treasurer has been assigned to Jerry Frahm. He will be ready, willing, and able to take grotto dues from anybody, and see that the funds are delivered to Ed Tupper, our regular Sec.-Tres., who is not able to attend meetings as often as he would like.

The idea of a grotto field trip to the Okanogan Cave area was talked about, and a trip will probably be made durring May. Details will be discused at the May meeting.

The Seattle Times

FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1965.

FROM RUSSIA WITH CHECK:

Seattle Doctor Receives Royalties for His Book

A Seattle surgeon and cave explorer is one of the few American authors to receive royalties from Russia for one of his books.

The unexpected royalty check came last month to Dr. William R. Halliday, chest-and-heart surgeon and for 20 years an expert in speleology, or cave exploration.

In 1959 the tall, bespectacled surgeon had published "Adventure Is Underground," a book on exploration of Western caves.

IT IS this book the Russians translated into a paperback edition, of which 65,000 copies were printed in Moscow in 1963.

"Somebody at the American embassy in Moscow spotted it (translated version) about 18 months ago and gave it to my publisher, who sent it to me with a chuckle," Dr. Halliday said.

Dr. Halliday explained that the Russians do not recognize the international copyright agreement. He said the State Department had records of only three other American authors—including John Steinbeck and Irving Stone—of ever having received royalties from the Russians.

THE DOCTOR told former Congressman K. W. Stinson, who began negotiations through the Russian embassy and the State Department.

"So out of the clear blue sky I got the royalty check," the cave explorer said.

The check came in dollars, unlike other checks made out in rubles to be spent only in Russia, the doctor said.

The 38-year-old cave au-



DR. WILLIAM R. HALLIDAY WITH HIS BOOK AND RUSSIAN COPY

thority said the Russian-department experts at the University of Washington have found the Russian version to be a close rendering of the original, except for a long introduction.

"THE introduction noted that one of the reasons they chose to translate my book was because cave exploration is a 'collectivist' activity," Dr. Halliday said.

"Actually, cave enthusiasts are about the most individualistic persons there are," the surgeon said.

Dr. Halliday has another book, tentatively titled "Depths of the Earth," due

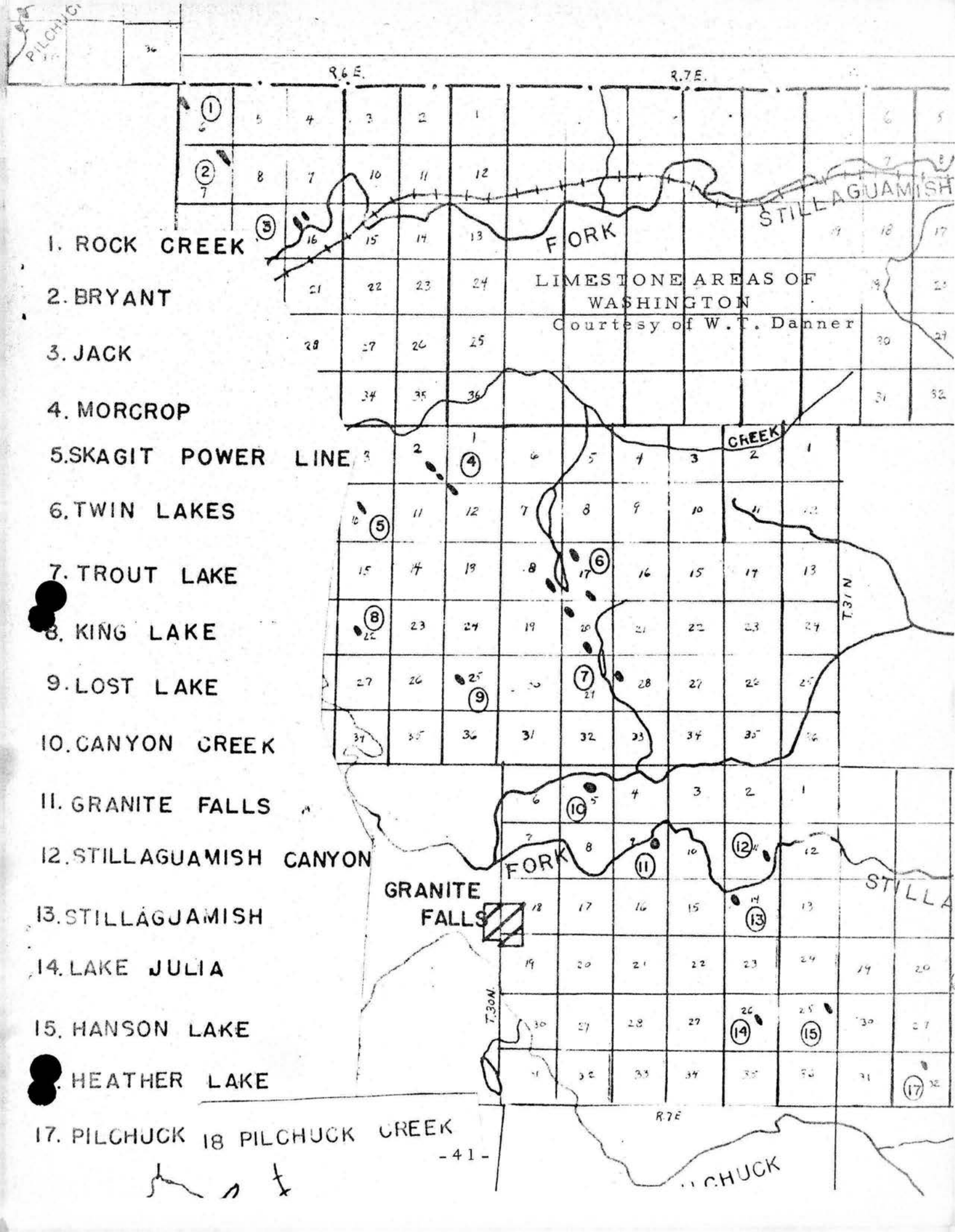
for publication this year.

Mrs. Halliday, a former nurse, is the co-author of a career book for teen-agers on nursing.

"I don't think the Russians would be interested in translating that because their system of vocational education is different," Dr. Halliday said. "But she has a baby-sitting book in mind and the Russians might be interested in it."

Dr. Halliday added, "Hundreds of American authors are pirated every year by Russia."

The doctor-author does not know if there will be more royalty checks.



- 1. ROCK CREEK
- 2. BRYANT
- 3. JACK
- 4. MORCROP
- 5. SKAGIT POWER LINE
- 6. TWIN LAKES
- 7. TROUT LAKE
- 8. KING LAKE
- 9. LOST LAKE
- 10. CANYON CREEK
- 11. GRANITE FALLS
- 12. STILLAGUAMISH CANYON
- 13. STILLAGUAMISH
- 14. LAKE JULIA
- 15. HANSON LAKE
- 16. HEATHER LAKE
- 17. PILCHUCK 18 PILCHUCK CREEK

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1117-36th Avenue East
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