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August 2024

## 1946 Inquiries Into the Health of Tyndall and Andrews Glaciers

David H. Canfield

Charles Little

*Reporter for the Denver Post*

Francois E. Matthes

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October 24, 1946.

Mr. Charles O. Little,  
Reporter, The Denver Post,  
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Little:

This will acknowledge your letter of October 15 concerning glacier measurements.

Tyndall and Andrews Glaciers have been measured annually, except for two years, since 1932, and there has been marked net recession.

I have delayed writing until this time in the hope that the report on the September 1946 measurements would be completed, but other work has kept the park naturalist from preparing the detailed report, and it may be another week before it is ready. It is suggested that you may wish to await completion of the formal detailed report. If so, a copy can be sent to you for your use, to be returned when it has served its usefulness.

Yours very truly,

*David H. Canfield*

David H. Canfield,  
Superintendent.

HRG:MB

*HCS*

*Sum*

So the People may Know

# THE DENVER POST

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR.  
THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE PEOPLE.  
THE WANT AD MEDIUM OF THE WEST.

THE DENVER POST  
Including Sunday  
25¢ A WEEK



*Denver, Colo.*

1	SUBSTANTIVE	October 15, 1946
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2	NATURALIST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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David H. Canfield, superintendent,  
Rocky Mountain National Park.

Dear Mr. Canfield,

I am writing to see if you could inform me on a matter that interests me. A number of years ago one of the Denver newspapers carried an article to the effect that glaciers in the Rocky Mountain national park were diminishing in size as indicated by yearly measurements taken - I think it was of the Andrews and Tyndall glaciers.

I was wondering if these measurements are still taken, and what results or conclusions are drawn, if of any significance. Perhaps there is someone around here who would be able to tell me about it, and if so, I would much appreciate the lead.

With many thanks for your attention,

Sincerely,

*Charles O. Little*

Charles Little  
reporter, Denver Post.

**It Is Imperative that you address all communications to The Denver Post, and Not to individuals.**

COPY



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

SUPERINTENDENT	JRC 1/21
ASST. SUPT.	Jan 1/21/46
CHIEF CLERK	
CHIEF RANGER	
2 NATURALIST	1/21 HCC
ENGINEER	
SHOP	
FOREMAN, C.A.	
COMMISSIONER	
3	January 16, 1946

732-0611

Mr. Ned J. Burns,  
Chief, Museum Division,  
National Park Service,  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Burns:

Thank you for transmitting to me a copy of the 1945-report on glacier measurements in Rocky Mountain National Park, by Park Naturalist Russell K. Grater and Acting Regional Naturalist Natt N. Dodge.

The Andrews and Tyndall glaciers are among the smallest glaciers in the continental United States, and it is a matter of considerable interest to me to know the latest about their "state of health." It is very worth while to continue annual observations on them.

It appears from this report that both glacierets have grown a bit since last year, chiefly as the result of increased snowfall. This is encouraging and also surprising, as nearly all the other glaciers on our western mountains continue to recede, even in spite of generous snow supply.

May I say, on behalf of the Committee on Glaciers, that we appreciate the care and good judgment with which the measurements on the Andrews and Tyndall glaciers were done. The statistics on snowfall and temperature, and the appended graphs add greatly to the scientific value of the report.

With very best wishes for a happy and not too hectic year of 1946, I remain

Sincerely yours,

/s/ FRANCOIS E. MATTHES

Chairman, Committee on Glaciers

cc: Mr. Grater.

Address: U. S. Geological  
Survey, Washington 25, D.C.

Supt., Rocky Mt. N.P. ✓  
Natt Dodge, Region Three.