

Mt. Hood Skiers Start Out Young

(Cover Picture)

By E. A. Rostell

Up in the Mt. Hood area youngsters may not be born with skis, but they do start learning how to use the lightning boards at tender ages. This young fellow is hardly five years old and he may know more about the sport than many people five times his years.

Some times this particular young skier tires even at his early age and presses into service one of the Timberline St. Bernards for an uphill pull. However, it seems that the dog-power tow causes him more spills than when he is gliding down the slopes, photographer Ted Rosin reported.

Less than 20 years ago snow sports enthusiasts were few and far between and just now and then some one would know the difference between a sitzmark and a gelandesprung. Now skiing and kindred sports are sweeping the nation. Young America has taken to skis and that goes for many oldsters, too.

More than 300,000 snow sports followers visited the Mt. Hood area—at Timberline and Government Camp alone. At least 15 snow playgrounds were available during the past winter in national forests throughout the state, plus Crater Lake national park in southern Oregon.

Oregon's snow sports have been in the national eye for a number of years but never so much as during the past winter when national magazines, newspapers and trade journals featured Mt. Hood's Timberline and other areas. Even staid encyclopedias have made requests for Oregon skiing pictures to illustrate their tomes.

Just like the automobile and the airplane, skiing is here to stay!

Always speak well of your enemies, remember you made them.

Volcanic activity of long ago bequeathed Oregon a number of snow-capped mountain peaks, led by Mt. Hood near the Columbia river gorge. It towers into the heavens for 11,245 feet, closely followed by Mt. Jefferson, the Three Sisters, Mt. McLaughlin and others. Modern trails make ascents to the summit of Mt. Hood popular during the summer vacation season, the Oregon state highway commission travel information department reports.

Oregon Highlights

The staff is indebted to the public press releases of the Travel Information Department, Oregon State Highway Commission, for the following interesting briefs on some of Oregon's scenic attractions and historic background.

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One of the first governors of the Oregon territory would have been Abraham Lincoln had he accepted that appointment in 1848 from the president of the United States. Territorial establishment came in 1848, the centennial of which is being observed in Oregon this year, with celebrations and ceremonies scheduled for different parts of the state.

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Oregon has the shortest river in the world; only 400 feet long. Territorial centennial year visitors can see this unique stream along the northern Oregon coast highway near Oceanlake. Incidentally, it also has the shortest name. The D river flows from Devil's Lake into the Pacific ocean.

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When pioneers came to the Oregon territory a century ago, it was covered with the greatest abundance of forests in the nation. This territorial centennial year finds Oregon with still about one-fourth of the merchantable timber in the nation, which it led last year with a harvest of more than six billion board feet.