

Let's Go Camping--- This Summer

By **MARCIA HILL**
State Library

It's fun to plan a vacation, especially when the landscape is soggy with rain and the days are dark. The whole family can join in spreading out the maps, reading the brightly colored folders and checking equipment. If it is to be a camping trip to a forest area Mother wants a quiet spot where housekeeping in a tent will be possible. Dad and the boys need a fishing stream or lake. Sister asks for trees, flowers, hiking trails and picture taking possibilities. She intends to catch up on some of her Girl Scout projects.

Recreational facilities to meet a variety of requirements can be found in almost any one of the improved forest camps of Oregon. The only expense involved is transportation and simple camping equipment. Food is considered a routine part of the budget since the family always has to eat. Dad boasts he will keep the camp supplied with fresh fish but with the memory of other outings in mind Mother plans an ample supply of groceries—just in case the fish aren't biting.

Pamphlets Are Helpful

From the U. S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (P.O. Box 4137, Portland, Oregon) Dad secures a free copy of a 29-page pamphlet "Improved Forest Camps of the National Forests of Oregon, 1949," and from the neighborhood gas station a recent map of Oregon. As the family study the pamphlet they find that camp sites in each national forest are named and described in detail. Included is information about the number of camp sites or trailer spaces, fireplaces, stoves, tables, water supplies and the recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, boating, swimming and sometimes horseback riding. The editor of "Improved Forest Camps" wrote with imagination for he adds tempting asides like "berries," "sunshine," "view" and "picknicking." The big question is which camp will it be,

near the ocean, in the Cascades, or Eastern and Southern Oregon? Sister will write to the Chamber of Commerce of the nearest large town for a booklet about what to do and see in the chosen area.

There are other sources for pamphlets helpful in planning a vacation as Big Brother found when he wrote to the Travel Division of the Oregon State Highway Department, Salem, Oregon. Besides a map of Oregon the travel division can furnish a bright folder on vacation spots and soon there will be a new pamphlet about the Oregon State Parks. Overnight camping is not now permitted in the State Parks, but they furnish fine picnic spots as one travels. The Oregon State Game Commission (P.O. Box 4136, Portland, Oregon) has a monthly publication available free of charge upon written request which keeps the sportsmen informed as to the operations and activities of the commission. This is also a source for the latest in game and angling laws.

Public Library Information Source

Little Brother, who visits the Public Library often, wants to make a contribution to the family plans so he asked the librarian for a book "all about camping." He brings home "Camping Can Be Fun" by R. W. Weaver and A. E. Merrill, (Harper 1948, \$3.00). It proves to be both humorous and helpful. There are instructions for every situation and emergency—even the possibility that one can get lost and may need to remember the contents of the chapter, "Advice for Stray Lambs." The librarian also suggested "Jack-knife Cookery" by J. A. Wilder (Dutton 1929, \$2.00), with its tested recipes, advice on fire building, camp equipment and first aid. Little Brother was fascinated by Duncan Hines "Vacation Guide" (Duncan Hines 1949, \$1.75) with its terse paragraphs about many resorts in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.