

# Out-of-Door Attractions of the Bend Country

Central Oregon is not only a land of many acres and much timber and waterpower, but also of many things worth seeing and places worth visiting.

Tourists, health-seekers, autoists and sportsmen are just beginning to realize this and take advantage of the big new playground that the interior offers them. The improved roads and the better railroad service are adding much to the possibilities of enjoyment in these directions. Now, for instance, fishermen and others may leave Portland Friday night, enjoy a full two days of climatic change and out-of-doors recreation at Bend, and be back in Portland Monday morning in time for work.

## Railroad Trip Notable.

In the first place, the trip into Bend, Central Oregon's railroad terminal and natural key, is an experience to be remembered.

The initial stage of the journey, along the banks of the Columbia river, takes the traveler through the heart of what is considered the finest river scenery in America.

Then the Bend train branches off from the Columbia and proceeds almost due south up the turbulent Deschutes. The first 100 miles of this journey is through a remarkable canyon, which has been called the "Grand Canyon of the Northwest."

The two railroads wind along its bottom, close beside the river, which is practically one continuous boiling cascade; hills a thousand and two thousand feet high rise precipitously on either hand, often weirdly stained with bright clay colors, and always imposing beyond belief. After the tracks climb out from the canyon there follows a stretch of some 60 miles of wheat land plains, which lie on either hand, while the western sky line is broken by the beautiful peaks of the Cascades. Then the "dry farmed" plains give way to irrigated lands, and finally, just as the beginning of the timber belt is encountered, and the river is again in sight, Bend is reached.

As Bend is the usual introduction for strangers to Central Oregon, the readiest way to describe the interior is to outline what Bend is like, from a scenic standpoint—elsewhere in this issue the town's other claims to attention are dwelt upon.

## "Bend, the Beautiful."

The town has been called "Bend the Beautiful," and deservedly so. Bend lies directly on the east banks of the Deschutes, flanked by a broad pond that is backed up by a dam whose conserved waterpower supplies the electricity for the town. Below the dam, the river rushes away in a series of cascades, rapids and falls that continue practically all the way to the Columbia, chiefly through steep walled canyon. A second dam has been erected about a mile below Bend, creating another lake, making a stretch of still water extending nearly to the town.

Across the Deschutes, and generously scattered through the residential districts, are towering pine trees whose beauties have made Bend famous, just as the commercial value of their hundreds of thousands of brothers, all about the town, will add so much in the making of the city.

From the river a great timbered area billows westward to the foothills of the Cascades, which in turn rise to the summit of the range, where a score of always-snowcapped peaks form a picturesque sky line.

## Grand View From Pilot Butte.

Just east of Bend rises Pilot Butte, the eccentric landmark which guided the early immigrants to the river fording place at "The Bend," as they trailed across the "waterless reaches of the eastern sagebrush country. The butte is a conical hill that stands in the middle of the plain, less than two miles from the river. Its altitude above the lands from which it rises is 520 feet, giving it an elevation above sea level of 4120 feet. The altitude at Bend is 3600 feet.

As an observation point there is no better place to get an idea of the country. Eastward stretch the irrigated lands, a great plain, formerly dusty gray-brown, dotted only by sagebrush, juniper trees and occasional cattle, but now a checkerboard of green fields, outlined with roads and broken up by the homes of farmers. Northward, too, extends the irrigated land. To the west is the timber and the mountains, and south, as far as the eye can reach, is timber—miles and miles of pine trees, beautiful to look upon, and immeasurably valuable. That timber belt—the finest body of yellow pine in America—goes southward all the way to California.

"Why, it's just like a park," is the surprised exclamation of every newcomer and especially those who are accustomed to the tangled undergrowth of the western Oregon timber lands.

There is no undergrowth at all in the Central Oregon pine—nothing but an extraordinarily beautiful carpet

of needles and bunchgrass, a nature-made rug of tans and golden brown, that always seems just to have been swept clean, so immaculate is it. The trees grow well apart, so that everywhere it is possible to drive a team or auto through them. The pines themselves are magnificent; their trunks straight, massive and copper colored, with olive green foliage overhead.

Elsewhere in this paper Mr. McKay has told somewhat of the attractions for sportsmen surrounding Bend, and Dr. Coe has described the advantages to be found here for the health-seekers. Suffice to add, then, a few words concerning some of the places in Central Oregon that are worth a tourist's attention.

Few people realize that in Oregon exists what is said by scientists to be the most recent lava flow in the United States. A miniature volcano, with perfect crater and a weird lava field surrounding it, is one of the truly unique points of interest, some 10 miles from Bend.

Lava Butte is the extinct volcano. It is a cone of cinders, rising perhaps 500 feet at an extremely steep angle, the south side absolutely bare and the north covered by pine trees, while in the crater are other trees, hidden unless the sight-seeker climbs to its lofty rim and looks down upon them.

The lava fields cover an area approximately three by five miles in extent. The Deschutes river flows along the western edge of the fields, and in more than one place great streams of water vanish into subterranean passages below the curiously towared rocks. Extensive caves are also found in the adjacent district.

## The Mountains.

Few countries have the good fortune to combine mountain scenery, and mountaineering trips, with the other outdoor assets that the Deschutes region offers. Yet from Bend in comparatively easy reach those who like to spend summer holidays with a pack horse browsing about the little-visited places of the highlands and following the trails that wind in and out about the peaks and lakes and upland meadows of the Cascades, can reach a territory that is a veritable paradise.

Some 20 miles west of Bend the forest reserve begins. A few miles farther, and the actual mountains are encountered. The range that may be traveled from here extends practically from the Columbia river to California.

There are splendid trails, used by the forest rangers; everywhere there is ample water; horse feed is easy to procure, and points at which to replenish the all-important commissary end of the outfit are many and convenient to reach. From Bend, La Pine, Sisters, Laidlaw and other places it is easy to outfit with horses and provisions, while guides can always be had. The expense of this kind of a holiday is extremely light, as compared with similar excursions in districts where money-spending tourists have "civilized" things.

The upper stretches of the Deschutes is a land for vacationists. From Bend to Crane Prairie the river covers perhaps 120 miles; all that distance, excepting some miles occupied by ranchers, is ideal for campers. Crane Prairie itself is one of the most noted camping places in the state. It is reached by excellent roads, some 50 miles from Bend.

The mountaineer has many peaks to climb, all of them snowcapped. In 1911 the famous Mazama Mountaineering Club of Portland made the ascent of "The Sisters," about 30 miles from Bend. "Snoo," "Zutte," "Squaw Mountain" and Mt. Jefferson are splendid peaks. Mt. Hood although more than 175 miles distant is often visible from Bend, and Mt. Adams, far away in Washington, can be occasionally seen.

Crater Lake is renowned throughout the country for its beauties. It can be reached by auto, or by following the mountain trails, or taking the more rapid method of transportation than one's feet provide, and less rapid than autos—for few trips are finer than to loaf along the mountain roads with a plain "hoss an' wagon." At Crater Lake, as at other southern Oregon lakes, there is excellent accommodation. Odell and Crescent lakes are likewise centers for campers.

Another natural phenomenon, but a dozen miles from Bend, is the ice cave—or the ice caves, for there are several—where, in unexpected chasms in the lava rock one finds great stores of nature-made ice the year round.

## Athletic Pastimes, Too.

In addition to fishing, hunting and camping those so inclined can find athletic recreation at Bend.

Of course, there is horseback riding. Canoeing is delightful on the Deschutes, both in the big ponds immediately adjacent to town and in the upper reaches of the river: from Crane Prairie down to Benham Falls, for instance, there is about 100 miles of magnificent canoeing, with every kind of "going." Also, in the lakes readily reached by wagon and auto, there is boating and canoeing.

Tennis is one of the most popular pastimes in Bend. There are two clay courts, and as membership in the local tennis club increases, another will be constructed. Tournaments are played with other Central

Oregon towns, and this September there is scheduled the first all-comers tournament, which, it is expected, will develop into a permanent annual attraction; handsome cups will be put up for singles and doubles, to become the property of winners for three consecutive years, as well as individual trophies.

## Auto Trips Attract.

Before the railroad came, the automobile was an important commercial factor. Today, while still important as a tonnage and passenger carrier, it also figures very heavily as a pleasure vehicle, and nowhere is there a greater field for it.

During the summer hundreds of parties make the trip north and south between the Columbia and California. The roads are good, the scenery fine and stopping places adequate. A favorite excursion is planned from The Dalles to Bend in one day, and the following day from here to Crater Lake, or vice versa. While the itinerary makes long runs, it has proved most delightful. Many cars make a state-wide swing around from Portland, crossing into Central Oregon by way of Crater Lake and thence returning by way of The Dalles and the Columbia river route.

There are several routes across the Cascades, including the Saniam and McKenzie via Sisters. The eastward trip may be extended to include Burns, 140 miles from Bend.

## HOW BEND LOOKS TO SEATTLE INVESTORS

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has not the strategic position that compels the entire commerce of Central and Eastern Oregon to pass through Bend for all time, just as certainly as water poured into a funnel must pass out through its neck. Neither did Spokane ever have the assistance that the railroads and others, even at this early stage in her growth, are unreservedly giving to Bend.

When Spokane was four years old, Custer was killed in battle with 5,000 savages fully 500 miles east of Spokane. Spokane was not on the frontier—she was beyond the frontier. In other words, Spokane accomplished much of her growth surrounded by a wilderness. When Spokane was at the period of her growth at which Bend stands today, there was nothing around her but sagebrush, Indians, and an occasional settler's cabin, with a few struggling villages hundreds of miles apart. Even Seattle and Portland were villages.

Bend, herself the most remarkable concentration of resources of any inland town in the West, is surrounded widely by thriving towns and great

cities, and closely by the last remaining haven for the annual horde of immigrants.

Stop and think a moment.

Spokane and Bend.

If Spokane, under her circumstances, made a given growth in a given length of time, is it not conservative to estimate that Bend's growth will be at least one-third more rapid? The acceleration will certainly be no less than that; it may be more; and Bend should grow more evenly than Spokane because of the severe panic of '93. This will give Bend more than 50,000 in eleven years; but we will let the figures stand as Spokane made them, and here they are:

SPOKANE	BEND
1880 . . . . . Population 500 . . . . . 1910	
1881 . . . . . First railroad . . . . . 1911	
1890 . . . . . Population 18,922 . . . . . 1917	
(4 years from today.)	
1900 . . . . . Population 36,848 . . . . . 1924	
(11 years from today.)	
1911 . . . . . Population 104,102 . . . . . 1931	
(18 years from today.)	

THAT'S what Seattle thinks of Bend!

## "THE LIE OF THE LAND"

As Described by the  
OREGON ALMANAC.

The great level plains and rolling uplands of Central Oregon comprise about one-half the area of Eastern Oregon and contain some wonderfully productive valleys (formerly lake beds) and tablelands. Annual precipitation throughout this section is light and is not sufficient to mature crops without irrigation or dry-farming methods, the latter being applied very successfully and extensively.

The soils of the immense tillable areas are composed of porous lava and basalt and supplemented by sedimentary soils carrying all of the necessary chemical elements

in abundance and highly productive. The uplands are of the decomposed basaltic and lava types of soils. The Deschutes Valley is the principal valley in the North of this region. It embraces an area of over 8,000 square miles, is triangular in shape and extends from Northern Klamath northward into Central Wasco county. The Deschutes river, which, with its two principal tributaries, the Crooked and Metolius rivers, drains this great valley or basin, flows north into the Columbia river.

The region to the south and southeast of the Deschutes country is composed of high and rolling tablelands and valleys, rivers and lakes, and is known as the Great Basin of Oregon. It embraces an aggregate tillable area of about 16,000 square miles, including the Malheur Valley, traversed and drained by the Malheur and Owyhee rivers; Harney Valley, drained by the Silvers river and the Donner and Hiltzen rivers and their numerous small tributaries, which empty into Malheur and Harney lakes; Warner and Goose Lake Valleys, in Lake county, which contain Warner, Summer, Silver, Goose, Christmas and Albert lakes. All alkaline in character, except Silver lake, but valuable for irrigation and power purposes, and the Klamath Basin, which covers an area of about 1,500 square miles and is drained and supplied with water by the Sprague, Williamson, Lost, Link, Lescardo and Klamath rivers, and the Upper, Lower and Little Klamath lakes.

Irrigation is in a high state of development in this region and many large projects are in operation and in course of construction. Incorporated lava, granite and basalt form the basic elements of the soil, strengthened by rich sandy, volcanic ash and silt loams which are very fertile. Annual rainfall in the Central Oregon region varies from nine to 13 inches, with an average of 12 inches, in the northern and eastern parts, to 17 and 22 inches in the higher altitudes of the southern portion. Snowfall averages about 38 inches over the district with the least 19 inches, in the Upper Deschutes Valley and the greatest, 49 inches or more, in the high southern altitudes.

The average maximum temperature for the month of July is 86 degrees, the average minimum for the same month is 44 degrees; the average maximum for January is 48 degrees and the average minimum 17 degrees. Number of rainy days during the year is fewer than 100 throughout the region, which permits of an abundance of sunshine for the rapid maturity of crops. The small mountain ranges in this region, some of the peaks of which rise to elevations of 5,000 feet or more above the level of the valleys, and the east slope of the Cascades are covered with a heavy growth of merchantable timber.

## PLEASURE OF MOUNTAINEERS.



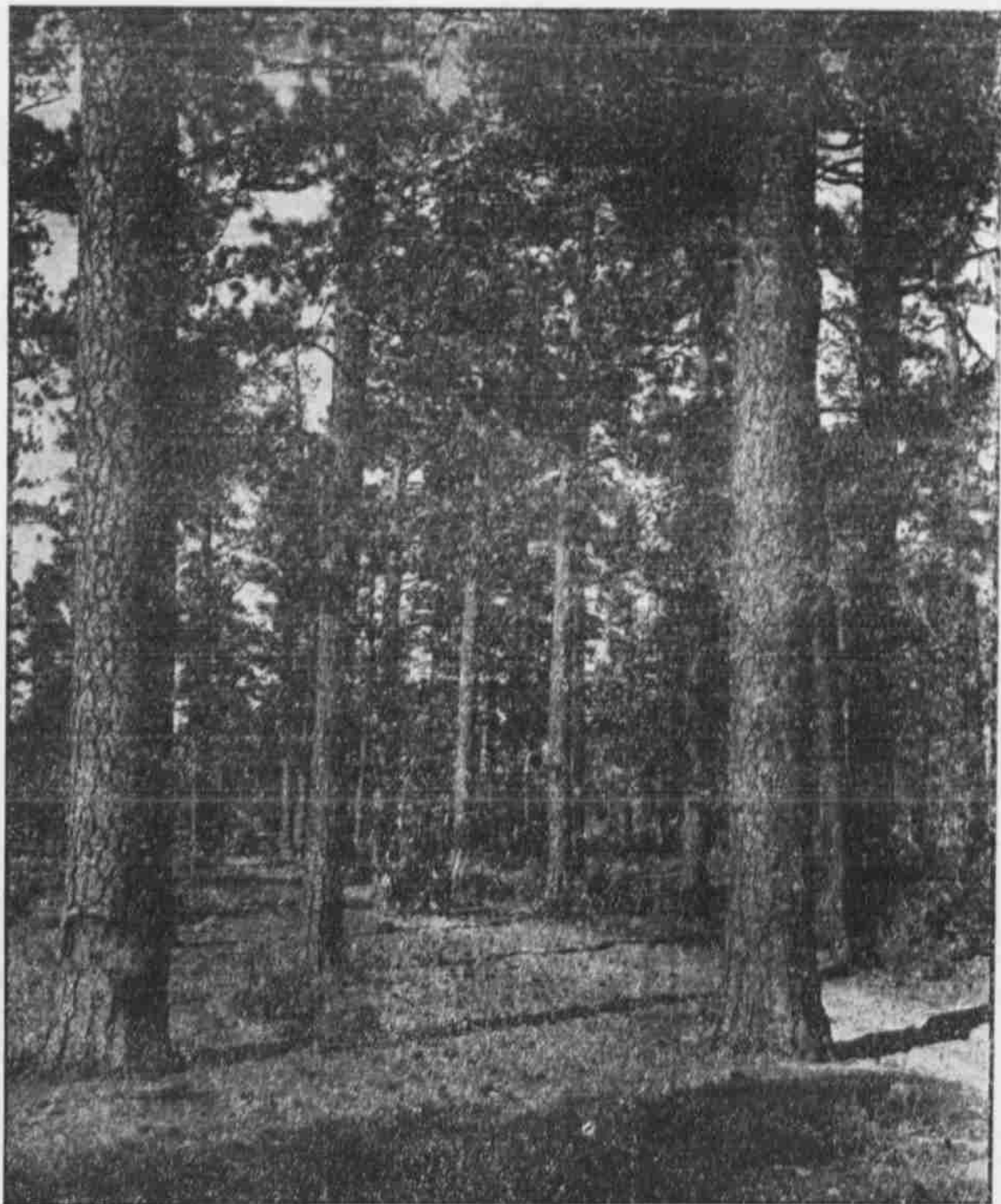
Mt. Jefferson, One of the Many Neighboring Snow Mountains of the Cascades.

## GOOD FISHING ABOUNDS.



At Odell Lake, One of the Many Easily Reached Camping Places.

## IN THE NATURAL TIMBER PARK OF CENTRAL OREGON.



A Typical Deschutes Valley Road Through the Pines.

## SOME CONTRASTS BETWEEN BEND AND SEATTLE.

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\$2,000,000 for the purchase and development of power sites 60 miles distant, capable of producing 90,000 horsepower. How far does Bend have to go for its water power? Enough for today and for many years to come and can be developed practically within the city limits. Within 12 miles of Bend there can be developed economically several times as much water power as the entire amount now employed in supplying Seattle with electricity. Worth thinking about isn't it?

Today Seattle covers approximately 68 square miles of territory, within the city limits. This is all practically covered by real "city"—is about all very thickly populated. How many square miles does Bend actually cover today? Not more than one square mile. Forty-two years ago Seattle about equalled Bend in this respect.

In Seattle today there are about 240,000 platted lots. About 60,000 of them are built on. This average—one lot built on out of every four—holds good in most Western cities. Bend now has about 4000 platted lots, about half of which are in the city limits.

## Prices Aviate.

Here are some little examples of what has happened to prices in Seattle during a comparatively few years. To be sure, they are notable examples; but thousands of others, as impressive, could be encountered:

In 1883 Dexter Horton bought two lots, each 120 by 120 feet, at Second avenue and Cherry street, for \$450. In 1908 they were sold for \$700,000.

In 1901 F. J. Eitel acquired two "tide lots." They were under water 20 feet at high tide, and were one mile from the center of town. In 1905 he filled the lots, put up a warehouse at a cost of \$12,000 and rented it for \$200 a month. In 1907 he sold for \$50,000 cash.

In 1903 the business section, stopped at Second and Madison. Then lots near the Hotel Washington sold for from \$3000 to \$4000. In 1908, the same lots were bringing from \$1000 to \$2000 a front foot.