

Heppner Woman's Letter Wins Prize Trip

Majestic Wallowas, Valley of Snake Thrill Motorists on Four-Day Trip

The following is a condensation of a motorlog appearing in the August 5 issue of The Oregonian's Sunday Magazine section. It is one of an annual series of motorlogs sponsored jointly by The Oregonian and the Oregon State Motor association.

BY AL McCREADY
Staff Writer, The Oregonian

For spectacular mountain peaks capped with perpetual snows, trout-teeming lakes and rushing rivers, and for sunny days followed by cool nights that let you sleep, the Snake river country at the junction of Oregon, Washington and Idaho is hard to beat.

This little-publicized area has more to offer the tourist in scenic attractions than many more highly-touted vacation spots, and a four-day trip will cover nearly all of them.

Here are the lofty and rugged Wallowas, described enthusiastically and appropriately by local boosters as the "Switzerland of America." Dozens of snow-fed lakes dot the lofty expanse of the Eagle Cap wilderness area high in the mountains, set aside to be preserved forever in its natural state without roads, billboards or hot dog stands.

And here is the awesome chasm of Hell's Canyon, carved by the Snake river through the ages to a depth 1000 feet greater than the much-publicized Grand Canyon of the Colorado.

Canyon City Visited

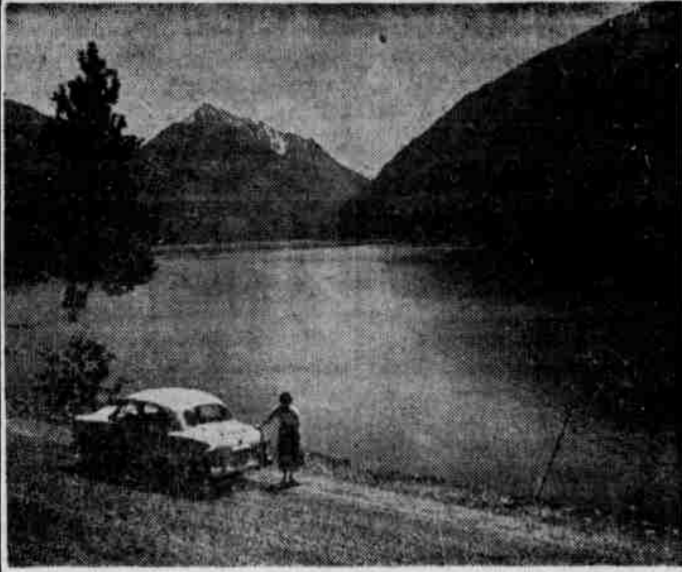
From Portland to the Snake river country was a long day's drive in the Oregon State Motor association's white motorlog Ford sedan. We made the 400-mile trip via the highway through Prineville and John Day.

Our only sidetrip here was to historic Canyon City, a gold-rush community founded in the turbulent 1860s. Here C. W. Brown, a service station operator, keeps a collection of early day Oregon relics, including a rifle belonging to Joaquin Miller, who served as the first Grant county judge from 1866 to 1870, and yellowed old copies of the Blue Mountain Eagle, Oregon's oldest weekly newspaper, now published in John Day by State Senator Elmo Smith.

Speeding on eastward, our white car finally dipped sharply down from the eastern Oregon plateau into Willow creek canyon, where irrigation water has transformed the desert into a lush paradise of fertile farms at Vale.

We spent the night in a cozy motel at Ontario, a wealthy agricultural community on the banks of the Snake, and next morning began the scenic drive on the Idaho side of the river north to Lewiston.

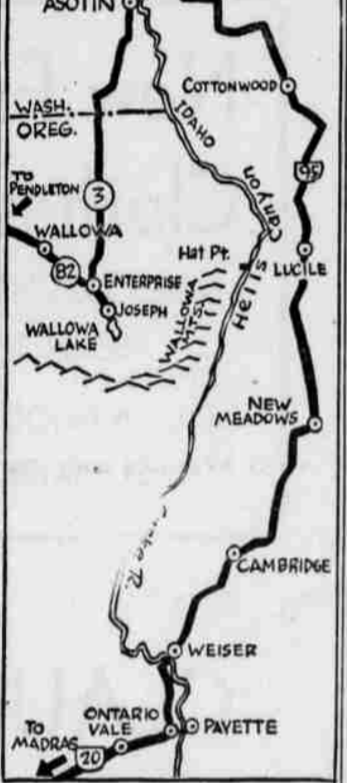
At New Meadows, 100 miles along the way, we turned right to climb 15 miles into the high pine forests of the Payette Lakes country and enjoy a picnic lunch on the shore of Great Payette lake at McCall, a favorite resort of Idahoans and Eastern Oregon folk both for summer and winter recreation. Heading north again, we tra-



White motorlog car stops on east bank of Wallowa lake. Looming in center background is Mt. Bonneville of the Wallowas.

veled Idaho's most expensive mile of highway, blasted out of cliffs lining the tumbling Salmon river, and wound up tortuous switchbacks by which the highway climbs out of Whitebird creek canyon, scene of a major battle between bluecoated federal troops and Chief Joseph's rebellious Nez Perces in 1877.

Lewiston, thanks to Idaho's liberal liquor regulations and blindfolded enforcement of gambling laws, could pass for Reno, Nev., after dark. Gaudy



Motorlog route of Snake river country followed by the writer.

neon signs advertise bars, clustered several to the block, each one sporting long rows of slot machines.

Next morning we drove across the interstate bridge, wound up the Washington side of the Snake to the sleepy little town of Asotin, then climbed the side of steep Asotin creek canyon to the plateau above and headed south for the Wallowa country.

Curves Eliminated

The reconstructed highway between Asotin and Enterprise retains all the scenic thrills of the spectacular Grande Ronde river and Joseph creek canyons, but eliminates most of the perilously narrow and crooked stretches of road which intimidated even native motorists of the region before the rebuilding job was finished a year ago.

The bustling little community of Joseph, just a rifle shot from the shores of big, blue Wallowa lake, is the gateway to the vast Wallowa vacation area. Accommodations are available to suit every taste and pocketbook.

Overnight camping will be permitted next year at the new state park recently opened at the south end of the lake. Modern picnic facilities already in operation feature electric cook stoves, hot water, barbecue pits, rustic tables and—believe it or not—high chairs for the little ones.

There is much to do and much to see in the Wallowa country. Saddle horses are available for pack trips into the wilderness area, where snow-fed lakes offer unexcelled fishing. Less ambitious anglers can troll for trout or bluebacks in the lake itself, or try their flyrods in the Wallowa river below the lake.

But whatever you do in the Wallowas, you'll enjoy your stay. And you will begin to sympathize with Chief Joseph and his tribesmen, who went on the warpath after the white man showed up and pushed them out of their ancestral home on the shores of the lake they loved.

Wallowa Tour Subject For Travelogue; Another Trip Planned

The adjoining travelogue, about the Wallowa country, condensed from its complete version published last Sunday in the magazine section of the Oregonian was the result of the prize winning "Sentimental Journey" letter written to the Portland paper last April by Mrs. Thomas Wilson of Heppner.

As a prize Mrs. Wilson received a weekend vacation trip for two to Timberline lodge on Mt. Hood.

The travel bug apparently bit Mr. and Mrs. Wilson hard for they are leaving next Saturday for Fairbanks, Alaska to see more of the west. They plan to drive up by way of the Alcan highway to Fairbanks then return to the coast to Valdare where they will take a boat back to Seattle. They expect to take a month for the trip.

Mrs. W. M. Fisher, Post Falls, Idaho, Mrs. Wilson's mother, will stay in Heppner during their absence.

GRANGE PICNIC HELD

Rhea Creek grangers held their annual picnic Sunday at the Buschke summer home on Chapin Creek in the Blue Mountains south of Hardman. About seventy members and their families were present for the pot luck luncheon. The day was spent chatting, playing games or resting in the shade of the tall pines, whichever suited the individual concerned.

USE GAZETTE TIMES CLASSIFIED ADS

Missionary Speaks At Lexington

By Delpha Jones

Dr. Breman missionary of Indoneasia, gave a very interesting talk at the Christian Church Friday night, with several from Heppner and Ione attending, besides a goodly crowd from Lexington. Mr. Breman was a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wetzell, while here.

Mrs. Jim Gray and small daughter are visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Goodell from her home in Cove.

Mrs. Gladys Cutsforth of College Place was a visitor here over the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter O'Hara and family of Flagstaff, Arizona were guests at the Newt O'Hara home last week.

Joan Breeding who has been visiting in LeGrande and Barbara Garrett of that city returned to Lex Wednesday. Miss Garrett is visiting an uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Jones.

Paul Breeding who has spent several months in Portland with his sister, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Matthews, returned to his home Saturday night.

Earl Miller who has been working at the Nolan Ranch is now employed by Al Fetsch of Heppner.

Visitors in Spray Sunday were: Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Steagall and children Barbara and Jimmie, Mr. and Mrs. George Steagall and children and Buster Shoun of Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. George Sturgeon of Pendleton.

Pat Steagall has returned to her home after a visit with Maureen Groves at the Archie Munkers home.

Mrs. Cora Argobright of Spray and Dr. D. A. Shoun of Colorado, were visitors at the homes of Geo. and Wilbur Steagall and O. G.

Breeding last week.

Mrs. Art Hunt and daughter Shirley were Pendleton visitors one day last week.

Mrs. Wayne Papineau returned to her home after a stay in Walla Walla where she received medical attention for a broken arm. They are at present staying at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Robinson.

Mrs. Earl Warner returned to her home Friday after some time spent in Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

Phyllis Nolan is spending some time at the Don Campbell home

where she is helping in harvest.

Mr. and Mrs. Truman Messenger Sr. are driving a new car.

Pat McMillan returned home to Ordinance for a weeks visit with her sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. George Irvin.

Glenn Griffith, member of the Oregon Trail Lumber Company's Wood crew, at Union, Oregon was injured Monday when the tractor he was driving rolled over. Griffith is a patient in the Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande where he is suffering from numerous bruises, scratches

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The federal civil service commission announces an examination for substitute clerk-carrier to fill vacancies in the post office service at Heppner. Requirements state that applicants must actually reside within the delivery of the Heppner office or be bona fide patrons of it.

Information and application forms may be obtained from the director, U. S. Civil Service region, 302 Federal Office building, Seattle or at any first or second class post office.

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