

PARK TO PARK TOURISTS WELL USED IN OREGON

SACRAMENTO, Sept. 21.—The National Parks of the United States located in the West afford an unlimited field for auto touring and vacationing, and the Park-to-Park tour is heartily recommended to Sacramentoans by Leonard W. Eskridge of this city, who, with Mrs. Eskridge, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Baker, recently completed a tour of nearly 4,000 miles in seven Western states, thru six of the National Parks.

The Eskridge party visited the Lassen National Park, Crater, Rainier, Glacier, Yellowstone and Zion. They went north from Sacramento to Lassen, thence to Crater, into the Northwest, then east into Glacier, up into Canada, and then down into Yellowstone. On the return trip they crossed Wyoming passing through Big Piney to Kemmerer, then through Utah to Salt Lake, and thence back to Sacramento via Lake Tahoe.

Eskridge crossed the famous salt beds of Utah to Wendover, and negotiated all sorts of rough country. In the salt beds he ran for twenty-five miles in salt brine from six inches to a foot in depth, and when he emerged his car was covered with salt crystals to such a depth the original color could not be determined.

Off the main highways and into the trackless wastes, sometimes only a trail for a road, the party made what Eskridge says was the "hardest but most interesting" trip of a lifetime. He advises that anyone who wants a real back to nature trip to take the one he made this year, but he adds that the tourist will be well repaid in fine scenery for the trouble it takes to cover the ground.

His story of the trip is as follows: Leaving Sacramento we journeyed to Redding, by way of Davis and Woodland, and there viewed Lassen Volcano, in the first of the National Parks visited on the trip. We then proceeded over the Siskiyou Mountains to Ager, where we left the highway to enter the Cascade Mountains by the Fort Klamath entrance to

snow bound. Having traveled through this same country about thirty years ago and having a recollection of the same, we proceeded and arrived at Anna Springs, and were hospitably received by Ranger Norris and a Mr. and Mrs. Hedberg.

Meeting many people who are unacquainted with our National Parks as to their size, etc., will state that the Government compels all machines to register upon entering these parks, and a record made of the car number, make, etc., with the address of all passengers; all firearms are sealed, and upon leaving the parks a check is again made of these items. This record of visitors during the season can be obtained from the Interior Department. The feeding of all wild animals in National Parks is forbidden. If, in traveling through these parks you see no watchman, you must always remember that the Rangers may be watching you without being themselves seen, and they are prompt in their punishment of any infraction of park rules. The writer wishes here to mention the excellent care and courteous attention shown to the tourist by the Rangers in the National Parks.

Leaving Anna Springs we pressed on through snow until compelled to abandon the machine, and then commenced a six mile hike over the snow covering at that time the unopened road to Crater Lake, where the main lodge lies. We there looked upon Crater Lake, a body of water nine miles long by seven miles wide, having a depth of 2000 feet, and surrounded by a ridge from 800 to 300 feet above it, and saw the remains of Mt. Mazama, a volcano formation which, instead of blowing out at the top, as most volcanoes do, sank down out of sight, leaving a vast cauldron which now is Crater Lake. This lake has no inlet or outlet. At this lake we viewed Wizard Island and the Phantom Ship, rock formations which were thrown up in the late years after Mt. Mazama had ceased activity. This National Park contains about 450,000 acres.

Leaving the Park by the Medford entrance, we pushed along the Willamette Valley, the agricultural and settled part of Oregon, and through the Capital of Oregon, Salem, on to Portland, the "City of Roses." We passed over the world famed Columbia River Highway, the total length of which is 168 miles of fine roads, and a marvel of engineering skill, where some of the large water-

falls of America can be seen without leaving the machine, and where the mighty Columbia River skirts along with you.

From Tacoma, Washington, we commenced the drive to the Rainier Park of some 300,000 acres, where we witnessed the glaciers sliding slowly into the Hiscually River. Returning to the Columbia River gorge we continued through from Dalles to Pendleton, passing grain and alfalfa fields, where the "Wild West" has been transformed in but a few years to a wonderful agricultural center. This same country only a few years back was an unbroken prairie, and I believe I can safely predict that within a few years the sagebrush and desert of Oregon will be no more, as the Government is planning now to supply the only need of this country, water, by conservation instead of waste.

One Auto for Each Three Farms in the U.S., Census Shows

Nearly every third farm in the United States had at least one automobile on the first day of last year, according to the government census. Of the 6,448,366 farms in the United States, 1,979,564, or 30.7 per cent, reported having automobiles to the number of 2,146,512. Although Iowa led all other states in the number of automobiles on farms, having 177,558, Nebraska with 104,453, showed the highest percentage in relation to the number of farms, heading the list with 75.6 per cent.

Motor trucks were reported on 131,551 farms in 1920, or about 2 farms out of every 100 in the United States as a whole. The number of motor trucks on these farms was 139,169. The states leading in the number of motor trucks on farms are: Pennsylvania, with 9372; New York, with 9259; Iowa, with 8910; Ohio, with 7319; Nebraska, with 6549; California, with 6416; and Illinois, with 6154.

Three and six-tenths per cent of the farms in the country were reported as having tractors on January 1, 1920. This is about 1 farm out of every 28. The 329,334 farms thus represented had a total of 246,139 tractors.

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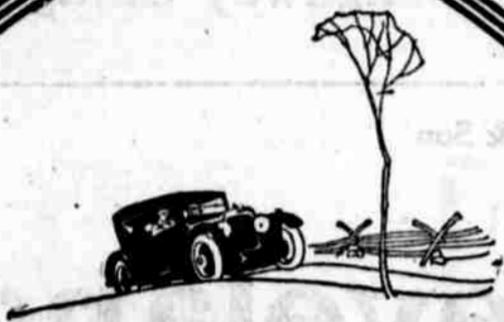
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