



THE SOARING GRANDEUR OF BROKEN TOP as it looms over the vast basin at its feet is enough to capture the awe of anyone. Here, at the very edge of the Three Sisters Wilderness Area, one can find that lonesome stillness, the wide sweep of the mountain distances and the merry burble of a

snow-fed creek, all conducive to a better outlook on life. A hike into the wilderness area is well worth the trouble for those who like their nature unspoiled.

Travel Gains In National Forest

By **BILL JENKINS**

If you don't believe the world is changing take a look around at the outdoor recreation picture today. You'll find it a good deal different than it was even a few short years ago.

This was pointed up to me a month or so ago when a friend and I took off for a looksee at some old, familiar country in the Deschutes area.

What we found was a greatly increased use of both state and national forest land by a vast throng of people all bent on getting away from the tiresome trappings of city life.

Not in itself unusual because that wilderness wish has always been present in most of us. But the method of travel has changed materially. The old days of the sleeping bag and the skillet are as obsolete for the average traveler of today as the sad iron and the nickel beer.

What the outdoor tourist of to-

day seems to prefer is a trailer house. We saw these by the hundreds in the public camps and strung out along the roads. They ranged in size all the way from little overnights to big 30 footers with all the comforts of home. At least half of them had television antenna attached.

If a trailer is not available then the rest of the crowd will settle for a tent. These also range in size from the old fashioned wall tent—we saw one of these set up in a semi-permanent camp—down to the pup tents so familiar to the servicemen of two wars.

Without either of the two you found yourself pretty much out in the public view. I know because we were traveling in the old manner with nothing but our sleeping bags and a grub box. Privacy, in such a situation, was a little hard to come by unless you got at least a little off the beaten path. We accomplished this by some pretty fancy brush-popping with the pick-up. But, heck, what's a little paint here and there.

Another requirement of today's camper is a boat. The number of boats you see on a trip is amazing. Everything from cruisers to cartoppers. In the area around Little Cultus Lake we saw every conceivable type of boat with the possible exception of ocean liners and submarines.

You see all sorts of things on such a trip. In particular you are struck by the vast number of "little" cars you see up in the rugged country. We spotted I don't know how many small foreign cars with luggage strapped all over them. Some of them didn't fit the ruts in the road but that didn't seem to hamper them much. They just kept right on going.

Of course this year was a dry time to go and a lot of creeks and springs that would ordinarily have provided fine camping spots were



EVEN THE TINIEST CREEKS get a heavy play from fishermen in the Deschutes Forest area during the crowded summer months. Here a hopeful angler tries his luck in a little creek that flows out of the enormous snow banks high up on the sides of the towering peaks. Net result — a tired wrist, two snagged flies and no fish. But it will be better next time. It always is.

dry as a bone. That is just one of the chances you have to take when you get out in the open.

Another thing that is brought to your attention strongly is the vast amount of development work being done by the Forest Service along recreational lines. New camps are springing up all over the place, highways are being built into the forest areas and resort lakes are on the upswing. This phase of the national multiple use program is being forced and more and more pressure is being applied at top levels for even greater expansion of the recreational facilities.

Opposed to this system of providing more trailer space are the various wilderness areas. You skirt two or three of them on such a trip. I believe that the wilderness area is a vital part of our modern day program and am

strongly in favor of their retention.

If we don't have such areas, set aside for the exclusive use of those who are willing to forego the use of cars to reach their destination, we are going to find ourselves on a national tenement level. There won't be any place left to go where you can really get away from it all.

National wilderness areas are preserved for the use and enjoyment of those who want to hike in or take a pack string. Use of wheeled vehicles is prohibited. Of course I suppose you could take a team and wagon if you wanted to. But nothing that is motor driven. This also applies to planes, although it has proven somewhat of a chore to enforce that restriction. But if wealthy sportsmen who own planes are allowed to fly into our wilderness areas and fish and

hunt from remote lakes then the whole program will be defeated. It doesn't take long to fish an area out. Or to kill off the wildlife. It is to be hoped that some solution will be found to this enforcement program that will end this practice. The men in charge are doing a good job of it now. I just hope that we will be able to maintain that fine record in the face of our exploding population.

Summing up we might say that the woods areas are becoming increasingly crowded. But there is still room for those who like to roam around and have a little elbow room. It takes some finding and some getting to, but it is there and some of it, particularly the desert, will stay for quite a while.

For the average man who has two or three children and just

THE COVER
With the vast bulk of Broken Top in the background Dick Eimers of Portland was caught by the lens as he broke camp on a recent trip into the Deschutes Area. This area lies in one of the most beautiful national forests in the country and annually attracts thousands of visitors. This scene was shot only a few miles from the end of the blacktop entry drive near Elk Lake.

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