

## LOOP THE TILLAMOOK LOOP.

Opening of the Seaside-Tillamook Road Gives Tourists One of the Most Scenic Loop Road, Covering 300 Miles.



The construction of 11 miles of highway in Clatsop County has opened a 300 mile loop which many tourists say, is unequalled by any trip in the state except the Columbia River Highway. Starting from Portland on the new loop, the tourist passes through a portion of the Willamette Valley, across the coast mountains, skirts the Pacific ocean in Tillamook and Clatsop Counties and returns by way of Columbia River. Through fertile valleys and wild canyons along mighty streams and flowing brooks, past large cities and small hamlets, through open fields and dense forests, the road leads to the very edge of the ocean and back to the industry and turmoil of the city. A greater diversity of scenery is scarcely to be found within so short a range in any other part of the state.

Conditions are improved. Leaving Portland the route follows the Rex-Igardville road, formerly so notoriously bad, but now fairly well paved although rougher than necessary, through a corner of Washington County and into Yamhill county. At the Yamhill county line, road conditions improve greatly. Practically all through this county the motorist can travel without fear of ruts, chuk holes, soft spots, bumps at bridges and culverts, and without the many other trifling difficulties which to the tourist are so vexatious and troublesome.

With roads that are straight, wide, level and smooth, the route passes through the cities of Newberg, Dayton, McMinnville, Sheridan and Willamina giving glimpses of paved streets, substantial business buildings and residences and, between these places, of well kept orchards, corn and grain fields, hop yards and meadows. After leaving Willamina, the road crosses the Yamhill river and for some miles passes into Polk county. The hills which since the beginning of the trip loomed up in the haze of the distance, and gradually growing larger and more real and the valley is rapidly narrowing.

Grade Now Reduced. Ten miles beyond Willamina and 65 miles from Portland, the Grand Ronde Indian reservation is reached and just beyond the agency buildings are the school houses and social buildings. Seven miles more are traveled before the foothill are actually reached and then for three and a half miles the road goes upward to the town of Dolph. Within a very short time however, the Dolph hill and toll road will be a thing of the past. A grade has been completed around the hill which not only reduces the grade but is actually shorter than the present traveled road. Roc kis now being spread on the new road—known locally as the Sour Grass cut off—and when this has been completed the road will be opened for traffic.

From Dolph to Hebo—a distance of 10.8 miles, the road is on a down grade. The greatest part of this stretch is through the virgin forest,

although here and there evidences of human habitation and industry are visible.

**Cheese Factory Land Mark.** Leaving Hebo, the famous Tillamook country is traversed and the cheese factory begins to be a land mark. Five factories are passed between Hebo and Tillamook City, a distance of 21 miles. The auto log shows a distance of 107.7 miles traveled between Portland and Tillamook City. At this time, a detour is necessary near Tillamook City on account of paving operations.

Leaving Tillamook, the route follows a Northerly and westerly direction, through green pastures to Bay City, where the first glimpse of the Pacific is had. Beyond Bay City, the road winds through the hills to Hobsonville, then on to the Miami river which is followed to the divide, then down Foley creek to the South fork of the Nehalem river, and the town of Mohler. After leaving Mohler, two roads are available for some distance. The direct road follows the east side of the North fork of the Nehalem river the other crosses and follows the west side of the same stream.

The latter road is preferable as the road is gravelled and in better shape than the east side road, and besides, the west side road permits a short detour to Nehalem City and to Neah-Kah-Nie mountain. Neah-Kah-Nie is approximately the half way station on the loop trip, and this side trip is well worth the time needed to take it.

**New Road Reached.** Leaving Neah-Kah-Nie, the road follows the north fork of the Nehalem river, past the county line and into Clatsop county. The tourist has now reached the new road which has made the loop trip possible. From the county line the new road follows the Nehalem river for five miles, crossing that stream three times. The bridges across the Nehalem invite inspection. They are made of timbers, the stringers being hewn logs, in one instance 120 feet long. And the scenery at the bridges demand attention. The canyon of the river here is narrow and deep. The walls are overhung with fern, moss, and shrubbery. Near the river bed and wherever a hole for spots has made it possible, giant spruce have grown. No landscape artist could have improved upon the scenery along this portion of the river.

Six miles after leaving the Nehalem after passing over a wide and level grade, the Necanicum river and the forks of the road leading to Seaside to Jewel and Mist are reached. For 9.5 miles the road here follows the windings of the river circling back and forth through the forest like a snake. Four and five tenths miles from Seaside the Elk creek road is met and thence to Astoria, through Seaside the road is hard surfaced.

**Five Per Cent Worst Grade.** From Astoria to Portland, the route follows the lower Columbia highway

through Columbia and Clatsop counties, sometimes hovering at the edge of the river, sometimes back in the woods, sometimes level and again winding up and down hills. The steepest grade encountered on the trip is just outside Rainier in Columbia county. With the exception of this hill, and the hills at Dolph and Bay City, no grades more than five per cent are encountered in the loop.

Many side trips are available for the tourist who is not in a hurry. From Hebo a road leads to the southwest, through Cloverdale to Pacific City and Neskowin. Near Hemlock the Sandlake road branches off. From Tillamook City a good road leads to Netarts and a sharp turn to the left at Miami brings the tourist to Garibaldi beach. It is probable that within another year the tourist road will lead through Garibaldi, Barview, Brighton and Wheeler connecting with the present road at Mohler.

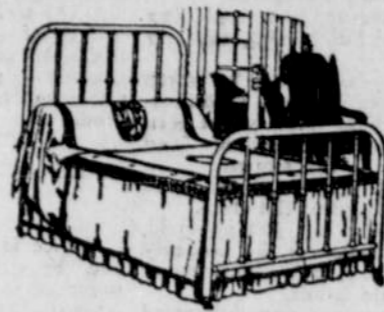
### Log is Compiled.

A log of the trip around the loop as compiled by W. S. Raker of Portland and Attorney E. J. Claussen of Tillamook is as follows:

Portland	0
Figard	9.8
Rex	20.5
Newberg	23.7
Dayton	30.4
McMinnville	38.4
Sheridan	51.8
Willamina	55.5
Butler's	62.5
Grand Ronde Indian Agency	65
Sour Grass Cut Off	72
Dolph	75.5
End of Sour Grass Road	76
Hebo	86.8
Beaver	91.6
Tillamook	107.7
Tillamook	0
Juno, Railroad crossing	3
Bay City	6.7
Miami	10
Mohler	23
Nehalem	27
Neah-Kah-Nie	30
County Line	40
First bridge across Nehalem	43.7
Upper bridge	44.9
Forks of road to Jewel	50.9
Forks of road to Elk Creek	60.4
Seaside	65
Astoria	84
Westport	115
Clatskanie	123.4
Rainier	141.5
Goble	148.5
St. Helens	161.5
Scappoose	170.5
Portland	191.2

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