

CIRCULATES IN THE HEART OF THE SCENIC COLUMBIA GORGE

# The Skamania County Pioneer

STEVENSON, WASHINGTON

SPECIAL EDITION

## Visit Seattle For Century 21; Stop In Skamania For Century 19

### PLANNING TRIP

Mobile, Ala.

Dear Editor:

My family and I are planning to visit the World's Fair in Seattle sometime this year.

We know we'll be happily exhausted after our days at the Fair, and bug-eyed from the wonders of the 21st Century.

We want to spend some time in the outdoors before our vacation is over. Any suggestions?

HEAD OF FAMILY

\* \* \*

Dear Head:

We know what you mean. We have nothing against the 21st Century, but we haven't caught up with the 20th yet.

Skamania County, in Washington State, offers the unspoiled beauties of the early 19th Century of Lewis & Clark.

Whether you're bringing your trailer, plan to stay in motels or want to camp out with tent and bedrolls, this is the place.

Skamania County, which nestles like an uncut emerald in the sometimes wild and always beautiful Cascade Mountains north of the Columbia River, is an area of rare charm and breath-taking vistas.

As in the days of the explorers, the population lies mainly along the river. Back of the

river, everything is green on the map except for lovely Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Adams, the blue of myriad lakes, and the white of rushing streams.

It is a fishing paradise, a camper's delight, a vacationer's dream.

THE EDITOR

### WHAT, NO INDOORS?

Dallas, Texas

Dear Editor:

You keep talking about the outdoors. Isn't there any indoors?

CURIOUS

\* \* \*

Dear Curious:

Of course. Skamania County has a population of 5,228. Stevenson, the county seat, has a population of 927. North Bonneville has a population of 534. Carson has about 400.

Then there's Mt. Pleasant, Cooks, Cape Horn, Willard, Mill A, Underwood, Skye, Home Valley, Skamania, Hemlock, Prindle, and somebody said a couple of families have got together up on Cultus Creek.

All of them live in regular houses. This isn't a big enough population, however, to louse up the outdoors. It's still about like Lewis & Clark found it.

THE EDITOR



## County Is Rich In History, Legend

### NO MORE FLATHEADS

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Editor:

I understand when Lewis & Clark camped in what is now Skamania County, they found Indians with flattened heads. Is this custom still practiced?

ETHNOLOGIST

\* \* \*

Dear Eth:

The custom is no longer practiced.

Our population includes squareheads, eggheads, and blockheads, but our Indians have let their heads grow. They look better that way.

THE EDITOR

### ASKS DIRECTIONS

Boston, Mass.

Dear Editor:

I am planning to attend the World's Fair in Seattle and wish to visit Skamania. Where is it?

\* \* \*

DAM YANKEE

Dear Dam:

Just spot Bonneville Dam on your map and you're right in the middle of Skamania County on the Washington side of the Columbia. The dam is some 40 miles upriver from both Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, Wash.

From the Oregon side it is reached by either the Hood River Bridge or the Bridge of the Gods. From the Washington side by the scenic, historic Lewis & Clark Highway.

THE EDITOR

### NO LANGUAGE PROBLEM

Tokyo, Japan

Honorable Sir:

I am a Japanese student and I am planning to visit Skamania County in 1962, with perhaps a side trip to the World's Fair in Seattle.

English is my second language and I pride myself on its immaculate use. However, I meet a great many Americans and find their English deplorable. Your GI's are especially guilty of abusing what I am told is called the "mother tongue."

My problem is this, is English spoken in Skamania County or should I prepare myself with special studies? Would you please send a handy guide to Skamania if such exists.

N. KATSUMI

\* \* \*

Dear Mr. Katsumi:

You will find language no barrier here. Skamanians do speak a colorful, spirited patois, incorporating some words from the Cascade Indian tongues noted by Lewis & Clark when they visited here in 1805, and utilizing picturesque phrases from the early days of logging and fish-wheeling.

However, English is the official language. It is taught in the schools and, indeed, the county boasts its own English-language newspaper.

THE EDITOR

Skamania is not just a county — it's a wonderful, vigorous state of mind.

## Unspoiled Outdoors Beckon Visitors

### SOMETHING FOR CHILDREN

Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Editor:

We're planning to visit Skamania County this summer enroute to the World's Fair in Seattle.

My husband plans some fishing, both lake and stream, but I want the trip to be interesting for the kids. Anything for them to see?

FISHERMAN'S WIFE

\* \* \*

Dear Wife:

While daddy is fishing in the Washougal, Wind River, the Big White Salmon, the Little White Salmon, the tributaries of the Lewis River, the Swift Creek Dam reservoir, the Columbia or any of the dozens of high and low lakes, you might take the youngsters to any of the following points of interest:

**Bird Creek Meadows** (wild flowers); **Beacon Rock**, the world's second largest monolith (the first is Gibraltar), now the centerpiece of a state park for camping.

**Bonneville Dam**, where the electricity is "strained" out of the Columbia.

Any of numerous state and federal **Fish Hatcheries** where they can see how salmon, steelhead and trout are scientifically raised.

Numerous **lava caves** and the **lava beds**, where they may see what nature created in the agony of the great volcanic eruptions.

The **Columbia Gorge**, breathtakingly beautiful.

The **Gifford Pinchot National Forest**, dotted with comfortable camp grounds where they can see at first hand the multiple-use program of America's great woodlands.

The **9-mile flume** between Willard and Underwood, where lumber is floated from a mountain mill to a finishing mill on the Columbia.

**Mt. Adams** and **Mt. St. Helens**, primitive, unspoiled, magnificent.

**Spirit Lake**, at the foot of Mt. St. Helens, reputed (in Skamania County) to be the world's loveliest body of water.

The **Bridge of the Gods**, a man-made span, architecturally interesting, where once stood a legendary bridge of rock that fell to form the Cascades.

**Swift Creek Dam** (one of America's largest earth-fill barriers) and the fish-filled waters behind it.

**Mineral Springs** (St. Martin's, Bonneville, Big Mike and Iron Mike and all the rest).

**Huckleberry Fields** at foot of Mt. Adams, where Indians gather each year to harvest the luscious crop.

Just plain, exciting **outdoors**, with giant Douglas firs, hemlock, spruce, Noble firs and all the rest. But keep an eye out for deer, bear, grouse, elk and uncounted species of smaller birds and animals.

I can think of more, but this gives you the idea.

THE EDITOR



# There's No County Like Skamania

## FISHING & HUNTING?

Pierre, S. D.

Dear Editor:

I like to hunt and fish. Any action in Skamania County?

J. NIMROD WALTON

\* \* \*

Dear J:

There are only 5,228 people in Skamania County, and millions of acres of forests, streams and lakes. Hunters have their choice of deer, pheasant, pigeons, doves, ducks, raccoons, porcupines, bear, rabbits, cougar, bobcats, elk, and so on. Fishermen will limit out on steelhead, brook and rainbow trout, salmon, sturgeon, bass and other species.

THE EDITOR

## ARGUMENT SETTLED

Mexico, Mo.

Dear Sir:

Will you settle an argument between my husband and myself? Which is the most beautiful state in America and which the most beautiful county?

ARGUFYING WIFE

\* \* \*

Dear Argufying:

Washington State is the most beautiful state in America. Skamania County is the most beautiful county.

Oregon, across the river, is the second most beautiful state and Multnomah and Hood River Counties, in Oregon, are tied for second in that category.

THE EDITOR

## ASKS ABOUT HOBBIES

Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Mr. Editor:

I am a man of many and varied hobbies, including rock-hounding, mountain-climbing, mushroom-picking, huckleberrying, water-skiing, arrowhead-collecting, crawfish-trapping, bird-watching, wild-flower admiring, cave-exploring, wood-working and aqua-lunging.

Can you tell me if any of these hobbies may be pursued in Skamania County?

TIME ON MY HANDS

\* \* \*

Dear Time:

Yours is but a partial list of available interests.

THE EDITOR

## NO PASSPORT REQUIRED

Buffalo, N. Y.

Dear Editor:

Is a passport required to visit Skamania County?

CAREFUL PLANNER

\* \* \*

Dear Careful:

Skamania County is a part of the State of Washington and the U. S. No passport is needed.

As a matter of fact, this little edition is published at the request of the Board of County Commissioners (all three of them, Conrad Lundy Jr., John R. McDonald and Lyle W. Ternahan), and is meant to indicate the latch string is out.

ROY CRAFT, Editor