



you're invited to
Skamania
County
Washington

Compare Skamania County's Industrial Power
Rate with any other in the world

Foreword:

This survey is the result of efforts of the Skamania County Public Utility District No. 1, aided by civic spirited citizens, to stabilize the economy of the area served, to cite the variety of raw materials available for industrial uses and to fully utilize the advantages of the lowest industrial electric power rates in the United States.

It is presented as an invitation to investors and manufacturers who seek opportunity for expansion or the establishment of new plants. We invite you to make use of the information and if further data is needed, we urge you to write us.

WE CALL ATTENTION TO THESE INDUSTRIAL ASSETS:

- 1—An unique combination of highway, rail and water facilities not often found in areas that boast of climatic and natural attributes necessary to year-round operation.
- 2—Adequate dependable electric power within a 15-mile radius of the Great Bonneville Dam, obtainable under contract at the lowest cost to be found anywhere.
- 3—Inexhaustible supply of good water from all-year streams or shallow wells.
- 4—Abundant fuel, cheap and convenient.
- 5—Direct connection with major markets via rail, truck or barge.
- 6—Stable local labor supply easily augmented by nearness to unlimited city pools within driving distance.
- 7—Wide diversity of mineral deposits, mostly undeveloped, but many of them favorably located for economic use.

This report is not a complete picture of Skamania County's advantages, but to anyone or any industry interested, we promise full support and assistance in supplying additional data to meet your requirements. We guarantee complete secrecy in helping you solve your problem.

SKAMANIA COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT No. 1

Wm. R. Thompson	}	<i>Commissioners</i>
Ross B. Sheppard		
Chauncey Price		

A. R. Mushlitz, *Manager*

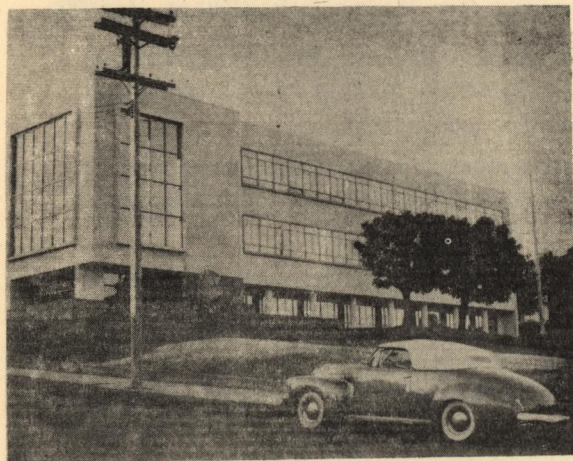
Geography

POPULATION: 4788

Skamania County, Washington, extends along the North bank of the Columbia river some 40 miles, approximately the length of the widely-known Columbia River Gorge. The name is of Indian origin, meaning "White Water."

Its elevation along the river is less than 100 feet; its highest point is Mount Adams, 12,363 feet. Within its area are about 937,000 acres of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, its principal timber supply source.

The lowlands, suitable for industrial purposes, are not affected by seasonal high waters of the Columbia river.



COURT
HOUSE,
STEVENSON

Photo by
Clemans

It is traversed, East-to-West, by the Evergreen Highway, (U. S. No. 830) by the Seattle, Portland and Spokane R. R. (Great Northern.) It is the home port of the C. T. Smith & Son Towing Co. Is connected with the South bank of the Columbia river by the Bridge of the Gods.

Its wide variety of scenic and recreational facilities include Beacon Rock, Beacon Rock State Park, Big Cedars Park, Wm. G. Meneice Memorial Park, Wind River Suspension Bridge, Hemlock Ranger Station and Nurseries, four U. S. Salmon fish hatcheries, over 100 lakes and numerous streams including the world-famed Wind River and the Little White Salmon river, both noted for fighting trout and steelhead.

It is the home of the St. Martin Hot Mineral Springs, Moffett's Hot Springs and Government Mineral Springs.

Stevenson, population 1,400, is the county seat. Other towns include Carson, North Bonneville, Cook, Willard, Home Valley, Skamania and Underwood.

Principal Industries

More than 1,000 workmen are now employed in industries using the abundant supply of fir and kindred timbers. These include the Stevenson Plywood Corporation, Stevenson; Broughton Bros. Lumber Co., Willard and Hood; Stevenson Lumber Co., Stevenson; Carson Lumber Co., Carson; Hegewald Lumber Co., Stevenson; Skamania Lumber Co., at Skamania, and Willis Mfg. Co., of No. Bonneville. Numerous small timber operations are scattered about the county.

Other employers include Washington Mountain Cheese Co., Stevenson; Columbia Dairy, Stevenson; C. T. Smith & Son, operators of a fleet of tow boats, and builders of small craft, at a private shipyards at Stevenson.

Standard Oil Co., Shell Oil Co., and Union Oil Co., maintain bulk stations on the S. P. & S. tracks at Stevenson.

State Highway Department Plant is at Stevenson.

Commercial and Civic Groups

Stevenson - Carson Chamber of Commerce; North Bonneville Chamber of Commerce; Stevenson Lions Club; Skamania County Rod and Gun Club; Several Parent-Teacher Associations; Fraternal Organizations include Eagles, Masons, Odd Fellows, Granges, etc.

The Stevenson Woman's Club, with county assistance, is in charge of the Stevenson Public Library.

A volunteer Fire Department at Stevenson has two modern trucks, one for use in the city proper and the other assigned to duty outside the city.

North Bonneville maintains a complete fire department while both state and national forestry units have trained firemen in close proximity to their holdings.

Education and Schools

An accredited central high school is located in Stevenson. Grade schools in 10 or more areas send graduate students here. All schools and equipment are modern or in process of being modernized and indications are that several present grade school districts will be combined, with more extended teaching facilities. Recreation grounds are adequate and well equipped.

The Stevenson High School is a member of the Clark-Cowlitz-Skamania League with Football, Basketball and Baseball teams. The school has an excellent record scholastically, as well as in competitive sports.

Local Climatological Summary

WITH COMPARATIVE DATA COVERING 4-YEAR PERIOD

MEANS and EXTREMES

Month	Temperature								Mean degree days	Precipitation							
	Means				Extremes					Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Minimum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Year	Record lowest	Year										
(a)	4	4	4	4	1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
J	35.5	24.7	30.1	60	1947	-8	1950	1080	8.28	11.06	1950	0.99	1949	3.67	1948		
F	44.2	31.2	37.7	63	1948	-11	1950	770	10.08	14.62	1949	3.55	1947	2.95	1950		
M	51.1	36.9	44.0	73	1947	28	1948	650	6.90	12.67	1950	3.13	1949	2.19	1950		
A	58.5	41.4	50.0	82	1947	32	1948	450	4.10	5.40	1947	1.95	1949	1.82	1947		
M	66.0	47.2	56.6	90	1947	35	1948	268	2.73	4.86	1948	0.08	1947	2.81	1949		
J	70.5	52.0	61.2	92	1948	40	1949	141	2.23	4.83	1947	1.18	1949	1.62	1947		
J	74.6	55.0	64.8	94	1948	46	1947	61	0.83	1.09	1948	0.62	1947	0.70	1950		
A	75.2	56.3	65.8	96	1950	48	1949	42	0.38	0.71	1950	0.17	1949	0.47	1950		
S	72.7	52.4	62.6	94	1948	38	1948	120	3.00	3.89	1948	2.29	1947	2.13	1949		
O	58.6	44.8	51.7	72	1950	28	1949	413	9.90	15.96	1947	3.73	1948	2.51	1947		
N	50.4	39.8	45.1	66	1949	30	1947	595	11.10	14.30	1948	5.16	1947	2.71	1950		
D	43.5	34.7	39.1	57	1949	18	1948	801	10.69	15.81	1948	6.79	1947	2.30	1948		
Year	58.4	43.0	50.7	96	AUG. 1950	-11	FEB. 1950	5391	70.22	15.96	OCT. 1947	0.08	MAY 1947	3.67	JAN. 1948		

(a) Length of record, years.

TOTAL PRECIPITATION

STEVENSON, WASHINGTON
1950

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1947	10.13	3.55	7.20	5.40	0.08	4.83	0.62	0.21	2.29	15.96	5.16	6.79	62.22
1948	10.94	10.78	4.58	4.57	4.86	1.60	1.09	0.42	3.43	3.73	14.30	15.81	76.57
1949	0.99	14.62	3.13	1.95	4.72	1.18	0.68	0.17	2.95	5.33	10.97	9.40	56.09
1950	11.06	11.37	12.67	4.46	1.26	1.31	0.91	0.71	2.86	14.56	13.95	10.74	85.86

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	An l
1947	35.4	43.7	48.3	52.7	60.2	59.2	64.6	64.6	63.5	53.6	45.1	40.6	52.6
1948	37.8	37.8	42.0	47.0	54.2	63.4	64.0	63.8	60.5	52.8	42.4	34.5	50.0
1949	25.1	36.0	44.0	52.2	58.1	60.6	64.4	65.8	63.6	48.4	48.5	39.2	50.5
1950	22.0	33.3	41.7	48.0	54.0	61.7	66.1	68.8	62.6	51.9	44.3	42.0	49.7

Prevailing wind from the Southwest.

Average Relative Humidity about 74%.

(4)

Transportation

Skamania County's transportation facilities embrace every known commercial agency—water, rail and highway. And to make it easy of access for any industry, all three systems are parallel to each other.

The Columbia river, with a stage of water sufficient to carry ocean-bound cargo, runs south of the Evergreen highway from Mt. Pleasant to Underwood. Between them, the mainline of the S. P. & S. railroad connects Portland and Vancouver with Spokane and the Great Northern railroad for points East.

The Evergreen highway is one of the two all-year, paved routes across Washington from West to East. It connects, in Vancouver, with U. S. Route 99 for Seattle (north) and California (south.) It gives access to the Columbia Highway, on the South bank of the Columbia river via the Bridge of the Gods, 4 miles west of Stevenson. Here the lowest crossing rates

on the Columbia river encourage exchange of business between the two states of Oregon and Washington.

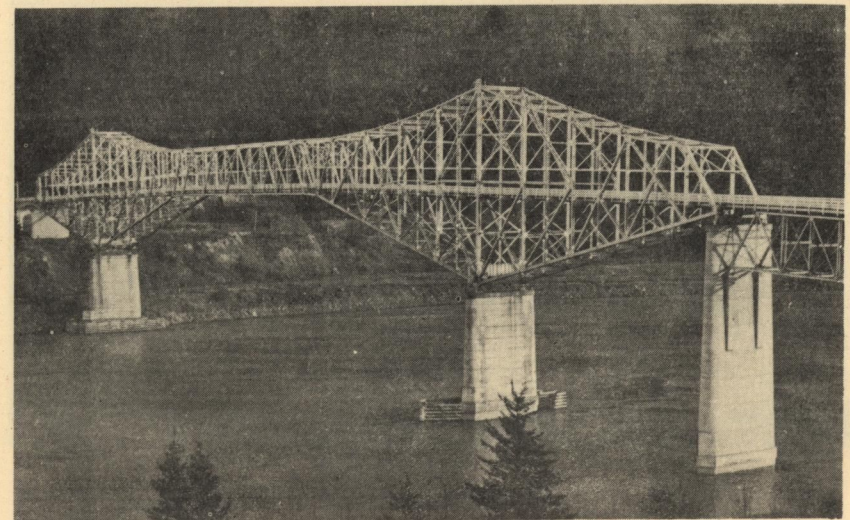
Railroad passenger service includes one streamlined Portland-to-Chicago train and one local passenger, Portland-to-Spokane daily and vice versa.

Rates inviting to commercial shippers existing on the S. P. & S., (Great Northern R. R.) are found on page 6.

More than 2,000 private automobiles are licensed in the county and scores of modern logging trucks carry huge loads over the county's system of paved highways which connect with privately-built roads leading into the big tree areas.

Few counties in the United States can boast of a more elaborate highway system or one which is so consistently maintained for the utmost in service. Well equipped crews in each of the three road districts are responsible.

BRIDGE OF THE GODS — COLUMBIA RIVER



—Photo by Christian

(5)

From Here to Everywhere

Railroad mileage and class rates in cents per hundred pounds from Stevenson, Wash.

To:	Miles	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	A	B	C	D	E
Portland	44	71	60	50	44	37	37	28	22	18	14
Seattle or Tacoma	226	186	166	141	117	99	84	67	50	41	32
Spokane	325	239	202	166	143	119	119	95	71	59	48
San Francisco	782	281	239	197	168	134	140	112	84	70	56
Los Angeles	1156	367	312	257	220	184	184	147	110	92	73
Salt Lake City	1199	389	332	272	233	194	194	156	117	98	78
Denver	1608	627	543	458	387	337	337	258	201	188	156
Minneapolis	1769	770	667	565	472	404	410	318	244	215	168
Chicago	2216	936	813	675	571	474	489	383	304	252	199

Effective August 28th, 1951, charges based on above interstate rates are subject to a 6% surcharge.



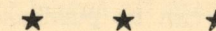
MT. ADAMS
Photo by Christian

Two Port Districts

Two Port Districts have been organized in Skamania county after elections were held. It is their purpose to assist industrial and other water-front users in obtaining sites, deepening and dredging streams where more water depth is needed and to otherwise function as assistants in the proper development of any area coming under their jurisdiction.

The North Bonneville Port District is now inactive but if needed, might soon function. The Wind River Port District, embracing the Columbia river area between Home Valley and Rock Creek is alert and in 1951, for example, levied a 2-mill tax which raised \$2,799.59 for expenditures that year.

The Port District officials offer aid to any prospective occupant of river-front areas within their jurisdiction.



Tax Statistics

With a "40-mill limit" basic tax law in effect in Washington state, that item of industrial overhead is well protected. With bonded debt limited, the tax structure is again impressive as far as investments in manufacturing facilities are concerned.

Skamania county's valuation for tax purposes for 1951 amounted to \$5,572,792.00, an increase of over \$3,000,000.00 over the past decade—chargeable principally to the rapid advance in prices of timber holdings. The county is one of the wealthiest, per capita, in the Northwest, yet the combined tax in the various towns, for all purposes, were: 45.30 mills in Stevenson and 44.70 in North Bonneville with other county towns smaller.

The county raised \$11,145.58 for public health; \$11,145.58 for public assistance; \$1,504.65 for river improvement; \$3,343.68 for Tuberculosis hospital and \$37,504.89 for current expense for 1951. These are normal figures.

Industrial Sites on Water, Rails or Highways (or All Three)



—Photo by Christian

From Cape Horn (West) to Underwood (East) in Skamania County, there are scores of large and small sites that possess all the requirements for medium and small industries.

Most of them are within the 15-mile radius of Bonneville Dam which guarantees the lowest industrial power rate in America under a contract emphasizing dependability.

Nearly all preferred sites are contiguous to deep water which may be economically profitable to use to reach West coast and Inland Empire markets.

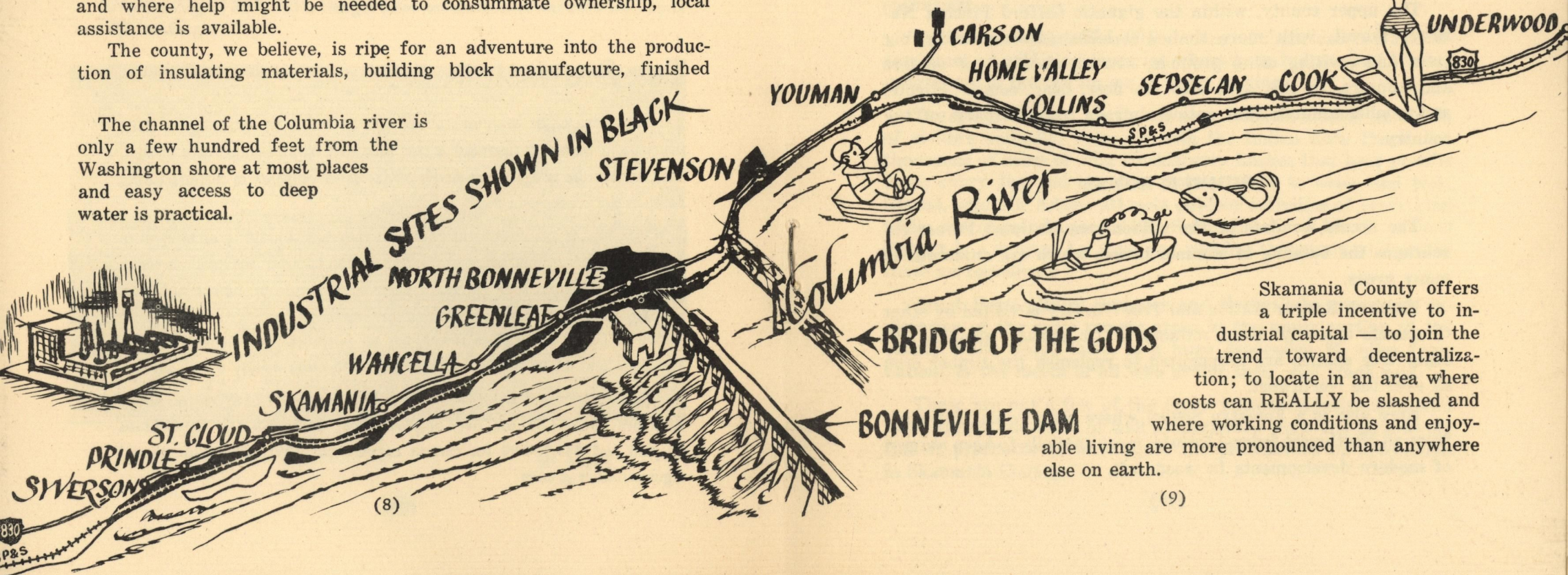
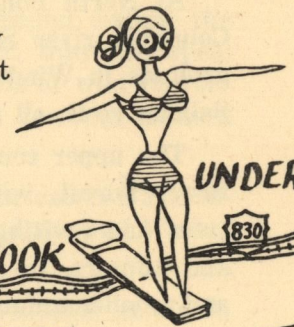
The larger of the industrial sites are East of Stevenson and West of North Bonneville, both within the 15-mile power zone.

A majority of these sites can be purchased at a reasonable price and where help might be needed to consummate ownership, local assistance is available.

The county, we believe, is ripe for an adventure into the production of insulating materials, building block manufacture, finished

The channel of the Columbia river is only a few hundred feet from the Washington shore at most places and easy access to deep water is practical.

wood products of a large variety as well as any operation which would utilize the huge waste that covers thousands of acres of logged-off areas.



Skamania County offers a triple incentive to industrial capital — to join the trend toward decentralization; to locate in an area where costs can REALLY be slashed and where working conditions and enjoyable living are more pronounced than anywhere else on earth.

Recreation - - - - -

A State Park and two county parks top off Skamania county's superb recreation area. Thousands of tourists as well as other thousands from neighboring cities join local residents in making full use of them.

Beacon Rock Park, on U. S. Highway 830, is world famous because of the huge monolith at its entrance—the second largest in the world. Big Cedars, a county park in the Willard area, is unsurpassed for its variety of entertaining features while William G. Meneice Park, on the Columbia river at Home Valley, is the youngest of the group.

SALMON LADDERS

At North Bonneville, tourists see thousands of the famous Columbia river Salmon climb the ladders to reach spawning grounds in Wind River, Little White Salmon river and White Salmon river, all noted for salmon, steelhead and trout catches.

The upper county, within the gigantic Gifford Pinchot National Forest, with more than 100 lakes surrounded by big trees and inviting camp grounds, attract attention of anglers and hunters. In this area also are deer, bear, cougar, coyote, and smaller animals that entice nimrods from all parts of the country.

SUMMER HOMES

The scenic wonders of the million-acre National Forest encourages the building of summer homes which are numerous in many areas.

Hemlock Ranger Station and Tree Nursery is visited by other thousands annually. Here, millions of fir, spruce, hemlock and other tree species are propagated to replenish the timber crop all over the Northwest.

Here also is a Forestry School where rangers and foresters from all Northwest federal forests, meet annually to keep abreast of modern developments in woodcraft.

Only Minutes From Factory To Fun

FISHING AT DAM

In the Columbia river, salmon, sturgeon, steelhead attract professional and amateur fishermen from a wide sector. Fishing is good—from the bank or from a boat, both above and below Bonneville dam.

Mt. Adams and Mt. St. Helens offer the best in skiing and mountain climbing and at Spirit Lake, nestled at the foot of the latter, facilities are available for de luxe camping and outdoor life. Between these two Cascade Mountain peaks, Skamania County's wildest terrain offers the intrepid explorer an opportunity to enjoy himself to the fullest.

SNOW AND FLOWERS

Many of the higher elevations are snowbound during the winter season, but from May until December, they are open, inviting areas where, in many places, thousands of wild flowers color the landscape to provide ammunition for the camera enthusiast.

Trails are well established and many of them lead to a 90,000-acre tract of wild Huckleberries where both Indians and Whites congregate in the fall season of berry picking.

The widely known Ice Caves, near Willard, attract hundreds of visitors annually. They vie with the Indian Race Track, the thousands of acres of wild Huckleberry bushes that bear prolific crops every fall and are free to the public to enter and pick. Glacial, wild Mt. Adams attracts outdoor activities of every kind while the more commercialized Spirit Lake and Mt. St. Helens district is a magnet for local and visiting thousands who prefer those surroundings.

Local Horticultural Societies and Rock Clubs encourage exploration of the more remote areas in the upper portion of the county while Goose Lake, in a huge depression 25 miles from Carson, is the mecca of all who prefer their wild trout wild.

These are but a few of the many reasons industrialists who have learned the value of well proportioned work and play would find it profitable to investigate the possibilities of production in Skamania County.

Minerology

The source of the greatest undeveloped wealth in Skamania County is underneath its soil. Almost every known mineral has been located, many of them in commerical quantity. They range from platinum to iron, the former in considerable quantity, the latter in outcroppings that comprise mountains in extent. Prospectors still capitalize on gold dust and nuggets in streams. Hundreds of claims are filed annually, most of them worked sufficiently to legalize them.

Road minerals, sand and gravel beds, building block materials, basalt, are here in abundance.



Photo by BPA

Huge clay deposits for building and fire brick manufacture abound in several places. Gravel and sand for concrete tile making are also plentiful.

The most highly developed mineral claims are in the Spirit Lake and Mt. St. Helens area. Here copper, gold, lead, zinc, silver, platinum, quick-silver, iron, arsenical ores, pumice, sandstones, basalt and mineral waters are found. Huge iron deposits abound south of this area and strange rock formations bared by swift water, attract hundreds of explorers annually.

Actual development of much of this area awaits the mechanism needed to make the operations profitable. But for engineers who seek new fields in which to operate with more than ordinary chances of success, Skamania county offers a challenge. It is worth investigating.

Pages and pages of mineral claim data are kept in the County Auditor's office and the regularity with which claims are renewed indicates the faith which those who realize their value, place in their ultimate development. Scarcity of many of these metals will someday stimulate an intensive effort to bring them to market.

Bauxite-bearing areas are also pointed out by old-timers who have spent considerable time and money in their effort to interest aluminum capital.

Crops and Farming

The terrain does not permit extensive agricultural operations but the returns based on acreage and investment in many crops are little short of phenomenal. In the Eastern part of the county, the finest non-irrigated apples are grown. Hundreds of carloads are shipped East annually, and they sell at a premium. Huge storage facilities exist at Underwood.

The berry and small crop area lies west of the fruit country, soil and climate favoring such crops as strawberries, onions, tomatoes, etc.

In the western section, some agriculture is prevalent but nuts perhaps dominate the picture. There is plenty of water in most sections although the months from May until October produce little rain. Almost anything adaptable to a short growing season is profitable in most of the county areas.

Labor

The Labor supply is stable and generally efficient. A large majority of the daily workers are employed in the varied timber operations. Most or all of them are affiliated with CIO or AFL organizations, but only one Local Union exists in the county—those engaged in Carpentry and its kindred activities.

Strikes and disruptions are al-

most unknown. Pay scales are usually those in effect in adjacent areas or where the trades are organized. A majority of workers own their homes and many are life-long residents of the county.

There is little or no sentiment opposed to organized workers and industries requiring union men have no trouble in meeting their demand.

Churches

Almost every Protestant denomination with one Cathlotic and one Christian Science congregation makes Divine worship in one's Faith accessible to all.

Stevenson has four Protestant churches with resident ministers; one Catholic congregation and church, served from Goldendale.

No. Bonneville has two Protestant churches with one Christian

Science church and congregation, locally served.

Carson has two Protestant churches while local churches exist to serve their immediate areas in every community of the county.

Many of the churches take an active interest in local affairs and provide much of the social life surrounding them.

Theatres

Motion picture theatres in No. Bonneville and Stevenson provide recent pictures for those who prefer entertainment of that kind. The buildings are modern, the equipment standard and the owners active in promoting entertainment that meets the desires of patrons who regularly attend.

Insurance

Comparatively, the rates for fire and other protection needed in industry, are below that which exists in more populous adjacent areas.

For instance, residential insurance in Stevenson costs from 47c to 54c per hundred dollar valuation. In the county generally, the rates are from \$1.225 to \$1.50.

Industrial insurance in this area is approximately 16c per hundred lower than insurance on the same materials in nearby cities.

Excellent records maintained by local fire departments in No. Bonneville and Stevenson are responsible for this condition. Other areas are protected by firemen and trucks maintained by the county, by the state forestry department and by the Gifford Pinchot fire fighting organization.



Timber Resources

In the Gifford Pinchot National Forest alone, there is sufficient timber to guarantee an annual cut of 18,000,000 bd. ft. for an indefinite future. That is the present status of the supply.

But the formation of a Federal Unit is now under way and with its completion the annual cut will reach 40,000,000 ft. annually. These figures apply to the federal holdings only. In addition, there are several thousand acres of state-owned timber that may yield annually, at least half the above. And

then, private timber holdings are by no means exhausted.

The principal timber crops consist of Douglas Fir and Hemlock with considerable cedar and some pine. Periodical sales are held in which all local mill owners compete.

Chief Ranger Fechtner, of the Hemlock station said the Gifford Pinchot Forest turned over \$190,000.00 to Skamania County this year (1951) which sum is divided equally between highways and schools. It is expected to turn in more in future years.

POWER---Unlimited

FROM THE OLDEST PUD IN WASHINGTON

Located on the Southern boundary, equidistant from the East and West lines is the Great Bonneville Dam. It was the first Federal Hydro-electric dam on the Columbia river. From its power house radiates high voltage lines covering the Pacific Northwest. These are connected to other federal lines and to those of private power companies to form the Northwest Power Pool.

Into this pool is pumped power generated in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Utah. These lines constitute the life-blood of private industry in the Pacific Northwest.

SKAMANIA COUNTY, AT THE CENTER OF PRODUCTION, OFFERS AN IDEAL POWER SUPPLY FOR INDUSTRIES WITHIN ITS BORDERS.

In 1940, when the District was born, it began operation with only 555 consumers and no industrial users. In 1950, this home-owned utility is supplying 1,882 consumers not including more than a dozen industries. It is the only utility serving the county.

Retail rates for power are among the lowest anywhere. Following is a fair comparison:

COMMERCIAL POWER

	150 kw		500 kw	1,000 kw
	30 M kwh	60 M kwh	200 M kwh	400 M kwh
Average of 9 County-wide Distributors	\$364.00	\$512.00	\$1,311.00	\$2,442.00
Average 6 City Distributors	335.00	478.00	1,325.00	2,377.00
Average Rates in Portland	395.00	549.00	1,209.00	2,361.00
SKAMANIA CO.	349.00	479.00	1,204.00	2,216.00

For larger blocks of power, rates as low as \$14.50 per KW year are available.

Possibilities for new industries are unlimited in the Skamania County PUD area for these reasons:

- 1 CHEAP ELECTRIC POWER
- 2 INDUSTRIAL SITES ON WATER, RAIL OR HIGHWAY
- 3 LOW COST INSURANCE
- 4 LOW TAX RATES
- 5 LOW COST TRANSPORTATION
- 6 PLENTIFUL SUPPLY OF LABOR
- 7 BEAUTIFUL HOME SITES AT LOW COST

For more detailed information
address communications to:
Stevenson-Carson Chamber of Commerce,
Stevenson, Wash.
or
North Bonneville Chamber of Commerce,
North Bonneville, Wash.
or
Skamania County Public Utility District
No. 1,
Stevenson, Wash.

Photos pages 5-6-8
Christian Photo Service
Portland

—By A. L. B.

BEACON ROCK

Second to Gibraltar

840 FEET HIGH

Covers 35 Acres

Trail to Summit

4488 Feet Long

Photo by
Western Picture Service
Portland, Oregon

