

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FRANKLIN K. LANE, *Secretary*

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



Photograph by Curtis & Müller

A RIBBLING RIVER OF ICE 400 FEET THICK FLOWING FROM THE SHINING SUMMIT

Looking from a wild-flower slope down upon the celebrated Nisqually Glacier and up at Columbia Crest



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

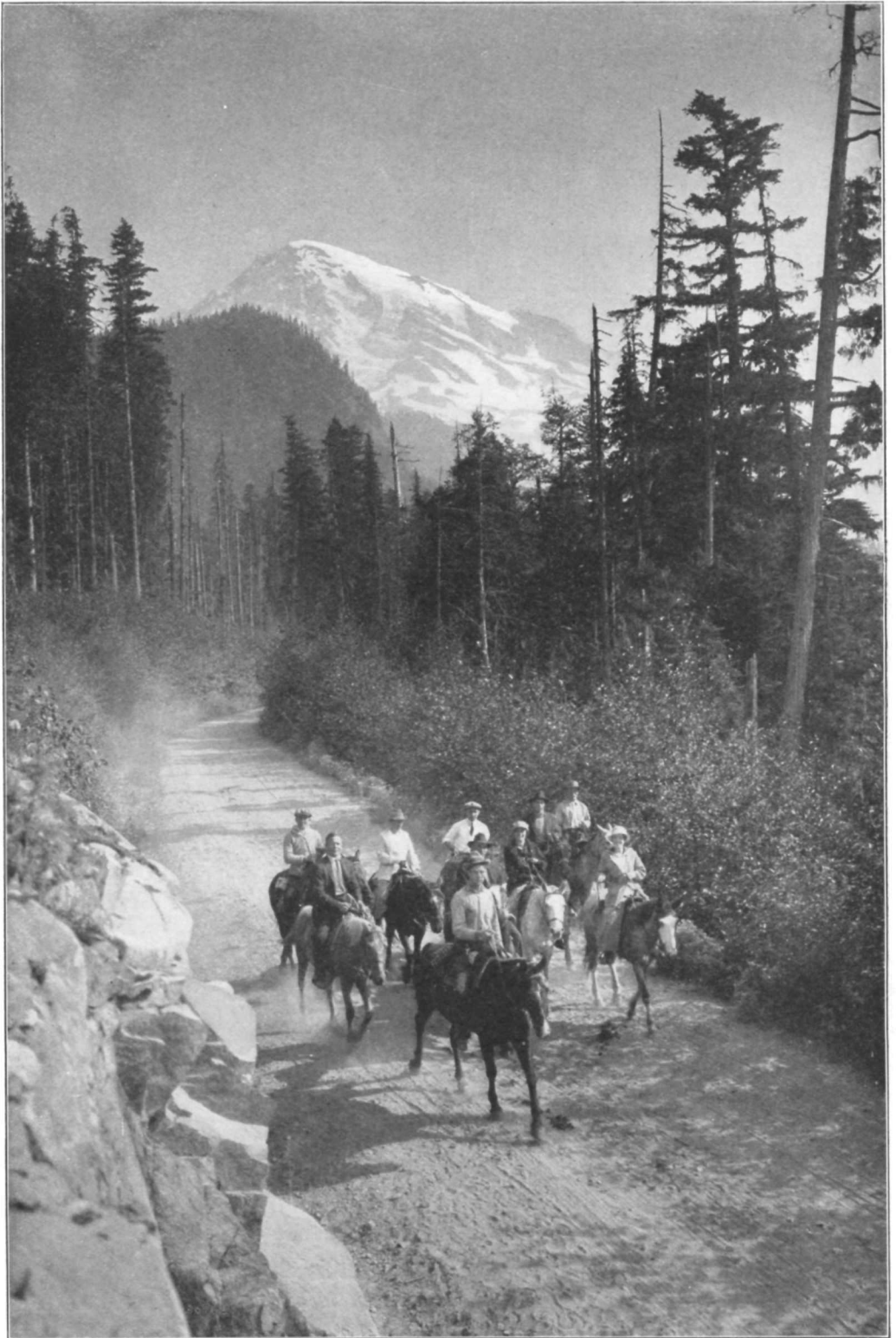
ENTRANCE TO MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

THE FROZEN OCTOPUS

FROM the Cascade Mountains in Washington rises a series of volcanoes which once blazed across the sea like giant beacons. Today, their fires quenched, they suggest a stalwart band of Knights of the Ages, helmeted in snow, armored in ice, standing at parade upon a carpet patterned gorgeously in wild flowers.

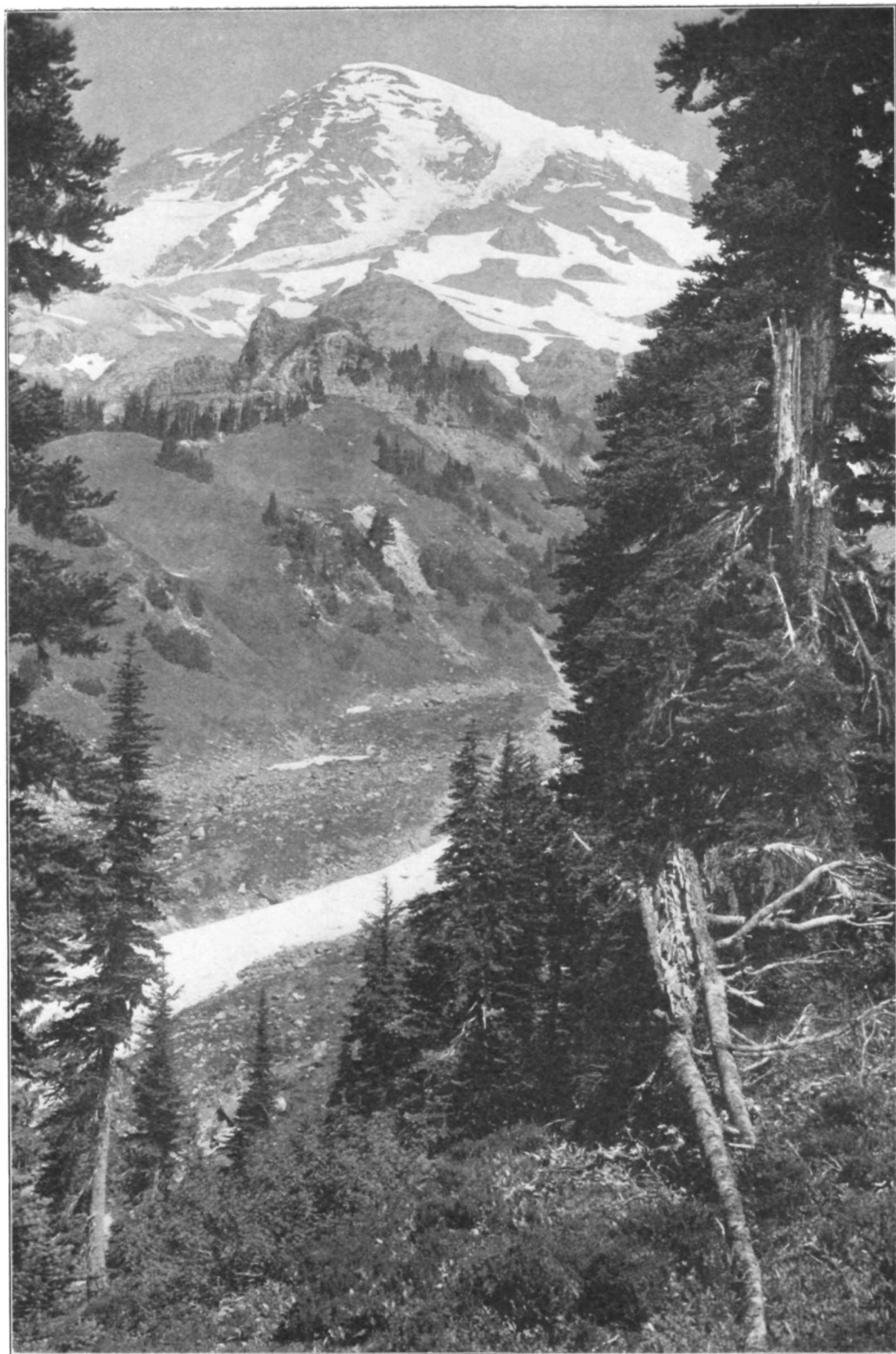
Easily chief of this knightly band is Mount Rainier, a giant towering 14,408 feet above tidewater in Puget Sound. Home-bound sailors far at sea mend their courses from his silver summit.

This mountain has a glacier system far exceeding in size and impressive beauty that of any other in the United States. From its snow-covered summit twenty-eight rivers of ice pour slowly down its sides. Seen upon the map, as if from an aeroplane, one thinks of it as an enormous frozen octopus stretching icy tentacles down upon every side among the rich gardens of wild flowers and splendid forests of firs and cedars below.



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

ABOVE EVERY CURVE OF THE PARADISE ROAD LOOMS THE GREAT WHITE MOUNTAIN



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

FROM UNDER THE SHADOWY FIRS OF VAN TRUMP PARK IT GLISTENS STARTLINGLY



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

THE TWO TAHOMA GLACIERS MAY BE SEEN THROUGH THEIR WHOLE COURSES FROM INDIAN HENRYS HUNTING GROUND

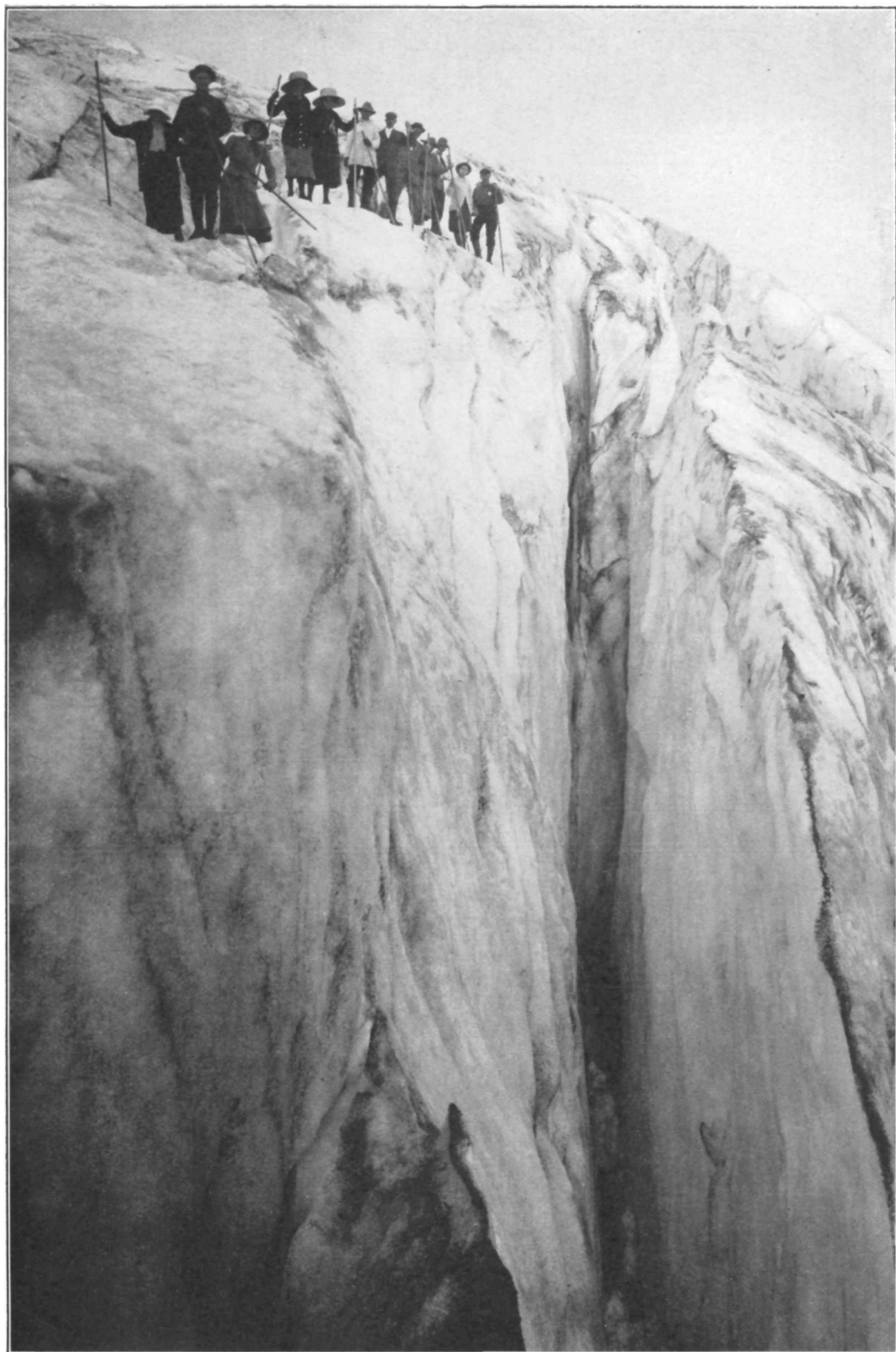
The Tahoma, on the left, begins at the summit; the South Tahoma begins in the cirque just below Point Success, the highest point shown in the picture; they circle in opposite directions around rocky Glacier Island and join in the foreground



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Photograph by Curtis & Miller

EVERYWHERE, BETWEEN AND TOUCHING THE ICY GLACIER FINGERS, ARE GORGEOUS GARDENS OF LUXURIANT WILD FLOWERS
“As if Nature,” writes John Muir, “glad to make an open space between woods so dense and ice so deep, were economizing the precious ground”



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

LOOKING INTO A GREAT CREVASSE IN THE STEVENS GLACIER

Crevasse are caused by the swifter motion of the middle than the sides. This ice is 400 feet deep

THE GIANT RIVERS OF ICE

EVERY winter the moisture-laden winds from the Pacific, suddenly cooled against its summit, deposit upon Rainier's top and sides enormous snows. These, settling in the mile-wide crater which was left after a great explosion in some prehistoric age carried away perhaps two thousand feet of the volcano's former height, press with overwhelming weight down the mountain's sloping sides.

Thus are born the glaciers, for the snow under its own pressure quickly hardens into ice. Through twenty-eight valleys, self-carved in the solid rock, flow these rivers of ice, now turning, as rivers of water turn, to avoid the harder rock strata, now roaring over precipices like congealed water falls, now rippling, like water currents, over rough bottoms, pushing, pouring relentlessly on until they reach those parts of their courses where warmer air turns them into rivers of water.

There are forty-eight square miles of these glaciers.



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

SNOUT OF NISQUALLY GLACIER WHERE THE NISQUALLY RIVER BEGINS



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

CLOSE TO THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT RAINIER



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

LEAVING CAMP OF THE CLOUDS FOR THE SUMMIT

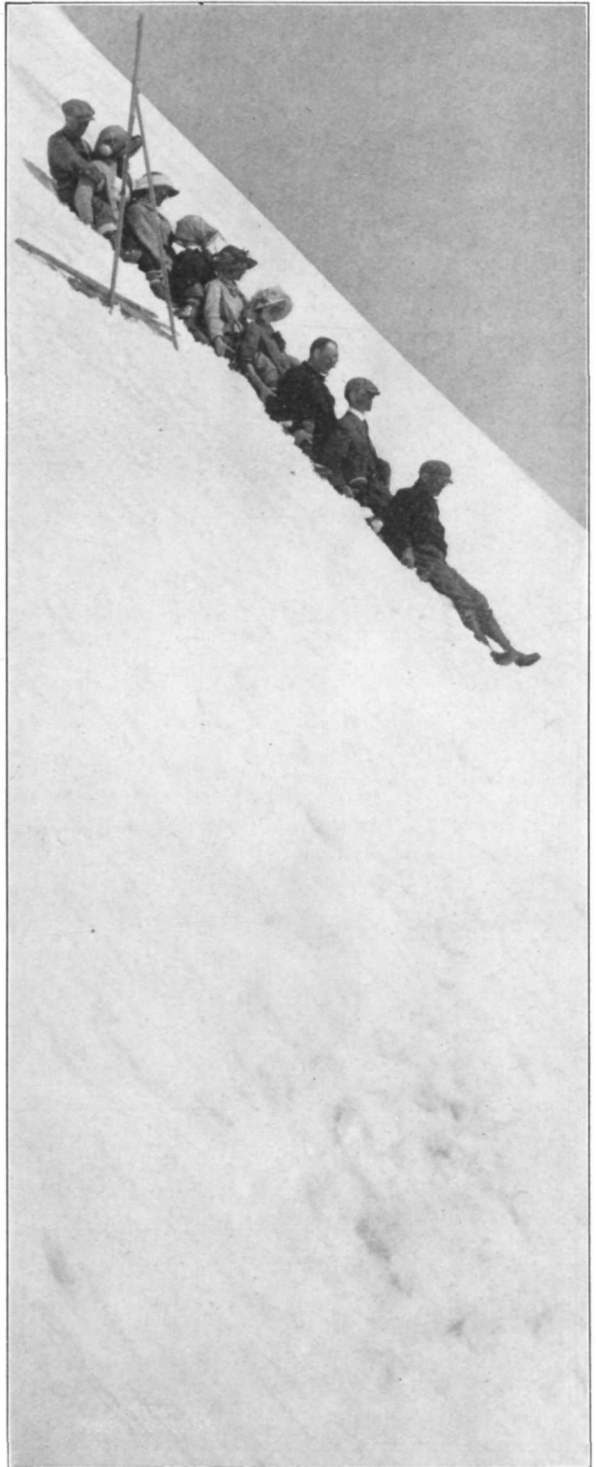
Nearly every day parties start for the long hard tramp up the glaciers to Columbia Crest. The climbers must dress warmly, paint their faces and hands to protect the skin from sunburn, and eat sparingly. Dark glasses must be worn. None but the hardy mountain climbers attempt this arduous tramp.

IN AN ARCTIC WONDERLAND

MOUNT RAINIER is nearly three miles high measured from sea level. It rises nearly two miles from its immediate base. Once it was a finished cone like the famous Fujiyama, the sacred mountain of Japan. Then it was probably 16,000 feet high. Indian legends tell of the great eruption.

In addition to the twenty-eight named glaciers there are others yet unnamed and little known. Few visitors have seen the wonderful north side, a photograph of which will be found on a later page. It possesses endless possibilities for development and easy grades to Columbia Crest, the wonderful snow-covered summit which is the second highest summit in the United States.

Many interesting things might be told of the glaciers were there space. For example, several species of minute insects live in the ice, hopping about like tiny fleas. They are harder to see than the so-called sand fleas at the seashore because much smaller. Slender, dark-brown worms live in countless millions in the surface ice. Microscopic rose-colored plants also thrive in such great numbers that they tint the surface here and there, making what is commonly called "red snow."



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

COASTING AT PARADISE VALLEY



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

ONE OF THE GREAT SPECTACLES OF AMERICA IS MOUNT RAINIER, FROM INDIAN HENRY'S HUNTING GROUND, GLISTENING AGAINST THE SKY AND PICTURED AGAIN IN MIRROR LAKE

GLACIER AND WILD FLOWER

PROBABLY no glacier of large size in the world is so quickly, easily, and comfortably reached as the most striking and celebrated, though by no means the largest, of Mount Rainier's, the Nisqually Glacier. It descends directly south from the snowy summit in a long curve, its lower finger reaching into parklike glades of luxuriant wild flowers. From Paradise Park one may step directly upon its fissured surface.

The Nisqually Glacier is five miles long and, at Paradise Park, is half a mile wide. Glistening white and fairly smooth at its shining source on the mountain's summit, its surface here is soiled with dust and broken stone and squeezed and rent by terrible pressure into fantastic shapes. Innumerable crevasses, or cracks many feet deep, break across it caused by the more rapid movement of the glacier's middle than its edges; for glaciers, like rivers of water, develop swifter currents nearer midstream.

Professor Le Conte tells us that the movement of Nisqually Glacier in summer averages, at midstream, about sixteen inches a day. It is far less at the margins, its speed being retarded by the friction of the sides.

Like all glaciers, the Nisqually gathers on its surface masses of rock with which it strews its sides just as rivers of water strew their banks with rocks and floating débris. These are called lateral moraines, or side moraines. Sometimes glaciers build lateral moraines miles long. The Nisqually ice is four hundred feet thick in places.

The rocks which are carried in midstream to the end of the glacier and dropped when the ice melts are called the terminal moraine.

The end, or snout, of the glacier thus always lies among a great mass of rocks and stones. The Nisqually River generally flows from a cave in the end of the Nisqually Glacier's snout. The river is dark brown when it first appears because it carries sediment and powdered rock which, however, it soon deposits, becoming clear.

But this brief picture of the Mount Rainier National Park would miss its loveliest touch without some notice of the wild-flower parks lying at the base, and often reaching far up between the icy fingers, of Mount Rainier.

"Above the forests," writes John Muir, the celebrated naturalist, "there is a zone of the loveliest flowers, fifty miles in circuit and nearly two miles wide, so closely planted and luxurious that it seems as if nature, glad to make an open space between woods so dense and ice so deep, were economizing the precious ground and trying to see how many of her darlings she can get together in one mountain wreath—daisies, anemones, columbine, erythroniums, larkspurs, etc., among which we wade knee-deep and waist-deep, the bright corollas in myriads touching petal to petal. Altogether this is the richest subalpine garden I have ever found, a perfect flower elysium."



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

MOUNT ADAMS FROM MOUNT RAINIER—FORTY MILES SOUTHWARD



Copyrighted, 1903, by W. P. Romans, Seattle

THE NORTH SLOPES OF MOUNT RAINIER ARE WELL ADAPTED TO BECOME THE HEALTH AND PLEASURE GARDENS OF MANY THOUSANDS
The superb north side has been seen by very few visitors owing to its inaccessibility, but the Department of the Interior is planning its development



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

BEAUTIFUL PARADISE VALLEY SHOWING THE TATOOSH RIDGE



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

TIMBER-LINE AND FLOWER FIELDS IN BEAUTIFUL PARADISE VALLEY



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

THE MORNINGS OFTEN ROLL TOSSING SEAS OF MIST INTO THE VALLEYS, FROM WHICH EMERGE AT INTERVALS CRAGGY TOPS, GLISTENING GLACIERS, AND FAR-DISTANT MOUNTAIN PEAKS

This photograph was taken from a height at Indian Henrys. Mount St. Helens is lost in the mists forty miles away



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

COMET FALLS



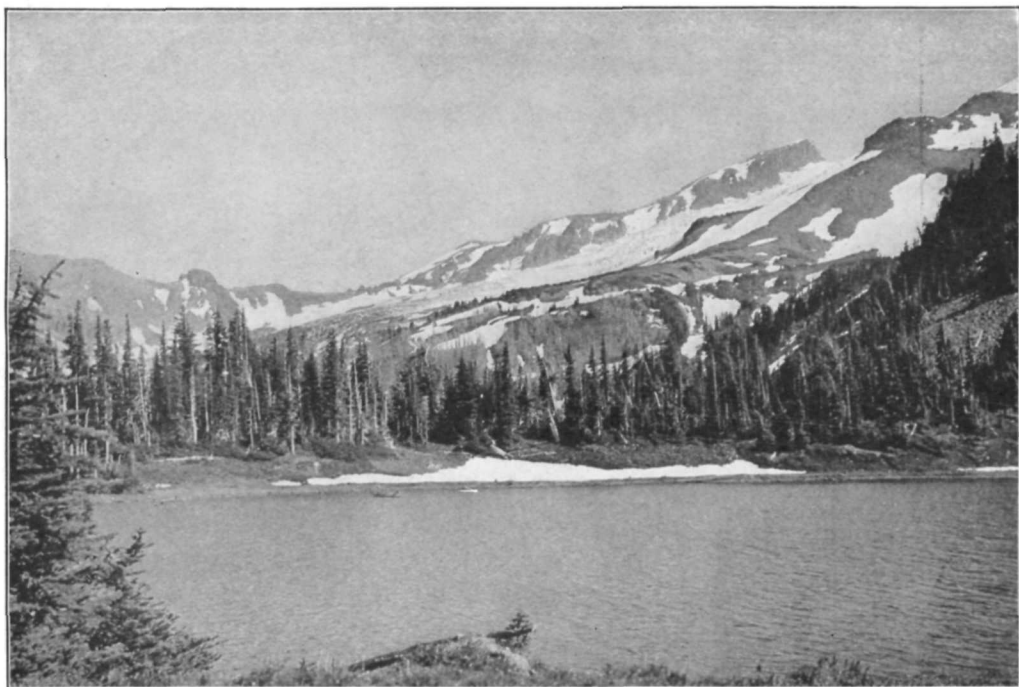
Photograph by Curtis & Miller

SLUISKIN FALLS



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

THE ROADS LEAD TO THE GLACIERS THROUGH FORESTS OF FIR AND CEDAR



CRATER LAKE (UNFORTUNATELY NAMED) A NORTH-SIDE GEM OF BEAUTY



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

THE ROADS ARE ADMIRABLE

EASIEST GLACIERS TO SEE

THE Mount Rainier National Park is so accessible that one may get a brief close-by glimpse in one day. The new railroad slogan, "Four hours from Tacoma to the Glaciers," tells the story.

But no one unless under dire necessity should think of being so near one of the greatest spectacles in nature without sparing several days for a real look; several weeks is none too long. Thousands of Americans in normal years go to Switzerland to see glaciers much harder to reach and far less satisfactory to study.

An excellent road will carry the visitor by autostage from the railway terminus to the several comfortable hotels and camps, most of which are so located that the principal scenic points on the south side may be easily reached.

Pedestrians and horseback riders also follow trails through the gorgeous wild-flower parks, Paradise Valley, Indian Henrys Hunting Ground, Van Trump Park, Cowlitz Park, Ohanapecosh River and its hot springs, Summerland, Grand Park, Moraine Park, Elysian Fields, Spray Park, Natural Bridge, Cataract Basin, St. Andrews Park, Glacier Basin, and others; developing new points of view of wonderful glory.



Photograph by Curtis & Miller

NATIONAL PARK INN

THE NATIONAL PARKS AT A GLANCE

Number, 17; Total Area, 9,774 Square Miles. Arranged chronologically in the order of their creation.

| NATIONAL PARK and Date | LOCATION | AREA in square miles | DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---|
| HOT SPRINGS RESERVATION 1832 | Middle Arkansas | 1½ | 46 hot springs possessing curative properties—Many hotels and boarding houses in adjacent city of Hot Springs—Bathhouses under public control. |
| YELLOWSTONE 1872 | North-western Wyoming | 3,348 | More geysers than in all rest of world together—Boiling springs—Mud volcanoes—Petrified forests—Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, remarkable for gorgeous coloring—Large lakes and waterfalls—Vast wilderness inhabited by deer, elk, bison, moose, antelope, bear, mountain sheep, etc.; greatest wild bird and animal preserve in world. |
| YOSEMITE 1890 | Middle eastern California | 1,125 | Valley of world-famed beauty—Lofty cliffs—Romantic vistas—Waterfalls of extraordinary height—3 groves of big trees—Large areas of snowy peaks—Waterwheel falls. |
| SEQUOIA 1890 | Middle eastern California | 252 | The Big Tree National Park—12,000 sequoia trees over 10 feet in diameter, some 25 to 36 feet in diameter. |
| GENERAL GRANT 1890 | Middle California | 4 | Created to preserve the celebrated General Grant Tree, 35 feet in diameter—6 miles from Sequoia National Park. |
| MOUNT RAINIER 1899 | West central Washington | 324 | Largest accessible single-peak glacier system—28 glaciers, some of large size—48 square miles of glacier, 50 to 1,000 feet thick—Remarkable subalpine wild-flower fields. |
| CRATER LAKE 1902 | Southern Oregon | 249 | Lake of extraordinary blue in crater of extinct volcano, no visible inlet, or outlet—Sides 1,000 feet high. |
| PLATT 1904 | Southern Oklahoma | 1½ | Sulphur and other springs possessing curative properties—Under Government regulation. |
| MESA VERDE 1906 | Southern Colorado | 77 | Most notable and best-preserved prehistoric cliff dwellings in United States, if not in the world. |
| GLACIER 1910 | North-western Montana | 1,534 | Rugged mountain region of unsurpassed alpine character—250 glacier-fed lakes of romantic beauty—60 small glaciers—Peaks of unusual shape—Precipices thousands of feet deep—Fine trout fishing. |
| ROCKY MOUNTAIN 1915 | Northern Colorado | 398 | Heart of the Rockies—Snowy Range, peaks 11,000 to 14,250 feet altitude—Remarkable records of glacial period. |
| HAWAII 1916 | Hawaii | 118 | Two active volcanoes, Mauna Loa, largest in the world, and Kilauea, whose lake of bubbling lava is world famed—A third volcano, Haleakala, whose crater, 8 miles wide, contains many cones. |
| LASSEN VOLCANIC 1916 | Northern California | 124 | Active volcano—Lassen Peak, 10,437 feet in altitude—Cinder Cone, 6,907 feet—Hot springs—Mud geysers. |
| MOUNT MCKINLEY 1917 | South central Alaska | 2,200 | Highest Mountain in North America—Rises higher above surrounding country than any mountain in the world. |

National Parks of less popular interest are:

- Casa Grande Ruin, 1889, Arizona..... Prehistoric Indian ruin.
 Wind Cave, 1903, South Dakota..... Large natural cavern.
 Sullys Hill, 1904, North Dakota..... Wooded hilly tract on Devils Lake.

HOW TO REACH THE NATIONAL PARKS



The map shows the location of all of our National Parks and their principal railroad connections. The traveler may work out his routes to suit himself. Low round-trip excursion fares to the American Rocky Mountain region and Pacific Coast may be availed of in visiting the National Parks during their respective seasons, thus materially reducing the cost of the trip. Transcontinental through trains and branch lines make the Parks easy of access from all parts of the United States. For schedules and excursion fares to and between the National Parks apply to your local railway ticket office or to any excursion agency, or write to the Passenger Departments of the railroads which appear on the above map, as follows:

| | |
|---|--|
| ARIZONA EASTERN RAILROAD | Tucson, Ariz. |
| ATCHISON, TOPEKA & SANTA FE RAILWAY | 1119 Railway Exchange, Chicago, Ill. |
| CHICAGO & NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY | 225 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill. |
| CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY RAILROAD CO. | 547 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill. |
| CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILWAY | Railway Exchange, Chicago, Ill. |
| CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND & PACIFIC RAILWAY CO. | La Salle Street Station, Chicago, Ill. |
| COLORADO & SOUTHERN RAILWAY | Railway Exchange Building, Denver, Colo. |
| DENVER & RIO GRANDE RAILROAD CO. | Equitable Building, Denver, Colo. |
| GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY | Railroad Building, Fourth and Jackson Streets, St. Paul, Minn. |
| GULF, COLORADO & SANTA FE RAILWAY | Galveston, Tex. |
| ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD | Central Station, Chicago, Ill. |
| MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILWAY | Railway Exchange Building, St. Louis, Mo. |
| NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY | Railroad Building, Fifth and Jackson Streets, St. Paul, Minn. |
| SAN PEDRO, LOS ANGELES & SALT LAKE RAILROAD | Pacific Electric Building, Los Angeles, Cal. |
| SOUTHERN PACIFIC CO. | Flood Building, San Francisco, Cal. |
| UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM | Garland Building, 58 East Washington Street, Chicago, Ill. |
| WABASH RAILWAY | Railway Exchange Building, St. Louis, Mo. |
| WESTERN PACIFIC RAILWAY | Mills Building, San Francisco, Cal. |

For information about sojourning and traveling within the National Parks write to the Department of the Interior for the Information circular of the Park or Parks in which you are interested.



REMEMBER THAT

THE NATIONAL PARKS BELONG TO YOU

THEY ARE THE GREAT NATIONAL PLAYGROUNDS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR WHOM THEY ARE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR