

Tells of 25,000 Mile Trip Across U. S. to Alaskan Wilds

Following is a continuation of the round robin letters sent to friends of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Patton on their 25,000 mile trailer trip to Alaska:

Our route led us through San Mateo where we called up Gil and Ann Gilbert, to find them still in town. They insisted there was plenty of room in their back yard to park the trailer, so we wedged it in by the Grace of God and a shoe horn. Our ice box was full of grub and we kidded Ann that we were the first guests to bring their own beds and bedding, along with food to eat. The only thing we needed was a good scrubbing brush and a place to use it on our hides. She furnished us a most luxurious shower, all done in a beautiful pastel shade of lavender, even the toilet seat to match. It was good to see them again.

I waved to Al Capone but guess he didn't see me across the bay as we crossed the Golden Gate bridge on our way to ice and snow. A glorious ride in the Redwood Highway through glen after glen of glorious trees. At Eureka we learned a slide had made the highway impassable and we would have to cross several ranges to the road about 150 miles east. After debating whether to wait for it to be cleared we started toward Redding, spending that night in a Ranger camp. Our next door neighbors were a party of hen pecked men lead by a loud mouthed lady of uncertain age and little education who enjoyed telling us how mistreated she was, in that she had to do all the driving during the day and then cook after dark for a lazy dumb family. She confided in Sue that her feet hurt in spite of a dirty, greasy and I imagine odoriferous pair of bedroom slippers she wore when a motoring she'd go. When she addressed her men folk, every one within 10 miles could hear each word and most of the words were none too complimentary.

That week-end landed us in Medford, where I looked up Doris, my niece, and persuaded her and her hubby to go up to Crater Lake with us. Crater Lake is a gem and I enjoyed seeing its azure loveliness again. It is so blue it is impossible to believe the pictures one sees of it. This time the snow along the water's edge a thousand feet straight down gave a new beauty to it. Clouds change the shade as they float over head and the glory of nature once again is unfolded before you.

Once again we experienced the uncertainty of motoring. Between Medford and Grants Pass, Sue turned to me after a thud and wanted to know if I had run over some one. I skidded to the shoulder and got out to find the trailer had one shoe on and one shoe off, I guess it was one wheel on and the other off. We were only going 45 miles per when the left wheel decided to shear off the studs and leave us to get along the best we could. It was the fourth of July and help 5 miles away if it could be found. Most of that P. M. I spent patching up a makeshift to limp into Portland where I could get a new wheel and have the axel straightened, which was not strong enough to carry our load. Now it has been reinforced to triple its original strength. Such incidents as these simply lighten the load of monotony, which might otherwise exist.

A days drive up the Columbia

highway, a rather overrated drive in our opinion and one we would not go out of our way to take again. Roosevelt's power project at Bonneville probably is as good a way to spend money as any, if there will ever be any sea traffic wanting to go the Dalles, or anybody living in the neighborhood to use its electricity. Any way Washington will know how many fish are swimming around as they have two men counting them as they swim up specially built channels.

Seattle our last stop in this country. We got in and went to the Trailer camp very highly recommended by a guide book we had. It was just lunch time so Sue went inside to prepare for the Inner Man, while I unhooked and did some outside jobs. While attending to these various chores I looked, I listened, I smelled and I felt the immediate surroundings. Sue called out the familiar chant "come and get it or we'll throw it away." I responded and my first words on sitting down were "I am going to spend the aft-

ernoon finding some place better to stay than this dirty hovel. I called up the A.A.A. and learned Seattle didn't like trailers, but they gave me several names. These were duly visited and proved to be only a difference in degree of soil. In desperation I called Rotary and got hold of their Chamber of Commerce member. She put us on to the best camp we have been in, located right on the east shore of Lake Washington between a beautiful golf course and the water. There were only four trailers in there all owned by fine people. The rates were double the usual rate, simply to keep people out and they selected their guests by the general appearance of the outfit. At any rate we passed muster and were very well fixed with swimming a step from the trailer.

Tonight is calm and gorgeous and as I write we are sailing about 200 yards off shore on either side between rugged, verdant bluffs. The water is marvelously clear and blue and nature is magnificent. Today we put into Alert Bay and

saw the Totem poles, one of which was fairly recent and very gaudy and grotesque. As I was walking back to the boat one of the party told me to go down to the Community House to see the enormous beams that have been lifted into place 20 feet above the ground by primitive methods. He said he would hold the boat while I got a picture. I got the picture and came back to find the gang plank already hauled in. The boat was still tied up to the wharf, but I had to scabble over the rail. Fortunately Sue hadn't missed me as yet.

We found, trailer life for over 6,000 miles in 6 weeks (hence little time to write) very interesting and liked this way of travel very much, and hated to see it go into storage. One has such a feeling of independence and with a little hunting can find good spots to camp in. We understand Southern California has great camps with private baths to each trailer. We are crazy about the idea and feel we have all the kinks worked out. The Olds was a

little light for the job and we were afraid sooner or later would have a major break down, so turned it in at Seattle on a Buick 60 to be delivered in the fall on our return. Well enough for Episode II of our Saja of "Trailer Life in the Raw" or "Wanderings of the Gypsies." Sincerely, Bob, Sue, Dick.

E. F. Nelson of Forest Ave., Deerfield, attended the reunion and homecoming of the Chicago Bears in Chicago on Sunday. Mr. Nelson, an alumnus of the University of Illinois, played with the Bears in 1929. Mr. Nelson's picture appeared in several of the Chicago papers on Monday.

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Prices subject to change without notice.
ARNOLD C. BREMER
Telephone H. P. 1985

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These Prices for November 30 and December 1-2

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For Cooking 4 lbs. 19c
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- GRAPEFRUIT**
Texas Seedless 5 for 29c
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Hubbard or Acorn 3 lbs. 10c
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- PORK LOINS**
Little Pig, Whole or Half Loin ... lb. 19c
- LAMB ROAST**
Whole Shoulder
Genuine Spring Lamb lb. 24c
- CORNED BEEF**
Boneless Brisket
Home Cured Tender lb. 27c
- SMOKED BUTTS**
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