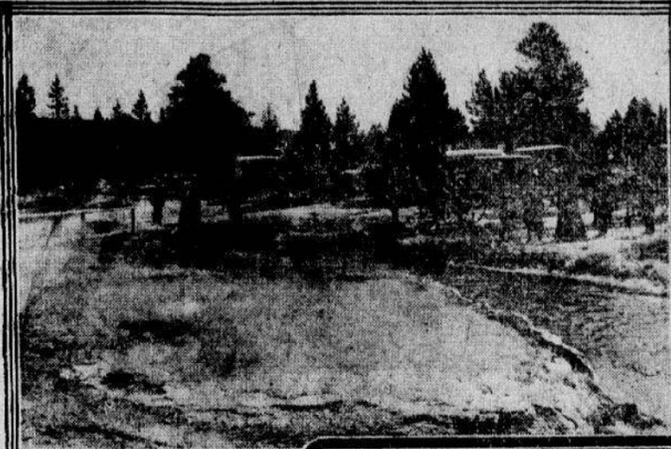


The Wonderland of the WEST

by Forbes Lindsay



Sunset Lake

Lying partly within Montana's borders and containing so much scenery and natural beauty that is peculiar to other sections of the Treasure state the people of Montana have come to look upon the Yellowstone National park as one of their own possessions. The interest in that rare and wonderful pleasure ground increases every year. The government within the last few seasons has expended much money throughout the region to make it more accessible and enjoyable to the tourist and now a trip through the park is attended with every convenience and opportunity that could be desired. Transportation companies say that the coming season—the park season only extending over a period of about four months when the warm weather makes a sojourn in the mountains most pleasurable and healthful—will find a greater number of visitors registered in the Yellowstone park than ever before and that the arrangements for transportation and accommodations of all kinds will make the trip more enjoyable than during any previous season.

Early Exploration.

John Colter, of the Lewis and Clark expedition, who was in the region in 1805, was the first white man to see any part of what is now the park. James Bridger and Joseph L. Meek, fur trappers, were there in the 20s. Warren A. Ferris saw the geysers in 1834 and wrote the first published account of them. Captain DeLacey explored a part of the country in 1863. Polson and Cook were there in 1869. The Washburn-Doane party in 1870 and Dr. Hayden in 1871-2.

Yellowstone park was established by the government March 1, 1872. Subsequently a forest reserve was added on the east and south sides. The park proper is about sixty-two miles long from north to south, fifty-four miles wide and has an area of 3,312 square miles. It is mostly in northwestern Wyoming, with a narrow strip each in Montana and Idaho. The park is an elevated plateau surrounded by mountains and has an average elevation above sea level of about 7,500 feet. Large streams of lava have spread over the park and these have been greatly modified by glacial action and erosion.

Government Has Control.

The government has entire control of the park. All new roads opened and the repairs and maintenance of old roads and trails are entirely dependent upon congressional appropriations. The roads are now in very fine condition, a great deal of work and expense having recently been put upon them and steel and concrete bridges



Jupiter Terrace

have almost entirely replaced wooden ones. Within recent years the government has spent \$1,000,000 in improvements in the park. Prominent among these is the construction of the fine lava arch entrance at Gardiner at a cost of \$19,000; the new concrete viaduct at Golden Gate, costing \$20,000, to replace the old timber trestle; and the erection of a very fine concrete and steel bridge of artistic design across the Yellowstone river and rapids just above the Upper Fall of the Yellowstone at the Grand canyon, at an expense of \$29,000.

Fort Yellowstone.

Fort Yellowstone, the military post in the park, is at Mammoth Hot Springs. Here, also, are the headquarters of the United States engineers in charge of park improvements and the United States commissioner. Mammoth Hot Springs is thus the capital of the park. In recent years this place has been greatly improved. A rearrangement of roads, new buildings, concrete sidewalks, a new waterworks and an irrigation system and a consequent carpeting of grass on the old white plaza in front of the hotel and officers' quarters has metamorphosed the locality.

Mammoth Hot Springs is the largest and most important place in the park. Here all outlying centers; it is the heart from which pulsate the currents of life and pleasure which permeate the park. As a point where one may pleasantly sojourn for weeks and yet be in constant and close touch with the world in general, it stands at the head. Life here is very real and animated and joyous, the presence of Uncle Sam's cavalry officers adding a decided flavor and piquancy to it, particularly in connection with the orchestra maintained at the hotel. The

regular trip via Gardiner provides for a full afternoon here in order that tourists may have an opportunity of visiting the formations, etc.

There are four troops of United States cavalry regularly quartered in the park during the year. These carefully patrol the roads and other parts of the park, both summer and winter, and preserve the phenomena from spoliation.

In Summer Time.

As a place to spend the heated months no spot in this country can possibly compare with the park. Its elevation above sea level—an average of 7,500 feet, and its location in the heart of the "Rockies" amid some of the earth's grandest and most inspiring scenery, combined with the extreme purity of the atmosphere, the tonic and exhilarating effect of the mountain climate, the beneficial effects of the hot mineral water baths and the fine character of the hotels, particularly Old Faithful Inn at Upper Geyser basin and the large Colonial Hotel at Yellowstone lake, make it a remarkable pleasure spot and sanatorium. The days, while warm, are never oppressively hot, and the nights are always cool. The fine roads, affording the most interesting survey and horse-back rides, the splendid trout fishing, the mountain climbing, the weird character of the scenery and the wild animals, distinguish this spot from any other tourist resort in the world.

The Park Tour.

What is known as the regular park tour begins and ends at Livingston and includes six days' worth of that point, the tourist being in the park proper five and one-half days. The trip through the park cannot be made in less time and anything like a gen-

eral idea of its varied attractions be obtained.

The regular and complete schedule allows a full half day at Mammoth Hot Springs in which to see the most wonderful terraces and boiling springs on earth. To see the park without visiting Mammoth Hot Springs and Liberty Cap and Orange geyser is like seeing the play of Hamlet with the character of Hamlet left out. The life of the park centers at the Springs and the changing humanity seen here is a study and recreation in itself.

This is also the only schedule by which the tourist is allowed, in the regular way, almost an entire day at the Upper geyser basin (Old Faithful Inn). This spot is by all odds the most unique, unusual and surprising area, not only in the park but in the world, and one full day is little enough time in which to see Old Faithful, the Giant, Giantess, Bee Hive, Grand, Old-Nest, Emerald, Lion and Castle geysers; Riverbank, the Punch Bowl, Blacut basin, Morning Glory spring and the myriad other geysers, pools and hot springs which fill this remarkable valley. Then, too, half a day can, if desired, easily be given to studying Old Faithful Inn itself.

Scenery Unfolds.

Among scenes passed en route to Gardiner from Livingston, Paradise valley forms a landscape of varied and impressive beauty. Emigrant peak is one of the higher and nobler mountains of the range; at Yankee Jim canyon the river tears through the canyon a restless, rushing torrent; Chisholm mountain and the Devil's Slide, near the track, together form a most interesting sight; Sepulcher and Electric peaks, at Gardiner, are high and most imposing mountains, while

the Entrance Arch, the artificial lake and the graceful antelope plainly grazing on the cool green alfalfa fields just within the entrance complete a round of preliminary landscape pleasures that form a most effective prelude to the greater scenic symphony to come.

Between Gardiner and Mammoth Hot Springs the coaches, passing through the massive archway and across the antelope meadow, follow the Gardiner river, a most entrancing, winding, boulder strewn stream. Eagle Nest Crag, one of the most interesting sights of the tour, and the mouth of Boiling river are passed and the grim palisades of Mt. Everts are brought into plain view as the coaches follow the winding road to the big hotel, passing also Fort Yellowstone itself.

Six Principal Points.

The six principal points visited by tourists are Mammoth Hot Springs, Norris, Lower and Upper geyser basins, Yellowstone lake, the Grand canyon and the Great or Lower fall.

Other points passed en route are Silver and Golden gates, Rustic fall, Swan valley, from which a fine view is obtained of Electric peak and the Galatin range of mountains, Willow park, Apollinaris spring, Obsidian cliff, Beaver and Twin lakes—Roaring mountain—the foregoing all being between Mammoth Hot Springs and Norris geyser basin—Gibbon canyon and fall, Beryl spring, Midway geyser basin and the Crater of Excelsior geyser, Blacut basin, Kepler cascade, Shoshone point on the Continental Divide, Yellowstone Lake, Paint Pots, Mud Volcanoes and Gothic Grotto, the Northern Pacific trademark formed by nature on Trout creek in Hayden valley, Yellowstone rapids and the Upper fall near Grand canyon and Virginia cas-



Silver Gate

cades, besides many other objects too numerous to mention.

The general panorama at Mammoth Hot Springs is one of the most striking in the park. Besides the steaming, tinted terraces and Fort Yellowstone, near by, the long, pillared escarpment of Mt. Everts to the east, the dominating presence of Buisen peak to the south, with the Gardiner canyon and the distant mountains of the Washburn range forming a beautiful vista between the two peaks, the rugged slopes of Terrace mountain to the west and the distant peaks of the Snowy range to the north, all together form a surrounding landscape of wonderful beauty and contrasts, and one the eye never wearies in looking upon.

Between the springs and Norris geyser basin, the next place where unusual phenomena are found, there are some beautiful stretches of valley, mountain and woodland scenery, interspersed with natural wonders, as before noted. On this part of the tour scarcely a mile fails to challenge the special interest of the tourist and evoke expressions of surprise and admiration.

Norris basin has a weird fascination for the visitor because it is the first of a peculiar class of wonders seen.

Leaving Norris, the road winds along the Gibbon river, crosses Gibbon meadows and threads the wild, splendid recesses of Gibbon canyon. A great day's ride it is, full of interest and wonder.

The next day brings forth the marvels of the other geyser basins, and the traveler retires at night in Old Faithful Inn, feeling that he is indeed in Wonderland.

Then follow the drives across the Continental Divide to Yellowstone lake and the Grand canyon, the splendors of the route growing and crowding at each succeeding stage of the journey, and finally culminating in the magnificent panorama of the Grand canyon itself, the great masterpiece of nature painting and sculpture of the world.

A Wonderful Inn.

Old Faithful Inn, constructed at Upper geyser basin in 1903, has become one of the most attractive and popular hotels in the country. It is a structure of boulders and logs, peaks, angles, dormers, French windows, etc., artistically combined. The office is 75 feet square and 22 feet high to the peak of the roof, with balconies around three sides. A massive chimney, 14 feet square and extending to and through the roof, with a fireplace at each side and corner, or eight fireplaces in all, is a feature of this room. The dining room is a room 60 feet square, from which Old Faithful geyser can be seen in eruption.

The idea of a finished, elegant rusticity has been paramount in the building of Old Faithful Inn, and while everything is of a rough, rustic order, in a sense, yet again there is nothing uncouth, boorish, or vulgar about it. It is an artistic creation

from foundation to the peak of the roof; steam heated, electric lighted, with baths, barber shop and Arts and Crafts furniture, and the rooms and furnishings are regular gems of comfort and are thoroughly homelike.

View From Hotel.

The log element has been handled in a remarkably effective manner. Natural logs and limb crooks have been utilized in stairways, balconies and wherever possible. Old Faithful geyser is near the hotel, opposite and but a trifle farther away are the Giantess, Lion, Bee Hive, Lioness and Cuck; down the little valley the Castle is in plain view, and the eruptions of the Grand and Economic, and, to some extent, those of the Giant, Artemisia and Riverside, can be seen from its corridors, rooms and verandas. A particular feature of this Inn is a large searchlight on top of the building, which is operated every night, showing the geysers in play under electric light and this hours feeding at the edge of the woods.

With the erection of Old Faithful Inn the Upper geyser basin becomes, beyond question, the most remarkable tourist spot in the world. There is no place to compete with it. It stands out entirely alone as combining the most stupendous and unusual phenomena known to mankind, with the most original and attractive Inn for its entertainment. For this reason at least one entire day is needed by the tourist to see at all adequately the varied and astounding collection of hot pools and geysers to be found here only.

This gradual unfolding of Nature's potency will strike the traveler as eminently proper. As the park tour is made from Gardiner the lake and Grand canyon come in their natural order and the latter forms a natural climax, impossible in any other arrangement of the tour. Were the canyon seen at the commencement or in the middle of the tour the effect of the entire trip would be greatly lessened.

For Missoulian's Contestants.

Such is a meager description of the park and its beauties where four young ladies now working in The Missoulian's home contest will be given an outing this summer free of all expense to themselves. The fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh prizes in the home contest will each be a trip through this wonderland of beauty. The young ladies who win these prizes will be given the advantages of the regular trip as taken by the first-class tourists from all sections of the country. They will see all there is to see and nothing will be overlooked to add every feature of extra comfort and pleasure that can be provided. Such a prize is well worth winning and the efforts of the young ladies in their work will be many times repaid before the tour of the park is half completed.

New Hawthorne---Model School Building



NEW HAWTHORNE SCHOOL BUILDING.

Among all of the buildings of the Missoula school district there is none better constructed, more conveniently arranged or having better sanitation throughout than the Hawthorne, recently finished in the Orchard Homes. It is a building of which the school board may well be proud and it is one that certainly pleases the residents of the district it is to serve. The building faces Third street and was constructed close to the roadway so that the two acres of land owned by the district for this school site and grounds will be dignified but very little and will thus serve as a playground much better than had the

space been cut by setting the structure farther back. The grounds are to be worked level and improved with a border of trees immediately.

Solid Construction.

The building is a T shaped structure, with three rooms below and three above, besides a full basement. It is modern and fireproof in every detail. It rests on a solid concrete foundation and the basement is all of concrete, with a special covering over and about the boiler room of the heating plant. The toilets are arranged with the floors and marble wainscoting and the playrooms, also in the basement, have concrete floors and can be easily and thoroughly cleaned.

The heating will be done by steam and the ventilation is a fan system.

Doors Open Outward.

There are three entrances to the building at the ground floor. The main entrance is at the front of the structure through wide double doors. The hall into which this leads is intersected by one running the full length of the building, east and west, with doors opening out at either end. The doors swing outward and, in fact, cannot even be locked from the inside, and are so arranged that a crowding against them from the inside would swing them open; even had they been locked from the outside. With the three doorways the building can be

quickly emptied in case of fire and there is no possible danger of the children becoming entrapped.

The furniture of the schoolrooms is of the very best. Adjustable desks are used throughout. The interior finish is of natural wood, with oak floors. Blackboards are of solid slate and there is every sanitary arrangement, including the most improved drinking fountains.

From the lower floor three stairways lead to the rooms above, which are arranged practically the same as those of the lower story. The capacity of the school is about 200, but already there are 75 pupils attending, all grades being represented to and including the seventh. The three lower floors are now being used.

While the Orchard Homes has in a sense been considered as a rural district, its development during the last few years has brought it closer within the bounds of the city district, and it has become necessary to plan for it the same as for any other of the sections of the Missoula school territory. In planning the building the best was none too good. In its construction the very best material was used throughout and the selection was carefully made by the building committee of the school board, Messrs. Coffey, Peat and Ambrose. They have watched the construction from the

very beginning with a jealous eye, and Superintendent Brechbill has been constantly "on the job" to see that every detail of the plans was worked out to the letter. The results are evident. There is not a nicer looking or more substantial building in the whole district. It is a credit to the community from every point of view and goes to make up a series of buildings, which, with their equipment, puts the Missoula school district in the front rank with any in the state. While the building may now seem too large for the needs of the Orchard Homes section, it was built for the future, and with the increasing settlement of the small-acre tracts on all sides it is easy to see the time ahead, and that in the very near future, when every room in the building will be filled with pupils of all the lower grades.

Move Old Building.

Anticipating the growth of the Daily addition and the necessity of more school facilities there, the board last summer purchased a block of ground in the heart of the section for a school site. It is now proposed to move the old school building, which the Hawthorne was built to replace, to the Daily addition. Bids have been called for the moving and it is probable that the plan will be carried out in the near future.



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