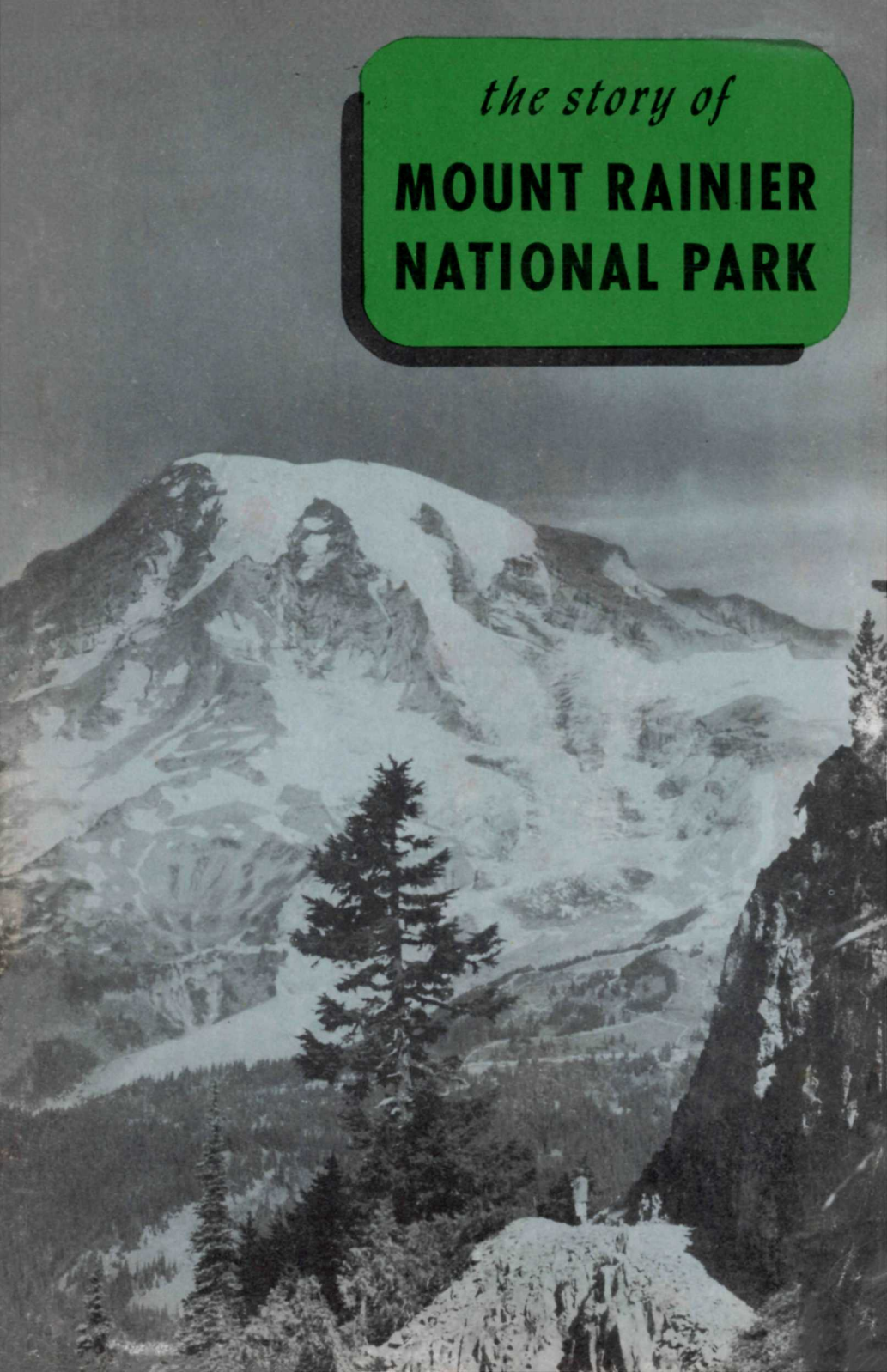
the story of

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK



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Foreword

THIS BOOKLET, dealing with the human history of Mount Rainier National Park and the surrounding region, was originally published in 1940. It was the first of a series of publications sponsored by the Mount Rainier Natural History Association, formed for the primary purpose of supplying authoritative information relative to this national park. Through this and other Association publications, it is hoped that park visitors may gain a greater understanding and appreciation of Mount Rainier National Park and the objectives and policies of the National Park Service.

The history of any region is to many people one of its most fascinating features. The story of the human elements involved so closely with as magnificent a landmark as the great "Mountain" is undoubtedly one of the great stories of the Pacific Northwest.

Long known and revered by the Indians, the ultimate conquest of "The Mountain" provides episodes of fortitude and daring on the part of pioneer climbers; other events leading to and following its discovery by civilized man in 1792 are equally impelling and interesting. The author, who served as park naturalist for many years, has traced these events concisely in a factual and, at the same time, interesting manner so that the reader may readily obtain an understanding of this area today in comparison with its historic past.

PRESTON P. MACY
Superintendent
Mount Rainier National Park

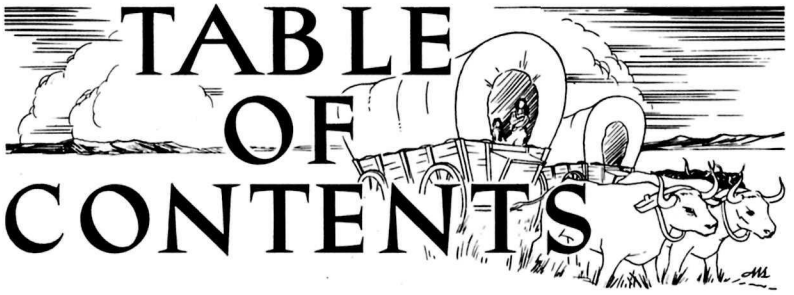
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The writer gratefully acknowledges the help and cooperation of all who assisted in the preparation of the first edition of this booklet by providing facts and personal reminiscences, and by permitting the use of photographs.

Among those who should be so mentioned are Mr. Len Longmire, grandson of the first settler in the park area; the late W. P. Bonney, for many years secretary of the Washington Historical Society; Mr. E. S. Hall, first park superintendent; Mrs. Fritz von Briesen (nee Fay Fuller), the first woman to reach the summit; Major O. A. Tomlinson, park superintendent from 1923 to 1941; Mr. O. W. Carlson, assistant park superintendent from July 1, 1923 to August 29, 1946; Mr. Frank Greer, one of the early park rangers; Mr. Harry M. Meyers; Mr. A. W. Ollar; Mrs. Maude Longmire Schaffer; Mrs. Kate Stevens Bates; Miss Josette C. Tolmie; Mr. F. E. Sansom; the late Asahel Curtis; and the administrative staff of the Rainier National Park Company. The MacMillan Company, publishers of Meany's *"Mount Rainier — A Record of Exploration"* (1916), also cooperated by permitting the use of several photographs, as well as several quotations which appeared in the aforementioned book in Meany's *"History of the State of Washington"* (1927), and in Meany's *"Vancouver's Discovery of Puget Sound"* (1942).

In this revision particular mention must also be made of the interest of the present administrative staff of Mount Rainier National Park — particularly that of John C. Preston, until recently park superintendent, the present superintendent, Preston P. Macy, Park Naturalist Merlin K. Potts, and Assistant Park Naturalist Robert N. McIntyre who provided factual data necessary in bringing this booklet up to date.

C. FRANK BROCKMAN



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Photos, unless otherwise noted, by the author.

(Asahel Curtis Photo).

MOUNT RAINIER FROM SEATTLE

Mount Rainier, the fourth highest peak in the United States (Elevation 14,408 ft.), has the distinction of rising higher from its immediate base than any other mountain in the country. Dwarfing the lesser summits in its immediate vicinity, this huge, ice-clad, volcanic cone is visible for many miles and serves as a source of inspiration to all who feel a love and an interest in the outdoors.

Mount Rainier National Park was established in 1899 to preserve and protect this incomparable natural wonderland which, in addition to magnificent forests and superlative alpine meadows, dazzling during winter in their ermine beauty and in summer by their profusion of colorful wildflowers, boasts the greatest single-peak glacier system in the United States.

Chapter One

EARLY VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY IN THE NORTH PACIFIC

THE HISTORY of any region begins, not with events upon the threshold of its development but more properly with the years which preceded the crossing of this figurative portal. Episodes that have, apparently, little bearing upon a region's past must first be considered, for it is in them that we find the nucleii of what will later come to pass; in them we will discover the motive power or the happenstance that has shaped the course of destiny to its present end.

Thus in the case of the history of Mount Rainier National Park let us ignore, for a moment, the happenings of more recent years and consider the factors that first aroused interest in the Pacific Northwest. In these we find the reasons for discovery and exploration which bring us down to events of the present day.

With the first sight of the Pacific began the thirst for discovery, exploration, conquest, and settlement on the west coast of North America. With this, and subsequent adventurous maritime episodes, began the search for the mythical "Straits of Anian," the existence of which was believed to afford an easy water route through the barrier of the western hemisphere. So dominant was Spain's position in the New World at that time that she gave little thought to the possibility of exploration and discovery to the northward. Those lands could await her leisure. Yet Balboa's discovery of the Pacific planted the seed of adventure which grew into a gradual advance of the Spanish flag north along the Pacific Coast, an advance that was not to be checked for over 250 years. Today we have in the Pacific Northwest, as momentoes of the courage of these fearless men of old Spain, numerous place names which commemorate their visits to these shores. (1)

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(1) Fidalgo Island is named for Lieutenant Salvador Fidalgo who was present in the waters off the shore of Vancouver Island and in the Strait of Juan de Fuca in 1790; Camano Island bears the name of Lieutenant Jacinto Camano, who was present in northwest waters about the same time. Neither Fidalgo nor Camano, however, saw the islands that today bear their names. Alferez Manuel Quimper's name is applied to a portion of the peninsula upon which Port Townsend is located. Rosario Strait, a contraction of Gran Canal de Nuestra Senora del Rosario le Marinera — a name applied to the present Gulf of Georgia by Eliza in 1791, has lost its original significance. The name Port Angeles is a contraction of Porto de Nu stro Senora de los Angeles — originally applied to the place by Eliza.

The lethargy that characterized Spain's interest in the north and her heretofore unquestioned rights in this part of the world (1) were rudely interrupted when Francis Drake, in his ship the "Golden Hind", circled Cape Horn and entered the Pacific in 1579. A bold, daring, and adventurous man was Drake. Under the English flag he questioned Spanish security by plundering her treasure ships along the Pacific Coast. Then, seeking a safe return to his native England with his loot, Drake sailed north in search of trade winds that would carry him westward across the Pacific.

The most northerly extent of Drake's voyage is in doubt though he claimed to have reached latitude 48 degrees. If such be true he was the first white man to sail into waters that washed the shore of the present State of Washington, for this latitude is about that of the City of Everett. It is highly probable that he was in error in this regard although he did penetrate farther into the north than any previously recorded journey. Before proceeding across the Pacific, however, Drake retraced his route south along the California coast and made a landing in a small harbor just north of the present City of San Francisco, which is known today as Drake's Bay. Here he refitted his ship and made preparations for the balance of his adventurous journey that was eventually to result in the circumnavigation of the globe. Among other things, Drake named the new land that he had seen New Albion and claimed it for England.

Drake's exploits in the Pacific might have aroused intense competition along the Pacific Coast between Spain and England had not these nations become embroiled in the war that was to be famous in history for the defeat of the Spanish "Invincible Armada" by the English fleet which was in command of this same Francis Drake. In consequence of this struggle nearer home, neither Spain nor England had much time to bother with lands on the shores of the distant Pacific and exploration lagged for many years in that region north of Mexico.

But with all the previous conquests in the Pacific and regardless of wars in Europe and the interest in the wealth and plunder that existed in Mexico, Peru and regions of similar latitude in the Americas, there never was lost sight of the possibility of a short,

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(1) Spain claimed sovereign rights over all lands in the new world that were washed by the waters of the great Pacific.

safe, and easy water route through the new continent to the East Indies. The discovery of such a route served as a beacon of hope for mariners for many years. Falsification of the discovery of the "Straits of Anian", as this supposed route was known, was frequent, but needless to say all claims were sooner or later proven to be untrue. One of these tales though is of particular interest in northwest history for, true or false, it has given us the name of an important geographical feature — the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

SUPPOSED DISCOVERY OF THE STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA

In 1596 an Englishman named Micheal Lok met a Greek mariner, known as Juan de Fuca, in Venice. Juan de Fuca's real name was Apostolos Valerianos. In his conversation with Lok he claimed to have sailed north in 1592 along the Pacific Coast in the service of Spain at the order of the Viceroy of Mexico, with the express purpose of fortifying the "Straits of Anian" against the English. Juan de Fuca is credited by Lok with saying that after sailing north he finally came

> "to the Latitude of fortie seven degrees, and that there finding that the Land trended North and North-east with a broad inlet of sea, between 47. and 48. degrees of latitude; hee entered thereinto, sayling therein more than twentie days, and found the land trending still sometime North-west and North-east, and north and also East and South-eastward, and very much broader sea than was at said entrance, and that hee passed by divers Ilands in that sayling. And that at the entrance of this said Strait, there is on the North-west coast thereof, a great Hedland or Iland, with an exceeding high Pinnacle or spired Roche, like a pillar thereupon". (1)

Thus, Juan de Fuca claimed to have discovered the western end of the supposed "Straits of Anian", but upon returning to Mexico he became disgruntled at the treatment accorded him by the Spanish authorities and, in consequence, left the service of Spain.

Investigations in later years brought out the fact that no such journey was recorded nor had any man by the name of Juan de Fuca or Apostolos Valerianos existed. Thus this tale, like all the

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(1) Meany, "History of the State of Washington", pages 15-16.

others of its kind, might have been a hoax. It does not seem impossible, however, that in that early time, in a region far removed from the central authority of the mother country, and which was largely unknown and unexplored, that proper records might have been neglected, destroyed, or lost. The errors in the story given Lok (1) might also be attributed to the differences in languages of the two men. At any rate the name Juan de Fuca exists today as applied to the waterway that connects the Pacific with Puget Sound. (2)

RUSSIAN INTEREST IN THE NORTH PACIFIC

The incentive for renewed activity in this region came from an entirely different source — Russia. Under Czar Peter, the Russian Empire had expanded eastward across the frozen wastes of Siberia until, early in the 18th century, the subjects of the Russian sovereign had reached the shores of the Sea of Okhotsk, lying between the mainland and the Kamchatchan peninsula. Russia was reaching out to the eastward in contrast to the westward growth of many other European nations. In 1724 two Russian ships were ordered out itted at Kamchatcha, and in 1728, under command of Vitus Bering, a Dane in the service of the Czar, sailed north along the coast through the strait that now bears Bering's name into the Arctic Ocean.

Thus, Asia and America were shown to be separated by the sea. Bering returned again to Kamchatcha and eventually to St. Petersburg after an absence of five years, only to find that through jealousy in the Russian court he and his discoveries had been discredited. In 1741 a second expedition was outfitted on the Kamchatchan peninsula with the purpose of exploring the mainland of the northern section of North America and Bering, having been placed in command, was given his chance to refute the jealous mutterings of his political enemies. Bering sailed from Kamchatcha in the "St. Peter" while his lieutenant, Cherikoff, accompanied him in the "St. Paul". The two ships separated in a storm never to re-unite again and in consequence Bering and

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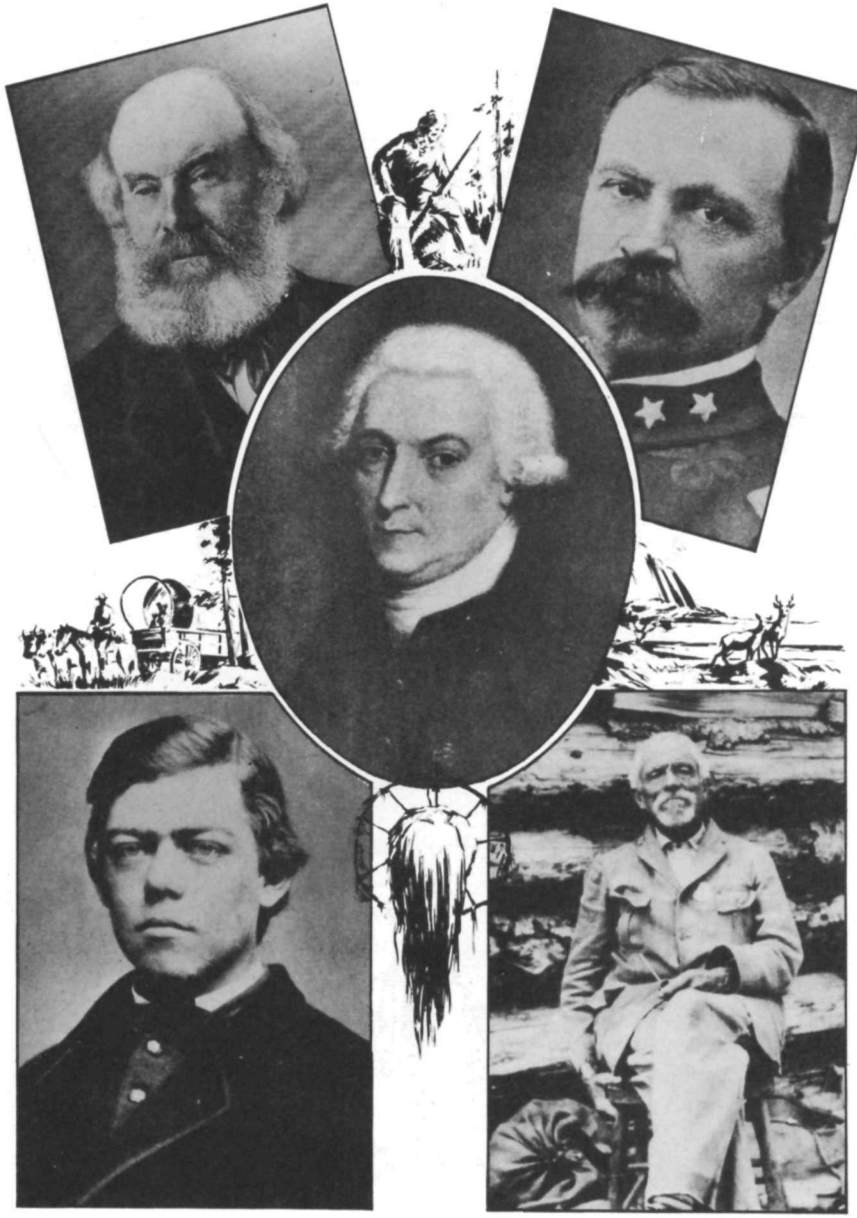
(1) The Strait of Juan de Fuca is to be found between latitude 48 and 49 degrees instead of between 47 and 48 degrees.

(2) The name was applied by Captain John Meares in 1787. Meares believed in the truth of Juan de Fuca's story.



(Center) CAPTAIN GEORGE VANCOUVER, R. N. (1). (Left Above) DR. WM. FRASER TOLMIE (2). (Right Above) GENERAL A. V. KAUTZ, U.S.A. (1). (Left Below) HAZARD STEVENS ABOUT 1863 (3) (Right Below) P. B. VAN TRUMP ABOUT 1914 (4).

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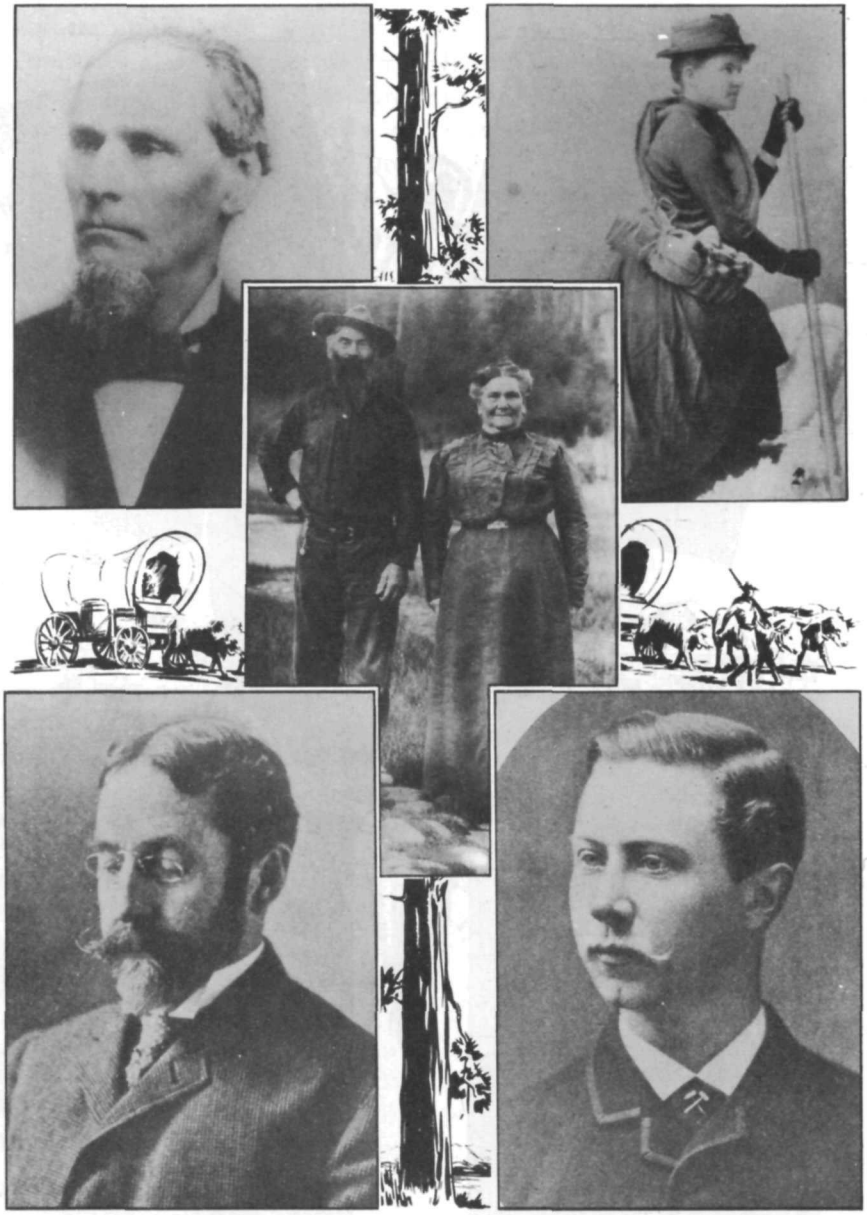
(1) From Meany's "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration" By permission of the MacMillan Co., publishers. (2) Courtesy of Miss Josette Tolmie. Also found in Meany's "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration." By permission of the MacMillan Co., publishers. (3) Courtesy of Mrs. Kate Stevens Bates. (4) Courtesy of Mr. F. E. Sansom.



(Center) MR. AND MRS. ELCAIN LONGMIRE. (Left Above) JAMES LONGMIRE (1). (Right Above) FAY FULLER IN 1890 AFTER ASCENT OF MT. RAINIER (2). (Left Below) SAMUEL FRANKLIN EMMONS (3). (Right Below) BAILEY WILLIS IN 1863 (3).

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(1) Courtesy of Mrs. Maude Longmire Shaffer. (2) Courtesy of Mrs. Fritz von Brieson (nee Fay Fuller). (3) From Meany's "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration." By permission of The MacMillan Company, publishers.

Cherikoff proceeded on separate ways. Cherikoff finally reached a point in the vicinity of Sitka but, after attempting an unsuccessful landing, turned back to Kamchatcha. Bering also sailed along the Alaskan coast seeing and naming the Elias Range before turning about and making haste for Kamchatcha. His crew was in deplorable condition when they reached a small island where they decided to land and spend the winter. Many of the crew died on being taken from the ship's hold. Bering himself was soon to share a common grave with many of his men. This island is today known as Bering Island. Even today it is not a very hospitable place and the crew of the "St. Peter" suffered terrible hardships that winter in the bleak northland. To make matters worse the ship was wrecked by a violent storm as it lay at anchor and had it not been for George Wilhelm Stellar, the expedition's surgeon and naturalist, who procured food from the sparse native vegetation and animal life during the winter and took charge of the survivors who, later, launched a crude craft made from the wreckage of their ill fated ship, it is likely that the fate of these men would have remained unknown. However, the survivors landed at Avacha Bay in Kamchatcha on August 27, 1742. Thus began the exploration of the North American coast by the Russians; thus the seed of Russian influence was planted in this part of the world for the scraps of furs that were brought back by the survivors of the "St. Peter" fired the imaginations of adventurous men who sought the wealth that awaited the taking in the North Pacific.

Other expeditions by the Russian government were those in command of Krenitzin, Snyd and Lavaschef in 1766 to 1769. Pribilof discovered the seal rockeries on the islands that today bear his name and in 1790 Alexander Andreievich Baranof became the manager of a monopoly company which in 1799 established headquarters and a capital at Sitka from which the Russians extended their influence in the North Pacific. At one time they even had a post near the present City of San Francisco which was known as Fort Ross. (1812-1841)

INCREASE OF SPANISH AND ENGLISH INTEREST IN THE NORTH PACIFIC

It was this activity on the part of the Russians that spurred both Spain and England to greater endeavor. England had, meantime, come victorious from a war with France and now a greater part of North America lay under her influence. Flushed with this victory England adopted a policy of exploration in the northwest.

Spain, fearing English domination, also pushed into the north in an attempt to establish her rights more firmly in this region and Russia, as we have seen, was slowly extending her power southward from her established bases along the Alaskan Coast. Thus we find three great powers of that day sparring for supremacy in the North Pacific.

SPANIARDS FIRST ALONG THE COAST OF THE PRESENT STATE OF WASHINGTON

On January 24, 1774, when the thirteen colonies were embroiled in the causes of the Revolutionary War, a Spaniard named Juan Perez sailed north from San Blas, Mexico, in the ship "Santiago". This was one of the first Spanish efforts to offset inroads of the English and Russians in the North Pacific. After pausing briefly at Monterey, Perez sailed north to a latitude of 55 degrees reaching a point in the vicinity of Queen Charlotte Sound. Having achieved that latitude he turned south and, although he made no known landings, he discovered a small harbor on Vancouver Island which he named San Lorenzo, later to become known as Nootka. He also saw and named, on August 10, 1774, a high mountain to which he gave the name of "Santa Rosalia". Today we know this peak as Mount Olympus. (1) Thus Perez was the first white man to give a name to a geographical feature in what is now the State of Washington, and he was also, as far as authentic records go, the first white man to sail in waters that wash the shores of this commonwealth.

On March 16th, of the following year, two ships, the "Santiago" and the "Sonora", the latter being a schooner 36 feet long, 12 feet wide and 8 feet deep, were sent northward by the Spaniards from San Blas. They were commanded by Bruno Heceta and Bodega y Quadra. Heceta and several others landed upon a small island at latitude 47 degrees and 30 minutes and planted a cross and a bottle bearing records of possession. This was the first time that a white man had set foot on soil now embraced by the boundaries of our state.

At the time Heceta was so engaged, Quadra had put out a boat from his ship presumably for the purpose of getting water. Indians had previously given indication that they wished to barter, but as the boat landed it is said that a group of these natives rushed

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(1) Highest point in the Olympic National Park (8150 feet).

upon the occupants, killed them and tore the boat to pieces for the iron it contained. In commemoration of this unfortunate incident, which seriously crippled the crew of the diminutive "Sonora", the place was called "Isla de Dolores". Today we know it as Destruction Island. (1) It lies a few miles off the shore of the Olympic Peninsula.

In 1778, several years after Quadra and Heceta made this first landing on what is today Washington soil, an Englishman named Captain James Cook made his appearance off the coast of North America. He was following up the discoveries of Sir Francis Drake, and so Cook considered the north coast as a portion of New Albion. Although Captain Cook spent some time in the area about the western end of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, he failed to find this passage. He even named Cape Flattery on March 22, 1778, at the entrance of the strait, after he sought and failed to find a harbor at that point. George Vancouver, serving as a lieutenant under Cook on this voyage was later, as Captain George Vancouver, to make another memorable journey to this region and have a profound influence on the history of the northwest and this great volcano near the shores of Puget Sound.

STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA DISCOVERED AND NAMED

In consequence, the Strait of Juan de Fuca remained unknown to white men until 1787 when Captain Barclay, in the "Imperial Eagle" under the auspices of the Austrian East India Company, sailed into it. He explored the shores of the strait and his young wife, who accompanied him, kept the log of the vessel and recorded events of this memorable journey. In the following year Captain John Meares, a retired English naval officer, in an effort to realize wealth in the rapidly developing fur trade, arrived in northwest waters, sighted and, on June 29, 1788, sailed into the strait, naming it the Strait of Juan de Fuca after the supposed discoverer. Neither Barclay nor Meares are known

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(1) According to the late W. P. Bonney, when Secretary of the Washington Historical Society, the Indians' version of this episode differs from that given by the Spaniards. The Indians claim that the white men were well received, taken into the storage house, and a feast of dried salmon was enjoyed. The white men, after partaking of the food, wished to buy some for their comrades on the ship. However, it was contrary to the custom of the Indians to take food from a storehouse and besides the money offered by the white men was of no value to them. The white men then began loading the fish, as one would load wood, into their canoes. This act precipitated a fight. Five of the white men were killed and two ran into the water — their bodies being washed upon the beach the next day.

to have entered the waters of what we know now as Puget Sound. (1)

Spain had insisted all through these years that she had rightful sovereignty over all lands washed by the Pacific but these broad assertions were ignored by other nations. She had sought to strengthen her rights in this area by the voyages of Perez, Heceta and Quadra and also by later explorations on the part of Francisco Eliza, Salvador Fidalgo, Manuel Quimper and others who explored in this region. Fidalgo even attempted to establish a settlement at Neah Bay.

Thus, interest in the Pacific Northwest was now thoroughly aroused, particularly on the part of Spain and England. The activities of mariners of both of these nations had brought white men into the Strait of Juan de Fuca and within sight of Mount Rainier though, strangely enough, none reported the presence of this great volcano. These activities on the part of the two great nations of the world at that time threatened to embroil the entire civilized world in a great conflict over the dispute as to ownership of this part of the northwest. Finally, however, Spain yielded and England was enriched by a diplomatic solution of the trouble in 1795. Thus ended the era of Spanish conquest along the North Pacific Coast.

AMERICANS IN THE NORTH PACIFIC

During the negotiations between Spain and England at Nootka, the most important harbor on the Pacific at that time, an American sea captain, Captain Robert Gray, of Boston, sailed, explored, traded, and made discoveries which were to figure in the final solution of sovereignty in the northwest between America and England. He had first visited this region in 1788 but in 1792, during his second voyage to the northwest, he sailed over the bar of the Columbia River and entered the mouth of that great stream, naming the river after the ship upon whose decks he strode as he observed, for the first time by white men, the region along its banks. He also discovered Gray's Harbor on the same voyage.

All these things preceded actual contact of the mountain by white men, but while not directly related to this volcano, they had an important bearing upon its history. The interest in the

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(1) For notes on other English sea captains in the northwest, see Meany's "History of the State of Washington", pp. 17 - 39.

region brought mariners of many nations to these shores, and their journeys and discoveries opened the way for later explorations that would, eventually, crystalize interest in "The Mountain" itself.

VANCOUVER'S VOYAGE; MOUNT RAINIER NAMED

The first record of a white man seeing "The Mountain" is found in the log of Captain George Vancouver of the Royal English Navy. (1) The date was May 8, 1792, after Vancouver, who was on a journey of exploration and discovery for his government, had reached a point near the present city of Port Townsend. On that day he recorded in the log of his journey:

> "The weather was serene and pleasant, and the country continued to exhibit between us and the eastern snowy range, the same luxuriant appearance. At its northern extremity, Mount Baker bore by compass N. 22 E.; the round snowy mountain, now forming its southern extremity and which, after my friend Rear Admiral Rainier, I distinguished by the name of Mount Rainier, bore N. (S) 42 E."

Thus was the name Mount Rainier given to the world. Thus is the first sight of this ice clad volcano recorded by a white man.

Many geographical features were named by Vancouver in and about Puget Sound at that time. Puget Sound, originally applied only to the area of this arm of the Pacific below the city of Tacoma, was named for Peter Puget who explored and charted the lower sound area. Mount Baker was named for one of Vancouver's lieutenants who called Vancouver's attention to the peak. Hood Canal was named in honor of Lord Hood. Vashon Island was named for Captain Vashon. Port Orchard was named for the clerk of the "Discovery" who commanded a minor expedition to that point. Whidby Island was named for Joseph Whidby, one of Vancouver's officers, who explored the narrow passage to the east of that island. Bellingham Bay was named for Sir William Bellingham of the English Navy. These and many other geographical features were named by Vancouver and bear the mark of his visit to these shores in 1792. (2)

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(1) Captain George Vancouver entered the British Navy in 1771 under the command of Captain Cook, famous English navigator. He died in 1798 and is buried in a modest cemetery in his native England.

(2) For a complete account of Vancouver's explorations and discoveries in this area see Meany's "Vancouver's Discovery of Puget Sound". 1915.

MOUNT RAINIER FROM TOLMIE PEAK.

Chapter Two

EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT OF THE LOWER PUGET SOUND REGION AS IT APPLIES TO MOUNT RAINIER

IT WAS forty-one years after Captain George Vancouver's epic journey into Puget Sound before white men established the first permanent settlement upon its shores. In the meantime both England and the United States laid claim to the "Oregon Country", as this section of the northwest was known, and each nation made efforts to prove title by further exploration and, later, settlement.

Captain Robert Gray, of Boston, Massachusetts, had traded along the Strait of Juan de Fuca and had sailed along the coast of Washington, Oregon and British Columbia. In addition, Lewis and Clark had reached the Pacific, via the overland route, in 1805, in that well known effort to explore the northwest. England, not content to rest on the results of Vancouver's discoveries, dispatched Alexander Mackenzie westward from Fort Chipewyan in 1789, but this intrepid Scotchman selected the wrong water course on the divide and eventually came, not to the Pacific but to the Arctic Ocean. Later, in 1793, the same man made a second westward journey, this time from Fort Fork and eventually emerged on the Pacific Coast via the Bella Coola River. For a time he and his band traveled down the Fraser River, but believing the course of this stream not a satisfactory one for a proper conclusion of their mission, they left it and struck out overland to the Bella Coola. It was not until 1808 that Simon Fraser, for whom the river is named, traveled the entire course of this stream. These journeys were to have a profound effect on eventual settlement of the Oregon question between England and the United States as they preceded the first American settlement by the Astor Company at the present site of Astoria, Oregon, in 1811. (1)

In 1813, during the War of 1812, Astoria was abandoned to the British and the fur trade which had been started by the

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(1) An attempt was made to establish a settlement on the Columbia by a group of Americans in 1809, but this outpost was soon abandoned due to the hostile nature of the Indians. (Meany's "History of the State of Washington", page 81).

American concern was carried on by the Northwest Company, a British firm, at that point after it was re-christened Fort George. Following the War of 1812, Astoria was formally returned to the possession of the United States, but the Astor Company made no effort to regain the lost fur trade and this business continued to be operated under the English flag by the Northwest Company in this far flung American outpost on the western shores of the continent. (1)

These facts are mentioned here primarily to (a) point out the basis for American claims in the Pacific Northwest and (b) to introduce the activities of the English fur trading companies into this publication. They were to have a profound effect upon the colonization and development of Puget Sound and were to bring about subsequent happenings of historical note bearing upon the region now included in Mount Rainier National Park.

ACTIVITIES OF THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY ON PUGET SOUND; FORT NISQUALLY ESTABLISHED

In 1821 the Northwest Company was merged with the Hudson's Bay Company. Astoria was practically abandoned and, in 1825, with Doctor John McLaughlin in charge of the far flung activities of this enterprising concern throughout the northwest, Fort Vancouver (2) was built and established as regional headquarters. Some time later a second trading post was founded on the Fraser River but after one of McLaughlin's men had been murdered by the Indians in making the long journey from Fort Vancouver to the newer post on the Fraser River, it became apparent that an establishment midway between the two was necessary. Accordingly, in 1832, the site of the midway post was selected at Nisqually Bay on Puget Sound and the following year, May 30, 1833, the first permanent settlement on Puget Sound was begun by the Hudson's Bay Company. Known as Fort Nisqually, or Nisqually House, it was originally located at

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(1) In 1818, in order to effect a temporary solution to the problem of sovereignty in this region, a treaty of "joint occupancy" was concluded between Great Britain and the United States, by which equal rights of both nations in the northwest were recognized. This arrangement continued until a permanent solution of the boundary question in 1846.

(2) Fort Vancouver occupied the site of the present city of Vancouver, Washington.

(Richards Photo).

RECONSTRUCTED FT. NISQUALLY, TACOMA

the mouth of Sequalitchew Creek. (1)

The party which established Fort Nisqually was composed of but thirteen men, among whom was Dr. William Fraser Tolmie, a young man who had just come from Scotland where he had prepared himself for the practice of medicine. Having been trained in medicine he was employed by the Hudson's Bay Company as a physician and surgeon and as the study of plants was an important phase of medical training in those days, Doctor Tolmie was also considerable of a botanist. He had no official connection with the Fort Nisqually party; he was merely accompanying them thus far on his way north to another post. However, before he took his leave his services as physician were sorely needed and he remained in the region for several months, during

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(1) Sequalitchew is an Indian term meaning "shallow." Fort Nisqually was moved to a point one mile inland in 1843 as this latter site was considered superior to the original location. One of the original buildings of this re-located site remained near the entrance of the DuPont Powder Works, one mile west of the Pacific Highway at Fort Lewis, until 1933 when it was moved to Point Defiance Park in Tacoma to become part of reconstructed Fort Nisqually.

which time he made extensive botanical surveys of the area. It was on one of these "botanizing expeditions", as he termed them, that Dr. Tolmie approached Mount Rainier and became the first white man to enter the area which is now included in the park.

FIRST APPROACH TO MOUNT RAINIER

Dr. Tolmie started from Fort Nisqually on August 29, 1833, with five Indians as companions, crossed the Nisqually plains to the Puyallup River. From this point the exact course of his route is indefinite but he probably followed this stream to its junction with the Mowich, thence up the Mowich to its junction with Meadow Creek, then to Mountain Meadows. Then, on September 2nd, he climbed to the "summit of a snowy peak immediately under Rainier" which we know today as Tolmie Peak. (1) He returned to Fort Nisqually on September 5th. Tolmie Creek and Tolmie's Saxifrage, (2) a plant common in the upper region of Mount Rainier National Park, also bear his name. (3)

In 1841 an event of more than casual interest occurred. The Wilkes Expedition, more properly known as the United States Exploring Expedition, under the command of Commander Charles Wilkes, United States Navy, arrived at Fort Nisqually. From this base they made extensive scientific and geographical

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(1) Dr. William Fraser Tolmie later returned to Fort Nisqually, after a time in the northern posts, as factor in 1843. He also became the head of the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, a subsidiary organization of the Hudson's Bay Company which had been formed in order to utilize the great agricultural advantages of the region in this lower Puget Sound area. He was admired and respected by all who knew him, even during the period of joint occupancy between the U. S and England when American settlers were crowding into the "Oregon Country" and thus vigorously contesting Britain's rights in the Pacific Northwest.

(2) In his diary, Dr. Tolmie states that he "collected a vasculum of plants at the snow". As he noted the location of "Northwest Coast" on his specimens of the saxifrage that bears his name, it is possible that the original collection of this plant was made by Dr. Tolmie while he was in the region now the park.

(3) A photostat copy of the pages of Dr. Tolmie's diary, which refer to his journey into this region, is found in the Museum Library, Longmire, Washington. His account of this trip may also be read in Meany's "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration". The original diary is in the possession of the Tolmie family of Victoria, B. C.

MOUNT RAINIER FROM CHINOOK PASS; TIPSOO LAKE IN FOREGROUND.

studies of the area, naming many points on lower Puget Sound, making the first calculation of the elevation of Mount Rainier (1) and making the first recorded crossing of the Cascades via Naches Pass, to Eastern Washington. (2)

In spite of the treaty of joint occupancy between England and America the activities of the Hudson's Bay Company in the Pacific Northwest served to discourage settlement by Americans in the Puget Sound area. There were, nevertheless, about 1840, more than one hundred men, women and children in the "Oregon Country" who professed American sympathies. In 1846 the dispute between England and America was settled by establishing the northern boundary of the United States where it is today. Thus the period of joint occupancy came to an end.

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(1) By triangulation from a base line laid out upon the Nisqually Prairie this expedition determined the elevation of Mount Rainier to be 12,330 feet above the sea.

(2) See Meany's "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration," page 13.

Simmons and his associates founded the settlement of Tumwater in 1845 and in the following year Sylvester and Smith settled at the site of Olympia. In 1849, after the formation of Washington Territory, Fort Steilacoom was established and an army garrison was stationed there for the protection of the settlers who were now crowding into this region—coming overland via the Oregon Trail to the Columbia, thence down that river and finally north via the Cowlitz and an overland trail to Puget Sound. This long circuitous route gave evidence that a more direct passage was needed over the Cascades and a road was put under construction in 1853. It was not completed that year as the builders finally gave up hope of the coming of the expected immigrant train. In this they proved to be wrong for this first group of trail blazers did come, crossing the Cascades via Naches Pass on the semi-completed path through the wilderness that was hardly more than a swath through the heavy timber. To add further to their difficulties, this swath was available for only a part of the way. In this immigrant train came James Longmire, a native of Fountain County, Indiana, who was later to figure prominently in the history of Mount Rainier National Park. (1)

The story of the journey of these people across the Cascades is an epic which requires more space than we are able to give it in this publication. Shortly after they left the main route of travel to the Pacific Coast at Umatilla Trail they passed the site of the Whitman Mission where Marcus Whitman and most of his heroic band were murdered by the Indians in 1847. It is doubtful if this episode relieved the minds of the party as they made their way through the Yakima country toward the distant Cascades, for a party of Indians were generally close by, though they showed no evidence of harmful intention and, in fact, tried to help the immigrants when they became lost at Wells Springs. However, lack of verbal communication between the white men and their Indian cavalcade prevented an understanding of the red man's intentions and the bewildered pioneers felt for some time that they were being led into a trap that would end in their

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(1) See "Narrative of James Longmire", Mrs. Lou Palmer. Washington Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXIII, No. 1 and No. 2.

massacre. About the middle of September two men, who had been reconnoitering the country round about, discovered blazes on the trees which marked the route over Naches Pass. These blazes were placed there by the road builders who had discontinued active work on the immigrant trail over the pass a short time before. So along this crudely marked trail pushed the clumsy caravan of ox teams and "prairie schooners", slowly working their way toward the summit. In so doing they were forced to cross the Naches River sixty-eight times in the four day's travel along this stream to its source. At last they reached the pass, rested for two days, as grass was plentiful in the vicinity, and after this short respite started to make the steep descent. Their wagons were lowered down the steep face of Summit Hill by snubbing the vehicles on the trunks of trees.

Eventually they reached the Greenwater River and news of the coming of this first train over the Cascades was carried on to Olympia by a man who was bringing food to the road builders. He had not been informed that the work had been discontinued for the year and was much surprised to meet these people for he felt that, under existing conditions, it was next to impossible to cross the Cascades with ponderous ox teams and heavy wagons. Nevertheless they completed their journey. The party which had spent so many weary weeks on the trail then split up, taking up claims and establishing themselves where their fancy dictated. Longmire settled on Yelm Prairie within sight of the great mountain which he was to know even more intimately in later years.

With the opening of the Naches Pass trail over the Cascades and the discovery of gold in California which brought about a great need for the products of the Northwest, particularly lumber, numerous cities and towns sprang up along Puget Sound and immigrants came in increasing numbers. The entire region benefited by this influx of new blood from the eastern states. This, of course, aroused jealousy and bad feeling among the Indians and in consequence Fort Steilacoom, established near the town of the same name in 1849, became an asset to these pioneers. The Indian trouble broke out in 1855, and the guerrilla warfare that cost the lives of many settlers was not brought to an end until 1858.

This episode had no connection with Mount Rainier, however, except that the establishment at Fort Steilacoom included in its garrison a daring and hardy lieutenant by the name of

MOUNT RAINIER AND KAUTZ GLACIER FROM RAMPART RIDGE.

A. V. Kautz. He determined to reach the summit of Mount Rainier and accordingly, at noon on July 8, 1857, he started for "The Mountain" with four soldiers, Dr. O. R. Craig from the army garrison at Fort Bellingham and a Nisqually Indian by the name of Wapowety who was to serve as a guide.

Kautz did not reach the actual summit nor did he claim to do so on this journey. Active interest in Mount Rainier now lay dormant for some years, but on August 17, 1870, two young and active men by the name of Hazard Stevens and P. B. VanTrump stood upon the crest of Mount Rainier for the first time. (1)

It was not until 1883, however, that any attempt at permanent settlement was made within the present park area. In that year we find James Longmire ushering in a new era—that of the development of the area later to be Mount Rainier National Park.

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(1) See Chapter IV for more complete description of these early ascents of Mt. Rainier.

Chapter Three

DEVELOPMENT OF MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

It was upon the return from an ascent of Mount Rainier in August. 1883, participated in by P. B. VanTrump, James Longmire. and Geo. B. Bayley, that the mineral springs at Longmire were discovered. These springs proved to be the nucleus of future developments in this national park.

The group reached the summit without mishap and returned to their base camp along the Nisqually at a point about opposite from the present public camp grounds at Longmire. There, several days earlier, they had hobbled their horses but the animals had wandered during their absence and were not readily found. It was not until later that Longmire came upon them in a dank meadow filled with lush grasses and characterized by the presence of numerous warm, mineralized springs that bubbled from the earth. Longmire dreamed of the development of this area in the wilderness as a sort of local Spa where those weak in body and spirit might come to repair their ills by copious consumption of the mineralized waters. Several months later, with this in mind, he retraced his steps from his ranch at Yelm to this spot on the Nisqually and staked the boundaries of his claim, an area of 20 acres, to which he later secured title under the mineral act. And so, in 1883, the foundation of the first permanent settlement in the area that was later to become this national park was laid. (1)

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENT IN THE PARK AREA

James Longmire had built a trail from his Yelm ranch to Bear Prairie, by way of Mishal Mountain, in 1861. Over this trail he had led the members of the first two parties successfully to reach the summit to the base of the mountain. In 1884, following his discovery of the mineral springs in the previous year, he took the first steps in the development of his claim. He constructed a spur trail from his original path through the wilderness to the springs and constructed the first buildings in the area. This meager route served as a means of penetrating to this region for several years while Longmire slowly developed the claim to a point where it began to assume some degree of permanency. In

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(1) The village of Longmire, National Park Service Headquarters of Mount Rainier National Park, is adjacent to this original claim. The area remained in private hands until 1939 when it was purchased by the National Park Service.

1890, with the help of his sons, grandsons and several Indians, he undertook the construction of the first road. This year also witnessed the construction of a small log hotel. Measured by present standards in the matter of national park accommodations, this original building was anything but a handsome edifice. But meager as was this crude beginning, it nevertheless served to house the first "tourists" to the region. In 1891 the road begun the year before was completed, and it is certain that after a rough passage over this homespun highway the first visitors to Longmire Springs welcomed the sight of the small hotel in the wilderness and the fragrance of the meals which were their fare while sojourning in this locality.

True, these first visitors were drawn to the region by reports of the mineral springs but it is equally true that most of them went away enthralled by the beauty of the surrounding area and the varied interests that they found here. It was not long before the scenic beauty of "The Mountain" and the lesser ranges that clustered about its base exceeded the mineral springs in public interest.

The Northern Pacific Railway also made gestures toward attracting visitors to Mount Rainier. In 1881-83, under the supervision of Bailey Willis, Assistant Geologist of the Northern Transcontinental Survey, a trail was built from their railway terminus at Wilkeson. This trail, known as the Bailey Willis or Grindstone Trail, was primarily designed to aid in a survey of mineral resources of the region but it also served to attract a few visitors to the area for, by this means, it was possible to reach Spray Park and certain sections to the west of the present western boundary of the park. Thus Mount Rainier soon became linked in the leading minds of the day with previously created National Parks. (1)

This region was further favored by the visit of Professor von Zittel, a German paleontologist, and James Bryce, a member of the English Parliament. In written statements to congressional leaders of America they urged that "this area like the Yosemite Valley and the geyser region of the upper Yellowstone be reserved by the United States government and treated as a national park". Reports of other well known scientists and laymen at about the same time duplicated, in general tone, the statement of von Zittel and Bryce, all of which had an important bearing upon subsequent events.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

In 1894, a concerted movement toward the establishment of this area as a national park was set in motion by the combined

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(1) Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872; Sequoia, General Grant, and Yosemite National Parks were established in 1890. Later, in 1940, General Grant National Park was incorporated into Kings Canyon National Park.

(Courtesy A. W. Ollar).

LONGMIRE SPRINGS ABOUT 1910

efforts of the National Geographic Society, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Geographical Society of America, the Sierra Club and the Appalachian Mountain Club. Culminating these efforts was the introduction by Senator Watson Squire of the State of Washington of a bill proposing the creation of the "Washington National Park". In his speech asking for the establishment of this park, Senator Squire paid tribute to the varied interests of the area as exemplified by the great glacier system of Mount Rainier, the marvelous forests about its base and the colorful wild flower fields. (1) He recommended in his original bill that the eastern boundary of the proposed park be the summit of the Cascade Range, and to further bring the character of the region to the attention of his colleagues, he quoted statements from many scientific men as an indication of this area's worth in regard to the standards of excellence necessary for its being included as a national park.

This bill, of course, did not pass immediately and for several years Senator Squire worked toward the goal he had set in 1893. In 1899, however, Congress acted favorably upon it, although several changes were made in the original structure of the bill. Then the name was changed from Washington National Park to Mount Rainier National Park, (2) and the eastern boundary

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(1) See Congressional Record, Senate Bill 1250, Dec. 12, 1893.

(2) The change of name was added by Representative Lacy. Congressional Record, 1899. Page 2667.

HOMESTEAD CABIN BUILT BY ELCAIN LONGMIRE IN 1888

was moved westward several miles. (1) This bill finally passed both houses of Congress and was signed by President McKinley on March 2, 1899, thus establishing this area as the fifth of our national parks. (2)

During the period of negotiation in the nation's capital, things within Mount Rainier National Park developed slowly but surely. James Longmire improved his claim at the springs. Additional buildings were built and, in 1895, a trail to Paradise Valley, which was already attracting attention because of the beauty of its wild flower fields, was constructed. (3) This trail followed the Nisqually River to the terminus of the glacier and thence up the east wall of the canyon to Paradise.

(1) The original east boundary remained approximately as originally established until 1931. In this year the east boundary was drawn along the summit of the Crystal Mountains, thence southward along a portion of the Cascade summit from Chinook Pass to near the headwaters of Laughingwater Creek, and thence down the crest to the south of that stream to the south boundary of the park which had also been extended to include Ohanapecosh Hot Springs.

(2) The first written record of local opinion relative to the establishment of Mount Rainier National Park is found in a communication received on January 21, 1888, by the City of Tacoma requesting it to memorialize the Territorial Legislature to ask Congress to set aside land within twenty miles of Mount Rainier as a national park. ("History of Tacoma" by Herbert Hunt, page 414).

(3) According to Len Longmire, the name Paradise Valley was first applied to the glacial valley below Sluiskin Falls, through which flows the Paradise River, by his mother, Mrs. Elcain Longmire, on the event of her first visit to this region in 1885. Seeing the colorful wild flowers which grew there in such profusion she exclaimed, "Oh, it looks just like Paradise!" The name persisted and has since been adopted for the entire vicinity.

EARLY ADMINISTRATION OF THE PARK; EARLY ROAD SURVEYS AND CONSTRUCTION

The establishment of this area as a national park did not provide for any organization for its protection or development. The National Park Service itself did not come into being until 1916, and no protective force was in operation in Mount Rainier National Park until 1904 when the care of the park was entrusted to the United States Forest Service. Mr. Grenville Allen, son of O. D. Allen who had settled in the Nisqually Valley in the late 80's, was supervisor of the Rainier National Forest (1) which completely surrounded the park. Responsibility for the park area was placed in the hands of his organization. This arrangement continued in force until 1910.

In addition to the need of protection, policies of development soon began to receive attention and, in consequence, the Army Engineer Corps was drafted to fill this need. Under John Zug a route for a road was surveyed from Eastern Washington to the flanks of the "The Mountain" in 1904. This route had as its objective a point in the vicinity of Ohanapecosh Park on the east slope of Mount Rainier. It touched the region in the vicinity of Bumping Lake and crossed the Cascades south of Chinook Pass, but the highway which this survey outlined was never put under construction. It was not until 1931 that a highway from eastern Washington to the slopes of Mount Rainier was completed and opened to the public. (2)

During the same year that Zug undertook his mission, Eugene Ricksecker, a civilian engineer in the employ of the Army Engineer Corps, was commissioned to survey a route to Mount Rainier from western Washington. Both these surveys were brought about by the untiring efforts of Honorable Francis Cushman, of Tacoma, member of the House of Representatives at that time. Ricksecker's survey was completed about the same time as was Zug's and it was the plan to eventually combine the two routes in a cross state road through the park. As stated, Zug's route was never placed under construction, though Ricksecker's road was begun in 1906.

It is interesting to note, in passing, that Ricksecker's survey, with very few exceptions, has been adhered to even in this day of modern vehicles which often require raising highway standards. This is a tribute to the idealism as well as the engineer-

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(1) The Rainier National Forest was, in 1933, consolidated with the Columbia National Forest and Snoqualmie National Forest.

(2) Over Chinook Pass via White River to Yakima Park.

(Asahel Curtis Photo).

AUTOMOBILES AT GLACIER BRIDGE ABOUT 1912

ing skill of Eugene Ricksecker who was one of the first engineers to appreciate the importance of preserving the scenic beauty of an area through which a highway passed, and in making the most of its scenic attractions without a sacrifice of engineering principles. Ricksecker Point on the highway he surveyed is named for him.

Representative Cushman had succeeded in getting a sum of $240,000.00 for the original construction of the Paradise Valley road. Until this road was open to Longmire the only means of getting into the area was via the original road constructed in 1890 and 1891 by the Longmires. Automobiles were driven to Longmire in 1908, to the Glacier Bridge in 1910, and the first car to drive to Paradise Valley negotiated this bumpy highway late in the summer of 1911, although the public was not permitted to drive to this point until 1915. Before that date horses and wagons served as transportation to the valley. (1)

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(1) The first automotive vehicle to reach Paradise Valley was driven by Mr. Lynn Miller. Mr. E. S. Hall, then superintendent of the park, and Edward Allen were passengers. This was in August, 1911.

In October, 1911, a group of men which included the president of the United States—William Howard Taft—visited Mount Rainier National Park.

Harry S. Truman, the only other president to visit Mount Rainier National Park while in office, drove to Paradise June 22, 1945.

(Courtesy E. S. Hall).

FIRST CAR TO REACH PARADISE VALLEY; 1911

The era in which the United States Forest Service was in charge of the protection and administration of the area came to an end on December 31, 1909. During the years when Mr. Grenville Allen was acting superintendent of the park certain forest rangers made regular patrols into the area (1) but these duties were in addition to their assignments in the National Forest.

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(1) Forest rangers assigned for patrol duty in the park previous to the establishment of park ranger positions were Wm. McCullough, who served the Longmire-Paradise region during summer periods from 1903-1907, and Alfred B. Conrad, who served the Carbon River-Spray Park region during summer seasons from 1903-1906.

Permanent park rangers, not now members of the local park ranger staff, together with their dates of service, follow: Baldwin, Wm. (June 1, 1923—Mar. 21, 1928), Barnett, Herman (Oct. 1, 1917—April 30, 1945), Bender, H. G. (Oct. 1, 1942—May 14, 1950), Best, A. R. (Jan. 21, 1938—April 30, 1949), Brantner, J. R. (May 9, 1921—Dec. 4, 1925), Broadbent, Jack (Feb. 16, 1939—Oct. 16, 1939), Brown, Oscar—the first park ranger (Nov. 12, 1906—Dec. 1908), Browne, Chas. B. (Oct. 1, 1929—June 19, 1939), Davis, John (June 1, 1926—Apr. 1, 1938), Estes, Sam. (May 1, 1908—Feb. 23, 1912), Fisk, C. E. (June 16, 1918—Apr. 12, 1921), Flett, J. B. (July 1, 1913—Nov. 9, 1921), Greer, Harry (Feb. 24, 1912—June 30, 1913), Greer, Frank (Oct. 1, 1925—Dec. 13, 1939), Hall, Harold (June 16, 1924—Sept. 30, 1950), Jones, S. D. (Mar. 19, 1945—Aug. 17, 1946), Macy, Preston P. (June 1, 1926—July 1, 1935), Nelson, Harry (May 16, 1925—Feb. 28, 1927), O'Farrell, T. (July 10, 1908—Sept. 30, 1917), Reese, R. L. (Sept. 21, 1914—Mar. 8, 1918), Rickard, J. L. (Apr.

It was not until January 1, 1910, that any man was given the responsibility for the care and development of the park alone. Mr. E. S. Hall took office on that date and, as he did not divide this duty with the supervision over some nearby forest, as in the case of Mr. Allen, he may be regarded as the first park superintendent. Mr. Hall's headquarters were in the log building which still stands to the south of the Nisqually Entrance gate, this cabin serving both as park headquarters and entrance station for several years. (1)

During the early years of the park the entrance fee was $5.00 per automobile but this was gradually modified to the present fee of $1.00 per car.

EARLY ACCOMMODATIONS IN SUB-ALPINE PARKS

Previous to the survey and construction of the Paradise Highway, there was an obvious need for accommodations of some

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6, 1928—Jan. 31, 1947), Sarlin, Reino (Apr. 1, 1940—Aug. 20, 1942), Schmoe, Floyd (June 20, 1922—Oct. 31, 1924), Sedergren, Oscar (Mar. 6, 1927—Feb. 22, 1944), Stafford, Wm. (Oct. 1, 1917—Apr. 20, 1920), Tice, Claude (June 13, 1920—Mar. 1, 1925), Tice, J. Carl (Oct. 21, 1923—June 23, 1949), Yaeger, W. W. (Feb. 23, 1944—Mar. 11, 1946), Weldon, R. K. (Feb. 5, 1940—July 23, 1950).

The present park ranger staff, together with dates of appointment, consists of the following: Armstrong, Delmer M. (Jan. 7, 1951), Bright, Raymond E. (Dec. 26, 1951), Butler, Wm.—Asst. Chief (May 1, 1936), Haines, Aubrey L. (June 30, 1950), Hamilton, Dwight L. (Oct. 1, 1951), Heckman, Wm. (Apr. 16, 1944), Martinek, Julius A. (Oct. 30, 1949), Molenaar, Cornelius M. (June 12, 1950), Molenaar, D. (Nov. 24, 1950), Patterson, Gordon K. (Feb. 16, 1946), Rogers, Robt. W. (Dec. 26, 1947), Rose, Albert—Chief Ranger (Oct. 1, 1939), Volz, J. Leonard—Asst. Chief (Dec. 1, 1942).

(1) Superintendents of Mount Rainier National Park, together with their dates of service, are as follows:

G. F. Allen (acting superintendent)	July	1,	1901—	Dec.	31, 1909
Edward S. Hall (first park superintendent)	Jan.	15,	1910—	June	30, 1913
Ethan Allen	July	1,	1913—	Dec.	31, 1914
John J. Sheehan	Jan.	16,	1915—	May	31, 1915
D. Reaburn	June	1,	1915—	Apr.	19, 1919
Alex Sparrow (acting superintendent)	Apr.	20,	1919—	May	28, 1919
Roger Toll	May	29,	1919—	Oct.	15, 1920
W. H. Peters	Oct.	23,	1920—	June	10, 1922
C. L. Nelson (acting superintendent)	June	11,	1922—	July	14, 1923
O. A. Tomlinson	July	15,	1923—	July	15, 1941
John C. Preston	July	29,	1941—	Sept.	15, 1951
Preston P. Macy	Sept.	16,	1951—	present	

(Courtesy Mrs. Maude Longmire Schaffer).

REESE'S CAMP, PARADISE VALLEY, ABOUT 1912

sort in the higher sub-alpine parks. People were coming to the region in increasing numbers over the rough road over Mishal Mountain by means of horses and wagons. Much of this highway was of corduroy construction and two days were required to make the trip from Tacoma to Longmire Springs, parties stopping for the night enroute at Eatonville. It was in the late 90's that James Skinner operated a tent camp known as "Camp of the Clouds" on the east shoulder of Alta Vista. For several years this accommodated those who hiked over the trail from Longmire. Skinner abandoned this venture at about the time of the Alaska gold rush, and in 1897 John Reese took over the enterprise. Instead of utilizing the site on Alta Vista, however, he selected another on the ridge known as Theosophy Ridge, that runs southwest from the crest of Alta Vista. Tents were provided for the accommodation of overnight guests. Reese gradually developed this enterprise until it became a well known objective in Mount Rainier National Park.

Until 1915 Reese's Camp served as host to hundreds of people, who at first hiked over the trail from Longmire Springs and later came with horses and wagons over the road which was being built into Paradise Valley. However the close of the 1915 season marked the end of the era of Reese's Camp, for the highway was opened to public auto travel at the beginning of that summer. In the following year the Rainier National Park Company was

organized and the construction of Paradise Inn was begun. (1)

Other attempts to furnish accommodations similar to Reese's Camp in the sub-alpine regions were made as the road to Longmire Springs was improved and became better known. From 1908 to 1915 George Hall operated a tent camp in Indian Henry's Hunting Ground which, at that time, rivaled Paradise Valley in popularity. However, road development to the latter place caused it to continue to develop while Indian Henry's, as a hotel site, was abandoned at the end of the 1915 season. Today there are no accommodations, other than the shelter cabin provided by the National Park Service for hikers at Indian Henry's, but the beauty of the place annually attracts many people who hike the four and one-half miles from the West Side Highway or the six and one-half miles from Longmire Springs. It is here that one finds Mirror Lake, a small glacial tarn, in whose glassy surface is mirrored an almost perfect reflection of the great snow-clad volcano. Because of this fact Indian Henry's Hunting Ground is a mecca for photographers.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The National Park Service, which today administers the national parks, national monuments, and related areas of similar character, did not come into being until August 25, 1916 when President Wilson signed the bill establishing that bureau in the Department of the Interior. By then twelve national parks had been established, but until the origination of this new bureau the administration of these areas was not correlated and the policies governing their use were but loosely defined. Some of these national parks, like Yosemite, Sequoia, and Yellowstone, were administered by troops of the War Department. Others, like Mount Rainier, were entrusted to the care of the U. S. Forest Service.

The lack of unified control of the national parks, then beginning to gain public interest and attention, was readily apparent to a number of far-sighted men who, as early as 1908, began expressing the need for a unified system of control and a special bureau for proper administration. This aspect of history, in which Mount Rainier figured as one of the earlier national parks, is an interesting story in its own right. It is admirably portrayed in Robert Shankland's "Steve Mather of the National Parks". (1951, Alfred A. Knopf). Suffice to say that, following a number of false starts, consistent pressure on the part of those interested in these areas finally resulted in the establishment of the National Park Service.

Exclusive jurisdiction over Mount Rainier National Park had been ceded to the Federal Government by the Washington

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(1) Paradise Inn was formally opened to the public on July 1, 1917.

State Legislature on March 16, 1901 and on June 30, 1916 (39th. Stat. 243) this action was finally accepted by Congress. This was typical of many knotty problems which had to be untangled in order to make possible the efficient operation of the new bureau.

Stephen Tyng Mather was named the first director of the National Park Service. An active conservationist and lover of the outdoors who had contact with most of the existing national parks of that day through his association with the Sierra Club of California, Mr. Mather attacked his new duties with vim. Having acquired his share of worldly goods in the business world, he virtually turned his back upon further opportunities for additional wealth and thereafter devoted himself unselfishly toward his new task. In Washington at that time was a young man, but recently graduated from the University of California, who was selected as Mather's assistant. This man was Horace Albright, and his selection was indeed fortunate for, like Mather, he was a lover of the outdoors and was imbued with a desire to pioneer in new and untried fields. The team of Mather and Albright was to make national park history for the policies established during the formative years of the National Park Service were carried forward when, in 1929, Mather resigned and Albright succeeded his chief as Director.

During Mr. Mather's term as Director, the national parks achieved a high state of appreciation on the part of the general public. Early difficulties of administration were overcome, new features were introduced, development projects came into being, the standards of personnel were raised and, in general, these years were among the most fruitful in the history of the National Park Service. Mr. Mather donated large amounts of money from his private fortune toward the achievement of his goal, and when he resigned in January 1929 on account of ill health, he had considerably raised the standards of the parks and their place in the minds of the American people. He died about a year later, on January 23, 1930. Bronze plaques erected in the national parks now commemorate the memory of this man and his unselfish service in these words:

> *He laid the foundation of the National Park Service defining and establishing the policies under which its areas shall be developed and conserved unimpaired for future generations. There will never come an end to the good he has done.*

Horace Albright served as Director until August 9, 1933. He was followed in that post by Arno B. Cammerer who had entered the National Park Service in 1919. In August 1940, on account of ill health, he resigned. He died, less than a year later, on April 30, 1941. Newton B. Drury followed as the fourth Director, holding that office until he resigned on March 31, 1951. He, in turn, was succeeded by Arthur E. Demaray, another "old

line" National Park Service man who held the reins until his retirement on Dec. 8, 1951, when the present Director, Conrad L. Wirth, was appointed.

GROWTH OF NATURALIST ACTIVITIES

The program of interpretation which today makes a visit to Mount Rainier National Park of greater interest to many visitors had its origin in 1924.

However, long before that date so much interest in "The Mountain" had developed on the part of park visitors that it was evident that the park staff needed someone with a background in the natural sciences to answer properly the many questions that were generated by this interest. In consequence J. B. Flett, a teacher in the public schools of Tacoma, was engaged as park ranger in 1913. He provided an informal interpretive service and contributed to a better understanding of the flora of the region by means of his extensive collections, culminating in the publication of his "Features of the Flora of Mount Rainier National Park" by the U. S. Government Printing Office in 1922. Since the position of park naturalist had not been established Mr. Flett had to divide his time with regularly assigned ranger duties; consequently no formal interpretive program was developed during these early years.

A further step in this direction was taken in 1921 when Mr. Charles Landes, a teacher in the Seattle public schools, was engaged as a seasonal park ranger with duties more specifically designed for the development of a program of public information on the many features of interest in the park. Mr. Landes continued his association with the park, in the capacity of seasonal ranger and later seasonal naturalist, for 24 years. Thus he shared in most of the early developments of the naturalist department and contributed greatly to better public appreciation of "The Mountain".

In 1922 Floyd Schmoe, who had previously been employed by the Rainier National Park Company as a guide, was appointed as a park ranger. A graduate of the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University, Mr. Schmoe's interest in natural history was manifest in many ways. In consequence, shortly after the formation of naturalist departments in Yosemite and Yellowstone national parks, a similar step was taken here and Floyd Schmoe was named the first park naturalist in 1924. During his tenure he pioneered this field, laying the foundation for later developments which have, in recent years, been of such great public interest. He continued in that position until he resigned on Aug. 30, 1928.

The complete roster of men who have been employed on a year-around basis in the naturalist department at Mount Rainier is given in the footnote on opposite page (1).

Modern developments in Mount Rainier National Park began about 1923 when O. A. Tomlinson became park superintendent.

By 1929 the narrow, tortuous Paradise Valley highway, originally opened to the public in 1915, had been widened and improved to its present character. A proposed road intended to cross the west side of the park, from near the Nisqually Entrance to the vicinity of Mowich Lake, was put under construction in 1924. Although this road was never completed, the section extending from a point one mile north of the Nisqually Entrance to the South Puyallup River was opened to the public in September, 1935. The northern unit of this highway, extended from the western boundary of the park to Mowich Lake by 1932, was never carried further. It has never been opened to the public. The Yakima Park highway was begun in 1929 and opened to the public at the beginning of the summer season in 1931. In the same year the cross-state highway, linking the cities of Enumclaw and Yakima via Chinook Pass, was completed and made available for general use. The same year witnessed the extension of the eastern boundary to the summit of the Cascades, thus including a very beautiful portion of the cross-state highway within the park.

The Ohanapecosh section of the park, long an isolated region, in 1933 was tapped by a modern highway that was formally opened to the public in that year. By June 16, 1940, this road had been extended northward from the Ohanapecosh to its junction with the Chinook Pass road at Cayuse Pass.

In 1933 the Bridge Clinic, which had operated Ohanapecosh Lodge prior to the inclusion of that area in Mount Rainier National Park, was granted a franchise by the National Park Service for continuance of such accomodations there. This hotel is now operated by Mr. Martin Killian.

In the early thirties it became evident that the enthusiasm for winter sports made it necessary that some consideration be given in Mount Rainier National Park to this rapidly growing interest. Much of the early demand for winter sports areas in the Pacific Northwest centered upon Mount Rainier, more particularly upon Paradise Valley, and many skiers visit that region during the winter months. During recent years, for the benefit of winter visitors, the Mather Memorial Parkway has been open on the west side of the Cascade Crest, and the Paradise Highway is kept open to Narada Falls, except during or immediately following heavy snowfall.

(1) Park naturalists, with their dates of service, include Floyd Schmoe (Nov. 1, 1924—Aug. 30, 1928), C. Frank Brockman (Sept. 1, 1928—March 27, 1941), Howard R. Stagner (April 8, 1941—April 1, 1947), Russell K. Grater (April 28, 1947—Jan. 1, 1950), Merlin K. Potts (Feb. 19, 1950—present).

In 1946 the year-round staff of the naturalist department was enlarged by the appointment of an assistant park naturalist. Men who have served in that capacity in Mount Rainier National Park are Merlin K. Potts (Dec. 23, 1946—Feb. 19, 1950), and Robert N. McIntyre (April 29, 1950—present).

Chapter Four

EARLY AND MOST NOTED ASCENTS OF MOUNT RAINIER

TO THE Indians that dwelt within sight of this great mountain, the majestic volcanic peak generated a feeling of awe and reverence; they rarely ventured high upon its slopes. As far as is known no Indian ever stood upon the crest of Mount Rainier until the feasibility of the ascent had been demonstrated by white men and the natural fear of the Indian dispelled thereby. In spite of this, there are several factors regarding such activities which bear upon this subject. These, if they are not indications that some Indian did reach the summit previous to the first recorded ascent in 1870, may imply that some of the original people of this region had ambitions in this regard.

We find in the Indian legend, which deals with the greedy miser and his lust for "Hiaqua" (Indian shell money), a folklore account of a mythical ascent. (1) The second point of interest in this connection is found in the speech of Sluiskin on the night preceding the ascent by Stevens and VanTrump. (2) In this speech he outlines the dangers which they will encounter, thus attempting to dissuade them from their intention of ascending the mountain which he considered foolhardy.

It is also interesting to note that Wapowety, the Nisqually Indian guide who accompanied Kautz and his party on an attempted ascent of Mount Rainier in 1857, showed no fear of making the climb and started out from the base camp in good

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(1) See Judson, K. B. "Myths and Legends of the Pacific Northwest," pages 74-78.

(2) "Your plan to climb Takhoma is all foolishness. No one can do it and live. A mighty chief dwells upon the summit in a lake of fire. He brooks no intruders.

"Many years ago my grandfather, the greatest and bravest chief of all the Yakima, climbed nearly to the summit. Here he caught sight of the fiery lake and the infernal demon coming to destroy him, he fled down the mountain glad to escape with his life. Where he failed no other Indian dared to make the attempt.

"At first the way is easy and the task seems light. The broad snow-fields, over which I have often hunted the mountain goat, offer an inviting path. But above that you will have to climb over steep rocks overhanging deep gorges where a misstep will hurl you far down—down to certain death. You must creep over steep snowbanks and cross deep crevasses where a mountain goat would hardly keep his footing. You must climb along steep cliffs where rocks are continually falling to crush you, or knock you off into the bottomless depths.

"And if you should escape these perils and reach the great snowy dome then a bitterly cold and furious tempest will sweep you off into space like a withered leaf. But if by some miracle you should survive all these perils the mighty demon of Takhoma will surely kill you and throw you into the fiery lake. . . ." Meany, "Mount Rainier — A Record of Exploration", pages 132-134.

STEVENS-VANTRUMP MONUMENT NEAR SLUISKIN FALLS

faith to reach the summit with the rest of the party. After climbing a considerable distance he turned back on account of snowblindness.

Thus, while we have no definite record of any Indian completing a climb to the summit of Mount Rainier before 1885 or 1886, we have, in these sparse examples, an indication that some adventurous souls among the aboriginal people of this region may have had a desire to accomplish this feat.

With the coming of the white man into the Pacific Northwest and the gradual settlement of this region the mountain took on a new meaning. It became a beacon of conquest, and a desire to stand upon its broad crest burned in the hearts of many of the early pioneers of the region. In 1833 Dr. William Fraser Tolmie made a "botanizing expedition" toward the mountain from Fort Nisqually and by so doing became the first white man to enter the region now the park. He may have had incidental ambitions to stand upon Rainier's summit but this desire was not to be realized as his ten days' leave, granted by the factor at Fort Nisqually, was not sufficient to allow further explorations from Tolmie Peak, the place to which he penetrated in this area.

In 1841 the United States Exploring Expedition, in command of Commander Charles Wilkes, made extensive explorations in and about the Pacific Northwest and for a time the party headquartered in the vicinity of Fort Nisqually. Wilkes had ambitions to attempt a climb to the summit but the unfortunate wrecking of the "Peacock", one of the expedition's vessels, on the Columbia

River bar made it necessary for the expedition to abandon ideas along this line in the face of more urgent duties in connection with the Peacock disaster. In August of 1854, according to Len Longmire, three men, two of whom were Benjamin and Sidney Ford, were supposed to have made an attempted ascent. However, neither of these men left any record of this (1) and so it is not until July of 1857 that we find any recorded effort along this line.

FIRST ATTEMPTED ASCENT OF MOUNT RAINIER

In the garrison at Fort Steilacoom was a young lieutenant named A. V. Kautz who, according to his own admission, had a passion for standing on high places. Inasmuch as this glorious peak was visible from the barracks of the pioneer outpost, we can readily understand why he desired to climb to the topmost point of Mount Rainier. Accordingly, at noon on July 8, 1857, Kautz started on this quest which had for several months been one of his chief topics of conversation. He was accompanied by Dr. O. R. Craig, of the garrison at Fort Bellingham, and four soldiers. Later in the day they were joined by Wapowety, a Nisqually Indian who was to guide them to Mount Rainier. (2) Kautz had made every effort to learn as much as possible about the equipment necessary for such a hazardous undertaking but such information was, of course, very meager in this region at that time. The experiences of climbers in the Alps served as Kautz' chief source of information, but even there mountain climbing was not as generally recognized at that time as it was to be in later years. The equipment that they carried on this memorable journey then, was of the most rudimentary type and the time for the completion of the journey was greatly underestimated. This had a particular bearing upon their food supply which was practically exhausted before they reached the base of Mount Rainier.

The party traveled as far as possible by horseback, a journey of one day to Mishal Prairie, near the site of the present town of La Grande on the mountain highway, where they left two of the soldiers to care for the animals until their return. Kautz, Dr. Craig, two of the soldiers, whose names were Dogue and Carroll, and Wapowety pressed on through the deep forest on the following

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(1) Len Longmire is the grandson of James Longmire, early settler in the lower Puget Sound area and discoverer of Longmire Springs in Mount Rainier National Park. Len is himself familiar with the early days in this region and knew many of the early characters who contributed to the history of this section. His tale is verified in Mr. Joseph Hazard's book, "Snow Sentinels of the Pacific Northwest", pages 144-145.

(2) The Nisqually chieftain, Leschi, who was imprisoned at Fort Steilacoom at that time for his part in the Indian war, and whom Kautz had befriended, aided in obtaining the services of Wapowety for the party and also gave Kautz the benefit of his knowledge of the region that they would traverse.

(Asahel Curtis Photo).

NISQUALLY GLACIER FROM SKYLINE TRAIL

day. After considerable hardship over a period of several days, they reached the Nisqually River, no doubt at a point approximately in the vicinity of the present town of National. From there they followed up the Nisqually to the snout of the glacier of the same name (1), climbed up the face of the ice and eventually made a base camp, on July 14th, in an alpine cirque between 5500 and 6000 feet on the west side of the Nisqually Glacier. This journey was replete with hardship and tremendous effort as it required eight days for the heroic band to reach this point from Fort Steilacoom. At 8:00 a. m. on the following day the entire party began the ascent. They climbed slowly along Wapowety Cleaver (2) finally reaching glacier ice over which they proceeded toward the summit. However, the effort required in penetrating the untracked

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(1) From Kautz' account of the trip, which identifies certain prominent landmarks in the vicinity, we know that the snout of the Nisqually occupied a point approximately 760 feet below the present Glacier Bridge.

(2) Named for the Indian guide.

wilderness, the lack of suitable food and the hardships that they endured on account of these factors had taken their toll of human endurance. Wapowety, due to snowblindness, and Carroll were the first to drop out. The doctor began to lag behind and late in the afternoon was forced to abandon the attempt. Kautz and Dogue continued on for a short distance, but after 5:00 p. m. the weather gave promise of turning bad and storm clouds began sweeping in and fog gathered about the glaciated slopes of the great volcano. In the face of such adverse conditions they retraced their steps. Concerning this part of the attempt Kautz wrote in his journal as follows:

> "Finally we reached what may be called the top, for although there were points higher yet, the mountain spread out comparatively flat, and it was much easier to get along . . . It was after six o'clock and the ice was forming in my canteen and to stay on the mountain at such a temperature was to freeze to death for we brought no blankets with us."

By this statement he recognized that he had not reached the actual summit so Kautz and his party are only credited with the first *attempted* ascent. Yet the hardships that they endured in their heroic effort stands today as one of the historical high lights of this region. Kautz is honored, as is entirely proper, by the glacier that bears his name and over whose upper surface he climbed.

They returned to Fort Steilacoom some days later, so emaciated that their friends at the garrison did not immediately recognize them. Wapowety nearly died from the effects of the climb. The two soldiers who accompanied Kautz were sent immediately to the hospital, and later one applied for a pension on the strength of physical injury received on the ascent, while the doctor suffered for many weeks from its effects. Kautz, however, had no bad after effects from the journey. (1)

FIRST SUCCESSFUL ASCENT

Thirteen years were to elapse after Kautz' effort before the first man was to stand upon the actual crest of Mount Rainier. In 1870 Hazard Stevens, (2) and Philomen B. VanTrump of

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(1) In 1921 J. T. Hazard, O. B. Sperlin, Wallace Burr, and Stella Shahan reconstructed the route of Lieutenant Kautz and established the extent of his ascent as about 12,000 feet. This party, however, did not continue to the summit. On July 11, 1924, Joseph Hazard, with twelve companions, completed the Kautz climb, thereby demonstrating the practicability of this route. See "The Completion of the Kautz Climb", by Joseph T. Hazard; Mountaineer, Vol. 17, No. 1, December, 1924.

(2) Stevens was the son of the first governor of Washington Territory. VanTrump was secretary to Marshall F. Moore, Governor of Washington Territory at that time.

Olympia, Washington, became interested with this idea. Edward T. Coleman, who had several first ascents to his credit, including the first ascent of Mount Baker, was to accompany them but, due to unfortunate complications, dropped out before the others reached their base camp near what is now known as Sluiskin Falls.

The party left Olympia on August 8, 1870, and arrived at the ranch of James Longmire on Yelm Prairie in the evening. Accompanying the climbers was a gay escort of young men and women who came that far in order to bid them good luck on their perilous journey. Stevens and VanTrump had previously made arrangements with James Longmire to assist them in securing a guide who could lead them to the base of Mount Rainier and, accordingly, on August 9, 1870, with Longmire leading the way, Stevens, VanTrump and Coleman penetrated the timber toward Bear Prairie. Near this spot, which they reached several days later, Longmire met and persuaded a Yakima Indian, by the name of Sluiskin, to guide these men to a point within striking distance of the mountain. Longmire returned to his farm after this duty was performed and, in company with Sluiskin who picked a course toward the summit of the Tatoosh Range, the three men started from Bear Prairie. Coleman dropped out soon after and only Stevens and VanTrump continued. Under Sluiskin's guidance the two men ascended to the crest of the Tatoosh Range and threaded their way among the numerous peaks by a devious and laborious route. Finally at the insistence of Stevens and VanTrump they descended to the other side of the range and advanced toward the mountain along what we now know as Mazama Ridge. Why Sluiskin took this route is a matter of conjecture. He may have wanted to tire and discourage these men from doing what he believed impossible and foolhardy; he may have been seeking a few days' extra pay, or he may have done this on account of the Indian's natural disinclination to inform the white man of a new and heretofore virgin territory. At any rate a much easier route could have been taken and it is quite certain that Sluiskin was not unfamiliar with it.

Sluiskin in the meantime had become greatly attached to his white friends and began to admire their fortitude and courage. Accordingly, as other methods had failed, he sought by impassioned speech to discourage them and inform them of the dangers that they would certainly meet in their attempt to ascend Mount Rainier. Stevens and VanTrump, however, refused to be discouraged at the gloomy picture Sluiskin painted for them, and on August 17, 1870, at 6:00 a. m., they started from their last camp, which was just above the falls that were named in honor of Sluiskin. They had previously, at the insistence of Sluiskin, signed a statement to the effect that they had been duly warned and that the Indian was not responsible for their death. This statement Sluiskin intended to carry back to Olympia as proof of his innocence after waiting a specified time of two days for

EMMONS GLACIER AND MOUNT RAINIER FROM YAKIMA PARK

them. He felt that they would never again be seen alive. (1)

Nevertheless, on August 17, 1870, after a gruelling climb via the Gibraltar route, one of the routes generally used until the summer of 1937, the two climbers reached Peak Success at about 5:00 p. m. They had taken no blankets, expecting to return the same day, but approaching nightfall and bad weather forced them to stay on the summit that night. They climbed higher in search of some protected spot and in so doing discovered the small crater, from the edges of which came steam and warm vapors that melted caves in the snow at that point. It was in one of these steam caves that these men spent the night on the summit while a blizzard raged outside. They called the topmost point

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(1) "If you go, I will wait here two days, and then go to Olympia and tell your people that you have perished on Takhoma. Give me a paper to them to let them know that I am not to blame for your death." From the Indian Warning against the demons as spoken by Sluiskin on the eve of Steven's and VanTrump's ascent. See Meany, "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration," page 134.

Crater Peak, since named Columbia Crest. At nine o'clock on the following morning the storm had diminished sufficiently to allow them to return. Sluiskin was both surprised and overjoyed to see them, but it was some time before he could realize that it was actually his friends instead of their ghosts that he saw. (1)

SECOND SUCCESSFUL ASCENT

For centuries Rainier's crest had been immune to the tread of man but in 1870 two parties achieved the crater rim. About two months after Stevens and VanTrump successfully negotiated the ascent, Samuel Franklin Emmons and A. D. Wilson of the 40th Parallel Corps, United States Geological Survey, climbed the mountain.

Emmons had been engaged in the mapping and exploration of Mount Shasta during the summer and in the early fall was dispatched to the north to begin work of a similar character about Mount Rainier. He was not aware that it had been successfully climbed until after his arrival in Portland when he learned of the first ascent by Stevens and VanTrump. Engaging the assistance of A. D. Wilson, who had been busy on topographical work in the vicinity of Mount Hood through the summer, he went to Olympia and met Stevens who graciously gave him the advantage of his experience and aided in obtaining James Longmire as packer for the prospective party. So for the second time that year Longmire loaded his pack animals and pushed into the wilderness. An attempt was made to reach the vicinity of Sluiskin Falls with pack animals, as the party carried a quantity of necessary scientific equipment, but this was found to be impossible. They retraced their steps to Bear Prairie and approached their objective via the Cowlitz Divide, ascending along this ridge to a point in the vicinity of Cowlitz Park where a base camp was made. A few days were spent in laying out a base line for future completion of the survey and at the expiration of this duty James Longmire again returned to civilization.

Emmons and Wilson finally made camp at timberline in the upper portion of Cowlitz Park, crossed the Cowlitz Glacier and climbed over the ice to Gibraltar Rock. There they located the narrow ledge trail about which Stevens had told them and along this they crept to the "Chutes" where Emmons nearly fell over the precipice when his awkward pack, a blanket roll that had been thrown around his shoulders, slipped down about his ankles. He gingerly stepped from the offending impediment and watched it slide out of sight into the abyss below. The two men reached the summit, but it was impossible to make observations on account of high winds and bad weather. They returned to

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(1) See account of first ascent of Mount Rainier—an address delivered by P. B. VanTrump: Hunt's "History of Tacoma," Vol. 1.

their base camp without mishap and eventually reached civilization again by crossing the Cascades to Fort Simcoe on the east side of the mountains. From there they made their way to the Dalles on the Columbia River. (1)

THIRD SUCCESSFUL ASCENT

As already noted in Chapter III, the third ascent of Mount Rainier was made by P. B. VanTrump serving as guide, James Longmire, who served as packer and was prevailed upon to accompany the party to the summit, and a third man, G. B. Bayley. (2) It was on the return from the ascent, which was negotiated without difficulty, that Longmire discovered the mineral springs about which he was to construct the first permanent settlement in the area that is now included in Mount Rainier National Park.

FIRST ASCENT VIA THE NORTH SIDE

In a book by Theo. Garrish, published in 1887, the writer discovered an account of what is undoubtedly the first ascent from the north side of Mount Rainier. (3) This ascent was made by the Rev. Warner Forbes, Richard O. Wells, and George James of Snohomish, Washington, on August 20, 1885.

Starting from Tacoma they journeyed to Wilkeson on the Northern Pacific Railway where they obtained the necessary supplies for their journey to the mountain. Over the trail that had been built from this point by the Northern Pacific Railway, the three adventurers traveled to Mowich (then called Crater) Lake and thence into the alpine region which is known as Spray Park. They attempted to ascend the mountain from this point but were forced to turn back at about 11,000 feet. After resting a few days they crossed the Carbon Glacier and made camp, probably at a point above what we know today as Mineral Mountain. From this place they made a second attempted ascent but as one of the party gave out near the summit they were forced to return. The next day a final attempt was made and the three

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(1) In an address before the American Geographical Society Samuel Franklin Emmons gave a complete account of this second ascent. See Journal of American Geographical Society, Vol. IX. 1879. Pages 53-65.

(2) This information was derived from Len Longmire, grandson of James Longmire. Also see Seattle Post-Intelligencer, August 12, 1894.

(3) Garrish, Theo. "Life in the World's Wonderland" Biddleford Press, Biddleford, Maine; 1887. In this book Garrish quotes an account of this ascent by Warner Forbes as published in "The West Shore".

Also see "On the Ascents of Mount Rainier," by Harry M. Myers, in The Mountaineer, December, 1935, page 6.

men succeeded in reaching the crater where they found a "walking stick protruding from the snow". Later they were to find a "piece of lead with four names inscribed upon it" near one of the vents inside the crater rim. Thus was completed the first recorded ascent from the north side—the party having made the climb by means of the Winthrop and Emmons Glaciers.

FIRST ASCENT BY A WOMAN

It is also interesting to note that the first ascent by a woman was made on August 10, 1890. The adventurous lady in question was Miss Fay Fuller (1) of Tacoma. She was one of an original party of ten, five of whom turned back at Camp Muir leaving Miss Fuller, Len Longmire, Rev. E. C. Smith, Mr. Parrish and Mr. Amsden to complete the ascent. They were forced to spend the night in the crater as they had lost so much time in cutting steps in the ice above Gibraltar that it was not deemed advisable to return on the same day.

In 1933 the writer corresponded with her and requested an account of her ascent together with a photograph of her taken at the time. She graciously complied with that request and we quote an interesting passage from her letter:

> "The costume . . . will amuse present day climbers. I had it made at the time when bloomers were unknown and it was considered quite immodest. How anyone could have scrambled over rocks thus attired is now inconceivable. There were no boots or heavy shoes available for women at the time and I bought the strongest shoes that were sold to boys. I believe the stock (alpenstock) was the one made by a blacksmith at Yelm using a curved shovel handle . . ."

Len Longmire told the writer that on several occasions, when they arrived at some particularly difficult point in the ascent, the men in the party offered to assist Miss Fuller. To all these chivalrous gestures she turned a deaf ear, stating that

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(1) Miss Fuller later married and became Mrs. Fritz von Briesen. She made a second ascent with the Mazama Club of Portland in 1897, and always retained her interest in Mount Rainier. She made later visits to the park in 1923 and 1950.

if she could not achieve the goal without their assistance she would not deserve to reach the summit.

PRINCIPAL ASCENTS OF MOUNT RAINIER

While the foregoing are probably the most interesting of the early ascents, many others are of particular note. The more outstanding of these are listed in chronological order. Of necessity, the accounts of many ascents are not included since it is estimated that, through the 1951 season, 8,001 people have successfully reached the summit.

1857, July 14: First attempted ascent via the "Kautz route" by Lieutenant A. V. Kautz, Dr. O. R. Craig, two soldiers named Dogue and Carroll, and their Indian guide Wapowety.

1870, August 17: First ascent, via the Gibraltar route, by Hazard Stevens and P. B. Van Trump.

1870, October 17: Second ascent, via Cowlitz Glacier-Gibraltar route, by S. F. Emmons and A. D. Wilson.

1883, August 17: Third ascent, via Gibraltar route, by P. B. Van Trump, James Longmire and George B. Bayley.

1885, September 20: First ascent from the north side via Winthrop and Emmons Glaciers, by Warner Forbes, Richard O. Wells and George James of Snohomish, Washington.

1885 or 1886, exact date unknown: In the fall a party of seven or eight Yakima Indians, together with Allison L. Brown, reached the summit from the Cowlitz Divide via the Whitman and Ingraham Glaciers. (1)

1888, August 14: E. S. Ingraham, John Muir, Charles Piper, D. W. Bass, P. B. VanTrump and A. C. Warner (2) reached the summit by way of the Gibraltar route. On this trip A. C. Warner, who carried a cumbersome plate camera, made the first photo of the summit of Mount Rainier. This ascent was also productive of the selection of the site on the route, used as a bivouac by the party, later known as Camp Muir, in honor of the famous naturalist. (3)

(1) Brown, A. L. "Ascent of Mt. Rainier by the Ingraham Glacier". Mountaineer, Vol. 13, No. 1; November, 1920, pages 49-50.

(2) In Ingraham's account of this ascent, as quoted in Meany's "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration" (pages 150-158), the name of N. O. Booth is also included. Mr. A. C. Warner, however, informed the writer that only the six men noted above made the ascent, but that N. O. Booth, Henry Loomis, and Wm. Keith accompanied the party to Paradise Valley. However, in an article in the Seattle Times of May 29, 1938, Mr. Warner states that "eight of us climbed the summit" and lists, in addition to himself, John Muir, E. S. Ingraham, D. W. Bass, Charles Piper, N. O. Booth, Henry Loomis, and P. B. VanTrump.

(3) According to A. C. Warner, as told to the writer in 1939, the present site of Camp Muir was not the one originally selected as their bivouac; the latter being located at about the present site now known as Camp Misery.

1890, August 10: First ascent by a woman. Summit attained via the Gibraltar route by Len Longmire (guide), Miss Fay Fuller, Rev. E. C. Smith, Mr. Parrish and Mr. Amsden.

1891, July 30: Second ascent by a woman. This party included Len Longmire, Miss Sue Longmire, who was then but 13 or 14 years old, Miss Edith Corbett, a school teacher of the Yelm region, Elcain Longmire, Dr. Stafford and Hans Polson of Puyallup, Edward Allen, the son of Professor O. D. Allen, an early settler in the upper Nisqually Valley, and several others. (1)

1891 (date uncertain): Via Tahoma Glacier from Indian Henry's Hunting Ground by P. B. VanTrump and "a man named Riley." (2)

1892, August 20: First ascent via Success Cleaver and Tahoma Glacier, from Indian Henry's Hunting Ground by P. B. VanTrump and George B. Bayley.

1894, July 18: A party of 14, guided by E. S. Ingraham, and including three women—Miss Helen Holmes (then 15 years of age), Miss Annie Hall and Miss Bernice Parke, reached the summit of Mount Rainier via the Gibraltar route. This was the third time Mount Rainier was scaled by women. (3)

1896, July 23-24: I. C. Russell, Bailey Willis, and George Otis Smith of the United States Geological Survey, and two men, who accompanied this party as packers, named F. H. Ainsworth and W. B. Williams, negoiated the ascent by means of the Emmons Glacier. The descent was made by way of the Gibraltar route. They were, therefore, the first to cross from one side of Mount Rainier to the other by way of the summit.

1897, July 27: Ascent via the Gibraltar route by the Mazama Club of Portland. It was this ascent that resulted in the tragic death of Professor Edgar McClure of the University of Oregon near the rock that today bears his name. McClure had reached the summit, had made a barometric determination of the elevation of Mount Rainier, and was returning to Paradise Valley after dark when he fell from this promontory.

1905, July 24: Ascent by the Sierra Club of California via the Gibraltar route. This party of 53 people was under the leadership of Mr. Parsons. (4)

1905, July 27: First ascent via Success Cleaver route by John R. Glascock and Ernest Dudley. Descent via Gibraltar route.

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(1) From Len Longmire, August 14, 1937.

(2) Mountaineer; Nov., 1920, page 48.

(3) Seattle Post-Intelligencer. Aug. 12, 1894.

(4) Sierra Club Bulletin, Vol. 6, No. 1; January, 1906, pages 1-6.

1905 or 1906 (year uncertain), May 18: First ascent from Spray Park via Ptarmigan Ridge by Lee Pickett and an unidentified man. (1)

1909, July 30-31: Ascent via the Emmons and Winthrop Glaciers from Glacier Basin by 62 members of The Mountaineers. (2)

1912, July 2: Via Success Cleaver Route by Joseph Stamphler, Phil Barrett and Frank Kandle. Descent via Gibraltar route.

1913, August 20: A United States Geological Survey party under the direction of C. H. Birdseye made the ascent of Mount Rainier for the purpose of completing the topographic map of the region, begun under the direction of F. E. Matthes in 1910. In addition to Mr. Birdseye on this ascent were C. B. Harmon and Frank Krogh. The determination of the elevation of Mount Rainier made by these men (14,408 feet) stands today as the accepted elevation of the mountain. (3)

1914, July 28: Via Success Cleaver by Jos. Stamphler, Dr. K. F. Meyer, W. N. Ellis, Fred Vinton and Alvin Bogardus. Descent via Gibraltar route. (1)

1914, Aug. 15: Via Success Cleaver by Jos. Stamphler, Margaret Hargrave, and Henry T. Dill. The descent was made by the same route. (1)

1918, August 23: By J. H. Weer, R. S. Wainwright and H. Myers via Success Cleaver from Indian Henry's Hunting Ground. Descent via Gibraltar route. (4)

1920, July 2: Via Nisqually Glacier by Jos. T. Hazard, P. M. Farrer, Thos. Hermans, Hans and Henry Fuhrer. Return via Gibraltar route.

1920, July 26-28: From VanTrump Park via the Kautz Glacier route by Roger W. Toll, Hans Fuhrer, Henry Fuhrer and Harry Myers. Descent via Gibraltar route. (1)

1922, February 13: Mid-winter ascent via the Gibraltar route made by Charles Perryman, Jacques Bergues, and Jean and Jacques Landy. Motion pictures were taken at the summit. (5)

1924, July 11: Completion of the Kautz climb by Jos. T. Hazard, Chas. B. Browne, F. B. Farquharsen, Fred Q. Gorton, Mrs. Jos. T. Hazard, Ben C. Mooers, John W. McCrillis, R. P. Burkhead, Alonzo Troth, Herbert C. Fish, Miss Hermie Thompson, J. N. O. Thompson and John Thompson, Jr. (6)

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(1) Mountaineer. Vol. 13, November, 1920; pages 48-49.

(2) Mountaineer. Vol. 2, November, 1909; pages 4-12.

(3) Mountaineer. Vol. 8, December, 1915; pages 61-66.

(4) Mountaineer, Vol. XI, December, 1918; pages 49-50.

(5) The Mountaineer. December, 1935; page 6.

(6) The Mountaineer. December, 1924; pages 57-58.

MOUNT RAINIER FROM KLAPATCHE PARK

1934, July 4-6: Via Tahoma Glacier from Klapatche Park by Hans Fuhrer and Alfred E. Roovers. Descent made via the Gibraltar route. (1)

1935, Sept. 7-8: Via Ptarmigan Ridge by Wolf Bauer and Jack Hossack. Return via Gibraltar route. (2)

1935, September 28-October 1: First successful ascent via Liberty Ridge on Willis Wall by Ome Daiber, Will H. Borrow, Jr., and Arnold Campbell. (2)

1937, July 19-21: Ascent via the Puyallup Glacier and Sunset Amphitheater by Wendell Trosper and Fred Theime. (3)

Previous to the winter of 1936-37 the majority of ascents were made via the Gibraltar Route, the one pioneered by Stevens and VanTrump in 1870. The first attempted ascent in 1937, however, brought to light the fact that a portion of the narrow ledge along the face of Gibraltar had crumbled away. Recently the most popular routes have been via the Emmons Glacier from Glacier Basin and Steamboat Prow, and via the upper Kautz route from Paradise Valley.

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(1) American Alpine Journal; Vol. 2, No. 3, 1935.
(2) The Mountaineer. December, 1935.
(3) Seattle Times. July 25, 1937.

Chapter Five

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

THE PROGRESS of scientific research in Mount Rainier National Park, like that of the discovery and exploration of this area, first began on a broad general plan of hasty observation in the entire northwest, gradually narrowed down to the park area itself, and then began to be concerned with the various scientific details represented here. Consequently we find, as far back as 1787, an Englishman named Archibald Menzies making observations of the flora and fauna along portions of the northwest coast in his capacity of surgeon and naturalist with Captain Colnett of the ship "Prince of Wales." Again, in 1792, we find Menzies with Vancouver, also in the capacity of surgeon and naturalist. As a member of this memorable expedition, he was one of the first white men to visit and observe the shores of Puget Sound. Menzies was probably the first man to study and collect in what is now the State of Washington and although his collections and observations were, of necessity, of a very general character the results of his work as written in his diary served as a stimulant to other scientists who came later. Menzies was essentially a botanist, as were most of the early medical practioners who accompanied these first expeditions, for in those times medicine and botany were closely allied. Hence we find today, in the scientific name of the Menzies pipsissewa (Chimaphila menziesii), a record of this man's prowess in his chosen science. The same is true of another plant which is also native to Mount Rainier National Park—the rusty menziesia (Menziesia ferruginea).

Captain George Vancouver, himself, made minor observations concerning the flora and fauna of the Puget Sound country, but his greatest contribution to science in this region was the very careful and accurate charts of the waters he explored. These charts made it possible for other ships to follow in safety and hastened the exploration and settlement of this section of the world.

Brief mention of other early scientific explorations should also be made. In 1804-06 Lewis and Clark, on their famous journey to the Pacific, studied and collected the flora and fauna of the area through which they passed. While they reached the coast via the Columbia River and did not penerate the region near Mount Rainier, they are credited with being the first to note the Nutcracker or Clark's Crow (1), which is a common bird of the Hudsonian regions about "The Mountain." Lewis monkeyflower (Mimulus lewisii) and Lewis' Woodpecker, also

(1) Lewis and Clark saw this bird on the north fork of the Salmon River in Idaho, August 22, 1805.

native to this park, bear the name of the other of these illustrious Americans.

About 1825 David Douglas explored and botanized up and down the Pacific Coast, and in his journeys he discovered many new plants. The name Douglas fir is conferred upon one of the greatest forest trees of the northwest. In Mount Rainier National Park one finds this species in the forests about the base of the mountain up to the 4,000 foot level.

The names of other famous scientists, who studied the natural history of the Pacific Northwest when this region was still young, are also applied to many of the plants and animals found in Mount Rainier National Park. Gairdner's Woodpecker is named for Dr. Meredith Gairdner; Townsend's Solitaire, Townsend's Warbler and Townsend's Mole commemorate the memory of James K. Townsend who visited the coast in 1834; Thomas Nuttall, who collected in the northwest in 1834, 1835 and 1836, has a beautiful member of the phlox family, which is common on the dry sunny slopes of the Hudsonian zone on Mount Rainier, named for him Nuttall gilia (Gilia nuttali). The scientific name of the Pacific dogwood (Cornus nuttalli), an occasional tree in the park, also honors this man.

FIRST BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS IN THE AREA

The foregoing preceded actual contact with the area which we know today as Mount Rainier National Park. As already outlined in Chapter II, is was not until 1833 that the first white man entered the region which is now included within the park boundaries. Dr. William Fraser Tolmie, physician and surgeon in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, penetrated the wilderness about Mount Rainier, primarily for the purpose of studying the local flora and gathering herbs suitable for medicinal use. On September 2, 1833, he wrote:

> ". . . collected a vasculum of plants at the snow, and having examined and packed them shall turn in."

Thus was the first collection of plants made in the park area. Presumably it was made upon, or near, the summit of the mountain that Tolmie had climbed that day, and which was the extent of his journey. We know it today as Tolmie Peak. It is not improbable that the plant that now bears this man's name was represented in that original collection, for Tolmie saxifrage (Saxifraga tolmiei) was first collected by this pioneer botanist, to quote from his notes, on the "northwest coast." It inhabits the rocky soil of the upper Hudsonian and lower Arctic-alpine zones and is quite common in such localities throughout the park.

THE WILKES EXPEDITION: FIRST DETERMINATION OF THE ELEVATION OF MOUNT RAINIER

The next event of scientific importance relative to Mount Rainier was the determination of the altitude of the great volcano

by the U. S. Exploring Expedition (1) in 1841. This was the first effort to establish the altitude of Mount Rainier. The triangulation method was used, a base line being laid off on the prairie near Fort Nisqually, and the elevation determined as 12,330 feet above the sea.

Commander Wilkes intended to make further studies in the region about Mount Rainier and expressed a desire to reach its summit, but the wrecking of the ship "Peacock," one of Wilkes' vessels, on the Columbia Bar forestalled any efforts of this kind. Had Wilkes' plans been consummated it is very probable that some very interesting collections and observations would have occurred, as this expedition was possessed of a highly talented scientific personnel. Under Lieutenant Johnson a party crossed the Cascades via Naches Pass into eastern Washington, collecting specimens, and making various observations enroute. Although Naches Pass is not in the park, Mount Rainier is mentioned several times in the account of the trip.

Lieutenant A. V. Kautz, U. S. Army, made the first attempted ascent on record in July of 1857 and while his journey was not of a scientific nature the record of this trip, written later by Kautz, describes the snout of the Nisqually Glacier and identifies certain topographic features by which it was possible later to determine the position of the terminus for the year 1857. (2) This record is part of the data used in recession measurements made annually on this glacier by the naturalist department of Mount Rainier National Park.

The first ascent by Stevens and VanTrump, in August, 1870, was not conducive of scientific data but in October of the same year Samuel Franklin Emmons and A. D. Wilson of the 40th Parallel Corps, U. S. Geological Survey, made a preliminary geological reconnaisance on the east side of the mountain. The season was too far advanced to permit any extensive field work in that year so, unfortunately, this initial effort was not carried to completion. These men did, however, make an ascent of Mount Rainier. They carried a theodolite, an instrument for measuring horizontal and vertical angles, distances and heights, but conditions at the summit were such that it could not be used. They also made a small collection of rocks, the first geological collection made in this area, which was later studied by Hague and Iddings of the U. S. Geological Survey who determined that "Mount Rainier is formed almost wholly of hypersthene andesite, with different conditions of ground mass." Results

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(1) Commonly known as the Wilkes Expedition. See Meany, E. S., "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration", pages 13-33.

(2) See Brockman, C. Frank, "The Recession of Glaciers in Mount Rainier National Park, Washington." Journal of Geology, Vol. XLVI, No. 5, July-August, 1938.

of this reconnaisance are recorded in two papers prepared by Emmons and Wilson in which their visit to this region, including their ascent, is outlined and in which a description of the glaciers observed is given. (1)

FIRST COMPREHENSIVE GEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE RAINIER AREA

In 1881-83 Bailey Willis (2), as Assistant Geologist of the Northern Transcontinental Survey, was in charge of the construction of a trail along the west side of Mount Rainier from Wilkeson, local terminus of the Northern Pacific Railroad. This work had as its chief objective the exploration of mineral resources, principally coal, in the area but it also served as a means of attracting tourists to Mount Rainier. In connection with this activity Willis had an opportunity to investigate the geology of the west side of Mount Rainier. (3) He continued this association with the area for several years and, in 1896, was placed in charge of a U. S. Geological Survey party which made an extensive geological investigation of a large part of the present park area. In addition to Bailey Willis, the party included George Otis Smith and I. C. Russell (4), also of the Geological Survey, together with F. H. Ainsworth, Fred Koch, W. B. Williams, and Michael Autler who served as packers and camp hands. They made a careful geological investigation of the northwest slope of Mount Rainier and adjacent areas and continued these studies across the north side of the mountain to the Wedge. From this point they climbed Rainier via the Emmons Glacier, observing this ice field en route, and made a careful study of the summit. The descent was made via the Gibralter route to Paradise Valley from which point they returned to their base camp at the apex of the Wedge, by encircling the east flank of Mount Rainier, which gave them additional opportunities to observe and study that section of this area. Aside from the fact that they were the first to cross from one side of Mount Rainier to the other by way of the summit, no small accomplishment in itself, their achievements of a scientific nature were of monu-

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(1) Journal of the American Geographic Society, Vol. IX, 1877; pages 45-65.
American Journal of Science, Third Series, Vol. I, 1871; page 161.
Also see Meany, "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration," pages 135-141.

(2) Willis Wall, at the head of the Carbon Glacier, is named for him.

(3) Willis published a brief article about Mount Rainier in "The Northwest", Vol. I, No. 2, April, 1883.

(4) Russell's name is commemorated by the Russell Glacier, on the northwest flank of Mount Rainier and Russell Cliff which overlooks the Emmons and Winthrop Glaciers.

mental importance to this region. Their work was the first attempt at a comprehensive study of Mount Rainier and their reports (1) form the principal background of our geological knowledge of this area.

OTHER IMPORTANT GEOLOGICAL STUDIES

In 1883 Professor von Zittel, a well known German paleontologist of that time, visited Mount Rainier. He made a small collection of rocks which were later examined in Germany by K. Oebbeke of Munich who reported upon them in a European technical publication.

The tragic death of Edgar McClure in 1897, near the point which today bears the name of McClure Rock, did not dim this man's achievement in making a barometric determination of the elevation of Mount Rainier. His work was carried on in that year during an outing of the Mazama Club of Portland. The results of McClure's experiment, computed and tabulated by Professor E. H. McAllister of the University of Oregon, set the elevation of Mount Rainier as 14,528 feet. The data was published in "Mazama", the official organ of that club, in October 1900 (Vol. 2, No. 1).

During the summer of 1905, the Sierra Club of California spent several weeks in the park. Professor Joseph N. LeConte of the University of California, a member of this group, made the first investigation of the rate of flow of the Nisqually Glacier at that time. The results of his investigation were published in the Sierra Club Bulletin of January 1907 (Vol. 6, No. 2) and form an extremely interesting segment of the geological knowledge of the park.

LeConte's work was later expanded to include studies on the recession, as well as additional work on the flow of the Nisqually Glacier. Recession studies of the Nisqually Glacier were initiated by the National Park Service, being first undertaken by Floyd Schmoe, the first park naturalist of Mount Rainier National Park, and the late Professor Henry C. Landes of the University of Washington. This study, carried on since that time by other park naturalists, has since been broadened to include similar data on other glaciers in the park (2). These data have become a source of interest to students of glaciers throughout the world. They were published annually, in brief, by the Committee on Glaciers of the American Geophysical Union and transmitted by that organization to the International Glacier Commission.

In 1930 and 1931, to supplement the original studies made by Professor LeConte in 1905, the City of Tacoma (Engineering

(1) 18th Annual Report of the U. S. G. S. for 1896-97. Russell, I. C., "Glaciers of Mount Rainier", pages 351-409; Smith, George Otis, "The Rocks of Mount Rainier", pages 416-423.

(2) See Brockman, C. Frank "The Recession of Glaciers in Mount Rainier National Park, Washington". Journal of Geology, Vol. XLVI, No. 5; July-August, 1938.

WILLIS WALL FROM MYSTIC LAKE-MORAINE PARK DIVIDE

Dept.), U. S. Geological Survey (Water Resources Div.), and the National Park Service cooperated in a study of the lower Nisqually Glacier. The purpose of this survey was to determine, not only the rate of movement of the ice stream at that time, but also to establish a basis for determinations of changes in its thickness and cubical content in later years. This was the first study of its kind to be made on any glacier in the United States. It has later been expanded by Arthur Johnson of the U. S. Geological Survey, the results of which are published annually.

Several other items of geological interest should also be mentioned. In 1936 the University of Washington Press published "The Geology of Mount Rainier National Park" by Dr. Howard Coombs, of the University of Washington. Dr. Coombs served as a seasonal ranger and naturalist in Mount Rainier National Park for several summers, during which time a large part of his work was done. He also collaborated with Professor G. E. Goodspeed of the University of Washington in petrographic studies of the rocks in the southeast section of the park.

In 1947 the Mount Rainier National Park Natural History Association published a very interesting popular booklet relative to the geology of the park, in relation to its scenery, entitled "Behind the Scenery of Mount Rainier National Park". The author, Howard R. Stagner, was park naturalist of Mount Rainier National Park at that time.

MAPPING THE PARK; DETERMINATION OF THE OFFICIAL ELEVATION OF MOUNT RAINIER

While Emmons and Wilson made a start toward a survey of Mount Rainier by laying out a base line on the east slope of "The Mountain", it was not until 1895 that a map of this region was prepared. This work was done by Henry A. Sarvent, for whom the Sarvent Glaciers were named, and was the first authentic work of its kind for this area.

Several times the elevation of Mount Rainier had been computed and as many different results were obtained. In 1910 the U. S. Geological Survey again entered the area for the primary purpose of preparing an accurate topographic map of the park and to ascertain, by modern methods, the elevation of Mount Rainier. Mr. F. E. Matthes (1) was in charge of the initial work. During 1910 and 1911 he and his party mapped a large part of the park region and, in addition, made a supplementary determination of the height of Mount Rainier. It was not until 1913, however, when the survey was completed, that final data on the elevation of Mount Rainier was taken. C. H. Birdseye was in charge of the party in that year and he and his assistants established the height of "The Mountain" as 14,408 feet, since regarded as its official elevation (2).

BOTANICAL RESEARCH

Although field research in this area during the early years was primarily concerned with geological matters, largely due to the interest of the U. S. Geological Survey in the Mount Rainier region, botanical field work was not entirely overlooked.

Toward the end of the last century Professor O. D. Allen of Yale University came west for his health and settled in the upper Nisqually Valley, a short distance from the present Nisqually Entrance. He made numerous excursions into the nearby mountains, and upon the south and west flank of Mount Rainier for the purpose of studying and collecting plants. A portion of his herbarium now reposes in the park museum at Longmire.

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(1) Author of "Mount Rainier and Its Glaciers", published by the U. S. Government Printing Office in 1922.

(2) See Meany, "Mount Rainier—A Record of Exploration"; pp. 297-301. Mount Rainier is now regarded as the fourth highest mountain in the United States (exclusive of Alaska), being exceeded by Mount Whitney in California (14,496 ft.), Mount Elbert (14,420 ft.) and Mount Massive (14,419 ft.) in Colorado.

Botanical knowledge of this area was further enriched in the early 1900's due to the efforts of Charles Piper. The collections that he made about Mount Rainier augmented his botanical record of the Pacific Northwest, as published in his "Flora of Washington". (1) In addition, his articles in "Mazama" were the first published works on the flora of Mount Rainier National Park (2).

Another of the better known early botanists who collected in the park was J. B. Flett who, while serving as a park ranger from 1913 to 1921, made a broad study of the flora of this area which resulted in the publication of his "Features of the Flora of Mount Rainier National Park" by the U. S. Government Printing Office in 1923.

From 1926 to 1933 Fred Warren, employed as a seasonal ranger, made collections in the area. As a result he published "A Check List of Plants for Mount Rainier National Park" in the American Naturalist (Vol. 18, No. 6; 1937) in collaboration with Dr. Harold St. John of Washington State College. Another botanical publication of interest is "The Flowering Plants and Ferns of Mount Rainier National Park" by G. N. Jones, published by the University of Washington Press in 1938.

Representatives of the Division of Forestry, National Park Service, spent the summer seasons of 1935 and 1936 in field studies concerned with the preparation of a forest type map of Mount Rainier National Park. This was printed for official administrative use on January 1, 1938, and supplanted the original forest type map prepared by C. Frank Brockman in 1929-30 (3).

The research program of the Mount Rainier National Park naturalist department, which began gaining headway about 1930, also produced important botanical results (1). In this connection particular mention should be made of the work of Charles Landes, who aided in the development of the park herbarium during his many summers as a seasonal naturalist. The efforts of Dr. E. T. Bodenberg, who also served as a seasonal naturalist for many summers, are also worthy of specific interest. Dr. Bodenberg's work on the moss flora of the park during the summer periods of 1937 and 1938 was the first of its kind for this area and was published as a special issue of Mount Rainier National Park Nature Notes (1—page 60).

Botanical studies by C. Frank Brockman, during his tenure as park naturalist, resulted in the publication of his "Flora of Mount Rainier National Park" by the U. S. Government Printing Office in 1947. In 1949 the University of Washington Press published "Trees of Mount Rainier National Park" by the same author.

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(1) Flora of Washington. Cont. from the U. S. National Herbarium, Vol. XI; U. S. Government Printing Office, 1906.

(2) Mazama; April 1901 (Vol. 2, No. 2) and December 1905 (Vol. 2, No. 4),

(3) Brockman, C. Frank "Forests and Timber Types of Mount Rainier National Park". M.S. thesis, University of Washington; 1931.

The most recent research project of a botanical nature is concerned with the Kautz Creek flood area. During 1948 and 1949 the naturalist department began studies of the evidences of early forests exposed in the upper canyon by the flood, and a study to determine the natural processes by which a new forest is regenerating itself beneath the flood-killed forest giants. In 1950 the naturalist department, in collaboration with the College of Forestry, University of Washington, began a ten year investigation of soil formation and plant succession on the area in an effort to unlock the secrets of how natural forests have perpetuated themselves in the glacier-carved valleys of the state.

The flood mentioned took place on October 1st and 2nd, 1947. In addition to destroying approximately one mile of the Kautz Glacier, it moved at least 50,000,000 cubic yards of rock and debris into the lower valleys. Great tracts of forest cover were entirely destroyed. A small roadside exhibit and a self-guiding nature trail are now located by the road in the devastated area in order to give park visitors an idea of the nature and reasons for this catastrophe.

STUDIES OF ANIMAL LIFE

The first studies of the fauna of this area were made by a U. S. Biological Survey (1) party in 1897. Included were Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Vernon Bailey, and Walter Fisher. The first two men mentioned journeyed west from North Yakima, crossing the Cascades via Cowlitz Pass, and entered the region now included in the park in the vicinity of Longmire. In addition to collections made enroute they also collected in the Paradise Valley region, where they were joined by Fisher who had come in by way of the Nisqually Valley. During their sojourn here 180 specimens were collected and, in addition, their work served to identify fairly accurately the limits of the life zones on the south side of Mount Rainier.

A more intensive study of local animal life was conducted

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(1) Results of this field research program were originally published in mimeograph form, as special issues of Mount Rainier National Park Nature Notes. These are listed below:

Slater, J. R. and Brockman, C. F. Amphibians of Mount Rainier National Park. Vol. XIV, No. 4; December 1936.

Brockman, C. Frank. Ferns of Mount Rainier National Park. Vol. XV, No. 1; March 1937.

————————. Glacier Recession in Mount Rainier National Park. Vol. XV, No. 4; December 1937.

————————. Flora of Mount Rainier National Park. Vol. XVI, Nos. 1 & 2; March-June 1938.

————————. Forests of Mount Rainier National Park. Vol. XVI, Nos. 3 & 4; September-December 1938.

Bodenberg, E. T. Moss Flora of Mount Rainier National Park. Vol. XVII, Nos. 1 & 2; March-June 1939.

Kitchin, E. A. Birds of Mount Rainier National Park. Vol. XVII, Nos. 3 & 4; September-December 1939.

in 1919. In that year a U. S. Biological Survey (1) party composed of Dr. Walter Taylor and George Cantwell, assisted by Professor Wm. T. Shaw of Washington State College, J. B. Flett of the National Park Service, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. T. Finley, and Professor Hungate of Cheney Normal School (2), made a careful faunal reconnaisance of the park. In addition to preparing a life zone map of the area they collected 172 bird and 363 mammal specimens. This survey resulted in the publication, "Mammals and Birds of Mount Rainier National Park" by Taylor and Shaw. It was published by the U. S. Government Printing Office in 1927.

In connection with studies of the animal life of this area particular mention must be made of the work of E. A. Kitchin who, during the years 1934 to 1939, while serving as a wildlife technician, contributed greatly to a better understanding of the many interests in this field. Although his investigations concerned the habits of both mammals and birds his particular interest was directed toward the latter. His "Birds of Mount Rainier National Park" was published as a special issue of Mount Rainier National Park Nature Notes in 1939.

Professor James R. Slater made numerous visits to the park from the College of Puget Sound in Tacoma previous to 1933 in the pursuance of his particular interest — the amphibians of this area. The results of his efforts were graciously made available to the naturalist department of Mount Rainier National Park, resulting in the special issue of Mount Rainier National Park Nature Notes on the amphibians of the park in 1936.

The reptiles of Mount Rainier National Park, which are of relatively minor importance in local fauna, were studied by Walter Brown during the summer of 1938.

Of most recent interest in this field is the booklet "Mammals of Mount Rainier National Park", published by the Mount Rainier National Park Natural History Association in 1949, and written by Merlin K. Potts and Russell K. Grater. Both these men were members of the naturalist staff at that time.

In the foregoing pages an attempt has been made to show how this region has developed in public interest and public service since the day when Captain George Vancouver first saw the shimmering glacial slopes of Mount Rainier upon the horizon. Through the days of exploration and settlement of the Pacific Northwest Mount Rainier became more deeply imbedded in the hearts of all who knew — or sought to know — this great mountain. In its history, which encompasses all the vagaries and foibles, the idealism and retrospection of man and nature, "The Mountain" stands as a great monument to nature's forces and has served to inspire men, through the years, by its rugged grandeur and stoic beauty.

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(1) Now known as the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

(2) Now known as Eastern Washington College of Education.

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—Photo by R. N. McIntyre

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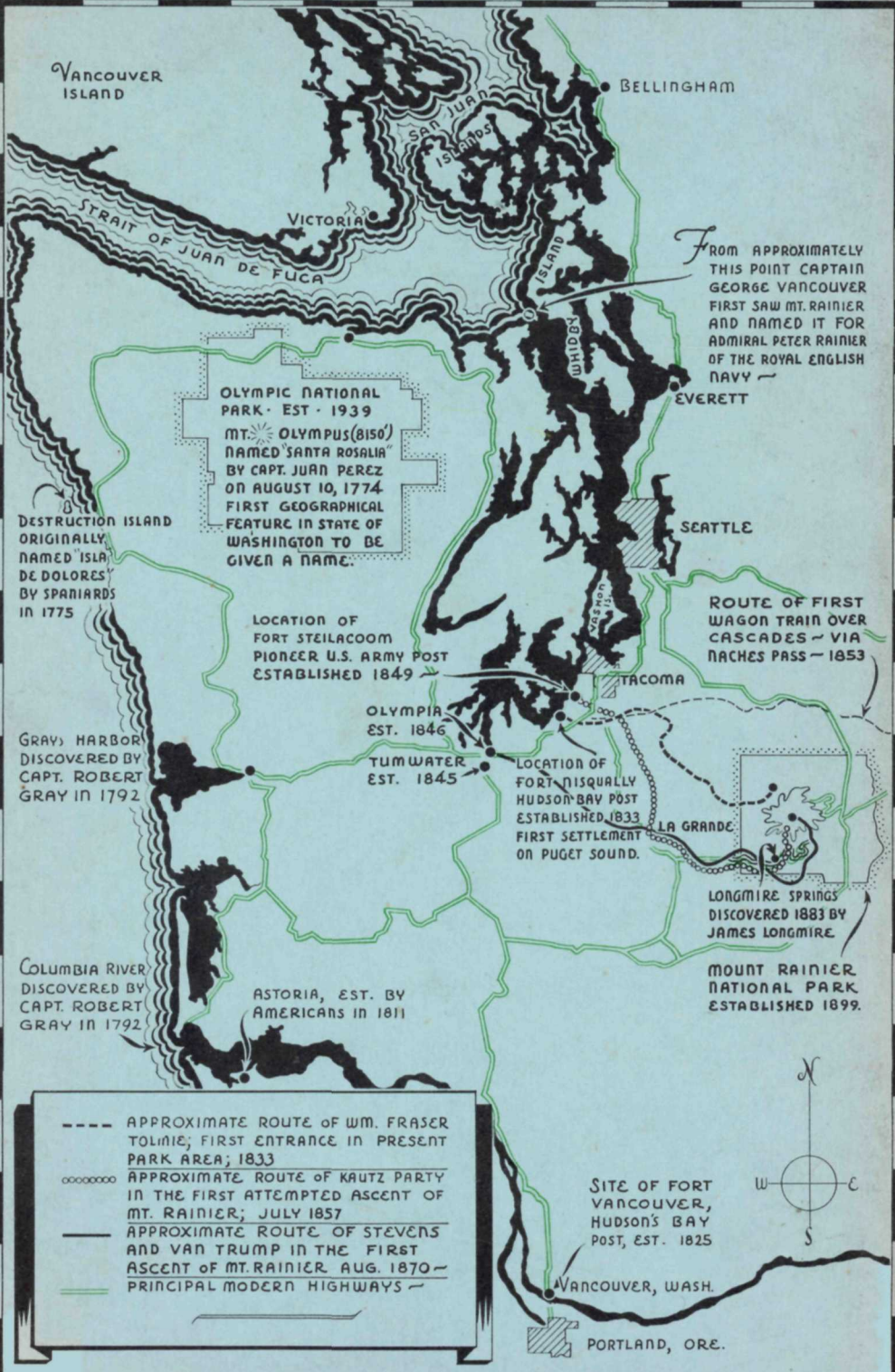

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