



A TRIP TO

MT. RAINIER

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THE RAINIER NATIONAL PARK is a Government Park, comprising some two million acres situated within the Rainier National Forest Reserve, abounding in grand and awe-inspiring scenery, its principal attraction being the grand Old Mountain, a volcanic pile 14,528 feet high covered by 32,500 acres of perpetual ice and snow.

So clear is the atmosphere and brilliant its snow cap that it seems to rise from the suburbs of the surrounding cities miles away. The following is an extract from a joint letter written by Hon. James Brice, a member of the English Alpine Club, and Prof. Karl Zittel, of Munich, a geologist of note in Europe, after a visit to this spot:

"The scenery of this mountain is of rare and varied beauty. The peak itself is as noble a mountain as we have ever seen in its lines and structure. The glaciers, which descend from its snowfields, present all the characteristic features of those in the

Alps, and the crevasses and serracs are equally striking and worthy of close study. We have seen nothing more beautiful in Switzerland or Tyrol, in Norway or in the Pyrenees, than the Carbon River and great Puyallup glaciers. The combination of its scenery, with woodland scenery of the grandest type, is to be found nowhere in the old world, unless it be in the Himalayas, and, so far as we know, nowhere else on the American continent." The Park is reached by stage over a New Government Road from Ashford, Wash., on the Tacoma Eastern Railroad. This road has been built at a great expense and is a remarkable feat of engineering skill and construction. Penetrating as it does the forest primeval, the feeling of wonder and awe of nature's great handiwork experienced when passing over it is never entirely dispelled.

Owing to the location of the park the season is necessarily a limited one, extending from about June 20th to September 20th, during which time the climatic conditions are of the best.

ANNOUNCEMENT

This little booklet is not intended, nor is it offered as a literary effort, but is intended as a ready reference and souvenir for both those who have and have not made the trip. In selecting these views it has been the aim not to choose picturesque bits of

scenery in the out of way places, but views that are of the greatest interest along the well beaten trails, some of which are extremely easy to reach, while others will require the mountain climbing spirit and more or less labor.



THE MOUNTAIN AS SEEN FROM BELJICA

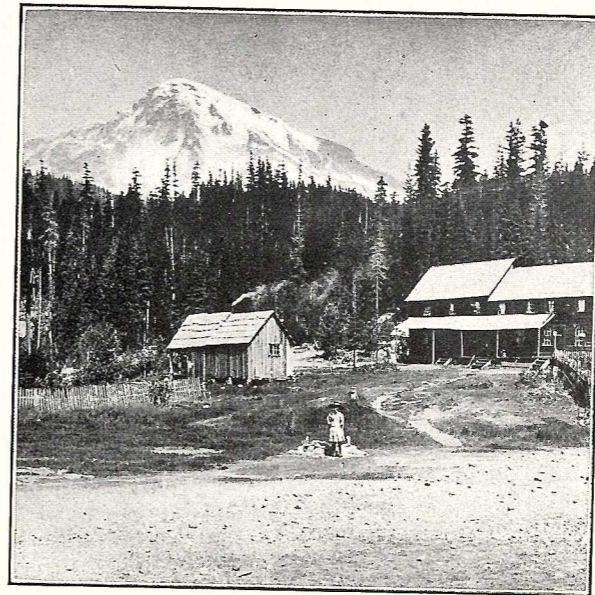
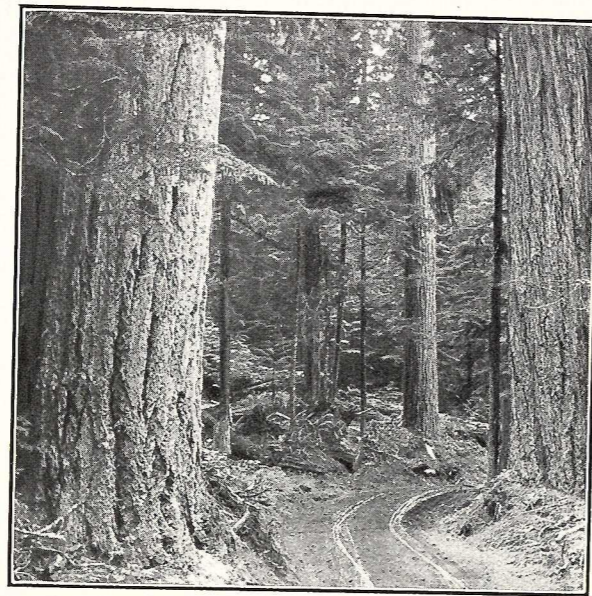
Elevation 7,000 feet

United States Government Geodetic survey station near Messler's Inn, a favorite resort of those who wish to acquire a little training in mountain climbing before going into the higher altitudes.

From Beljica Peak a fine view of the Mountain and surrounding country, including Puget Sound, may be had.

STAGE ROAD

The new government road above Messler's Inn, in the Rainier Forest Reserve. This view illustrates the class of timber that is being so wisely reserved by the government.



LONGMIRE SPRINGS

Elevation 2,850 feet

The terminus of the Stage line and gateway to the mountain and all points of interest.

From this point the trails to Indian Henry's Hunting Ground, Paradise Park, Reese's Camp, Nisqually Glacier, and Tatoosh Range begin. Here are also located the *Longmire Hotel*, and *National Park Inn* and the famous *Longmire hot springs*, noted for their health giving properties.

SADDLE PONIES

A Pony party on one of the many trails. These ponies are carefully selected for their sure-footedness and climbing ability and are hardy mountaineers, and may be had at a reasonable charge at any of the hotels if desired.



MIRROR LAKE

Elevation 7,000 feet

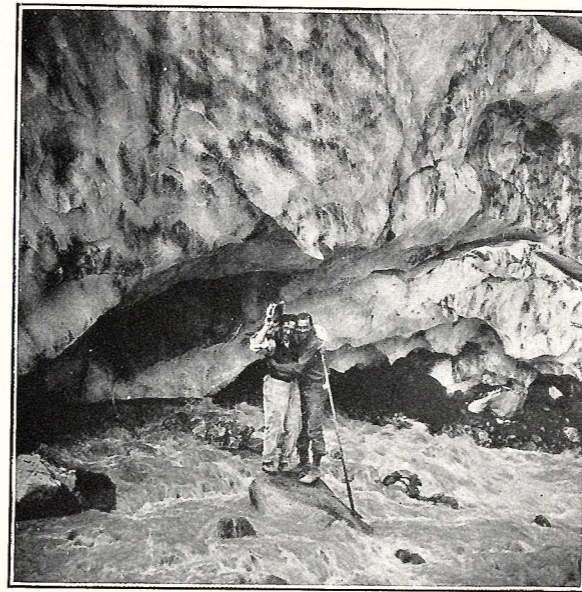
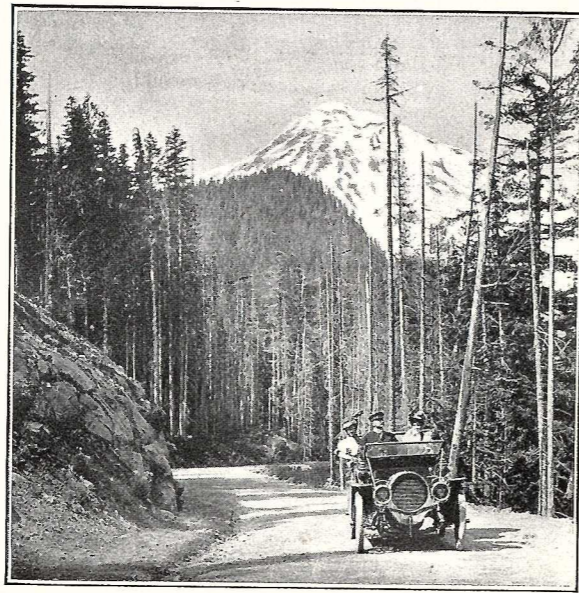
There are no waters where reflections are more perfect than in Indian Henry's snow fed mountain lakes.

Their placidness, protected as they are by great peaks on every side, make mirrors seldom equaled elsewhere. "Indian Henry's" is one of the favorite spots of the tourist and is reached by an eight mile trail from Longmire Springs.

There is a *Hotel of tents* here for the accommodation of those who wish to sojourn in this locality.

NEW GOVERNMENT ROAD

In this view is shown the United States Government road, which is being rapidly completed, from Ashford to Paradise Park, a distance of twenty-four miles, and will, when finished, be one of the finest feats of engineering and road work in the country. This road is now practically completed from Ashford to Nisqually Glacier, three miles beyond Longmire Springs.



FOOT OF NISQUALLY GLACIER

Elevation 3,200 feet

As viewed from the Government Road, about three miles above Longmire Springs. A Wall of Ice nearly 150 feet in height by 200 feet in width. The source of this glacier is nearly five miles distant, at the base of Gibraltar Rock, its extreme breadth being nearly one mile. Its movement during warm days is eighteen inches every twenty-four hours.

NARADA FALLS

Elevation 4,500 feet

Narada Falls (200 feet) are located about five miles above Longmire Springs, on the Paradise trail. This is the highest of any of the numerous falls in the Paradise River. The trail lies close to the falls, which envelopes one in its rainbow-hued spray when passing.



PARADISE VALLEY

Elevation 5,000 feet

Is reached by the trail to Reese's Camp or Camp of the Clouds from Longmire Springs, which traverses nearly its entire length.

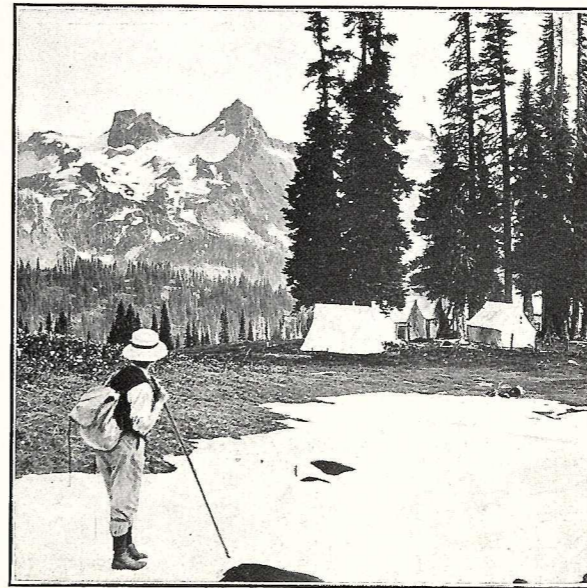
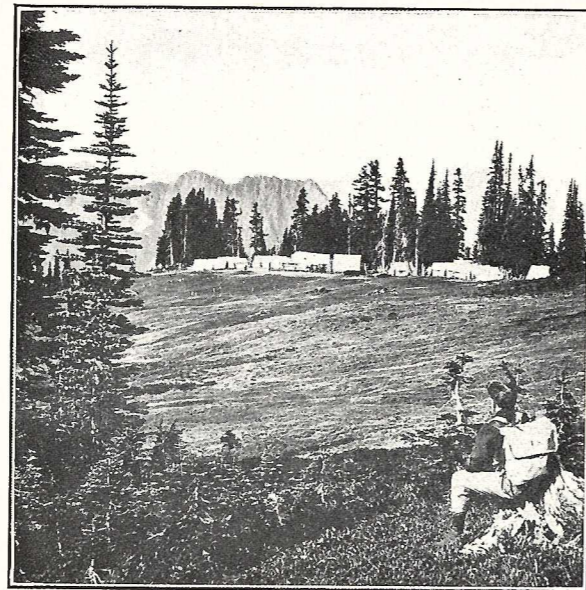
It derives its name from the myriads of beautiful wild flowers that cover it like one great carpet. There have been found and classified nearly 500 distinct species within its confines, some of them thrusting their beautiful heads up through the perpetual snow. It is this spot which is most favored by those visiting the park on account of its accessibility.

REESE'S CAMP or CAMP OF THE CLOUDS

Elevation 6,000 feet

A Mountain *hotel* composed entirely of tents, located upon a slightly ridge on the snow line in the heart of Paradise Park, overlooking Paradise Valley and Nisqually Glacier. From here one of the most beautiful views of the mountain and surrounding country may be had. It is also from this point the actual climb of the mountain begins and where the Guides make their headquarters.

The many nearby glaciers and peaks make this a most entrancing spot for a few days' sojourn.



PINNACLE PEAK

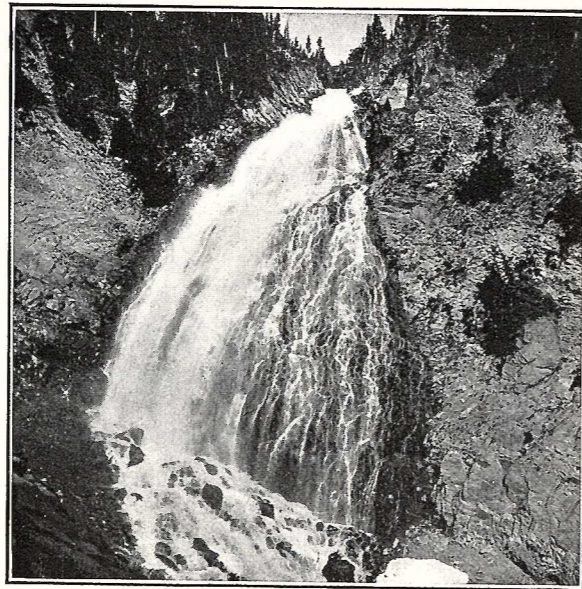
Elevation 9,000 feet

One of the higher of the mountains composing the Tatoosh Range as seen from Reese's Camp or Camp of the Clouds looking across Paradise Valley. The ascent of this peak is generally made in the preliminary climbing of those who intend to climb the mountain. It is also the favorite climb of the ladies. The fine view to be had from its summit recompenses one for the effort.

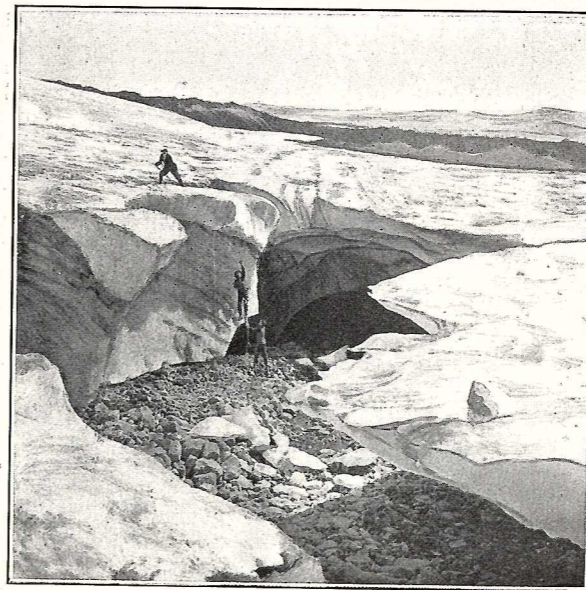
SLUSKIN FALLS

Elevation 6,000 feet

A Fall of 150 feet at the head of Paradise Valley, a short distance from Paradise Glacier. This is one of the many points of interest in Paradise Valley. Its roar is heard throughout the entire Valley.



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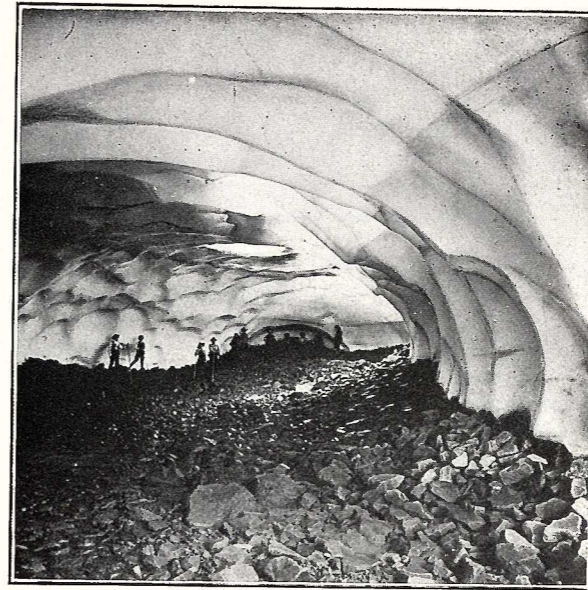
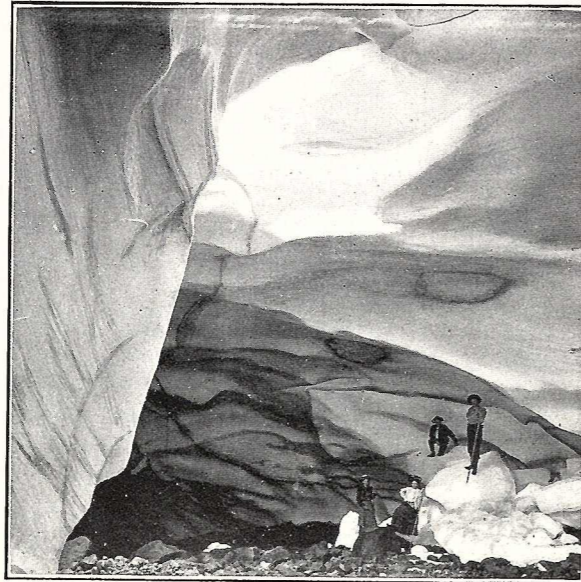
EXPLORING CAVES

This view illustrates a party exploring Caves in the snowfields on the lower levels above Reese's Camp.

ICE CAVE, PARADISE GLACIER

Elevation 6,500 feet

Near Stevens Glacier and Reese's Camp. This Cave is generally the most accessible.



ICE CAVE, STEVENS GLACIER

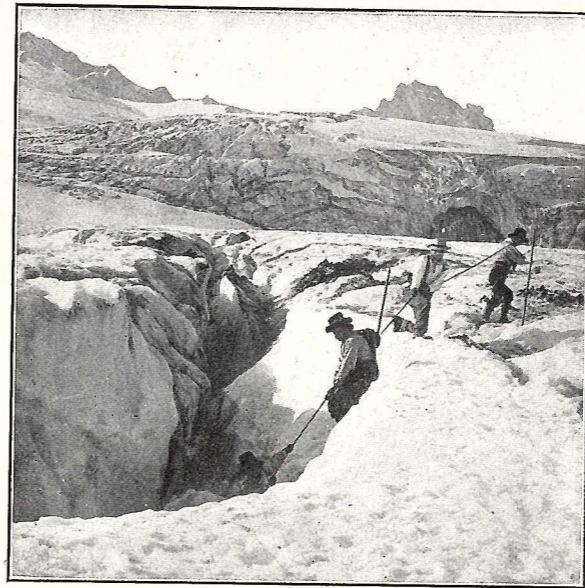
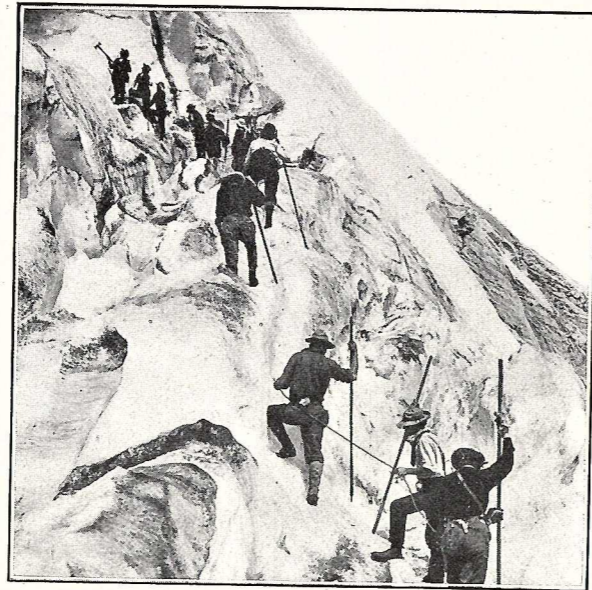
Elevation 7,000 feet

One of the many Caves to be found in the smaller Glaciers during the months of August and September.

CLIMBING STEVENS GLACIER

Elevation 7,000 feet

A party of Climbers working their way over Stevens Glacier. The guide was in the lead far above the party when this picture was taken, but owing to an impassible perpendicular wall of ice was forced to return and seek another route. This is often the case when climbing a glacier.



DANGERS OF MOUNTAIN CLIMBING

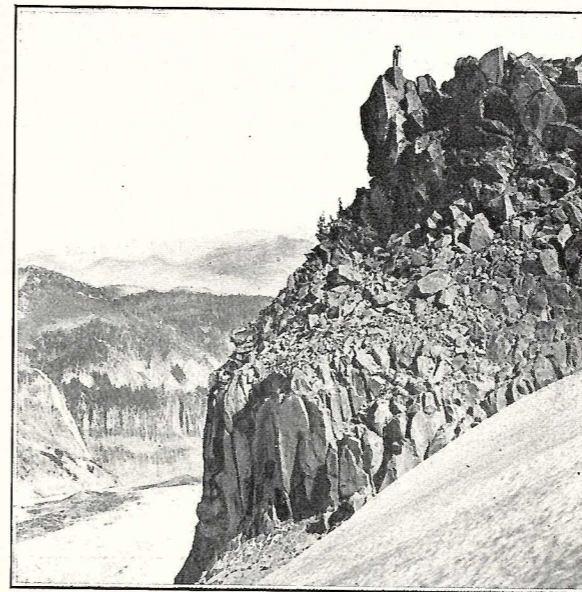
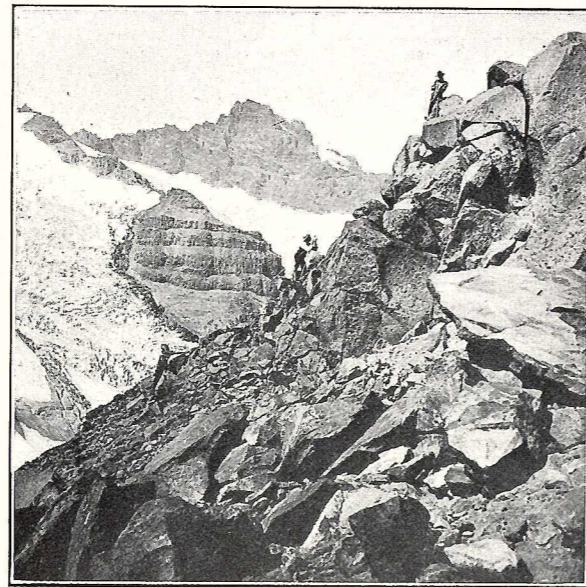
As the Summer season advances, the snow that has fallen during the Winter months melts from the glacier ice, leaving great yawning crevasses, many of them hundreds of feet deep. These large cracks make it extremely dangerous, especially for those inexperienced in glacier work.

In this view one of a party has fallen into a comparatively small crevasse and is being helped out.

COWLITZ CHIMNEY

Elevation 7,000 feet

This ridge or cleaver separates the Cowlitz from the Stevens Glacier, and from its formation is called Cowlitz Chimney. This peak is an objective point on account of the magnificent view of the surrounding country that is to be had.



COWLITZ ROCK

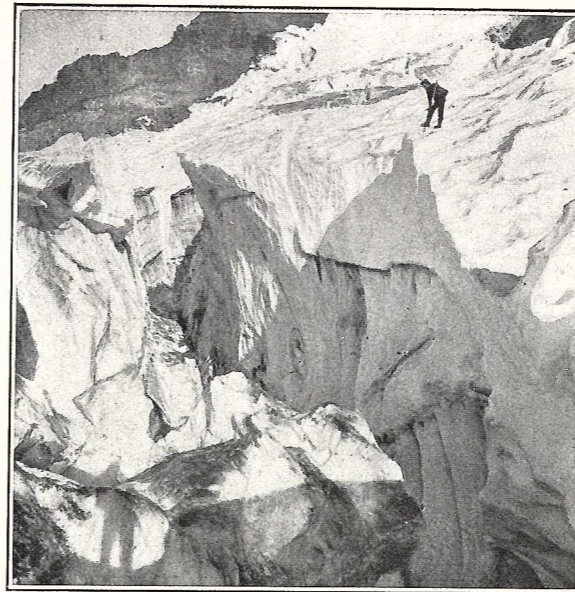
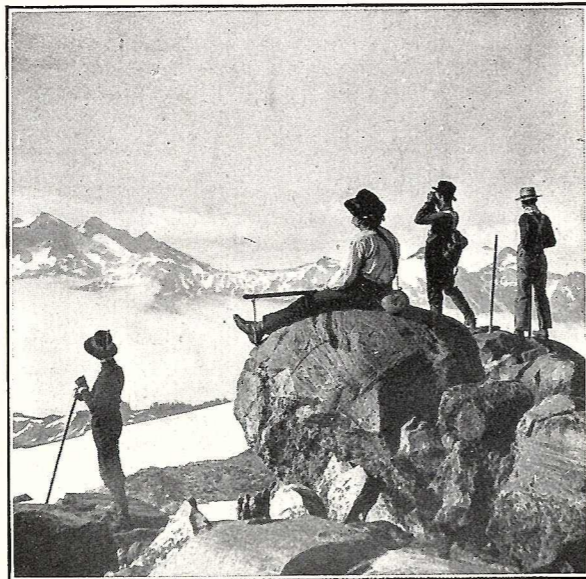
Elevation 7,000 feet

An imposing monument of basalt formation overlooking Cowlitz Glacier. From this point a fine view of the mountain and entire Cascade Range may be had.

McCLURE ROCK

Elevation 7,500 feet

This rock is the dividing cleaver separating the Nisqually from the Stevens Glacier. It was from this rock that Prof. J. H. McClure fell and lost his life in July, 1898, while returning at night from a climb to the summit.



CREVASSE, NISQUALLY GLACIER

Elevation 9,500 feet

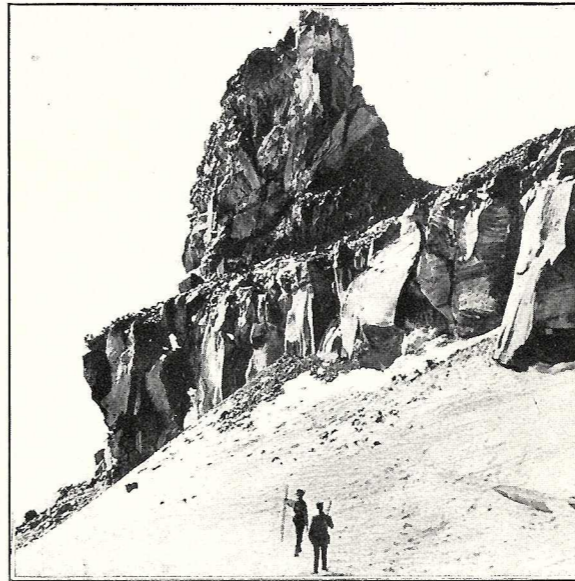
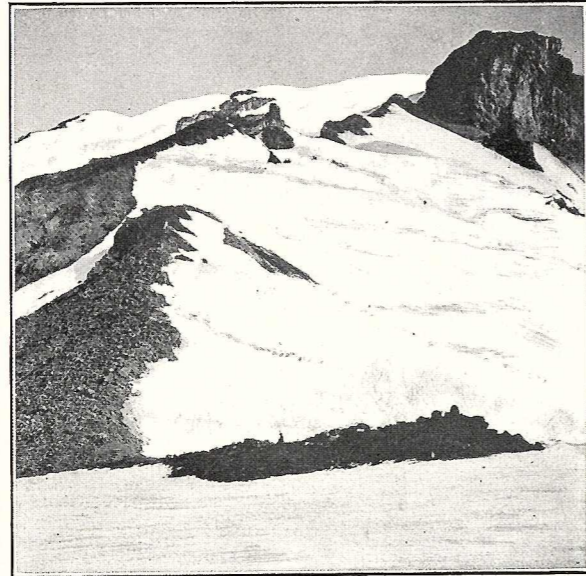
This view illustrates, better than words can describe, the great crevasses to be encountered in making the ascent.

CAMP MUIR

Elevation 10,500 feet

A protected nook in the loose rock in the foreground. It is at this spot the night is spent when making the ascent. Owing to its elevation, the only fire that can be had is from small Khotal Oil stoves. The climber depends entirely upon the sleeping bag and such blankets as he has been able to carry this far for warmth and comfort.

The large rock in the distance is Gibraltar. The Beehive can also be seen on the ridge or cleaver below Gibraltar. It is over this ridge the climber must pick his way to Gibraltar.



THE BEEHIVE

Elevation 11,000 feet

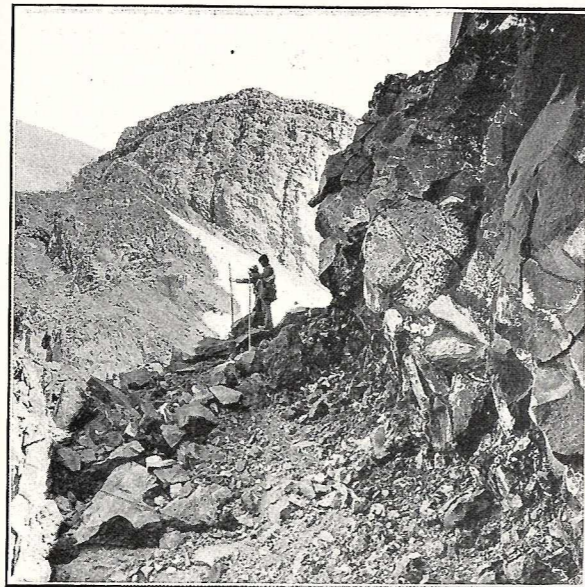
The Beehive is a noted rock about midway between Camp Muir and Gibraltar, around which one must pass on the climb to the summit. It is of basalt formation, and is nearly five hundred feet from its base to the extreme top.

In the view is shown the northeast side of the rock, where the life line must be used to descend to the snowfields at its base and then up the rocks and snow to Gibraltar. This view is taken from the upper side.

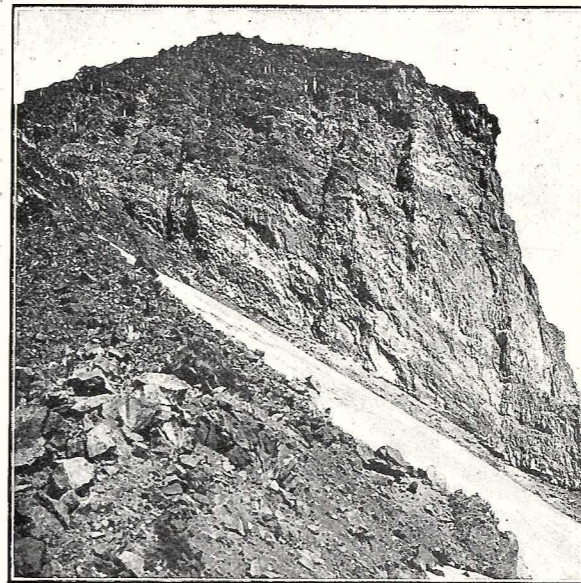
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AROUND THE BEEHIVE

This view gives one an excellent idea of the Volcanic formation of this rock. The rough, rocky route which must be climbed to reach the base of Gibraltar is clearly shown, while Gibraltar appears in the distance.



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GIBRALTAR ROCK

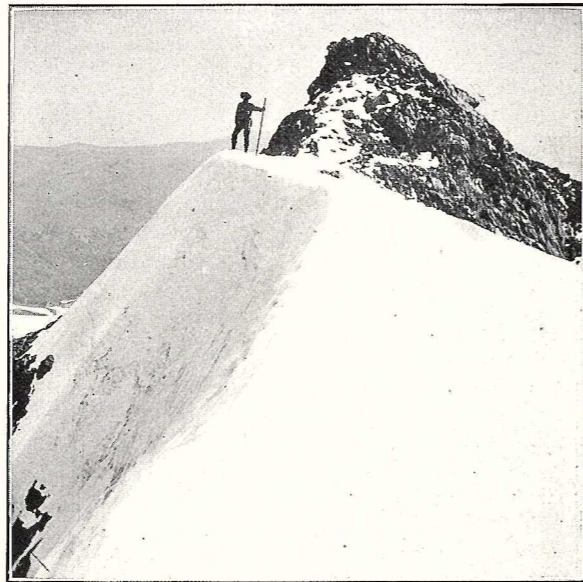
Elevation 12,000 feet

The most dangerous part of the climb, owing to its peculiar volcanic formation of ash and loose stone, there are avalanches constantly coursing down its mighty sides. Although only about three hours' climb from Reese's Camp and a much visited spot, it can only be rounded in safety during the early morning or evening, when frozen. This rock forms a projecting shoulder on the mountain and is a conspicuous spot from any view of the mountain from the south, its mighty 1,500-foot face showing black from the spotless white of the surrounding ice and snow.

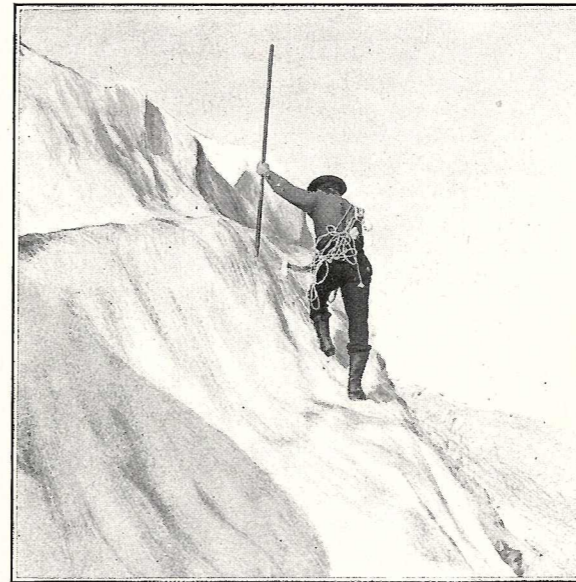
SUMMIT OF GIBRALTAR ROCK

Elevation 13,000 feet

At this elevation the lack of oxygen makes it extremely difficult to breathe, and nausea resembling that of seasickness is experienced. Many are compelled to turn back or wait here for the return of the party on this account.



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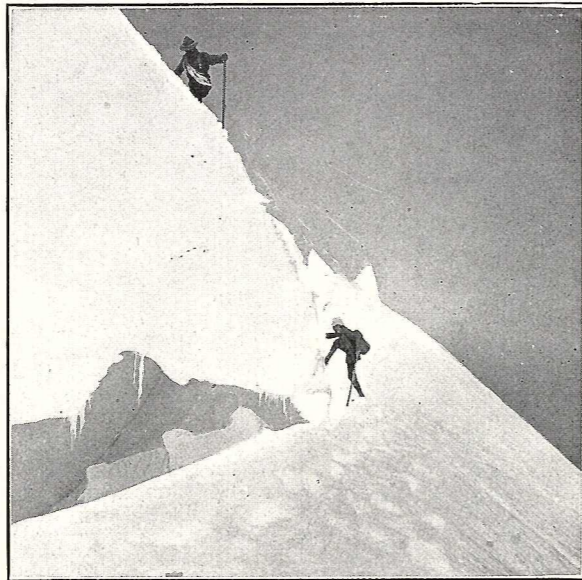
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CUTTING ICE STAIRS

The guide is shown here cutting steps in an almost perpendicular slope of solid ice above Gibraltar. This view also illustrates one of the many obstacles to be overcome when making the climb to the summit.

NATURAL ICE BRIDGE

This view illustrates a natural ice bridge over a crevasse of unknown depth above Gibraltar that must be crossed to reach the summit. It is at this point that many falter and turn back, and it is only the cheering words of comrades or command of the guide that nerves many to cross it.



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THE SUMMIT

Elevation 14,528 feet

This view faithfully portrays the wind-blown, barren, snow-covered peak of the highest mountain in the United States (excepting Alaska). This is the goal attained after so much danger and labor. The view to be had from this elevation and the knowledge of having scaled this mighty mountain easily recompenses one for the effort. In this view are shown caves or fissures in the ice and snow caused by the steam being emitted in constant puffs from the crater of this extinct volcano.

There are three distinct peaks, Crescent, Columbia Crest and North Peak, Columbia being the highest by seven feet. The distance from the south rim of the crater to North Peak is about one mile. Using this measurement as a basis, it is claimed by scientific men that the original height of the mountain before the volcanic eruption was at least 17,000 feet.

On the opposite page is a view of the National Park Inn, a new hostelry recently constructed at Longmire Springs.

