

## **Travel to Davis, California, 1969**

### **1 July.**

We got off to a late start on Tuesday morning, chiefly because of some generator trouble with the car. We finally left at 10:15 am and the mileage was at 45380. We soon discovered that the trailer pulled beautifully along the highway at 60 mph, without any problem. The generator, hopefully, is not giving any trouble either. In Edson we ate lunch and ran into the Schouls family who were just returning from a week and a half in Banff and Jasper. We went on to Jasper, had some ice cream cones and bought some groceries, and drove on to Mount Robson campground in Mount Robson Provincial Park. The campground was crowded but we found a spot to pitch our tent anyway, and went to bed at 9 pm. Saw a beautiful view of Mount Robson, with some cloud around the top that was covered with snow. Therefore no pictures taken. Hopefully it will look better in the morning. Set our alarm for 6 next morning, which probably is 5 BC time. So it will be plenty early.

### **2 July.**

Had a good night's sleep and at about 6:30 the sun started to peek over the mountains. It was a little on the cool side, so we decided to pack up and have breakfast along the road somewhere a little later. We got the trailer packed up to go just before it began to rain. Then we drove down about 20 miles before we ran out of the rain and we had some breakfast. We got to Kamloops about 1:30, without any serious incident except that in Kamloops the right wheel of the trailer began to squeak badly, so we stopped at a service station to have someone look at it. At that point the battery had run down so that the car wouldn't start. We had the battery charged and went to a place to have the alternator fixed. This could not be done until the next day. so we went to camp about 6 miles away. Got everything nicely set up and then the rain came. Thunderstorms and pouring rain all night. Managed to stay dry, though.

### **3 July.**

Alternator part needed not to be had in Kamloops. Had to come from Vancouver. Back to camp at 10, Weather OK until about noon. Then rain again and all night.

### **4 July.**

Packed up in the rain. Everything except tent quite dry. Tent soaked, except bottom. Children's shoes and socks all wet. Got to Kamloops at 11:45 and found part still not in. Could get it Saturday now. Rain continued. Had good lunch at Lil's Café, then found Beach Motel with two-bedroom cooking unit for \$16. Lots of room, so we settled in and hung various things to dry, including the tent. Except for a sprinkle a few times, the rain had stopped, but clouds remained. A most unusual week for Kamloops.

### **5 July.**

Finally the car was fixed on Saturday afternoon, so we left Kamloops and got to Cultus Lake campground by about 7 pm. This was a very nice campground, so we put up camp. Everything was damp and humid there.

### **6 July.**

Sunday, and we went to church in Chiliwack. Church was quite full and after church we went over to L. Ypma's farm for coffee. He seems to have a pretty good dairy farm. After that the weather was very nice and we went back to the campground and the children had a nice swim in the lake. Beach and water bottom was gravelly. There weren't many people swimming.

**7 July.**

We packed up and left to go south across the border, which went without any difficulty, and we crossed on a ferry over to the Olympic peninsula (Keystone to Port Townsend, 35 minutes). We arrived in time for 3 o'clock ferry, but the boat was full, so we had to wait until the 4:30 ferry before we could get across. It was sunny, but a bit on the cool side still, and we drove to Port Angeles after having a flat tire fixed. Arrived at Heart of the Hills campground after a steep climb about 7 pm. This was a very nice campground with old logs lying around all over, on which the children liked to run and climb. Everything here was humid also, although the sun did shine through the trees all day. The trees were so dense that there isn't much sunlight in the campground itself and nothing seems to ever dry out.

**8 July.**

The next day we drove up the road to Hurricane Ridge which is at an altitude of about 5800 feet, and is nearly at timberline. From here we could see the Blue Glacier at Mount Olympus. We also saw a lot of deer and a lot of alpine meadow flowers like the avalanche lily, glacier lily, creeping phlox, subalpine lupine, and a host of others. After a short walk up the hill we went back down to the camp and at night went to a campfire program where we saw pictures of plants and animals in Olympic National Park.

**9 July.**

The next day we drove 95 miles to the Olympic rain forest on the west side of the park. This turned out to be quite a long drive, but the rain forest was beautiful, with all kinds of plants, mosses, and ferns hanging from the trees. We went on a two-hour guided nature walk (1.25 miles) which was very interesting and from which we learned a lot about the plants growing in the rain forest.

**10 July.**

On Thursday morning it rained a bit again and we packed up and got going by about 11 or so, headed south. That day we got as far as Portland, just into Oregon. It had rained just about the whole day, but when we arrived in Portland, it was actually dry, though it did start to rain soon after we got the tent put up. It was quite warm there and we camped in a trailer court which was crowded but had enough facilities for our needs. We got all our washing done and we all got showered and cleaned up. That night Mark slipped in the shower and got a half-inch cut in his head. We thought of taking him to the doctor but didn't because he was scared of having stitches put in.

**11 July.**

The next morning the weather was quite nice. We got packed up by about noon and went to Lloyd Center which is said to be the biggest shopping centre in the world. Dixie said she "could spend weeks there". We bought a few things and finally got on the road again by about 2:30. We covered only about 100 miles that day, which took us to Beverly Beach State Park on the Pacific coast. This was a very nice park. We heard that a young man from BC had drowned in the ocean that afternoon, and this put a bit of a cloud over our stay there. The beach was full of old logs and trees.

**12 July.**

On Saturday morning we got up at 6, and were on the road at 7, to get to Harris Beach State Park, about 200 miles south, in time before all the campsites would be taken. We stopped at a few viewpoints along the way and saw some beautiful sites along the shore, all kinds of rock formations and waves on the ocean, and beautifully colored water. We

arrived at Harris Beach State Park about noon and found a nice campsite. The weather was sunny and warm, although the ocean breeze was cool. We walked to the beach where the wind was quite cool. The children had a good time trying to play tag with the waves that came into shore. Mark managed to fall on his stomach once and get wet, but after a while he got dry again and did not seem any the worse for the wear. Mark and Joan tasted some salt water which they didn't like very. We went to a fish food store and bought some salmon which tasted very good at supper time, some shrimps, and some smoked salmon which was not quite so good.

**13 July.**

On Sunday morning we went to Brookings Presbyterian Church, only a mile away, and heard a good sermon from a Dutch-born minister, Hank Wapstra, and talked to several people there. After church we visited a place where an old retired schoolteacher (30 years in Los Angeles) lived, named Hendricks (Pennsylvania Dutch), on the outskirts of Brookings. He showed us all kinds of plants he had growing there. He also told us a few things that we might do around Brookings. In the afternoon we drove east to Loeb State Park where the children had nice swim in the river. We also drove up a logging road to see some of the surrounding hills. After that we had another look from some of the viewpoints along the main highway along the ocean. Saw some beautiful views and felt the strong ocean breeze.

**14 July.**

On Monday morning we left at 7:30 and headed on south. Drove into the redwoods fairly soon, saw some beautiful trees, and toured a Pacific Lumber Company mill in Scotia. The mill was dull because it was not working, but the factory was interesting. Then we drove along the 'Avenue of the Giants', looked at some of the scenes, and camped at Lake Mendocino near Ukiah, California, in a fairly primitive campground full of dust. Children had a nice swim.

**15 July.**

The weather in the meantime had turned quite warm, with temperatures about 90F and not a cloud in the sky. We drove through some desert-like country in the hills northwest of Davis. It did not seem like a very prosperous kind of country at all. We arrived at Davis at 3 pm, found the house not very clean, with the water on, but no electricity, and the phone taken out. The plums were in prime condition and there was lots of fruit on the trees – apples, walnuts, peaches, some almonds. The apricots were practically gone. The weather was terribly hot, up to 98F, but it cooled off nicely at night. The airconditioning was very nice.