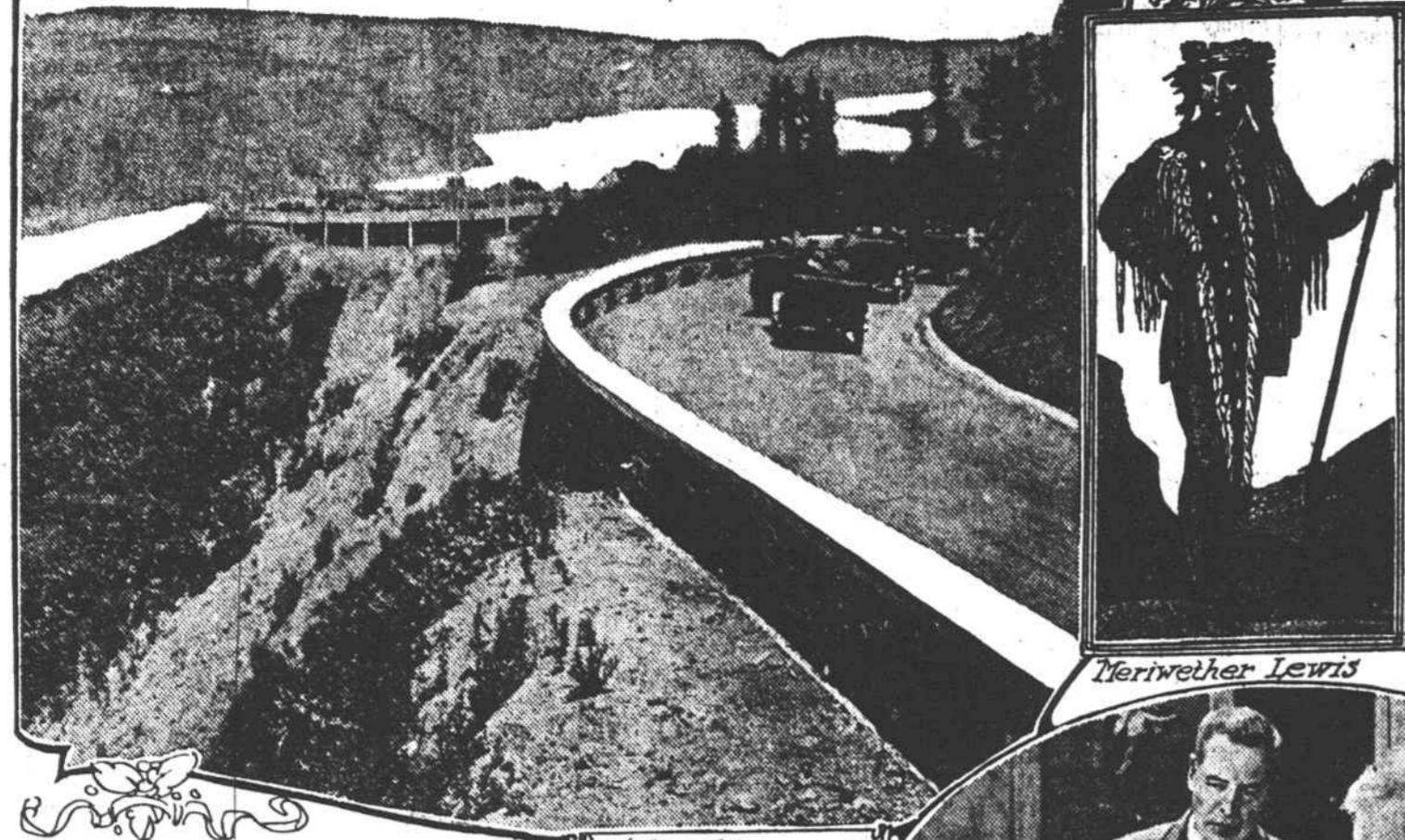


Old Oregon Trail



Meriwether Lewis

Joint Resolution in Congress to Designate Historic Highway

Road history was made recently when at a meeting of representatives of highway associations of four central western and western states held in Denver the Columbia Highway-Old Oregon trail, a transcontinental highway, came into existence. Plans completed call for a continuous surfaced road between Washington, D. C. and Seaside, Wash., and Portland, Ore.

Columbia Highway

The new system will unite the Old Oregon trail, made historic by "Covered Wagon" tales, the Denver-Lincoln-Omaha highway and the White Way highway. It will pass through Denver, Fort Collins, Cheyenne and Granger, Wyo.; through Pocatello, Idaho; Olympia, Wash., and Baker, Pendleton and Portland, Ore.



Ezra Meeker and the Model

The history of the Old Oregon trail is a story of the great big out of doors, a tale of the hills, a story of human endeavor, suffering, privation, determination, and final accomplishment. It is a story as big and broad as life itself, a story of a people with a vision, who feared not and who laughed at death. King Solomon said "A nation without a vision is lost."

Present at the meeting were delegates from Colorado, Nebraska, Oregon, Illinois and Iowa. The expressed sentiment of these delegates was that through the medium of the transcontinental highway, millions of tourists will be diverted from present scattered trails and highways so that they will pass through the cities and towns designated as points on the new system.

From Chicago, the proposed route will go through Iowa to Kansas City, Mo., to Topeka, Kans., and Omaha, Neb., to Denver. Although, it was pointed out, many tourists and travelers will doubtless see fit to branch off in Denver to the numerous scenic points of interest in Colorado, many will continue on to the Pacific coast, traveling south of Yellowstone park.

At present, according to delegates, there are but two main transcontinental arteries of automobile traffic: The Lincoln highway and the old Spanish trail to the south. Congestion on these systems was given as the principal reason for the decision to unite smaller highway systems into the new highway.

The symbol for the new main artery will be the ox team and the covered wagon, made famous by Emerson Hough's novel, "The Covered Wagon," and the more recent pictorialization of the story of the journey of early pioneers across the danger-filled frontier, through the prairie wastes, and over the mountain ranges of the old West.

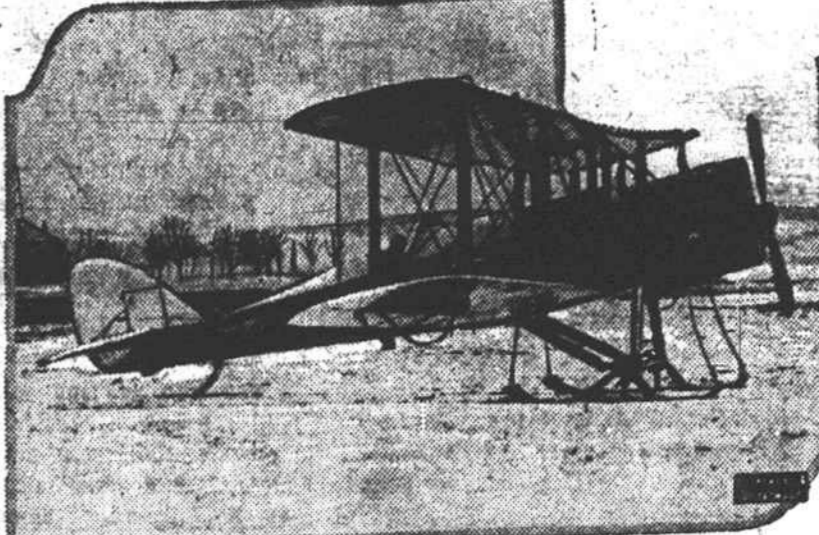
food entered the ocean, and on May 11, 1792, sailed up the river and gave it the name of his ship, Columbia.

The incentive of great gains in the fur-trading business was a direct cause of the exploration and settlement of the "Oregon country." The first in the field was the Hudson's Bay Co., whose ambition was to retain the "Oregon country" as a great fur-producing field and who discouraged settlement by those who desired to make homes.

In 1805 Lewis and Clark penetrated through the vast wilderness and reached the mouth of the Columbia river and made extensive and accurate surveys of the region. Their return and the report of the country that they found west

of the Rockies stirred up great interest in the hitherto almost unknown region. Meriwether Lewis, a native of Virginia, while serving as secretary to President Jefferson, was recommended by the president to congress to command the exploring expedition to the Pacific.

Skis Put on the Air Mail Planes



On orders from Carl F. Egge, superintendent of air mail service, all the mail planes are equipped with skis when there is more than a foot of snow on the ground. The plane in the picture, at the Omaha landing field, was changed from wheels to skis within 15 minutes.

Homeless Are Fed and Housed

Ancient Custom Revived by Monks of St. Christopher in New York.

New York.—Less than 50 miles north of New York city, on top of a hill near Bear mountain, stands a little house. From its doorstep you look off to the south, over 30 miles of snow-covered hills, and see the gleam of the Hudson below; and you look off to the north and see the crests of the Catskills. The name of the little house is St. Christopher's inn. In the last 15 years fully 15,000 tattered, foot-sore, hungry and penniless wanderers who came tramping along the road have been fed and given a lodging for the night at St. Christopher's inn.

Around and above the little house are larger buildings. Along the paths that join them walk priests in brown robes, girded with white cords, and wearing sandals. Looking at them, one wonders if this is truly the year 1925 and if this place is really New York. Rather, it would seem that the spectator had stepped back a thousand years and across 3,000 miles to the England of the medieval centuries when sanded monks gave bread and lodging to the travelers who knocked at the monastery door. The same garb, the same charity, the same scene.

How did this strange renaissance of a custom buried for centuries come about? What was the origin of St. Christopher's inn at Garrison, New York? Twenty-six years ago, in 1899, a convent was dedicated on the Albany Post road, three miles from the railroad station at Garrison. It was occupied by nuns of a new religious order, known as Sisters of the Atonement. The highway is the main road between New York and Albany and every day jobless men tramp along it on their way to the cities.

Los Angeles.—Recent reports that the original first nugget of California gold was in the possession of a private collector in New York have aroused chroniclers of Southern California's history to remind the public that it was an onion, not Sutter's mill, that started the first California gold rush.

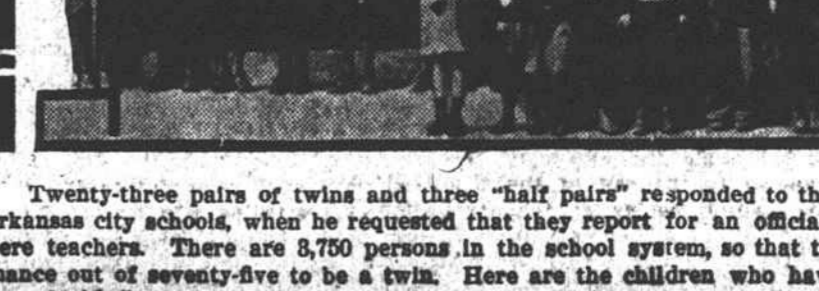
And so it came to pass that in 1906 another man with a vision appeared upon the scene. Ezra Meeker, then seventy-six years of age, who journeyed across in 1852 as a young man, with his bride, outfitted himself with an ox team and prairie schooner and set out from his home in Puyallup, Wash., to go back over the trail he had traversed as a boy.

Twenty-three pairs of twins and three "half pairs" responded to the call of C. E. St. John, superintendent of the Arkansas city schools, when he requested that they report for an official photograph. Two in the "half pair" were teachers. There are 3,750 persons in the school system, so that the Arkansas city youngster seemingly has a chance out of seventy-five to be a twin. Here are the children who have been causing the Arkansas city people "hiss double."

NOT NUGGET BUT ONION STARTED FIRST GOLD RUSH

and stopped to eat lunch under a tree. Lopez liked onions, and when he saw a wild one growing within arm's reach he leaned over to dig it up with his knife and add it to his meal. Clinging to the roots of that onion were many small pieces of gold.

Arkansas City Schools Have Lots of Twins



the river was so strong that any traveler who tried to cross it would be swept off his feet and drowned. So Christopher, having a strong back, as I told ye, and a heart, used to put any traveler on his shoulders and carry him across the raging river, and the traveler so much as wetting his feet. And Christopher would say, 'Sure, it's nothing at all at all, and it's glad I can do it.'

Thus the story of St. Christopher, who became the patron saint of travelers and the origin of the inn bestowed on each homeless wanderer who stops at Graymoor. In 1906 monks built another house, next door to the old woodshed, intending to use it as chicken house; but the "Brother Christopher" kept coming in increasing numbers and the new building was turned over to their use, as a dormitory, and named "St. Christopher's inn."

These Brothers Christopher came to us from no one knows where, "they be," and they go on, to no one knows where. We do not ask what their faith is. Even if they have no creed at all, we take them in and send them on. We will never turn them away.

Moving Mountain Perils

South Wales Community Bargoed, South Wales.—Movement of Troedrihwych mountain and here have done great property damage and become a menace to the community.

"Dummy Cow" Ruled Not Good Evidence

The Supreme court of Oregon has reversed the decision of a trial court in the prosecution of a man accused of stealing a cow, in which pieces of hide and the head of the animal were offered as exhibits. One of the witnesses for the state, a harness maker, sewed together a cowhide and the skin of a cow's head, which had been previously offered as evidence against

ing the verdict, ruled that the cow had no place in the prosecutor's argument because of the uncertainty as to the component parts of the dummy and the failure to offer testimony as to their arrangement.

Jewels Closely Guarded

The jewels of the Gaekwar of Baroda are kept in the Nazarbag palace in Baroda. They are valued at many million pounds. The finest thing in the collection is a pearl necklace valued at \$2,500,000. The jewels are only pro-

America's Growth

The total area of the 13 original states which formed the nucleus of our great nation was 892,125 square miles. The territory under the flag of the United States is now four times that area.