

small and important part of them. This fully leads me to believe that wilderness is truly a national treasure. Thus, preserving samples (honestly, only "samples" still remain) of our mountain heritage ought to be a high priority national goal. I fear it is unfortunately a very low priority goal, (judging by willingness to spend dollars to save wilderness) and that the national "spiritual treasure" stands to be drastically diminished unless action is taken to save more wilderness.

An argument against wilderness is, "Well, yeah, but you can't eat scenery or build houses with it."

The simplest, most relevant rebuttal, of which we seem to be losing sight: "Not by bread alone."

Specifically, it is appalling to me that the western border of the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness is presently hardly more than three miles from the peak itself! Out of all the thousands of square miles of western Oregon timberland, a mere skinny strip three miles wide is set aside to surround magnificent Mt. Jefferson itself. This, to me, is blatant "tokenism"! Like pitching a dime to a beggar. Mt. Jefferson is less protected than the thighs of today's mini-skirted lasses. And, the lasses can at least move and defend themselves. I mean, it's almost a farce to even call such a puny piece of land "Wilderness." It's a patch! Like a knee patch on a pair of jeans. I feel it is grossly inadequate to protect what is, after all, Oregon's second highest peak, and (since Mt. Hood is already well-developed commercially and being more developed) probably Oregon's prettiest, wildest, most enchanting mountain. Mt. Jefferson, for us, us, the people, deserves much greater protection! It is the culmination of Oregon's grand mountain country today! Let's face it: the fate of Oregon's greatest mountain treasure is at stake right now, and forever after. Forever after is a long, long time.

And, the demand for Wilderness grows by great leaps and surges, as people can't repress a need to have some kind of pure, spiritual adventure, to renew some contact with the very forces that brought all people into existence. If you will, throw in the recent phenomenon of the "Hippies." Basically, perhaps they are an expression of an excruciating anguish that senses a terrible "cutting-off" of man from nature. I am utterly convinced that this urge to "recontact" nature isn't going to die-off as a fad. It is coming on ever more strongly.

Personally, my wife and I were around Mt. Jefferson last Summer. We went cross country. People we met reported that within the Wilderness at popular lakes, which were a good five miles from the nearest road, there were no available campsites and that the lakes were "fished out." Wilderness is being used, overused. If anything, not less, but more Wilderness is needed. It is dramatically, unequivocally evident from simply going into the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness.

Even more specifically:

1. The Candle Creek addition was very wise. We hiked that country, and it is very pretty, as one descends into pine woods to the east.

2. Square Lake is only one mile from the road right now! Can't people walk that far? It should be in the Wilderness.

3. Most crucial: The entire Wilderness needs more protection on its western edge. Around Pamela Lake, around Whitewater Creek especially.

A final opinion: It is impossible to err in making the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness too large (regarding known proposals.) The only mistake that posterity could possibly charge us with is, "They didn't leave enough."

I would appreciate having this letter included in the hearing record. Thank you.

Sincerely,

JOHN D. LINDSTROM.

DEANNE R. LINDSTROM.

WHEATON, ILL., March 4, 1968.

Mr. PORTER WARD,
Senate Interior Committee,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Please enter my vote on the record in favor of adding Washakie to the National Wilderness Preservation System. I also strongly urge extending its boundaries to include the West DuNoir Creek and East DuNoir Creek, the Bear Basin Unit and other contiguous areas.

Thank you.

EDWARD B. LEE.