

the Sam Campbell Special 1955



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BON VOYAGE, Sam Campbell Alaska Tour of 1955! Good diggin's -- and may you come back laden with nuggets of happiness!

LET'S GO! June 11, 1955, is just about here, and we're all rarin' to go.

In planning your packing, remember the old saying "he travels best who travels light." That was written when folks were carrying luggage mostly on their backs, but it applies to these times as well. Too many bags get under foot and overcrowd Pullman space. Take all you need, of course, but remember that due to the informal nature of life aboard our SS Prince George, you won't need a big variety of clothes. Nowhere on our whole trip will formal dress be required.

Following are articles we suggest be included:

Your camera, if you like to take pictures.

A pair of comfortable walking shoes.

A small flashlight, fountain pen type is adequate.

A pair of binoculars -- mighty fine things to look at along our route.

A rain coat -- we are traveling at Alaska's best season, but rains do happen.

A top coat -- Alaska isn't the deep freeze it is reputed to be, but ship winds can be cool.

A cap for the man, and something to keep hair down for the lady.

Sun glasses.

The resolve to be a good traveler: To remain sensitive to the beauty that will line our route, and receptive of the hourly blessings. To remain aloof to the minor irritations which sometimes accompanies travelling, and to refuse to let them take your joy away even for a moment. To express good humor and friendship to all whom you meet -- and thereby receive the same in return.

Everything has been done in the planning to make our journey to Alaska and the Yukon peaceful and restful, as well as thrilling, beautiful, and interesting. Don't neglect the rest. Particularly aboard the Prince George, take time to loaf, to read, to meditate. On this ship you will be steadily weaving your way through some of the most magnificent scenery in the world. You can sit in an easy chair and in an effortless way watch it flow by. The human race has been learning the hard way that to be calm, patient, and relaxed is a major and vital accomplishment. Our journey will be a grand opportunity to practice these virtues.

We suggest you check-in the night of our departure at an early hour. The check-in desk will be on the second floor of the C. & N.W. Passenger Terminal, Canal & Madison Streets, Chicago. It will be open and ready to receive you between 8:30pm and 10:30 p.m., that exciting night of June 11. The train is scheduled to be in the station at 9:30 p.m. If you check in early you can get aboard, get acquainted with your space and check on your baggage long before the departure hour of 11:10 p.m. You will have time to meet some of the grandest folks in the world, too -- your companions on the trip.

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A YELLOW BAGGAGE TAG OF THE SAM CAMPBELL ALASKAN TOUR ON EVERY PIECE OF BAGGAGE.

We think it wise for all travelers to carry baggage insurance. It is not expensive, and gives good protection. This insurance can be obtained from your insurance agent, or in any railroad ticket office.

At the check-in desk you will be given a little booklet giving an outline of the trip in day-by-day style. Please read this. It will give you the joy of anticipating events, and will inform you of arrival and departure hours, time changes, special events, and other things designed to make your trip the best.

THIS AND THAT

Our length of stay in Canada permits each individual to purchase and take back into the U.S. duty free up to \$200.00 in merchandise. On many articles, particularly woollens and furs, there is a distinct advantage to purchasing in Canada. Best opportunities for Canadian shopping will be at Vancouver and Prince Rupert. Lake Louise and Banff are also likely spots.

The Alaska trip is notably good for souvenir purchases. There are many original things made in or near the regions we visit. At any port of call you may find something that interests you. However, save a little shopping to do at Wrangell. On our earlier tour we found prices better at this interesting town.

Travellers checks seem to be the best way to carry money. Personal checks are often hard to negotiate.

Keep a constant watch for wild life as the Prince George steams north and south on that Inside Passage. You may see moose and bear along the shores. In the water you have a chance of seeing whales, porpoise, sharks, and multitudes of waterfowl.

Arrangements have been made for Sam Campbell to give his motion picture lecture on north woods animals, as a part of the program aboard the Prince George. The entire passenger list will be invited to this lecture.

Our Tour party will consist of 170 people. We are entirely sold out and have a waiting list for any possible cancellations. The capacity of the Prince George is 260. It is sold out completely, on this trip, and we are told it is sold out for the entire summer.

Toten poles will be everywhere -- not in abundance, but present. Perhaps the best display of them is at Ketchikan, though you will already be acquainted with them at Vancouver, & Prince Rupert. Remember, they are not idols. They are family crosses, or in certain cases the carved records of traditions and legends. The art was almost lost in the advance of white civilization, but now is being revived in many localities. They are far from beautiful, but they are interesting.

In a book "Alaska Today," by B. W. Denison, we note a facsimile of a poster put out by the Chicago and North Western Railway in 1898. It is urging folks to go to this new land of gold, and naturally says that the North Western is the best way to get there. The records says there were a lot of tickets sold. The folks who went up at that time didn't travel as luxuriously as we will. They found very different conditions, too. Skagway, at the time of the gold rush, had a population of 20,000 to 30,000. No one knew just how many, for they wouldn't stand still long enough to be counted. Today Skagway has about 650 people.

The Chicago and North Western Railway is providing us with a lecture coach, which will be at the head of the train. On Sunday, June 12 (our first full day out)

religious services will be held in this lecture coach. Look in your day-by-day booklet and at notices to be posted in the cars for the schedule of these services.

HAPPY MEMORIES

We had a wonderful reunion luncheon at the Lake Shore Club, April 16. Over 300 grand people were there. Visitin' started at 11:30 a.m. -- it sure did! You never heard such a buzzin' in all your life, unless you were there. People came from far and wide. There were folks from Oklahoma, Florida, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri. When you see how happy these friends are to see each other again, you have no doubt as to what is the most valuable part of traveling. It is the people you meet and the friends you make.

It was hard to know which drew the greatest enthusiasm, the memories of Hawaii or the anticipation of Alaska. Many folks who were on the Hawaii trip of 1954 brought pictures and souvenirs of this adventure. Dr. Forest K. Paul of Indianapolis gave a showing of his excellent Hawaii slides, together with a fine, friendly, and informative talk. Dr. Paul is an excellent photographer. He knows beauty when he sees it, and knows how to record it. He was enthusiastically applauded for his fine presentation.

The Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railroads sent interesting dioramic displays of Jasper and Lake Louise.

Sam Campbell showed his pictures of Alaska. Then the crowd reluctantly broke up after singing "Aloha, Oo."

A sweet, elderly lady laid an unsigned note before Sam Campbell as she left. It read, "It has been impossible for me to go with you on any tour, yet I have attended every reunion luncheon. The friendship and love I feel in this gathering of fine people helps sustain me from year to year. Thank you for letting me come." We do not know who wrote the note, but we are grateful for it.

HAPPY ANTICIPATIONS:

Our next reunion luncheon will be Saturday, November 12, 1955, at the Lake Shore Club. Won't we have a lot to talk about at that time?

It is now definite that there will be another Sam Campbell Hawaii Tour leaving Chicago (about) October 24, 1956. Let's all go!

AND NOW MUSH! MUSH, YOU HUSKIES! ALASKA HERE WE COME!

THOUGHT-OF-THE-MONTH

"The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich,
and He addeth no sorrow with it."

(Proverbs)