

# TRAVEL USA

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## Did You Know This?

Our comment on travel this month is already prepared in that we wish to quote from the Washington, D. C., Evening Star column of sports writer Francis Stann. Everyone interested in the development of travel will find food for thought in what Mr. Stann has to say.

"Maybe, like a lot of other people, you don't realize how many . . . outdoors folk there are in the United States. Did you know there are 14 million anglers licensed in the country and that they spend approximately 1 billion 400 million annually? And these figures don't include fishing in tidal waters, meaning bays, oceans, etc.

"There are 13 million licensed hunters who spent another billion 400 million, plus motorboat owners who have 6 billion invested.

"And now, if you'd like it translated into terms of money, a few words from Frank Menke, the sports historian, lifted right from his New Encyclopedia of Sports.

"First off, anglers (all sport fishermen), shooters (hunters and target shooters), and motorboating devotees rank in that order in spending. Golfers and bowlers follow, with nobody else in sight.

"The two armies—the anglers and the gunners—who rarely are mentioned on the sports pages—spend more money each year,' writes Menke, 'than would be needed to buy all the race tracks in America, all the race horses, all the football stadia, all the baseball parks, all the professional ball players, all the ice rinks and hockey players, all the dog racing tracks and dogs, all the polo fields and horses, all the rodeos with their complete equipment, all the automobile speedways—and there still would be enough left to buy handsome post offices in wholesale quantities.'

"Menke estimates there are 25 major horse parks, plus 75 minor tracks and that approximately 17,500 thoroughbreds and trotting horses are campaigned annually. These properties, plus all sires and broodmares, are worth, he says, less than one-tenth what anglers and shooters spend every 12 months.

"If you owned all professional baseball—parks, players, the works—Menke estimates you'd have \$45,000,000 invested. Anglers and firearms devotees, he discloses, spend almost that weekly."

### FRONT COVER

Crown Point on the Columbia River highway, a few miles east of Portland, Oreg. Oregon State Highway Commission photo.

### BACK COVER

Big Spring, Big Spring State Park, near Van Buren, Mo. Massie—Missouri Resources Division photo.

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