

# OVER A MILLION TO THIS STATE

### GOVERNMENT TAKES CARE OF DELINQUENT TAXES.

#### Courties Containing Lands Pleaded to Get Back Taxes.

Oregon counties having claims against the Oregon & California railroad grant lands for unpaid back taxes have received from the federal government \$1,504,842 to cover delinquent taxes on surveyed patented lands of the railroad company unsold prior to July 1, 1913, according to the report of Clay Tallman, commissioner of the general land office, to the secretary of the interior for the fiscal year closed June 30, 1918.

The report shows that treasury warrants for \$25,000 have been requested to cover delinquent taxes on grant lands embraced in sale contracts canceled or in default, leaving to be ascertained the taxes to be paid on surveyed unpatented lands for which the railroad company is entitled to receive patents and which were unsold in July, 1913.

Up to the end of the fiscal year more than 1,000,000 acres of the approximately total of 2,300,000 acres of forfeited grant lands had been classified as to whether they are agricultural in character or more valuable for the timber, mineral and water power resources. Last March 300,000 acres of agricultural lands in the Roseburg district were disposed of to homesteaders and in the same month about 150,000 acres were sold to settlers in the Portland district.

#### Consolidate Timber Tracts, Urged.

Referring to the timbered areas in the railroad grant lands and efforts to form them into compact bodies, Commissioner Tallman's report says:

"As the grant to the company was of odd-numbered sections, and it had, prior to the act of reversion, sold some of the granted titles to lumber companies and others, who also held the titles to the even-numbered sections, it follows that the United States now has title to the reversioned odd-numbered sections, while the title to the even-numbered sections sold prior to July 1, 1913, is now in private ownership. This act of reversion seriously interferes with the advantageous disposition of the timber, for the reason that the lands are for the greater part rough and mountainous, calling for a heavy initial outlay before successful logging operations can be set on foot, as well as a corresponding expenditure to maintain such operations.

"Therefore successful operations in this region call for the ownership of timberlands in large bodies, and the prices paid for timber will be to a large degree affected by the possibilities of this blocking up timberlands for future operations. For these reasons the department recommended legislation authorizing the secretary of

# Miss Stimson is Chief of A.E.F. Staff of Nurses



JULIA C. STIMSON

Here is Miss Julia C. Stimson, who occupies the most coveted position available to the trained, registered nurse. She is the chief nurse of the American Expeditionary Force in France. Prior to her appointment, which was effective early in November, Miss Stimson was the head of the American Red Cross nursing staff in France.

Before the United States entered the war, Miss Stimson joined American Hospital Unit No. 51, while serving as superintendent of nurses and head of the training school for nurses at Barnes Hospital, Washington University, St. Louis. Just after American intervention, this unit was one of twelve hospital units assigned to British forces and left St. Louis May 17, 1917, and sailed from New York, Saturday, May 19.

For ten months Miss Stimson was on duty at British Hospital No. 12

and in April, 1918, she was transferred to the service of the American Red Cross.

Miss Stimson graduated from Vassar in 1901, intending to study medicine. Later she determined that her field was nursing and in 1904 she entered the New York Hospital Training School for Nurses. In 1911 she was called from her position as superintendent of Barnes Hospital, New York, to take charge of nursing and special service work at Washington University, St. Louis.

A woman of unusual ability and great personal charm, Miss Stimson is a native of Worcester, Mass., and the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Henry A. Stimson of New York City. Since she has been in France, Washington University, St. Louis, has conferred the degree of Master of Arts upon her in recognition of her distinguished service overseas.

the interior to consolidate the present holdings, under the act of reversion, with lands adjacent thereto, now held in private ownership, and thus be enabled to offer for sale, in single blocks, large bodies of timber, eliminating thereby the advantage at public sale now held by the owners of adjacent lands. As a result of this recommendation, we now have the act of May 31, 1918, conferring upon the secretary of the interior ample authority for the exchange of timberlands for those in private ownership where, by such action, he will be enabled to consolidate advantageously the timberland holdings of the United States. Regulations under this act received approval July 17, 1918.

Up to the end of the fiscal year 55,

800 acres in the railroad grant areas had been classified as mineral in character, except as to coal and iron deposits, and 197,000 acres had been clear listed as non-mineral. There is a total of 472,000 acres, of which 318,000 acres are unsurveyed, within forest reserves for which the railroad company seeks indemnity lands elsewhere, but the question is before the court involving the company's claims and until it is decided nothing is to be gained by making surveys and classification.

#### Wagon Road Grant Lands Sought.

In the event of the litigation now pending before the supreme court terminating in the government's favor for a decree of forfeiture of the 95,000 acres granted to the Coos Bay Wagon Road company, additional legislation by congress will be necessary before these grant lands may be disposed of under an act of reversion of title in the government similar to that relating to the Oregon & California railroad grant lands, the land commissioner's report says. The state school fund and the highway and school fund of the counties of Coos and Douglas will derive half of the proceeds of sales of these forfeited lands.

Commissioner Tallman's report shows that out of 7,500,000 acres affected by the stock raising homestead act, 734 entries covering 256,578 acres have been allowed. In Oregon 367,631 acres have been withdrawn for live stock driveways in forest reserves. Only 2546 such acres were withdrawn last year in Washington. In Idaho 82,639 acres have been set apart for live stock drives.

### CRATER LAKE A SHELL HOLE

Here, Says Representative Sinnott, Milton Would Have Found the Impact for Lucifer's Fall

Representative Sinnott, of Oregon, recently described Crater Lake on the floor of the House in these words:

"Southward, Crater Lake, shield-ronlike and circular, 7,900 feet high, is perched amid the peaks. Perpendicular sides of slazy lava rise over a thousand feet from waters of indigo blue 6 miles across and 2,400 feet deep.

"To the scientist, a mighty volcano collapsed within itself, Mount Mazama, 15,000 feet high, telescoped.

"To the poet, the sea of silence, 'a lake of mystery.'

"To me, a shell hole of a war of worlds—who knows?"

"Could the great blind poet have seen this marvel-ous his pen Led Lucifer and his rebel angels—hurled headlong flaming from the ethereal sky. With hideous ruin and combustion, down—

in Miltonic language, here had Milton found the impact."

Pulsating with heart throbs and trembling with teeth, "Still Alarm" at Star Saturday, 12-19-18

GILLETT ALSO A CANDIDATE  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(United Press)—Representative Gillett, Republican of Massachusetts, has announced his candidacy for the speakership of the next house.

# MT. KATMAI'S DEEP ABYSS

### ALASKAN VOLCANO PROCLAIMED NATIONAL MONUMENT

The "Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes" the Beginning of a New Geys.

At the end of September last President Wilson created by proclamation the Katmai National Monument. This reservation, which encloses what the explosive eruption of June, 1912, left of Mount Katmai, on the southern shore of Alaska, together with several neighboring valleys of steaming vents, the largest of which the National Geographic Society, which explored it in June, 1917, named the "Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes."

The two features are intimately related. Rock strata superheated since the great eruption underlie Katmai near enough to the surface to turn to instant steam the spring and drainage waters of many a surrounding mile of foothills. Thus originates the steam which bursts from the myriad valley vents. The phenomenon's family in the neighborhood of most volcanoes which still are classed as active. Steaming springs, a later stage of the vents in this valley, are found upon the flanks of several of the most prominent of our Cascade volcanoes, and are numerous around the base of Lassen Peak.

The comparison, however, between Katmai's steaming valleys and the geyser basins of Yellowstone is instructive because Yellowstone's basins once were what Katmai's steaming valleys are now. The "Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes" is probably a genuine geyser field of enormous size. The explanation is simple. Bunsen's geyser theory, now generally accepted, presupposes a column of water filling the geyser vent above a deep rocky superheated chamber in which trickling spring water is being rapidly turned into steam. When this steam becomes pentful enough and sufficiently compressed to overcome the weight of the wa-

ter in the vent, it suddenly expands and hurries the water out. That is what makes the geyser play.

Growth of a Geyser Basin  
Now, the difference between the Yellowstone geyser fields and Katmai's steaming valleys is just a difference in temperature. The valleys is heated far above boiling point, so that it is not possible for water to remain in the vent; it turns to steam as fast as it collects and rushes out at the top in continuous flow. For whole centuries or hundreds of centuries enough steam has been between the surface and the deep internal pockets to coat the water will remain in many vents as water until, at regular intervals, enough steam gathers below to hurl it out. Then these valleys will become basins of geysers and hot springs like Yellowstone's.

The crater of Katmai is very large. Its circumference, says Robert F. Origg, who headed the expedition which explored the entire area, is 8.4 miles, measured along the highest point of the rim. The area is 4.5 miles. The precipitous abyss, which does not extend to the rim of the southwest side, is somewhat shorter, measuring 2.6 miles in length, 7.5 miles in circumference, and 4.2 square miles in area. The milky blue lake at the bottom is 1.4 miles long and nine-tenths of a mile wide, with an area of 1.1 square miles. The little crescent-shaped island in the lake measures 400 feet from point to point. The precipice from the lake to the highest point of the rim is 3,700 feet.

Mr. Origg estimates the capacity of the hole at 4,500,000,000 cubic yards. If this hole were filled with water, there would be enough to supply New York City for 1,835 days. The great eruption blew 11,000,000,000 cubic yards of material, more than forty times the amount removed in the construction of the Panama Canal.

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### FIRST CONFERENCE HELD.

American Peace Delegation Will Have Conference in Paris.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—(United Press)—The first conference of the complete American peace delegation will be held at 5 o'clock this afternoon, when President Wilson goes to the Crillon hotel to meet the other representatives.

Pulsating with heart throbs and trembling with teeth, "Still Alarm" at Star Saturday, 12-19-18

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# Wheat Ranch For Sale

To settle an estate, the R. J. Morton place, in Lower Cove, consisting of 200 acres, will be sold at a sacrifice. Every foot of this land is under cultivation. It is all level ground. Spring on place. About eight acres bottom land growing 12 tons wild hay. Place is leased this coming year for one-third the crop. Last year under this same percentage of crop, the place paid 10 per cent of what is being asked for the place now. Lessee can be paid for plowing already done (about 60 acres) and buyer take full possession. This must be an outright sale without any trades, but responsible people can get good terms. For further information write

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