



**DIAMOND PEAK** looms up in the background of this photographic study made from the Rim Road at Crater Lake National Park. The picture was taken two weeks ago and gives an idea, as to how much snow is left in

the area. Motorists may take off from the rim road and drive to Diamond Lake and other spots by crossing Pumice Desert. It is a particularly lovely drive at this time of year.

# A Camera Trip Through Crater Lake Park

Lying 62 miles northwest of Klamath Falls is famed Crater Lake, its blue waters sparkling beneath the rims and crags that tower nearly 2,000 feet in spots above the water line.

For those who have not yet visited the national park a great treat is in store. Probably the greatest single scenic attraction to be found in the Pacific Coast states, Crater Lake offers awe-inspiring views from almost all sides. For the color camera enthusiast there is a challenge that cannot

be equalled anywhere except perhaps in Bryce and Zion parks in Utah. I know of one semi-pro camera nut here in Klamath Falls who has been taking pictures, by the score, of Crater Lake over a period of 10 years and who says he hasn't gotten what he considers a perfect shot yet.

The park abounds in wild life, bears being the most popular with the tourists. Perhaps sharing this top spot with the bears are the enormous chipmunks and golden mantles that infest the lodge area,

raking in a rich living at the expense of the sightseer's peanuts. One can also find numerous deer in the park as well as the lesser known species of predators including marten and the fast-disappearing coyote.

The lake is stocked with fish, the first stocking of rainbow trout being put in during the summer of 1888. Boats are available for those with stout enough legs and lungs to make the precipitous descent to the water line from the rim, a sheer drop of almost a

thousand feet. This results in a trail coming back up that is sometimes as long as 20 miles. Even longer. Going down it is comparatively short and easy.

The lake has a curious history in that it was discovered and lost a couple of times before the official discovery date of 1853 was recorded. To the early tribes the vast lake was known as the abode of the spirit Liao. Joaquin Miller (whether you believe in him or not) referred to the lake as "the sea of silence" in one instance and in another, carried away with enthusiasm and all choked up with emotion and huckleberry juice, called it the "sea of sapphire set around by a compact circle of the great grizzly rock of Yosemite."

Actually the lake is the remnant of Mt. Mazama after it was destroyed by plutonic forces which left the gaping crater at the top. This crater, so reason the scientific observers, then filled with spring water and resulted in the 2,001 foot deep lake that today attracts tourists from all over the world.

Among the non-scientific population of the Basin you can find plenty of conjecture as to the source of the waters of the lake and, more particularly, as to the outlet. It stands to reason that if the lake is to remain fresh and pure, as it does, then it must have a steady inflow and a steady outflow, since the level remains roughly the same year around.

Many will maintain that Crater Lake is the source spot of many of our spring-fed rivers. Rivers like Wood and the Sprague and the Williamson, Wood River, in particular, is believed by many to be the outlet, along with Annie Creek. So far no absolute facts have been presented to either prove or disprove this theory.

But the fact remains that it is a pretty lake and well worth the trip if you like your scenery on the outdoor and pretty side. And it is blue. All 159,360 acres of it. On a clear day, that is. On cloudy days the blue of the lake fades to a duller hue, although even in winter it never loses all of the magic coloration. There are two schools of thought as to the best time to see the lake. One school holds for summer with a blue sky and a few big, white clouds overhead for contrast. The other, and harder, school holds for winter when you view the lake from the top of impressive piles of snow around the rim.

These snow piles are really impressive, too. The lodge at the rim is a big building and is frequently buried well up to the upper story windows.

At this time of year there are ample facilities for visitors, including the lodge with dining and bar accommodations, a cafeteria, cabins, guided tours, endless trails to

follow, service station facilities and campgrounds supplied with water and adequate facilities.

A trip to Crater Lake National Park from Klamath Falls offers not only the ultimate goal of the lake but a good deal of beauty on the side. You head north along Upper Klamath Lake, the mountains across the lake hugging the shore and Mt. Pitt looming up over them for a considerable distance. There is Williamson River, bubbling on its way to the lake and all the lush, green goodness of the Wood River Valley to cruise through on Highway 62 after you leave 97 at Williamson River.

For newcomers to the area, a trip to the lake will be worth a little extra time for side trips. Take the old Sun Mountain Highway from the Fort Klamath Junction (at Lefty Wild Eagle's museum) and pay a visit to Kimball Park. Or go on up 97 to Collier Park with its cool vistas of green grass at the junction of Spring Creek and the Williamson.

When you get to the lake be sure and take the rim drive. This will afford some breathtaking scenery as well as whole meadows full of spring flowers in full bloom in July. The seasons are late at Crater Lake.

If you stay on Highway 62 you will wind your way through Union Creek, lovely little resort area, and on down through Trail and into Medford. Or you can bear north on Highway 209 and drive to Diamond Lake. This drive offers spectacular long-range views toward the timbered slopes of the Windigo region and a trip across the Pumice Desert.

Any way you look at it, a trip to Crater Lake is a must for everyone who lives in the area. If you go once it is a pretty sure thing that you'll repeat.

The accompanying pictures show a little of the scenery at the park. But no black and white camera can touch the scenery. It is a colorful park.

## Sunlight Studied In Smog Research

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — The effect of natural sunlight is being studied by University of California at Los Angeles scientists in the battle against air pollution. Sunlight is said to be an important ingredient in the Los Angeles smog variety.

Use of the sunlight is part of the effort by the Air Pollution Test Facility Project to simulate, for controlled experiments, the atmosphere over a modern city.

**FLYING HIGH**  
SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (UPI)—The chief engineer of the Illinois State Aeronautics Board is appropriately named Norman C. Bird.



**VISITORS TO THE LODGE** are greeted with this spectacular sight as they look across Crater Lake. Crater Lake Park is a color camera paradise with all the bright contrasts of the high country at their best this time of year.