

DANGER TO THE CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK

I WISH to call the attention of all scientific men, especially botanists, zoologists, ecologists and all lovers and students of nature to the importance of preserving intact the magnificent area of primeval forest that covers much of the southern part of Crater Lake Park in Oregon. The lake itself, one of the two or three greatest scenic localities of the continent, is not the only important feature of the park. The splendid tracts of forest that extend from the high altitudes near the crater rim to the much lower region near the south boundary of the park furnish beautiful examples of several of the types of forest characteristic of the different altitudes in the mountains of the Pacific states. From the scientific and educational point of view as well as from an esthetic one the preservation of this forest is most important. From an economic point of view its destruction is unjustifiable, for it would not stave off the impending end of our timber supply for a single day at the rate we now consume it. Our national park system contains far too much bare rock and barren, scrubbily timbered land, and far too little of the wonderful forests with trees two hundred feet tall or more of which the Pacific states formerly had so much, but which have already been reduced to mere remnants. Our nation does not stand in the slightest need of the paltry sum that will be allowed to dribble into the public treasury from the sale of the Crater Lake Park forests for lumber.

Yet we have every reason to fear and believe that the rumors that high administrative officers of the government have agreed to promote legislation to cut off the southwestern part of the park and place it where its forests will be opened up to the lumbermen are well founded, and that at the next session of Congress this legislation will be slipped through with as little publicity and as little opportunity for any protest as in the case of the laws cutting off valuable parts of other national parks that have passed the present Congress.

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A NEW (NINTH) EDITION OF LEE'S "THE MICROTOMIST'S VADEMECUM"

ALL investigators in the biological sciences are indebted to this book for information. The last edition, published in 1921, was edited by Professor J. Brontë Gateby and largely rewritten by him with the co-operation of Professor W. M. Bayliss, Dr. C. Da l'ano, Dr. A. Drew, Dr. W. Cramer and Mr. J.

Thornton Carter. It has been so much in demand that a ninth edition is now called for by the publishers, Messrs. P. Blakiston's Son and Company of Philadelphia. In order that adequate and very up-to-date references may be made to the advances in technique which have been made in the United States, Professor Gateby requests that notes regarding new methods be sent to him directly at the *University Zoological Department, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland*. He plans to send all proofs to the publishers not later than October 31, 1926.

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QUOTATIONS

THE PARIS BUREAU OF SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

THE Office d'Information scientifique et technique of Paris, the initiation of which was noted in our issue for June 12, has favored us with copies of two recent news bulletins, which are interesting to compare with similar issues of the allied Science Service in Washington. The French material has been well selected, and is of real scientific interest; the language is plain and the treatment straightforward, but its somewhat educational tone raises a doubt as to whether the presentation is sufficiently attractive to appeal to editors and readers of the popular press; it may be, however, that the intellectual standard in France is higher than elsewhere. In the United States and England, it is the practice to attract the reader by one or more glaring headlines, to convey the gist of the information (which should contain news) in a short initial paragraph, and then to proceed with details and embellishment. The French procedure, as displayed in these bulletins, is more logical: the headlines are distinctly sober and lacking in "pep"; the article begins with an explanatory or historical pre-ambule, and the news is reserved for a later stage. Although this method will be preferred by the student, it is less effective in attracting the lay reader than the more sensational style of approach.

The "news" element of the bulletins is not strongly represented in the specimens before us, and in a few cases, for example, the articles on telegraphic reception and the nature of X-rays, the explanations given may convey little to the uninitiated. In about one half of the items the information comes from the United States, and the remainder from France; when the service gets better under way one may expect material from other countries to be included. The news appears to have been culled mainly from periodical literature—which must always constitute an important