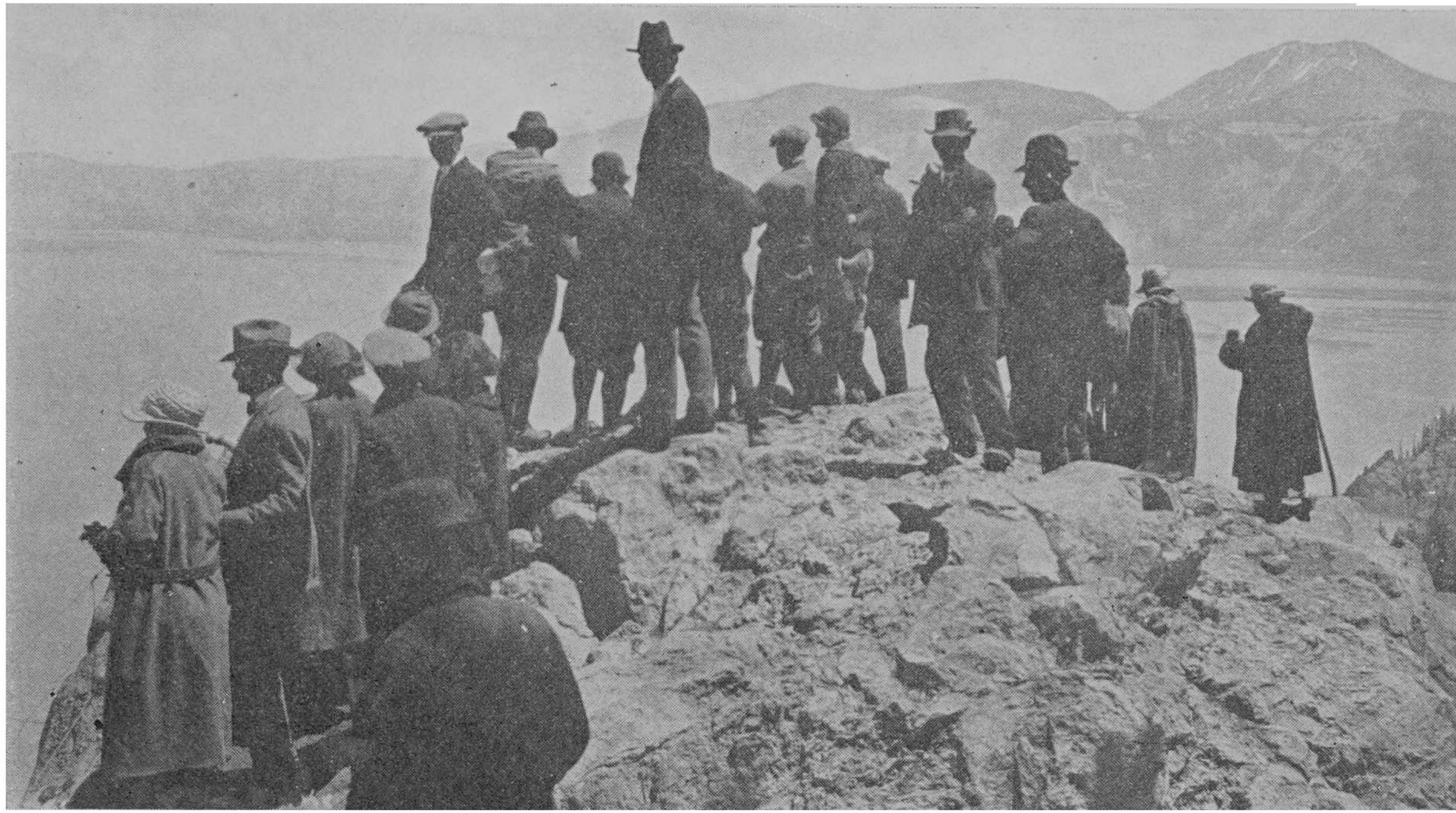


*Wizard Island**Photo by Patterson.**(By Courtesy of Oregon State Chamber of Commerce.)*

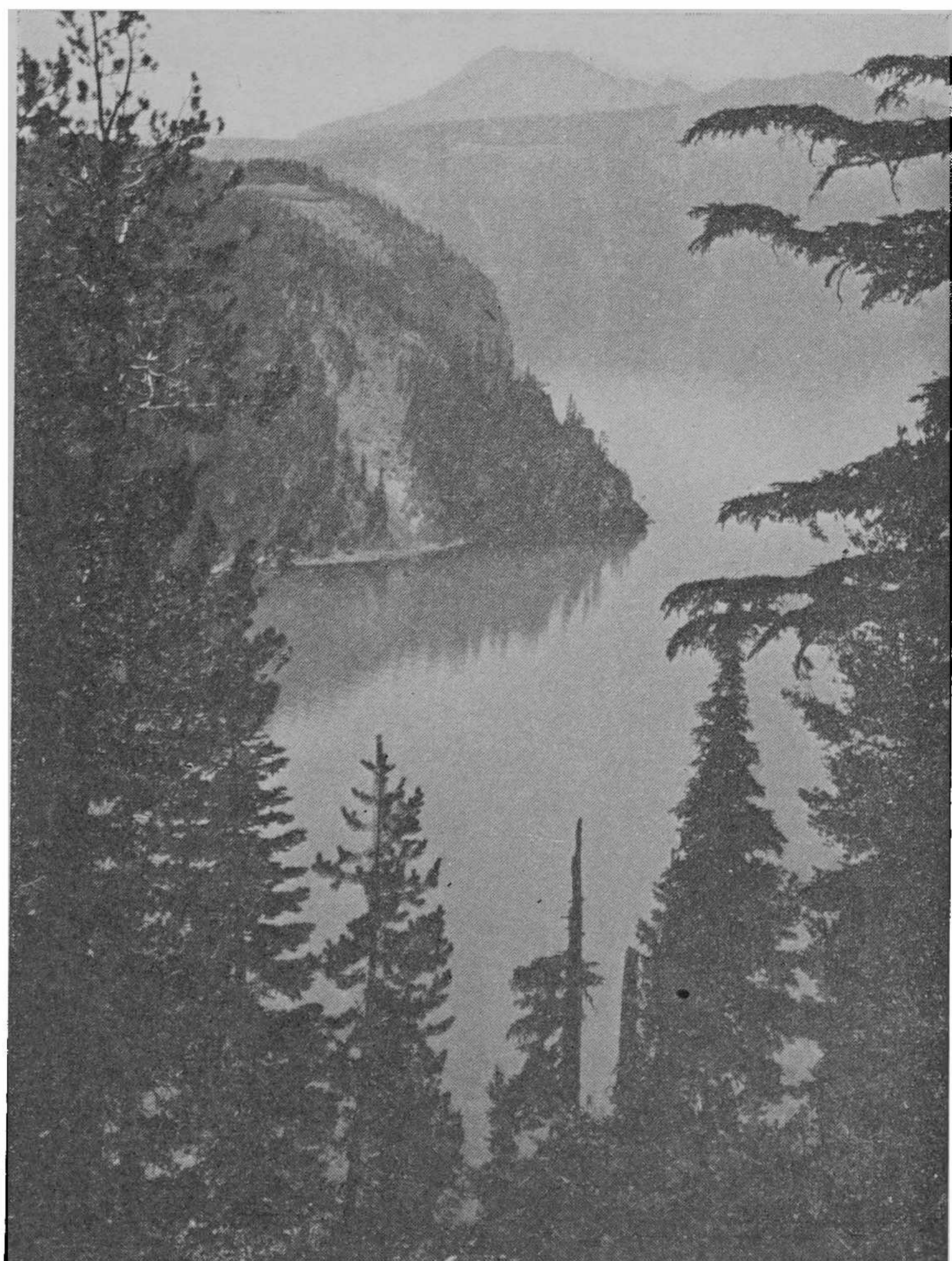


Oregon's Greatest Tourist Asset--Crater Lake

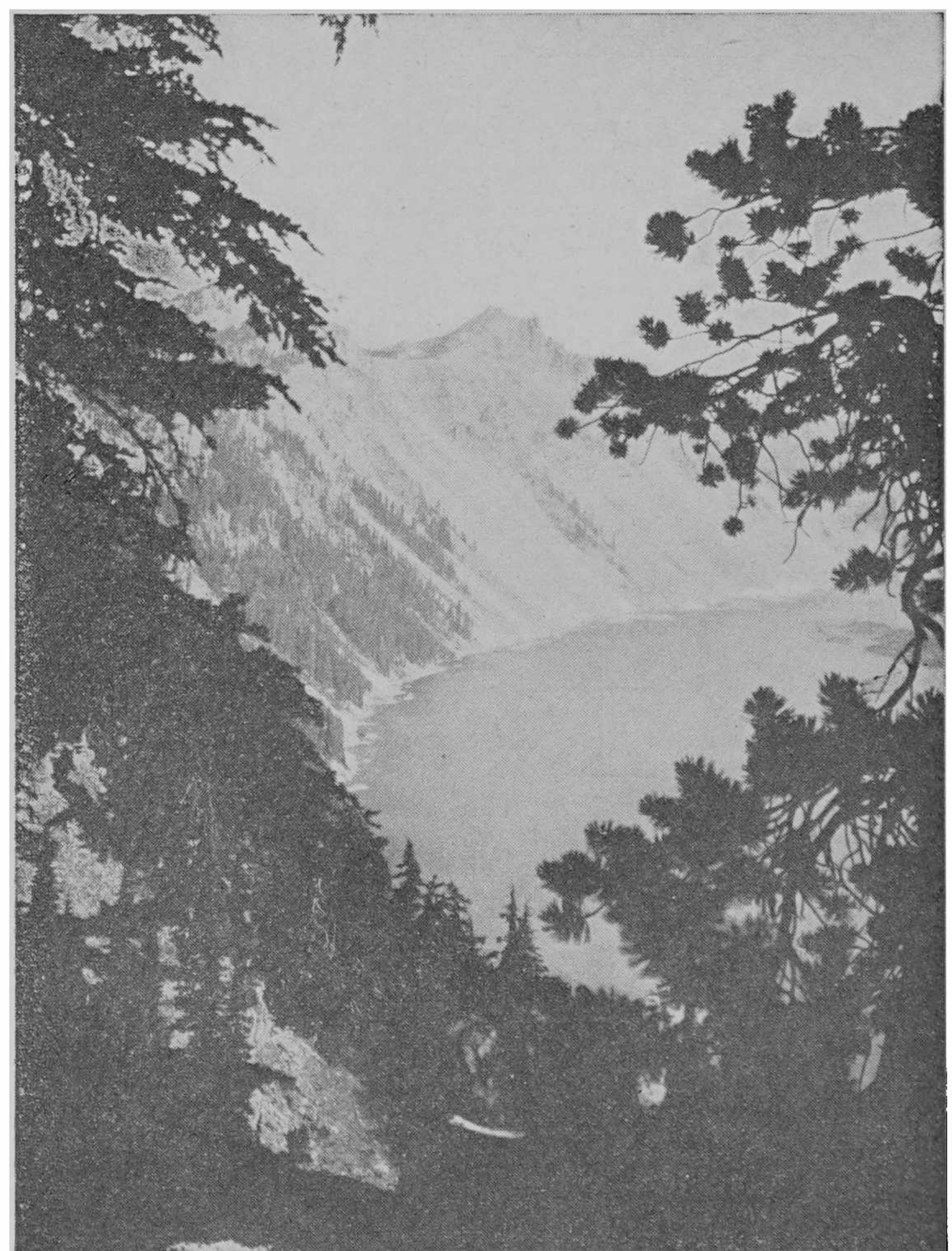
By CHARLES GOFF THOMSON

THE ADDRESSING of any description of Crater Lake to Oregonians is a mere carrying of coals to Newcastle, for it is Oregon's greatest scenic asset and should be known intimately at first hand by every son and daughter of the state. But, in the same way that an officer of a corporation makes periodic *reports* to stockholders, it is entirely fitting that a park administrator reports *to Oregonians* from time to time the progress that is being made in *development of the park and of plans for the future*.

Thanks to the interest of the Congress and the Bureau of the Budget, Crater Lake is taking a considerable stride forward again this year. Nothing that man can do could ever enhance the glories of the lake or the splendor of the great caldera that is the setting of the jewel, so the effort of the National Park Service is merely to make the park more accessible and more comfortable for sojourners, to provide the completest possible safety from accident, and assure those invisible safeties that attend perfect sanitation, pure water supply, and



Cleetwood Cove, with Mount Scott showing in the distance.



Western shore, Crater Lake, looking across to Glacier Peak.
Photos by Colonel C. G. Thomson unless otherwise noted

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Colonel C. G. Thomson
unless otherwise noted



"Skeezix" knows what he wants when he wants it. Often the mother bears cuff their nursing offspring up into a tree for safety, and then partake of food for the whole family.



Hot-cakes with syrup—plenty of it—are a winning lure, and if "Jeff" should lick off the syrup and pass up the cakes it's not for you to complain



(By Courtesy Standard Oil Co. of California.)

similar provisions. This means the improvement of roads, their widening to full double travel width, the reduction of grades and curvatures to safe standards, the betterment of important trails, a progressive program of sanitation and water supply. Likewise, as the park yearly functions at higher and higher speed with increases of employees along every line, it also means the construction of employees cabins, warehouses, barns, etc.

The primary purpose of the far-seeing patriots whose activities led to the setting aside of Crater Lake and other



Photo, Patterson, Medford

An expert can almost tell the month of the year by a bear's coat, which late in summer is not so presentable as is shown in adjacent photos. The snow lasts longer around Crater Lake than in the lowlands, and so do the bears' coats. "Hans" and "Fritz" are a couple of mischievous cubs, now in their second year. So far this year three new cubs have been reported.

their due within the parks. Today no human mind can prophesy what the future demands will be, there is no predicting what multitudes we must care for in the years to come. We plan here, however, for an annual increase of about 20% for the next few years.

This growing popularity of the park imposes difficult problems. On the one hand we are strictly charged with the preservation of every natural feature, for the 249 square miles of Crater Lake National Park must always remain a national outdoor museum unspoiled by over development in any par-

National Parks was to preserve for all time these marvelous areas, to prevent their exploitation and any commercialism, to maintain them as incomparable national shrines of the out-of-doors. In fact it is doubtful if those who pioneered the Nation Park idea could possibly have foreseen the tremendous travel that would set in with the perfection of the automobile and the swift growth of a vast network of highways across the country. For years the National Parks remained very difficult of access and were visited by merely a few scores of the fortunate; but suddenly, almost overnight, an amazing increase of travel all but swamped the park system; and even today we are not yet fully equal to peak demands made upon us. Last summer, for example, 81,016 people visited Crater Lake from every state in the Union and from nine foreign countries; the handling of such a throng in a mountain area removed many miles from rail heads is a considerable problem, but it was met without a single accident on the roads or elsewhere, and without any breakdown in the various services which the American people rightly feel is

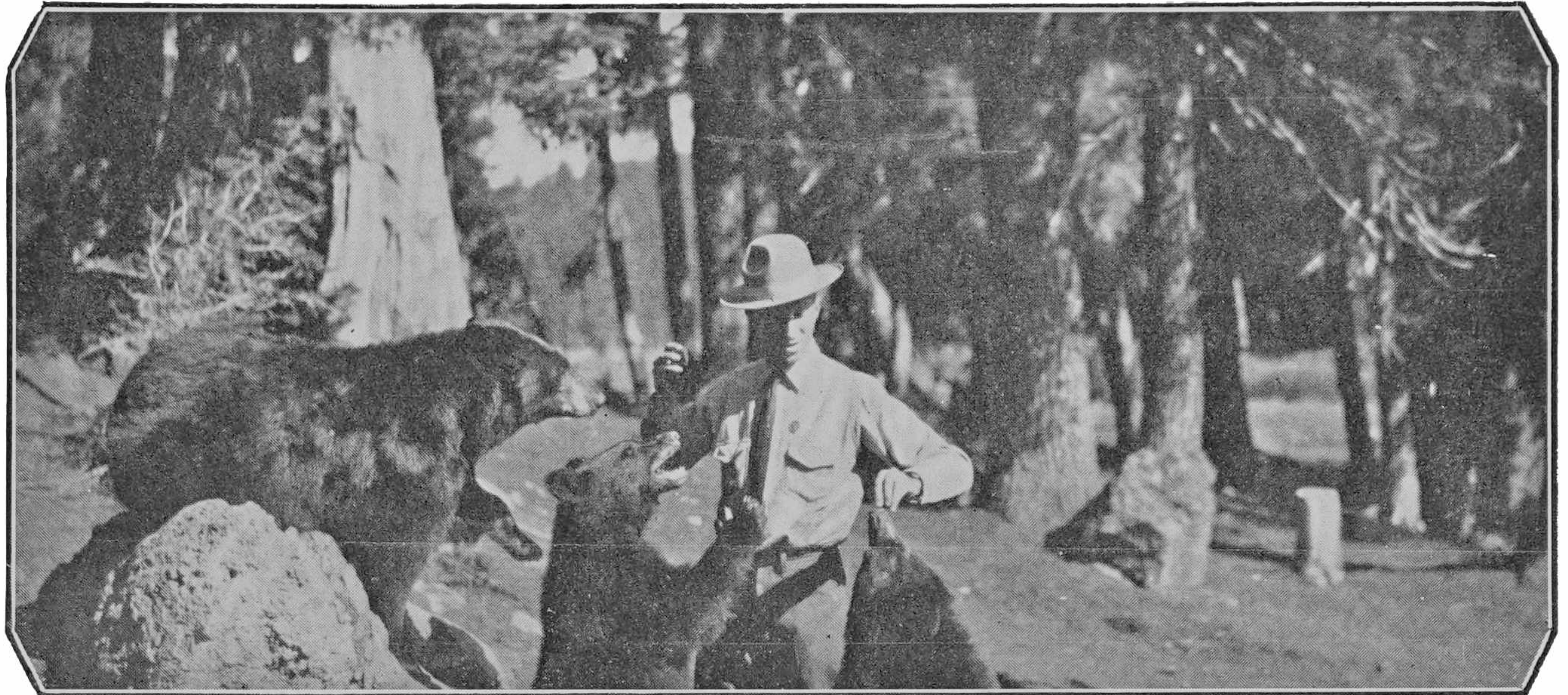
ticular. This primary purpose of the park must be preserved against all contingencies, and so the pressure of rapidly increasing travel must be met in other ways than by over stressing physical improvements. Thus the present road system, with its four approach roads joining the rim road around the crater wall, is considered a final and complete layout of roads; it will be widened and improved but not supplemented by other roads. A section of this system is

being reconstructed this year and before winter comes it is expected that both the Medford and Klamath roads will be completed and the main road from Anna Spring to the lake will be reconstructed and completely surfaced, the maximum grade to be $6\frac{1}{2}\%$, making one of the finest roads to be found in the mountains anywhere in the United States. It is worth mentioning that there will be no detours during construction, as the present road will remain in use until the new one is completed. Under a five-year construction program it is expected to advance the East, North, and Rim roads to similar improvement.

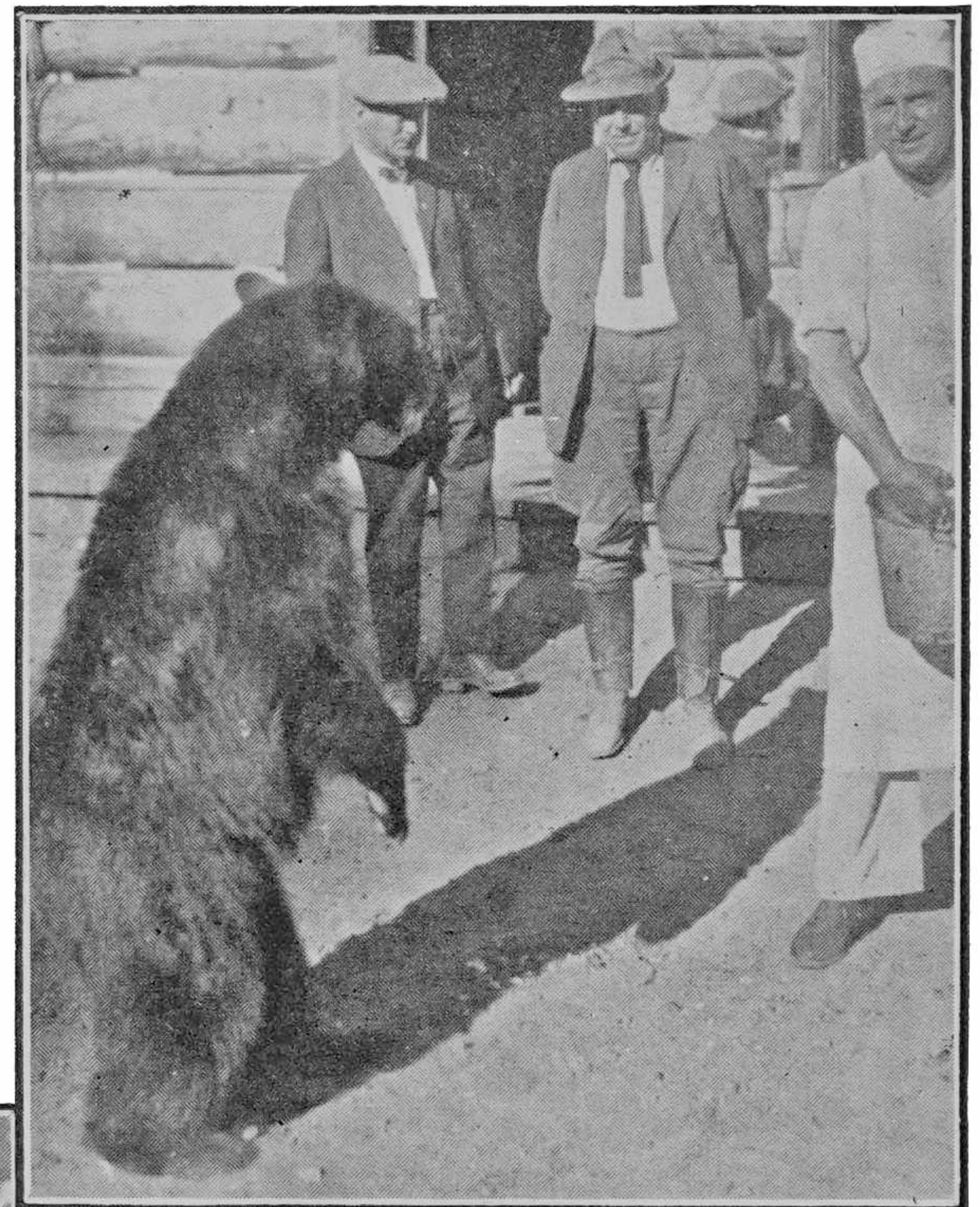
In addition to this road work Congress has also authorized a considerable program of building and construction, the heaviest in the history of the park. Practically all of these new cabins, etc., will be screened from visitors and so will not intrude upon the pastoral quietude of the virgin forests. Another activity now under way is the elimination of the pine beetles which have attacked the lodgepole pine stands in the park and against which the government has campaigned each spring for three years. It is predicted by entomologists that this year's activity will completely wipe out the insect pest and that our lodgepole stand is no longer threatened by this menace.

The park season is from July 1st to September 20th. During that period the park hotel is open and

the stage, launch service, and photo studios are in operation. As the big majority of visitors prefer to camp out the government maintains free camp grounds, of which the finest and most popular is the campground on the rim of the crater wall overlooking the lake. This Rim Campground is in a splendid stand of mountain hemlock and is equipped with modern sanitation, showerbaths, and a comfortable community house containing a dance floor, orthophonic, radio, etc. The fireplace in this community house is nightly the scene of friendly gather-



A woodland idyll—the camera record proves that it is no fairy-tale or myth. The fact that Crater Lake National Park is a game sanctuary makes this drama possible of enactment



Some are more friendly than others. This is one of the others; his gruff manner gained for him the name of a one-time camp attendant of similar address



*Photo, Fred H. Kiser, Portland.
(By Courtesy Standard Oil Co. of California.)*

"Jimmy" is an old-timer in the camp's visiting-bear group. "He" was so named by the cook, but one morning two years ago this bear appeared in camp with two cubs, whereat the name was changed to "Jemima"—and "Jemima" she is today.

ings of Americans from all over the country, meeting in the comradeship of the out-of-doors.

One of the most popular activities at Crater Lake is the Nature Guide service under the direction of Dr. Lloye Miller of the University of California. Dr. Miller's lectures are attended by hundreds every night, and scores accompany him daily on his rambles along "nature trails" when he picturesquely points out the significance of various manifestations of geology, wild life and unusual (Continued on page 36)

Oregon's Greatest Tourist Asset—Crater Lake

(*Continued from page 13*) plant life. Dr. Miller can imitate the call of nearly every bird found in the Park, and this facility often leads to dramatic little tableaux. This nature guide service is of course free.

Fortunately Crater Lake is readily accessible, boasting probably the best approach road system to any national park. The Crater Lake Highway, the Ashland-Klamath Highway, and the Dalles-California Highway offer wonderful driving along variously scenic routes from Medford, Ashland, Klamath Falls, and Bend respectively. By rail, choice is offered of two routes of the Southern Pacific—the splendid Shasta Route and the new line over the Cascades. Railheads to the Park are Medford and Klamath Falls, at which points comfortable sedans, operating under government franchise, take passengers to and from the Park.

Every indication points to a very popular year at Crater Lake, and the National Park Service is planning to take the best possible care of its guests. There is little red tape, no restrictions except those few necessary to protect natural features against vandalism. The entire Park personnel is imbued with but one purpose—we are here merely to serve, to add what we may to the comfort and pleasure of those tens of thousands of Americans who are at once our guests and our shareholders in this first venture into sheer idealism by any government.