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1920 August 1 - Kingsbury Biennial Report, Surveyor General's Report to Governor of California

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BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
SURVEYOR-GENERAL
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE TERM ENDING AUGUST 1, 1920

CALIFORNIA STATE PRINTING OFFICE
J. M. CREMIN, SUPERINTENDENT
SACRAMENTO, 1920

BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL,
SACRAMENTO, December 1, 1920.

*To His Excellency, WILLIAM D. STEPHENS,
Governor of the State of California.*

SIR: I have the honor to herewith submit a report covering the work of this office for the term ending August 1, 1920.

GENERAL OFFICE BUSINESS

Amount of Fees Collected by Surveyor General and Register of the State Land Office
from August 1, 1918, to August 1, 1920, and Paid into the State Treasury.

	Month	Paid into State Treasury	Paid to Secretary of State
1918 -	August.....	\$285 00	\$83 00
	September.....	473 80	
	October.....	190 20	34 00
	November.....	245 00	30 00
	December.....	191 40	28 00
1919 -	January.....	463 00	125 00
	February.....	203 00	41 00
	March.....	185 00	26 00
	April.....	161 70	14 00
	May.....	384 00	65 00
	June.....	439 50	94 00
	July.....	159 00	30 00
	August.....	257 70	19 00
	September.....	231 00	50 00
	October.....	899 20	28 00
	November.....	799 00	32 00
	December.....	1,761 70	41 00
1920 -	January.....	1,804 50	74 00
	February.....	141 00	-
	March.....	490 50	54 00
	April.....	786 00	105 00
	May.....	1,294 50	24 00
	June.....	622 50	58 00
	July.....	410 50	67 00
	Totals.....	\$12,878 70	\$1,250 00

AMOUNT OF DEPOSITS RECEIVED BY SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Under the Act of March 20, 1889, the Surveyor General received from August 1, 1918 to August 1, 1920, and paid into the State Treasury, deposits as follows:

1918 -	August.....	\$20 00
	September.....	20 00
	October.....	-
	November.....	20 00
	December.....	-
1919 -	January.....	-
	February.....	-
	March.....	40 00
	April.....	40 00
	May.....	-
	June.....	-
	July.....	-
	August.....	20 00
	September.....	-
	October.....	-

	November.....	-
	December.....	-
1920 -	January.....	-
	February.....	-
	March.....	-
	April.....	-
	May.....	-
	June.....	20 00
	July.....	-
	Total.....	\$180 00

Amount of annual rentals received by the Surveyor General for the lease of state lands pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 493, Statutes of California, 1917, from August 1, 1918 to August 1, 1920, and paid into the State Treasury as follows:

1918 -	August.....	\$657 31
	September.....	357 60
	October.....	129 27
	November.....	173 68
	December.....	490 19
1919 -	January.....	1,122 41
	February.....	540 98
	March.....	747 53
	April.....	1,466 86
	May.....	886 72
	June.....	1,039 42
	July.....	309 20
	August.....	419 60
	September.....	195 59
	October.....	130 95
	November.....	179 60
	December.....	683 52
1920 -	January.....	978 56
	February.....	519 65
	March.....	482 80
	April.....	1,069 13
	May.....	811 00
	June.....	713 71
	July.....	356 79
	Total.....	\$14,462 37

PAYMENTS OF RENTAL TO THE STATE TREASURER.

Amount received by the Treasurer of the State of California as rental for leasing of state lands pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 612, Statues of California, 1911, from August 1, 1918 to August 1, 1920, \$1,660.68.

SCHOOL LAND PAYMENTS.

Amounts of principal, interest, costs and penalties received for the state by the county treasurers, on account of sales of school lands, from August 1, 1918, to August 1, 1920.

	Principal	Interest	Total	Penalty	Costs
Alameda.....	-	-	-	-	-
Alpine.....	-	\$388 40	\$388 40	-	-
Amador.....	\$405 00	15 12	420 12	-	-
Butte.....	704 96	317 11	1,022 07	-	-
Calaveras.....	220 20	96 30	316 50	-	-
Colusa.....	67 20	36 74	103 94	-	-
Contra Costa.....	-	-	-	-	-
Del Norte.....	-	-	-	-	-
El Dorado.....	1,092 20	153 06	1,245 26	-	-
Fresno.....	3,137 19	1,759 63	4,896 82	-	-
Glenn.....	1,814 79	148 26	1,962 96	-	-
Humboldt.....	500 00	159 27	659 27	-	-
Imperial.....	18,306 16	10,029 40	28,335 56	-	-
Inyo.....	-	818 68	818 68	\$1 68	-
Kern.....	8,937 55	7,996 06	16,993 61	-	-
Kings.....	320 00	22 40	342 40	-	-
Lake.....	2,103 07	200 35	2,303 42	-	-
Lassen.....	2,320 00	5,989 09	8,309 09	129 70	\$88 00
Los Angeles.....	3,738 42	1,134 63	4,873 05	-	-
Madera.....	1,396 00	637 86	2,033 86	-	-
Marin.....	-	-	-	-	-
Mariposa.....	1,849 46	354 74	2,204 20	-	-
Mendocino.....	1,793 05	883 55	2,676 60	2 49	3 00
Merced.....	320 00	270 08	590 08	-	-
Modoc.....	1,520 00	921 90	2,441 90	-	-
Mono.....	1,030 00	1,528 21	2,558 21	-	-
Monterey.....	9,819 27	2,555 12	12,374 39	2 16	-
Napa.....	279 95	235 20	515 15	29 12	-
Nevada.....	-	-	-	-	-
Orange.....	-	5 60	5 60	-	-
Placer.....	158 36	39 67	198 03	-	-
Plumas.....	160 00	11 20	171 20	-	-
Riverside.....	15,302 83	4,518 98	19,821 81	4 34	-
Sacramento.....	-	-	-	-	-
San Benito.....	4,571 76	1,238 60	5,810 36	-	-
San Bernardino.....	11,362 53	15,852 04	24,214 57	113 12	210 00
San Diego.....	4,682 26	2,457 36	7,139 62	26 05	-
San Francisco.....	-	-	-	-	-
San Joaquin.....	1,236 95	86 59	1,323 54	-	-
San Luis Obispo.....	8,348 68	2,908 62	11,257 30	-	-
San Mateo.....	-	-	-	-	-
Santa Barbara.....	970 72	122 21	1,092 93	-	-
Santa Clara.....	40 00	70 18	110 18	-	-
Santa Cruz.....	-	-	-	-	-
Shasta.....	280 00	377 91	657 91	-	-
Sierra.....	-	-	-	-	-
Siskiyou.....	1,102 76	470 58	1,573 34	17 92	3 00
Solano.....	-	-	-	-	-
Sonoma.....	1,633 98	457 63	2,091 61	-	-
Stanislaus.....	2,309 26	645 61	2,954 87	-	-
Sutter.....	-	-	-	-	-

Tehama.....	831 97	787 05	1,619 02	12 53	6 00
Trinity.....	2,600 00	677 92	3,277 92	37 52	6 00
Tulare.....	17,832 31	1,056 65	18,888 96	-	-
Tuolumne.....	-	157 19	157 19	-	-
Ventura.....	275 76	177 74	458 50	-	-
Yolo.....	320 00	89 60	409 60	-	-
Yuba.....	464 24	140 63	604 87	-	-
Totals.....	\$136,158 75	\$69,000 76	\$205,159 51	\$376 63	\$316 00

STATE SCRIP

Amount received by the Surveyor General from the sale of scrip under the provisions of section 3408d of the Political Code, from January, 1920, to August 1, 1920, and paid into the State Treasury, as follows:

1920 - January.....	\$127,529 69
March.....	62,363 57
July.....	42,104 88
Total.....	\$231,998 14

FINANCIAL RECAPITULATION.

Amount of fees and royalties collected by Surveyor General and Register of the State Land Office...	\$12,878 70
Amount of deposits, office of Surveyor General.....	180 00
Amount of fees collected by Register of State Land Office for Secretary of State.....	1,250 00
Amount of annual rentals received by the Surveyor General for the lease of state land under chapter 493, Statutes of 1917.....	14,462 37
Amount received by the Surveyor General for the sale of scrip under section 3408d of the Political Code.....	231,998 14
Total.....	\$260,769 21

PUBLIC AUCTION SALES OF SCHOOL LANDS.

State school lands were sold at public auction under the provisions of Chapter 207, Statutes of California, 1919 during the years 1919 and 1920, as follows:

County	Date	Acres	Amount
Amador.....	June 7, 1920	160.00	\$420 00
Butte.....	May 12, 1920	1,785.77	2,910 89
Calaveras.....	June 8, 1920	560.00	824 00
Colusa.....	May 25, 1920	640.00	672 00
El Dorado.....	June 18, 1920	1,760.00	4,554 00
Fresno.....	Nov. 19, 1919	2,943.31	14,615 95
Glenn.....	May 24, 1920	1,282.87	1,599 01
Imperial.....	Jan. 13, 1920	11,238.23	124,760 93
Kern.....	Nov. 24, 1919	12,155.23	39,564 13

Lake.....	May 27, 1920	1,791.00	2,194 55
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 23, 1919	1,197.15	9,358 84
Madera.....	Nov. 18, 1919	1,240.00	7,560 00
Mariposa.....	June 12, 1920	1,721.46	1,787 46
Monterey.....	Jan. 19, 1920	5,780.20	27,212 95
Placer.....	May 17, 1920	1,072.22	1,205 58
Riverside.....	Oct. 17, 1919	23,372.75	36,119 15
San Benito.....	April 22, 1920	4,134.14	6,747 43
San Bernardino.....	Oct. 14, 1919	18,244.69	25,025 28
San Diego.....	Oct. 21, 1919	16,322.31	24,861 41
San Luis Obispo.....	Jan. 16, 1920	4,568.17	27,534 67
Santa Barbara.....	April 20, 1920	209.67	415 32
Tulare.....	Nov. 21, 1919	1,710.15	26,694 14
Tuolumne.....	June 9, 1920	1,675.79	5,524 85
Ventura.....	April 19, 1920	114.76	1,157 60
Yuba.....	May 14, 1920	1,420.32	3,644 37
Totals.....		117,100.19	\$396,964 51

LEASING OF STATE LANDS

From August 1, 1918 to August 1, 1920, state lands have been leased by the State of California, as follows:

	Acres
State lands leased pursuant to the provisions of chapter 612, Statutes of California, 1911.....	442.32
State lands leased pursuant to the provisions of chapter 493, Statutes of California, 1917.....	55,501.18
Total.....	55,943.50

APPLICATIONS TO PURCHASE STATE LANDS

From August 1, 1918 to August 1, 1920, applications to purchase state lands have been received and filed as follows:

School lands, lake lands, and swamp and overflowed lands.	Number of applications	Acres
Imperial.....	16	1,677.22
Independence.....	16	2,350.62
Lake lands.....	2	167.40
Los Angeles.....	15	1,740.45
Sacramento.....	26	3,579.34
San Francisco.....	22	3,509.80
Swamp and overflowed lands.....	37	5,751.05
Susanville.....	30	3,350.54
Visalia.....	10	826.96
Totals.....	174	22,953.38

SALE OF SCHOOL LANDS SUITABLE FOR CULTIVATION.

Under the provisions of Chapter 395, Statutes of California, 1915, proposed by this office, 707.79 acres of school land suitable for cultivation have been sold from August 1, 1918 to August 1, 1920, to five actual settlers, at prices fixed by the State Board of Control and the Surveyor General, ranging from \$3 to \$8 per acre, as compared with the price of \$1.25 per acre received for the great majority of the school lands sold to speculators under the early methods of selling school lands.

CERTIFICATES OF PURCHASE ISSUED

(From August 1, 1918, to August 1, 1920)

Grant	Number of certificates	Acres
Sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections and lieu lands.....	814	122,645.58
Swamp and overflowed lands.....	24	2,478.65
Lake lands.....	1	160.00
Totals.....	839	125,284.23

LANDS LISTED TO THE STATE

From August 1, 1918, to August 1, 1920, lands were listed to the State of California by the United States, as follows:

Grant	Acres
Indemnity (lieu) lands.....	79,247.87
Swamp lands.....	12,894.37
Total.....	92,142.24

PATENTS ISSUED

(From August 1, 1918, to August 1, 1920)

Grant	Number of patents	Acres
Sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections and lieu lands.....	746	137,517.71
Swamp and overflowed lands.....	24	3,648.76
Lake lands.....	1	160.00
Totals.....	771	141,326.47

LICENSED LAND SURVEYORS.

Licenses issued from August 1, 1918, to August 1, 1920.....

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UNSOLD SCHOOL LANDS.

The total acreage of unsold school land on August 1, 1920, amounted to approximately 736,057.46 acres.

Lands suitable for cultivation, which are very limited in area, are sold to actual settlers at prices fixed by the State Board of Control and the Surveyor General.

Lands unsuitable for cultivation are sold at public auction to the highest bidder, under the provisions of Chapter 207, Statutes of California, 1919, and the prices received at said public auction sales have been very gratifying. Out of fifty-eight counties in the State of California, public auction sales of school lands have been held from August 22, 1919 to August 1, 1920, in twenty-five counties, at which sales 117,099.19 acres of land have been disposed of, the highest price per acre received being \$140, whereas under former laws, state school lands were sold at flat rates of \$1.25 and \$2.50 per acre.

LAND TITLE LAW

Pursuant to the provisions of chapter 800, Statutes of California, 1917, I beg to report that the registrars of titles under "The Torrens Law" in the eleven counties of the state in which registrations of land have been made up to August 1, 1920, advised me as follows:

Humboldt County.

"The number of original registrations under the Torrens Land Act in this county up to August 1, 1920, is 55. The total number of all registrations, including the new ones by reason of transfers, is 105."

Imperial County.

"Up to August 1, 1920, I had issued 158 certificates of title under the Torrens Land System."

Kern County.

"Thirteen certificates of title issued."

Orange County.

"There have been 670 parcels placed under the Torrens system and I have issued 1067 certificates."

Los Angeles.

"Up to August 1, 1920, this office had written 10,597 Torrens certificates of title. During the fiscal year of 1919-1920, there were 1419 original registrations. The number of instruments filed and entered by this office during the same period was greater than all of the preceding period since the Land Registration Act was put in operation."

Riverside County.

"There have been 64 certificates issued from this office up to August 1, 1920."

San Bernardino County.

"The total number of certificates issued up to August was 500. There have been cancellations by transfer, court orders, etc., during that time, amounting to 136, leaving 364 live certificates."

San Diego County.

"The number of parcels of land registered in San Diego County up to August 1, 1920, is 993. The number of certificates issued up to August 1, 1920, is 1187."

San Francisco County.

"During the life of this act but five decrees have been filed in my department."

Santa Cruz County.

“In regard to the number of land registrations made in our county under the Torrens Act, up to August 1, 1920, we wish to say that there has been only one.”

Tulare County.

“I have issued sixteen certificates of title under the Torrens system.”

The Torrens act provides that upon the original registration of any land, a sum equal to one-tenth of one per cent of the assessed value of the land, including permanent improvements thereon as the same were valued for county taxation the last time said land and permanent improvements of either thereof were assessed for county taxes next preceding the filing of the petition, shall be collected by the registrar and paid to the State Treasurer to be credited to the “Torrens Title Assurance Fund.” The books of the State Treasurer show that on August 1, 1920, the “Torrens Title Assurance Fund” contained \$16,528.38

Respectfully submitted.

W. S. KINGSBURY,
Surveyor General.