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LAKE COUNTY

From the "New Year's Oregonian."

LAKE COUNTY BORDERS ON the state line of California, and derives its name from the numerous lakes located within its borders, where the sportsman finds his paradise. Lake is the third largest county in the state, and ranks in acreage with some of the largest New England states. Its length is 115 miles and its breadth 80 miles—a small empire in itself. The county is to a certain extent mountainous, though interspersed with numerous large and countless small valleys, prominent for their fertility. On the mountains an abundance of grass, and many thousands of head of stock graze there continuously during the summer season, putting to flight the speaker that whispers to the calmly-blower that the range is ruined and the country is going to the "demerolion low wows." Stockmen all say the fall season of 1901 put a new aspect on the situation on the range, and that it was the greatest year in many for the stockman's business. Months ago the new grass took root on the mountain, hill and desert, and cattle and sheep and horses have gone to their winter home rolling fat. The great desert surrounding Lake County and emerging inside its borders, with its expansive acreage, is looked upon by the stranger crossing it as an awful waste of God's own gifts—fit for nothing but to dampen the ardor and make gloomy the days of the traveler. But the stockmen of Lake County will tell you that the same desert, "Nature's folly," let it be called, was made purposely by Providence for the benefit of all men in his business. It is the natural winter home of the great herds of Lake County stock. There only sufficient snow falls to furnish water for stock, while all around and about on the outside of the desert snow falls so deep that stock must be kept up and fed to save them from starving, at least two months in winter.

The land is well adapted to agricultural purposes outside of the arid district, but only sufficient to supply local demands, and to furnish the mills and stockmen, has thus far been cultivated. The reason of this is because Lake County is remote from railroad transportation, and there is no profit in raising grain and shipping to the outside for flour or feed by team. However, there is every indication that one, if not two, railroads will build through Lake within a very short time. The Nevada-California Oregon Railway, which has its terminus at Madeline, 100 miles to the south, is looked for next year, and the Columbia Southern from the north is prospecting on a route through this county.

To Develop Potash Properties.

There are many new industries in contemplation, and some that have been worked only moderately will take on new life and be extended when easy transit for products is assured. There is in Lake County a natural salt mine that furnishes the crude product for all the local stockmen; near Lakeview there is a lime mine, inexhaustible, the quality of the product of which is said to be equal to any on the Pacific Coast; and in the past six months the Oregon Potash Company has located 700 claims within the county, from which it expects to realize millions of dollars. There is no doubt of the reliability and substantiality of the Oregon Potash Company, whose filings of lands surrounding Summer and Abert Lakes, in the northern part of the county, have set the public to wondering. This company, with C.

M. Sain as president, has millions of capital at its back, and, having already expended thousands of dollars, there is little doubt but that millions of capital will be spent in the development of their properties. Potash, which the lakes and land surrounding hold in immense quantities in crude state, is something new for this country. The word of the president of the Oregon Potash Company is out to the effect that his company has contracted with the Nevada-California-Oregon Railway Company to extend its line to the location of the potash claims, for the purpose of developing the same. "This railroad will build into Lake County in 1902, at least as far as Lakeview," says Mr. Sain. It is the intention of the Oregon Potash Company to establish plants that will cost probably \$1,000,000, and that at least 500, and possibly 1000, men will be employed in the works. It is also understood that when the Nevada-California-Oregon Railway is started for Lake County, in the Spring of 1902, it will be made a standard-gauge track.

Lakeview, the county seat of Lake, is situated at the head of the beautiful Goose Lake, a body of water 20 miles wide by 45 miles in length. The town owns its own water and electric systems, and has a population of 1000. It has an elegant school building with high school grade and five teachers. It has two churches, Methodist and Baptist. The business portion is all brick.

New Pine Creek, at the Oregon-California state line, to the south, and Paisley, in the heart of the great Chewaucan Valley, to the north, are two growing towns with bright prospects for future development. These towns have nearly doubled in size in the past two years. Twenty miles beyond Paisley is Summer Lake, known as the garden spot of Lake County. Here are grown all the fruits and berries known to the Pacific Coast.

Warner Valley a Fertile Spot.

Just across the ridge of low mountains to the east is to be found the great Warner Valley, one of the most fertile spots in Oregon. Here lie the lands that have been in litigation for nearly 20 years, between the "Warner Settlers" and the Warner Valley Stock Company, a corporation claiming the fertile body under the swamp part of the State of Oregon. Here the settlers built their homes, reared their families and harvested their crops for all these years, though their rights to these homes are still in jeopardy. The last decision by the Commissioner of the General Land Office was in their favor, and the case is now on appeal to the Secretary of the Interior. There are numerous new enterprises about to be launched in this section. One could not even mention casually in a limited space like this all the industries and possibilities of which Lake county can and should boast. A scouring mill for the preparation of home wools, and artesian water, and irrigation systems, are three things that will be established and found here in the near future. Here are numerous natural hot springs, scattered all over Lake county, in which eggs can be boiled hard in two minutes. Fine forests of timber, numerous saw mills, great cattle ranches, an abundance of water flowing from the mountain canyons nearly all the year round, and for sport and pleasure the finest fishing pools and camping places in the Northwest. Here can be found on the summit of a mountain, at an elevation of 8000 feet, a lake of crystal water, filled

with beautiful mountain trout, and at its edge a mineral spring, the waters of which are said to possess wonderful curative powers. At Summer Lake a river bubbles up out of the ground and courses through the valley. Bands of antelope, numbering in the hundreds, scurry over Lake's hills, and the big mule-tail deer can be found in numbers anywhere on the mountains and foot-hills.

Land Easy to Cultivate.

Lands of Lake County can be cleared for cultivation without expense, as most of the land is dark, sandy loam, covered with sagebrush, which is removed by driving a team attached to a heavy roller over it, pulling the brush up by the roots. Deseeded land can be purchased at \$2.50 to \$7 per acre. The vacant lands may be acquired under the desert, homestead of timber land laws of the United States. A United States Land Office is located at Lakeview. Considerable state land can be had in this county at \$1.25 per acre, on easy payments. Some of the finest timber in the West still remains untaken in Lake county, and the mountains near Rly, just at the western border of the county, are a mass of the best timber in the world. These timber lands will soon be taken by syndicates, and it behooves the small capitalist and speculator not to hesitate longer in filing on a claim. All kinds of fruit grow abundantly here, and berries are very prolific. Many new orchards have been planted here within the past three years, and some of them are already bearing. Persons desiring to acquire homes, either improved or otherwise, should not invest until they see this portion of the State of Oregon. One can reach Lake county coming from the East over the Central Pacific to Reno, Nev., thence by the Nevada-California-Oregon Railway to Madeline, 100 miles distant from Lakeview, thence by stage; or by the Southern Pacific Railway to Ashland, Or., or Ager, Cal.; thence by stage over a good road for 160 miles. Mail reaches Lakeview from San Francisco via the Southern route in 48 hours. There is a bank in Lakeview, and our merchants and stockmen do over \$1,000,000 worth of business annually. About 15,000 head of cattle and 75,000 head of sheep are sold in Lake county every year. Lands heretofore considered of little value are being taken up rapidly by a thrifty set of people from other states, who consider them good enough upon which to make homes. Sufficient snow falls here in winter to insure good range feed and water for stock in summer. Stockmen usually feed the poorer of their herds about 70 days in winter, but the stronger cattle are sent to the desert. Partly improved places of 80 to 320 acres can be had near Lakeview at \$4 to \$12 per acre. The Lakeview Real Estate Agency is sending out information to intending settlers.

A few of the attractions in Lake County: Cheap lands, plenty of water, cool nights in midsummer, picturesque scenery, good mail and telegraph facilities, pure, cold mountain water the year round, great lakes fed by mountain streams, beautiful fertile valleys, 35 sheep, three horses and 10 head of cattle for every one of the population, jails that are unoccupied 365 days in the year and churches filled every Sunday. No hospitals or paupers—the people are self-sustaining no day in midsummer too hot to work in the sun; no cyclones, hurricanes, blizzards or floods. What



SPEAKER DAVID B. HENDERSON.

It was a foregone conclusion, as soon as the election returns were made up in November last, that Hon. David B. Henderson, of Iowa, would be speaker of the house of representatives in the Fifty-seventh congress. Mr. Henderson, who followed Thomas B. Reed, of Maine, as speaker, was first chosen as presiding officer of the house by the Fifty-sixth congress, in December, 1896. He is considered an especially capable presiding officer.

the country lacks is population.

Portland Ought to Have the Trade.

During the past two years a noticeable spirit of thrift and enterprise has pervaded the people. Everybody is prosperous. Farmers are replacing their old homes, barns and fences with new ones. On every hand there is a general air of progressiveness and prosperity. Towns are building up rapidly. Stockmen are improving their stock by breeding to only the finest strains. Lake county has the largest herd of registered Hereford cattle in the state, owned by F. O. Bunting, of the Drews Valley Stock Farm. Two thousand fine range horses have been driven out of Lake county to market this year. No finer water powers for the big manufacturing enterprises can be found in the West than those Lake county has within its borders. The Chewaucan River, running through the town of Paisley, would furnish water power for all the mills in Oregon—instead, its waters are running to waste.

Another good enterprise just established here and now in operation is the Lake County Telephone & Telegraph System, 100 miles in length, running from Lakeview to Paisley, Summer Lake and Silver Lake. Branch lines are strung from the main line to the various stock ranches within a radius of from six to ten miles. This system was constructed by a joint stock company. There is every indication that in one year from now Lake County will have a railroad into its center.

The business men of Portland, usually alive to the interests of the metropolis, have used a short-sighted policy toward this great inland empire. San Francisco gets all the trade, all the shipping and all the money from Lake County. As residents of Oregon, the people believe that Portland should receive what goes out to enrich another state. Portland can overcome this by having the line of the Columbia Southern Railroad extended to Lake County, and that is the only way.

Claude Morris Her Brother.

Mrs. Guy Coy of the Paragon Hotel was probably the most severely shocked person in Redding at the facts divulged by the confessions of the Modoc lynchers. Her brother, Claude Morris, was implicated—in fact he, as one of the lynchers, corroborated the confession of John Hutton. Hutton was almost like a relative to Mrs. Coy, he having lived with the Morris family for years.—Redding Searchlight.

COBB IS IN A TIGHT BOX

Former Lakeview Man Makes Goo Goo Eyes at a Dashing Widow and Swindles Her.

There are few people in Lakeview, as well as in Surprise Valley, who do not know D. L. Cobb, a barber and musician. While here less than a year ago Mr. Cobb worked at Devine's tonorial parlor and was leader of the Lakeview brass band. He also conducted a barber shop at Cedarville. Cobb is now in limbo for embezzling several hundred dollars from a young woman in Santa Rosa, Cal. His victim is a member of one of the best families in Sonoma county, Mrs. C. J. Crewell, a fair and dashing widow. Cobb secured \$425 from her, as a preliminary to matrimony that he could not lawfully fulfill. He enlisted in the army and navy and is said to have deserted from both branches of the service. He is said to have a fondness for taking a new wife now and again, not always waiting for the formality of a divorce. When he met Mrs. Crewell she listened to his ardent tale of love and devotion. They became engaged. He wanted to go into business for himself and got money from the fair widow to purchase a barber shop in San Francisco, but he didn't buy the business. He told her he was divorced from his wife last March and could not marry her under a year.

To the public he says nothing of the wife and two children, the eldest 16, whom he left in Sebastopol, Cal. In March, 1901, his wife secured a divorce from him on the ground of desertion. Several months before the decree was issued, it is said Cobb married a girl of Benevia who is still living. He is a self-confessed deserter from the army.

He refused to pay back the money to Mrs. Crewell and seemed to think the matter a great joke. He will be tried for embezzlement, and may have to face the charges of bigamy and desertion from the army. His chances are excellent for a long term in the pen. No one in Lakeview will be surprised to hear of the exploits of D. L. Cobb. He was very much disliked while here, treated his wife shamefully and altogether acted the part of a reprobate.

Bernard & Son have many lady callers to see those New Royal Automatic drop head sewing machines. They are beautiful machines and the women are all in love with them. These machines are sold as cheaply as any other make.