

Lake County Examiner

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LAKEVIEW, LAKE COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DEC. 8, 1904.

NO. 49.

TO DEVELOP LAKE COUNTY

In response to a telegram from Judge H. L. Benson, Dr. R. E. Lee Steiner, Representative from this district started last week for Klamath Falls for the purpose of consulting with the U. S. Government engineers who were investigating the feasibility of covering the arid lands of Klamath Co., with water, regarding such legislation as the U. S. Government will ask of the State of Oregon at the next Legislative session. He was intercepted at Bonanza by a message and asked to meet the board at that place. After their consultation the Dr. who had intended going on to Klamath Falls was compelled to return to Lakeview. He reports the people around Bonanza and Klamath Co., generally, very enthusiastic over the matter and he believes the Government's work will produce a population in Klamath Co., of 25000 within the next 10 years. The Government will ask the state of Oregon to relinquish such rights as it will gain from the draining of its navigable lakes by the government which would include such as Lower Klamath and Tule Lakes. It is claimed that the bottoms of these lakes can be made into the finest farms in the world and Klamath Co., would be transformed into the wealthiest county of Oregon in a brief time. Dr. Steiner said that neither F. H. Newell Chief Engineer or J. B. Lippencott Supervising Engineer of the U. S. Geological survey knew of the possibilities of conserving the waters of Drews Creek, Cottonwood or Dog Lake which could so easily irrigate those Lake valley and Mr. Lippencott stated he would personally come to Lake County next season and investigate the merits of these schemes. They think very favorably of the Paisley proposition. Dr. Steiner states that every man in Lake County should lend his support to Klamath County in this matter, in return for which the Klamath people will no doubt do all they can to assist Lake County when it comes our turn. Judge Benson is very earnest in his work for irrigation in Klamath and Lake Counties and is doing all he can to get the people united in their efforts.

Now that the government has shown a disposition to aid in the development of Lake county, our people should join hands, form an association to prepare for the government's agents, and work with them. A Development League is what the county needs.

Following is what the government people had to say to the Klamath people:

Chief Engineer F. H. Newell, of the United States Reclamation Service, J. B. Lippencott, Supervising Engineer of the same service, Morris Blen, legal advisor, and T. H. Means, soil expert, visited Klamath Falls last week to look over the Klamath project, investigate its feasibility and ascertain the desires of our landowners in regard to Government irrigation.

Mr. Newell, being called on for remarks pertaining to Government irrigation, arose and said in part:

"In carrying out a Government irrigation project here the large land owners can greatly facilitate matters by subdividing and selling their holdings.

"The law is intended to bring about a dense settlement and thorough cultivation of lands that support a family.

"The fact that you will have a large population, that you will have ample feed for cattle, means the doubling and trebling of land values in city and country.

"From what I have heard of your project here it seems very feasible, and when we are in a position to bring the facts before the Secretary of the Interior it will be done.

"Mr. Means, who comes with us, is an expert on soils and alkali, and it will be necessary for him to go over the situation very carefully. We know that in certain valleys ruin has resulted from irrigation without suitable drainage.

"There are an infinitude of legal problems. We have brought Mr. Morris Blen, our legal advisor, with us, to get the facts in the case. All these matters must be known so that they can be passed on by the Secretary of the Interior.

"To you gentlemen, who know all these things, it may seem superfluous to go into such detail, but we are trustees and that trust must be so conducted that Congress will know we are giving it the very best treatment that can be given.

"When the Government takes hold of a project it is probable it will never let go until every available acre has been developed to its utmost extent.

"In this project we have a great many conditions which we do not have elsewhere. We may have to have some legislation. Among other things we will ask that the code of water rights be amended so that we may get decisions on them, and we will ask that you gentlemen do all you can to push forward improved water laws in this state.

"The whole thing is simply this: Assuming the project to be feasible we have all got to work together systematically to store all the water that can be stored and utilize every acre of land that can be utilized in this fertile country."

After Mr. Newell had finished his remarks Judge Benson was called on by the chairman and said in part:

"All of our citizens who are interested in this project should co-operate very heartily with the Government engineers and let them know as speedily as possible that they want the project to go through."

Mr. Blen, the legal advisor of the Reclamation Service, in answer to questions asked him by some of the gentlemen present, said: "When a man has more than 160 acres of land which he desires to have irrigated by the Government, the Secretary of the Interior has decided that there would be no objection to the disposition of the land to a member of his family, provided the transfer be in good faith.

"When a Water-User's Association has been organized, and has obtained the signatures of the land owners under the project, the Government will then be ready to begin construction.

"The Association enters into a contract with the Secretary of the Interior. The latter agrees to construct the project and furnish the water to the people and also recognizes the Association as a representative of the various land owners. He also agrees not to furnish water to a person not a member of the Association. The only obligation assumed by the Association is that it will pay the cost of construction. For each year there will be an assessment covering the cost of construction. Each year that attaches to the land for the amount due that year, and until it is paid the Association will have the right to sell a man's land for the cost.

"The Secretary of the Interior can acquire by purchase or condemnation any property or lands that are necessary to the construction of the project.

The payments shall be made on the first of December in the year that water is furnished in April. If the water is furnished after April then the payment need not be made until the first of December of the following year.

"The entire charge of the maintenance would not come on the

water user until he had completed his payments.

"The Secretary of the Interior has given it as his opinion that private parties had not a right to take water from a navigable body of water."

F. H. Naftzger, ex-president of a Southern California Fruit growers' association, after relating some instances to which he was familiar in connection with irrigation projects carried out in his section, and telling what water cost them—in some cases as high as \$100 per acre for the first year and \$2.25 for the use of the water thereafter—concluded as follows:

Here you have presented to you a proposition where your father will inaugurate the system. It is like getting money from home. I cannot imagine how people can have any two opinions on the subject. Government irrigation is far better than a perpetual rental at any figure.

Nearly 100 Years Old.

J. B. Blair of Lakeview, an old resident of this county expects to start to Penelton in a few days on a visit with his father, C. P. Blair. Our readers will remember an item published in the Examiner a couple of weeks ago clipped from an exchange, stating that C. P. Blair of Pendleton Oregon was 99 years old and still strong and hearty, not only strong physically but strong mentally. At the time we printed the item, we were not aware that the man referred to was the father of our townsman J. B. Blair, but was attracted by the exceptionality of the case.

John Blair informed us that the old gentleman was his father and that he would, on January 1, 1905, be 100 years old. Think of it, and yet he walks about, converses with people, laughs and enjoys life as well as many younger men. C. P. Blair was born in North Carolina on Jan. 1, 1805, of Scotch parents, the same year that Lewis and Clark discovered the Oregon country, and next year the whole nation is to celebrate that important event with a world's fair at Portland. Mr. Blair ought to be at Portland next year and celebrate his centennial. From North Carolina Mr. Blair moved to Kentucky from Kentucky to Illinois, from Illinois to Iowa, and from there to Oregon. He fought in the Black Hawk war of 1832, and crossing the plains in the year 1853 with an oxteam and was all summer making the trip to Oregon. No man nowadays can realize what an undertaking that was. No man now ever ventures an undertaking so strenuous and one requiring such a hoard of vitality and will power.

Upon arriving in Oregon he settled in Benton county, and when the Indian war broke out, the blood of his father, who fought through the Revolutionary war, came to the surface, and he went with the Indian fighters to protect the few lives in Oregon. He fought through the Rogue River Indian war under Col. Kelsay, Uncle of J. S. Kelsay, of Paisley, Lake county.

Mr. Blair braved many a hardship during the two Indian wars, and came out whole. He settled down in Benton county again, where he remained until 10 years ago when he went to live with a son, T. J. Blair a Pendleton business man. Mr. Blair's wife died 35 years ago. J. B. Blair has not seen his father for 2 years. He has a picture of the family reunion composed of four generations.

Mr. Blair was an engineer in early life. While sitting watching a train go by the door at his son's home in Pendleton two years ago when J. E.

Blair was there on a visit, the old gentleman's memory reverted back four score and ten, and in coming over his life again, paused at the first locomotive. He turned and said, "John, if you was to see the first one of those things that I ever saw, you would not know what to call it."

Mr. Blair was well acquainted with some of the old frontiersmen that we read about, such as David Crockett, Daniel Boone, and others. He was born six years after George Washington died; while Thomas Jefferson, the third President was in the executive office; He could have voted for J. Q. Adams for President.

He is an old man, and may be live to be older.

Neilon is a Free Man.

J. W. Maxwell received a telegram last Thursday from A. J. Neilon, dated Salem, Dec. 1st, in which Mr. Neilon stated that himself and wife would start for Portland that day.

A. J. Neilon was pardoned out of the state penitentiary on Wednesday, November 30th. A largely signed petition went from Lake county to the Governor asking that Mr. Neilon be released, and was honored by the state executive.

The following was clipped from the Salem Statesman:

In company with one of the most

faithful and affectionate wives a man ever possessed, ex-Sheriff A. J. Neilon erstwhile convict, left for home on the afternoon train yesterday, after having changed his prison suit of stripes for the more sombre one of the civilian.

The history of Neilon's crime is well known, and few who are not rejoicing at his freedom again.

The petition which Governor Chamberlain acted on was the strongest ever presented to the Governor of Oregon. It contained the signatures of 539 voters, while the official count at the last election shows that there were cast only 539 votes. Mrs. Neilon comes of one of the best families in the county, and it was her indomitable perseverance which accomplished the desired result. Besides the petition, there were many letters from the most prominent men in the county, and not one to whom the Governor communicated was opposed to the pardon being issued.

Just before we went to press last evening word came in that J. N. Watson and Mrs. C. A. Knox were to be married at the home of Mrs. Knox's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bernard. None but a few relatives were invited. The friends of these popular people have been looking for this event to take place for some time, but they have kept the date a secret till The Examiner heard of it.

The Sixth Annual Report of the BANK OF LAKEVIEW of Lakeview, Oregon.

At the close of business November 30th, 1904:

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Loans & Discounts	\$187,705.80	Capital Stock paid up	\$ 90,000.00
Warrants & Bonds	16,434.69	Surplus Net	59,089.60
Real Estate	13,028.31	Deposits	144,675.48
Cash and in Banks	76,596.28		
	\$293,765.08		\$293,765.08

State of Oregon }
County of Lake }
I, F. M. Miller Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
F. M. MILLER, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 30th day of November, 1904.
W. J. MOORE
Notary Public for Oregon

Attest
B. Daly }
W. P. Heryford } Directors
Wm. Harvey }

A Few Facts About The Bank of Lakeview.

It has a Capital Stock, fully paid, of \$90,000.00, which is the largest paid up Capital Stock of any Bank in Oregon south of Salem.

Its Net Surplus of \$59,089.60, is more than the entire paid up Capital Stock of any other Bank in southern Oregon.

Its entire earnings are passed into a Surplus Fund which added to its paid up Capital Stock amounts, on this date, to the sum of \$140,089.60. This amount, which is the Bank's own money, places it among the strongest and most substantial of the larger Banking Institutions of the State.

It has never lost a dollar, during its entire history, by bad loans or otherwise.

It has never foreclosed a mortgage or begun a suit for the collection of any of its own loans or accounts.

It has never received or loaned any money for outside money speculators, therefore, its customers are protected from the forced payment of all such loans.

It is owned, controlled and managed, by successful business men who have long resided in Lake County and who individually and collectively own large and valuable property interests in the County.

With all of these advantages the Bank of Lakeview is now better prepared than ever to extend to its customers and patrons every accommodation that is consistent with a conservative and legitimate Banking business.