

Lake County Examiner

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DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE MEETS

Adopts By-laws, Appoints Working Committees and Designates Next Friday Night for Next Meeting.

At the Development League meeting last Saturday night there was not such a large crowd, but what was lacking in numbers was made up in enthusiasm. The meeting was called to order by vice-president V. L. Snelling, in the absence of President Steiner, who was under the weather and did not feel like attending. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and the meeting soon took up the business prescribed for it at the previous meeting, that of receiving the report of the committee on constitution and by-laws. Chairman Boone of the committee presented the committee report and the by-laws were read by the secretary. The by-laws were adopted with few slight changes, and it is believed that the organization now has a solid foundation.

The following working committees were appointed:

EXECUTIVE

B. Daly, W. H. Shirk, Harry Bally, A. Bieher, V. L. Snelling, E. C. Ahlstrom, John Morris, Plush, L. Ainsworth, Paisley, H. M. Fleming, Pine Creek.

RECEPTION

F. P. Light, W. A. Misingill, E. F. Cheney.

FINANCE

F. M. Miller, C. V. Snider, Lee Deall, J. M. Batchelder, Geo. Whorton.

The president arose and made a few appropriate remarks and expressed his regret that a larger at-

tendance could not have been had, and explained that Saturday evening was a bad one for holding such a meeting, and suggested that Friday night would be a better time. It was then moved that the League adjourn until next Friday evening March 24, at 8 o'clock.

At the next meeting it is to be hoped all of each committee will be present and have their duties assigned to them. The personnel of the different committees were carefully selected and are all men of ability and especially useful in the capacity assigned them.

It is also hoped that a large attendance will be had from all parts of the county, as it is expected that a line of procedure will be discussed and decided upon, so that work can be begun without delay. The League wants the cooperation of the entire county. United effort is what will accomplish the purpose set out for. It is believed, and The Examiner has, ever since we commenced urging the organization of this Development League, nearly a year ago, laid stress on the fact, that irrigation should be the first subject to take up. We have said and still believe that one thing at a time; do that one thing right and then proceed to another. However, we have a League now, headed by a force of earnest workers as its officers, and an army of heavy weights with their shoulders to the wheel, and there is no chance for a failure.

is no doubt but it will be a perfect success. Truly Lakeview can be ever boastful of its people, for a more generous and broad minded set cannot be found. They are ever willing to help a good cause, and with persistence, urge the establishment of every worthy enterprise.

Taxes Rolling In.

Last week The Examiner stated that Lake county was out of debt and \$2,500 surplus in the county treasury. This statement was gladly noted by every taxpayer in the county and they all hailed with delight the day the last outstanding obligation was called in for payment. For seventeen years Lake county has not seen its warrants all in. For seventeen years our taxpayers have been striving to free themselves of the binding obligations of outstanding, interest-bearing county warrants. The day has come and too much cannot be said of the various county officials who have been laboring for this end.

Last week we boasted of a \$2,500 surplus in the treasury; this week we boast of a much larger sum; since our last issue County Treasurer F. O. Ahlstrom has received from the tax collector and the state for the various funds, sums sufficient to swell the General fund to 14,000.00, after all warrants have been paid; the School Fund to \$7900.00, and the Road Fund to \$4800.00, after all obligations, outstanding are paid. Our state taxes, the first half of which are not due till June 1st, amount to a little over \$11,000. There is yet several thousand dollars to come in from taxes. Cannot we justly boast?

WILL DRAINAGE INJURE FARMS?

Mr. Thompson, editor of the Alturas Plaindealer, in last week's issue of his paper, suggests a line of work that, while might be accomplished by a newspaper, if proper facts can be obtained, but is more the work for our Development League. We republish Mr. Thompson's article which is as follows:

"The press of Lakeview is taking a commendable stand in favor of developing the resources of the county. A Development League has been formed and steps taken to advertise the resources and to induce immigration. The first thing they should do is combat the unreasoning prejudice against the lowering or draining of Goose Lake. It is said that nothing will be done contrary to the wish of the settlers of the Valley. The press should show to the people that it is to the interest of everyone to make new homes where now is a dreary waste of waters. Men now living have seen the bed of the lake covered with waving meadows of wild grass. There was practically no Goose Lake then, but a smiling valley that would furnish homes for hundreds of families. To return to that condition it is only necessary to drain, or partially drain, the present lake bed. The increase of population would build up the towns, a new impulse would be given to farming and stock raising and making it worth while to build railroads. It would mean progress, not stagnation."

Now then, will it injure the farms along the margin of Goose Lake to drain or partially drain the Lake? In what way will it damage them? Mr. Thompson calls it an "unreasonable objection." We have heard the objection made, but do not know exactly upon what foundation the objection is based. We presume though, that those who look with disfavor upon the draining of the lake, do so with a spirit of honesty, and not from any selfish motive. Now if there are facts that can be had, and The Examiner can get them, proving beyond a reasonable doubt that the proposed draining of Goose Lake will not injure the farms along its borders, and if facts can be had to show that these farms can be benefited and the bed of the lake made into equally as good farms, then this paper is ready to pitch into the undertaking with as much zeal as it has to secure the organization of the Lake County Development League.

It appears on the face of the proposition that little or no permanent injury would result to these farms, but if the subject was gone into scientifically, there might be an objectionable feature that does not appear on the face. In the first place if the lake is to be drained, it must be lowered to a given permanent point, and not allowed to fill up again and cover the farms that might be made on the bed of the lake by draining.

It has been demonstrated that large bodies of water causes frost, and that gardens in close proximity to lakes are subject to frosts throughout the season. In Surprise valley this has been proven. At a time when the lake there was full of water the ranchers along the margin of the lake could scarcely raise any of the tender plants, while on the higher land, near the foothills,

all kinds of garden stuff was grown. In recent years the lake dried up, and now gardens are as successfully grown on the lake as anywhere in the valley. This we have from good authority.

The question of the presence of water causing frost and preventing it has been variably discussed.

In an effort to disestablish the theory of the presence of water creating frost, disbelievers demonstrate their argument with the fact that to thoroughly saturate the soil, in which tender plants are growing, with water in the evening, the plants will not be damaged by a considerable frost. This is a fact, but nevertheless, it is no argument against the removal of large bodies of water for the purpose of dispelling frost.

There seems to be phenomenal atmospheric conditions which cause frost to act differently upon vegetation, or in other words, two kinds of frost, this is admitted. In one instance water may safely be put on a garden in the morning after a frost, while in another case such an act would cause the plants to turn black and die when the sun comes out.

We would suggest that farmers make some experiments along these lines and get results which will be convincing in themselves, rather than for The Examiner to undertake to argue them into our way of thinking.

If frosts can be eliminated by removing the large body of water, then there is one point gained. We do not pretend to say that the argument in favor of draining the lake is complete with the above, but if this one point can be gained, then we might take up another point and discuss it, and we will always allow the farmer space in our columns to present his views.

Died Enroute to Lakeview.

W. P. Overton, aged about 24 years, a resident of Plush, Oregon, died last Friday while enroute to Lakeview.

Mr. Overton had been sick for several days, but the serious nature of his illness was not realized and it was late Wednesday evening before a doctor was summoned. Will George made the trip to town and Dr. Hall responded to the call, arriving in Plush early Thursday morning. The physician found that Mr. Overton had a completely strangulated bowel, of the most fatal type, recovery from which being one of the rarest occurrences in medicine.

The unfortunate man had a meagre show by operative measures, if Lakeview could be reached, where he could have the closest attention subsequent to operation. Mr. Overton was a powerful young man, and it was thought his vitality would justify taking this one chance for life. A plain statement of the facts was made to Mr. Overton and the family, and he bravely accepted the alternative, fully realizing the hardships and danger of the long ride.

A good bed was arranged in an easy riding vehicle and the patient made as comfortable as possible.

Dr. Hall then returned and made preparations for an immediate operation, but all efforts to give the young man the one slender chance for his life came to naught. He succumbed while enroute, near the Drake Camp, about half way.

Plum Overton was the son of Mrs. J. N. Givan, and brother of Mrs. J. A. Morris. He leaves a wife and two children.

Mr. Overton had a \$1,000 policy with the Equitable Life. He was also a member of the order of Pioneers of the Pacific.

The Examiner joins a score of friends in extending heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved relatives.

LANDS ARE SURE OF SETTLEMENT

The local land office officials here and every real estate agent in Lakeview are receiving dozens of letters every week from parties inquiring about the release of the forest lands in this land district. We are sending out hundreds of copies of The Examiner containing the released lands to these parties, and it is believed that a rush will be made for all the lands, made vacant by this order of the department, after the 23d day of May, when the lands will be subject to entry. Owing to a recent bill that passed Congress and signed by the President, no scrip can be placed on any of these lands, and it will be taken by actual bona fide settlers. The repeal of the lieu land law, which has been the foundation of the famous land frauds in the public land states, will make it almost impossible for hoodlums and grafters to work their fraudulent schemes to beat the government out of its lands, and permit of a more equitable process of locating lands.

There is about 175,000 acres of land released within a radius of 30 miles of Lakeview, mostly covered with valuable timber and some good agricultural lands, to be open for settlement on and after May 23d under the timber and stone act and the homestead law. This does not include all the lands released, as there is a large body of land in the northern part of the county, that will be opened at the same time. There is every reason to believe this land will not lie vacant any length of time, as it is known that there is not another body of merchantable timber between it and the eastern boundary of the state. With the prospects of irrigation by the government of our arid lands, which is certain to bring railroads, these lands will be considered first of any in the western states as valuable acquisition.

It is not idle prattle when we say that for Lake county people to get ahead of the hundreds of non-residents who are now looking to Lake county for lands, both timber and agricultural, it will be necessary for them to secure their timber at the earliest possible moment when these lands are released. It may be said that most of the valuable timber was taken before the reserve was created. Some of it was, but there yet remains hundreds of quarter sections that is just as good as any taken at that time; and there is not a quarter section of land in Lake county that has even a small proportion of timber on it that is not worth many times what it costs, \$2.50 per acre.

Lakeview Boy a Millionaire.

The San Francisco Sunday Examiner of March 5 in a write-up of the Tonopah mining men, gives George Wingfield, a former Lakeview boy quite a send off. It states that owing to Mr. Wingfield's wide acquaintance with mining men and mines, and his ability to estimate values, he has, in the past three years, amassed a fortune of over \$1,000,000.

Geo. Wingfield is known here by nearly everybody. He is a brother of our townsman and merchant, M. Wingfield, of the firm of Reynolds & Wingfield, also of Mrs. C. E. Campbell of Paisley. It is with pleasure Lake county people read such accounts of Lake county raised boys.

The Reading Room.

The regular meeting of the trustees of the Lakeview Reading Room and Library Association was held at the Court House Monday evening. Reports of committees were submitted and it was shown that the work of completing arrangements and furnishing the reading room—to be opened at an early date—was progressing rapidly. The room has undergone a thorough renovation, and all were anxious to add something in the way of adornment. We want it to have a cheerful, homelike appearance, and everyone, especially the ladies of Lakeview, should interest themselves and visit the room and try to place within it some article to enhance the appearance.

The way people have responded to their movement is sufficient proof that everyone is interested. Last week we merely made mention of wanting a stove, and Mr. E. M. Miller has come forward and kindly donated one for use for the present. Such generous impulses are what will make our Reading Room and Library a success. Mr. E. Pagnello, representative of Sanborn Lake & Co., has kindly donated an ink stand. Now we need something else, which surely will come for the asking. Won't some one bring a load of wood and donate it to the Reading Room? And if any one has an extra chair; we have some, but we can make use of a few more. Many have signified their willingness to donate books; Mrs. Rinehart, President of the association, will receive all such donations.

The program for the entertainment to be given in April is arranged, and there