

# Lake County Examiner

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## ROAD LAND HAS CHANGED HANDS

### Colonists to Develop Portion of Lake County.

## LARGE LAND DEAL COMPLETED.

### Strip of Land Runs Past Lakeview Richest Part Lies in Goose Lake Valley.

Readers of The Examiner will remember three weeks ago this paper, in mentioning the visit in Lakeview of Mr. J. C. McElroy and H. S. Hunter, stated that the object of their visit was of great importance, details of which were not at liberty to make public at that time, but had the promise of authority to publish the deal as Mr. McElroy outlined it to us. Accordingly, on the 14th of August a deal was made in Portland between the W. B. S. Trimble Co. of Jamestown, N. D. and the Booth-Kelley Lumber Co. of Eugene, this state, whereby the entire strip of land known through this country as the Road land, from the East boundary of the Cascade Forest reserve to the East boundary of the state, about 500,000 acres of land became the property of the former company for the purchase price of \$700,000. The gentleman who promised us the news fulfilled his promise, but as the deal was made on the 14th, the letter did not reach us in time for our issue of the 16th, consequently we were compelled to wait till this week to complete our promise to our readers made a few weeks ago.

Following is the detailed account of the deal:  
The principal purchasers are the Hunter Land Company, of Minneapolis, Minn., and Richard Sykes, a capitalist of Santa Barbara, Cal. Associated with them are the W. B. S. Trimble Company, of Jamestown, N. D., and Andrew E. Johnson, vice-president of the Hunter Land Company and president of the A. E. Johnson Land & Steamship Company.

The strip of land is known on the Oregon map as the Oregon Central Military Road grant, made in July 1864, and over which there was much litigation up to a few years ago. Four years ago, or thereabouts, the entire tract of land from Eugene to the eastern boundary of Oregon passed into the hands of the Booth-Kelley Lumber Company of Eugene, which company retains that portion lying thru the Cascade forest reserve and upon which the greater portion of the timber stands, and that part which lies inside the Klamath Reservation.

It has a width of 12 miles throughout, and is approximately 325 miles in length. There is a strip of about 25 miles between the Klamath reservation and the Cascade Range forest reservation; 60 miles between Klamath and Lakeview, and 240 miles east of Lakeview.

The Portland Oregonian has the following concerning the deal:  
"The purchase of this gigantic tract of the Oregon domain is the initiative step in an extensive colonization project. Realizing the richness and future possibilities of the Oregon country, the capitalists have assumed the holdings with the idea of settling the lands. Their idea, as outlined by Mr. H. A. Hunter who, with Richard Sykes, has been instrumental in closing the deal, is to bring in homeseekers and permanently develop the country. The first step in this procedure is to be taken up immediately, but it is not expected that any considerable portion of the land will be colonized until the different railroad companies who are now heading into Central Oregon shall have extended their lines and tapped the region in which this land lies.

Before bringing the deal to a climax Mr. Hunter spent several weeks examining the land. He was accompanied by J. C. McElroy, an examiner in the employ of the Hunter Land Company. Together they went over the entire route, making a thorough investigation. Their report was favorable. Mr. Sykes immediately came to Portland, and he has been registered at the Hotel Portland for the past two weeks. A week ago Mr. Hunter joined him, and since that time the two have been almost constantly in con-

ference with R. A. Booth, of the Booth-Kelley Company. Numerous details have to be attended to in bringing about a transaction of so great a magnitude, but yesterday the last steps were taken. Contracts were signed, payments made and a title to the strip transferred.

So great is the length of the strip sold that the land is of varying character. The richest section is that lying in the Goose Lake district. This is very fertile, being productive of many varieties of fruits, hay and other agricultural products. This land was estimated especially high by Mr. Hunter in making recommendations to his associates, and during his trip over the route he took dozens of pictures of rich farm scenes, the views having no small influence on his associates who had not personally inspected the land.

The land, both east and west of the Goose Lake Valley, is for the most part suitable for grazing purposes, although portions are now covered only with sagebrush.

Irrigation is expected to work wonders in certain parts of the land that has been bought. In the Goose Lake Valley country, especially, several irrigation schemes are now projected. Mr. Hunter and his associates have also acquired title to the lands included in these projects and will themselves develop the projects for the enrichment of their holdings. The new owners also intend at a subsequent date to develop irrigation schemes on other portions of their new holdings.

Among the railroads which it is expected will tap the now largely undeveloped land is the line of the Southern Pacific which is now being extended from Weed into the Klamath country. This line will run some distance on the old road grant and is counted upon as a great aid to colonization. It was at the request of several Harriman officials, asserts Mr. Hunter, that he originally became interested in the land. The railroad company was anxious for the land to be developed and asked him to come in and lend impetus to a colonization movement.

Another and more easterly portion of the strip will be reached by the line which is coming in from the southeast and is commonly believed to be controlled by the Gould interests. This line, which is a narrow-gauge, but may be changed to standard, was formerly owned by Moran Bros., but is now recognized as the property of the Western Pacific. It extends from Reno, Nev., and will no doubt penetrate the exact region in which the tract lies. With the advent of these lines, the purchasers of the military road strip believe that their colonization project can be developed very rapidly.

Mr. Hunter and Mr. Sykes, after culminating the deal yesterday, left on the night train for Seattle.

"We are very well satisfied with our purchase," said Mr. Hunter. "We believe that there are great possibilities ahead for the country in which we now have so large a holding. We intend to put forth every effort for the development of this section, and we know that, with the fine climate and the natural richness of the soil, our efforts must meet with success."

There are about 200,000 acres of our purchase which will be available for agricultural purposes, according to the conclusions we have reached from extensive investigations. Nearly all of the remaining acreage is suitable for grazing and stockraising. There is very little timber upon the part of the strip which we have bought, and our object has not been to acquire timber land."

The Hunter Land Company is understood to be one of the largest concerns operating in acreage tracts in the United States.

### Mining Strike Widely Known.

Mr. S. A. Knasen representing the Polk Washington and Oregon Directory Publishing Co., is in Lakeview this week in the interests of that firm.

He says that in all the towns and cities he has visited excitement is high over the rich gold strikes in this county and the possibilities for the country developing into a rich agricultural field. He says there seems to be more excitement in Seattle and Portland over this county than there is here. What is the matter, the people here know what they have and are keeping quiet.

Frank Roggers sold 1000 head of wether lambs to L. Adams of Eagleville at \$2.25 per head.

## MINERS RETURN ALL MAKE GOOD REPORTS.

### Report that Tonopah Mining Men Offered To Bond Mine for \$100,000.

Mr. S. V. Rehart returned from the mines last week, and although he did not locate a claim for himself, he speaks in praiseworthy terms of the prospects, and his reasons for not taking a claim were that he did not have the time to prospect, and the best claims that were in sight were all taken. Mr. Rehart believes there is a better chance for a man of some means to get in on the ground floor of some of the best claims and help to develop them.

The fact that most of the best mining claims are already taken in the Coyote Hills district, or any other new mining district, for that matter, need not be an obstacle in the way of coming to the mines. Many a man has become a millionaire from mining ventures who never located a claim in his life. They simply developed those located by some one else. They were on the ground in time to take the money out.

We are reliably informed that Dr. W. H. Patterson of Reno was the actual purchaser of the Ayres tenth interest in the Wade-Plummer mine,

for which he paid \$1000. Mr. C. E. McCleary making the purchase some weeks ago. Mr. Patterson is also interested in other Pine Creek mines.

Nothing has been heard from Dr. W. H. Patterson of Reno and Mr. Meruady of Tonopah, the mining men who went to the Coyote Hills last week. These gentlemen returned by way of Bidsell, and were very reticent as to what they thought of the prospects. We understand that Mr. Patterson offered to bond the Loftus mine for \$100,000, paying them \$10,000 down, but it is thought that Loftus Bros. will not take that figure. Some reports are to the effect that no ledge has been found, but George Ayres, the assayer, says he thinks Loftus Bros. are on the ledge now. There is one thing sure, that rock came from a very rich ledge not far distant, and even if it has not yet been discovered, some one will find it before long; the whole country will be tore up.

Several Tonopah mining men are arriving at the strike and actual development of the prospects is looked for soon.

### Warner Whisperings.

With the mining excitement last week, we had in this part of the country a heavy electric storm, accompanied by heavy rains, and cloud burst, doing a great deal of damage from Adel to Twenty Mile. At Geo. Maupin's place the cloud burst spent its force, and for a time, his house was in danger, but the water turned and hit a hay stack, cutting the center out and turning the ends around in shape of an L, the garden was ruined and all irrigating ditches filled up.

The Deputy Game Warden, J. J. Straw is in our part of the state, and we sincerely hope his visit will help to protect the finny tribe. As we have much needed his assistance in the protection of our fish, as the streams afford great sport to our citizens, what would be our outing if it was not for the finny tribe.

At Mud Creek, Camas and Deep Creek the last month family after family have been engaged the pleasure of camping on these beautiful streams.

S. F. Ahlstrom and John Venator and family are in the mountains, they became lost and wandered around until they found relief at Crane Lake, where they were put on the right track for the camp De Light at Deep Creek.

D. V. Snowgoose of Ft. Bidwell visited the mines this last week, and returned by the way of Sage Hen, he had enough samples to keep him busy for a month.

Thursday night at Plush a prize fight took place out in the Arena on Broadway if that is what you might call it, between haymakers and sheepherders. Plush is taking on a boom, it keeps John Morris from morning until evening behind the counter, his goods were soon exhausted and he phoned to his near by friends to send him a new supply by fast freight, which arrived in time for the rush.

The Misses Barry's of the City were out for a few days outing at Horse Prairie last week, while there they assisted their Uncle Bill in moving his household goods to parts unknown.

McCarthy Come Down, was moving his sheep camp this week, and behold we came upon his camp and what was he doing with Billy? we took it to be our old white mare fighting flies in the shade, and it was poor Billy Goat entangled in a rope.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Loftus' little daughter Gladys met with a painful accident Friday morning while driving horses from the pasture, the saddle turned and she fell on her head and arm, bending the left fore arm, it was found not to be broken, they straightened it and bandaged it up and it is doing nicely.

When a mining excitement will excite old cow boys, that in all their lives never saw a rush, stand hands in pockets, and wander if the end is not far off and in the race the poor old woman lost her potatoes by leaving little Billy Massingill and Assayer Ayres to deliver them.

Vandyke.

### Paisley News.

After six weeks of continuous hot weather cooler weather prevails.

Haying is progressing toward the close, nearly all smaller ranches have finished, which affords full crews for big ones.

Immediately upon receipt of news of Windy Hollow strike, C. L. Withers, W. H. Tucker and W. Y. Miller biked for the mines and secured good locations. Last Saturday L. P. Klippell, Chas Campbell and Mr. Theim started, Mr. Theim has spent some time at Tonopah and his judgment as to whether it resembles that great mining country or not, will be valuable. Others will go as soon as haying is over.

The school board is having the school house painted and otherwise thoroughly renovated for the coming school year. P. J. Brattain has greatly improved his city residence by a new coat of paint.

Mr. and Mrs. Random have returned to their farm near Paisley satisfied after spending winter in Calif. and Oregon points, that Lake Co. is good enough for them.

Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have taken possession of property they purchased of H. E. Reed and already are genuine grangers.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubble from Eugene city have been visiting the lady's brothers A. A. and B. W. Farrow.

Mr. J. N. Taylor and family who have resided here for the last ten years will soon return to the parental home in Nebraska to remain. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are the kind of settlers we need and their many friends hope the superior climate of Oregon will soon woo them back.

L. S. Ainsworth's smiling face is again seen behind the counter of the Paisley Mercantile Co.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Will Blair, a daughter.

Paisleyite.

### Letter From Arizona.

Old John, known and addressed as Lakeview John, received a letter from his son Frank John, who is attending school in Phoenix, Arizona, a short time ago, which shows that the young man is rapidly learning the ways and language of the white man. John says pretty soon, three more years, his boy come back here and get a job in some store, or school, as teacher. The letter follows:

Williams, Arizona.

Mr. Lakeview John,  
Bidwell, Calif.

Dear Old Father:  
This afternoon I will write you a short letter, in order to let you know how I am getting along here in Williams, Arizona. Well, Dear old Father, I'm getting along very nicely yet. We came here last month, June 2nd, from Phoenix, Williams is 31 miles. We are working on a railroad between Williams and Grand Canyon. Twenty Phoenix school boys are here; one and my friend Tommy Ochihio, are here

also. Forty more boys are going to be here tonight from Phoenix Indian School. We had a good time in Williams on the Fourth of July. 150 Riverside Indian boys are here too. We had a base ball game July 3rd for \$50, and we won the game; 3 to 23 was the score. The next day, July 4th, we had a ball game between Ash Fork and Indian team. We played Williams team July 3d and on the 4th we played Ash Fork team for \$100. We played 12 innings. In the 9th inning the score was 6 to 6, so they played another inning, and the score was 7 to 7. In the 12th inning the score was 10 to 8. Everybody said that was the hottest game ever played on the Williams base ball ground between Indian team and white men team. I was catcher of the Indian team. Seven Sherman school boys and me and Wilsey were the only two from Phoenix school, and we were done nicely. If we had the Phoenix Indian School ball team here we would beat them. I do not know when we will go back to Phoenix. Saturday we go to Grand Canyon, Sherman boys and Phoenix boys. I would like to know how every body are getting along out there. I have received your letter before I came here. I received it on Friday and next day came here, and you said you wanted two horses for my buggy. Well, dear old Father, I don't care, you can do that if you ask Lottie John as I promised to let her have it the buggy. How is Lottie John getting? Please tell her to write a letter to me. I hope the Indians had good time on the 4th of July. When we left Williams yesterday evening there were crowded in 8 cars all Indians, about 170 school boys, and the rest of them are outside Indians.

If you write a letter to me please write to Phoenix Indian School.  
From your boy  
Frank John.

### History of Road Land.

The Oregon Central military road grant is one of the most historic strips of land in the state. Upon July 2, 1864, it was donated from the Federal domain to the State of Oregon for the purpose of constructing a high way from Eugene across the state to the Idaho boundary. The Oregon Legislature, October 24 of the same year, transferred the land to the Oregon Central Military Road Company, in consideration of the construction of the desired road. B. J. Pengra, who was Surveyor-General of Oregon, was instrumental in obtaining the grant.

The tract was owned by the original company up to four years ago. At that time a survey of the strip was made by the Surveyor-General of the state at the request of the Booth-Kelley Lumber Company. This survey was approved early in 1903 and title to the entire tract was assumed by the California & Oregon Land Company, which is practically another name for the Booth-Kelley Company. This company has held the land intact which is sold at the present time. Title at this time is made through the Oregon Land & Livestock Company, which is simply an intermediate company, not affecting the sale in any way.—Oregonian.

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### Business College OPens Sept. 10.

Prof. Geo. F. Bigley was here Saturday and Sunday, having returned from San Francisco, where he made all the necessary arrangements for opening the Business College in Lakeview. He employed a first-class instructor while in the city, who will be here in time to open the College September 10th, which date was decided upon instead of August 27, by reason of the continued warm weather. Prof. Bigley has secured the brick building adjoining the Thornton Drug Store on the south, and will have the place remodeled and calcimined inside, partitioned off conveniently for the purpose.

In a short time, probably next week, we will publish the course of study to be taught in the Business College. Already Prof. Bigley has received a number of applications for admittance, and would be glad to hear from all those who desire to attend the College. Such parties may address him at Alturas or send to The Examiner for information, which will be supplied by him through this office until such time as the Professor can be here to attend to such matters.

Arthur Florence, formerly of the Lakeview Mercantile Co., who has been traveling for the S. & W. Co., for a year, has accepted a position with the Mercantile Co., and returned here Tuesday.

## WOOL MARKET LOOKS UPWARD.

### Manufacturers Running Low on Supplies.

## BUYERS ARE GOING BACK EAST.

### Oregon Wools the Best Seller on The Wool Markets of The East.

Of all the Western wool on the Eastern market, Oregon stock is one of the liveliest sellers, according to advices just received. Quite a few 50-lot sales have been moved at Boston at 74 and 75 cents for Eastern No. 1 staple and at 67 and 68 cents for No. 1 clothing. Other transactions of importance are reported to be on the point of consummation. In this state things are rapidly quieting down. A few small transactions have taken place this week east of the mountains at a range of 15 to 19 cents.

The season is also practically closed in other parts of the West. Montana is cleaned up with the exception of 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 pounds, the greater part of which will probably be sold before the season closes.

Most of the buyers are ready to start East. Closing sales were made at 21 and 22 cents for clips running fine to fine medium, and 23 and 24 cents for medium wools. The well-known Baird clip, for which a bid of 22½ cents was refused, has been consigned to a Boston house. It is said that the clip will run close to 1,500,000 pounds, and is of long, firm staple. Another Boston dealer picked up a 300,000 pound clip at 24 cents, while still another corralled a clip of the same size at 21 cents. Prices within the past few days have advanced 2 to 3 cents a scoured pound over those ruling some ten days ago. It is estimated that the clip of Montana is a little more than 30,000,000 pounds. The average price paid was about 20 cents. About three-quarters of the clip has been bought by Boston firms.

Reviewing the Eastern situation, the Boston Commercial Bulletin of August 11 says:

The merchants who are enjoying a more active business believe that the dullness of the past several months is over, and the market is now starting on its upward course. Those dealers who, on the contrary, are not having the activity that their brother merchants claim to be experiencing, are not at all discouraged by the lack of important business, but are waiting complacently for the tide to turn for they know full well that manufacturers will perform have to purchase supplies before long. It is quite generally admitted that the majority of the mills are daily arriving nearer to bare boards. Since last October there have been no large purchases of territory wool on this market, and foreign wool has not been bought in quantity during the past five or six months, but nevertheless the mills have been running steadily and continuously, with a resultant consumption of large quantities of wool.

### "Gold is There."

Nearly all those who went to the Coyote Hills gold mines from Lakeview have returned to town, some of them making the second trip. Every one speaks in glowing terms of the strike and are confident that a rich mining district will be developed there soon. "The gold is there," they say. Word came from there a few days ago that placer claims were being located in the Rabbit Creek hills, just a little north of the Coyote hills.

Dr. J. S. Dewey and the crowd that went with him returned Saturday. F. P. Light and Dr. E. H. Smith returned Saturday also. "Jasper" Massingill and Geo. Ayres returned Monday.

There is no talk so interesting in Lakeview now as mining talk. Preparations will soon be made for opening up the mines, and before long the world will know the value of the new rich strike, which, at present, is believed to excel anything in the gold discovery in the west since the famous discovery of '49, when gold was found in California and people rushed from all over the world to the Pacific Coast.