

# Lake County Examiner

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By Addison Bennett.

Lakeview, O., June 16.—When I came into Lakeview from the canyon on the evening of the fourteenth my first surprise was at the beauty of the location of the city, and my second at the beauty of the city itself. I was pretty well tired out from my trip, but I took the time that evening to walk practically all over the town, and I must say there is even every faint evidence of thrift and prosperity coupled with a high order of civic pride. The streets are not paved but are well macadamized, and the sidewalks in good repair, and long rows of shade trees are to be seen on almost every street.

As to the location of the town is of the valley and in the valley, yet on high ground, nestled against the foothills. This affords a slight location and at the same time gives good drainage facilities.

I was not prepared to see a city so substantially built, as most of the interior towns are of frame order. But here I find a large number of brick buildings, some of two stories and others of three stories, while the new court house is practically four stories. But I learned later that there is a blue deposit of brick clay within half a mile of town, and a brick kiln in constant operation. This is an advantage few cities possess.

As I walked along the streets I noticed many new residences going up, mostly of the cottage or bungalow style. Indeed three or four might be called mansions. Not being so many, I thought I would count those under way but not fully completed. And the number can up to 24. I think that shows pretty good evidence of a healthy growth in a city of from 10,000 to 12,000.

Surrounded by Foothills Lands.

Lakeview is in what is known as the Goose Lake valley, which extends about 20 miles to the north and down into California. The north end of Goose Lake is about six miles from the city. This lake is from six to ten miles wide by 30 miles in length, north and south, but only about ten miles of it is in Oregon.

Geographically the town is 100 miles east of Klamath Falls, 60 miles north of Alturas, California, 25 miles south of Blackrock on the Colorado river and 120 miles due east of Ashland. It is about 15 miles north of the state line.

Lake is the largest county in the state with the exception of Harney and Crater. It contains 7,433 square miles, but less 200 square miles are in the forest reserves. As the name indicates it is a county of lakes, the principal ones being Goose, Abert, Salmonier, Warner, Silver, Alkali, Juniper, Paisley and Tulea and some 25 smaller ones.

County Thirsty Population.

The population of the county is probably not far from 20,000, the census of 1900 being 22,000, and of 1880 20,000.

**DRAINING OREGON OF CASH**  
\$6,870,419 Is Taken Out of Circulation in the State

The most serious problem for Oregonians to consider is the vast sum of money which western life insurance companies drain out of Oregon year by year. The report of State Insurance Commissioner Kozlowski shows that after paying out all sums which were returned here for death claims and dividends to policy holders in the past five years, Oregon was losers by \$6,870,419 by reason of life insurance premiums paid to eastern companies. This is an enormous sum withdrawn from Oregon's circulation in the short period of five years, and next best to further enrich wealth now workers. It is claimed, and probably truthfully so, that some of the money is returned here in loans, but if so, the interest on such loans is sent west and furnishes a further drain on Oregon's finances. Oregon Life Insurance company was started here chiefly to prevent this drain from becoming larger. It is conducted by men of high caliber, and receives preference from Oregon's most capable business men. It is of vital interest to every Oregonian and it should be made a personal matter that life insurance be bought of Oregon life and Oregon money kept in Oregon to assist in the upbuilding of a greater Oregon. This is the soundest kind of boasting.

**Pavilla Company**

The Pavilla Co. gave a two night show Saturday and Sunday.

The sweet singing of Little Louise was a treat and her voice has improved much the past year. She doubtless will make a great artist. The bill was much the same as last year, and in that was rather disappointing, as the company in their specialty are really of high order of talent. Mr. Pavilla explained that as caused by the hard times in the theatrical world, which prevented study of new material which they hope to get in shape before they come again.

The announcement has just been made that Chicago has planned the largest convention hall in the country, three times larger than Madison Square Garden in New York, and four times the size of the Chicago Coliseum.

Farmers need Lake County Land.

## AN OUTSIDER'S OPINION

**The Portland Journal Correspondent, Addison Bennett, Writes of Lakeview.**

In that decade the growth was only a trifle over 9 per cent, but it is no doubt believed that this decade will show a growth of 10 per cent and bring the number up to 10,000.

I am writing these facts to the Journal not so much as news, for any student could gain most of them from text books, but for the purpose of showing that Lakeview is an important little city and the county of Lake a subdivision worthy the attention of all Oregonians. The city is the business, financial, political and social metropolis of a territory almost as large as the state of Massachusetts—four times as large as the state of Delaware. If it was populated as thick as Delaware it would contain about 10,000 people. On the other hand if Massachusetts was inhabited as sparsely as Lake county the city of Boston would have less than 200,000 residents.

Interests Belong to California.

Geographically Lake county and her metropolis are in Oregon, but in all other ways save politically this city and county and their interests belong to California. The merchants here come 20 miles to the north and down into California. The north end of Goose Lake is about six miles from the city. This lake is from six to ten miles wide by 30 miles in length, north and south, but only about ten miles of it is in Oregon.

Nevada, California & Oregon railway connects with the S. P., being only 40 miles to the south, and a fairly good road. So good, indeed, that a fairly automobile service is maintained, the machine making the round trip every day in the week and this road is being still further improved so that it will be able to accommodate a completed railway bed and it the iron and iron are not laid and the narrow gauge extended from Alturas north the flowers blossom next spring when the people of Lakeview will miss their calculations. Indeed, it would not surprise the wise ones to hear a "Railroad day" in Lake before Christmas.

What Will the Gould Do?

And what is the Gould road going to do? That is another question of

great importance to Oregon. That it will come into the town of Lake Valley seems certain—that it will also take the Warner and Klamath valleys looks reasonable. Should it do so, Oregon might as well fit Lakeview to the trade of Klamath lake and Klamath Harbor county.

There is a railroad survey from this city to Prineville, a distance of 30 miles, and Mr. Harrison, in his "cross country" of Oregon probably had to view the extension of his Deschutes road to Lakeview or to Klamath, either possibly both. But road to either place from the north would not help the other for the reason that it is practically impossible to build a road by anything less than a direct course between here and Klamath. The distance is 100 miles and the two surveys have joined forces in putting in a good wagon road as far as possible. But at the last it will be a pretty rough mountain road.

With a road from there one day, passing through Rosedale, close to Crater Lake, thence between Salmon and Silver Lakes, a road of 80 miles would annex the entire Lake county country, and Klamath could be annexed by another of thirty miles.

California Gets the Trade.

Such roads would give a permanent relief, and would save this territory to Oregon but the present system of Mr. Harrison, the activity of the N. C. O. and the probable intent of the Gould road will for all time take this entire traffic to California and Nevada.

I made mention of a new court house here, and since visiting it I found it still unfinished but occupied. It is a four story brick structure and will cost complete about \$200,000. But for the life of me I don't see how it was ever built for that sum. It is quite a model building in every way. The rooms are large and well lighted, ceiling high, brick good, steam heated, architectural plans superb and the vaults the best and most spacious of any court house in the state. Indeed, they are of sufficient size to hold the records for a generation to come. The court room is a very handsome chamber

and the judge's rooms, just rooms seasons too short, I mentioned in my last letter that the Warner valley is of the lowest altitude in southern Oregon and is given to me as 2800 feet. Lakeview is 4728 feet in the air. Hence I am inclined to doubt the accuracy of my information about the Warner country. It is lower than Lakeview, but when it comes to a difference of 2000 feet, I doubt it.

But Lake despite the altitude has lands adapted to the growing of almost everything save the more delicate varieties of fruits; and even peaches do well in many of the nooks and valleys. All sorts of garden truck does well here. In the town there is a large number of fine gardens. And roses! Well, you just ought to see some of the Lakeview gardens and yards. You would wonder how in the world such flowers could flourish at an altitude of over 4500 feet. But they do flourish and most luxuriantly.

Buf Lake is a peculiar country. It is supposed to be in the arid belt, but it has a precipitation averaging from 1900 to 1907 of 17.63 inches. Last year was the lightest ever known, but for the years given the maximum was 20.75 and the minimum 13. With that much moisture one may see what their wheat lands can do—when they can market the wheat. It is folly now to attempt to produce any of the cereals beyond the local demand.

Temperature Very Equable.

As to the temperature, in Goose Lake valley is very equable, the lowest record being 2 degrees below zero and the highest 102 above. The seasons are said to be delightful and insect pests are scarcely known. In the entire town have not seen a screen over a door or window.

When it comes to Livestock, Lake makes a good showing, as the following figures, taken from last year's assessment roll, will show: 260,000 sheep; 65,000 cattle; 250,000 horses and mules. The income last year from livestock alone was \$300 per capita. The wool clip this year will net \$600,000.

As a business and financial mart, Lakeview makes a fine showing. I mentioned about the mercantile es-

tablishments. They are of the city order, not of the country town style. They carry very large stocks and are housed in fine buildings.

Three Banks in Town.

Three are three banks here. The Bank of Lakeview is the oldest. Its total resources are \$512,059.61. The First National has resources of \$24,154.82, and the Lake County Loan & Savings bank \$60,458.42.

The following are the officers of the first named: B. Daly, president; W. H. Herford, vice-president; F. M. Miller, cashier, and G. W. Johnson, assistant. This institution has a capital and surplus of \$24,154.82.

The officers of the First National are W. H. Shirr, president, and S. O. Crossler, cashier. Its capital and surplus amount to \$73,639.63.

The Loan & Savings bank is an offshoot of the First National with the same officers, and has a capital and surplus of \$26,633.41.

Speaking again of city improvements, it may be mentioned that they have a splendid water system and a good electric light plant.

Two Good Newspapers.

There are two good newspapers here, the Examiner and the Herald. The former was purchased several months ago by Fred J. Bowman, a Minneapolis man, and he has run his circulation up from less than 1000 to 2000.

Both it and the Herald are good papers, well equipped offices. I am glad to say that both papers are doing well. The proprietor of the Examiner and I had some correspondence a year or more ago, while he was in California, relative to the newspaper business in this state, and I took the Examiner. He is a man of force, character and ability and would make his mark in any community.

The Herald is owned and edited by J. M. Batchelder, a prominent practicing attorney of this city.

Good Prospects for Roads.

Going back to the railroad question, I will state that the road from Reno has been surveyed to The Dalles, and the manager, T. F. Dunaway, has just announced that the company will soon begin work on the Columbia river end and that the work will be pushed north from Alturas, and the entire system will be made standard gauge. Mr. Dunaway says the company has the money and the work will surely be pushed to early completion. This is good news if true, and let us all hope it may be true, for such work would undoubtedly spur Mr. Harrison to early action in "crisscrossing" work of opening central Oregon.

The deposed Sultan, Abdul Hamid, is now interested in dry farming near Salonica, Turkey. The results of his experiments in that line are to be read at the Dry Farming Congress to be held at Billings, Montana, Oct. 25, this fall.

**Government Free Land Is Going Fast.**

John Partin, Jr., of Paisley, was in town Tuesday. He is one of the oldest settlers having located here 37 years ago. Mr. Partin says that the north end of the county is being filled upon rapidly under the desert and homestead acts. He states that where he has ranged stock all these years, until the last year, without a soul save here near by, now nearly if not all the land is taken, and the last of it will soon be in the hands of settlers. He says it was a stockman's paradise and will be as valuable for homes of people who have taken advantage of the last of Uncle Sam's free homes,

**PRESIDENT NELSON REPORTED DEAD**

W. F. Nelson, the president of the Oregon Trunk line, running from The Dalles to Duran, died last week in Seattle. When here last fall in the interest of his road he was the picture of health, and being less than 10 years of age, had promise of a long life before him. It is not known whether or not his death will cause any change in the plans of that road connecting up with the N. C. O. and making a throughline from Mohave to the Columbia river.

**Thousand of Home-Seekers for Lakeview**

The Pendleton East Oregonian reports that an influx of 10,000 people is expected in Lake county this summer and fall, according to State Sheep Inspector Lytle, who in company with his wife returned Saturday evening from an extended official tour to that part of Oregon. The cause of the influx of home-seekers is the opening of a large tract of land originally granted to a road company and which has not been accessible to settlement heretofore.

**Klamath Falls Has Good Schools**

Klamath Falls has again exhibited its good sense by voting \$20,000 in bonds for building another modern and up-to-date school building. This will give that young city two new primary schools besides she has a fine high school building. Lakeview is also alive to the importance of good schools, and in this regard will keep pace with our energetic and enterprising neighbor on the west.



DR. CHARLES W. ELIOT AND MRS. ELIOT.

Both President Taft and Dr. Eliot must have felt proud of the popular approval that greeted the president's announcement that he had asked the retiring head of Harvard university to accept the British ambassadorship. Men of every political party in the country hastened to endorse the president's act and express the hope that Dr. Eliot would accept. Dr. Eliot retires from the presidency of the university in May.

**WORK IN EVERY LINE BEING CROWDED BY O. V. L. CO.**

The contract for constructing the penalty for each day's delay. She canals and ditches for the Oregon will be a double screw propeller, and under the care of a licensed engineer and pilot. She will be capable of carrying 300 people, and will be fitted out with life preserving apparatus for that number of passengers. A lunch counter and a limited number of state rooms will be provided, and it is very likely that with this commodious and well appointed boat many will enjoy a ride over beautiful Goose Lake. The steamer will cost considerably over \$20,000. It is the intention of the company to dredge a channel from the site up the "Slash" so that the boat will have a landing practically in the corporate limits of Lakeview.

Conway Surveyor Faulkner is now engaged in surveying and staking the company's addition to Lakeview, and is under contract to have that work completed by September 1st. Messrs. Wray and Edmonson, in charge of the Oregon Valley crew mid on Cottonwood canyon report good progress being made in cutting timber for the dam and flumes. It will be seen from the above that the Oregon Valley Land Co. is diligently employed in the work of keeping faith with their contract holders.

**LAKEVIEW GETS A FINE SHOW**

Pleased Audience Greet the Iles Theatrical Company

The Margaret Iles Dramatic and Comedy Co. opened in the Sudder Opera House Monday night, in the stirring play of Colorado life entitled "The Girl of the Golden West." The play was well staged. Each actor is an artist, and worthy of highest commendation. Miss Iles in the leading role of "Roxy," was particularly fine in depicting the different emotions of love, paths, and hate. Her dramatic power shone wondrously well in the scene where she pleaded for the life of her outlawed lover, and many in the audience, not wholly confined to the weaker sex were moved to tears, and in her delightful comedy she was equally dexterous in exciting the merriment of laughter from her audience.

The Examiner regrets its lack of space to do this really deserving company the full mead of praise each individual deserves, but we commend them to the people of Lake county as worthy of their fullest patronage.

The play Tuesday night was "The Princess of Patches," depicting southern life. Throughout it was a superb piece of acting, and the winsome comedy of Miss Iles kept the audience convulsed in laughter. Her support was fine in every detail. The monologue of Mr. Mead, a partly on Poe's "Raven" was an exquisite piece of work.

The play put on Wednesday evening was "The Squaw Man," the scene laid in Southwestern Texas.

The plays which are to follow, will be announced from night to night, will be the tear-moving "Camilla," the musical comedy, "45 Minutes from Broadway," "Oklahoma," "A Bachelor Girl," "Struck Oil," "The Lightening Rod Agent," and "The Little Minister" in which Maude Adams scored such a signal success, and which will be worth seeing in the very capable hands of Miss Iles.

All the above plays are up-to-the-minute successes, which are winning high favor from pleased audience all over the union.

The people of Lakeview can congratulate themselves on a visit from this splendid company which is probably the best that can be seen here inasmuch as a company of its high standard could only afford to visit us during the duller summer months, while on a vacation from their regular tour of the larger towns.

Our word for it, that you will regret it if you do not see these late plays in the hands of this admirable company.