

Lakeside Land Company Played Role In Malin

By A. M. COLLIER
Secretary of the Lakeside
Land Company after 1915

The history of Malin and the Bohemian colony settlement in the southern part of Klamath County would not be complete without a story of the Lakeside Land Company, a corporation formed in 1907 by a group of six businessmen who were associated in other undertakings in Klamath Falls.

The company was incorporated August 27, 1907, with the following stockholders: Charles L. Moore, E. P. McCornack, J. Frank Adams, Alexander Martin, Alexander Martin Jr., and Rufus S. Moore. J. Frank Adams was appointed manager and Attorney D. V. Kuykendall was appointed secretary.

In the articles of incorporation they asked for and were granted rights and privileges to enter into and to pursue so many enterprises and to operate so many different kinds of businesses that the articles seem to be a unique piece of literature. Since they covered such a range from cattle raising, real estate, merchandising, operating power plants, street cars, telegraph lines and loaning money, they could not all be enumerated but the original articles are in truth a historic document.

All of the stockholders were very prominent businessmen and had much to do with the growth and the development of Klamath County in the early days.

This incorporation took place at the same time that the Klamath Irrigation District began its operation under the U.S. Reclamation Project. It was the intention of these businessmen to develop this tract of land and to establish a townsite for the mutual benefit of their purchases.

They bought at that time 6,500 acres lying along the north end of Tule Lake from a mile west of Adams Point to about a mile and a half east of the present Malin townsite. A large part of this land was still flooded by Tule Lake. The purchase price was \$90,000.

The land was platted, surveyed and laid out in what was thought would be practical units to farm by a family group. Most of the lots contained about 40 acres, a few were larger.

These lands were sold at reasonable prices averaging about \$30 an acre and buyers were given a long time to make payment.

The diversion dam diverting water from Lost River to the Klamath River was put in about 1910 and the waters of Tule Lake began receding and uncovering land that had been covered by waters from Clear Lake before the dam was built there and by break through by the Klamath River in the early days. This information came from the late E. M. Hammond, one of the first settlers in the Merrill country.

I remember several contracts for sale of these lands included the provision that no down payments had to be made on the purchase of the land until water receded and the purchaser had gotten his first crop off the land.

About two years after the company was organized, that would have been in 1909, contact was made with Bohemian representatives Frank Klazuba, Albert Krotchvil and one other who were looking for new lands in the West where they could establish a colony. The Bohemians first looked at lands near Mt. Hebron and Dorris in Siskiyou County, California but were quickly won over to the rich Tule Lake lands in Klamath County with the potential irrigation waters. The report of these three men brought other Bohemians from Chicago, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas and Washington.

In November 1909, 60 tracts were sold to 60 Bohemian families and a deed was given to the Malin Townsite Company for 160 acres in an attractive location against the foothills. Fifteen other families came later.

From this beginning these industrious settlers took over and by living simply and working hard they prospered. They have since established a flourishing, successful community with churches, schools, good roads, and the most attractive city park in Oregon with

swimming pools, playgrounds and picnic areas which have served thousands of people and where many civic and social groups of Southern Oregon have their annual meetings.

Malin is a community that has set a fine example to the rest of Oregon and has raised a high standard of integrity, pleasant living and successful economy.

DONATE PICTURES

Old pictures used in this history of Malin are through the courtesy of Bill Halousek, A. Kalina, Mrs. Marie Kalina, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Pickett, Vaclav Kalina, Mrs. Bill Halousek, Mrs. Antonia Smidl, Lulu Chase, M. M. Stastny and Mrs. Joe Lahoda.

All recent pictures are by Otto Ellis, Herald and News photographer.



YOUNG BOHEMIANS, eager to learn, attended classes in the original Malin Grammar School, built in 1911. Cost of construction was \$2,000. All 8 grades were taught in one building. This picture was taken in 1914. First school was a homestead shack at Shasta View, located on present Pos Valley Road. Other small schools with only a few students were Bryant Mountain, and Libby School, near Adams Point. Malin now has two fine, modern schools, elementary and high school, incorporated with Klamath County School District. A. Kalina, whose family still lives in Malin, donated six blocks for a high school, two blocks of land for a grade school, one for a jail and two blocks for the present Malin Presbyterian Church.



JACK RABBIT DRIVES brought out both men and women on foot and on horseback. The drives were necessary to protect crops. A bounty of five cents a pair for the ears was paid by Klamath County and the committee that collected the money bought chicken wire to use in other drives. As many as 2,000 rabbits were often killed in these roundups. Families also used the bounty money to buy sugar, flour, coats and shoes. Rabbits went into stews and were used for chicken feed. This picture was taken in 1914.

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