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KLAMATH COUNTY

WHERE IT IS
WHAT IT IS
HOW TO REACH IT

A Brief Epitome of the Great Inland Empire of the Pacific Coast—The Mecca of the Homeseeker

[By W. S. SLOUGH and J. B. MASON]

Klamath County is in Southern Oregon on the California and Oregon state line. The south part of the County is seventy-two miles from east to west, and in the middle it is one hundred miles from south to north. Population about 7000.

Klamath Falls

Klamath Falls is the county seat; it is located at the mouth of Link River on the beautiful little Lake Ewauna and near Upper Klamath Lake. It is backed by the foot hills and mountains while the lake and valley spread away in front. It has a population of about 2000. It has a new thirty thousand dollar High School building and a fine stone building for the graded schools which cost about \$20,000. It has three churches, three banks, and stores which would be a credit to almost any ordinary county seat town. It has two saw mills and two planing mills and sash and door factories.

Our city water comes from great springs of fine soft water, clear as crystal, near town. We have water works, electric lights and telephones. These are controlled by one company which has recently increased its power plant to about 500 horse power. The power comes from the Falls above town in Link River. There is also a steam laundry and flouring mill. It has one good new steam boat and some smaller craft plying on the Klamath river and Lower Klamath Lake, and also a good new steam boat and smaller craft on the Upper Klamath Lake. The elevation is 4086 feet.

The Valley
There is a beautiful valley extending for several miles to the East and Southeast and South, and other valleys equally beautiful and picturesque open out from this one through gaps in the mountains. There are five or six of these valleys, all near the same elevation, and all surrounded by mountains, most of which are heavily timbered with yellow pine, fir and cedar.

Most of the valleys are covered with sage brush. The soil of the sage brush land is a rich, sandy loam, and usually very deep. Much of it varying but very little in appearance from the surface to a depth of two to four feet.

The Lakes
Upper Klamath Lake is a beautiful body of water, about 25 to 30 miles long, with mountains reaching to the shore in many parts of it. From its lower end Link River descends in a succession of rapids about a mile and a half, falling about 65 feet in that distance, and flowing into Lake Ewauna at the lower part of town. Klamath River begins with Lake Ewauna and skirts the valley and the mountains to the south and west, leaving the valley at Keno. A channel from the river, some six or eight miles across the valley to Lower Klamath Lake, connects the two. Owing to the fact that there is so little current in the Klamath river where it crosses the valley, it is sometimes spoken of in connection with the lake, and the two called Lower Klamath Lake.

Tule Marsh Lands
The lakes are joined in places by tule marshes. These marshes have for centuries been receiving deposits of silt carried to them by the waters from the mountains, and have for perhaps centuries been producing immense crops of tules, gigantic bull rushes, which grow 6 to 12 feet high and so thick that it is almost impossible to get through them. These decaying each year have added vegetable matter to the silt. These marshes have also for ages been the habitat of innumerable water fowl, which have added vastly to the richness of the soil. This soil we believe to be as rich as there is in the world.

U. S. Reclamation and Irrigation
The United States government has undertaken to drain these marsh lands, and to irrigate them, together with the sage brush lands, the cost of which is estimated to be about \$18.00 per acre, to be paid for in ten annual payments, without interest. The tunnel and the first nine miles of the canal will be completed and water will be hardy for the crop of 1907. One person cannot get a water right for more than 100 acres. A husband and wife and each child may own 100 acres each, and each get a water right to the same, irrespective of the age of the child. Non-resident owners of land cannot get a water right. They must reside within the bounds of this system of irrigation. The water for irrigation is sure, and very abundant. The government contract does not restrict farmers as to the amount of water they may use, as there is more than all can use.

Homesteads
There are some homesteads to be had in the foot hills, but we know of none now open for entry which will come under Government Irrigation. There are several thousand acres of tule marsh land which will be open for entry when the work of reclamation reaches them, but they will probably come in by drawing similar to that of the Rosebud Agency in South Dakota. It is also probable that one person will not be allowed to enter more than 80 acres of these lands. The Irrigation Act also provides for no commutation. The settler must live on the land five years in order to get his patent. All land holders whether by homestead, private purchase or present ownership must

pay the price of reclamation and irrigation.

Climate
The summers are delightful, very few hot days, and those hot only for a few hours in the middle of the day. The autumn is fine, gradually growing a little cooler and almost imperceptibly gliding into winter. The winters have more or less snow. Some of them have sleighing snow, and some do not. The mercury seldom reaches zero, but we are told that it has been known to go 18 degrees below. The springs are somewhat late, thus making the growing season short. There is liability to damage by frost, which may occur at one time in one place and at another time in another place, but we have heard of nothing like a failure or widespread damage from the cause. To a Kansas man there seems to be very few disagreeably windy days, and very little thunder and lightning. There are no tornadoes or cyclones, and seem to be no hard storms nor extreme changes of temperature.

Crops
Wheat, oats, rye and barley yield heavy crops of the finest quality of grain, from a smaller amount of seed than we have ever seen sown anywhere else. Wheat producing 8 to 35 bushels per acre without irrigation, and 20 to 30 bushels with irrigation. Oats, 40 to 100 bushels, and barley 40 to 60 bushels under irrigation.

Grasses
Alfalfa, timothy, red clover, white clover, Kentucky Blue Grass, red top, and brome grass all grow luxuriantly. The fattening qualities of the hay made here is of a very high order. Cattle are fattened on alfalfa hay alone. Horses work on alfalfa without grain and keep in good condition. The yield of alfalfa is three to six tons per acre. Timothy two or three tons. There are also natural meadows on lands which are wet in the early part of the season, which make fine hay.

Vegetables
Vegetables do well, and the quality of all grown here is of a very high order. Potatoes are usually grown without irrigation, and the yield, while not extra large when they are grown in this way, is good, and the quality is unsurpassed. Cabbage does exceedingly well, and they are the finest in quality that the writer has ever eaten. Onions produce enormously. The test on sugar beets grown here, shows as high as 19 per cent sugar, and as high as 92 per cent purity, and this under very ordinary conditions of growing and the growth was very satisfactory to sugar beet experts.

Fruits
Fruits in favored locations do well, and the quality is unexcelled. The keeping quality of apples grown here surpasses that of any which the writer has ever known before. Blackberries, raspberries, logan berries, gooseberries and red currants produce very largely. Plums, prunes and cherries are very fine. Fine peaches are grown, but they are not sure.

Stock Raising
All classes of stock do well and are very healthy. Cattle run on the range where they have plenty of room, 7 to 9 months in the year. Many horses run on the range the whole year. Sheep are held in very large bands and are said to be very profitable, grazing about the same proportion of the year as cattle. Hogs are very healthy and very profitable. The climate and feed here seem to be particularly adapted to the production of a very fine quality of milk and butter. Cows do exceedingly well. These valleys are in our judgment, destined to become a dairy country of a very high order. Cattle are fattened on alfalfa alone.

Bees
Bees do exceedingly well. The quality of honey produced in these valleys cannot be surpassed anywhere.

Poultry
All poultry is unusually profitable and very healthy.

Water
Pure water can usually be had in the valleys very easily at a depth of from 15 to 30 feet.

Water Power
The Klamath River, after it leaves the valley, is said to fall 1800 feet in the next 12 miles. The immense water power of all these streams has been appropriated by the government for this irrigation system. The power which can be developed and transmitted all over these valleys by electricity is almost incalculable.

Roads
Roads are usually good, except in the breaking up of winter, when they get very muddy. In summer they also get very dusty.

Health
The country is claimed to be and seems to be very healthful. There is very little malaria, and it is claimed by some men who have lived here for years, that there is none, only as it is brought here by individuals. The doctors say that the summers are especially fine for small children. We have the usual fevers but there does not seem to be much of them.

Railroads
The nearest railroad station is Pokegama, Oregon, on the Klamath Lake railroad. This is 35 miles distant. There are two other railroads, viz: The Southern Pacific and the McCloud River R. R., both building this way as fast as they can, and it is expected that the Southern Pacific will reach here next summer.

Hunting and Fishing
Klamath county is indeed a great place for the sportsman. There are plenty of deer, and among other species are to be found the large Mule Tail deer, some of which are said to dress about 300 lbs. There are bear and also various kinds of small game in the woods, and in the Fall and Winter, geese and ducks are abundant. In the valleys are to be found quail, sage hens, grouse and pheasants. Our lakes and rivers have an abundance of Lake and Salmon Trout and other fish, while the smaller mountain streams have mountain Trout in abundance.

To Reach Klamath Falls
In order to reach Klamath Falls, leave the Southern Pacific R. R. at Thrall, California, and take the Klamath Lake R. R. to Pokegama, Oregon, then take the stage, 35 miles, to Klamath Falls. Or leave the Southern Pacific at Weed, California, take the new road to Grass Lake, then stage to

Lairds on Lower Klamath Lake, then take the steamer for Klamath Falls.

Prices
Flour \$2.00 per cwt. Fresh beef 8c to 15c per lb. Breakfast bacon 18c to 25c. Butter 30c. Eggs 25c to 50c. Milch cows \$35 to \$50. Farm horses, good, \$100 to \$150. Hogs, cheaper. Dry goods, clothing, hats, boots and shoes about 10 to 25 per cent higher than in the Mississippi Valley.

Prices of Land
Raw lands in the first division 3 to 12 miles from town, \$25 to \$40 per acre. Improved lands \$30 to \$100 per acre. Some of these are already irrigated, but will be under the same system of government irrigation. Tule marsh lands which will come in later, possibly not for three or four years, but as rich as there are in the world, \$15 per acre. Also sage brush land just as good as that in the first division, but farther out, and therefore will come in later, as low as \$15 per acre. Fine timber lands \$1800 to \$2500 per quarter section.

SOCIETIES OF KLAMATH FALLS

A. O. U. W.—Linkville Lodge No. 110 meets in the A. O. U. W. hall every Tuesday evening. Visiting Brothers always welcome. Roy Hamakar, M. W. J. W. Siemens, Recorder.

Evangeline Lodge No. 88 Degree of Honor Lodge meets in the A. O. U. W. hall every second and fourth Thursdays in the month. Nancy N. White, C. of H. Jesse Marple, Recorder.

W. O. W. Ewauna Camp, No. 799, W. O. W., meets every Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock at Sanderson's hall. All neighbors cordially invited.

C. K. Brandenburg, Clerk.
A. F. & A. M.—Klamath Lodge No. 77. Meets Saturday evening on or before the full moon of each month in the Masonic Hall. Alex Martin Jr., W. M. W. E. Bowdoin, Secretary.

O. E. S.—Aloha Chapter No. 61, meets in the Masonic hall every second and fourth Tuesday evenings in each month. Laura A. Willis, W. M. Jennie E. Reames, Secretary.

I. O. O. F.—Klamath Lodge No. 137 meets every Saturday evening in the A. O. U. W. hall. Jasper Bennett, N. G. Geo. L. Humphrey, Secretary.

Ewauna Encampment No. 46, I. O. O. F. Encampment meets second and fourth Saturdays in the month in the A. O. U. W. hall. Jasper Bennett, C. P. Geo. L. Humphrey, Sec'y.

Prosperity Rebekah Lodge No. 104 I. O. O. F. meets in the A. O. U. W. hall every first and third Thursdays in the month. Jennie Hurn, N. G. Lorinda M. Sauber, Secretary.

E. of P.—Klamath Lodge No. 99 meets in the A. O. U. W. hall every Monday evening. Bert Bamber, C. C. John Hamilton, K. of R. and S.

M. W. of A.—Lodge meets in the A. O. U. W. hall every first and third Wednesdays in the month. W. B. McLaughlin, Consul W. A. Phelps, Clerk.

Foresters of America—Ewauna Camp, No. 61, meets in the A. O. U. W. hall every second and fourth Fridays in the month. C. D. Wilson, C. R. E. E. Jamison, Rec. Sec.

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