KLAMATH COUNTY OREGON
MARCH 1, 1900
Part 2
INTRODUCTION

This issue contains the second half of the booklet written one hundred years ago by Joseph G. Pierce. Thank you, again, to Letta Goehring, a member of our Historical Society for allowing me to borrow this booklet, so that I may share it with all of you. Spelling, punctuation and grammar variations are strictly those of Mr. Pierce. Some readers may find the author’s comments questionable, as his work has a whiff of salesmanship. Part 1 is reprinted in Trumpeter issue No. 54. Susan G. Rambo, Editor

KLAMATH COUNTY, OREGON, (1900):

FISH AND GAME

The fishing grounds are extensive and embrace a larger variety of game fish than any similar resort on the coast. In the Upper Klamath Lake and Link River seven varieties of the Steelhead trout have been caught, ranging in weight from a few ounces to sixteen pounds, which raise to the fly readily during the summer months, take the spoon in the spring and fall and the minnow at all seasons of the year. They are extremely gamey fish and afford the greatest amusement to anglers who love this sport, besides being very plentiful; a catch of fifty or sixty pounds in a day is not uncommon. The famous Dolly Varden trout are found in Cherry Creek, Sun Creek, Seven Mile Creek, and other streams which flow into the Upper Klamath Lake. In Lost
River, which flows within ten miles of Klamath Falls, there is annual spring run of mullet of such an extent that a cannery has been established at the point of vantage. In Klamath River which flows from Klamath Falls to the ocean, the fall fishing for salmon, salmon trout and silver-side trout is exceptionally fine. The most noted of all the fishing streams are Spring Creek and Williamson River, celebrated for their exceptionally gamey rainbow trout, weighing from half a pound to fourteen pounds, and Pelican Bay which teems with lake trout.

It might also be mentioned that all the brooks and small streams which have their source at the summit of the Cascades teem with speckled trout, the catching of which many anglers consider the height of all sport.

The four deer shown in the accompanying cut on this page were killed in a morning's hunt east of Klamath Agency. They are of the Mule-tail species, which will easily average 150 pounds when dressed.

Deer are plentiful along the summit plateau of the Cascade range and spurs east of the lakes, and bear and elk are occasionally found. In the way of lesser game may be found an abundance of pheasants, grouse, sage-hens, prairie chickens and rabbits, while the great marshes of the lakes abound with swans, pelicans, and ducks and geese of the blue-winged teal, mallard, sprig-tail, canvas-back, whistler, butterball, honker, grey goose, brant, etc., varieties. Snipe shooting about the lakes has long been a favorite sport with the sportsmen of Klamath Falls. Northeast of the Upper Lake in the Sprague River, Sycan and Silver Lake basin antelope are as abundant as in any section of the west.

Taken altogether, for variety, quality and abundance Klamath County has scarcely an equal in America for game and fish.

The cut on this page shows the result of three hours' shooting on the Klamath marsh, the total game bagged being 48 mallards and 6 geese.

PUBLIC LANDS--KLAMATH RESERVATION

There is much State and Government land yet open for settlement and purchase including farming, grazing, timber, swamp and range lands, but it is patent to everyone that all of the most desirable pieces
have been taken up by the rancher, stockman, timber investor and home seeker. Nevertheless with a little effort good land can be found that is open for settlement, and while not regarded valuable now, many timber claims can be found that in the present generation will be worth many thousands of dollars each. The price for such land is but $2.50 per acre, of State land $1.25 and of Government land merely the few dollars of fees required for filing and making proof on homesteads and other varieties of settler’s rights.

The Klamath Reservation is in excess of 40 by 50 miles in extent and embraces about 1,500,000 acres of land, which is mountain range, grass land, agricultural, timber and marsh land. The lands have been allotted in severalty to the Indians and the residue, some million and a quarter acres will probably be opened for settlement this fall or next spring. An appropriation has already been made by Congress for the purpose of entering into a treaty with the Indians for the purchase of these excess lands, and according to the history of other reservations, the opening of these lands to settlement should occur within the time above stated. The Government at present maintains two agencies, Klamath and Yainax, with schools, dormitories, industrial institutions, etc., for the purpose of education and improving in civilization the 1050 Klamath, Modoc, Snake and Pitt River Indians, who have been at peace with the nation for 27 years, and have become advanced in intelligence, progress and civilization beyond that of but few aboriginal tribes, except perhaps those of the far eastern states. They are engaged chiefly in agriculture and stock raising, have fair houses and barns, wagons and agricultural implements and conduct their affairs in a business-like and profitable manner, thus illustrating the advantages of industrial, business and social education as a civilizer of a wild or barbarous people.

TIMBER

There is probably nowhere in America so magnificent a pine forest standing today as in Southern Oregon, north of the Klamath river. The pine timber is of two kinds, sugar pine and western yellow (little sugar or silver) pine, which we shall hereafter refer to as silver pine, the government forestry commission’s name for it. Both are soft, equal in all ways to white pine and superior in some respects. These woods have been carefully tested at the Cramps ship yards and pronounced superior to all woods for patterns and ship decking. The noted oarsman, Ward, has tried all sorts of wood, and claims he can make from sugar pine a pair of oars of regulation size, four ounces lighter than from any other wood, and yet of greater strength. The Pokegama Sugar Pine Lumber Company have a mill at Klamathon, Cal., which cuts about 75,000 feet daily. All the timber comes from Klamath County close to the Jackson County line in what is known as the Jenny Creek Timber Belt. They sell all their box lumber at a high price at the mill and have already contracted for the sale of several million feet of uppers for delivery this summer at an advance over
present prices. All this lumber goes east, mainly to the Mississippi valley, Chicago, Cleveland, etc. The timber will run all the way from 25 to 50 thousand feet of pine to the acre, some particularly fine quarter sections going as high as 100,000 feet to the acre, besides upwards of 15,000 feet of yellow fir and cedar. The main belt comprises the following townships: Townships 39, south of ranges 4, 5 and 6 east, and townships 40, south of ranges 4, 5 and 6 east -- in all six townships of about 130,000 acres. All of the best timber has been bought up and is owned in tracts varying from 5,000 to 40,000 acres each. The trees run from two to eight feet in diameter and contain from four to ten merchantable 16-foot logs each. The accompanying photographs give some idea of the size and quality of the pine and in a measure bear out the assertion made, that this belt of pine timber is without equal in America.

The next most valuable soft pine tract in the County, carrying a good percentage of sugar pine, but predominating in silver pine, lies north of the Klamath river and east of the Cascade mountains, being some 12 miles wide and extending 20 or more miles towards the north. It all slopes either towards the Klamath river or Upper Klamath Lake and can thus be easily and cheaply logged. This body of timber is owned mostly in a few large tracts by companies or is pooled to be held for something like its value.

All around the western and northern part of the valleys surrounding the Upper Klamath Lake are large bodies of pine timber, and stretching to the eastward the timber continues, interspersed with open valleys, to the prairie country lying east of the County. Also in the far northern part of the County are some very valuable sugar, silver pine, fir and cedar tracts, which will some day make the investors wealthy beyond the dreams of avarice, although they are at present not considered of speculative value -- due probably to the better opportunities nearer transportation.

The quality of the sugar and larger silver pines closely resembles the famous "cork pine" of the eastern and peninsular states. It is not an uncommon occurrence to find trees that will cut eight to ten, sixteen-foot logs, which will scale an average of 1200 feet to the log, while 700 to 1,000 feet to the log is about the average; as to defects, one log in a thousand exceeds the average, showing any decay or wind shake or other imperfection.

The character of the land on which this timber grows in this section is of a high plateau character, cut by streams, which furnish an
outlet to the mills and railroads, the general trend of the land being toward the water courses, making logging in these forests comparatively easy.

The winters are mild and lumber operations can be carried on every month in the year, which is a great point in favor of the contractor, and operator, when you consider that many of the pineries on the coast are compelled to shut down for several months each year owing to the great fall of snow.

As Klamath County forests are mainly soft pine, a few summaries taken from the Forestry Investigations of the United States Department of Agriculture and other reliable sources might be valuable in substantiating the assertion that Klamath County is almost peerless and has before it a wonderful future.

The standing timber of the United States is 2,300 billion feet divided as follows: Southern States 700 billion, Northern States 500 billion, Rocky Mountain States 100 billion and Pacific Coast States 1,000 billion feet. The annual cut at present is 40 billion, which means that sixty years hence not a tree containing saw timber will be standing outside of the parks and reserves, for that is less time than it takes a sapling to become a merchantable tree.

150 billion feet is a liberal estimate of the soft pine standing today and the annual cut is about 18 billions. At that rate about eight years will see the end of the soft pine forests of this nation.

In Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota alone since 1873 there has been cut 165 billion feet of white pine. Of this 150 billion feet standing, one-third is east of the Mississippi river and two-thirds on the Pacific coast. In Wisconsin, of the original 130 billion feet less than 15 billions remain, only enough for that State’s home consumption for 25 years. In Michigan but five billion feet of pine is standing today, while half a billion feet is a very liberal estimate for Pennsylvania. White pine stumpage has increased per thousand feet as follows in 30 years: 1866, $1.00 to $1.25; 1876, $2.25 to $2.75; 1886, $4.50 to $6.50; 1896, $9.00 to $13.00.

The stumpage figures used by the Forestry Commission are based on 4,000 feet of timber to the acre in the Southern States, 6,000 feet in the Northern States, 2,000 feet in the Rocky Mountain States and 20,000 feet on the Pacific Coast.

Their deductions are that 60 years will see the end of America’s forest and six to eight years the end of her pine timber, if the demand for lumber is supplied. With Klamath County’s ten or more billion feet of soft pine, there is none to gainsay her a foremost rank in the gilded age of the twentieth century.

HORSES, CATTLE AND SHEEP

The leading industry of the County at the present time is the raising of cattle, as it has been ever since the County began to be settled up. The abundance of natural hay, the wide stretches of mountain
range and the nearness of numberless watering places to all range land and feeding grounds makes it a natural stock country, where cattle run at large and grow fat.

While there are a few raisers of horses and mules who devote their attention to thoroughbred stock, mainly carriage and draft horses, most of the horses are native stock, reduced in size and appearance by inbreeding. Nevertheless it is a certain endorsement of their hardiness, that the government should have last year sent contractors here to purchase 1,000 native horses for use in the Philippine campaign. The natural tendency is to raise better horses, cattle and sheep by judicious crossing and the keeping of some thoroughbred stock. Yet what thoroughbred stock there is here is exceptionally good and it was here the famous race horse, Klamath, was foaled and raised.

The raising of sheep declined the past few years owing to the very low price of wool, but it is now on the increase and if the wool market holds up will rapidly become as important an industry as that of cattle raising, and in this connection it is noteworthy, that sheep were kept at a profit even when wool brought but seven cents a pound delivered at the railroad. At present prices the annual clip is considerably in excess of a dollar a head, which is indeed a large coupon to clip from a three dollar investment.

Last year about 10,000 head of beef cattle were shipped to the San Francisco market, bringing in the field about $32 per head on the average. Some 1,500 mutton sheep and over 1,000 horses and mules were sold for about $50,000, besides about $15,000 worth of wool. One hundred thousand head of cattle could as well be turned off annually as ten thousand from the amount of land available for cattle raising and a quarter of a million sheep might as easily grow their coats of wool here as the present small number.

STATISTICS

In the following statistics for 1899 is included the lumber cut at Klamathon, Cal., as all the timber for that mill comes from Klamath County. All the figures are compiled from authentic sources except population which is estimated:

| Population       | 3,500          | $ VALUE
|------------------|----------------|-----------
<p>| Acres under cultivation | 50,000         | 750,000  |
| Bushels of wheat  | 39,100         | 38,000    |
| Bushels of oats   | 12,300         | 8,500     |
| Bushels of barley | 19,500         | 17,500    |
| Bushels of rye    | 13,600         | 10,000    |
| Tons of alfalfa   | 6,000          | 30,000    |
| Tons of hay       | 40,000         | 130,000   |
| Bushels of potatoes| 15,000         | 13,500    |
| Pounds butter &amp; cheese | 150,000    | 25,000    |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity 1</th>
<th>Quantity 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bushels of apples</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bushels of plums, pears, prunes, etc.</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumber cut-feet</td>
<td>25,000,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of sheep</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of horses and mules</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of cattle</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of swine</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool, pounds</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number cattle shipped out</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>320,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number sheep shipped out</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of horses and mules shipped out</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number hands employed in manufactures</td>
<td>160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of raw material used</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross amount of capital invested</td>
<td>700,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of manufactured product at mill</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of buildings erected</td>
<td>91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valuation of buildings erected</td>
<td></td>
<td>64,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number miles public irrigation ditches built</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of land brought under irrigation systems this year</td>
<td>4,000 acres</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With over a million acres of grazing land, it can be seen at a glance at the above figures, that the cattle and sheep in Klamath County are ridiculously few, and with over ten billion feet of pine that the lumber industry is scarcely yet in its infancy.

**RAILROAD PROSPECTS**

When a person half frozen even in the summer time reaches the beautiful lake region of Klamath County about dawn, arriving from the westward or in the evening after a tiresome stage ride from the eastward, it is little wonder if the loveliness of the breaking dawn or the calm content of closing day enters little into the tired mind and body of the traveler. But you, who have heard the outbursts of ecstasy from a comfortable heated, smooth traveling, well cushioned car, on its arrival into some beautiful forest or valley or as it skirts along the bank of a mountain stream and then rushes on disclosing to view the broad lake which laps up the babbling waters of the stream, know that were a railroad to cut its path through the virgin pine forest at the foot of the Cascades, sloping gently down to the river Klamath, and suddenly emerge from the dense pineries into the valley of the Lower Klamath Lake with a perspective stretching far away over the fertile lands to the east for a hundred miles, to the south down into Shasta valley and to the north
through the whole length of the Upper Klamath Lake, surrounded by green valleys set irregularly into the forests of waving pine and widening down to the shore of the lake -- you know that the exclamations of delight would equal those expressed at the vista of any scene in America. The eyes of the artist, the lover of nature, the agriculturist, the stockman and the timberman, would glisten alike with pleasure over the pathway of the iron rail that would connect Klamath County with the arteries of commerce and travel.

In November, 1898, the Oregon Midland Railway Company was incorporated to build a standard gauge railroad from Klamathon, Cal., to Klamath Falls, Or., a distance of about sixty miles. The former place is located on the Southern Pacific Railway where it crosses the Klamath River and is quite an important saw mill town already. Preliminary survey work was done in November and the following month the road survey was commenced, in charge of competent railroad engineers. These pages will go into the hands of the printer before the construction work is commenced, but we have been assured at various times that it will be early this spring and probably in March if the weather and condition of ground are favorable. That the road will pay is unquestioned for it will start with a revenue of $100 or more a day from the Pokagona Sugar Pine Lumber Co., and other mills will start very soon. In all there will be at least a half a million car loads of lumber to go over its rails, ten thousand or more head of cattle annually and at present there is shipped in here by freight wagons alone about 5,000 tons of freight annually.

The route of the road will be, from Klamathon up the Klamath River to Jenny Creek, then up that stream to its head waters near the summit, then along the stage road from Parker's Station about six miles eastward then down the eastern slope of the Cascades and making a loop, crossing Spencer Creek some three miles from its mouth and back to the Klamath River, which will be followed more or less closely to Klamath Falls.

The incorporators are men of means and business ability and are backed by sufficient capital to put the road through.

Besides the regular traffic of a railroad it is figured that the tourist travel alone will easily pay running expenses during the summer season and probably a considerable more. Industries of all kinds will spring up as if by magic and enterprises never dreamed of in our philosophy will be on every hand to take advantage of the gifts of nature so lavishly displayed here, that will awaken upon the approach of the railroad, to speculative and commercial value. A very considerable timber land boom has already started
and land of all kinds has materially advanced in price, while other land hitherto not sought after from the government is being taken up, or regarded favorable by the eye of the investor and speculator.

The great civilizer and commercial and agricultural awakener is near at hand, and the world will soon be able to see for itself the great advantages claimed for Klamath County.

**TOWNS AND POST OFFICES OF THE COUNTY**

**Klamath Falls** is the County seat and largest town, its population being about 550. It has a court house, town hall and county jail, a bank, two opera houses, four hotels, three lodge rooms, four livery stables, three saloons, a meat market, over a dozen stores of all kinds, two newspapers, three church organizations, a planing mill, saw mill, electric light and water plant for domestic use and fire protection, a small tannery and a flouring mill. The location of the town is magnificent being on Link River and Lake Ewauna, with the Upper Klamath Lake less than a mile and a half to the north.

With means of transportation Klamath Falls will become a great manufacturing center for the following reasons:

First. Over one hundred thousand acres of virgin timber is tributary to this point. In fact, every stick of timber which lies on the water-shed of the Upper Klamath Lake, can be floated with trivial cost to mills here where it can be manufactured into merchantable commodities and be shipped from this point to all parts of the world.

Second. The wool industry in this section, which is as yet in its infancy, would thrive under these conditions, and fabrics and woolen goods of all kinds could be manufactured here as easily as elsewhere.

Third. Klamath Falls would become a flouring mill center and here would be produced as fine an article as anywhere, because the grain of high altitudes has a peculiarity of texture which makes the very best of farinaceous foods. Indeed, there is scarcely a mill on the coast that turns out a better grade of flour than does the one mill at this point.

INTERIOR VIEW HOUSTON’S OPERA HOUSE
In addition to these reasons there is another of no little importance. Klamath Falls is a natural
sanitarium and summer resort hotels only await the time when city people can reach here by means other than a
"thorough-brace."

KENO is a small sized town, eleven miles southwest of the county seat, on Klamath river. Besides
the business houses necessary for the trade of that section it is the shipping point for the product of two
small saw mills.

ALTAMONT, about four miles east of the metropolis, is a general merchandise store and post office.

MERRILL, the business center of the large Tule Lake
Valley, is a thriving little town with two stores, a flouring
mill, saloons, blacksmith shops and hotels. It is prettily
located on Lost River near the State line.

TULE LAKE is a post office at the Carr cattle ranch.

OLENE, at Lost River gap, thirteen miles east of the
county seat has a post office and a general store.

DAIRY, some seven miles further east in Alkali Valley, has
a store and post office and a saw mill a few miles distant.

BONANZA is the metropolis of Lost River, with several
stores, shops, saloons, hotels, etc., and is a prosperous and
lively trading point.

BEDFIELD is the post office for Poe Valley south of
Bonanza.

LORELLA and LANGELL VALLEY are the two post offices for the large Langell Valley at the head of
Lost River.

OLETE and VISTILLAS are the post offices for the mountain east of Bonanza and Barnes Valley
respectively.

BLY, is sixty miles east of Klamath Falls and is the trading point for Sprague River Valley, having a
first class store and hotel.

YAIMAX is the Government Agency for the eastern part of the Klamath Reservation.

KLAMATH AGENCY is the Government Agency for the western part of the Reservation, both Agencies
having excellent buildings for the employees, school buildings, two dormitories, saw mill, etc., and the
latter besides has a large commissary, sutler's store, laundry and "skookum-house."
FORT KLAMATH is the trading center for Wood River Valley, being located on Wood River about one mile west of the old Fort Klamath. It has three general stores, meat market, hotel, blacksmith shop, etc.

POKEGAMA (until recently named Snow) is a post-office at the logging camp in the western part of the County in the Cascades.

SECTIONS OF THE COUNTY

LOST RIVER VALLEY, as it is generally termed comprises the territory between Klamath Falls and Lost River as far south as the head of Tule Lake Valley. It averages about five miles wide by 20 miles long of irrigable land, and by reason of its twenty mile irrigation system which has been in operation several years, early settlement, great extent and proximity to the county seat is one of the best known and most improved. It produces abundantly of grain, alfalfa, potatoes, etc., there being some 4,000 or 5,000 acres irrigated. It lies so that 50,000 acres of it can be irrigated whenever sufficient capital is vouchsafed for the enterprise. At present this is one of the main winter feeding grounds of the County.

TULE LAKE VALLEY lies from the California line for about five miles north and is some fifteen miles in length. Its principal town is Merrill and its chief pursuits, raising grain, alfalfa and cattle. The soil is sandy, peculiarly adapted to the raising of alfalfa, and since this fact has become generally known, large areas have been cleared and checked for irrigation and much of it has already been sown. A large ditch from Little Klamath Lake runs the full length of the valley and a higher line ditch sixty feet wide has been dug for seven miles. It is here that the operation of what is known as the “check system” in irrigation can be seen to its best advantage.

POE VALLEY, which is about four miles wide, begins at Lost River gap and runs in a south-easterly direction for about ten miles. It is quite well settled and the residents devote their attention to the raising of farm produce and cattle, the latter having good range on the surrounding hills. When an irrigation system, which is feasible, becomes established through the length of this valley it will be very productive and peopled by wealthy stockmen.

LANGELL VALLEY is about five miles in width and extends eastward from Bonanza some fourteen miles. It is essentially a valley of stock growers, owing to its ample range and large areas of natural grass land. It lies quite level and is watered through its entire course by Lost River and its tributaries. Much irrigation is done here in a small way, but it remains for public enterprise to establish canals which will bring out the fullest value of the lands of this valley.
Sprague River Valley is very extensive, most of it being in the Klamath Reservation and therefore of interest to the homesteader when the Reservation is opened for settlement. Its course runs for fifty miles through the County ranging in width from half a mile to a dozen or more miles. It has a magnificent range for stock adjacent to its whole length and the valley is a veritable wonderland of natural meadows.

Sycan Valley is a tributary to Sprague River Valley and through its forty-five miles, ranging in width from half a mile to ten miles, the stream meanders in and out of rich meadows and large flats of agricultural land. It is devoted at present to stock raising by the Indians, but some day will be a great and wealthy stock-raising section.

Williamson River Valley extends from the mouth of Williamson River, where it empties into Upper Klamath Lake, for fifty miles to the northeast and with its various tributary valleys forms a large system of fertile agricultural, meadow and natural grass lands, supplemented by excellent range on the surrounding hills and mountains. The valley varies from half a mile to fifteen miles in width and contains the vast Klamath marsh of some 60,000 acres.

Horsefly and Barnes Valleys are in the uplands of the eastern part of the County and are devoted to the raising of cattle, a very extensive range falling under the control of these small but well located valleys.

Swan Lake Valley lies north of Lost River Valley, a range of high hills intervening. It is about six by ten miles in extent and has a lake on the east side which by its overflow produces large areas of grass land. This valley is well watered towards the upper end and is surrounded by an exceedingly large territory of valuable range land and timber. The residents devote their attention to stock raising.

Alkali Valley which is about twenty miles east of the county seat is some ten miles long and four miles wide. It is well watered and produces much natural grass on the overflow lands. It is surrounded by good timber and plenty of range for cattle, which is the chief industry, although considerable grain is raised and general farming done.

Wood River Valley lies north of Upper Klamath Lake and is about twelve miles square. It slopes very gently towards the south and is wonderfully well watered by creeks and Wood River. Owing to the general topographical characteristics a large amount of the valley is naturally irrigated and is grass land, from which thousands of tons of hay are put up for winter feeding. This valley is almost exclusively devoted to stock raising; its post office is Fort Klamath. Two extensive creameries are operated in this valley.
Klamath River Valley which lies along the north and west side of Klamath River is from one to five miles in width and extends from Klamath Falls along the river for twelve miles. There is much natural grass land and its inhabitants devote their attention to both stock raising and diversified farming. Its greatest need at present is irrigation and the reclamation of its great marsh area.

PRICES OF LAND

The price of land varies according to location, condition and kind. Valley natural hay land ranges from $5 to $12 per acre, valley agricultural land and alfalfa land subject to irrigation, unimproved from $7.50 to $20 per acre, and valley land not subject to irrigation from $2.50 to $8.00 per acre. Improved lands generally sell for as much more as the improvements cost and frequently at a much greater advance. Marsh lands subject to reclamation sell all the way from $1 to $5 per acre and mountain land at from government price to about $5 per acre. Timber land is held according to the kind, quality and amount of timber, all the way from $4 to $40 per acre and of course such pine claims as run as high as 100,000 feet to the acre are easily worth $100 an acre, for the quality of such is always of the best. In the main all lands are very cheap at present -- though much has advanced 100 per cent in the past year -- and as improvements are made prices will go up. But it is a good country for the man who has little and desires to put his labor into making improvements that will enhance the value of his land. People do not have to get up at 4 A. M. and milk cows until dinner time to make a living here and there is no rancher who has to put in anything like three hundred and sixty-five hard day's work each year to eke out an existence.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

All sections of the County are quite well supplied with church organizations and services are held regularly in the leading towns by one or more of the ministers located at Klamath Falls.

Every locality that has children enough of school age to comply with the requirements of law has a school house and from one to three terms of school according to the wishes of the community. At Klamath Falls an entirely modern and up-to-date graded school is kept, by a competent corps of teachers.

NOTABLE FEATURES OF KLAMATH COUNTY

Klamath County wheat took first prize at the World's Fair, Chicago, 1893.

Crater Lake, the marvel of nature, is located in Klamath County.

Devil's Teakettle, Hot Mineral Springs and Solfatara or Hot Earth banks.

Hardest Cattle in the west.

Greatest American Soft Pine Forest extant, quantity per acre and quality considered -- exceeding ten billion feet.
Spring Creek, Williamson River, Crystal Creek and Pelican Creek, the most beautiful and best trout streams of the world.

Dozens of the coldest, purest crystal streams, without equal in this or any foreign country.

Seventy miles of navigable water.

A water power equal to any in the state.

Thousands of acres of natural grass land.

Over 200,000 acres of alfalfa land requiring irrigation systems.

Over 200,000 acres of marsh land requiring reclamation systems.

The streams are full of trout, the marshes abound in ducks and snipe and the forests still furnish plenty of sport for the hunter.

The richest undeveloped agricultural and timber section of the west.

No County can boast of bluer skies, more sunny days or a healthier climate.

Spoke this organ of speech a hundred tongues
With the sweetness of meadow lark’s voicing lungs
’Twere too harsh a sound for descriptive praise,
Of Southernmost Oregon’s balmy days.

The works of nature like works of art
Excel alone in composite part
But Eden’s mirage has cast to-day
Another garden in repousse.

I marvel how Appalachia’s snow
Can freeze so stiff, and the north winds blow
While a thousand birds with joyous hope
Tint the green of each tree on the Cascade slope.

Joseph G. Pierce
1999 MEMORIALS TO ENDOWMENT FUND

FOR
Myrtle Mason
Ruth Philpott
Dorothy Whitlatch
E. A. Bailie
Winston Patterson
Lillian Hill
Alexis Runyan
Mildred Mattos

BY
Mr. & Mrs. Fortune
Thelma Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Burton
Mr. & Mrs. Hancock
Verna Smith
B & P Smith
Ruth Tillery
Letta Goehring
Mae Smith
Francis Juris
Jean MacBeth
Mae Smith
Elaine Thompson
Mae Smith
Mae Smith
Jeane MacBeth

The Klamath County Museum Foundation was established in 1988 as a tax-exempt, 501(c)3, non-profit organization. In accordance with IRS regulations, all donations are tax deductible providing that no goods or services are received in exchange for your gift.

The current balance is $250,000. The ultimate goal is 2 million dollars. The annual interest from this amount would provide the budget for operating the museum.

THE PERFECT WAY TO CELEBRATE

In helping the museum Endowment Fund grow and increase, special occasions and appreciation gifts can be made in the name of the person being honored. For example, an individual could be honored on his birthday by friends who make donations to the Endowment...the amount being equal to the recipient’s age. Other ideas are to honor wedding anniversaries, births, commemorate a special event, baptism, graduations, Mother’s Day, etc. You could respond to an invitation which reads, “No Gifts, please”, by honoring them through the Endowment which would be personally satisfying to both of you.
1999 DONATIONS TO ENDOWMENT FUND

Amtrak Volunteers
Beeson Distributing
Marianna Bridges
Michael Burke
Elizabeth Byrne Shirley

Cessna Pilots Association
Dorothy Collier
Carolyn Dearborn
Frances Dennis
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ellingson Jr.

Vivian Foley
Dr. & Mrs. Glenn Gailis
Dr. & Mrs. Glidden
Steven Goeller
Donna Gray

Gill Hannigan
E. Chris Hawley
Avis Kielsmeier

Klamath County Historical Society
Klamath County Museum Advisory Board
Lorraine Kochevar

Nell Kuonen
Susan Laubengayer
Jean MacBeth
Carole Orendorff
Pelican Piecemakers

Kay Rachford
Marjorie Rambo
Josephine Reginato
Dr. Francis Rudd
Siegel Realty

Adra Turner
Nancy Wendt
Mr. & Mrs. William Yehle

Anonymous donation of 100 shares of Weyerhaeuser stock
Peering over Pat's desk

You might think that things have slowed down since I no longer have the Tourism responsibilities. Quite the contrary.

Our APPRAISAL NIGHT will resume March 21 in a new location in the Government Center hearing room and will be televised. Our own Antiques Roadshow broadcast live from Klamath Falls! Al and Jennifer Bilka will be joined by two additional appraisers and will be able to accommodate more items more quickly. The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. in the upstairs (use the elevator) meeting room. Al and Jenny have donated all their time and knowledge and have raised over $3,000 for the Museum Endowment Fund with this event. For an educational and enjoyable evening, mark March 21 on your calendar. Bring your antiques or collectibles and have them appraised. Verbal appraisal, $5.00. A written appraisal is $20.00 and can be used for insurance purposes or (heaven forbid) in case of theft from your home.

We are looking to replace the television set at the Baldwin which is no longer operative. Would anyone have a spare that they no longer use? The Baldwin guides show the introductory history program to visitors prior to a walking tour of the museum. Your donation would be tax deductible as well as being appreciated. Call the museum if you have a television set to give, 883-4208, and we will gladly pick it up. Thank you.

Lynn and Gerald with the help of Virginia Ring and Jim Spindor are setting up the Dark Room and will be printing pictures from the archives. If you have any gallon-size brown glass bottles sitting around, they need them to store their chemicals.

Have you noticed all the coverage the museum has received from the Herald and News lately? The article requesting authentication of the Teddy Roosevelt picture on the rim of Crater Lake was picked up by the Associated Press and reprinted in many newspapers across the country. A reward of $100 is being offered to the first person that provides irrefutable proof that the man pictured is indeed TR. This proof must be in the form of a letter or document establishing that the president was in Klamath County.

Here's and other photographs will not be the conclusive evidence that is needed.

INTRODUCING: Gerald Skelton. Gerald is the museum's part time curator. Gerald is a graduate of Southern Oregon State University in Ashland, has served in the military and returned home to Klamath Falls because he doesn't want to live any other place. Lucky for us! Gerald has a wide array of skills. He and Lynn have painted the entry hallway a bright, light white and installed new lights. Through a fellow worker at the Nickel, his other part time job, Gerald arranged for an artist to paint backgrounds for the Pelican and the Bald Eagle in the entry hall. Donna English was visiting her daughter and volunteered to paint the murals. Come in and see the improvements and introduce yourself to Gerald. He is a great addition to our museum family.

Of the many research projects going on in the museum, one of the most enjoyable can be seen in the Fall, 1999, Oregon Historical Quarterly. Doug Foster, Ashland author, wrote IMPERFECT JUSTICE, The Modoc War Crimes Trial of 1873. In searching for suitable photographs, Marianne Kedington-Lang, Editor, Oregon Historical Quarterly, journeyed to Klamath Falls to see the museum archives and to learn of other sources such as the Shaw Library and Francis S. Landrum collections. In my correspondence with Marianne, she stated... "it's clear that southern Oregon has not received the attention it should." (She was speaking of coverage in the OHQ.) "I'm enclosing a couple of copies of our submissions guidelines in case you know of any prospective authors." Sharpen your pencils and let those stories be recorded!

We continue to use and need volunteers. I can't begin to thank those who give their time and effort to assist the museum with our mission. The Index for all sixteen Klamath Echoes can be purchased in the museum gift shop. One of the major accomplishments of 1999, and done by a volunteer!

Keep safe and well as we embark on a new century together.

Pat McMillan, Director
### Klamath County Historical Society

**Gift Shop Annual Report 1999**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<td><strong>Ending Balance, January 5, 2000</strong></td>
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### KLAMATH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**ANNUAL REPORT 1999**

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<td><strong>Ending Balance 15 December 1999</strong></td>
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Klamath County Historical Society

Dues are due! Sometimes there is some confusion whether you have paid for the upcoming year. If you look on your mailing label you may see an entry above your name. A date entered indicates you are paid through that year. Initials indicate you are receiving a complimentary issue or are a Life Member. If there is no entry, you either haven’t paid for awhile or the Editor is sending you a complimentary issue, hoping you will become a member.

Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of the month — with some exceptions. See schedule below or call 883-4208. We meet at the Klamath County Museum meeting room, 1451 Main St., Klamath Falls, Spring Street entrance. The next meeting will be held on January 27th at 2:00 pm. We will have an interesting program and refreshments. Bring a friend!

Thanks to the following people who contributed their lunch refund money from Amtrak to the Endowment Fund: Don & Betty Hancock, Byron Beach, Robbi Porter, Richard Brooks, Polly Conner, Ann Hallock & Doug, Ammarie Huber, Louise Patterson, Phyllis Schneider, Dorothy Starr, Richard & Jeanne Sleckley, Gene & Gerry Stickney, Dorothy Winters and Kenneth Hay.

A reminder to paid up members: you are entitled to a 10% discount at our Museum Gift Shop. We have one of the best selections of local history books, along with paper dolls, postcards, T-shirts, caps, mugs, magnets, bookmarks, Christmas ornaments and local artist’s commissioned works, just to name a few items. Think of the museum when doing your gift shopping!

Those of you who have access to a computer and the Internet should check out the website set up by Ken Gettys of “NotJustGifts.com” Store. The address is www.KCHS.org

Susan Rambo, Editor