

The Long Valley Advocate.

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NUMBER I.

BEAUTIFUL LONG VALLEY

Destined to Become One of The Best Agricultural Sections in Idaho---A Health and Pleasure Resort

A Contented and Industrious Population Filled With a Desire to Make it a Valley of Good Homes and Surround Them With all That Goes to Make the American Home Ideal

At a distance of about 50 miles nearly due north of Boise, entrance is made into one of the grandest scenic valleys on the face of the earth. It is Long Valley, the largest tract of agricultural land in Boise county, and it extends northerly for a distance of about 60 miles, with an average width of about 8 miles. Majestic mountains bound it on the east and west, their summits above the perpetual snow line, heavily clothed along their bases and well up their sides with magnificent forests of yellow pine, red and white fir, tamarack, spruce, black pine, and other trees of less value, but all tending to increase the magnificence of the view.

The valley is splendidly watered, numerous creeks of large size flowing into the Payette river, which flows entirely through the valley from north to south. Among the most important creeks may be mentioned Clear creek, Big creek, Gold Fork, Lake Fork, Moore's creek, and Brush creek. A natural luxuriant growth of wild grasses cover the valley where the land has not been cultivated.

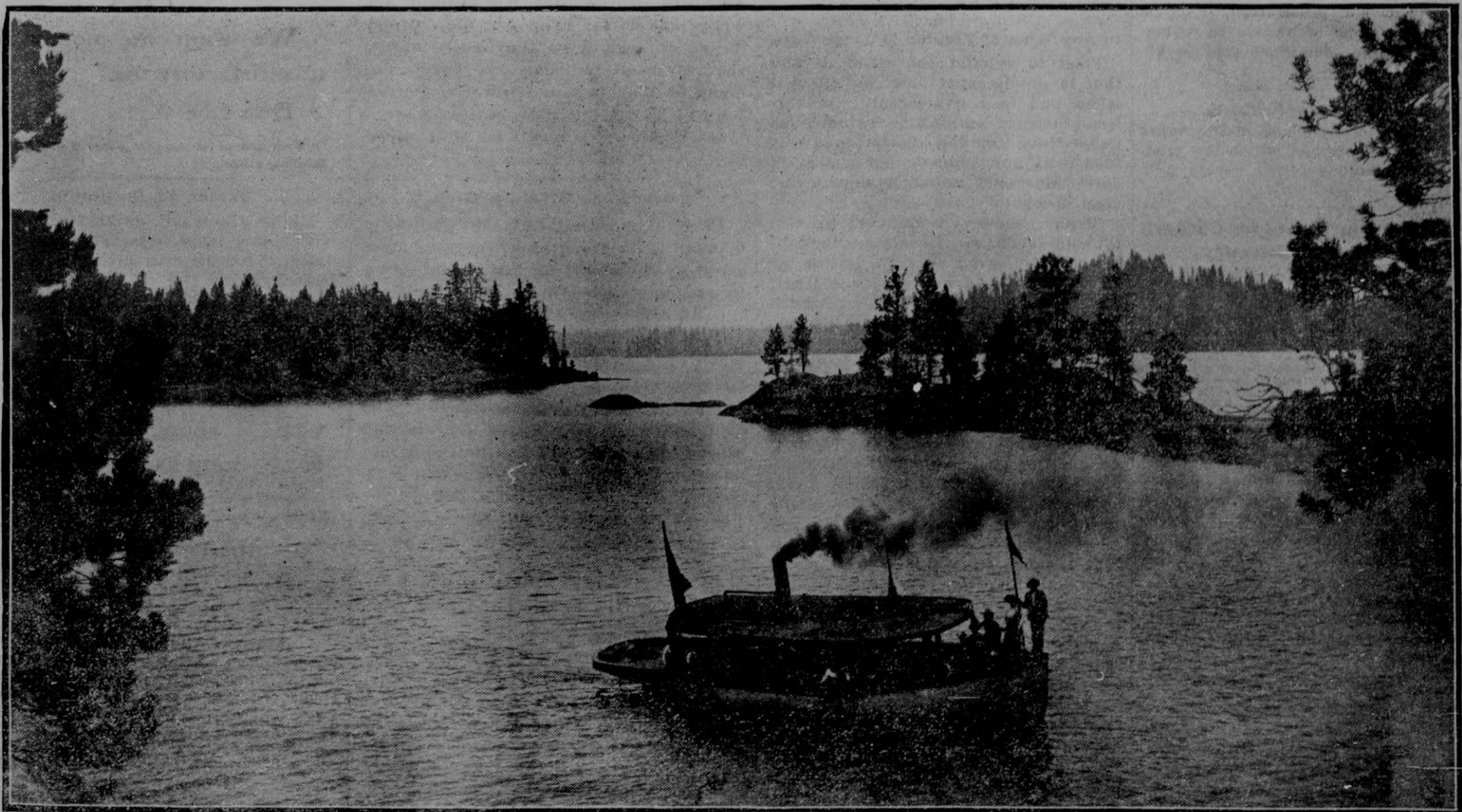
Whereas the early settlers depended chiefly on stock raising for a livelihood, (cutting heavy crops of wild hay anywhere they wished in

the valley to winter them on), more attention is now paid to general agricultural pursuits, owing to the rapid settlement and the excellence of the soil and climate for all kinds of grain and vegetables. Fruit growing is in its infancy. A few apples have been grown, some, of the Ben Davis variety at Lardo, by Mr. L. A. Heacock, and they were fine apples. Among tender vegetables, tomatoes, green corn, beans and cucumbers have been grown, but not extensively, occasional summer frosts injuring tender vegetation. These summer frosts will almost if not entirely disappear with increased cultivation, irrigation, and the removal of some of the heavy growth of timber.

The altitude of the valley varies from 4500 feet at the lower end to 5000 feet at Lardo, the head of the valley. The climate is delightful in summer, it never being very hot in the daytime, while the nights are deliciously cool. Snow falls deeply in winter, a total depth of six feet on the level has been known near Lardo. About half this amount will probably be a fair average, but it does not drift except in a few of the most exposed parts of the valley, an almost entire absence of strong winds being one of the charms of the valley. As an instance of what our winters are like, many people keep their cattle out without shelter all winter, throwing their feed on the snow. The weather is not excessively cold, men feeding their stock most of the time without coats, but an occasional sharp snap will sometimes last two or three days. The ground usually does not freeze, snow covering it before heavy frosts set in, so that as soon as snow is off in the spring work may commence. Winter is the time when most of the work in the timber is done, such as cutting fence posts and rails, barn logs, etc.

The population of Long Valley is somewhere between 2000 and 3000, (probably nearest the latter figure), it having doubled within the last past three years. The chief town is Van Wyck, which has three general merchandise stores, two saloons, telephone service, two livery stables, two hotels, a drug store, two sawmills, blacksmith shop, church, schools, etc. Lardo has two stores, two hotels, a newspaper, sawmill, saloon,

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Among the Islands on Big Payette Lake.