

LAKE COUNTY.

THIS county is bounded on the north by Mendocino and Colusa, on the east by Colusa and Yolo, on the south by Napa and Sonoma, and on the west by Sonoma and Mendocino counties, and contains a superficial area of about 690,000 acres.

The county lies almost entirely in the line and spurs of the Coast Range. Mount St. John, in the northern part, the highest point, being 11,000 feet above the sea. Towards the center, however, as the land falls away to the lakes, numerous valleys, of greater or less extent, are found which furnish in the aggregate from 80,000 to 100,000 acres of first-class agricultural land. A goodly portion of which is under cultivation and produces remunerative crops. Corn and potatoes being the most favored. Sheep raising as an industry also takes front rank, the extensive ranges found in the foothills and on the mountain slopes, together with the uniform mildness of the climate combining to make the Lake County wools much sought after. Hogs are also raised to a considerable extent. The large oak forests which are found in the county furnishing in their never failing crop of acorns abundance of natural food. All of the ordinary fruits also do well, and grape culture is confidently looked forward to as a source of sure wealth to the county, although as yet the developments are but slight.

But at present it is to the beauty of her system of lakes and the extraordinary number of her mineral and curative waters that Lake County is best known. Clear Lake, in the center, is a splendid body of clear, pure water, in whose placid depth swarms of pike, perch, and black fish are plainly seen in the spring and summer seasons, and the winters bring myriads of wild fowl, affording a continuous field for the sportsman all the year. Several small steamers and yachts ply upon the lake, and during the summer it presents the gala dress of an uninterrupted excursion. The Blue Lakes, several miles northeast, are three in number and are surrounded by magnificent scenery. Among its mineral springs may be specially noted, Harbin's, Saratoga, Seigler's, Highland, Bartlett's, and Hough's.

These attractions have the effect of drawing to the county annually from 15,000 to 25,000 invalids and pleasure-seekers, and constitutes a no inconsiderable item in the resources of the section. The county as yet has no railroads, but a magnificent system of county and toll roads is maintained over which numerous stage lines give easy access to all parts.