

[LETTER NO. 2.]

MEETING OF THE
Iowa Press Association,

— A T —

CLEAR LAKE

*A Detailed Statement of How to Get to the Lake, and
what will be done after getting there.*

PROGRAMME OF ARRANGEMENTS.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE IN ROOMS OF REPUBLICAN,

Marshalltown, Iowa, August 18, 1875.

Dear Sir:

In a letter I mailed you July 22d, I gave you an outline of the arrangements I had made up to that time for the meeting of the IOWA PRESS ASSOCIATION at Clear Lake. Since then matters have been so perfected, that the meeting promises to be the most enjoyable and satisfactory one ever held in the State. The responses to my former letter have been such as to warrant me in saying that the attendance will be large, and the meeting of Editors this year, a grand success.

Those of the Fraternity who did not answer my first letter, I trust will think well enough of this one to promptly respond to it, and inform me if it is their intention to accompany the Editorial party on the above occasion.

In order that you may know what has been done for the accommodation and pleasure of the Association at the Lake, I will state in detail below, the arrangements I have made personally toward that end:

The Central Railroad of Iowa, the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota, and Smart's Narrow Gauge road, will sell half-rate excursion tickets. The Milwaukee & St. Paul Co. will sell excursion tickets at sixty per cent.

Several of the other roads will make reductions, but what they will be, I am now unable to say.

Above is a reproduction, including the old-fashioned type heading, of a circular letter announcing a meeting of the Iowa Press Association, as sent out by the secretary, containing information as of date stated.

As stated before, the day train on the Central Railroad of Iowa, which leaves Ottumwa 12.01 p. m., Monday afternoon, Aug. 30th, has been designated as the train on this road for editors to take to the Lake. This train makes close connections with trains from the West at Grinnell, and Marshalltown, and will be run through to Clear Lake without change of cars at Mason City. A similar train will be run on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota road, and will be met at Nora Springs by a train on the Milwaukee & St. Paul road, by a special arrangement I have made with G. W. Sanborn, the courteous and accommodating Superintendent of that road, at Mason City. The Central train will stop for supper at Marshalltown, and the B., C. R. & M. train for dinner at Cedar Rapids, and supper at Greene. Both trains will be run together from Mason City to Clear Lake the same (Monday) evening. Trains from the East will arrive in time at Grinnell, Marshalltown, West Liberty, Cedar Rapids, and Waterloo, for Editors to reach one or the other of the special trains. Should any, however, not be able to get on either of these trains, and in order that they may not be compelled to stop for any length of time at Mason City, waiting for a train to take them to the Lake, I have arranged with Messrs. Cadwell & Kirk, liverymen at Mason City, to carry Editors from there to the Lake—ten miles distant—for 75 cents each, where a party of three or more go together. I have also made special arrangements with the two leading hotels in Mason City for the entertainment of any of our party at the following low rates:

Allen House	\$1.00 a day, 25 cents single meal.
St. Charles Hotel.....	1.50 a day, 35 cents single meal.

CLEAR LAKE

The depot at Clear Lake, a town of 800 inhabitants, is about 3/8 of a mile from the business center. Busses and other conveyances have been provided for the accommodation of fifty or sixty persons on the arrival of the special train, which is probably as many as will want to ride at that time. I have obtained a special rate from the proprietor of the bus line to carry our party for 15 cents apiece to any part of the town. Good side-walks are laid from the depot to the hotels, and walking will be easy.

HOTELS

Lake House can lodge forty of the Press Gang, and furnish table board for seventy-five. Price, \$1.50 a day for board and lodging; \$1.00 a day for board alone; and 50 cents a single meal.

Phillips House can accommodate twenty-five. Price, \$1.50 a day; \$1.00 for board alone; and 40 cents for single meals.

Island Home can accommodate forty of our party comfortably. Price, \$2.00 a day; single meals 50 cents. No charge for riding on

the Iron Propeller to and from the Island, nor for the use of skiffs, rods, and lines at the Island.

OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS

The citizens of Clear Lake generously offer to throw open their houses, many of which are large and comfortable, and the local committee there assure me that they are making calculations to entertain at least fifty editors and ladies. It is their intention to provide in this way for the ladies, and such of the married gentlemen as are accompanied with their wives.

I have also made special arrangements with Chaplain Lozier, the President of the State Camp Meeting Association, and with Rev. Dr. Keeler, the Secretary of the same, for the free use of two mammoth tents which will be erected on the bank of the Lake shore near the town park. One of these tents is 30x60 feet and the other 20x40, both made of the best duck cloth, the first named costing, when new, \$250. If it is desired that these shall be occupied by the editorial party, or by a portion of said party, the one will be set apart exclusively for the use of the ladies, and the other for the gentlemen. Judge Frost, banker, and the editor of *The Observer* at that place, will see to it that an abundance of clean and sweet oat straw is placed in the tents on Monday, (the 30th) and that everything is put in comfortable shape before the arrival of the "Bohemians." Chaplain Lozier, Hon. H. O. Pratt and Dr. Keeler, who have been camping with their families at the Lake for several weeks past, inform me that this is by far the most pleasant way of spending a few days at the "Iowa Saratoga." The sand in the vicinity of the tents is clean and dry, and there is no danger of catching cold on account of dampness from the ground. By sleeping in the tents and boarding at the hotels, the expense will be comparatively small, and the enjoyment probably equally as great as to stay at the hotels entirely. Should you desire to try the tent fashion, please put a pillow-case in your satchel, and if you think best, a straw tick, although the latter is not necessary. You will also want to take with you a pair of blankets, or their equivalent. These articles are not heavy, and can be sent through by express at a trifling expense, or as baggage. It may be cool enough for shawls and overcoats in the mornings and evenings at the Lake. Take them along with you, you may need them.

BATH HOUSES

Immediately below where the tents will be placed, are two bath houses, one for ladies and the other for gentlemen. If you like bathing, bring extra suits with you—for a gentleman, a knit woolen shirt and woolen pants is the best costume. For ladies any stout dress will do—it is not necessary that the suits be new. Combs, brushes, towels, et cetera, should be remembered in the make-up

of your outfit. Also hooks and lines should not be forgotten, as there may not be enough at the Lake to accommodate all who want to fish.

PROGRAMME

Tuesday forenoon will be spent jovially in sociability, boating, fishing, bathing, music, &c., &c. Three noisy brass bands—it may be, more—will be in attendance. It will be lively all around for miles, and there will be no opportunity to get lonesome. The afternoon and evening of this day will be devoted to business sessions in the Baptist Church.

Wednesday—Arrangements have been made for an extensive hunting expedition into the country under the direction of Judge Frost, Attorney Bush, Dr. Charlton, Dr. Smith, Banker Tuttle, and others. These gentlemen intend to take the editor sportsmen where they can slaughter “piles” of game. Those who have no taste that way, can consume the day bathing, fishing, playing croquet in the park, making sketches of the Lake, reading novels, singing hymns, or any other way they wish.

On Wednesday evening either a business meeting will be held, or a dance arranged for those who wish, in the park or Island House. The ministers leave for home Monday.

Thursday—Like fair occasions, this will be the big field day. The Green brothers, A. H. and D. H. Green, who are accomplished sailors, will spend the day in giving the Association free rides on the Lake in their large sailing boat *Undine*, which will carry at one time, one hundred persons. They will also, probably sail their celebrated boat *Challenge*, a Lake Michigan boat, in which the Secretary was carried to the Island Home, 3½ miles, the other day, in the remarkably fast time of fifteen minutes, or at the rate of 14 miles an hour. Both these boats are considered perfectly safe, and neither were ever known to upset.

Capt. C. H. Berg, of the Island Home, will make two trips across the Lake with the Editorial party—28 miles altogether—in his Iron Propeller, *Island Queen*, without charge. The *Island Queen*, *Undine*, and *Challenge*, will probably, altogether give the Bohemians a free ride that day, of not less than a hundred miles.

On this festive day, too, the enterprising ladies and public spirited citizens of Clear Lake, will prepare a huge picnic dinner in the Public Park for the Association, at which time the game killed and the fish caught on the preceding day, will be served. No further programme will be laid out until the assembling of the Association.

The Iowa State Camp Meeting Association will meet at Clear Lake on Saturday, the 28th, and their fine Camp Meeting and Excursion Grounds will be dedicated on Sunday, the 29th. The Secretary has entered into a compact with Chaplain Lozier, who is authorized to speak for the 500 Methodist ministers in Iowa, that

no minister will, under a penalty of 5,000 pounds bonds, either slay, eat, help eat, or look wishfully at a prairie chicken, dead or alive, before the arrival of the editors; with the further understanding, that tame chickens, and birds of whatever kind, shall be considered, for this occasion, prairie chickens.

The Secretary is pleased to announce that no long ropes and snug fitting collars for the hunting dogs need be taken along, as was hinted at in his first circular, as ample arrangements have been made with the railroad companies to permit the dogs to ride.

All dogs other than setters and pointers will be refused transportation.

N. B. The application of the Cedar Rapids *Republican*, to tie a thousand bull and rat dogs—fighting dogs of Cedar Rapids—behind one of the special trains, has been accepted. Positively no other application of a similar nature will henceforth be considered, as the Secretary has given the whole monopoly of that business into the hands of the *Daily Republican*.

Please notice the contents of this letter in your valued paper as much as you think proper, and be sure and make your arrangements to go with us to the Lake.

Yours Truly,

A. H. NEIDIG,

Secretary Iowa Press Association.

(Bring this letter with you to the Lake.)

Hungarian friends of Louis Kossuth are gathering information about him for publication, and are asking for any material as to his tour of the United States in 1851-4. He came as far as St. Louis, and although urgently invited by the governor of Iowa to visit this state, appears not to have come into Iowa. He was governor of Hungary at the time and his reception in America was an event of great importance. A Des Moines newspaper gave over a whole page to printing one of his speeches and many notices were published of his doings and sayings. The historical department has been asked to assist in search for materials.

The Fort Dodge *Northwest* says that the buildings erected by the United States government near Estherville, Emmet county, in 1865, for troops for the protection of settlers against the Indians, were sold at auction on the 5th inst for \$307 to A. E. Haskell of the Northwestern Stage Company.—*Iowa Homestead*, Sept. 2, 1868.

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