IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH
A FINE SECTION OF THE COUNTY AND A SPLENDID PEOPLE

This article appeared in the Aug. 11, 1906 issue of The Nevada News. See map for the location of Union Township.

Union Township is in the eastern part of the county and has a population of about 1100, twenty percent of whom are colored. Voting strength is 225, and while a majority of them have affiliated with the Populist Party, they in later years have very little interest in politics and each one is trying to see who can raise the most corn, the finest cotton, the biggest potatoes, and the largest hogs. As bad as conditions were last year, most everyone in the township made plenty to do them, and as late as June of this year, Mr. J. N. Kirk told us he had one crib of corn he had never opened.

In the township, there are four post offices-Bluff City, Zama, Foss, and Theo which receive daily mail via Sayre. Inspection has recently been made for rural free delivery, and is almost certain a route will be established soon.

Bluff City is the most important of these post offices. It is an old town, and in the early days was quite aristocratic. At present, it has two stores-that of J. N. Byrd and John Henry. Dr. F. R. Epperson is the physician and R. W. Black is the postmaster.

Among Prescott’s citizens who formerly lived at the Bluff, we call to mind Jno. T. Nichols and Dr. S. J. Hesterly. While just a few miles southwest near Zama lived Green R. Blake, one of the most prosperous farmers Union Township has ever had.

John G. Purifoy is the postmaster and storekeeper at Zama and keeps a well assorted stock and enjoys a splendid trade. Lee Moody, formerly a Prescott barber, has purchased and lives on part of the Green Blake farm.

Foss is the post office run by E. E. Epperson in connection with his store in the southeastern part of the township and is surrounded by a class of citizens who have no superiors in the county.

T. L. Gulley is the postmaster at Theo and runs a big plantation. Besides raising all staple products, Mr. Gulley devotes considerable attention to fruit and has last week marketed some of the finest peaches we have seen this season. Dr. E. E. Shell is the physician at Theo and bears the reputation of a splendid gentleman and fine doctor.

There is much beautiful scenery around Theo. One point of interest is Bluff Springs, where the clear sparkling water bubbles out of the base of a 60 foot hill and causes a deep ravine to join the waters of the sea.

Note: A picture is included in article of G. R. Blake, J. T. Knight, E. A. Bevers, J. R.
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McAteer, T. L. Gulley, and J. N. Kirk at Bluff Springs in Union Township.

In the picture is a tree known as the “bear tree”. A good many years ago some hunters were chasing a bear through this country, when the animal took up the ravine. Reaching the high embankment which forms the head of the ravine, Mr. Bruin was unable to go further, so he climbed the tree to escape the dogs, only to be shot by the eager hunters.

Union Township has splendid advantages of religion and education. Church structures and school buildings dot the township in every direction. It matters not what your religious views may be, somewhere in Union Township you will find the church of your choice. And the people are generally religious and law abiding, and it is very seldom that they have any work for the courts to do.

As an illustration of what little interest they have taken in police affairs, a few years ago when John Milburn was running for the Democratic nomination for representative, the voters nominated him for constable.

Union Township is rich in land and timber. The soil is sandy loam, very strong and deep, and always makes a crop. This year’s prospects are unusually bright. The corn is made and the crop is bountiful. The cotton is healthy and full of bolls. The timber is the finest in the county, and while large bodies have been cut, there is considerable pine left and it attracts the attention of everyone passing through the township.

It would be impossible within this space to name the prominent citizens of the township. All the way from E. W. Barlow’s on the north to Theo Gulley’s on the south, is a string of fine farms as any state affords.