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Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association : its purposes, endorsements and what the Milwaukee press says of it. 1906

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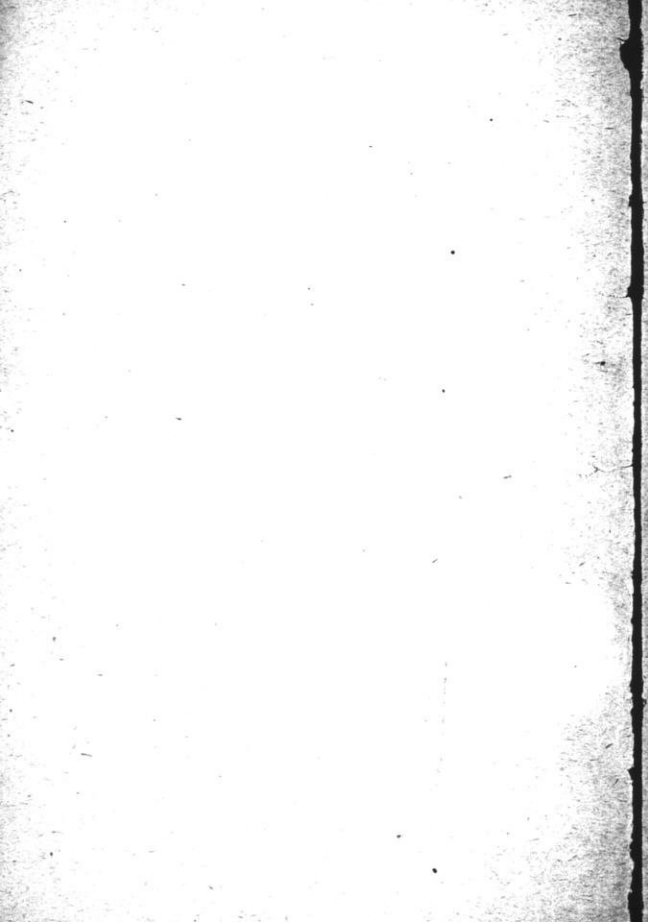
Wisconsin Immigration and . . Development . . . Association

ITS PURPOSES, ENDORSEMENTS
AND WHAT THE MILWAUKEE
PRESS SAYS OF IT.

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EDGAR T. WHELOCK, Secy.,
BOX 592,
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

1906



PROSPECTUS.

The purposes of the Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association are:

- To co-operate, so far as may be practicable, with local industrial, commercial and advancement associations wherever such bodies have been organized in the state.

To gather from all available sources information bearing upon the state's agricultural and manufacturing industries, inclusive of statistics of production and estimates of natural resources, and by compiling, arranging and editing this material to enable the association and local bodies to work intelligently and to the best advantage for the advancement of the state.

This information may be secured from the census bureau, the state university, the state commissioner of labor and industrial statistics, the industrial, freight and passenger departments of the transportation lines, the secretary of state, the dairy and food commissioner, county and township officers and trade organizations.

To endeavor to secure the assistance of and enter into co-operation with the legislature and the administrative departments of the state for the spreading abroad of information relating to the industrial resources of Wisconsin.

To secure the aid of railroad and steamship lines in bringing new settlers and manufacturing industries into the state.

To furnish prospective immigrants such information as they may require concerning soil, climate, water, crops, markets, and to induce them to settle upon and develop our wild lands.

To furnish manufacturers seeking locations for factories all facts relating to raw materials, water powers, shipping facilities, freight rates, and markets that are required to enable them to appreciate the advantages offered by Wisconsin as a state of diversified industries.

To seek avenues through which literature designed to advertise the industrial advantages of the state may be carried to the people of other lands and other states who desire to better their condition.

To study the methods adopted by states that have had experience in advertising their resources and to adapt, revise and improve on their plans whenever possible.

To cultivate a spirit of co-operation and federation between the different branches of industry to the end that all may work together in harmony for the material advancement of Wisconsin.



A TIMELY MOVEMENT.

(Milwaukee Sentinel March 16.)

The Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association, which organization held a meeting in Milwaukee Wednesday last, has undertaken to fill a large contract. As The Sentinel understands the situation, no concerted effort has been made for several years to call attention to the natural resources of Wisconsin, while other states, less favorably situated as to markets and raw material, have employed publicity promoters and expended large sums of money in attracting immigrants and manufacturing industries to locate within their borders. It is this condition that confronts the new association. It is for the purpose of meeting competition on an equal footing that the association was organized.

One of the features of the situation that operated to induce the gentlemen who are responsible for the organization of the Wisconsin association to undertake this work is the discovery of the fact that the state of Wisconsin is being industriously canvassed by agents of railroads and land companies whose interests lie in other states and that many citizens have been induced to leave Wisconsin and seek to better their

condition by removing to the west, the northwest territory, the southwest, and even to the eastern states. But recently a large colony from Dane county, one of the most prosperous counties in the state, moved in a body to Virginia. Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Colorado, the Canadian provinces, Arizona, New Mexico, California, and other western and southwestern lands of promise have drawn liberally from Wisconsin. The traveler in all of those sections of the country finds a liberal sprinkling of former Badgers who have not reaped all the benefits they expected to follow as the result of migration.

While this exodus has been in progress, Wisconsin has offered better opportunities than any of the states and territories mentioned for the man of energy and ordinary business sagacity to secure a competency. No other state has so many and so valuable natural resources. On every hand opportunities are offered the man who wishes to engage in a profitable manufacturing industry and the diversified soil opens the door for any of the profitable branches of agriculture. There are the best reasons why thousands of immigrants should come to Wisconsin; there is no good reason why any man should move away to make his home elsewhere.

If the Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association shall so order its affairs that its work will benefit the entire state, it will be entitled to the support of local advancement organizations and industrial bodies. Each local association can continue to work for its own interests. There is nothing in the published program of the state association to interfere with the work of the local bodies. On the contrary, if the major organization shall succeed in securing the co-operation of the minor associations, the hands of the latter will be strengthened.

The time is ripe for a movement of this kind, and it is hoped the necessity for thorough organization and united effort will be recognized. The Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association will be independent of special interests and its labors will be directed to the development of the state at large. Each industry that may be benefited by its work will be expected to aid the association and accept in return such assistance as can be afforded without detriment to any other legitimate interest. This, as The Sentinel understands it, is the purpose of the association. It is a worthy one and entitled to encouragement.

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FOR THE GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT OF WISCONSIN.

(Milwaukee Free Press March 16.)

Thursday morning the Free Press printed a report of a meeting of the board of directors and members of the Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association together with a statement of the purposes of that organization. That statement was prepared for and adopted by the members and it may therefore be taken as an official, authorized prospectus, something this association has never before given to the public.

The new association should receive the hearty encouragement and assistance of Wisconsin people. Two of the leading civic organizations in Milwaukee already have formally indorsed the association and recommended it to the city of Milwaukee and the state of Wisconsin. These bodies, the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association and the Milwaukee Real Estate Board, took this action after having convinced themselves that it was organized for a legitimate purpose and that its work would be of benefit to the state.

There is a field for work of this kind. While Wisconsin has made rapid progress in all lines of development during the last

ten years, no man can say what progress would have been made had systematic, united effort been put forth to people the waste places and develop the natural resources with which the state is endowed. There are hundreds of thousands of acres of unoccupied lands in the northern part of the state that some day will support prosperous communities. There are mines of wealth remaining untouched that await development. Now that the supply of pine timber is about exhausted, there remain billions of feet of timber that is as valuable as the pine was in former times. There are beds of clay and marl, miles of peat marshes that will some day be used as fuel, unlimited supplies of valuable building stones, and a soil that has set a high mark in the record made by agricultural states.

With all these advantages it would have been passing strange had not Wisconsin made progress of a material kind during the fat years that have made up the last decade. If the Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association shall carry out its program and organize, systematize and energize the work of development, the progress made in the future will set a new mark. Every new settler means an increase in the wealth of the state; every new factory means employment for more men and a

market for more farm products; every acre of land cleared and cultivated means an increase in the taxable property of the state and in the amount of farm products raised and marketed.

But this can be accomplished best by bringing the local advancement associations in touch with a central organization prepared to supply it with all the detailed information needed as to the best method of preparing and putting its claims for recognition before the outside world. There is no conflict of interest between the manufacturers and the real estate men, the owners of mineral lands and the men who have timber to sell, or the towns that have water powers and those that have raw materials that must be worked up through the agency of the steam engine. The town or section that has natural resources—and what Wisconsin town has not—will come into its own if a systematic effort shall be made to “show its goods” in the world’s market.

This is the work the Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association is organized to do, and it is entitled to a fair opportunity and abundant encouragement in its effort to do it. If, after having been given an opportunity and needed support, it should fail to accomplish the end sought, criticism will be in order. At present the

presumption is in its favor and the Free Press for one hopes it will succeed and that Wisconsin will reap the benefit.



DEVELOPING NORTHERN WISCONSIN.

(Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin March 15.)

There have been several times in the history of Wisconsin when strenuous exertions have been made to encourage immigration. Under the administration of Gov. Leonard J. Farwell, which lasted from 1852 to 1854, the state itself employed a commissioner of immigration, who had an office in New York and made a propaganda by advertisements in the newspapers, by personal appeal to new arrivals from abroad at the boarding houses and on the docks of the European steamship lines, and in other ways to direct a stream of settlers to Wisconsin. During the Civil War, when the farmers lacked help to cultivate and harvest their crops, the legislature adopted a memorial to Congress asking encouragement to immigration. Under Gov. Rusk the state immigration bureau distributed in every country of Europe thousands of pamphlets advertising the advantages of Wisconsin as a place of abode.

The organization of the Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association marks the beginning of a new era of settlement propaganda. Vast tracts in the northern part of the state are lying idle. Their conversion into farms will benefit the commonwealth. The hour has arrived, but not the men, and to call the attention of possible immigrants to the opportunity which here awaits them is the object of the association.

The association has made a good move in securing the services of Edgar T. Wheelock as its secretary and as a member of its board of directors. He was a resident of Northern Wisconsin for years, and is familiar with its resources. He has the knowledge, the ability and the energy to contribute greatly to the success of the enterprise for which the association was formed. M. J. Culnan, who, as assistant secretary, has greatly extended the membership of the organization, will retain his position, and will prove a valuable lieutenant.



MERCHANTS' AND MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

Milwaukee, March 12, 1906.

Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association:—

Gentlemen: At a meeting of the board of directors of this association held on the 28th ult., question of passing upon and endorsing your association was considered and referred to our committee on public affairs for investigation and recommendation. At a meeting of our board held on the 10th inst., this committee reported that it approved of and endorsed your organization; and its action was made the unanimous action of our directors, and I am directed to notify you to this effect.

Wishing your association every success, and assuring you that it has the best wishes of this organization, I am

Yours very truly,

M. H. GROSSMAN,
Ass't Secretary.



MILWAUKEE REAL ESTATE BOARD.

At a meeting of the Milwaukee Real Estate Board, held in the city of Milwaukee on the 23rd day of January, the public service committee of that organization was directed to hold a meeting for the purpose of passing upon the objects of the Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association, and if it approved of the objects of that association that its action in that respect would be the action of the board. In accordance with such direction the public service committee held a meeting in the city of Milwaukee on the 24th day of January, 1906, and after investigating the purposes and objects of the Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association, fully endorsed the said Wisconsin Immigration and Development Association and commended that association to the citizens of the city of Milwaukee and of the state of Wisconsin.

AUG. RICHTER, JR.,
Chairman.

