

THE OAKLAND FORUM

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THE FINLEY MOTION PICTURE LECTURE - BIRDS, BERGS, AND KODIAK BEARS

Wednesday evening, May 10, at eight

City Club Theatre

Mr. Finley, as acknowledged by his good friend, Theodore Roosevelt, is a notable naturalist, also an able lecturer - unusually successful as a photographer of wild life.

These reels will instruct in fascinating facts of Nature, while at the same time entertaining with highly humorous incidents.

SEATS ALL RESERVED

Members, 25 cents

Non-members, 75 cents

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TWO MORE REMINDERS

Upton Close illustrated lecture on the Orient, Wednesday, May 17

Art Exhibit on view during May in the rooms of The Oakland Forum

## Naturalist Revisits Basin

*Klamath Falls Era Herald Magazine - 1923*

### W. A. Finley Describes Past Study

By Joe Pigney

Twenty years ago—nearly 20 years ago—a young naturalist rumbled over the rutted Greensprings highway from Ashland to explore the abundance of wild life miracles in the Klamath Empire. He found them, and through those 20 years he has been dropping back to watch them grow, foster their conservation and promote their wonders over the United States.

This was William L. Finley, a bright-eyed outdoor man, who

will lecture at the Pelican theatre tonight.

Came in 1905.

Klamath county was not a particularly populated region in 1905 when Mr. Finley first unloaded his camping equipment and his stock of cameras at Keno, an abbreviated wide-spot and a very bad road. He had jumped off a potato wagon there after a three-day trip from civilization—Ashland.

For several weeks Mr. Finley  
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and his band of naturalists explored, photographed and studied the wild life conditions of Lower Klamath lake. It was through his perseverance that President Theodore Roosevelt accepted the biological survey and proclaimed the territory a federal refuge.

#### Encountered Trouble.

It was no simple thing to study this chilly country in May. The naturalists arranged their schedule to spend one week camping on the dangerous tule islands in the lake, and the next week traveling back to Keno for provisions.

But in the end a gratifying report was completed and its thoroughness has been a valuable document in the records of American and Oregon wild life.

Mr. Finley has taken cognizance over dispute arising from the establishment of the refuge.

"I have always felt it was right. The lower lake was formerly one of the greatest wild fowl breeding places in the United States. It is more valuable from a naturalistic point of view than from an agricultural one inasmuch as the soil is saturated with alkali.

"I hope someday to see the refuge flooded again."

Mr. Finley has just recently returned from a tour of the east where he lectured on Oregon wild life, particularly the Klamath country. Crater Lake and the magnificent resources of this region were his particular topics.

Following his visit here Mr. Finley and his wife will go to Berkeley to attend the 30th reunion of his 1903 class. He will be the chief speaker.