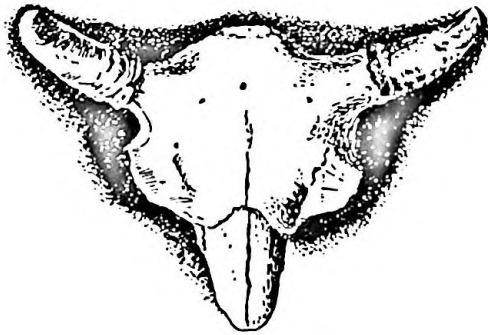


The BRAND BOOK

OFFICIAL ORGAN
THE WESTERNERS
306 STATE MUSEUM BLDG.
DENVER 2, COLORADO



NOLIE MUMEY
Registrar of Marks and Brands

VOL. 7

JANUARY, 1951

NO. 1

THE BRAND BOOK

of the

Denver Posse of Westerners

Published Monthly
EDITED BY NOLIE MUMEY

Send material for publication to:
1133 Republic Building
Denver, Colorado



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1951

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER WRITTEN BY
MICHAEL JONES ON THE OREGON TRAIL
IN 1850

May 25th, 1850.

Dear Companion:

I now write near the upper crossing of the Platte River. We are now across and all well.

I hope when these lines come to hand they will find you and the children all well. I shall proceed to give you a short sketch of my travels and we have all been well as common not taking a dose of medicine since we left home. The heartiest set I ever saw.

We are still in camp and with old Mr. Benjamin Barnes and Simms from Boone and shall stick to them as long as there is a button on their coats. Said Barnes is a brother of old Uncle James Barnes. The way I happened to fall in with him was that I understood that Joslin and the boys were with him. Tho finding it not to be the case. I have left my name on all public places and the day I passed so as to let them know where I was. I have not saw them yet and do not know how far they are behind and do not know that I will see them until I get into the gold region, which will be in 34 or 35 days from this time and I can assure that 65 traveling days will make it from old Fort Kearny, which is 300 or 310 miles from where we started. New Fort Kearny is 230 on the plains; Laramie is 355 from there. We are now 132 from there, a distance of 717 miles from the starting point and have traveled 29 days. Lay by 2 and in 5 days more we shall be at South Pass. There we will take Subletts Cut-Off and go by Salt Lake. If we go by Salt Lake we calculate to pack. I am told we can make it in 15 days, some new route that cannot be wagoned but packed. We can sell our wagons for cost there and make the cut-off some 15 days sooner. If so, we pack. I am in great haste and must close by saying that I shall write to you again in 35 days. That may get to the States sooner than this; and in it I shall advise with you what you had better do, as I don't know how long my absence will be. I now sit near a lone cottonwood and my train has started on. We had plenty of buffalo for breakfast and will have corn or Utah Indian for supper. Yours in haste.

(signed) M. Jones

Amanda be a good girl and learn your book.

[Later]

I now find myself in possession of more time and I want to say to you that I am riding the little bay mare yet, at the rate of 30 miles per day. She holds her own well and will make the trip. I want you to keep Jack of Diamonds and the cow until this time next year, then they they can live until I can keep them myself. I shall say nothing more about my return at present not knowing how much profit the trip will yield. James Hickman will bring this to the States. I wrote to old Charley at Laramie requesting him to forward it to you which he will do.

Mr. Thos. Tarthing sends his respects to you and the children.

I remain yours,

(signed) M. Jones
(Michael Jones)

NOTE: THE ORIGINAL OF THIS LETTER IS IN
THE PIONEER MUSEUM
FORT COLLINS, COLORADO



THE MAN WHO DISCOVERED GOLD IN CALIFORNIA

James Wilson Marshall, the discoverer of gold in California, followed the trade of coach and wagon builder. He began working as a carpenter at Sutter's Fort in 1845, and discovered gold at Coloma in 1848; but he was compelled to leave Coloma in order to save his life from a mob who threatened him because he protected some Indians. He returned after a short absence and found his location surveyed into town lots and in the possession of others. His life was threatened by the gold seekers if he did not show them the rich placers, but he escaped from the mob a second time. The gold rush resulted in Marshall's financial ruin.¹

ROCK INSCRIPTION

There is an inscription, written in French, on a sandstone cliff at the mouth of Westwater Canyon, twelve miles west of the Colorado line on the old Larson Ranch in Utah, near Mack, Colorado. It is translated as follows:

"Antoine Robidoux passed here November 13, 1837, to establish a trading house on the river Green or White."

Antoine Robidoux was born in St. Louis, September 24, 1794. He arrived in Santa Fe in 1822, where he established headquarters. He built Fort Uncompahgre; also a fort on the Uintah River in 1831, known as Robidoux' Fort Uintah. He died in St. Louis on August 29, 1860.²

HASTINGS' CUTOFF

The Hastings cutoff, which caused the tragedy of the Donner Party who crossed it in 1846, was named after Lansford Warren Hastings, a young lawyer from Ohio who went to Oregon with Dr. Elijah White's emigrating company.

In the spring of 1843, Hastings guided a group of dissatisfied emigrants from Oregon to California promising them a shortcut to an even richer land. Hastings was impressed with the Sacramento Valley, and conceived the idea that California would make an ideal independent Republic with himself as the first President. He wrote an overland guidebook, "The Emigrants' Guide to Oregon and California, etc.," published in Cincinnati in 1845. It reappeared under the following dates: 1847, 1848, 1849, 1852 and 1857. Many who followed Hastings' Cutoff met disaster.³

¹Parsons, Frederic, *The Life and Adventures of James W. Marshall*, Sacramento, 1879.

²*Utah Historical Quarterly*, October, 1933, Vol. 6, No. 4, pages 115-116.

³*Utah Historical Quarterly*, July, 1930, Vol. 3, No. 3, page 67.

Wagner, Henry R., *The Plains and the Rockies*, revised by Charles L. Camp, Grabhorn Press, San Francisco, 1937, page 89.

FIRST WHITE MAN OVER THE GREAT SALT DESERT

Jedediah Smith was the first white man to cross this dangerous, desolate waste of desert land, one of the most treacherous in America. It extended seventy-five miles over salt-encrusted earth, with shifting sand dunes, without water or vegetation—and the heat of the reflecting sun overhead.

Smith left Salt Lake with a small company of trappers August 22, 1826, arriving in Los Angeles on November 26th. He achieved one of the great feats in Western History by crossing this unknown country between the Great Salt Lake and the Sierras, dangerous enough for the most intrepid explorer.⁴

"DEAD MAN'S HAND"

There has been much discussion among card players about the "Dead Man's Hand," which was the cards held by "Wild Bill" Hickok when he was shot in Deadwood, South Dakota, August 2, 1876. These were the actual cards held by "Wild Bill" when he met death: two black aces, two black eights, and the nine of diamonds.⁵

⁴*Utah Historical Quarterly*, January, 1930, Vol. 3, No. 1, page 23.

⁵Letter from the Chamber of Commerce, Deadwood, South Dakota, to the Pioneer Museum, Fort Collins, Colorado.

This is your official magazine; send in any unpublished diaries or original western history material you might have or know. Tell your friends about us—"The Westerners." We are a group who are interested in preserving Western History and making it available to others.

Send the name and address of anyone desiring to join The Westerners as a Corresponding Member of the Denver Posse to Room 306, State Museum Building. The dues of \$3.00 per year include the monthly publication. Single issues, 50c per copy.

SUGGESTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

1. Make revisions on typewritten manuscript before submitting it for publication.
2. Triple space.
3. Submit all illustrations with legends.
4. Make all references complete; include the author's name and initials, the title of the article, the name of the book or magazine, the name of the publisher, year of publication, the number of the volume, the number of the page.

Example: Butterfield, Ella A., "Butterfield's Overland Dispatch," *The Trail*, Denver, Colorado, December, 1925, Vol. XVIII, No. 7, pages 3-9.

5. Take plenty of time to make additions before you submit the paper.
6. Check proofs for typographical errors and editorial mistakes.

The time for self-criticism has passed when you have the manuscript in galley proof.

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Education, College Campus
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Editor, Fort Morgan Times
Fort Morgan, Colorado

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71 Woodside Ave.
Amherst, Massachusetts

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3222 Josephine St.
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WEST, G. F.
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WESTERMEIER, Clifford P.
(PHD)

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Colorado Springs, Colorado

WYMAN, Dr. Walter H.
State Teacher's College
River Falls, Wisconsin

YOUNG, Stanley P.
5202 Murray Place
Chevy Chase 15, Maryland

YOUNG, Warren K.
2190 So. Williams St.
Denver 10, Colorado

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LIBRARY
Southwest Collection
9th and Throckmorton St.
Fort Worth, Texas

CERVI, Gene
1420 Stout St.
Denver 2, Colorado

MICHAEL JONES

Michael Jones was born in Kentucky in 1816. He wore a long, white beard when he came to Colorado from Kansas in 1860, locating in the Poudre Valley on the Robert Strause place. Jones brought a large number of horses and cattle with him which formed the nucleus for a large herd. He was industrious and became a wealthy rancher, his fortune amounting to nearly a half million dollars. He was known all over the country as "Ranger Jones." In the early seventies, he returned to Kansas, where he died on July 12, 1889.

Program for February

"The First Forest Ranger; William Richard Kruetzer"

by Len Shoemaker

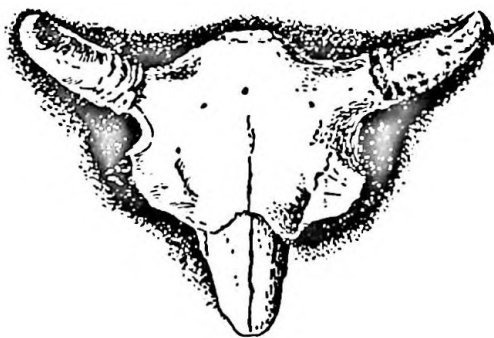
The BRAND BOOK

OFFICIAL ORGAN

THE WESTERNERS

306 STATE MUSEUM BLDG.

DENVER 2, COLORADO



Ralph Carr Issue

VOL. 7

FEBRUARY, 1951

NO. 2

The speaker at the next meeting of the Westerners in March will be Forbes Parkhill; the subject, "There's Gold in Them Thar Files."

This subject is based upon the value of judicial records for historic research work. It is not generally understood by historical research workers that this source is one of the most prolific and untouched among all historic record sources.

EDGAR C. McMECHEN

Welcome to the WESTERNERS as Corresponding Members

GERALD E. WELSH
201 Bellaire Street
Denver 7, Colorado

JOAN SWARTZLOW
Apt. 527
2195 South Vine Street
Denver, Colorado

How to Become a Corresponding Member

Mail check for \$3.00 to 306 State Museum Bldg., Denver 2, Colorado.
Ask for application.



Ralph L. Carr the true WESTERNER, photograph taken by his friend Fred Mazzulla a short time before his untimely death.

The Passing of a Great Westerner . . .

RALPH L. CARR (1887-1950)

Ralph L. Carr, a great Westerner in spirit and in action, lived a colorful life, and was appreciative of the honor bestowed upon him by the people of the State of Colorado who elected him as the Chief Executive for two terms.

Ralph was born December 11, 1887 in Rosita, Colorado, a small mining town west of Pueblo. His father was of Scotch-Irish descent and worked as a coal miner. The Carr family lived in Aspen, Colorado, moving to Cripple Creek in 1894, where young Ralph grew up among the hard rock miners of the West, acquiring a true frontier spirit. Financing his own education by driving a milk truck, he graduated from Cripple Creek High School in 1905.

Ralph paid his own way through the University of Colorado Law School, serving as a correspondent for several newspapers. In 1916 he moved to Antonito, Colorado, and was County Attorney for a number of years, gaining a reputation as a capable lawyer and an authority on water rights.

Ralph Carr's most famous court case, the first he ever tried before the Supreme Court, was that of Tony Manzoni who was accused of having an unusual amount of liquor in his possession.

Tony had a saloon in Aguilar, Colorado in a large stone building with a Klondike front. Adjoining it was a two-story structure without any street entrance, the only access being by an overhead bridge from the saloon. This was reported to have been a stopping place for Anarchists.

Ralph Carr at the age of eight wearing blonde curls, which were responsible for many a bloody nose.



Ralph Carr and his wife Eleanor Fairall.



Manzoni had studied for the priesthood, but prior to being ordained he embraced the principles of Anarchism, which is the theory of life and conduct of a society without organized government. He carved two wooden figures which were placed upon his building. One was the likeness of King Humbert of Italy,¹ the other of Garibaldi, the Italian patriot.² On the anniversary of the founding of the Anarchist Party, Manzoni would sacrifice two young goats, climb a ladder, and pour their blood over the wooden figures to show his contempt for the two men and the system of government for which they stood. He would invite every one to a feast, serving them food and liquor at his own expense.

Manzoni was arrested following the coal miners' strike in 1913-1914, when martial law was declared, and his liquor cellar had a padlock placed on it. Colorado had passed an



Two wooden images that adorned the saloon of Tony Manzoni, now in the possession of Fred Mazzulla, who made the photograph. The one with the protruding tongue represented King Humbert and showed how he would look after being hung by the Anarchists; the other figure represented Garibaldi.

act making it a crime for anyone to have an unusual amount of liquor in his possession, and Tony was arrested and brought to trial in Trinidad, Colorado, where he proceeded to be his own attorney. Believing that an Anarchist would get a fair trial under a democratic form of government, he asked each juror if being an Anarchist would influence their opinion. Judge Granby Hillyer stopped the trial and called Ralph Carr to defend Manzoni, saying: "This man is hanging himself. See that his rights are protected."

Ralph had a difficult time convincing Manzoni to allow him to act as his attorney. He was found guilty, and the case was appealed to the Supreme Court which upheld the verdict. Manzoni served his sentence, but from that time on he was one of the great admirers and ardent supporters of Ralph Carr.

¹King Humbert (1844-1900) ascended the throne in 1868. He was an admirer of Garibaldi, and was assassinated by an Anarchist in 1900.

²Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807-1882) was an Italian patriot who devoted his life to the uniting of Italy into a strong kingdom.

Ralph, known among the Spanish-Americans at Antonito, Colorado as Rafaelito, a term of endearment, was defending a client before a Spanish-American Justice of the Peace in one of the border towns of Colorado and New Mexico. Carr, the learned attorney who spoke Spanish, tried to cite the law from the statutes and several other books concerning the case in question. After a great deal of enthusiasm and effort on Carr's part, the Justice of the Peace replied: "Dis may be de law in Colorado; dis may be de law in Denver, but here, señor, in dis a place, San Luis, I am de law."³

Another interesting case was when Pablo Lopez, who was well over seventy at the time, came to Denver in 1945 to consult Ralph Carr. He informed Rafaelito that he had witnessed foul play. From a distance of two miles he had heard two gunshots, and had observed two puffs of smoke. "Avencio Jiron he shoot my nephew, Vincente Lopez, in the sheep wagon while Vincente is asleep." Ralph asked why the District Attorney had not been consulted, and Pablo related that the District Attorney did not do anything about it because there was no delicti. Ralph turned to his old friend and said: "Pablo, let me tell you about a stage-play called 'Counselor at Law'. The District Attorney in New York was filing a murder charge against a defendant, but he couldn't do so until he had a corpus delicti or a body. The District Attorney turned to one of his assistants, and said: 'Jack, drag the East River. get me a blonde about 20 years old, 5 feet 2, good-looking, and weighing about 105 pounds. We must have a corpus delicti before we can file.' Pablo, you must have a body, and in a murder it must be a dead body."

Pablo nodded and said: "Si, si, amigo." The old gentleman went back to Antonito,



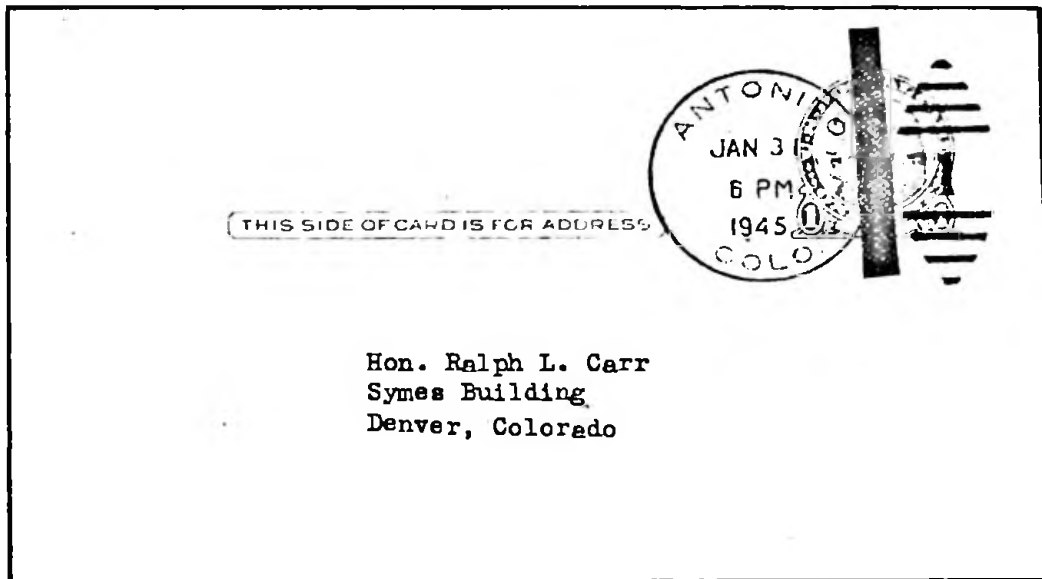
Ralph L. Carr as Governor of the State of Colorado, 1938-1942.

³Story related by Frederick E. Dickerson, Denver, Colorado.

and with th help of two sheep dogs located the shallow grave where his nephew, Vincente Lopez, had been buried. Again he came to Denver and said: "Rafaelito, I find the dead body. The District Attorney he filed the charge against Avencio Jiron. You will come, no?, and be the special prosecutor?" Ralph answered: "Si, si amigo." Pablo added: "Avencio Jiron will be tried by the Judge more far away than Durango."

The reproduction of a post card shows the final settlement of the case.⁴

Ralph's marriage to Gretchen Fowler in 1913 was a happy one. Mrs. Carr died in 1927; they had two children, Robert Frank and Cynthia.



Jan. 30, 1945

Dear Amigo:

If you have not heard, the case of Avenicio is closed. He is dead. He broke the jail last Thursday night and the jailer had to shoot him.

Yours very truly,

Pablo Lopez

P.S. You dont need to come for that case now.

⁴Story and photograph of postal card supplied by Fred Mazzulla.

Ralph was Assistant Attorney General in 1927, and United States District Attorney for Colorado in 1929, a position he held for three years. He was elected Governor of the State of Colorado in 1938 and 1940.

The "Gov," as he was called by some of his close friends, was a likable, friendly person who came up the hard way to the very top in a political career. He was always firm and never seemed to have a dull moment in his everyday living. An entertaining speaker, he knew a great deal about the history of Colorado and was intimately acquainted with many of its colorful characters. His reading was of a wide scope although he was especially fond of biographies of great men. He lived in the exciting times of the mining activities of the Cripple Creek district, and was a close friend of former President Hoover.

One of Ralph Carr's great heroes in history was Abraham Lincoln. He delivered an address at a Lincoln Day banquet in Boise, Idaho on February 12, 1945 on "Lincoln, America's Guide," closing with this paragraph:

"It is our task to see that the rights of every individual, of every business man, of every laborer, of every farmer, of every human, shall be so sacred and so respected that no man or group of men—no theory of government—can deprive an American of his right to live and work and rear his children, to save and to pass on to posterity the things which he has wrought, under the principles which Lincoln knew and died for."

Ralph Carr was the product of his own making; a prototype of the American way of life; a man who fought valiantly for the rights of the citizens, as exemplified in his personal fight for the water rights of the State, which he considered was a "threat to our life—a danger to our rights as Americans—to our first great industry."⁵

His election to the Governor's office in 1938 ended a fourteen-year Democratic rule over the state, and balanced the budget. He was reelected in 1940. During his two terms as Governor, Ralph Carr was constantly striving and fighting against centralized government control over state rights. He had the courage to defend his own opinions, which was exemplified in his decision to allow Americans of Japanese descent, who were evacuated from the West Coast, to come to Colorado. He insisted that they be allowed to exercise their rights as citizens, remaining firm in his executive orders under abuse and violent criticism from people over the entire state.

As Governor, he eulogized the railroad men: "To the railroads, to the individuals whose lives are cast in their functioning, the spectators stand and applaud. It's a wonderful spectacle. It's a fine thing to watch champions perform. The railroad business in the Second World War is made up of world's champions."⁶

As the Chief Executive, he never missed an opportunity of selling the State of Colorado to others. In one of his speeches he said:

"And in that great day, when the sun shall break through the clouds of confusion and warfare and bloodshed and death, the Centennial State shall welcome home her sons. She will offer them a better and a broader life.

"Her natural resources, her climate will be calling. As a part of the Industrial West, Colorado will do her share in the great task of tomorrow."⁷

He did a great job of selling the State of Colorado to the country; he also tried to collect back taxes on Pike's Peak, which was lost by Governor Teller Ammons to the Governor of Texas in 1938 on the "Sugar Bowl" game between the University of Colorado and Rice Institute. Governor Carr sent a bill for three million dollars, which resulted in the signing of a "Non-Agression Pact" in which the Texans would not take Pike's Peak from Colorado; neither would the Coloradoans take the waters from the Gulf of Mexico.

⁵"A New Threat to Western Civilization."—radio speech made over KLZ, December 11, 1943.

⁶"The Railroad's Part in the World's Job Today," April 3, 1942.

⁷"Colorado in the Big Push," April 3, 1942.

Non-Agression Pact

- Preamble: Guided by the conviction that there's too much scrapping and back-biting here and yonder on this old globe, when there's really no reason folks can't get along sociable-like if they're given half a chance, the great neighboring states of Colorado and Texas do hereby solemnly covenant and agree between themselves:
- Article I: The State of Texas allows that Colorado has it whipped when it comes to sky-piercing peaks, snow-capped mountains, cool summers, and snow sports;
- Article II: The State of Colorado, on the other hand, admits that Texas has it hog-tied when folks are looking for silvery Gulf beaches, flowers blooming in midwinter, deep sea fishing, salt water yachting, and winter climate fit for shorts or bathing suits;
- Article III: Being as Colorado's principal vacation attractions are in the summertime, while Texas' turn comes in the wintertime, the two states have nothing to fight about;
- Article IV: Such being the case, there's no good reason why one shouldn't help the other; Coloradoans should aim to enjoy winter vacations in Texas, and Texans should calculate to take summer vacations up Colorado way;
- Article V: While generally speaking folks should tend to their own knitting, and keep their noses out of others' affairs, there's no objection to "fifth columnists," provided all they do is to try to get neighbors to come over for a friendly visit;
- Article VI: So this pact will have teeth in it, it's agreed that if Colorado don't live up to its side of the bargain the Texas folks can come up and tote off Pikes Peak, or if the Texas folks fall down on the agreement Colorado can come down and siphon off the Gulf of Mexico.

Executed at San Antonio, Texas, November 8, 1941.

/s/ Ralph L. Carr
Governor of Colorado

/s/ Coke R. Stevenson
Governor of Texas

Ralph Carr's good judgment is exemplified by a decision he made in 1941 at the death of Senator Alva Adams, when he appointed Eugene D. Millikin to fill the vacancy—the Senator who has rendered the people of the State of Colorado and the entire nation valuable services in Washington.

During the building of the Green Mountain Dam in 1938, the ranchers and people who lived in the vicinity were employed in the construction of the project. The C.I.O. marched in and told them they would have to join the Union in order to continue their work, and it would cost each one fifty dollars to become a member. The ranchers and farmers armed themselves and held the organizers in a near-by gulch all night with gunfire, and many times their campfire was filled with lead from the guns of the irate workers.

Governor Carr ordered W. F. Hunn to take the National Guard and disarm everyone in the vicinity of the dam, and to collect all firearms.⁸ He said: "I do not want any killing connected with this strike. We want to avoid any bloodshed. Collect all the guns in the region." This order was carried out, as "Bill" Hunn related: "This was one time a striker was glad to see soldiers of the National Guard. I took over the area and policed it. Martial law was declared and all the saloons were closed."

This was another chapter in the life of Ralph Carr, which portrayed his character as a person wanting law and order, and always striving to help others.

At the expiration of his second term of Governor in 1942, Carr ran for the United States Senate, but was defeated by Ed. Johnson. He retired from public life to a law practice, in which he was happily engaged. In 1945, he was elected to the Board of Regents of the University of Colorado. Carr's hobby was western history, particularly that of Colorado. He knew, told and wrote many interesting accounts of early-day episodes in the new country where he grew up.

In 1948 he married Eleanor Fairall, a charming woman and a former client. She is the daughter of Herbert Fairall, publisher of the *Daily Journal*, a Denver paper. She spoke of Ralph as being the most lovable character she had ever known. "It was the little things that meant so much. There was never a dull moment in our lives with Ralph. He would come home and jokingly say 'I will never take another woman client.'"

She related another story in his long, difficult struggle to the top. Shortly after graduating from the University of Colorado, he was employed by the *Rocky Mountain News*. Twenty-five cents was all the money he had, and learning that he would not be paid until the end of the week, he sought lodging at the Y.M.C.A., and ate the free lunch that was given over the bar with the purchase of a glass of beer, although he never drank the beer.

Ralph Carr had the ability to inspire confidence, for he placed the interests of others above his own personal ambitions. Always sincere, bearing an air of dignity throughout his political career, he was to the last a champion of good government and the down trodden.

Ralph Carr received the Republican nomination for Governor again in 1950. Although he had refused to be a candidate, he consented to be on the ticket six days before the meeting of the State Assembly, and won his place by a two to one margin. Making his decision when the Democrats nominated Governor Johnson, he appeared before the Assembly on crutches because of a painfully infected leg. When asked by reporters about his condition he replied: "It was so bad two weeks ago that I could not bear to walk on it. I should have been in the hospital then. But I reared up on my hind legs and insisted I'd see this thing through."

When asked by another reporter what happened, he jokingly replied: "I was kicked by a Democratic mule."

During his last illness he was confined to a hospital, his recovery became doubtful and speculation became paramount as to his successor. A day before his death he dictated a letter to the Republican State Central Committee in which he said: "Don't look for a substitute for me so long as I'm above the sod." He fought courageously on, was apparently in good spirits, and seemed to be improving when he became worse and died very suddenly on September 22, 1950.⁹

The passing of genial, colorful Ralph L. Carr was a distinct loss to the State of Colorado; his many friends and the Posse were all stunned by his sudden and untimely death.

⁹W. F. Hunn, now Chief Game Warden of the State of Colorado, was connected with the Colorado National Guard, and contributed this information.

⁹Most of the material for this article was supplied by Eleanor Fairall Carr and Ralph's very good friend, Fred Mazzulla.



CHRONOLOGY

Born in Rosita, Colorado—December 11, 1887
Moved to Cripple Creek, Colorado—1894
Graduated from Cripple Creek High School—1905
Graduated from the University of Colorado—1912
Married Gretchen Fowler—1913
Moved to Antonito, Colorado—1916
Moved to Denver; appointed Assistant Attorney General—1927
United States District Attorney for Colorado (served three years)—1929
Elected Governor of Colorado—1938
Reelected Governor of Colorado—1940
Ran for United States Senate—1942
Private practice of law—1942-1950
Served on the Board of Regents of the University of Colorado—1945-1950
Married Eleanor Fairall—1948
Nominated for Governor on the Republican ticket—1950
Died in Denver, Colorado—September 22, 1950

A TRUE WESTERNER

We cannot look beyond the height
Of peak or depth of canyon's defile;
We still can see in his vacant
Place that contagious, cordial smile.

We can hear the echoes of his voice
Ringing clear and true in every tone,
Though he belonged to the people
He still was one of our very own.

He passed through the turbulent years
Of political life with rigid test;
It was men like he who labored
And helped to build up the West.

A true westerner in honor and spirit
And all that is implied in name;
He lived through a most colorful career
Playing fairly the cards in life's game.

MEMBERS!

What do think of your Monthly Brand Book? Write us about it—no, just procure another Corresponding Member.

HISTORICAL DOCUMENT

The Cherry Creek Pioneer, a copy of which you received with your January magazine, was published twenty-eight minutes after the first issue of the *Rocky Mountain News* appeared. It was the first and only issue that was ever printed, and there are only two known copies of the original paper extant.

HOW THE CHUGWATER GOT ITS NAME

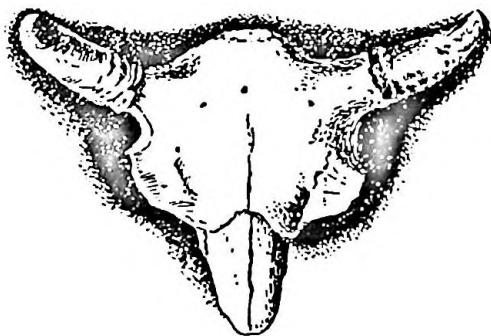
General Charles King, Indian fighter against Apache and Sioux, and author of many novels with military background, tells in "Well Won, or From the Plains to the 'Point'" how the Chugwater River in Wyoming got its curious name. The Indians, bent on trapping beaver in this placid stream, had listened in the stillness to the battering of those wonderful tails upon the mud walls of their dams and forts, and named the little river after the beaver's most marked characteristic—the *chug, chug* of those "cricket bat sandals."

—Submitted by Posseman Dabney Otis Collins



The BRAND BOOK

OFFICIAL ORGAN
THE WESTERNERS
306 STATE MUSEUM BLDG.
DENVER 2, COLORADO



VOL. 7

MARCH, 1951

NO. 3

WELCOME

*Corresponding members are invited to attend any meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Denver Press Club.
Dinner at 6:30 P. M.*

SPEAKER FOR APRIL MEETING

Western Lands and Crops Yesterday and Tomorrow

by David J. Roach

Executive Vice-President, Great Western Sugar Co.

Welcome to the WESTERNERS as Corresponding Members

LAVELLE MENDENHALL
215 E. Bayaud
Denver 9, Colorado

ARNOLD M. WITHERS
3795 So. Colorado Blvd.
Englewood, Colorado

J. D. McMILLEN
1685 Olive Street
Denver, Colorado

JAY J. BRINKLEY
Craig, Colorado

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LAWRENCE C. MARTIN
22 Crestmore Drive
Denver 7, Colorado

How to Become a Corresponding Member

Mail check for \$3.00 to 306 State Museum Bldg., Denver 2, Colorado.
Ask for application.



Levette J. Davidson

Sheriff for 1950. The Department of English, University of Denver.

Professor, now that school is out we can state what we think of you. As our Sheriff during 1950, you gave us many friendly meetings with more history on the West; you created an inspiration to do more and better work; and you brought the Posse close together. In your calm and tactful way you placed all of us on a common ground in a true western fashion. We thank you, Harold, Arthur, Art, and our good friend Ralph, the mathematician magician who drools over figures that are uninteresting to us, yet by his magic wand changed red into black.

Dr. Davidson, every member of the Posse expresses his appreciation to you and your staff for your time and efforts. "So long, Pardner" until the next meeting.

PHILANDER SIMMONS' . . . *Own Story*

When Philander Simmons died in Denver on November 11, 1899, at the age of seventy-eight, he left behind in the hands of his friend, Nathan A. Baker, a long autobiographical sketch, covering the years 1821 to 1874. Simmons had written his story in longhand while living in Canon City in the early 1890s; and the manuscript had been copied by a young attorney there—laboriously punched out on one of those cumbrous early typewriters.

Simmons' story of his life makes fascinating reading. From upstate New York, where he was born, he ventured out upon the most interesting era and scene of American history—the period of Westward expansion. In a world so filled with opportunity it was often difficult for a man to choose his life work, Simmons became assistant engineer on Hudson River and Long Island Sound steamers, seaman on a New Bedford whaler, stock wrangler and hunter with a Santa Fe outfit, employee of the Bents in Colorado, trapper and big game hunter in Wyoming, policeman in St. Louis, freighter on the Great Plains, miner in the Southwest Missouri lead belt, stage driver in Texas, guide to Oregon emigrants, and pilot of the first organized party of record to prospect for gold in Colorado. This was the "Cherokee party" of 1858, to which, apparently, the William Green Russell party attached itself.

Simmons gives a rather careful, detailed account of his Colorado gold hunters of 1858. There are many stories of mountain lion, bear and buffalo hunts in the old West; accounts of Indian scrapes, emigrant travel on the Oregon Trail, the inception of the Sioux wars, the business of hide hunting, of many events which, in this space, cannot even be suggested.

During his extensive Western travels Simmons became acquainted with and writes about such important figures as Old Bill Williams, Kit Carson, Jim Beckwith, Black Harris, Joe Bissonette, John C. Fremont, Jim Kirker, Billy the Kid, and many lesser individuals whose names are familiar to Westerners. A man of independent thought and strong convictions, Simmons is not inclined to accept the popular opinion of these men and writes his own estimates of them.

Our author throws new light on Fremont's disastrous fourth expedition (1848-49), and the ensuing controversy between Fremont's friends and Bill Williams' defenders. He gives a new description and interpretation of Kit Carson, and has considerable to say about the fateful fracas in 1854 between young Lieutenant Grattan and the Sioux along the Platte.

In general, Simmons' style is blunt, terse and direct, with a kind of honest charm. However, when he has a good story to tell he also can be as deliberate and detailed as a yarn-spinning mountain man with a full belly, a full pipe and a silent, spellbound audience of greenhorns hugging the campfire of a crisp Colorado night.

The autobiography and certain related writings of Philander Simmons were acquired some years ago by Fred A. Rosenstock. These, supplemented by other Simmons writings, and other relevant background material gleaned from many authoritative sources, including much first hand information from some of Simmons' surviving contemporaries, are being gathered into a single substantial volume scheduled for fall publication in Denver by Fred A. Rosenstock's Old West Publishing Company.

The editing of this work has been entrusted to me; and I am providing an account of Simmons' interesting last quarter century (1874-1899), a historical and critical introduction, explanatory footnotes and bibliography. The volume will contain some rare illustrations and an adequate index. It is hoped that Philander Simmons' story will prove of great interest to Westerners everywhere, and will supply some facts to fill gaps in the history of the early West.

FREDERIC E. VOELKER

SHAWSHEEN—THE HEROINE OF THE MEEKER MASSACRE

By ROSS V. MILLER

History becomes fascinating and holds interest when some obscure individual seems to come to life from the pages of frontier stories, such as the Indian heroine of the Meeker Massacre, who was known as Shawsheen by her tribe of Ute Indians, and as Susan by the white people.

Shawsheen first came to historical notice in a story related by J. N. Holloway of Loveland of Indians belonging to Chief Lefthand and Chief Friday trying to "swap" an Indian girl who he believed to be about thirteen years old at the time, June, 1863, for a hat and a looking glass, and being refused they were quite indignant. Holloway said:

"That same year Company B of the First Colorado Volunteer Cavalry and Michigan troops were camped at Laporte. There had been some trouble with the redskins on the Platte, so a party of about a dozen soldiers were sent down there to straighten things out. On their way back the soldiers forded the Platte near the present site of Evans and climbed the bluff. From here they saw a large camp of Indians on the opposite side of the river, apparently in some commotion. The soldiers recrossed the river and hastened to the camp, finding Chief Lefthand's band of Arapahoes, the same band that was at my place only a few days before. The savages were preparing to burn at the stake the young squaw they had tried to 'swap' to me for the hat and looking glass, and already had her tied to a tree with fagots piled up around her. The soldiers rescued the girl and took her to their camp at Laporte, and in the course of a few days sent her to Denver. From there, Governor Evans sent her, under guard, to Sulphur Springs, where she was turned over to her people. The young squaw's name was Susan and she was a sister of Chief Ouray. In a raid upon the Ute camp the Arapahoes killed three Ute warriors and captured Susan."¹

Mr. Halloway's story of the rescue of Susan from the Arapahoes is corroborated in all essential particulars by Major Simon Whitely of Racine, Wisconsin, who, at the time of Susan's rescue, was Indian agent to the Utes. In an interview with a reporter, which was printed in the *Chicago Tribune*, November 5, 1879, shortly after the White River Massacre,² Whitely told the following story:

"In the three years of my agency I never discovered any evidence of dissatisfaction or anything but a kindly feeling for the whites on the part of the Utes, which I attribute very largely to the fact that I restored to them the squaw Susan, the sister of Chief Ouray, who saved the lives of the Meeker women after the massacre of their husband and father, N. C. Meeker, at the White River Agency on September 28, 1879.

"While on my way to Sulphur Springs in 1863, I was overtaken by a messenger from Governor Evans, who informed me of the rescue of a Ute squaw from the Arapahoes and Cheyennes by the soldiers of Company B of the First Colorado, stationed at Laporte. These Indians had captured the squaw in one of their raids and, while encamped near the mouth of the Cache la Poudre river, had determined to burn her at the stake. The commanding officer at Laporte, hearing of this, took a detachment of troops and, by alternate threats and promises, obtained her release after she had already been tied to the stake and the fire lighted. Susan was sent to Denver in charge of a guard of soldiers and forwarded from there to me at Sulphur Springs in Middle Park. I then sent her accompanied by U. M. Curtice, my interpreter, to her people and delivered her to them after a journey across the western portion of

¹Watrous, Ansel, *Stories of Indian Troubles and of the Pioneer Days*, (Collated and compiled from historical authorities, public reports, official records, and other reliable sources), The Courier Printing and Publishing Company, Fort Collins, Colorado, 1911, pages 107-108.

²The Meeker Massacre is sometimes referred to as the White River Massacre.

Colorado into the borders of Utah, to the camp of the Indians on the Snake river, where she was received with every demonstration of joy by the tribe."³

Major Whitely concluded his story by saying that Susan was Chief Ouray's sister, who displayed so much kindness and affection for the Meeker women, and through whose interposition, doubtless, their lives were saved.

Major Whitely's story was reproduced in the Fort Collins *Courier* from the *Chicago Tribune*, on November 12, 1879. Knowing that Captain C. C. Hawley of Fort Collins was an officer in the First Colorado in 1863, the editor of the *Courier* called his attention to the story told by Major Whitely and he corroborated it in some particulars, but differed in others. He said: "Susan was taken to Denver, where my company was stationed at the time, and turned over to Major Whitely, who returned her to her people."⁴ Captain Hawley also said that Susan had been with the Arapahoes so long that she had acquired their language and habits and was in no danger of being burned at the stake, as stated by Major Whitely in his interview.⁵

The attention of Thomas R. McBride, one of the early settlers of Laporte, was also called to the story and he stated that Major Whitely's version of the incident was correct. He said that Susan was brought to Laporte and kept in the family of Bill Carroll until Governor Evans decided what to do with her.⁶

It has been impossible to discover what took place in the life of Shawsheen, between the time of her deliverance from the hands of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes and her return to her own people, and the time of her saving the women and children captives of the Meeker Massacre. We know that when she saved the Meeker captives she was the wife of Chief Johnson, but her whereabouts during the troubles at the agency has never been known, but it is certain she was not there. The released captives declared they had never seen her until they met her at the last camp.⁷

It is from the accounts of the captives themselves that we are able to best ascertain the details of their captivity and get first-hand knowledge of Shawsheen's kindness and heroism in saving them.

Of this Miss Meeker says:

"... I may say more, which is that we all owe our lives to the sister of Chief Ouray, for when the soldiers had engaged the savages and were defeated, there was a council called as to what should be done with us prisoners. At that council our enemies were getting the best of it, and were clamoring to have us all burned at the stake, when this brave squaw did what has never been done yet by an Indian woman. She strode into the council and insisted on speaking, would be heard and refused to be quiet. She then delivered an eloquent and convincing speech, in which she told the braves what would be the result of injuring us, and explained fully to them the advantages that would undoubtedly accrue to their side by returning us unharmed to our friends. It was well known to all the warriors that she had great influence with Ouray. To disobey Ouray was death, and so with their natural shrewdness, they saw that it would be best to accede to the good squaw's demand. We were thus saved . . ."⁸

"The following Friday, Johnson held a long talk with Douglas, and as the result took mother to his tent. His wife, to whom as I have said, we really all owed our

³Watrous, Ansel, *Stories of Indian Troubles and of the Pioneer Days*, The Courier Printing and Publishing Company, Fort Collins, Colorado, 1911, pages 108-109.

⁴*Ibid.*, page 108.

⁵*Loc. cit.*

⁶*Loc. cit.*

⁷Geffs, Mary L., *Under Ten Rlags; A History of Weld County, Colo.*, Greeley, Colo., 1938, pages 164-165.

⁸Meeker, Josephine, *The Ute Massacre! — Brave Miss Meeker's Captivity — Her Own Account of It, Also the Narratives of Her Mother and Mrs. Price*, The Old Franklin Publishing Co., Philadelphia, 1897, pages 13-14.

lives, and who is Ouray's sister, cried over us almost constantly, and made good substantial shoes for the children, saying her heart was sore to see them so."⁹ Mrs. Meeker, widow of N. C. Meeker, speaking of the same affair says:

"We owe much to the wife of Johnson. She is Ouray's sister, and like him, she has a kind heart. Ouray had ordered us to be well treated and that we should be allowed to go home.

"The council was a stormy one. Various opinions prevailed. The war party wanted us held until peace should be made between the Indians and the government. They wanted to set us against the guilty murderers, so as to save them through us. After a few hours of violent speeches, Mrs. Johnson burst into the lodge in a magnificent wrap and demanded that the captives be set free, war or no war. Her brother Ouray had so ordered, and she took the assembly by storm. She told the pathetic story of the captives, and advised the Indians to do as Ouray requested and trust to the mercy of the government. General Adams said he must have a decision at once or he would have to leave. That settled it and we were set free.

"Next morning, when we were about to start for the wagon, which was a days journey to the south, Chief Johnson, who was slightly cool toward us, threw out a poor saddle for me to ride upon. His wife Susan caught sight of it and was furious. She flung it away and went to a pile of saddles and picked out the best one in the lot. She found a good blanket and gave both to me. Then she turned to her chief and poured out her contempt with such effect that he was glad to sneak away.

"So long as I remember the tears which this good woman shed over the children, the words of sympathy which she gave, the kindness that she continually showed to us, I shall never cease to respect her and to bless the goodness of her heart, and Ouray, the Spanish-speaking chief of the south. I trust all the good people will remember them."¹⁰

Frank Leslie's *Illustrated Newspaper*, November 15, 1879, in giving an account of Shawsheen's bravery in saving the hostages says: "This is supposed to be the first instance where a squaw has taken any part in an Indian war council."

It has not been possible to discover what happened to Shawsheen after the incidents already described in her life. It is probable that she continued living with her tribe during the remainder of her life and moved with them to the reservation.

⁹*Ibid.*, page 18.

¹⁰*Ibid.*, pages 30-31.



THE RUSSIANS IN THE AMERICAN FUR TRADE

As early as 1785 merchants of eastern Siberia formed an association for carrying on the fur trade upon the northern coasts of the Pacific under the protection of Empress Catherine. A charter was granted by the Czar in 1799 under the name of "Russian American Fur Company." They made preparations to occupy the mouth of the Columbia River in 1806. The Russians divided their territory into districts, each district being under a commandant aided by Russians who kept the natives under subjection and made them labor as mechanics, hunters, fishermen, or soldiers.

They ruled a group of skilled otter hunters. The Aleutian Indians, known as "Marine Cossocks," who were a tireless, sea-hardened group, could kneel or sit motionless from twelve to fifteen hours, clothed in the skin of a sea lion, waiting to thrust a dart into an otter.

The Russians tried to exclude American vessels from the waters of the West Coast so they could control all the trade. They became interested in California and built Fort Ross at Bodega Bay in 1812, for the purpose of exploiting the fur trade along the Pacific Coast.

Fort Ross, with all the farms, was purchased from the Russians in 1841 by John Sutter, builder and owner of Sutter's Fort.

RECOMMENDED FOR GOOD WESTERN HISTORY READING

1. Bollinger, Edward T. RAILS THAT CLIMB (The Story of the Moffat Road). Rydal Press, Santa Fe, 1950. \$5.50.
2. Wentworth, Frank L. ASPEN ON THE ROARING CREEK. A re-issue, edited and published by Westerner Francis B. Rizzari, Lakewood, Colo., 1950. \$6.00.
3. The (Third) LOS ANGELES WESTERNERS' BRAND BOOK (for 1949). Published by the Los Angeles Corral, 1950. Price, anywhere from \$15 up—if you can find one. Some book, by the way! Can hardly be surpassed.
4. Rogers, John William. THE LUSTY TEXANS OF DALLAS. Dutton, 1951. \$4.50.
5. Forrest, Earle R. ARIZONA'S DARK AND BLOODY GROUND (re-issue). Caxton Printers, Caldwell, Idaho, 1950. \$4.00.
6. Horner, John Willard. SILVER TOWN (The Story of Georgetown, Colorado). Caxton Printers, 1950. \$4.50.
7. Winther, Oscar Osburn. THE OLD OREGON COUNTRY. Stanford University Press, 1950. \$7.50.
8. Duval, John C. BIG FOOT WALLACE, TEXAS RANGER AND HUNTER (re-issue of original 1871 edition). The Steck Co., Austin, Texas, 1947. \$2.50.
9. Siringo, Charles A. A TEXAS COWBOY (re-issue of this classic of the range, originally published in 1881). Introduction by J. Frank Dobie, with drawings by Tom Lea. William Sloane, N. Y. \$3.00.
10. Brooks, Juanita. THE MOUNTAIN MEADOWS MASSACRE. Stanford University Press, 1950. \$5.00.



The First Missionary to the Indians of the Rocky Mountains

Father Pierre-Jean DeSmet

(January 30, 1801—May 23, 1873)

Father DeSmet was a twin born in Belgium and came to the United States in 1821. On April 11, 1823 Pierre Jean DeSmet, in company with ten other novices and brothers, began his journey to Missouri. Leaving Baltimore on April 14, 1823, they crossed the Alleghenies, and after eighteen days arrived at Wheeling, West Virginia, went down the Ohio River, up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, then on to Florissant, arriving there June 3, 1823, where they made their home in two log cabins—the house of the Jesuit Mission.

Here Pierre Jean DeSmet studied and labored for four years. He was ordained September 23, 1827 at the Church of St. Ferdinand at Florissant, Missouri, and began teaching young Indian boys, learning their language and a great deal about the temperament and habits of the Indians. He helped build a new college, where he taught English, in St. Louis, which opened November 2, 1829 with forty pupils.

He returned to Belgium in 1835 where he organized an aid association for the furtherance of the Indian Missions, returning to Missouri in 1837. The next year he was appointed to the Potawatomi Mission. Nearly 2,000 Indians greeted him; his influence was felt among the red men and he was responsible for bringing about peace among warring tribes. His great work was among the Indians of the Rocky Mountains, and the description of the country, which helped to blaze a trail into the frontiers of the West.

The Flathead Indians had requested a priest, and Father DeSmet, who volunteered for the journey left St. Louis with an Indian guide on March 27, 1840. Upon his arrival at West Port (Kansas City), he joined a caravan of thirty men of the American Fur Company, who left for the Far West on April 30, 1840. On June 30th of that same year they arrived at Green River where Father DeSmet was met by a group of Flathead Indians. He spent some time among these friendly red men, and induced them to build St. Mary's Mission a few miles south of the present town of Missoula, Montana, between Stevensville and Fort Owen. Within three months a Christian colony had been established.

In 1843 Father DeSmet returned to Europe to seek friends and aid for the missionary work among the Indians. He was received by the Pope, then returned to the United States that same year.

In 1844 he established St. Ignatius Mission near the great bend of Clark's Fork of the Columbia River. He covered nearly five thousand miles traveling up and down the river; his work took him into the mountains many times before his death in 1873. He was buried in Florissant, Missouri, the place where he began his studies for a great career.

Book Review

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATURALISTS; by Joseph Ewan. University of Denver Press, (C-1950). 358 pages; Illustrated; \$5.00.

This book contains biographies of nine leading naturalists of the Rocky Mountain Area; supplemented by a Roster, in biographical form, of natural history collectors, 1682 to 1932; i.e., from Coronado on.

The nine biographies are of such men as James Long of the famous Long's Expedition; J. C. Fremont, the so-called "Pathfinder"; Prof. T. D. A. Cockerell, of the University of Colorado, etc.

It is to be noted that a great many of the men given biographies are not naturalists by profession; but the author's purpose is to give credit to casual amateurs, as well as professional collectors, who helped further the study of mammals, insects, reptiles, fishes, plants, and, in fact, everything pertaining to the animal or vegetable kingdoms, and including their fossils.

The work is heavily documented and shows that the author did an enormous amount of work and careful research in compiling the data he has assembled, and the number of individuals he gives credit to in his "acknowledgments" must be something of a record.

It is not to be expected that his information should be complete in every instance. There are minor errors such as when he states that Ernest Thompson Seton spent only four months in the Rocky Mountain area; this being the time he caught the famous LOBO. Seton was several weeks in the Flat Tops of Colorado in the fall of 1901, and bases his study of the mule deer in his *Lives of Game Animals* mainly on this. He was also several times in the Yellowstone region studying its fauna.

Also, credit is given to Mrs. A. G. Wallihan, and not to A. G. Wallihan, for the really fine wild animal photography done in Western Colorado. The author apparently does not know of the book "Camera Shots at Wild Game," as only the two inferior works of Wallihan are mentioned. While Mrs. Wallihan undoubtedly helped in some of the work, she does not deserve full credit to the exclusion of Mr. Wallihan.

The illustrations are portraits of the nine main subjects of biography. The end-papers are facsimiles of a letter from Eugene Penard, a Swiss Protozoologist, who spent some time in Colorado in a study of Rocky Mountain lakes as compared to those of the Alps. The format and typography are excellent.

—LESTER GEHMAN.



Let's Look At the Record

by Posseman Forbes Parkbill

Colorado Territorial District Court for Arapahoe, Weld and Douglas counties.

File No. 4, August 1, 1861. Dr. Allen F. Peck vs. Alexander C. Hunt, suit for doctor bill of \$139.50. Doctor Peck's complaint set forth that he had practiced medicine in Denver since October, 1859 and had provided services and medicines for Hunt, his family and the hired man. Itemized services: medical attention for hired man, \$72; four visits for daughter, \$10; cupping and visits for wife, \$5. Plaintiff's attorney, James A. Dalliba. Judgment for plaintiff for \$139.50 and costs, or a total of \$163.44.

File No. 11, August 9, 1861. George A. Jackson vs. Leavitt L. Bowen, John A. Nye and Robert W. Steele, doing business as the Amos Gulch Road Company. Plaintiff charges that on April 27, 1861, the company owed \$74 on a note made out to James Anderson; \$55 on a note to Fred Fleshman; \$43 on a note to John Choteau, and \$25 on a note to Hall Riley, all of which notes had been assigned to the plaintiff, who sues for \$402.50. By stipulation this amount was reduced to \$197.50. Nye files an answer denying he was a partner of Bowen and Steele. Case dismissed April 28, 1862.

File No. 120, January 13, 1862. Austin M. Clark, Milton E. Clark and E. H. Gruber, doing business as Clark, Gruber & Co. of Denver vs. Benjamin H. Blanton. Suit for \$166.66, on a draft drawn by V. W. Keene in favor of Gilmore, Dunlap & Co. of Cincinnati, dated November 13, 1861, and assigned to Clark, Gruber & Co. Plaintiffs charge that defendant has departed from Colorado Territory. Dismissed April 28, 1862.

File No. 124, January 21, 1862. Thomas Gibson vs. William N. Byers, Edward Bliss, John L. Dailey and Horace E. Rounds, doing business at Denver as the News Printing Co. Replevin action for \$1,000. Plaintiff charges that defendants kept goods and chattels belonging to plaintiff, consisting of printing press, type, ink, rolls used by Byers and Gibson in the Rocky Mountain News office during the summer of 1859 in Auraria, being property formerly owned by S. A. Strickland & Co., known as the Bellevue Gazette Press of Bellevue, Nebraska.

Defendants reply that equipment was property of Dailey, not Gibson. Original bill of sale showed Byers paid Strickland \$850 and sold a one-half interest to Gilbert C. Monell. On December 9, 1861, Monell sold his interest to Gibson for \$575. Henry Gibson testifies Byers and Gibson were partners in the News in 1859, and that Gibson sold his interest to Dailey. On August 8, 1859, Gibson sold his half interest to Dailey, on condition Dailey was acceptable to Byers.

Judgment for plaintiff for six cents damages and \$93.05 costs.

File No. 172, April 8, 1862. Joseph L. McCubbin vs. James M. Broadwell. The plaintiff, a miner of Russell Gulch, Gilpin County, claims that on June 7, 1859, he executed a mortgage to Broadwell, with a memorandum written on the margin, the mortgage to secure payment of \$25, with interest at 20% per month for three months. Mortgage secured by two 25-foot lots adjoining the corner lots of the late P. T. Bassett at the southwest corner of Larimer and B streets, toward Cherry Creek. Plaintiff says he sent money to John Parks to pay off the mortgage, but Parks found that Broadwell, proprietor of the Broadwell House, had gone to "the states," whereupon the money was offered to Andrew M. Stansbury, Broadwell's agent. Plaintiff believed mortgage was paid until he returned to Denver in the spring of 1860, when he again offered payment and demanded the release of the mortgage. Broadwell claimed the time had expired and McCubbin could not redeem the mortgage; claimed it was not a mortgage but a quit claim deed and, with the margin cut off, filed it with the Register of Deeds February 2, 1860. Plaintiff claims property had become of much greater value, and charges that Broadwell wrote on the margin an offer to sell it back to the plaintiff for \$25 within thirty days, but that the margin had been cut off. (Note: the margin is lacking in the instrument in the court files.)

On September 2, 1862, the court rules that the instrument was in effect a quit claim deed.

File No. 176, April 12, 1862. Elizabeth Maxon vs. James M. Broadwell, \$10,000 for slander. Plaintiff, asserting she is esteemed and accepted by her neighbors as a good and worthy citizen of Colorado Territory, charges Broadwell with spreading and publicizing false, scandalous and malicious reports about her; says he told Oscar William White, "No lady in town would associate with her and everyone knows it;" and told Preston, "You ought not to introduce her to a lady." Broadwell files demurrer claiming insufficient cause of action. Trial April 28, 1862, with O. J. Goldrick as witness.

Judgment against plaintiff August 26, 1862.

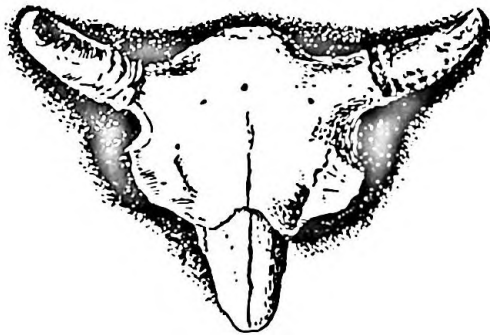
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VOL. 7.

APRIL, 1951

No. 4

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founders of the Denver Posse.

"BILL" KRUETZER . . . *A Pioneer Forest Ranger*¹

By LEN SHOEMAKER,
U. S. Forest Ranger, Retired

Our National Forests have been preserved through the untiring efforts of men who have devoted their lives to a protective service. The first of this group was a man, who pioneered in the mountains of Colorado and blazed the trails for the present rangers of the Forest Service to follow.

On August 8, 1898 William Richard Kreutzer, a tall, sturdy man of twenty-one, tied his horse, "Blue," to a hitch rail near the Union Block on Denver's Sixteenth Street. He had heard that the Forest Reserve Service² needed rangers, so had ridden in from the Metcalf ranch, twenty miles to the south, to see the newly appointed Superintendent of Forests of Colorado and Utah, Colonel William T. S. May.

In the early days, political endorsement was necessary for ranger appointments. Bill Kreutzer had none. But he did have some good practical ideas about forest management: ideas born of observation and experience while looking after the Metcalf cattle on the Plum Creek Forest Reserve.³ Colonel May, a retired army officer, was so favorably impressed with the youth that he hired him, adding, "and political appointments be damned."

Bill had told Colonel May that several fires were burning on the Plum Creek watershed, and May instructed him to go back and "to ride as far and as fast as the Almighty would let him and put out those fires." He told Bill that suppression of fires should be his primary duty, after which other things could be attended to.

Bill Kreutzer followed those instructions, and for three years he fought fire after fire along the Front Range. Although a number of fires were of incendiary origin, seldom could he find proof of it. It was hard, tiresome, dangerous work, and once, due to a shifting wind while fighting a fire, he and his men were encircled by flames. They wallowed in a wet bog to dampen their clothes, then rushed through the narrowest part of the burned-over area; all suffered minor burns.

Bill had other duties such as control over trespass and grazing. His pay was \$50 a month. A few fire tools were provided by the Government, but other than that, he had to furnish everything else—horses and riding equipment, tent, bedding, cooking utensils, and his own food.

During the second year of his service, funds ran low, and when supervisors' salaries were reduced they all quit. Following that, all rangers except Bill Kreutzer were dropped or furloughed. He, alone, of all the force was retained to ride patrol over three reserves.

With his tools, bedding, and grub securely diamond-hitched to the back of a second horse, he rode "Blue" here and there, doing whatever he had to do, camping alone at night, preparing his own meals. It was a way of life that broke many a romantic youth who undertook it as an adventure. But to Bill Kreutzer it was more than a duty, it was a way through which he pursued the Holy Grail which symbolized his purpose in life.

Since the arrival of the first settlers from the East, men had helped themselves to the natural resources around them, using what they wanted, wasting almost as much.

¹Edited by Dabney Collins.

²The name first given the U. S. Forest Service.

³This reserve was the sixth of thirty established before 1898; one of the five, in Colorado. In order of establishment there were the White River, Pikes Peak, Plum Creek, South Platte, and Battlement Mesa. They are now the White River, Pike, and Grand Mesa National Forests; Pike being a combination of the three Eastern Slope reserves. Although established as early as 1891, these reserves were such in name only, no provision having been made for administration. In 1897 Congress made available, effective July 1, 1898, \$75,000 for this purpose.

Now, on the reserves, such encroachment was considered as trespass, and rangers were instructed to "stop the practice."

Two tie-hacks defied Bill, after he had told them to stop cutting government-owned timber. He went alone to their camp, and after a little maneuvering, he disarmed the pair, and talked them into a proper state of mind. At another time, private-land operators wouldn't quit when he told them they were cutting over the line. So while they were eating dinner, he carried away their tools. He cached them several miles away, and refused to disclose the place where they were hidden until the trespassers promised to stay on their own land.

The early settlers, who had been accustomed to unrestricted use of the open range, grazed their stock where and when they pleased. Rangers were told to count the stock on the reserves and to see that each owner secured a permit, which, until 1906, was issued without any fee. Since Bill had grown up with stockmen and understood them, he had little trouble in getting most of the applications for permits signed.

Colonel May, or F. J. Steinmetz, Bill's supervisor, often called on him to plug some breach. Once May sent him and Jerry Shoemaker, a neighboring ranger, to Palmer Lake to fight a fire on the Pikes Peak Reserve. After several days of strenuous labor, they corralled the fire, and Bill left Jerry to do the mopping up. He started home and met the ranger who was stationed in the district.

"Where in hell have you been?" Bill angrily demanded.

Seemingly unconcerned about the fire or his negligence, the ranger replied: "Oh, I've just been down to Colorado Springs to see a flower show."

Too angry to speak the customary "So long," Bill rode homeward, roundly cursing the spoils system that permitted such men to hold ranger jobs. And rightly so, for irresponsible rangers were the bane of the early Reserve Service—an evil that never should have existed.

Shortly afterward, Bill put out another fire in an adjoining district, sought the ranger and found him at his headquarters, half-clothed, enjoying a bottle of wine.

During the summer of 1900, Bill extinguished a big fire and submitted the usual report. To show the esteem in which he was held by his superior officers, part of a letter which his supervisor wrote, is given:

"Wm. R. Kreutzer, Esq.,
Forest Ranger,
Sedalia, Colo.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of . . . your comprehensive and elegant fire report of fire near Devils Head. I am delighted with your work, and . . . I shall forward this report with my monthly report on fires to the Dept."

The words "comprehensive" and "elegant" as applied to the fire report are brimful of meaning. In using them, Supervisor Steinmetz revealed Bill Kreutzer's characteristic traits more clearly and fully than a whole page of direct praise might have done.

Bill, who was honest and believed in fair dealings, carried out orders without fear or favor. Many people considered him an oppressor, a tyrant, a devil, rather than a servant of the people. Many tried by intimidation to persuade him to cease his rigid enforcement of the regulations; others petitioned Washington, demanding that he be fired. Calmly he went on his way, doing his duty in conformity with the law.

The same actions that made him enemies also made him many friends, who were sorry when they learned that he was to be transferred to the Western Slope of Colorado. Conditions on the Battlement Mesa Reserve, however, were worse than they were on the

Plum Creek, Colonel May said, and he needed Bill there to iron out some of the irregularities.

In May, 1901, Bill rode across the "backbone of the continent," via Leadville, and reported to Supervisor O. T. Curtis at De Beque, who was supervising both Western Slope reserves. He sent Bill on to the town of Mesa in Plateau Valley, where lands were overgrazed. Bill rode over all of his ranges, and found that the Mesa Lakes range was in bad shape, but upon the Buzzard Creek and Muddy Creek ranges there was abundant grass. He tried to get the stockmen to drive their cattle there and let the poor range build up. They wouldn't do it, claiming that it was too far away.

A meeting was called to consider the matter, and Bill overheard one of the ranchers say: "I'll be damned if I'll drive my cows forty miles to range just on the say-so of some tenderfoot ranger."

This amused Bill; he'd been called almost everything else, but not a tenderfoot. He proved to the assembled stockmen that he wasn't that kind of a varmint by "busting" a wild bronc which most of them were afraid to ride. His masterful horsemanship pleased the watchers that they agreed to his request and drove their cattle to the better range.

By midsummer, Bill thought he had the situation well in hand. Then, a guard at the William Radcliffe hunting and fishing preserve at Alexander Lakes shot and killed a Cedaredge-Surface Creek rancher for fishing in one of the lakes. Enraged settlers rode to the Lakes to hang the guard, but he had already surrendered to the sheriff. Balked in this, they burned the Radcliffe buildings and ran everyone off the Mesa. And, as a consequence, Cedaredge residents declared an open season on all government agents, including forest rangers.

Forest fires broke out on Grand Mesa and Bill was asked to go there to put them out. Though fully aware of his danger, he rode over the hump to Alexander Lakes, and, so to speak, suppressed the fires with a fire tool in one hand and a six-shooter in the other. If somebody gets shot, I don't want it to be me, was his constant thought, and as a safety measure, he moved his bed every night and slept with one eye open.

While Bill was repairing an old cabin, he was approached by two young cowboys, armed with six-shooters, who informed him they were a committee, sent there by Cedaredge residents to see that he left Grand Mesa. The settlers had decided that no more Government agents would be tolerated. They would give him thirty minutes to pack up and hit the trail.

Bill thought fast. His gun hung on a limb fifty feet away, but one of theirs was within reach if he could get closer to it. With pleasant words and outstretched hand, he walked up close to the men. Quick as a flash his hand darted out. Jerking a gun from one of the holsters, he fired it over their heads, ordering the cowboys to reach.

He secured the other man's gun, recovered his own, and gave them back their empty guns. He told them he was a Government agent, officially in charge of the reserve lands, and that he would not tolerate any interference from the valley settlers. He told them to go home and to stay off Grand Mesa, unless they came peaceably. Only then did Bill realize that he had taken a great chance. The incident made him more alert, and after that he kept his gun within easy reach, but he was never threatened again.

In Cedaredge, two other cowboys, who were on a drunken spree, waved guns in his face and cursed him for having opened their drift fence on Grand Mesa. Bill was armed, but ignoring their guns, he talked them into silence; whereupon they pronounced him a good fellow, produced a bottle and asked him to have a drink. Bill took two nips, then tongued the bottle on its third round. The drink was "stone fence," a mixture of bad whiskey and hard cider. He'd never tasted it before, but had heard that "after the third

drink one feared he was going to die, and after the fourth, feared he wouldn't." Later, Bill was asked, "Were you scared?" He evaded the question, but when pinned down, laughingly replied, "Well, no. Not much, anyway. Especially, after the second shot of that "stone fence."

In the fall of 1902, Bill was caught in an unexpected, early snow storm, and barely escaped with his life. After the Government, with Radcliffe's permission, rebuilt the fish hatchery at Alexander Lakes, valley settlers ran off the attendant. Another man took his place and he, too, was run off. Bill took charge until another man could be found. The third time the settlers came, Bill met and lectured them severely on what they were doing. He told them to go home and quit interfering in Government affairs. If they didn't he would ask for the arrest of their leaders. They conferred among themselves, then rode away. They did not return.

Bill faced many irate ranchers, some of them armed, when Government orders had to be enforced. When he stopped the illegal use of water, range, and timber on the reserve, he was threatened with violence. But he always managed to convince them they were wrong.

For almost a decade before Bill Kreutzer came to Grand Mesa, there had been a bitter controversy between sheepmen and cattlemen. The settlers who owned cattle were opposed to the encroachment of sheep from the desert ranges of Utah. They had formed a Stockmen's Protective Association, whose members were pledged to keep sheep off the cattle ranges.

The members of the Association had set up a deadline—huge rock cairns, beyond which no woolly could go, and they kept close watch on all sheep outfits that came near it. Bill was not concerned with this defense line, but he had to patrol the reserve boundary, for sheep were being crowded toward the lush grass of the Mesa.

Conflicts between the two factions began in 1892, when a band of Utah rams were winter-fed in Plateau Valley. One night a group of men surrounded the sheep camp, killed the rams, and ran off the herders. Despite that terrible warning, a short time afterwards an attempt was made to drive in a band of ewes. On the same ridge where the rams had been killed, a hundred men met and killed all the sheep.

Attempts to bring sheep in by other routes met with the same treatment, and in one of the fights two men were seriously injured. The cowmen held the advantage, and not one sheep reached the high range. The loss of sheep was great, and piles of bones and ram's horns were scattered along the Hogback Ridge.

Across the then Grand River Valley to the east, similar fights were taking place. One bitter conflict occurred on September 10, 1894, at the head of Parachute Creek in Garfield County. About 200 men surrounded a sheep camp, tied up the herder and camp-mover, and forced some 3000 sheep over a cliff. Every sheep was killed, and a large pile of bones is still visible.

That was the last battle between the sheepmen and cattlemen for several years, as the greater part of the disputed range was now within the reserves. All grazing land had been classified as either sheep or cattle range, and no further trouble was expected.

However, in the spring of 1903, two sheepmen decided to openly oppose the cowmen again. They approached Grand Mesa with fifteen bands of sheep, although the area had been designated as cattle range by reserve officials. Word of their advance reached Bill, who also learned that the cowmen were ready to reopen the fight the instant the sheep crossed the old deadline. He told the cowmen to lay off and he would deal with the sheepmen. The ranchers scoffed at him, but agreed to wait and see what he could do.

Bill rode to the forefront of the advancing sheep, and arrived just as they were starting up the west face. He spurred his horse squarely into the path of the first band

he came to, turning them down the gulch. The herders protested, waving their guns. Bill ignored their threats and rode on toward the camp. On the way he turned back eight more bands.

One of the owners came out to meet him with a Winchester across his arm. "Who are you and what do you want?" he demanded.

Bill stepped down from the saddle. He urged the sheepmen to go back to the desert range. Belligerently, the sheepmen told him that he was wasting his time; that he and his partner intended to take their sheep to Grand Mesa in spite of all the cowmen could do. They had men enough to do it.

Patiently, Bill explained that they were not bucking the cowmen; they were fighting the United States Government. "Better think it over before going any farther," Bill warned him.

But the sheepmen still defied him. He mounted his horse and started for Delta to notify his supervisor. On the way, he was caught in a terrible storm. When he reached Delta his feet were frozen, and he had to thaw them out with snow. It was several days before he could walk, and then he went back to see what had happened. He was glad to find that the sheep had gone back to the desert. His talk with the sheepman, in Bill's opinion, averted a range war that would have exceeded any in the history of the West.

The year of 1905 was momentous in the life of Bill Kreutzer. This was because of the fast-changing status of forestry in the United States. The dynamic Theodore Roosevelt had become its champion. Guided by the forceful Gifford Pinchot, the old Forest Reserve Service was passing, and forestry was soaring to a favorable place in the sun.

Empowered by the Congressional Act of February 1, 1905, President Roosevelt transferred the administration of the forest reserves from the General Land Office of the Department of the Interior to the Bureau of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture. He renamed the bureau "Forest Service," with the injunction ". . . that the natural resources of the forest reserves should be administered for the greatest good to the greatest number in the long run." Several interpretations have been given to those words, but what he and Secretary Wilson¹ actually meant was plain. The wasteful thievery of natural resources, then rampant, must be stopped and some kind of controlled management be instituted therefor.

To do that, a reliable force of field administrators had to be trained—men imbued with honesty and integrity. By blanket order, the existing personnel was transferred to the new organization. A corps of forestry-trained inspectors began assorting the good from the bad, and they went about it in earnest. The elimination process continued for a long time before a satisfactory force was established.

That summer, Bill was sent by his supervisor to the Gunnison Forest Reserve as ranger at large. On the way to the town of Gunnison, he checked up on three of the temporarily appointed rangers (at that time known as forest guards), and helped one of them put out a fire at the Carpenter sawmill. They stayed overnight at the sawmill and slept in the bunkhouse. Harry Carpenter placed his Luger on a chair close to his bunk.

During the night, Bill thought he felt a movement in the foot of the bed and found there was a mountain rat inside the old mattress. The opportunity was too good to miss. Quietly getting his Colt, which he had placed under his pillow, he shot the rat. The roar of the old forty-five inside the house was terrific. Carpenter sprang up and grabbed for his Luger. He couldn't find it in the darkness, and wanted to know what in blazes was coming off.

Bill had a good laugh while Harry was lighting a lamp. But he soon made another discovery. The mattress had been full of half-starved bedbugs, and he had released them.

¹James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture.

Before morning, he and Wheeler had to move out to the sawdust pile to escape probable annihilation.

When Bill arrived in Gunnison a meeting of the Cattlemen's Association was in progress. It was one of many held that fall to protest the Chief Forester's announcement that a fee would be charged for stock grazed on the forest reserves. Learning who he was, a group of stockmen surrounded him as he rode up Main Street, and they kept him busy for an hour, answering questions about the new proposal.

Returning to his rented cabin in Tin Cup after attending his mother's funeral, Bill found a telegram awaiting him:

"Assume charge of Gunnison Reserve immediately.
Establish headquarters in Gunnison. Gifford Pinchot."

He reread the message. He couldn't believe it; yet, there it was. Bowing his head, he said aloud to himself, "I'll do the best I can for you, Chief." It was a vow he never broke during his Government service under five chief foresters.⁵

He opened an office in Gunnison, but he seldom stayed there long enough to warm the office chair. He was constantly on the go, training the new rangers, and doing whatever came to his attention.

Countless things of more than ordinary interest occurred during the fifteen years he had charge of the Gunnison. Only a few can be mentioned here. He was advanced from ranger in charge to forest supervisor, January 1, 1907, for he had sought more knowledge of forestry and associated subjects all through the years, and had attended a short course in forestry at the Colorado Agricultural College.

Elated with his promotion he popped the question to bonny Mary McIntosh, a Canadian school teacher he had met in September at the annual Cattleman's Day celebration. Mary said "Yes." They were married on March 3, 1907 in Fort Collins, where Mary was then teaching.

Because of some personal association, Bill plainly remembers some of the historical dates of those years.⁶ On July 1 and 2, 1908, a complete rearrangement and consolidation of all existing national forests was made;⁷ and out of the deal Bill's office got a stenographer named Maud Bray and a typewriter named Oliver.

On July 23, 1916, Bill almost lost his life twice. While fighting the big Dutch Gulch fire, east of Pitkin, the wind changed and a crown fire came directly toward him and his men. They barely escaped by dodging into a barren spot inside the burned-over area. Later that night, he fell some thirty feet into an old mine shaft, but his heavy coat caught on a timber and broke the fall. When asked how far he fell, Bill wryly answered, "I don't know. I never went back to measure it."

The payment of grazing fees was bitterly opposed by both classes of stockmen. Bill frequently had to attend meetings called to protest the order. At one meeting, the Gunnison cowmen decided to take the matter to the courts. However, they were too slow, for the members of the Roaring Fork Stockgrowers' Association initiated the action. It was known as the Fred Light Test Case, because Light, of Snowmass, purposely let his cattle trespass on the Holy Cross Forest. The case was decided in favor of the Government. It was appealed to the Supreme Court, which affirmed the decision of the lower court. This action established the legality of the grazing fee.

Bill Kreutzer's biggest job on the Gunnison was to put to use the so-called waste ranges of the reserve. These ranges had been classed as sheep range by the Government, because they were not used by the cattlemen. With the help of committees appointed by

⁵Pinchot, Graves, Greeley, Stuart and Silcox.

⁶The name "Forest Reserve" was changed to "National Forest" on March 4, 1907.

⁷A general reorganization of the Forest Service was made on December 1, 1908, and District (now Regional) Offices were set up in six western cities.

the governing board of the association, Bill and his rangers established boundary lines between the ranges and driveways to get the sheep to their range.

Although approved by the Board, certain groups of its members objected to the plan, and by their constant interference made it almost unworkable. One group went further. They decided to open the old range war by raiding a band of sheep on range just above the old town of Pittsburg. About twenty of them rode up there and found, much to their surprise, Bill and two of his men, and Frank Comstock, the president of the Association. Having heard of the proposed raid, Bill had made a wild night ride from Tin Cup, picking up the others on the way.

They prevented the raiders from destroying the sheep, although Bill was berated roundly for his interference. One of the raiders cocked his gun, poked it against Bill's stomach, and backed him around the park. Some of the men wanted to hang Bill, but the saner members of the group objected. So great was their anger and frustration that Bill thinks they might have hung him if he and his men had not escaped from the guard.

Bill took no action against the raiders. He thought he could eventually pacify their unrest and dissatisfaction and get them to accept his grazing policy. But in this he was sadly mistaken. They mistook his leniency for timidity and staged, or had some other men stage, a raid the following year.

On July 4, 1918, men tied up a sheepherder at a camp in Oh-Be-Joyful Gulch, north of Crested Butte, and ran his employer's sheep over a cliff. Fortunately, the cliff was so low that many of the sheep escaped injury, but the pattern of the act showed it was an offshoot of the old range war.

Bill enlisted the help of the Department of Justice, and they sent in a special agent, who worked on the case for several months with little success. All of the local men suspected were able to show perfect alibis. No trace of outside help was discovered, but the picture was clear: the cowmen had followed the old system of having outside men come to their aid.

Bill laid down an ultimatum. He told the cowmen: "This old fight between cattlemen and sheepmen must end here and now. I let the case drop last year on the assumption that it was the result of a general dissatisfaction with the Government's grazing policy. This raid appears to be a clear case of spite—of rebellion against the authority of us who have to carry out that policy. I'm issuing an order to my rangers to be on the alert for evidence against any one or all of you, and, should I find proof of guilt in this case, or any other hereafter, I'll take it to the courts."

"I wasn't vindictive," Kreutzer said, in summing up the case, "but I was determined that there should be no recurrence of the sheep and cattle war, if eternal vigilance on our part could avert it."

Bill deserves a great deal of credit for the peaceful conditions which exist between the two classes of stockmen and between the stockmen and the administrators of the range. "For it was men of that type," said Will C. Barnes, a one-time Chief of Grazing of the United States Forest Service, "who won the West for forestry."

In 1920, Bill was made a District Forest Inspector, and inspected Forest Service activities on several national forests, one of which was the Battlement. After completing that assignment, he accepted the supervisorship of the Colorado (now Roosevelt) National Forest. He did not want to leave the Gunnison where his roots were so deeply imbedded, but he wanted to give his children, three boys and a girl, the advantage of a college education, so he moved to Fort Collins in February, 1921.

Conditions on that forest reminded him of his early days on the Plum Creek Reserve, for forest fires were numerous. Fire suppression and watershed and timber management were now his big jobs, with grazing management a close third. He had

more time to delve into the technical phases of forestry, a thing he had often wished to do. Before his retirement he was classed with the able foresters of the region.

In the late '20's, the old man with the scythe, who had ever closely pursued him, almost caught up with Bill at a fire on South Boulder Creek, near Tolland. Flames almost encircled him and his firefighters before he knew it. Driving the group ahead of him, he rushed toward the only place of escape, but worn out from his long fight, he fell and was too exhausted to rise. Two of the men, seeing him fall, ran back and dragged him to safety just before the flames came together.

Bill Kreutzer, the first appointed ranger in the State of Colorado, retired from the Service October 31, 1939. With boundless enthusiasm, he had zealously broken trails through the forests of the Rocky Mountain Region for forty-one years, the longest continuous service to that date. His loyal service will long be remembered in the annals of the U. S. Forest Service.

APOLOGY

The name of our good friend and co-founder of the Denver Westerners—Herbert O. Brayer, 2137 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, was inadvertently omitted from the list of Reserve Members published in the January issue. Sorry "Herb;" blonde stenographer's fault—not ours.



NEW BOOKS OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS

- LIFE IN THE FAR WEST.**—By George Frederick Ruxton, Edited by LeRoy R. Hafen. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Okla. \$3.75. One of the most important books of the trapper period, edited and reissued by the Historian of the Colorado State Historical Society, a member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners.
- A GUIDE TO AMERICAN FOLKLORE.**—By Levette J. Davidson. University of Denver Press, Denver. \$2.00. Folklore bibliography, by a member of the faculty of the University of Denver and member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners.
- THE WATER AND THE POWER.**—By Albert N. Williams. Duell, Sloan & Pearce, New York. \$4.50. The water resources of the West; by a member of the faculty of the University of Denver and a corresponding member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners.
- IN MY BACK YARD.**—By Al Look. University of Denver Press, Denver. \$4.00. Popular treatment of geology, paleontology and archaeology of western Colorado.
- BACK TRAILING ON OPEN RANGE.**—By Luke D. Sweetman. Caxton Printers, Caldwell, Idaho. \$3.50. Experiences on the open range in Montana from 1885 to 1900. Illustrated by L. D. Cram.
- PAWNEE INDIANS.**—By George E. Hyde. University of Denver Press, Denver. \$7.50. A study of the Pawnee Indians, illustrated with photographs and maps.
- COWBOY AND INDIAN TRADER.**—By Joseph Schmedding. Caxton Printers, Caldwell, Idaho. \$5.00. Life of an Arizona cowboy and owner of a trading post among the Navajos. Illustrated with photographs.
- CHEYENNE LOOKING NORTH.**—By E. O. Fuller. Reprinted from Annals of Wyoming, courtesy of Wyoming State Historical Department. The Herald, Lusk, Wyoming.

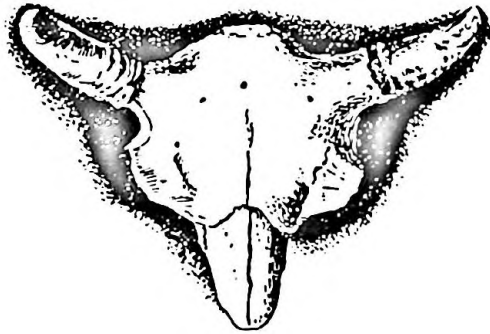
The BRAND BOOK

OFFICIAL ORGAN

THE WESTERNERS

306 STATE MUSEUM BLDG.

DENVER 2, COLORADO



VOL. 7

MAY, 1951

NO. 5

Welcome to the WESTERNERS as Corresponding Members

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"There's Gold In Them Thar Files" by FORBES PARKHILL

The researcher prospecting for historical treasure may "strike it rich" in the basement of Denver's Municipal Building, where are stored the files of the District Court of the First Judicial District of the Territory of Colorado, dating from June 6, 1861.

An understanding of the background of the Territorial Court will prove helpful before sampling some of this historical "pay dirt."

In February, 1851, Congress passed the act creating the Territory of Colorado. It had the effect of terminating the "People's Courts" of the 1858-61 period, but not before all proceedings growing out of former court actions had been validated. Also, these "local laws" were confirmed by the First Colorado Territorial Legislature and were recognized by Congressional enactments when not in conflict with existing statutes.¹

As originally constituted, the First Judicial District of the Territorial Court comprised Arapahoe, Weld and Douglas counties; at that time virtually the entire northeast quarter of the territory. Judges of the three judicial districts sitting *en banc* constituted the Supreme Court of the territory, and consequently acted in the dual capacity of District Court judges and Supreme Court justices.

Benjamin F. Hall was commissioned Chief Justice March 25, 1861. Justices Stephen S. Harding and Moses Hallett were commissioned July 10, 1863 and April 10, 1866. Ten associate justices served from 1861 until Colorado became a state.

The official court seal, of embossed red paper, bears the date 1861 and shows a covered wagon and team against a mountain sunset background.

Judge Hall presided at the opening of the territorial court in a room only seven feet wide and nine feet long, in a frame building at Thirteenth and Larimer streets.² The 12x25-foot building also housed a weekly newspaper, the *Commonwealth*.

Subsequently the court occupied quarters in the Middal building in the rear of the Lindell hotel; in the old Planters' House at Sixteenth and Blake streets; the Keller House on Ferry (now Eleventh) Streets; the Jackson building on the site of the Windsor hotel; the McClure building on Larimer between Fifteenth and Sixteenth streets; upstairs on Lawrence at Fifteenth in quarters reached by an outside stairway, where it functioned when Colorado was admitted to statehood and the court was changed from the jurisdiction of the United States to that of Colorado.

The court records survived the great fire of 1863 which destroyed the Planters' House and likewise survived the Cherry Creek flood of May 19, 1864, which swept away the City Hall safe containing valuable city records.

The old records present a vivid picture of life in the territorial days. A book would be required to present merely the highlights, so for the purpose of this account only one or two phases of pioneer life will be examined here.

One of the first cases recorded in the new court, (No. 11) Peter K. Dotson vs. John M. Hockaday, filed August 12, 1861, marked the collapse of the Hockaday stagecoach lines, founded in 1858 and possessor of a government contract to carry mail between the Missouri River and Utah for \$190,000 a year.

Dotson, United States marshal for Utah Territory, sued for \$4,000 due on a \$10,000 promissory note executed at St. Louis September 7, 1857; for \$2,000 for merchandise sold by the government to the defendant; and for \$5,000 loaned at various times. The government won a judgment for \$5,023.34 and the property of the stage line was seized to satisfy the judgment. The property included 224 oxen, four mules, a

¹*Dicta*, Vol. 9, p. 25.

²For a more detailed history of the court, see the *Denver Republican*, July 20, 1890, p. 15.

freight wagon, thirty-five wagon covers, 402 sacks of flour, 140 ox yokes, 120 log chains, a set of gold scales and other valuables.

Six days later Hockaday sought to replevin the seized property (File No. 70) and twelve days thereafter won a change of venue to Pueblo (No. 118). Subsequently his company was absorbed by Russell, Majors and Waddell.

On August 21, 1861, Robert B. Bradford sued Russell, Majors and Waddell for \$18,800 due on a \$36,686.87 merchandise bill, and won a judgment May 2, 1862 (No. 45).

Three days later Bradford sued Alexander Street, Eugene B. Allen and Finis V. Ewing, assignees of Russell, Majors and Waddell, and William T. Hays, the company's Denver agent, for the appointment of a receiver and an injunction restraining Hays from paying funds to the assignees (Nos. 45, 49).

He charged that William H. Russell of the stage company, with Majors and Waddell and another partner, A. Billmiller, had named trustees for the company, to whom he had conveyed all his property in Missouri and in Kansas and Nebraska territories; these trustees to indemnify all who went on Russell's \$60,000 bail before the criminal court of the District of Columbia respecting whatever charge might be preferred against him by a grand jury regarding stocks held in trust by the Government for Indian tribes, and to pay all debts of the stage company.

Bradford set forth that Majors and Waddell had conveyed to these trustees all property of the stage lines, including 2500 oxen in the Pikes Peak and Arkansas grazing country and the Rattoon (Raton) mountains; 1,000 ox wagons at Leavenworth City, Nebraska City, Denver City, Fort Wise, the Rattoon mountains and near the residence of Samuel Potteet in Kansas Territory; all yoke chains and wagon sheets and twenty-four mules; 300 oxen and 25 mules near Nebraska City; station house and sixty oxen at Fort Kearny; 80 mules and ponies on a farm near Leavenworth; forty rifles and shot-guns; 4,000 sacks of flour owned jointly with Bradford in Denver warehouses; all goods and merchandise in Utah Territory; all stock owned independently or jointly with the Central Overland, California and Pikes Peak Express Co.; 800 shares of the Seneca Coal Co.; ten shares, New Mexico Mining Co.; 60,000 pounds of sugar in wagons in the Rattoon mountains en route to Santa Fe, and interest in the government contract for transporting army supplies.

On September 2, 1861, Agent Hays asked that the injunction be dissolved. On October 19 the court issued an order restraining the sale of the company assets. On May 3, 1862, a jury found the company to be indebted to Bradford to the sum of \$18,000, plus annual interest at 10%, or \$20,180.

Samuel H. Ashcraft sued John M. Hockaday & Co. on May 5, 1862, for \$790.63 and asked for a writ of attachment (No. 153). Exhibits included a note signed by the Hockaday company dated April 11, 1858, at Crittenden Station, in which the Great Salt Lake Mail & Express Co. promised to pay Andrew Jackson Derrydale \$28.56, the note not to be presented at the company office at Atchison until after the first days of April, July or October, 1859. The note was assigned to Ashcraft. A writ of attachment was issued March 4, 1862.

Ben Holladay, the stagecoach king, brought suit July 14, 1862 against the Central Overland, California & Pikes Peak Express Co. to foreclose a \$300,000 mortgage executed by Belá M. Hughes, president of the Overland company and Holladay's own cousin (No. 235). The mortgage, dated November 22, 1861, covered advances made by Holladay to the Overland company over a period of three years. The case was dismissed April 9, 1864, a month after the Overland company was sold at auction to Holladay for \$100,000.

Two months after the foregoing suit was filed Holladay brought suit again (No. 268) against the Overland company on a note signed by Hughes at St. Joseph, July 1,

1861, for \$4,975.21, with 10% interest, payable to Thomas E. Tootle, who assigned it to Holladay, who on March 13, 1863, won a judgment for \$5,389.81.

John Butterfield operated the southern stage route to California by way of El Paso until 1861, when Congress moved its route north because of the Civil War. The Butterfield Overland Dispatch was organized by Dave Butterfield in 1865, and was not a corporation, but a partnership made up of approximately 100 partners. When the concern was involved in a lawsuit, the names of all the many partners were listed, either as plaintiffs or defendants.

On November 24, 1865 nine suits were filed against the line by employees who claimed they had not been paid (Nos. 806-17). Later the suits were dismissed. Holladay absorbed the Butterfield line in 1866.

Holladay sued Richard Sopris, sheriff of Arapahoe County on October 8, 1865, for an injunction restraining him from disposing of stock upon which he had levied to satisfy a judgment in another case (No. 957). Holladay maintained that the preceding June he had bought of A. M. and M. E. Clark their interest in 500 shares of stock of the First National Bank of Denver for \$50,000. He caused fifty shares, valued at \$5,000, to be issued to David Stout (Street?) of Gilpin County, a Holladay employee, but received no payment. When a judgment for \$3,380.84 was rendered against Stout and Abraham F. Litchfield in another case, the sheriff seized the fifty shares of bank stock. The injunction was issued and the case was dismissed the following year.

The Sand Creek massacre in the autumn of 1865 led to a series of Indian raids on stagecoach lines. Witnesses in a damage suit against Holladay present a colorful eyewitness account of one of these attacks. Norman Campbell and Samuel H. Jones, Denver merchants, brought suit December 23, 1866, for \$2,000 damages to cover the loss of a package of \$1,802 in greenbacks consigned to them from Plattsmouth, Nebraska, but lost in the raid. (No. 993).

William M. Hudnett, express messenger, testified that at 2 o'clock on the morning of January 7, 1865, his coach was attacked by Cheyenne, Arapahoe and Sioux Indians five miles south of Julesburg. Although the mail sacks were riddled with bullets, the coach escaped, found refuge at Bulin's (?) ranch, and succeeded in returning to Julesburg at daylight.

Later in the morning the coach was driven to Fort Sedgwick, one mile north, where the driver asked for a military escort, but was told by Capt. N. J. O'Brien that no soldiers could be spared.

The officer directed him to remain at Julesburg until the road was safe, and provided an escort of some thirty-five soldiers to accompany the coach to the town. The soldiers then "went off west toward the bluffs to hunt the Indians." When the coach horses were unhitched at the stage station the money was safe in the treasure trunk in the front boot.

Presently the messenger saw the soldiers retreating toward the town before another Indian attack. He testified:

"I was sitting by the fire and walking about, keeping a lookout. I discovered the Indians driving the soldiers in, and attempted to hitch the horses to the coach, but could not do so and took one of the horses and made my escape on him.

"I first saw the Indians three-quarters of a mile away. When they were 100 yards away, I left.

"I went back to the coach after the attack and found everything scattered, the mail bags cut open, the safe gone and the strapping cut off the coach. I saw envelopes that had contained money cut open and scattered about."

The witness said the military station was nothing but an adobe house with no fortifications or defenses.

A. Jacobs, express agent at Julesburg a few weeks after the attack, described the stage station as a stable of logs with a frame front and a large attached shed. Another house nearby was called the eating station. They were destroyed in the raid when the Indians occupied the town for some hours.

After the raid the station was moved to Fort Sedgwick, which had been enlarged to half a dozen adobe buildings. Two howitzers stood in front of the station.

William S. Baker, stage driver, described the safe, or treasure trunk, as a heavy leather trunk about 2 feet long, 16 inches wide and a foot deep, bound with heavy iron hoops. The messenger carried the key to the safe, and was responsible for its safety, he said.

According to one published account³ 1,000 Indians took part in the attack, and fifteen soldiers were killed. Holladay estimated his loss in this and later Julesburg raids at \$117,300. He filed a claim against the government for \$526,730 lost in Indian raids, but the claim did not include the lost greenbacks for which Campbell and Jones sued. They won a judgment October 1, 1872.

On November 1, 1866 Holladay, the stagecoach king, sold out to Wells, Fargo & Co. for \$1,500,000 cash and \$300,000 in stock. For the use of John Hughes, William O. Armstrong on February 23, 1867, sued Wells Fargo for \$2,000 claimed to be due for "meat, drink, washing and lodging for various persons" prior to the change of ownership (No. 1097). Items included board for stock tender, telegraph operator, drivers, messengers; twenty cords of wood, 43 tons of hay at \$14 a ton, and "building a house, \$20." The suit was dismissed in June.

Maria Eubanks sued Wells Fargo on February 23, 1867, for \$10,000 damages for injuries incurred in an accident (No. 1115). She claimed the muscles of her hip were strained when a coach overturned at Alkali Station, Nebraska, April 2, 1866.

A coach passenger, Frank Gomer, 23, a Georgetown shoemaker, testified, "There came a snowstorm and the driver lost the road about 80 miles east of Denver City. The coach tipped over and the passengers crawled out the upper side. Maria Eubanks was severely hurt.

"There was a lamp on the coach, but no light in it. The coach came apart after it tipped over and we had to stop all night. It was very cold. We laid her on the side.

"The next morning we fixed up the coach as well as we could and went to the next station that day. The driver told us he was not accustomed to the roads. She did not get out of the coach till we reached Denver, and we had to bring her victuals and carry her into the hotel." He said the coach was occupied by "six gents and one lady."

Dr. F. R. Waggoner, 33, testified that upon her arrival at Denver he treated her for "debility of one hip joint."

In defense Wells Fargo claimed the company did not come into existence until the purchase of November 1, 1866, and could not be held responsible for accidents under the Holladay ownership. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff.

Parker B. Cheeney (Chenery?) brought suit against Wells Fargo December 5, 1866 for \$20,000 damages resulting from a hip fracture incurred when an Omaha-to-Denver coach in which he was a passenger "overset." (No. 1117). He won a \$1,000 judgment.

The Overland Dispatch Co., by its attorney, Bela M. Hughes, brought suit against Dallin & Sutherland for \$1,438 claimed on notes executed at Salt Lake City October 9 and December 1, 1866, covering hardware sold at auction, including a copper still and worms. (No. 1176). The plaintiff won a default judgment.

Few persons know that a woman, Ellen Jones, operated three mail coach lines out of Denver for several years. On January 24, 1868, she sued Daniel Witter for breach

³*Ben Holladay, The Stagecoach King*, by J. V. Frederick, Arthur H. Clark Co., Glendale, Calif., 1940, p. 202.

of contract (No. 1322). She charged that Witter, holder of a government contract for carrying the mails, had made a sub-contract with her to carry the mails three times a week from Denver to Pueblo; once a week from Denver to Spring Valley, and once a week from Pueblo to Santa Fe, all for three years and seven months for \$10,670 annually.

She claimed she carried the mails as agreed until January 1, 1868, when Witter voluntarily and without her consent caused the government mail contract to be cancelled. She asked \$20,000 for breach of contract.

She brought a companion suit the same day, naming Witter, Darwin S. Fish and George W. Brown as defendants, (No. 1331), charging that on January 1, 1868, Witter had received a payment of \$5,000 from the government for carrying the mails, none of which had been paid her under the terms of the sub-contract. In this case she asked judgment for \$5,000. Both cases were dismissed at the cost of the plaintiff in 1869.

The golden age of stagecoaching ended when Holladay sold out to Wells Fargo. As the advent of the telegraph ended the pony express, so the westward progress of the railroads spelled the doom of the stagecoach lines.

Thomas M. Chivington, a mule-team freighter operating between the Missouri River and Denver, was named defendant in a \$5,000 damage suit filed June 3, 1865, by Lorenzo M. Freas (No. 695). Freas charged that due to the negligence of the freighter, a Denver-bound shipment was lost.

It included coffee, sugar, cranberry sauce, brandy peaches, pickles, pineapples, peaches, strawberries, boots and shoes, boxes of mock turtle, one box of azumea, tomatoes, corn, salmon, oysters, huckleberries, a box of liquor, ten kegs of butter, ten kegs of liquor, prunes, paper, Worcester sauce, a barrel of ink, tea, starch, lozenges and succotash. The carrier was not responsible for breakage, leakage or decay of perishables or lemons or oranges unless covered with canvas. The suit was dismissed following the death of Chivington December 5, 1866.

A near-revolution in Boulder County is described in a series of suits (Nos. 1200-4) by the Niwot & Black Hawk Wagon Road Co. against George C. Beckwith and others. Because of bitter feeling against the company in Boulder County, the case was transferred to Arapahoe County. It was charged that in June of 1866 the defendants refused to pay toll charges and smashed the toll gates on the company's toll road up Left Hand Creek to the Ward district, and thence to Blackhawk.

Innumerable defense witnesses testified that the road had been used by the public since 1860, and that the company had no authority to place toll gates on it and collect toll charges. A road supervisor appointed by the county commissioners in 1864 testified that he did no maintenance work "on account of the Indian excitement, which was so great that no one would work on the road."

Judgment was rendered against the company on August 13, 1869, and the sheriff was ordered to levy on its property to satisfy a \$316.95 judgment covering court costs. He reported he had advertised for sale the toll house, outhouses, stable and fences of the company and had received one bid of \$50 from L. V. Pomeroy, agent for the company, who later refused to go through with the deal, so the judgment was never collected.

On March 31, 1868, a suit involving the title to land now in the heart of Denver was filed by Alfred H. Clements of Central City and was carried to the United States Supreme Court before it was decided, years later (No. 1364).

Named as defendants were Father (later Bishop) Joseph P. Machebeuf, representing the Roman Catholic church, and twenty-two others, including John M. and

William H. Larimer, William M. Clayton and Carlos Gove. The land included building lots in the 160 acres now known as Clements Addition, an L-shaped tract between Broadway and Clarkson St., Colfax Ave. and what would be the westward extension of Twenty-third Ave.

The suit set forth that under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1855, granting bounty lands to veterans, a warrant for 160 acres had been issued to Ah-le-Noa-oh-qua, minor child of Ne-Sho-wha, deceased warrior in Captain Moses's company, Delaware Indians, Florida war, later assigned to Louis A. Menager and by him to Clements, the plaintiff, who used the warrant for the purchase of the 160 acres "subject to sale at Golden City, now Denver City, Colorado Territory." The Land Office grant is dated December 1, 1865 and bears the signature of President Andrew Johnson.

The 160 acres was included in the land platted by the original Denver City Town Co. Clements filed with Mayor Hiram H. Brendlinger an offer to relinquish claim to lots in the tract to which the Town Company had conveyed title, if he were paid 40c a lot.

With Denver's mushroom growth the property became quite valuable, and Clements brought this suit against those who had paid him 40c a lot, claiming the deals had been made by his lawyer (then deceased) under an expired power of attorney. He asked that the court cancel the conveyances.

The defendants countered by charging that Clements had lacked legal right to file a claim for agricultural land within the platted borders of Denver City. During the extended hearings it was brought out that some of the records had been swept away in the Cherry Creek flood of 1864.

The Territorial District Court ruled in favor of Clements, but the decision was reversed by the judges sitting *en banc* as the Territorial Supreme Court, and was appealed to the United States Supreme Court, which also decided against Clements. Its mandate was not handed down until January 31, 1878, ten years after the suit was filed and nearly two years after the Territorial Court had been abolished when Colorado was admitted to statehood.

Meanwhile the plaintiff had sold his interest in the tract to his father, Caleb B. Clements. Title to the lots involved traces back to the decision of the United States Supreme Court, but to complete the story of the transaction one must go back to the original land bounty warrant issued to the Delaware Indian, minor heir of the warrior who served in the Florida war.

A Delaware Indian known as Fall Leaf served as guide for Major John Sedgwick's detachment of Col. Edwin V. Sumner's expedition against the Indians in 1857. This detachment of four companies of the First Cavalry, with fifty-six mule teams, camped at the mouth of Cherry Creek, the site of Denver, on June 29, 1857. A day or two earlier they had encountered on Cherry Creek a party of Missourians who exhibited gold dust and nuggets.

Upon the return of the military expedition after fighting the battle of Solomon's Fork, Fall Leaf appeared at Lawrence, Kansas, and exhibited gold dust and nuggets he said he had found "two sleeps from Pikes Peak." This led to the organization of the Lawrence party, which reached the mouth of Cherry Creek the following year shortly after the arrival of the Green Russell party. Fall Leaf agreed to guide the Lawrence party, but at the last minute got drunk, fell off his horse and incurred injuries preventing him from accompanying the gold-seekers.⁴

⁴History of Colorado, Jerome C. Smiley, Lewis Pub. Co., Chicago, 1913, vol. 1, p. 206; History of Colorado, Wilbur Fisk Stone, S. J. Clarke Pub. Co., Chicago, 1918, vol. 1, p. 234; Recollections, Robert Morris Peck, Kansas Historical Quarterly, vol. 5, p. 484; Reminiscences, J. D. Miller, The Trail, June 1914, p. 17; John Easter and the Lawrence Party, Eugene Parsons, The Trail, December 1914, p. 7.

The story of Fall Leaf is included in this account, not because he was one of the Delaware Indians named in President Johnson's land grant, but to show the part that Indians of this tribe played in the pre-history of Denver. Through the courtesy of United States Senator Eugene D. Millikin of Colorado, positive identification of the two Delaware Indians named in this document is made possible, thereby completing the story of the Clements litigation.

Ne-Sho-wha, the Indian warrior named in the land grant was mustered into the Delaware Volunteers at the Shawanee Agency by Capt. I. L. Bean September 29, 1837 for service in Florida, serving as a "warrior" until March 29, 1838, and "landing from a steam boat at the mouth of the Kansas River on April 26."⁵ He died about 1852 on the Delaware reservation in Kansas.

Three years after his death Congress enacted the law providing for the granting of 160 acres of bounty land to veterans of the military service and their heirs. On June 18, 1864, such a military bounty land warrant was issued to Ah-le-Noa-O-qua, the minor daughter and sole heir of the warrior, Ne-Sho-wha.

She did not use this warrant to obtain a patent to land, but on July 14, 1864, at "Delaware Reserve, Kansas," before John G. Pratt, U. S. Indian Agent, assigned her rights and title in the warrant to Louis A. Menager for "the sum of one hundred dollars to me in hand paid in United States notes at the time of making this assignment." On January 14, 1865, at Washington, D. C., Menager assigned the warrant to Albert H. Clements who used it to locate the 160 acres now known as Clements Addition in the heart of Denver.⁶

The land in the heart of Denver acquired by means of the warrant sold for \$100 by the Delaware Indian girl, Ah-le-Noa-O-qua, is, of course, immensely valuable today.

The foregoing legal cases constitute samples of the historical gold dust and nuggets that may be gained by "panning" the records of the old Colorado Territorial District Court.

⁵Letter of Maj. Gen. Edward F. Witsell, The Adjutant General, Department of the Army, Washington, March 15, 1951.

⁶Letter, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D. C., March 16, 1951.

HOW THE CHUGWATER GOT ITS NAME

Posseman Dabney Otis Collins, in the February Brand Book, quotes Gen. Charles King, as authority on how Chugwater, Wyoming, got its name. He states that it came from the noise of the beaver when using their tails in building their dams. The writer questions this as being correct.

The chugging of Buffalo by the Indian was common throughout the west, following the time the Indian hunted on horseback. This consisted of stampeding buffalo over high ledges. This custom, where it could be put into practice, expedited laying in their winter supply of meat.

Beaver were common throughout the entire west, but few places were so ideally adapted to chugging buffalo as the area now bearing the name Chugwater. There is a great level plateau to the south and east of the stream, Chugwater, and the town of Chugwater. This plateau is bordered by high ledges where it joins the stream. It provides many ideal locations to corner a herd of buffalo and drive them to their death over the ledge. The practice of chugging buffalo in this area is why the stream and town were named.

Corresponding Member,

J. ELMER BROCK,
Kaycee, Wyoming.

LETTER BY CHARLES BENT

Taos, September 19th, 1842

Mr. Alvarass, Sir

I have comenced my letter to Dr. Lane, the following is a part of the comunication.
Honerabl L F Linn

Sir

Mr Manuel Alvaras U. S. Consull at Santafe has informed me that it was your wish that I should designate, what point in my opinion, would be the most sutable place, to establish a militrary post, that would combine and afforde protection, to emegrants on thare passage to the Origan territory; and to our traders to New Mexico; and at the same time hold in awe the differant Indian tribes in the vasinety of theas two points, and teach them to respect the persens and property of American citisens. In my humble opinion some point on the Arkansas River, between what is knone as the big Timber on said river, and the foot of the Rocky Mountain, would be most sutable, the distance following the corse of the river is about one hundred and twenty miles between theas two points. The junction of the Fontan Oue Bioule, with the Arkansas is an elijable situation, for such a post, and about equi distant from the North Platt, (the rout to the Origan) and the Santafe Trace; and at the same time in the hart of the Indian range, in this vasinety; it also is directly on the line between the U. S. and Mexico, this of its self, will be greate advantage in preventing the Mexicans, in case of a war, from exiting the Indians to comit depredations on our fronteaes. At present the Mexicans pass over the boundary in large partys, from one to two and some times as high as three hundred men, at a time, for the purpas of trading with the indians, and hunting; and many of them doe not scruple to excite the indians to comit depredation on uss; this as yet, since my residence in the country has bean done by individuals only, I have no knolledge of the authorities of New Mexico having sent emasarys amongst the indians for this purpas; but many of the Cheafs have had sent to them by the authorities, Collars and Staffs (?), a substitute for medles. The distance from Taos (the most northern settlement of New Mexico) to the nearest point of the Arkansas River is about one hundred and seventy miles, and from Santafe the Capital not exceeding two hundred and fifty miles.

The rout up the Arkansas is not surpassed by any other natural road that I have ever travled, for the same distance; from Independence in Missouri to the foot of the Mountain following the presant road, I doe not think exceedes eight hundred miles; the trip can be performed with loded waggons in thirty five or forty days (Ox teames). The country between the North fork of the Platt, and Santafe trace is inhabited by the Chyceans, and Eripihow Indians, and a part of the Sioux, Kiaways, Cumanchies, and Apachies of the prairies; on the Mexican side of the Arkansas we have a part of the Eutaws & Apachies of the Mountain theas last frequently pass north of the Arkansas river, and almost invarably comit depredations on uss; I have had ocation to complane to the Authorities of New Mexico for depredations committed by theas indians, within thare bundaries, but have never had redress.

Mr. M. A.

This is a part of my intended communication to be amended and corrected; pleas let me know how it sutes youre views, nothing new here.

Youres Respectfully C Bent.

Letter from Charles Bent, one of the Bent Brothers who, with Ceran St. Vrain built and managed Bents Fort on the Arkansas River, to Manuel Alvarez, the acting American Consul at Santa Fe. The misspellings are typical of Bent's writing. Subsequently a fort was erected where Pueblo now stands. It appears to have been called Fort Spalding. The original of the letter is in the B. M. Read Collection, in the New Mexico Historical Society Library at Santa Fe. So far as I know, it has never been published before.

—Contributed by Posseman Harold Dunham



Fort Laramie, between 1849 and 1869, was in five territories: Missouri, Nebraska, Idaho, Dakota, and Wyoming. Known originally as Ft. William, it was built by Wm. Sublette in 1834.—The Bozeman Trail, Hebard and Brininstool, Vol. 1.

—Dabney Otis Collins

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George W. Short, said to have been the last of the Indian fighters of the mountain region of Wyoming, died at Casper, Wyoming recently at the age of eighty-four. Short had fought in the battle of Wounded Knee. His funeral was held in Casper, Wyoming on January 31, 1951.—Submitted by Posseman Don Bloch.

Finlay A. Goodman, about seventy-five years of age, and a nephew of Col. W. F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, died at Cody, Wyoming February 7, 1951 of a heart attack.

—Submitted by Posseman Don Bloch.



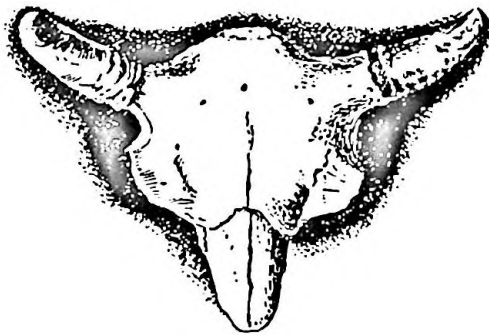
The BRAND BOOK

OFFICIAL ORGAN

THE WESTERNERS

306 STATE MUSEUM BLDG.

DENVER 2, COLORADO



VOL. 7

JUNE, 1951

No. 6

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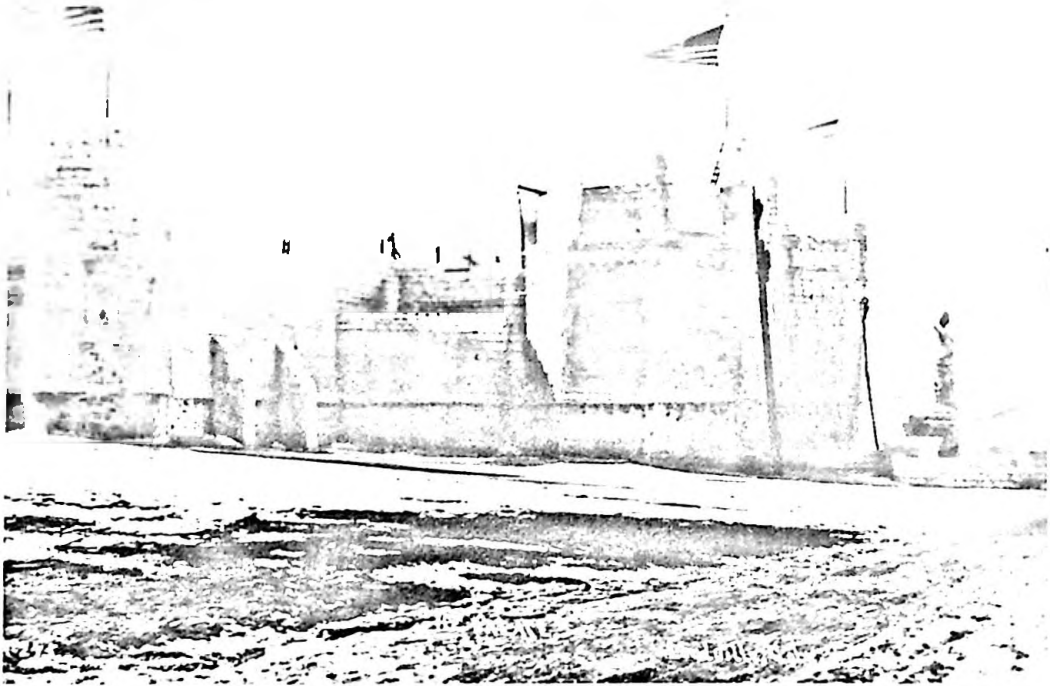


Our Loyal Chuck Wrangler
ARTHUR ZEUCH
Always a Smiling and Genial Westerner

Leadville's Crystal Carnival

By EDGAR C. McMECHEN
Director of State Museums

Hard Rock is hard rock. And the hardrock miner, who spends his life chasing the elusive veins of precious metals through the porphyry and the limestone and the granite, is a creature set apart from ordinary men. Not for him the prosaic and grimy coal mine. He seeks the pot of gold at a rainbow's foot, and he never, never, never recovers from his madness. Into his body, and his mind and his soul seeps the granite dust from his drills, and it hardens his sensibilities. That is why a hard-rock mining camp has little time nor inclination for sentimental things. It plays—yes—but it plays rough.



ICE PALACE—LEADVILLE—1895-1896

Photo—Courtesy of J. J. Lipsey

But there must be *some* explanation for the Ice Palace at Leadville, because that was a creation of imagination, of sentiment, of fairy-craft. Perhaps, it was the work of the Tommy Knockers.

The Tommy Knocker, if you should not already know, is a sort of underground leprechaun. Once in a great while the oldtime miners—the Irish, the Welsh and the Cousin Jacks, or Cornishmen—would hear the little men at work—tapping, tapping, tapping away at furious tempo with their tiny drills and hammers. When this occurred, the miners knew that portentous events were in the making.

I, myself, never heard the Tommy Knockers, although I remember hearing about them one day when a very small boy, from a hardrock miner as he sat in his cabin sipping a cup of scalding coffee which he had just poured from the pot standing upon the coals.

Bill Mix was a strapping miner with full, coal-black beard and black, snapping eyes. He seemed capable of any feat—but the hot coffee baffled me.

"How can you drink that hot coffee?" I finally blurted. He fixed me with his Svengali eye and asked, "Can you keep a secret?" I assured him I could. "Well, now," he whispered hoarsely, "I'm goin' to hell and I got to get ready, unless—bedad—I hear the little men a-tapping." So, then, he told me about the Tommy Knockers.

Certainly, *some* fantastic reason was behind the madness that overcame Leadville during the winter of 1895-1896. Even the Leadville *Herald-Democrat*, generally given credit for having started the snow-ball to rolling, was surprised, and made random explanations, such as:

"Leadville has not had a playday since her birth."

"Life to the miner is a maelstrom in which all the passions combine."

"Work, work, work, a people too busy for pleasure."

Actually, the suggestion for the Leadville Ice Palace seems to have come from a Denver paper after the first Mountain and Plains Festival. The first reference I have found in Leadville was the comment in the *Herald-Democrat*, August 17, 1895, that a Denver paper had suggested the ice palace in Leadville.

The idea germinated for several weeks and then, one month later, culminated in an open meeting at the Weston Opera House, which was crowded to the doors. On the day of the meeting E. W. Senior and W. L. Temple were on the streets beating the drum and blowing the bugle. E. W. Senior, the first active promoter, and others present, endorsed the idea at the Opera House meeting, and Senior read an original poem, which not only expressed the sentiment neatly, but foretold the madness that soon engulfed the community—for Leadville became afflicted with versemantia. Mr. Senior recited:

"Yes, Leadville is'in it,' we hail the device.

The scheme of the state is a palace of ice;

And 'senior and junior,' and all of the race,

Will join in the project—the big Ice Palace.

And th' girls will be there, and th' boys, I should say;

And night in the palace will be as the day:

While music and laughter and everything nice,

Will be found, I am sure, in that Palace of ice."

After informing the audience that "the state's wondrous industries,

"Too, you will see

Exhibited there, as 'snug as mice,'

" 'Friz up in the walls of the Palace of Ice,"

Mr. Senior concluded, at length:

"So we'll build our Ice Palace, and when it is done

'Twill be on the basis of 16 to 1—

Sixteen of pure silver to one of pure gold,

Will exhibit its parity colors, I'm told,

Fair dames will be there, fairer maidens no doubt;

And the 'new woman' too, will likely get out;

And the girl with the bloomers will take a nice ride,

And can 'go it alone' on the toboggan slide.

The railroads are 'wid us,' and will give us cheap rates,

And thousands will come from 'way back in the states,'

We'll astonish them all with exhibits of ore,

Our coal and 'pertaters' and Fruitage galore.

There'll be music and dancing and beauty and wealth,

And 'ozone' sufficient to give one good health.

There'll be plenty to eat, and something to drink

When you leave the pavilion or tire of the rink.
 The 'Cloud City' will give you her warmest and best,
 And you'll learn the glad cheer of th' 'wild, wooly west,"
 We'll show you the grandeur of mountains and hills,
 White-capped with the 'beautiful' and our icied rills.
 And th' girls will be there, and th' boys will be too,
 And you'll swear ' 'twas rare sport' before you get through:
 You'll go home and be telling: " 'Twas awfully nice
 Galavantin' around in that Palace of Ice."

All of which seems pretty well to cover the ground preempted by our present-day advertising specialists in presenting Colorful Colorado tourist lure.

By September 25, 1895, the movement had jelled to the point when the Leadville Ice Palace and Carnival Association was formed, with Sam Nicholson, then Mayor of Leadville and later United States Senator from Colorado, as President, and Calvin H. Morse, one time Manager of the Brown Palace Hotel and later Manager of the Cosmopolitan in Denver, as Vice-President. The purpose: "To build an Ice Palace in or near Leadville, conduct a series of carnivals, and of winter sports, in connection with such ice palace during the winter months."

One month later, the committee consisted of Edwin W. Senior, General Manager; Sam D. Nicholson, President; C. H. Morse, Vice-President; C. H. S. Whipple, J. E. Miller, Harvey T. Brown, H. M. Blakley, C. E. Dickinson, John M. Maxwell, D. D. Sullivan, Jr., J. D. Donovan, and W. L. Temple, directors. Temple was Secretary. At this time the committee held to the idea that the Carnival was to be a permanent affair—a futile dream that later melted away.

A few days later, at a meeting in the famous old Vendome Hotel, the following directors were added: Tingley S. Wood, C. N. Priddy, A. V. Bohn, D. H. Dougan, L. W. Smith, C. T. Limberg, John F. Campion, P. Crowe, John Harvey, Austin Blakley, P. W. Breene, H. J. Higgins, W. R. Harp, J. H. Weddle, Hugo Kelly, A. Sherwin, F. O. Stead, S. F. Parrish, George E. Taylor, Franklin Ballous, C. Hayden, George Campion, J. W. Newell, Norman Estey, S. W. Mudd, J. A. Ewing, Dr. S. Arthur Bosanko, A. S. Weston, George P. Brown, Frank X. Hogan. This assured the success of the carnival, as the big boys were coming in.

On October 30th, the directors named Major A. V. Bohn, chairman, and W. H. Temple, secretary. Tingley S. Wood was appointed Director General at this same meeting, with C. E. Joy, architect. The Finance Committee consisted of: C. N. Priddy, John Harvey, E. Katz, A. Baer, C. T. Limberg, George P. Brown, J. W. Smith, J. H. Weddle, J. F. Campion, R. B. Estey, F. O. Snead, C. H. Bennett, and George L'Abbe. Eight thousand dollars was subscribed by 29 subscribers. Incorporation papers were filed November 9, 1895.

To Tingley S. Wood, the new director, credit universally is given for having been the man who carried the project through to completion. Wood was born January 20, 1845, on a farm near Cadiz, Ohio. He served in the Civil War, engaged in banking in Ohio and Illinois, and came to Leadville in 1880, where he was at various times General Manager of the Little Chief, Big Pittsburg and the Silver Cord. He then went into business for himself and, at the time of the Carnival was one of the big mining operators of Leadville. He brought to Leadville, C. E. Joy, who had been architect for the St. Paul ice palace.

By this time the general plans for the palace had reached the point where the decision had been made to construct it on the plan of a Norman castle. The ice palace idea had originated about 1875 in Moscow, Russia, and had been adopted by Montreal, St. Paul and several other cities. However, Leadville thought in hyperboles, so its ice palace was to be bigger, better and more beauteous than anything of a similar nature

ever built anywhere, anytime in this or any other old world. Furthermore, all previous, puny, Polar penthouses had been mere Esquimo igloos. Leadville's ice palace must have glitter and glamour. It must be a warm and cozy icebox. So developed the idea of a wooden structure encased in walls of ice.

Lumber began to arrive by November 3rd and carpenters were put to work. As the *Herald-Democrat* expressed it: "Boreas will find the Leadville ice palace a fortification behind which he can long withstand the fiery artillery of Helias and Apollo. The roaring King of the North, with his sweet bride, Chinoe, the snow maiden, and their trains and followers have taken their abode behind the Colossal Norman Walls."

However, little was accomplished at first, due to the fact that lumber had to be sawed at the mills. Construction did not really reach important proportions until December 1st. Contract for the wooden buildings was let to Coble and Kerr, the firm which later took over erection of the ice walls. Three hundred thousand feet of lumber and approximately 5,000 tons of ice were used. Five acres of ground were secured for the site, on the hill east of Harrison Avenue, with the entrance on Eighth Street. There also was a south entrance on Seventh Street.

The Ice Palace was erected in 30 days, but not completed. Construction of details continued for some time thereafter. During the construction period much organization work had to be carried forward. Dozens of uniformed clubs were formed and every woman in the camp was busy sewing colorful garments. The colors of the Carnival were old gold, silver, bronze and lead, the basic metals of the camp. Souvenir medals were cast. These were made of gold-aluminum, the largest having a hoisting bucket design, with lumps of ore projecting from the top; embedded in ore, a horizontal bar with 200,000 representing the product of the Carbonate camp. On the reverse the Ice Palace. A miner's pick formed the suspension pin. The smelters had a design showing bullion being loaded on a car. For the ladies there was an idealized heart. One enterprising citizen began to turn out bogus medals, some of celluloid, but the wrath of the camp descended upon him so heavily that he was glad to withdraw from the market.

Director-General Wood set \$20,000 as the minimum cost of the Ice Palace. Considerable difficulty was encountered in raising this amount; indeed, on December 29th, the fund was \$4,000 short. In the meantime costs were running. The working force of carpenters, ice masons and laborers varied from 250 to 350 per day, or about the same number employed at the Little Jonny mine. Carpenters were paid on the average from \$3.00 to \$3.50 per day; ice masons from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per day. Twenty teams employed earned from \$6.00 to \$12.00 per day. Their owners were paid from 50 to 75 cents per ton, and the average haul was three tons to a load, four trips per day. One ambitious teamster decided to "make hay," worked his mules all day hauling ore, and then hauled ice all night. One mule became exhausted and fell in his tracks. That mule skinner was ruled off the job.

None of these men had had experience in cutting and setting ice and had to be trained on the job. This caused great delay. The men worked on the ice walls in all kinds of weather, sometimes as low as 20 degrees below zero. They had to wear heavy German socks and arctics, using water as the cement to bind the blocks. To add to the woes of the contractor, a Chinook visited Leadville on December 15th and the ice began to melt faster than it could be laid. The ice supply in the nearby Arkansas River was "shorted" at the same time. Old Helias came from behind the clouds, and the masons had to hang cambric and canvas sheeting to shade the walls. The debacle lasted three days and almost wrecked the Carnival.

The work attracted great throngs of local people, and all visitors stood in the snow and watched the miracle. While 1,000 people watched the work during the Chinook, the gin-pole used to lift the ice broke, and two men in one of the big octagonal towers landed on the ground amid flying blocks and chips of ice. One, Sam Olds, received a

serious spine injury. Also, during the Chinook one of the north towers crumbled, overthrowing the derrick.

Despite all obstacles, the great structure steadily rose and, on December 22nd, the Leadville *Herald-Democrat* came out with its souvenir edition. The front page was a beautiful reproduction of the Ice Palace in color. The title page contained this quatrain by Tingley S. Wood:

"On a massive range, where towering peaks
Hold white the font of the rivers flow,
We have builded a house from the Frost Kings freaks
And invite al lthe world to play in the snow."

Those really were the days of "purple" writing—royal purple, frosted with classical allusion and lacy metaphor. . . . What inspired MacCauley, we wonder, labored to bring forth "this gem of purest ray serene?"

"It is a castellated dream of limped effulgence, in which the prismatic rays of golden sun and silver moon shine in crystalline delight. An adamant tower of beauty, glistening in the sunlight, opalescent and iridescent with imprisoned color. But if thou wouldest view it aright visit it in the pale moonlight, whose silver beams kiss it in chaste embrace and in maiden modesty dance away into a vale, half affrighted."

But why, or why, did he have to close thus and dispel the dream:

"There will be a large number of visitors to the Cloud City and they will have a royal, hearty welcome."

It is in this souvenir edition that the best description of the Ice Palace appears. It was reproduced, verbatim, in the official booklet issued just before the opening, a copy of which I am passing around.

So that this description may not become too tedious I am offering here abridgement. The main building was 325 feet square from corner tower to corner tower. The main entrance was to the North on Eighth Street. There was supposed to have been an arch over Seventh Street with a 27 foot span, but I have not been able to determine whether this actually was constructed. South of Seventh was a second and smaller building, known as the Riding Gallery, 50' x 80', making a total length of 433 feet or 1/12 of a mile. The "riding gallery" was a merry-go-round for children, operated as a concession.

The north towers, octagonal in form, were 90' high. On the east and west were smaller towers, 45' high, rising 25' above the walls, which were 20' high. Buttresses on the outside, rose midway to the top. The main towers were 40' in diameter and 126' in circumference, decorated on the eight corners with turrets. Panellings and imitation battlements topped the walls. The south towers were circular, 60' high and 30' in diameter. The corner towers of the main building were 45' high, with a diameter of 20'. Portals were colossal. Before the main entrance stood an allegorical, colossal figure of a woman, representing Leadville's fair maidens. It was 19 feet tall on a 12 foot pedestal, with outstretched right arm and hand pointing to the rich mineral hills. The other arm carried a scroll representing smelter returns. On it, in raised golden figures, was Leadville's production in precious metals—\$200,000,000.

One passed up a grand stairway to a foyer, which was the skating rink, 190' long and 80' wide. Around this ran a promanade, formed of hugh columns of ice. Behind the arcade were the two wooden buildings, east and west, in which were located the dance halls, lounges and rest rooms.

The building was roofed with huge timber trusses, containing eight cantelevers. The under side was studded with stalactites of ice, "myriads upon myriads of them hanging from the great trusses and rafters and rods, and every inch of timbering covered by an ice frosting that gives the whole roof the glistening of a large bed of diamonds." The arcade pillars were octagonal, spaced 15 feet apart. Colored electric lamps

were encased within the pillars. Colored electric lights also were within the end walls and over the arches. Recently, in talking to one of the pioneer Leadville ladies I was informed that these lights were frozen within the ice. I did not ask her why they did not burst. Actually the walls were double, with considerable space between them. Lights were suspended from the trusses, and, in each corner, an electric searchlight—varicolored—met in the center. They could be shifted or turned upon the ceiling with startling result. On the east was the grand ballroom, 50' wide and 80' long, and on the west an auxiliary ballroom of the same dimensions. Each ballroom was fitted with a parlor, furnished with upholstered settees and chairs, and both ladies and gents dressing rooms. Base burner stoves warmed the ballrooms. The east wall of the west ballroom was of glass, and diners or dancers could gaze through to the rink. Over the glass wall, reached by a staircase, was the bandstand where the Fort Dodge Cowboy band, led by Jack Clair, dispensed music. The walls of the east ballroom were decorated in terra cotta and blue; the west room in orange and blue, the warm colors in both instances being the lower. Maids and janitors, ticket-sellers and attendants were constantly on duty. In the west room was a kitchen and restaurant.

C. E. Joy, the architect, caught the verse-making contagion, and added this gem to the official souvenir booklet:

“Which there's plenty of eating,
With dessert for completing;
There's icicle pie,
And frost, a la mode;
Snow soup, if you like it,
Braised ice, if you strike it;
And big frosted cakes
Just to top off the load.

They've got silver and gold,
Served hot or served cold;
Lead, iron and copper,
With zinc for a spice;
And mines by the score
With exhibits galore,
And fruits from all climates
Friz into the ice.”

Frozen into the ice in the arcaded promenade walls were dozens of ornamental advertisements. This department was under direction of H. B. Hardt. Director-General Wood's portrait was frozen in one block of ice. The General Electric display, containing many of Edison's latest inventions aroused unbounded interest. The railroads were represented by frozen literature, with the Rio Grande model locomotive a feature. Zang's and Coor's breweries tantalized the thirsty by pyramids of beer, wine and whiskey bottled, frozen in blocks of ice—so near and yet so far. Underhill overalls, Cornforth and Booth's frozen trout and sea foods, Denver Fire Clay's assayer crucibles, Solis Cigar Company's smokes, taxidermist displays, flour, packing plant meats, flowers and fruits, mattresses, tents and a host of goods shown by mercantile companies still operating in Denver, Pueblo, Longmont and other Colorado towns were represented. The list would be tedious.

An interesting feature of the Palace was the sculpture, modelled in snow and slushed with ice. In addition to the large figure at the entrance, there were representations of The Prospector, The Patient Burro, Miner drilling with upraised hammer, Miner striking it rich, a drill team, miners with windlass.

Season tickets, equal to 180 admissions, sold for \$25.00.

The most popular outdoor entertainment was furnished by the toboggan slides, of which there were two, each with a double track. One started at the Vendome Hotel and ran to the Ice Palace. This was 1200' long and had a pitch of 64 feet. The slide starting at the Palace was 900' long and had a pitch of 60 feet. Each slide had station houses with warmed waiting rooms. Fares were 5c a head or 10c a round trip. A 12' toboggan holding 8, rented for \$2.00 per hour; a 9-footer was \$1.50 per hour.

There were many clubs, seventy of which were women's. The most important and largest clubs were the Carnival Snowshoe club and the Military Hockey club. The costume of the former included a toque of blue with red tassel, white blanket coat with red stripe, white blanket knickers and red-ribbed stockings; buckskin moccasins. The Hockey club had the same costume with maroon sweaters.

The women went in for more elaborate arrays. Mrs. A. A. Blow wore blue cloth, trimmed lavishly with angora. Mrs. Street's costume was made from red and white blanket. Mame Denman wore a green cloth habit with ermine trim. Mrs. Dickinson donned green velvet with mink trim. Mrs. Mullock's black corduroy was a "taking costume." One of the most admired costumes, however, was worn by a mulatto girl. Her mother was dressmaker to Leadville's elite, and she outdid herself on her daughter's dress, a purple velvet trimmed with white fur.

The Ice Palace was opened January 1, with a long parade in which the huge body of miners stole the show. Among the various dignitaries arrayed in full costume was Mayor Nicholson, who insisted upon going whole hog or none, as he wanted a chance to wear knickers and show his fine, ranch-fed calves.

The fire and police, the Cowboy Band with a huge drum that required four donkeys for transport, the various clubs, gaily bedecked, the Ice Palace ice masons, the miners' union, P.O.S. of A. and other lodges were all in line. Exercises followed at the Palace and Director-General Wood struck the keynote when he said: "We want a time of levity. Now that we have a Carnival let us enjoy it. . . . The Carnival is a great hygienic measure. The worries of the mad chase after fortune causes a great deal of fret and worry and nervousness. We must joint in the great procession of pleasure and create a congenial atmosphere conducive to health, happiness and old age."

All Leadville counted upon the Denver delegation to pull the venture out of the hole. In one day, it was fondly hoped, the free spending former Leadvillites would pay the bill. Eight hundred were expected and the minimum expenditures, it was confidently believed, would be \$16,000. One thousand did come on special trains, loaded with rich viands and liquor. But alas, they ate and slept on the trains, and, as one old Leadvillite said to me a few days ago, with a faint tinge of bitterness still lingering in his voice: "Yes, they came with plenty of money and food. They kept the first and ate the second. I'll bet they did not average 5c per person expenditure." Poor recompense for the two-foot iron key to Leadville, and the bucket of red paint to "paint the town red."

This, and an early spring broke the back of the Carnival. It met its fate on the Ides of March, like Caesar, and the grand event petered out with the melting ice. But it did not break the Leadvillian spirit. They had their fun, and men will always pay for their fun. The Carnival is supposed to have cost \$35,000, but \$60,000 would be nearer the loss to all concerned. Concessionaires left their shirts behind. But everybody had a grand time.

With a poet's prophetic insight Virginia Donaghe McClurg summed it all up in the words:

"For when green-vestured Spring, too long banished,
Shall unfetter the close-prisoned streams,
We shall mourn our lost palace then vanished
To the far, sunset lands of our dreams."

In one of the earliest springs in Leadville's history, the resplendant and magnificent Ice Palace ran down Harrison Avenue in a muddy torrent.

Yes—those mischievous little Tommy Knockers played Leadville a scurvy trick.

RECENT BOOKS OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS

- STOCK RAISING IN THE NORTH WEST 1884. Translated by Herbert O. Brayer from the French account by G. Wies. Branding Iron Press, Evanston, Ill. \$2.25. Limited edition, illustrated by David Vernon. Contemporary account of ranching in Wyoming, Montana and Idaho, translated by a former member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners.
- WILDEST OF THE WEST. By Forbes Parkhill. Henry Holt & Co. \$3.50. Colorful personalities of the West, by a member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners. Illustrated with photographs.
- FRONTIER FIGHTER. By George W. Coe as related to Nan Hillary Harris. University of New Mexico Press. \$3.50. Reprint of the 1934 account of the Lincoln County "war" as told by a member of Billy the Kid's gang.
- TOMBSTONE EPITAPH. By Douglas D. Martin. University of New Mexico Press. \$4.50. Early days of Tombstone, Arizona, largely from the files of the Tombstone *Epitaph*. Illustrated.
- FATAL DECISION. By Dr. Walter M. Stookey. Deseret Book Co. \$1.75. The Donner Pass tragedy. Illustrated with photographs.
- SHINING MOUNTAINS. By Steve Frazee. Rinehart & Co. \$3. Fiction with historical background of Oro City, California Gulch and Breckenridge in the sixties, by a resident of Salida, Colorado.
- MEAN AS HELL. By Dee Harkey. Signet reprint, originally published by the University of New Mexico Press. 25 cents. Law enforcement in the early days, by a peace officer who served for thirty years in New Mexico.
- THE ALBUM OF GUNFIGHTERS. By J. Marvin Hunter and Noah H. Rose. Limited \$10. Gunfighters of the old West, both within and beyond the law. Illustrated with photographs.



WHO WAS THE VIRGINIAN?

By J. ELMER BROCK
Corresponding Member

The identity of Owen Wister's *Virginian* has long been a subject of speculation and controversy in Wyoming. Numerous towns, including my own, Buffalo, claim to be the place "where the *Virginian* got his man."

The fact that the *Virginian* was not a real character came to the writer's knowledge many years ago through a friend who made Wister's acquaintance when they came into the country together by stage when the latter was obtaining material for his book "*The Virginian*." This friend called upon Wister after his book was published and asked as to the identity of his main character. Wister said his *Virginian* was a composite character. In his creation he had embodied the outstanding personalities of numerous individuals. He also purposely mixed his geography. At that time the feeling from the Johnson County Cattle War still ran high. The identity of real persons or events was not advisable.

The writer supports his statements with the following letter to the late Howard Lott:

"Sep. 18, 1931

Rokeby,
Barrytown on Hudson

Dear Mr. Lott:

Your note has found me in the midst of some visits to friends. Yes, I had the pleasure of knowing your father in June 1891, and the regret of seeing too little of him. It's hard to answer your question. Almost all the geography of *The Virginian* is imaginary, except where real names are sometimes used. I meant to indicate—but very vaguely—the Big Horn Mountains by the "Bow Leg"—and I never meant Judge Henry's ranch to be any definite ranch. I imagined it as being somewhere in Johnson County. "Bear Creek" was not intended for any definite creek. Before writing that book, I had made a number of visits to Wyoming, and had ridden about in the Caspar range, and the Wind River Country, and from the Elkhorn railway up to Buffalo—and also on the west side of the Divide in Jackson's Hole and all that country. So you may say that I had it *all* in mind *generally*, but seldom particularly, except where real names occur. "Drybone" I had for old Fort Fetterman. No real person is in the book, unless Dr. Barger, once Governor—and I think he comes in as Lin McLean.

Yours sincerely,
Owen Wister

This should settle for all time the fact that the *Virginian* was not a real character.

By way of explanation of the above letter, Dr. Lott, father of Howard Lott, was a practicing physician in Buffalo at the time of Wister's visit there. The "Hot Stove League" for the community held forth in the back room of Willis Young's drug store. This was the place where the men met to "swap yarns" and review current events. Here is where Dr. Lott and Owen Wister became friends. Officers from Fort McKinney were also frequent visitors in the drug store's back room. Wister gathered much material for his book here.

Since there was no *Virginian*, then, he hardly "got his man" in any of the numerous towns now claiming this distinction through their chambers of commerce or tourist bureaus. It is too bad to destroy the glamour of this publicity, but truth will out.

When Owen Wister created his *Virginian* he embodied in him the outstanding code of ethics, the salient virtues and conventions of those times, so realistically as to make many honestly believe they could identify him.

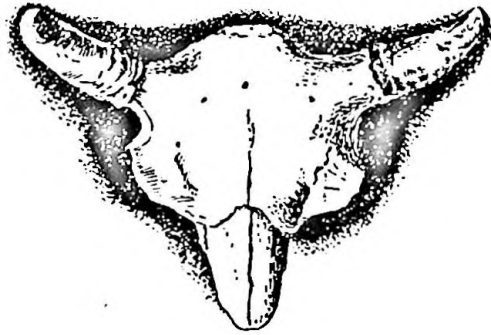
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Elmo Scott Watson Issue

VOL. 7

JULY, 1951

No. 7

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ELMO SCOTT WATSON

The Westerner

ELMO SCOTT WATSON

CO-FOUNDER OF THE WESTERNERS

(1892-1951)*

Rarely, and too infrequently, does one have the opportunity of knowing and associating with a great man—one who has strength of character, high ideals, and definite aims in life; a remarkable teacher, a trainer of human minds, and an individual who inspired those who came within the orb of his light. It is tragic that such a person should pass from our midst. Yet his influence is, and will be, felt through many generations of men and women who came under his teaching precepts, and through those who have associated themselves with The Westerners of which he was a co-founder.

Elmo Scott Watson was born April 2, 1892, the fourth in a family of four sisters whose "home place" had been purchased in 1837 by the great-grandfather for \$1.25 an acre, thanks to the land grants issued in President Martin Van Buren's administration. Near the first home was "old Ft. Henline" on the Mackinaw Creek. There were thirty-two pioneers, mostly from Kentucky and Ohio, wintering in this one-room log cabin, clearing the timber so their families could migrate into the region. Iroquois and Shawnee slipped along the forest-shaded trails by the Mackinaw. The massacre at Fort Dearborn, one hundred and thirty miles south, was horribly fresh in every settler's mind. When Elmo Scott Watson was born there were still relatives, now old, of the first pioneers who could tell the family legends which could be braced with reality when he could discover Indian burying mounds and arrowheads in the timber. His youthful joys multiplied when the farm chores were done and he headed for the woods to break new trails.

On a cross-roads corner one-half mile north of the family home was a one-room country school house, a country church, and a "burying ground." The grandfather had deeded the land for these purposes to be used in the public interest. Elmo attended the country school until he was ready for high school in Colfax, Illinois, five miles away. The church was torn down in 1931 and its hand-hewn timbers made a fine barn for its purchaser. The country school survived until 1949, when consolidation was voted for Lawndale Township. The burying ground remains, for use only of the descendants of the original settlers. This is where Elmo's ashes rest, under the bronze plaque presented to him by the Chicago Posse of The Westerners, as the co-founder of that organization.

His career in journalism began when he attended high school where he wrote feature stories. His interests widened and deepened for western history as he had a love for accuracy applied to people and events, with speculation carefully acknowledged as speculation.

An accident which resulted in a fracture of the right hip occurred in 1907 when he was thrown from a horse. He spent four months in traction, another four on crutches, and the rest of his life adjusting to a shorter leg. It was hardly noticeable unless you watched him walk. He entered Colorado College in 1912, earning his way by washing dishes at the old Bijou restaurant, shooting furnaces on Cascade Avenue, and doing whatever work he could find.

In 1914, he taught country school for forty-five dollars a month, going to his work in a surrey through Illinois dust, mud, snow-drifts, and mud again as the seasons changed, and then re-entered college in the fall of 1915. He knew now what he really wanted from his educational investment. He had some ambition to be a newspaper man, due to his editorial assignment on the Colorado College *Tiger*. This was before Schools and Departments of Journalism and Communications were "upgrading the Press" in scholarly terminology, or worried about statistical data in "mass media."

*Information and material for this article was graciously furnished by Mrs. Julia Watson.

In 1917 he began work as a cub reporter on the Colorado Springs *Gazette*. His beat included the City Hall, the morgue, the police station and the city jail. His writing improved so that later he was assigned to feature stories, and eventually to a column. His salary, which was \$18 weekly, was raised to \$25 in 1918. This was good pay when the city editor received top pay of \$35. The newspaper salary was augmented by a small stipend from Colorado College, where he taught freshmen English. There was no lapse in love for western scenes and history at any time. Scrapbooks of *Gazette* work included features on Andy Adams, Philip Ashton Rollins, Irving Howbert, and others. His reading included Parkman, Owen Wister, Stewart Edward White, Hugh Pendexter, Emerson Hough—to mention five of what later became a notable collection of Western Americana.



ELMO AT THE AGE OF 12 MONTHS

In May, 1918, an offer came from the University of Illinois where an instructor in journalism was needed to assist Harry Franklin Harrington, the head of this division of the English Department, whose chairman was Stuart Pratt Sherman, later to become editor of *The Herald-Tribune Books*, and have feuds with H. L. Mencken over American literature. Journalism was then termed "the bastard child of the English department" on most university campuses. There were two inducements in Elmo's case. One was the salary of \$1,500 on a ten-month contract; which meant he could get married. The other was association with his beloved teacher Homer E. Woodbridge,¹ who had left Colorado College to join Sherman's staff, and is at this writing Professor Emeritus of English at Connecticut Wesleyan.

On November 20, 1918, Elmo was married to Julia-Etta Seldomridge of Colorado Springs, whose father had been a State Senator, a Congressman, a lay official of the Presbyterian Church, and an outstanding businessman of that city, with his brother, of the Seldomridge Grain Company. In April, 1920, a son, Harry S. Watson, was born, and in June, 1921, a daughter, Charlotte.

Elmo taught at the University of Illinois until May, 1924. The small income was increased from time to time by selling feature stories and syndicated material to the Western Newspaper Union. In the summer months, the *Gazette* offered him a steady job. He had begun work on a master's degree and his thesis combined history and journalism

¹Professor Woodbridge is the father-in-law of Chief Justice Jackson of the Denver Westerners.

in a study titled "History of Newspaper Syndicates in the United States." Inasmuch as Western Newspaper Union had gradually monopolized the syndicated material field for the weekly and small daily press, the bulk of the research necessary was done in the Chicago headquarters of the company. Wright A. Patterson, then Editor-in-Chief of the Western, offered Elmo the job of editor of *The Publishers' Auxiliary*, the house organ for Western Newspaper Union, called the "Editor's Bible," since its weekly eight pages went into every country newspaper office in the nation. Harrington had gone to Northwestern University to head the newly formed Medill School of Journalism the year before. Consequently when his former staff member moved to Evanston to take the editorial job with Western Newspaper Union, Harrington asked him to teach part-time in the downtown school, then located on Lake Street. In addition, Elmo kept on writing and selling syndicated material through the Western Newspaper Union service, and in 1927 when the editor, John Dickinson Sherman, died he moved up as feature editor.

In 1929, in cooperation with Arthur M. Dailey,² a former University of Illinois student, Elmo wrote and sold a radio show to William Wrigley, then represented by J. Walter Thompson for which firm Dailey worked. It was the first "premium" show on the air for children, and was called "The Lone Wolf Tribe." For so many gum-wrappers you could have a choice of real Indian articles, bought by the ton from reservations in the southwest, and included tom-toms, bows and arrows, beadwork, moccasins, and more spectacular trophies. The scripts were dramatized three times a week and in the beginning were "aired" over a small network in Michigan. Within a few weeks, they were switched to the main channels of CBS. Don Ameche was then a stripling actor, and for a time played Lone Wolf. Harlow Wilcox was beginning a career as an announcer and did the commercials. The scripts could not emphasize the "blood and thunder" Elmo might have enjoyed working out but which the "kiddies" might have rejected. However, he had a wide range of interests which could be dramatized to make a good 15-minute broadcast, including extolling Wrigley's gum, sound effects and three real Indians from a Wisconsin reservation for authentic atmosphere, and actual script parts. The latter were usually simple and syllabic, guttural almost to extremes, but valid enough.

So add this writing chore to the above schedule, from October to May, and again — after the usual summer hiatus in radio contracts, from October to May. Then the show went off the air, primarily because Mr. Wrigley's auditors found it too successful in terms plain to every cost accountant. By the spring of 1931, the pay-roll covering the cost of the show had to include the services of fifty-five people, all of whom opened the mail and counted gum wrappers, delivered by the ton to the only available loft space in the Wrigley Building. Everybody liked the show, which never was aired west of the Mississippi River by Columbia, and Elmo would have kept on writing scripts for an indefinite time, but was glad of a rest when the show was taken off Mr. Wrigley's advertising budget.

Elmo began academic work on his master's degree, at Northwestern, still editing *The Auxiliary*, working as feature editor for Western Newspaper Union, and serving as a part-time lecturer at Northwestern. He collaborated with Dean Harrington on a text for class-room use, "Modern Feature Writing," published by Harper Brothers. In June, 1935, immediately following attendance at the National Editorial Association convention in New Orleans, where he edited a four-page souvenir *Auxiliary* for the large attendance every day, with material flown in from the Western Newspaper Union Baton Rouge office, set up in one print shop and then printed in another, he returned to his home and "boned up" for his oral master's examination, his thesis already completed. He received this hard-won degree that commencement, from Walter Dill Scott, President of Northwestern, whose birthplace and childhood were in Cooksville, Illinois,

²Arthur M. Dailey is a member of the Chicago Westerners; General Advertising Manager for the Santa Fe Railroad; still a western photographer par excellence.

four miles from the Watson homestead; whose high school teacher was a cousin of the Watson family.

Meanwhile, research in Western History continued with even deeper interest as Elmo discovered that no one had ever paid recognition to the forgotten newspaper correspondents and photographers of Indians during the many tribal wars raging over the plains in the last half of the preceding century. His original contribution grew slowly, dealing as it had to, with a mass of correspondence locating relatives of these "war correspondents" and photographers, but eventually he had enough to start writing a first installment for the *Journalism Quarterly*. One of the projects he hoped to live to finish was a completed volume on "Shadow Catchers of the Red Man." It would have been a lifetime occupation for someone with leisure enough to accomplish such a task. As it was, it filled up what "spare time" he had in an ever widening range of activity, such as meetings, organization work, trips for feature materials, newspaper conventions, speeches, summer school teaching — partly for the salary, partly for love of teaching all the time. Nothing has been said about vacations. With two exceptions — the summer of 1929 and the summer of 1933 (the first Century of Progress year) he managed a trip to Colorado or Wyoming. In 1937 he accepted an assignment to teach at the University of Oregon summer school in Portland and spent two months in the Pacific Coast region, not missing one Indian Reservation driving out or coming back.

By this time the son and daughter were almost ready for college, and both graduated from New Trier High School in Winnetka the spring of 1938. The year the young people went to college he took on more responsibility for Sigma Delta Chi, the professional journalism fraternity, and in 1939 went to California to receive the national presidency of that organization, the month England declared war on Germany.

In June, 1942, Elmo marched in the academic procession accompanying the graduating class of Colorado College to the commencement exercises. His son followed in his father's footsteps. A week later, in Evanston, Illinois, Elmo stood at attention as Harry was inducted into the United States Army. By August, he knew that Harry was in England, attached to an anti-aircraft battery. By November, he had word from North Africa that Harry was stationed on the Tunisian frontier. In April, 1943, word came that Harry had been ordered to report to the *Stars and Stripes'* office in Algiers, thereafter serving for another two and one-half years with that newspaper in every editorial capacity in the European theatre of war.

In October, 1945, Harry came home again. It was good to have him back, particularly so as Elmo had been having a little "heart trouble" — nothing serious — just a pain once in a while, and a medical order to slow down. In line with the doctor's orders, Elmo resigned from the Western Newspaper Union in the fall of 1945, to take full-time teaching work with the Medill School, becoming chairman of the Chicago division. Technically he had only "one" job; actually he had half a dozen; still free-lancing, still writing about Indian war correspondents and photographers, and taking more joy from finding others interested in western historical research. This interest culminated in the founding of The Westerners as described herewith:

"... Fourteen men braved inclement February weather to go to Elmo Scott Watson's home in Winnetka, and listened to Clarence Paine discourse of some purported finds in Calamity Janeana. A Posse, composed of Watson, Leland Case, and Franklin Meine was appointed, a meeting arranged, and March 27, 1944 marked the birth of THE WESTERNERS.

"For future historians, we must record that in March, 1943, much the same group met to hear Herman Seeley and his brother-in-law and collaborator, Will Frackelton, 'The Sagebrush Dentist,' in a discussion of their book of that title. This group, which assumed the name of 'The Vigilantes' for the one night, was the precursor of THE WESTERNERS.³

³This group met at Elmo's home, then 638 Garret Place, Evanston, Illinois.

"At all events, THE WESTERNERS, by that name, sprang into being that March, 1944, night to the music of Don Russell's legalistic argument pro the James Boys. Twenty-three Charter Members were present and co-founder: Elmo and Leland, were proud. . . .

"There could be no WESTERNERS without the BRAND BOOK, which (without the name) began circulating in March, 1944. It was a mimeographed journal, 10 double-space pages. One hundred copies were hopefully prepared. The demand was so heavy that a reimpression was made. The true 'first' can be told by the yellow paper on the first sheet — the first issue, second printing, is all white.

"Early in 1945, Leland Case was in Denver, where he talked with kindred souls, and when Sheriff Watson arrived in March, he gave the salutary Address at the founding of the Denver Corral of THE WESTERNERS. A year later, the Los Angeles Corral was founded. A St. Louis Corral exists and a Tucson group is a-borning.



ELMO. SENIOR AT COLORADO COLLEGE, 1917

"The form of our papers was displeasing to us who hoped for permanence for those ephemera we captured. Therefore, a book, based on the lectures we had heard, was projected and carried out. Papers of the second year were also re-edited as a book. . . .

"With the third year, we started to print the monthly BRAND BOOK and that obviated the need of a special collection of the year's work."¹

In March, 1945, another interest quickened Elmo's life. This was the purchase, previously arranged through the terms of his mother's will, that he could purchase the beloved "home place" of twenty acres in McLean County, Illinois. The land had no crop, but many fine old trees. The house was dilapidated. The challenge to restore the home and the land was dominant. It would be his retiring place when he reached that age. Meanwhile it was a delight to start what restoration could be afforded, and to visit every possible week-end and holiday.

In the winter of 1946 an unexpected call came from Bloomington, from the President of Illinois Wesleyan University. Would Elmo be interested in writing the 100th 'BRAND BOOK — Chicago Chapter — January 1951, Vol. VII, No. II, page 1.

anniversary history of that institution and teaching one journalism course on that campus—the history was to be completed in June, 1950. Through the kindness of Dean Kenneth E. Olson of the Medill School, Elmo's schedule was arranged to give him the necessary time and he became a "visiting professor" at the Wesleyan. That it meant extra work on Saturdays, Sundays and through holidays did not matter, because he was only twenty-five miles from the home place. He could, and did, combine work and rest in the peaceful country side at every opportunity.

The task of writing the history was doubly involved due to a destructive fire in 1943 which had burned most of the University's archives. With what materials there were Elmo developed a pattern that might well be a formula for similar educational institutional histories in that he combined local newspaper accounts, reports from trustees, and student and alumni publications so that a well-rounded and completely documented volume resulted. He unearthed two enlivening tangents; one based upon a "lost speech" given by Abraham Lincoln early in his political career at which Wesleyan students were present; the other leading directly into one of the most spectacular western adventures ever recorded—Major John Wesley Powell's exploration of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado in 1869. Musty volumes of alumni publications saved from the fire revealed both clues and it was a joy and a bigger job, too, to unravel the narrative with the essential documentation.



ELMO AS A REPORTER.
COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE.
1917-1918

In June, 1949, Elmo was asked to take a new job—head of journalism at the University of Denver. But he was under obligations to finish the book, and to stay at Northwestern University for another year. If Denver would wait, he would accept. They did so, and in June, 1950, completion of the tasks in Illinois was rewarded by Elmo being elected "Perpetual Sheriff" of the Chicago WESTERNERS, being presented with a gold sheriff's star, and receiving an honorary Doctorate of Letters from Illinois Wesleyan on June 8, 1950. One week later he was on the campus of the University of Denver, helping with the summer school registration. Within forty-eight hours he had enrolled in Westerner LeRoy Hafen's seven a.m. lecture course on the "History of Colorado." There were a good many new things to do but he took on a good many more; writing for the *Brand Book*, writing a term paper for Professor Hafen, helping Westerner Ed Bemis get away for a three-months' holiday, and editing the October issue of his maga-

zine; arranging a "short course" for Colorado state editors for early September as well as making a few talks, and attending newspaper meetings.

Although he was not well, he kept up a full schedule throughout October. On November 3rd he was in the hospital, where he spent six weeks — grading class papers, writing his column for *The Auxiliary*, consulting with his staff people and several of his students, but getting a good rest.

Over Christmas he felt fine and began a full schedule as soon as the holiday was over. In late January, the symptoms recurred. The virus struck for the third and last time in early March. He was ordered into the hospital the 28th of that month and died there May 5, 1951.

To those who loved him best it is good to realize that he loved The Westerners so whole-heartedly, more than any group, any interest, any activity of his lifetime.

BIBLIOGRAPHY — NEWSPAPERS

- Syndicated features, 1925-1941: Western Newspaper Union
American Adventurers, 69 articles
Curiosa Americana, 23 articles
Famous Forts in U. S. History, 48 articles
Forgotten Heroes, 24 articles
Fifty Famous Frontiersmen, 46 articles
Historic Hoaxes, 23 articles
Stories of Great Indians, 48 articles
Tales of the Old Frontier, 48 articles
Tremendous Trifles, 69 articles on small events with big consequences
History in the News, 74 articles on dates in American history
Uncommon Americans, 23 articles on historical personalities in American life, outstanding because they were different.
"The name is Familiar," 69 articles on people whose names are perpetuated in everyday usage — co-author Felix Streyckmans.
"Tall Tales," 60 famous American "tall stories"—co-author Frank Hagen.
"The Man Who," 24 articles on American political personalities—co-author Frank Hagen.
"Loot," 59 articles on famous pirates and buccaneers.
Between 1925-1941 he also wrote approximately 1,030 articles written for and syndicated by Western Newspaper Union, including "anniversary features," historical features based on "news peg" of timely interest, current events of national and international historical interest.
In addition, wrote radio scripts for 15-minute children's show, three times weekly from October to May, 1929-1931 respectively, based on Indian material.
In addition, free-lance articles for *The Rotarian Magazine*, *Esquire*, *Coronet*, *Kansas City Star*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *The Denver Post*, and others: also book reviews for *The Chicago Sun* on western historical publications; both fiction and non-fiction.

BIBLIOGRAPHY — BOOKS

- 1935 *History of Newspaper Syndicates in U.S., 1865-1935*. Western Newspaper Union.
1935 *Modern Feature Writing*, with H. F. Harrington, Harper Bros.
1947 *New Survey of Journalism*, with others, Barnes & Noble, Inc.
1950 *Illinois Wesleyan Story, 1850-1950*, Illinois Wesleyan Press.
1951 (to be published) *Crazy Horse*, chapter in Viking Press volume in "Mountains of America" series: title "The Black Hills."

ARTICLES

- 1941-1951 Research published in *Journalism Quarterly* on Indian War Correspondents: editor of *Brand Book*, Chicago; research published on "Shadow-Catchers of the Red Man" in *Brand Book*, Denver; also various articles for historical periodicals; also weekly column, "After Deadline" in *The Publishers' Auxiliary*.

CHRONOLOGY

Born April 2, 1892

- 1907 Broken right hip
1912 Enrolled in Colorado College
1914 Taught country school, McLean Co., Illinois
1915 Re-entered Colorado College
1917 Graduated, and became reporter for *Colorado Springs Gazette*: instructor in English, Colorado College.
1918 Instructor in Journalism, University of Illinois; married Julia Seldomridge on November 30th.
1924 Became editor of *The Publishers' Auxiliary*, house organ of Western Newspaper Union, Chicago; also lecturer in Journalism at the Medill School, Northwestern University.
1927 Became feature editor for Western Newspaper Union.
1929-31 Wrote children's radio show "Lone Wolf Tribe" for Wrigley Company.
1935 Published text in collaboration with Dean H. F. Harrington, Medill School, "Modern Feature Writing"—Harper Bros; also thesis for M. S. in J. degree, Northwestern University: "History of Newspaper Syndicates in U. S. 1865-1925."
1937 Visiting professor of Journalism, University of Oregon, Portland.
1939 Elected national president of Sigma Delta Chi, professional journalism fraternity.
1944 Co-founder of *The Westerners*; editor of *Brand Book*.
1945 Became full-time faculty member Medill School of Journalism, chairman of its Chicago division, resigning his editorial work with Western Newspaper Union.
1947 Became visiting professor of Journalism, Illinois Wesleyan University; also began work on 100th anniversary history for IWU.
1950 Published "Illinois Wesleyan Story, 1850-1950"; received honorary degree, LL.D. from that university.
1950 Appointed chairman Department of Journalism, University of Denver.
1951 Died, May 5th.
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RECENT BOOKS OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS

- WATER — OR YOUR LIFE.** By Arthur H. Carhart. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$3.50. An active member of the Denver Posse of *The Westerners*, the author, an authority upon conservation problems, deals with valley authorities, water pollution, the Pick-Sloan plan, western grazing interests, and the place of the Federal government in the field of water conservation.
- STEVE MATHER OF THE NATIONAL PARKS.** By Robert Shankland. Alfred A. Knopf. \$4.00. A biography of Stephen T. Mather, "father of the National Park Service." Illustrated with photographs.
- THE CARBONATE CAMP CALLED LEADVILLE.** By Don L. and Jean H. Griswold. University of Denver Press. \$5.00. Story of the famous Colorado mining community since the discovery of gold in California Gulch. Illustrated.
- PAWNEE INDIANS.** By George E. Hyde. University of Denver Press. \$7.50. History of the Pawnees from the dawn period when the first Spanish explorers ventured into the plains. Illustrated with maps and photographs.

- LIEUTENANT EMORY REPORTS:** University of New Mexico Press. \$4.50. Reprint of **NOTES OF A MILITARY RECONNOISSANCE**, by W. H. Emory, dealing with the 1846 mission to inform the War Department of the military, scientific and economic value of the territory from Bent's Fort westward to the Pacific.
- THE ARMY OF THE PACIFIC.** By Aurora Hunt. Arthur H. Clark Co. \$10.00. Operations of this volunteer army in California, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and the plains region, 1860-66. Illustrated. 17 plates and folding map.
- MARSHAL OF THE LAST FRONTIER.** By Zoe A. Tilghman. Arthur H. Clark Co. \$7.50. Life of William Mattew (Bill) Tilghman, noted peace officer, by his wife. Illustrated, map and plates.
- RED MEN CALLING ON THE GREAT WHITE FATHER.** By Katharine C. Turner. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.75. English professor at Arizona State College, the author records the pilgrimages to Washington by Indian chiefs and warriors.
- I'LL DIE BEFORE I RUN.** By C. L. Sonnichsen. Harper & Bros. \$3.50. Story of the great feuds of Texas by a corresponding member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners and former president of the Texas Folklore Society.
- THE PROPER GODS.** By Virginia Sorensen. Harcourt, Brace & Co. \$3.00. Conflict between the cultures of the Indian and white man, by a noted novelist, formerly of Denver.
- WYOMINGANA.** By Rose Mary Malone. University of Denver Press. \$2.00. Annotated bibliography of books on Wyoming.
- THE OLMSTEAD AND OLIVER GUIDE BOOKS.** By Nolie Mumey. Limited edition, privately printed. \$3.25, boxed. Sixth and seventh in the series of reproductions of the rare guide books to the Pike's Peak region, originally published in the late 1850's, now republished by Doctor Mumey, member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners, with notes by Dr. LeRoy R. Hafen, Colorado State Historian.
- THE WEST OF ALFRED JACOB MILLER.** University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Okla. \$10.00. Two hundred water colors by the artist who accompanied Capt. William Drummond Stewart on his expedition through the Rockies in 1837, with Miller's original notes on each painting. From the notes and water colors in the Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, with a biography of the artist by Marvin C. Ross.
- ESTES PARK: PAST AND PRESENT.** By June E. Carothers. University of Denver Press. \$1.50. Stories of the Earl of Dunraven, Isabella Bird, Rocky Mountain Jim and others whose names are linked with the history of Estes Park, Colo. By a corresponding member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners.
- THE WORD "IDAHO."** By Erl H. Ellis. University of Denver Press. 50 cents. A review of writings concerning the word "Idaho" and an analysis of the works of Idaho writers who have carelessly treated facts in the inter-relation of Colorado and Idaho in the background of this name.
- WHEN THE DOGS BARK "TREED."** By Elliott S. Barker. University of New Mexico Press. \$3.00. Experiences of the author, since 1931 New Mexico State Game Warden, during the period he was in charge of game, fish and predatory animal control at Vermejo Park, New Mexico.
- FAMILY KINGDOM.** By Samuel Woolley Taylor. McGraw-Hill. \$3.50. Factual story of a pioneer Mormon family, with an account of the establishment by John Taylor of a Mormon mission in Denver at the turn of the century.
- HISTORIC CENTRAL CITY. FAMOUS ASPEN.** Both by Caroline Bancroft. Colorado News Co. 75 cents each. Designed for the tourist trade, these booklets include the condensed histories of two of Colorado's most famous mining camps.

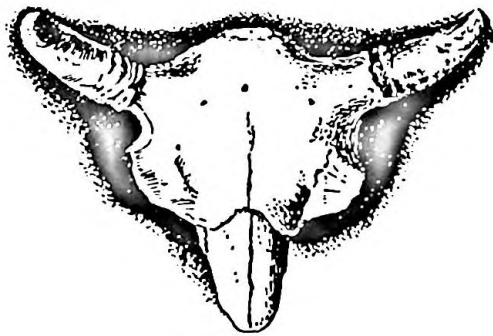
The BRAND BOOK

OFFICIAL ORGAN

THE WESTERNERS

306 STATE MUSEUM BLDG.

DENVER 2, COLORADO



VOL. 7

AUGUST, 1951

No. 8

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The speaker for the September meeting will be Mr. David P. Strickler, Attorney for the Stratton Estate, who will speak on "The Fight for the Stratton Millions."

RECENT BOOKS OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS

- POWELL OF THE COLORADO.** By William Culp Darrah. Princeton University Press. \$6. Life story of Major John Wesley Powell, who climbed Pikes Peak in 1867 and explored the Colorado River in 1869.
- HANGING JUDGE.** By Fred Harvey Harrington. Caxton Printers, Ltd. \$4. Story of Judge Isaac Charles Parker during his span of office from 1875-1896, against background of western Arkansas and Indian Territory. Illustrated.
- HOPI KACHINA DOLLS.** By Harold Sellers Colton. University of New Mexico Press. \$7.50. Identifies and illustrates 250 kachina dolls, with complete biological key. Color photographs by Jack Breed. Not for juvenile readers.
- GAIL BORDEN.** By Joe B. Frantz. University of Oklahoma Press. \$5. Westerners will be interested in that part of this biography dealing with the life of Gail Borden as an editor and public official during and after the period when Texas gained its independence from Mexico, before he patented the method of making condensed milk and became "dairyman to a nation."

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CHARLES B. ROTH
EX-SHERIFF OF THE DENVER POSSE, and Well-known
Author of Western Literature

Trade Beads Among the American Indians*

By

DR. PHILIP W. WHITELEY

The Mound Builders and Prehistoric Indians were familiar with beads as a medium of exchange; these North Americans fashioned beads from shells, stones, bones, claws, teeth and seeds. Even meteoric iron was used in some localities. Also pearls, which were carefully deposited in vases and mortars, have been found with the dead. One may deduce that these objects were among things of value which were exchanged or hoarded by the Aborigines. In addition to the above, copper beads or sections of small copper tubes have been dug up from mounds.

Columbus presented the natives of Watlings Island (San Salvador) with strings of glass beads, which they placed about their necks. This introduced the bead trade to the American Indians.

The American Indians had a medium which they circulated, consisting of beads of two kinds; one, white, made out of the end of a periwinkle shell, and the other, black, made of the black part of a clam shell. These beads, rubbed down and polished as ornaments, were arranged in strings or belts which were used as money. One black bead was regarded as being worth two white beads; three black or six white beads equalled one penny. This was called wampum, wamupumpeag, or peag, and was a product of labor which was subject to supply and demand. It was not easy to make, and the Indians, who went to the seashore to find periwinkle, clam, and conch shells, worked tediously with them until they were of the required size and shape to be used for barter.

A fathom or belt of wampum consisted of three hundred and sixty beads. One fathom of white beads would buy furs valued at five pounds sterling. In the form of belts, wampum was given as a pledge of friendship, used in the ratification of treaties and to convey messages, and served many other purposes.

A true wampum bead is an Indian-made shell bead, cylindrical in form, averaging about a quarter of an inch in length, by an eighth of an inch in diameter, perfectly straight on the sides, with a hole running through it the long way.

The term "wampum" should be applied to the Indian-made bead. Lyford stated that some of the beads prepared for commercial trade were half an inch in length but that none of that size has been found in the wampum belts.¹

Soon after 1607, a London company sailed from England. Included in its roster were four bankrupt London jewelers, goldsmiths, and refiners, and a little group of eight Dutch and Polish glass-blowers and workers to teach the art of making pitch tar, potashes, and glass. They were aware that a string of almost worthless glass beads would be good to use in barter and trade with the Indians.

DeSoto records that he saw many pearl beads among the Indians of the Savannah River and of the Valley of the Mississippi.²

Lewis and Clark found Indians making beads and record on Saturday, March 16, 1805: "... A Mr. Garrow, a Frenchman who has resided a long time among the Ricaras and Mandans, explained to us the mode in which they make their large beads, an art which they are said to have derived from some prisoners of the Snake Indian nation. These beads were in great demand among the Indians and were used as pendants for their ears and hair, and are sometimes worn about the neck."³

*This is part of a paper which was read at a monthly meeting. The full text will be published in the annual Brand Book.

¹Lyford, Carrie A., *Iroquois Crafts*, U. S. Indian Service, Haskell Institute, August, 1945, page 45.

²Bakeless, John, *The Eyes of Discovery*, New York, 1950, page 57.

³Hosmer, J. K., *History of the Expedition of Captains Lewis and Clark*, Chicago, 1902, Vol. I, page 182.

On the Columbia River, Friday, November 1, 1805: "... Referring to natives who carried on an intermittent trade with other natives near the mouth of the Columbia—their great object is to obtain beads, an article which holds the first place in their ideas of relative value and to procure which they will sacrifice their last article of clothing or the last mouthful of food. These beads are the medium of trade, by which they obtain from the Indians still higher up the river, robes, skins, chappelled bread, bear grass, etc. Those Indians in turn employ them to procure from the Indians in the Rocky Mountains bear grass, pachio-roots, robes, etc."⁴

Saturday, November 23, 1805: "... Toward evening seven Clatsops came over in a canoe with two skins of the sea-otter—To ascertain however their ideas as to the value of different objects we offered for one of the skins (sea-otter) a watch, a handkerchief, an American dollar, and a bunch of red beads, but neither the curious mechanism of the watch, nor even the red beads could tempt him; he refused the offer. But he asked for tiacomoschack or Chief beads, the most common sort of coarse blue-colored beads, the article beyond all price in their estimation. Of these blue beads we have but few and therefore reserve them for more necessitous circumstances."⁵

Sunday, November 24, 1805: "In the evening a chief and several men of the Chinooks came to see us; we smoked with them, and bought a sea-otter skin for some blue beads."⁶

Tuesday, December 10, 1805: "Captain Clark attempted to purchase a sea-otter skin from the Clatsops with some red beads but they declined trading, as they valued none except blue or white beads."⁷

Thursday, December 12, 1805: "Blue beads are the articles most in request; the white occupy the next place in their estimation, but they [the Clatsops] do not value those of any other color."⁸

Arthur H. Woodward, an authority on beads, stated in a personal letter to Frederic Douglas in 1932 that "trade beads in the beginning were large and fairly crude." Even the plain beads were crude and were mostly globular. These large beads were among the first items dispensed by the traders and explorers. They were not used as trimmings for garments, but were worn as necklaces, as earrings, hair ornaments and nose bobs. Both the French and the English traders carried beads as part of their stock, selling them singly, by the bunch, and by the pound.

One of the foremost authorities on beadwork design is Mr. Frederic H. Douglas, who made a survey of the writings of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century explorers, traders and soldiers.⁹ He also reviewed the paintings and drawings of early artists, such as: the paintings of Catlin; portraits by Karl Bodmer in the Maximilian of Wied folio, 1833; McKenney and Hall portraits; and many others. The results of the survey were disappointing in the matter of detail, but he deduced that beadwork hardly existed until about 1835-40, except for the early Pony beadwork. This is particularly true for the Central and Northern plains area, which with the exception of the region around the Great Lakes and the upper Mississippi Valley was the principal area of beadwork development, and the one which concerns this study.

The use of the small white, red, black, yellow, blue and green beads as trimmings on leggins, moccasins, shirts, shifts, breech clouts, blankets, pouches, hair ties, belts, sashes, knife sheaths, medicine bags, and tobacco pouches invaded the East, the Great Lakes region, and the Southeast around 1750. By 1761 trade lists show white beads of different sizes, and by 1800, beads of various colors were being sold plentifully into the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys.

⁴*Ibid.*, Vol. II, pages 59-60.

⁵*Ibid.*, Vol. II, pages 88-89.

⁶*Ibid.*, Vol. II, page 89.

⁷*Ibid.*, Vol. II, page 100.

⁸*Ibid.*, Vol. II, page 101.

⁹Douglas, Frederic H., *Plains Beads and Beadwork Designs*, (Leaflet) December, 1937, pages 73-74.

Beads first used as decorations for garments were smaller than the original crude beads, but were quite large compared to the very fine seed beads in use among the Great Lakes tribes and middle Mississippi Indians between 1800 and 1830.

From about 1800 to 1840 large opaque, irregular and fairly crude China beads came into use on the plains. They were known as "pony beads" because they were brought in by pony pack-trains. These beads were made in Venice and were about one-eighth of an inch in diameter, about twice as large as the beads used at a later date. White and medium sky-blue were the colors commonly used. Black pony beads appear in the old pieces. A deep buff, light and dark red, and dark blue have also been noted. Pony beads which are translucent red with a white core have been described by Mr. Douglas.

The pony beads were first used by the plains Indians on bands to decorate skin robes, shirts, pipe bags, cradles, saddle bags, moccasins, and the head bands on war bonnets. The bands were usually less than six inches wide and were solidly beaded with designs consisting of bars, tall triangles and concentric squares and diamonds.

Between 1830 to 1850 smaller, round opaque Venetian beads known as "seed" beads came into use on the plains and have continued to be popular since that time; the transition was gradual, each bead period blending into the other. The seed beads made of glass or china were sold in a great variety of colors in "bunches" of five or six strings each; the strings varying in length—from four to six inches, according to the size and kind of bead. There were four or five bunches to the pound. These beads came in three sizes varying from 1/16 to 3/32 of an inch in diameter.

Toward 1860, when settlers began to crowd into the Sioux country, traders began to bring in Bohemian (Czechoslovakian) beads. The white opaque Bohemian beads were a little darker than the Venetian and inclined to a slightly semi-translucent bluish tinge.

Douglas states that the irregularity of the bead indicates older beads; recent ones being uniform due to improved methods of manufacture. The older beads are opaque and have softer, richer colors. The facet seed bead—two to four sides—is smaller and was popular in the 1840-1870 period.

About 1870, there began to appear translucent beads; and toward 1885, glass or metal beads colored silver or gilt and faceted throughout. There was a huge variety of colors and sizes coming not only from Venice and Bohemia but from France and England. Douglas believes that the glass beads came from Venice and Bavaria, and that the porcelain beads came from Czechoslovakia and Austria through Venice. At a later period Bohemian, French, and English beads were used; then more recently Japanese and German beads. Tons of these beads and other trade materials were carried to the Indians by the fur traders.

Early in the eighteenth century fur traders of the Hudson's Bay Company and their competitors, the French from Montreal, offered beads in trade to the Indians east of the Blackfeet. By the 1780's, white traders were in direct contact with the Blackfeet and traded them beads. These early trade beads vary in size and color and shape. Most of them were over one-fourth of an inch in diameter. Many were considerably larger than that. Some were monochrome, while the surfaces of others were covered with patterns of various colors. Indians learned to introduce a few of these new trade beads at intervals on their necklaces of claws, teeth, or other native materials.

By 1833 these necklace beads were still expensive. Maximilian said Blackfeet Indians bought them from the American Fur Company in that year for the equivalent of three or four dollars a pound and that they were highly valued by Indian women.¹⁰

Bodmer, the artist who accompanied Maximilian, painted a portrait of Big Soldier, and Maximilian wrote: "In his ears he wore long strings of blue glass beads and on his breast suspended from his neck, the great silver medal of the United States."

¹⁰Thwaites, Reuben Gold, *Early Western Travels, 1748-1846*, Arthur H. Clark Co., Cleveland, 1906, Vol. XXIII, page 100 (Maximilian, "Travels in North America.")

In writing of the Sioux at Fort Pierre, Maximilian said: "Some had strings of Wampum in their ears, but the greater part of them strings of white or blue glass beads and round their necks an elegant, and frequently broad necklace, embroidered with white beads."¹¹

Large blue beads with a raised pattern of meandering lines and flower buds in white and red were considered a very old type of necklace bead. These "Skunk beads," as the Blackfeet called them, were then rare. A necklace of them was worth a good horse and a robe.

"Crow beads," a more common type of necklace bead, were irregular, monochrome, china beads, over one-fourth inch in diameter. Light blue "Crow beads" were most popular although they were available in medium blue, pale green, light red, and black.

Large brass beads which the Indians termed "Iron beads" were also popular. Smaller beads, three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, transparent red on the outside with a lining of opaque, white, were used primarily for children's necklaces. Older Indians called these "under white beads."

The second period opened with the first use of embroidering beads among the Blackfeet. It may be termed the "Real bead" period for the Blackfeet called the bead type characteristic of this period the "Real bead." Real beads were smaller than the majority of necklace beads, but larger than the seed beads used in Blackfoot embroidery in more recent times. The beads are irregularly shaped, about one-eighth inch in diameter, made of China. They are monochrome, and the color range includes light blue, dark blue, dark red, deep yellow, white and black. The blue and white beads were most favored by the Blackfeet. These beads were sold by the "bunch" or "hank." Each "hank" consisted of ten strings, all about eight inches long. About the year 1870, eight hanks of different colored "Real beads" were worth a good robe.

Maximilian, in 1833, was the first writer to observe that the Blackfeet were employing bead embroidery on the men's shirts and women's dresses. "The men's shirts have a flap at the neck hanging down both before and behind, which we saw usually lined with red cloth, ornamented with fringe, or with stripes of yellow and colored porcupine quills, or of sky-blue glass beads."¹² "The women ornament their best dresses both on the hem and sleeves, with dyed porcupine quills and thin leather strips, with broad diversified stripes of sky-blue and white glass beads. The Indians do not like beads of other colours, for instance, red, next to the skin."¹³

Alexander Henry, in his detailed description of Blackfeet clothing twenty years earlier, made no mention of the use of decorative beads.¹⁴ "Real beads" were most commonly applied in narrow bands to articles of costume, women's dresses, men's shirts, leggins, and moccasins. Both quillwork and beads were used during this period.

About 1870 or 1875, the seed beads, a smaller-sized bead became popular and were in fairly common use among Blackfeet beadworkers. These were made of glass or china. They were supplied by traders in a number of sizes all of them quite small, the largest being about one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter. This bead change was gradual.

The older seed beads are generally irregular in size and outline, and opaque. More recent ones are even, and some of them are translucent.

For a period of a little more than a decade, following the opening of trader's stores in Browning, Montana, in 1896, a larger transparent bead three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter and either three-sixteenths or one-half of an inch in length, known as a *basket bead* was very popular with the Montana Blackfeet. It was commonly used in the decoration of women's dresses made during that period. This popularity disappeared and the little seed bead regained and has held its favoritism.

¹¹*Ibid.*, Vol. XXII, page 325.

¹²*Ibid.*, Vol. XXIII, page 201.

¹³*Ibid.*, Vol. XXIII, page 103.

¹⁴Coues, Elliott, *New Light on the Early History of the Greater Northwest*, New York, 1897.

A distinctive type of bead of Venetian origin, known to the trade as "Cornaline d'Aleppo" is found widely distributed throughout the American continent. The records of the Hudson's Bay Company show that these beads were well received by the Indians at the Company's trading posts and were known as "Hudson's Bay beads." It was one of the earliest kind of beads used in the Canadian trade. Independent traders created a demand for this variety of bead and introduced them southward.

The Hudson's Bay beads of recent years comprised seed beads from Venice, metal and seed-beads from France, and agate beads from Bavaria.

In shape, the early glass beads found with burials and at village sites are short tubular and oblate spheroidal and vary in length from about an eighth to a quarter of an inch. They are made in two distinct colors of glass—one inside the other. The outer is always opaque red, closely resembling that commonly known as Indian Red. The inner section, which is exposed at the ends, is transparent and has the appearance of being black, but by transmitted light is usually greenish.

A more recent variety of the same general kind has yellow and white centers of opaque glass, and outside coverings of red transparent glass. These beads are tubular, ovate, and spherical, and have a wide range of sizes. Some of the tubular and ovate beads are an inch or more in length, and some of the spherical ones exceed half an inch in diameter. These later beads seem to be confined to the Northwestern trade.

The "Star" or "Chevron" bead is classed among the finest of the trade beads, in fact, I would call it the "aristocrat" of the trade beads, and consider it the most important of all the Venetian beads. It was widely distributed to some of the remotest spots of the earth and was made for use in the Congo. They have been found in upper Egypt, and Nubia, Zanzibar and India, Central Africa, the South Sea Islands, Peru, Canada, and to get back to our subject, even in the graves of and among the American Indians, but still are now quite scarce.

At Hawikuh, New Mexico, two *star* beads were found by an expedition. The early Spaniards took beads and trinkets to the Indians and it is presumed that Coronado in 1540, or Fray Marcos de Niza in 1539, introduced manufactured beads among the Pueblo Indians. Of course, the prehistoric Indians of the Southwest made many beads.

This star bead is made in three main layers, externally a deep blue, then an opaque brick red, and in the center a tube of pale green transparent glass; these three layers are divided by thinner ones of opaque white glass and the dividing surfaces are in a series of chevrons or zigzag, so as to present a star-like pattern on cross section. The extremities are often faceted. They vary in size from one-third to two and one-half inches. These beads are very beautiful. They have been made at Murano, Italy so long that the time of their introduction is unknown.

The greatest number of Polychrome Glass Beads were used by the Crow Indians of Montana who used these beads as offerings to the spirits of their sacred bundles as hunting charms and similar objects.

Neighboring tribes of Blackfeet, the Oregon tribes, namely, Umatilla, Cayuse, and Wallawalla, and also the Sioux possessed these beads which they may have obtained by barter, which was very commonly practiced between tribes. These beads are of Venetian make and cost more than seed beads. They are found sparingly east of Montana. These beads were made in homes of Vienna, which accounts for the great range in decorative patterns.

There are more varieties of commercial beads that were traded, one of which is the *Delft* bead, which was made in Delft, Holland. Delft is soft, paste ware which was painted while the white enamel coating (glaze plus oxide of tin) was still wet, ultimately mixing color with enamel.

Dentalium is the scientific name for slender, little white shells, a fine specimen of which is about three inches in length, but usually they are much shorter. The Indians

called them "Money beads," and coastal whites say tusk shells. They were hard to get and the supply was somewhat limited. They were found only in the deep sounds off Vancouver Island, where they, or the little creatures inside them clung upright to the rocks. The Nootka went out in canoes and laboriously fished them up. Then they peddled them up and down the coast. Even the Indians of Northern California imported their shell money all the way from Vancouver Island.

A string of twenty-five of these three-inch shells, when strung on dried sinew, and placed end to end, reached one fathom or six feet. The Indians called them a "Hiaqua" and this was the standard of value for which they might buy a canoe or a comely squaw. Thus, an industrious beach-comber might become a man of means.

The short or broken shells were strung in like manner and these inferior strings were called kokpops or small change of which forty were equal in value to one Hiaqua.

"Forty to the fathom" was the standard or one Hiaqua, which would purchase as a rule one male and two female slaves; this was approximately fifty pounds sterling. A fathom of the best shells was equal to ten good beaver skins.

In Arizona and New Mexico, beads of turquoise were in use in trade and evidently much prized. They are round, small, and flat like the other stone beads but somewhat larger and thicker. They have an average diameter of one-eighth of an inch and are one-sixteenth of an inch thick.

Barleycorn beads existed in white, red, yellow and blue. Barleycorn is defined in the dictionary as a corn or grain of barley; an old measure of length; one-third of an inch. Obviously this does not relate to color, since those involved almost cover the spectrum. A yellow glass bead, which is formed like a corn kernel, has been recovered from sites in New Jersey but does not comply here because of the variety of colors. I believe that barleycorn beads were small oblate beads, and the invoice price of these beads on early trade lists would support this contention.

"Pigeon egg" beads are about the size of a pigeon's egg, and are made of opaque white glass. Nine strands weighed four pounds so they must have been heavy beads.

The Italians really had a "field day" in making beads. They manufactured all the different kinds they could with the equipment that was available to them. In excavations on the site of the old trading post that flourished at Grand Portage from 1780 to 1800 thousands of glass and porcelain beads of various colors, sizes, and shapes have been found. Among them are large seed beads chiefly in white and light blue. A few are deep red in color.

Cut-glass beads in blue, green, milk-white and clear were traded from the plains area to Alaska. Italian spotted beads were a type which were also widely used.

Runtees, if Indian made, were either large like an oval bead, drilled the length of the oval or else they were circular and flat and drilled edgeways. There were also round tablets of about four inches in diameter, smoothly polished, and etched or graved with circles, stars, halfmoons, or other figures. The historic Indians adorned these shells with beaded rosettes and attached them to neckbands and other pieces. The term "Wampum Moon Shells" referred to the discs or especially the half-moons from one to four inches in diameter which served as money, and were valued by Indians from twenty-five cents to five dollars each. These were cut from Conch Shells, and worn by Indians as ornaments on the hair and clothing.

The Campbell Wampum, or manufactured Wampum, was very pretty because it was made from the thick and blue part of sea clamshells. The strings were about twelve inches long and the beads varied from about one-half of an inch to seven-eighths of an inch in length and were of uniform diameter of three-sixteenths of an inch. These are much larger in every respect than those made commercially before the Campbell factory commenced operations. I would estimate that there were about fourteen beads per string and six or seven strings to the bunch.

"Bugle" beads are described in literature as "The Melancholy Bugle Bead," so well known as a jangling accompaniment to modified mourning. They have been used for centuries and centuries for breast plates and collars. These bugle beads are usually white, but vary in color and size, and all are of opaque glass. They appear to have been cut or broken, suggesting that they came from a longer bead.

Coral beads from the Mediterranean and Mexico were traded to the Southwest Indians who commonly added silver and turquoise to the strings.

There are no references to the use of Russian beads in the Pacific Northwest; however, the Forty-Sixth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology refers to the finding of various beads of Russian make, especially those of the large blue variety, in the graves of Indians in the Yukon Valley in Alaska.¹⁵

The little bead which played so predominant a role in trade and barter is almost a thing of the past. As the Hudson's Bay Company's "Beaver" office recently expressed it, "We deal in beads so little these days that old words have lost their meanings."

¹⁵See also Smithsonian Report of 1877, Washington 1878, page 302.

"THE HEART HAS NO TONGUE"

Chief Washakie helped to extricate General Crook from a trap set by Crazy Horse and his warriors. For this act, President Grant sent Washakie an ornamented saddle, decorated in gay colors, which was accepted in grim silence. The gift was presented through an agent, who was somewhat puzzled by the Chief's behavior.

"What shall I say to the President?" he asked.

Washakie grunted, "Nothing."

The agent, puzzled and chagrined at the answer, was on the verge of admonishing the Indian for his seemingly unappreciative attitude. Washakie, with head erect, looked at him and said, "When a favor is shown a Frenchman, he feels it in his head, and his tongue speaks. When a kindness is shown an Indian he feels it in his heart, and the heart has no tongue."

Bib.: Lavender, David, *The Big Divide*, Doubleday and Company, New York, 1949.

THE NARRATIVE OF ZENAS LEONARD

Zenas Leonard, who spent five and one-half years in the mountains during the fur trade era, kept an accurate record of events which he gave to a newspaper, the *Clearfield Republican*. The material was printed serially and also was published in an eighty-seven page book by the editor, D. W. Moore, of Clearfield, Pennsylvania. The newspaper plant was burned down and all books and papers destroyed except a few copies of the Zenas Leonard book. This was reprinted in 1904 in a limited edition of 520 copies.

Leonard's copy is now owned by Zenas Leonard III, a great-grandson who lives in Burbank, California.

Bib.: *Leonard's Narrative*, ed. by W. F. Wagner, The Burrows Bros., Cleveland, 1904.
The Plains and the Rockies, Wagner and Camp, Grabhorn Press, 1937.
The Kansas City Star, March 9, 1948.

RAILS THAT CLIMB

BY EDWARD T. BOLLINGER

Rydal Press, Santa Fe, N. M. \$5.50, 420 pages, 32 pages illus.

In the preface of this book Mr. Bollinger states that he does not attempt to present a perfectly balanced outline of the history of the Moffat Road, and that his purpose is to give an idea of how the rails climbed.

The dominant theme of the book is the plan of David H. Moffat, Jr. to place Denver on a transcontinental rail line that pierced the Rocky Mountains directly west of Denver and the consequent difficulties physical and financial. That his idea was sound has been demonstrated by the outstanding record of the D & R G W Ry. during and subsequent to World War II. A large part of this success was due to the D & S L RR and the Dotsero Cutoff. Mr. Bollinger brings out and proves fairly conclusively that if the original plan to build a tunnel through the main range at 9300 ft. had been adhered to the Denver and Salt Lake RR. probably could have been completed to Salt Lake City and a firm financial structure established. The building of this tunnel was delayed in order to get over the main range with the least expenditure of time and money. The costs of operation over Rollins Pass during the years would have paid out the cost of this tunnel several times over besides increasing the revenue.

Mr. Bollinger has made a very real search of the available material concerning this railroad. Several places in the text there are indications that more information was at hand but could not be revealed. In some respects better use could have been made of the facts but this was not done in an effort to maintain an informal style.

The first part of the book is very difficult to read because the author felt the need to relate parts in various tenses and persons and switched them too frequently. It is hard to follow the chronology and too many capitals are used. When Mr. Bollinger relates the stories of the men who operated the road he is on firm ground and the book moves faster and becomes most entertaining. The Moffat Road was one of the most hazardous to work on and some of the incidents during the years of operation over Rollins Pass could have taken place only on the Moffat.

As a historical record this book falls short in some respects but as fireside reading it has quite a bit to offer. The printing and binding are good but the reproduction of the photographs is muddy.

CHARLES S. RYLAND

JOE RANKIN'S RIDE

Joe Rankin, a scout with the Army, was in the Battle of Thornburg on Mile Creek, twenty-four miles from Meeker, Colorado, which occurred on September 24, 1879, prior to the Meeker Massacre, and in which Major Thornburg and thirteen of his officers were killed. The rest of the command carried on the battle, taking refuge behind wagons and dead horses.

On the evening of September 24th, Joe Rankin silently worked his way through the Indian lines and made a hard and dangerous ride to Rawlins, Wyoming, a distance of about 150 miles—a normal 48-hour trip—in exactly 28 hours. Reinforcements were sent from Fort Russell to the besieged command on October 5th.

Bib.: Sampson, Edith, "The Meeker Massacre; an Epic of Early Days," *Municipal Facts*, Nov. and Dec. 1926, Vol. IX, Nos. 11-12.

THE INDIANS DIDN'T LIKE IT

Nathan C. Meeker, born in Euclid, Ohio in 1815, was a dreamer and idealist. He joined the Trumbull Phalanx, a branch of the North American Phalanx and Brook Farm Societies, but communism proved unprofitable to him, so he went to Cleveland and entered the mercantile business. When the Civil War broke out, he joined the *New York Tribune* as a war correspondent.

In 1869, Meeker was sent to Utah to write a story about Mormon conditions. He saw a portion of Colorado and was so convinced of its agricultural opportunities that later he went West as a member of the colony which settled in Greeley, Colorado.

Meeker, the dreamer and reformer, sought the position of Superintendent of the White River Agency. He was appointed to the position in 1878. His intentions were to communize the Indians in farming, turning them away from their easy life of sport and hunting to hard labor behind the plow. He made his plans known to them, but the Indians met his demands with stubborn resistance. Still he persisted in compulsory farming; the Indians openly defied him, and danced war dances in front of his cabin.

Meeker became a stubborn zealot, trying to make the Indians go to school, farm, and attend church on Sunday. When he plowed up their race track he pronounced his own death sentence, for the red men were determined to pursue their life as they had done in the past. They wanted to live and enjoy the free, democratic way of living, but freedom was contrary to Meeker's ideas. The Indians became so incensed that they killed the Agent and took his daughter and wife as captives—the Meeker Massacre of 1879.

Bib.: Sampson, Edith, "The Meeker Massacre; an Epic of Early Days," *Municipal Facts*, Nov. and Dec. 1926, Vol. IX, No. 11-12.



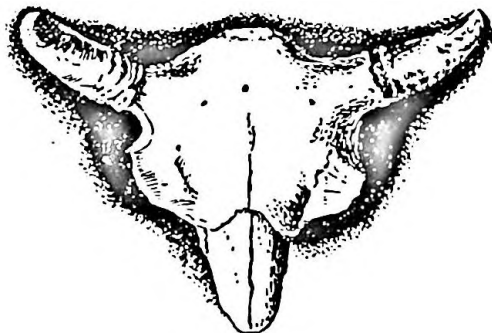
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VOL. 7

SEPTEMBER, 1951

No. 9

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WEST BY WATER . . . By DABNEY OTIS COLLINS*

The Missouri River was the great waterway to the West and Northwest. As a navigable stream, it served the early trader and trapper, and aided the pioneer in the great western expansion. The many kinds of vessels that floated on the muddy waters of the mighty Missouri are of interest. The craft used in navigation were principally the bullboat, dugout canoe, pirogue, mackinaw, keelboat, barge, and steamboat.

The most primitive Missouri River craft was the bullboat. As used by the Mandans, it was a one-passenger tub-shaped vessel made usually of a single buffalo hide stretched over willow withes. The fur trader version of the bullboat was a canoe twenty-five or thirty feet long. A framework of willow poles was laid lengthwise, poles laid across them and fastened with rawhide thongs. Along the tops of the vertical portions of the framework, on the inside, were lashed stout poles which served as gunwales. To prevent the boat's spreading, cross-poles were fastened to the gunwales. The frame was then covered with buffalo hides sewed together with sinews. Seams were pitched with buffalo tallow and ashes.

Such a boat could float a cargo of two or three tons, yet drew only nine or ten inches. It had a crew of two men with poles, the cargo of baled furs being placed on a layer of loose withes as protection from seepage and leakage. Though used principally on the shallow tributaries of the upper Missouri, there were some extensive bullboat voyages. A good many were made down the Laramie to the mouth of the Platte. In 1825 General Ashley loaded one hundred and twenty-five packs of beaver into bullboats at the head of navigation on the Bighorn, destined for St. Louis. At the mouth of the Yellowstone, however, he transferred the furs to General Atkinson's keelboats. Nathaniel Wyeth, Bonneville, and the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, in 1833, made similar bullboat voyages.¹

The bullboat had two disadvantages. It soaked up enough water daily to lower its draft about four inches. This necessitated the boat's being hauled out on the bank, unloaded and dried—perhaps caulked—at the end of each day's travel. Also, being light, bullboats could not be controlled during high winds that often swept the Missouri. A story is told of a bullboat's being blown ashore by such a wind, and beached for the night. The two-man crew awoke to see a quarter-mile of sand between them and the water.

Transplanted by French-Canadians from the Mississippi, the batteau was especially adapted to floating cargoes of furs downstream. Built of cottonwood logs, this unwieldy craft was ten or twelve feet beam and fifty to seventy-five feet long. Bow and stern were square. The batteau was equipped with oar, pole, line and, usually, a sail. It was kept in the channel by the steersman.²

The canoe of the upper Missouri River region was not the slim, trim birch-bark canoe of the North woods. It was a dugout canoe, hollowed out of a big cottonwood. The outside of the tree was first smoothed with board-axes, then about a third of it cut away. The interior was scooped out with adzes, or burned, until the canoe was two inches thick on the bottom and one inch at the rim. At six-foot spaces the timber was left in place, making solid partitions. An average size canoe was three or four feet wide and fifteen to twenty-five feet long.

Although the canoe was used principally by Indians in making short trips to the

* Abstract of a paper read at a monthly meeting of the Denver Posse. The full text will be issued in the annual *Brand Book*.

¹Chittenden, H. M., *Early Steamboat Navigation on the Missouri River*, Frances P. Harper, N. Y., 1903, Vol. I, p. 101.

²Chappell, Phil E., "A History of the Missouri River," *Kansas Historical Collections*, 1905-6, vol. 9, pp. 270, 271.

various fur trading posts, George Catlin, the painter, took a 2000-mile journey in a dugout canoe, from the mouth of the Yellowstone to St. Louis.³

Two dugout canoes fastened together a short distance apart and decked over with plank or puncheons made a pirogue. Thirty or forty feet in length, six to eight feet in width, the pirogue was shaped like a flat iron, with sharp bow and square stern. The cargo, protected from the weather by skins, was carried on the floor. This craft, steered by the oarsman who stood in the stern, was propelled upstream by oars or a line, traveling ten or fifteen miles a day. A square sail was also used. The Lewis and Clark Expedition was fitted out with six canoes and two pirogues.⁴

Of all the boats that ran the Missouri, none was more useful than the mackinaw. This craft was an adaptation of the flatboat and of the mackinaw skiff.⁵ It was flat-bottomed, forty to fifty feet long, with twelve-foot beam, pointed and raked at the ends. Cargo was carried in the central part of the boat, covered with buffalo hides fastened to the sides. The mackinaw held about fifteen tons and was used for a single trip downriver to St. Louis, where it was sold. The voyage was usually made on the June rise. With a crew of four at the oars and a fifth man handling the rudder, this sturdy boat during high water made from one hundred to one hundred and fifty miles a day. Mackinaws usually traveled in companies for mutual protection, but sometimes singly plied the river.

During the late sixties, miners and merchants in the Upper Missouri country who had accumulated gold dust found it difficult to secure transportation back to the states. Because of Indian raids, stagecoach lines had suspended operation. Road agents menaced the road between Virginia City, Montana Territory and Salt Lake City. Steamboats had left Fort Benton early in July, so the only highway back was the Missouri River. One of those to make the perilous journey in an open boat from Fort Benton to St. Louis was John S. Collins, a trader. He bought two mackinaws, which were thirty feet long, six feet wide, with a capacity of twelve passengers, each, plus cargo.

One of the swiftest mackinaw trips of record was made, in 1862, by James Harkness, of LaBarge, Harkness and Company, traders in the Upper Missouri River country.⁶ With a crew of twelve, Harkness completed the voyage from Fort Benton to Omaha in thirty-three days. Here he sold the boat, named for his wife "Maggie", for five dollars.

The keelboat, usually built in Pittsburgh at a cost of two to three thousand dollars, was sixty to seventy feet long, with a keel extending from bow to stern.⁷ It had fifteen to eighteen feet beam and three or four feet hold. Its draft was twenty to thirty inches.

Rising four or five feet above the deck and extending the length of the boat except about twelve feet at each end, was the cargo box. Along each side of it was a narrow, cleated walk. When the cargo box was fitted with cabins, the keelboat made a very comfortable passenger boat. A small cannon, or "swivel", was mounted on the bow. Almost the entire boating season was required for a voyage to the Yellowstone and return.

The crew, called a "brigade", frequently numbered as high as a hundred, including hunters and trappers en route to the mountains, but mostly French Canadians and Creoles.

There were four means of propulsion of the keelboat, all hard work: cordelle, poles, oars, and sail. Chief of these was the cordelle, a line about a thousand feet long fastened to the top of the mast and pulled by twenty to forty men from the shore. To prevent

³Catlin, George, *North American Indians*, H. G. Bohn, London, 1851.

⁴Thwaites, Reuben Golt. *Lewis and Clark*. Vol. 1, p. 284; Vol. 8, p. 320.

⁵Baldwin, Leland D., *The Keelboat Age on Western Waters*, University of Pittsburgh Press, 1941, page 50.

⁶"Diary of James Harkness," *Contributions to the Historical Society of Montana*, Vol. 11, page 343.

⁷Chittenden, *Early Steamboat Navigation on the Missouri River*, *ibid.*, page 102 et sequa.

the boat from swinging around the mast, the tow line was also connected to the bow by means of a short rope called a "bridle".

Cordelling was done by French Canadian and St. Louis Creole *voyageurs*. By brute strength, most of the time in mud or water, without benefit of tow path, they pulled the heavy boat against the current, around snags, drifts and sandbars. Where it was impossible to walk and pull at the same time, the rope would be fastened beyond the obstruction, then all hands would climb aboard and draw in the rope. This operation was known as warping.

Poling was used where cordelling was impracticable, as along sandbars and stretches of shallow water. On one end of the ash pole was a knob to rest in the hollow of the shoulder of the voyageur, on the other was a wooden shoe or socket. For this back-breaking operation eight or ten crewmen ranged themselves on the catwalk on each side of the cargo box, near the bow. They stood close to one another, facing the stern, knob of pole in hollow of shoulder.

"Down with the poles!" shouted the patron.

The crewmen thrust poles into the river close to the boat. Pushing as one, they forced the vessel ahead as they walked, bent and straining, toward the stern. Giving the order to lift poles, the patron would rudder the boat into its proper course while the men took their positions for another push. And no matter how foul the weather or how hunger clawed their stomachs, their Gallic spirit would lift in song.

Where the river was too deep for poles and where cordelling could not be resorted to—or sometimes in conjunction with cordelling—oars were used. There were five or six oars on each side.

Wind, so often the foe of those crossing the plains, was sometimes used to good advantage by the keelboat. The mast was rigged with a sail of about one hundred square feet of canvas. It is said that Manuel Lisa, the first great fur trader, once sailed his keelboat seventy-five miles in a day and part of a night.⁸

Because both were built on keels, with ribs covered with plank, there has been much confusion in distinguishing between keelboats and barges.⁹ The keelboat was a long, narrow craft of light draft intended for shallow waters. Barges were much wider than keelboats, varying between twelve and twenty feet in width. Their draft was three or four feet. Barges in use on the Missouri were narrower and had lower gunwales and flatter bottoms than those on the Ohio and Mississippi. The oars were short, so that the boats could run close to shore and take advantage of the counter-currents on their way upstream.¹⁰

Early use of steamboats on the Missouri was in the fur trade era, since this was the chief business conducted along the valley in the first half of the Nineteenth Century.¹¹ Steamboats had entered the river in 1819, but regular traffic was not established until 1830.

The American Fur Company's boat, *The Yellowstone*, built in the winter of 1830-31, at a cost of about \$8,000, was a good example of the river steamers that ascended the Missouri. It was a side-wheeler, one hundred thirty feet long, nineteen feet beam, six feet hold. Lightly loaded, the draft was four and one-half feet; loaded to seventy-five tons, five and one-half feet.

In the river boats the main or forecastle deck was the first above the water, covering the hold; next was the boiler deck, just over the boilers; then the hurricane, or

⁸Thwaites, Reuben Gold, *Early Western Travels*, Arthur H. Clark, Cleveland, 1904, page 98.

⁹Baldwin, *The Keelboat Age on Western Waters*, *ibid.*, page 63.

¹⁰Flatboats, also called broadhorns and arks, were unfitted for Missouri River transportation. Until the predominance of the steamboat, these floating houses carried most of the traffic on the Ohio, Tennessee, and Mississippi rivers.

¹¹Chittenden, *Early Steamboat Navigation on the Missouri River*, *ibid.*, Vol. I, page 133, et sequa.

cabin deck. On this third deck was built the *texas*,¹² a suite of rooms for the boat's officers. From the *texas*, whose sides were sometimes covered with boiler plate as protection from Indian attack, a stair led to the pilot house.

A set of two spars, resembling telegraph poles, was always carried on the sides of the boat near the bow and attached to the capstan. When the vessel ran aground in low water or on a bar, the spars were lowered, pointing downstream. By pushing against them, the boat was lifted as if with stilts. This operation was known as "grasshoppering."

Old-time rivermen determined the size of steamboats by the number of boilers she carried: "two-boiler boat", or "four-boiler boat", without reference to length or beam. Every vessel carried as many boilers as possible, some as high as fifteen. To keep that many boilers heated required wood by the carload.

Far different from these early boats were the first-class steamers used in later years on the Missouri. An average length was two hundred twenty feet and beam, thirty-five feet; they would carry five hundred tons. Such vessels were propelled by a stern wheel powered by two engines of long, even stroke, one on each side of the boat. They were equipped with steam capstans, steam hoisting apparatus, and light tramway cars to convey the freight from hatchway to place of deposit.

In fur trading days, steamboats began their up-river voyages from St. Louis. Their holds were weighted with trade goods, their deck crowded with passengers. They were bound for the American Fur Company's trading posts: Fort Clark, fifty-six miles above present Bismarck, North Dakota; Fort Union, three miles above the mouth of the Yellowstone; Fort McKenzie, six miles above the mouth of the Marias River. The farthest point reached by steam on the Missouri River was thirty-one miles above Fort Benton, six miles from the Great Falls. This record was established by the *Peter Balen* on June 16, 1866.¹³ River traffic naturally increased with the westward movement.

The profits of a successful voyage were enormous. Reported profits for some trips of 1866 were as follows: the *St. John*, \$17,000; the *W. J. Lewis*, \$40,000; the *Peter Balen*, \$65,000.¹⁴ In 1867, Captain Joseph LaBarge cleared over \$40,000 on one trip. No wonder steamboats were so thick on the Big Muddy that as many as six became grounded on the same bar. The most valuable cargo ever carried down the Missouri was in the fall of 1867. The *Luella*, the last steamboat to leave Fort Benton that fall, had on board two hundred thirty miners and \$1,250,000 in gold dust.

Some of these floating palaces carried as many as four hundred passengers. The boiler deck was stacked with cordwood, boxes, hair trunks, Conestoga wagons, mixed with mules, oxen, dogs, cows and hogs. Deck passengers paid much smaller fares than cabin passengers. They fed and bedded themselves, and fought their own battles. Cabin passengers paid one or two cents a mile fare, with which were included wonderful meals, band music and dancing the quadrille and cotillion, interesting company, the singing of Negro deck hands on the wharves—all the glamour associated with a luxurious steamship.

The American Fur Company quit the river in 1864. During the Indian wars which followed the War Between the States, however, the government transported soldiers, munitions and supplies up the Missouri to its forts and to its armies in the field. Grant Marsh, veteran captain and pilot of the Missouri, in the *Far West* supported the expedition of Lieutenant-Colonel James W. Forsyth up the Yellowstone in 1875. He reached the highest point of navigation of the Yellowstone, 483 miles above its mouth. In fateful June 1876, tied to the bank of Little Bighorn Creek, the *Far West* received the wounded of Major Reno's command.

¹²It was customary to name the cabins for the states. The *texas*, being the largest cabin, was named for the largest state.

¹³The *Tom Stevens* is said to have reached within five miles of the Great Falls in 1866. See: *Early Steamboat Navigation on the Missouri River*, footnote, page 220.

¹⁴Chittenden, *Early Steamboat Navigation on the Missouri River*, *ibid.*, Vol. II, page 276.

The doom of steamboating on the Missouri was sounded in 1859, with the building of the Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad to St. Joseph. It was sealed when the Great Northern reached Montana in 1887. Three years later, the last boat left Fort Benton.

The noble steamboat, winding along the sinuous course of the river, its lofty smoke-belching chimneys silhouetted against the treeless, waterless plain, was one of the most impressive sights ever beheld on American water. And on the Missouri, described by some disgruntled pilot as being "too thick to navigate, but not quite thick enough to cultivate," dipping oars, straining poles, and churning paddle wheels wrote history vital to the conquest of the West—vigorous, full-flavored history that will forever be our priceless American heritage.

NEW BOOKS OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS

- PAGEANT IN THE WILDERNESS.** By Herbert E. Bolton. Utah State Historical Society, Salt Lake. \$5.00. Story of the Escalante Expedition to the Interior Basin, 1776, including the diary and itinerary of Father Escalante. Translated and Annotated.
- FOUR YEARS IN THE ROCKIES.** By James B. Marsh. Long's College Book Co., Columbus, Ohio. \$5.00. Adventures of Isaac P. Rose, trapper and hunter, who roamed the Rockies in the late 1830's. Facsimile of edition published originally in 1884.
- FORESTS AND MEN.** By William G. Greeley. Doubleday. \$3.00. Story of the fifty-year battle for forest conservation, by a noted forester and conservationist who became chief of the U. S. Forest Service.
- MILITARY LIFE IN DAKOTA.** Translated from the French and edited by Lucile M. Kane. Alvord Memorial Commission of Mississippi Valley Historical Association. \$7.50. Frontier military life as described in the journal of General Regis de Trobriand, 1867-69.
- BORN TO BATTLE.** By S. Omar Barker. University of New Mexico Press. \$4.00. Fourteen stories of animals of the mountains of New Mexico, by a veteran outdoorsman and noted writer.

BOOK REVIEW

LEADVILLE: by Don L. and Jean Harvey Griswold, University of Denver Press (Copyright, 1951) 282 pages; illustrated; \$5.00.

The complete title of this book is *The Carbonate Camp Called LEADVILLE*, a qualification which seems to me to be entirely unnecessary; where is there another Leadville? It would take somebody who had been born and reared there to do the kind of biography that Don L. and Jean Harvey Griswold have done. Mrs. Griswold is one of the third generation born in Leadville. Her husband and co-author lived and taught school there long enough to have the "feel" of the place in his bloodstream.

The book which this team's affection for their subject and undoubted scholarship have produced is one that strikes a high level of interest and authenticity. There are places, where the text slows down to a walk, which is unnecessary with a lively subject like Leadville, but on the whole it moves right along. That is partly because it is not top heavy with one facet or another of Leadville life. The authors try to touch everything—discovery, abandonment, re-discovery, boom, growing pains, crime, climate, runaway horses, fires, culture—and the people.

The greatest good that came out of Leadville was unquestionably the people who went on from there to build other parts of Colorado—the Boettchers, the Hunters, the Grants, the Tabors, and others. Mrs. Griswold's own grandfather, John Harvey, was one of the early Titans of the camp.

The use of illustrations strikes this reviewer as especially happy in a book of this kind. Instead of letting them show up a page at a time or bunching them in front or back, they are divided into four sections of eight pages each, spotted to illustrate what you have just read.

Like all the books from the University of Denver press which I have seen, LEADVILLE represents high technical skill and competency. A critical book designer, not getting any fee for the job, would look down his nose at the smallness of the type for the length of line, but what else can you do but set a book in small type when you have only 282 pages to cover a panorama as vast and demanding as Leadville?

—CHARLES B. ROTH

CAVEAT EMPTOR

Jefferson Randolph Smith, better known as "Soapy" Smith, was the most talented of all bunco artists; a great organizer and a leader of men, Soapy had an insight into the weakness of human frailty. Dramatic in appearance, gifted in conversation, and talented in organization, Soapy was one of the most astounding characters of the old West. Deft with his hands, clever in his operations, he had a magnetic appeal for the innocent and unsuspecting. In his entourage was a group of specialists from all the professions, each contributing a part to his success.

Among his supporting cast were the following:

George Wilder, a shrewd individual with an easy and irresistible approach who could meet people and gain their confidence.

"Dolly" Brooks, the best dresser of the gang who posed as a wealthy capitalist. Known as the "Duke of Holsted Street, he was the picturesque style of a prosperous frontiersman, and could explain how Soapy had made him wealthy. He dressed in broadcloth, with a silk vest studded with diamonds, and with a large gold nugget dangling from his watch chain. His costume and persuasive voice urged the unsuspecting to take advantage of the bunco game.

"Ice Box" Murphy, small in stature, was a hobo and would-be yegg who blew a steel ice box for the gang, thinking it was a safe.

Jimmy Thornton, a tall, handsome gambler, who had a way with women—both a hero and villain.

"Doc" Baggs, in semi-retirement from his profession, and originator of the gold-brick game, which he sold to many unsuspecting people.

Judge Van Horn, ex-lawyer and legal consultant—a good jury-fixer and a good steerer who liked liquor better than a legitimate law practice. He devised ways of staying on the thin edge of the law.

Rev. Charles Powers, who always wore a sacred countenance and had a deep, kind persuasive voice, could steer men into Soapy's trap. He had learned and rehearsed the grips and distress signals of several fraternal and secret societies; one look at an emblem and he could give the necessary handshake and sign.

Tom Cady, a shell man who was an expert in manipulating the shells, and could relieve Soapy at the game.

"Banjo" Parker, who weighed 300 pounds, but was harmless and could pick a banjo. He was classed as an entertainer and welcome drinker who exchanged music for liquor.

"Fatty" Gray, manhandler of the gang and always ready with guns and fists, was known as "Shoot Your Eyes Out." He took care of those who became indignant about their losses.

Hank Edwards, known as "Yankee Hank Fewclothes," was never known to wear a coat or vest, even in the coldest of weather. He wrote poetry, sold honey, and steered many of the rural population to Soapy's stand.

"Syd" Dixon, an ex-playboy who was a social outcast and addicted to the use of opium, had a good appearance and address. He could impress others with his sincerity, but he was the most tragic figure of the gang.

"Big Ed" Burns, good-hearted, rough but ready whose duty it was to keep insistent beggars from following Soapy.

Jimmy Bruce, "Great Gobbleflesh," an associate member of the gang, who loaned money and charged 10%, and was always looking for a sucker in trouble.

Joe Palmer, an emergency gunman who was a tough character.



"Soapy Smith" as he appeared during his last stand in Skagway.

"Frisco Red" Harris, a punch-drunk prizefighter and "Eat-Em-Up-Jake" Cohen, who had the mentality of a child; both had minor parts in the company, but Soapy Smith used them.

Joe Simmons, an associate and financial advisor.

Bascom Smith—Soapy's brother.

With this supporting cast, an entourage of characters well schooled in the art of deceit and adept in bunco games, Soapy had power enough to rule the sporting element of any town. These men knew all the tricks of the trade and were always ready for trouble. They were loyal to each other, but dangerous to others. This assemblage of characters

gave Soapy power and notoriety, and made him one of the great lawless leaders. He was condemned and applauded by all citizens.

The *Tivoli* Club, opened in Denver by Soapy, had a saloon downstairs and a gambling hall upstairs. To avoid the irregular raids of the police on such establishments, Soapy consulted Syd Dixon, the ex-lawyer, who advised him to put up a warning sign—"Caveat Emptor."

This proved to be a good defense for him when he was brought before the Fire and Police Commission because of a complaint filed by two men who lost money gambling. He stated he was running an educational institution to break men from gambling, for he never allowed them to *win*.

His clever appeal won him a vote of acquittal; thus the talented Jefferson Smith was freed by his "Caveat Emptor"—"Let the buyer beware."

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REMINGTON RIFLE*

Eliphalet Remington built his first Remington rifle in 1816 at the old forge near the present factory. That's over 135 years ago. The Keeper of the Archives at the factory dug up an old letter recently from Major-General Custer, who had used a Remington-Rider rolling breech block 50 caliber carbine on his Yellowstone Expedition. A copy of the letter is herewith attached, written from Fort Abraham Lincoln, Dakota Territory.

Messrs. Remington & Sons:

"October 5, 1873

Dear Sirs:

Last year I ordered from your firm a Sporting Rifle, caliber 50. I received the rifle a short time prior to the departure of the Yellowstone Expedition. The Expedition left Fort Rice the 20 of June, 1873, and returned to Fort Abraham Lincoln, September 21, 1873. During this period of three months, I carried the rifle referred to on every occasion.

The number of animals killed is not so remarkable as the distance at which the shots were executed. The average distance at which antelope were brought down exceeded 250 yards by actual measurement. I rarely obtained a shot at an antelope under 150 yards, while the range extended from that distance up to 630 yards.

With the expedition were professional hunters, employed by the Government to obtain game for the troops. Many of the officers and men also were excellent shots, and participated extensively in hunting along the line of march. I was the only person who used one of your rifles, while, as may properly be stated, there were pitted against it breech-loading rifles of almost every description, including many of the Springfield breech-loaders altered to Sporting Rifles. With your rifle I killed far more game than any other single party, professional or amateur, while the shots made with your rifle were at longer range and more difficult shots than were those made by any other rifles in the command. I am more than ever impressed with the many superior qualities possessed by the

system of arms manufactured by your firm, and I believe I am safe in asserting that to a great extent this opinion is largely shared in by the members of the Yellowstone Expedition who had opportunities to make practical tests of the question.

I am truly yours,
 G. A. CUSTER,
 Brevet Major-General
 U. S. Army”

*Submitted by Corresponding Member, Vic Bracher.

A PIONEER MISSOURI RIVER STEAMBOAT CAPTAIN

Joseph LaBarge, who was born in St. Louis October 1, 1815 and died there April 2, 1899, had a record unequaled by any pilot in the history of the Missouri River. His career extended a little over a half a century, with steamboats plying up and down the great Missouri—a transportation that was necessary to the service of the West during and after the fur trade era. This part of our pioneer record, and the men connected with it, form an interesting phase of Western History.

Captain LaBarge was active during the entire period of navigation on the river. He went with the first boat when he was seventeen years old, and came back with the last voyage. He grew up with that water traffic which served the region beyond the Mississippi.

More than a half a century—for fifty-three years—he navigated boats up and down the muddy waters of the mighty Missouri. The year 1885 closed his career on the great historic waterways of the West for the railroads forced the old steamboats into oblivion.

The discovery of gold in Montana increased river traffic. During 1866-67, seventy boats docked at the Fort Benton levee. Some idea of the traffic on the stream might be gained from the names of a few of the boats that ran up and down the river:

The Yellowstone	Amelia Poe	W. J. Lewis	W. T. Sherman
The Warrior	Jennie Brown	Marcella	Nellie Peck
Assiniboine	Gold Finch	Big Horn	General Grant
The Otto	Luella	Favorite	Tempest
The Diana	Tom Stevens	Ontario	Island City
The St. Ange	Little Martin	Tacony	Shreveport
The Platte	Aenes	Walter B. Dance	Western Engineer
The St. Charles	Mary McDonald	Peter Bolen	Chippewa Falls
The Boonville	Jennie Lewis	Miner	Island City
The Emily	Rubicon	Helena	Josephine
The Trapper	Montana	Huntsville	John M. Chambers
The Kansas	Robert Campbell	Sunset	Missouri
The Thames	Ida Stockdale	Ned Tracy	Rosebud
Emilie	Sunset	Marion	Nile
Gov. Graham	Spread Eagle	Gallatin	Stockdale
Deer Lodge	Maggie	Lexington	Washburn
St. John	Favorite	Ben Johnson	Sam Gaty
Cora	Far West	Effie Deans	Isabella
Only Chance	Amanda	Trover	Alone
Waverly	Cetavia	Iron City	Belle of Peoria
Mollie Dozier	J. Donald Cameron		

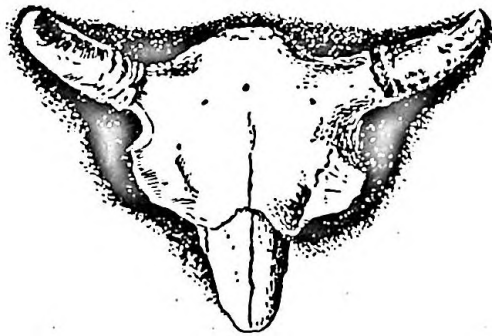
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The BRAND BOOK

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VOL. 7.

OCTOBER, 1951

NO. 10

RECENT BOOKS OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS

UP THE MISSOURI WITH AUDUBON—Journal of Edward Harris, edited by John Francis McDermott. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.75. First publication as a whole of the journal of an amateur ornithologist who accompanied John James Audubon on an expedition up the Missouri river in 1843.

SAVAGE SON—By Oren Arnold. University of New Mexico Press. \$4.50. Biography of Apache Carlos Montezuma, sold into a white man's life; a Chicago newsboy, a medical student and finally, Chicago's top "society doctor".

COMANCHE; AMERICA'S MOST HEROIC HORSE—By David Appel. World Publishing Co. \$2.50. Story of the horse that survived the Custer Massacre. Of interest to the small fry in Westerner families. Illustrated by James Daugherty.

LIFE AND DEATH OF AN OILMAN—By John Joseph Mathews. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.75. The career of E. W. Marland, who discovered enormous oil pools in the Osage country of Oklahoma.

NEWS FOR AN EMPIRE—By Ralph E. Dyar. The Caxton Printers. \$5.00. Story of the Spokane, Washington *Spokesman-Review*, and of its founder and publisher, William H. Cowles. Illustrated, thirteen plates in full colors.

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B. Z. WOODS

Assistant to the President, Colorado Woman's College, and an enthusiastic Westerner.

THE TERRITORY OF JEFFERSON

By Rodney J. Bardwell, Jr.

The Territory of Jefferson was an illegal commonwealth, set up by the residents of parts of the Territories of Kansas, Utah and Nebraska. The parts of these Territories covered by the Territory of Jefferson, practically correspond with the present boundaries of the State of Colorado. This provisional territorial government existed from the time of the ratification of the constitution and the election of the first governor and assembly on October 24, 1859, and continued to approximately June 6, 1861.

In order to properly understand the problems and attempts to solve them during the existence of the Territory of Jefferson, it is necessary to go into the history of this country immediately preceding the formation of the Territory. The present State of Colorado was referred to in the old histories as the Pike's Peak Region. There had been various gold discoveries reported in the Pike's Peak Region from time to time previous to the actual settling of Colorado. These reports, however, were discredited and people had not made a rush to this section as a result of them. However, in the year 1858, a discovery of gold was made on the right bank of the Platte River, within the present boundaries of the City and County of Denver, by an army teamster then encamped here. He was discharged from the service a month or two after this discovery, and returning to the States, created some enthusiasm through accounts of this gold discovery.

In the winter of 1858, there were very few inhabitants in the district now comprising this state, and approximately 200 in what is now Denver, so there was no immediate need for any organized form of government. However, the settlers realized that many people had migrated to the western boundaries of the states east, and were preparing for a gold rush into the Pike's Peak Region in the spring of 1859. The only laws and methods of enforcement thereof existing at this time, were the laws made by the people as the occasion arose, and administered on the plains through the people's courts. These courts consisted of all the people in the particular locality being hurriedly called together, they in turn selecting a judge to preside over the trial, and the people themselves acting as a jury. In the mountains these courts were called "miners' courts," and were composed of all the miners in a particular mining district. We find the miners' courts mentioned more than the people's courts, as mining districts were fairly well defined and operated under a miners' code, each district having officers, as a president, judge, sheriff, surveyor and recorder. It is interesting to note in this connection that the code of laws adopted in these miners' meetings are later found in the legislation of the territory, state and congress, and were recognized by the territory, state and federal courts. The early settlers, realizing that this system was not adequate for governing a more densely populated district, started a move to secure an organized government to provide for the anticipated requirements. Kansas Territory embraced most of this area, there being only small strips of land which were included in the Territories of Nebraska and Utah. Under the Act creating Kansas Territory, the following wording was used:

"That nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to impair the rights of person or property now pertaining to the Indians in said Territory, so long as such rights shall remain unextinguished by treaty between the United States and such Indians, or to include any territory which, by treaty with any Indian tribe, is not, without the consent of said tribe, to be included within the territorial limits or jurisdiction of any state or territory; but all such territory shall be excepted out of the boundaries and constitute no part of the Territory of Kansas until such tribe shall signify their assent to the President of the United States to be included within the said Territory, or to affect the

authority of the Government of the United States to make any regulations respecting such Indians, their lands, property, or other rights, by treaty, law or otherwise which it would have been competent for the Government to make if this act had never passed."

The assembly of Kansas had established Arapahoe County in 1855. This county was very large, and included quite extensive territory in the now State of Colorado. Practically all of the Territory of Kansas which would be included within the present boundaries of the State of Colorado was Indian tribal territory. There arose grave doubts as to whether the Territory of Kansas had a right to legislate and enforce laws within this tribal area. Also, the settled portion of his region was far removed from that part of Kansas then settled, so that it would be very difficult to enforce law and order if Kansas had authority to govern this region. Nevertheless, Governor Denver of Kansas sent a full set of county officers to this locality, to set up an organized county government.

The people of Arapahoe County at an election November 6, 1858, held in Auraria City, delegated A. J. Smith as their representative to the legislative assembly of Kansas Territory. The only recorded act that Smith put through the assembly was to divide the county of Arapahoe into five separate counties, which only tended to complicate matters amongst the various governments established later. At this same election Hiram J. Graham was delegated to go to Washington to promote the political interests of the people at Pike's Peak. His proposals to Congress, however, for the establishment of a territory in this region were not adopted, and it was due primarily to this that the Pike's Peak residents decided to form a government of their own, and instead of having a territorial government, decided to have a state government. The state contemplated embraced an area more than forty per cent larger than the present State of Colorado, and included parts of the State of Nebraska, nearly one-half of Wyoming, and part of Utah.

In defense of the zeal of the residents of this territory in organizing a government of their own, and not waiting for Congress to establish a territory, the then attitude of Congress toward territories should be explained. This was shortly before the outbreak of the Civil War, and the members of Congress were either representing slave states or were opposed to the ideas of slavery; therefore, whenever a new territory was proposed, the group against slavery tried to have their views incorporated in the territorial act, which would immediately provoke opposition from the slave states, and for this reason it was next to impossible to have any new territories created, so that it became increasingly necessary for settlers in remote regions to establish local self government for their own protection.

The proclamation of the settlers in adopting a government of their own, is set forth in the first issue of the *Rocky Mountain News*, dated April 23 1859, which reported a convention of the 15th of April, 1859, as follows:

"Being vividly impressed by our recent journey hither over the plains with the great distance our heterogeneous and active population is removed from any seat of government, either territorial or state, of the United States, where our wants could be known, or civil and religious rights protected, and our wrongs redressed; having already experienced the evils of such remoteness from government adequate to the duty of trying and punishing crime; and being fully impressed with the belief, from early and recent precedents, of the power and benefits and duty of self-government; and of the evils attending the government of bodies of men by agents of States or Territories at a distance, or of legislation without representation; and, * * * * *

"Whereas, owing to the absolute and pressing necessity for an immediate and adequate government for the large population now here and soon to be among us, actively engaged in the various acts of life; and aware of the impossibility of an early formation into a territorial government, that duty having been neglected by the recent session of Congress; and also believing that a territorial government is not such as our large and

peculiarly situated population demands" * * * (After this follows an intention to create a state and not a territory.)

Another reason set forth in an address to the preliminary convention of the "intended State of Jefferson," which appears in the issue of the *News* of May 7, follows:

"Again, if crime be committed, the United States Courts of a Territory are the only ones competent for a trial, and what criminal will be deterred from the commission of crime when his judge is separated from him by seven hundred miles of arid waste? Government of some kind we must have, and the question narrows itself down to this point: Shall it be the government of the knife and the revolver, or shall we unite in forming here in our golden country, among the ravines and gulches of the Rocky Mountains, and the fertile valleys of the Arkansas and Plattes, a new and independent state? Shall the real keystone of the Union now be set on the summit of the arch, and a republic inaugurated that can from her mountain aerie cast her eye to the Pacific on the one hand and the Atlantic on the other? Embracing the waters of the Arkansas and the Plattes flowing into the Atlantic, Grand River and the Colorado flowing to the Pacific, she at once becomes the real center of the Union.

"We may soon expect the advent of the iron horse, and a national railroad is no longer a question. Northern and southern routes will no longer be a cause of delay, for nature has provided by her golden largess an argument for its location that will be irresistible, and both roads will become not a disputed issue but a remunerative speculation."

An interesting article appeared in the *Rocky Mountain News* of May 14, 1859, as a warning to horse thieves. This article was as follows:

"These gentry have been pursuing their calling with great industry and success for a few days since. Some sixteen horses and mules have been stolen from this vicinity in the last three days. We give the rascals warning that if they are caught, they will be called upon to dance upon nothing, with a very short time for preparation."

On May 9, 1859, delegates were elected to organize a new and independent state of the Union. These met on the 6th day of June, and after appointing committees, decided that new precincts should be formed and delegates sent to a convention to be held on the 1st day of August; these delegates were to be appointed according to the number of residents of the various precincts. During the months of June and July a considerable opposition to the movement to organize a state arose among the people, most of the objections coming from those professing to favor a territorial form of government. The convention convened in August, and it was decided that the convention should prepare a constitution for the State of Jefferson, and also prepare a memorial to Congress, asking an immediate organization of a territorial government for this district; that the proposition should be put to a vote of the people in September, as to whether a state or a territory should be formed. It appears that on August 5, 1859, during the convention, this state took its first steps to regulate the saloon-keeper. Smiley's history reports as follows:

"It appears that the saloon had become a practical issue and that the assembly had been annoyed by its 'influence' as Delegate Eli Carter moved, in the forenoon of that day 'That the Sergeant-at-Arms be requested to desire all liquor saloons to remove at least fifty yards from this building.'" But the record is silent as to the disposition made of Mr. Carter's motion, which was the first proposition advanced upon Colorado soil to "regulate" the saloon-keeper.

At the September election, the vote was against the formation of a state and for the formation of a territory. The leaders, having based all their plans on the supposition that the people would adopt a state form of government, had not made any provisions for a government if the people adopted a territorial form. Therefore, no further steps were taken toward organizing a government at this time. At this election, the returns from Fountain City, which later developed into the City of Pueblo, were as follows: for territory, 1; for state, 1089; but as stated in the history, the Fountain City return was either

an error or a gross misrepresentation, the truth being that the vote was probably 89 instead of 1089.

The people of the Cherry Creek towns called a mass convention on the 24th of September, and sent out a circular letter to the voters of Jefferson Territory requesting that the voters of all precincts on the first Monday in October appoint or elect delegates on the ratio of one delegate from each 50 voters, to meet in convention in Denver, the second Monday in October to form a provisional government. The election was held on the first Monday in October, both for delegates to the convention and also for the election of a delegate to Congress from Jefferson Territory. Beverly D. Williams was elected to Congress. This election was described by Smiley as follows:

"The election was conducted recklessly, with 'terrible ballot-box stuffing' as one of the accompaniments, and 'returns' were sent in from several alleged precincts of which no one had ever heard before. However, Beverly D. Williams, * * * emerged from the scrape with a large plurality of the honest votes." This same day at another election, a full set of officers of Arapahoe County, Territory of Kansas, were also elected. The delegates elected to the territorial convention assembled at Denver City October 10, 1859, and a constitution was drawn entitled "Organic Act of the Territory of Jefferson," and nominations for the various territorial offices were made by the delegates. The constitution appointed the 4th Monday of October as the time for holding the election for territorial executive and judicial officers, and district elections for members of the Assembly, subject to the ratification of the constitution, which was to be submitted to "a vote of the people" on that date. At this election the constitution was adopted and the men nominated by the convention for the territorial offices were elected over an independent ticket, Robert W. Steele being elected governor. The election, however, did not turn out as contemplated, as no elections were held in five of the nineteen districts; the campaign managers consolidated the 17th and 19th districts with the 13th, and gave the combination three representatives, and raised the representation of the 5th from one to three, and that of both the 4th and 6th from one to two, and still the quota elected lacked one of having the number provided for by the apportionment.

The executive and judicial officers of Jefferson Territory were sworn in, and the new government machinery put in motion. The members of the general assembly gathered in Denver City on November 7, and Governor Steele delivered his first annual message to the Assembly. A peculiar situation was created, in that a distinct and separate provisional government was in full operation within the government of the Territory of Kansas.

The assembly provided for by the constitution consisted of two houses; there were to be eight members in the upper house, and twenty-one members in the lower house. The Assembly divided the territory into three judicial districts, and assigned judges thereto. The first term of these district officers was to begin on the 3rd Monday in January, 1860. The assembly turned out laws at a rapid rate. One of the most worthwhile acts of the assembly was the consolidation of Auraria City, our present West Denver, with Denver City, which was the present down-town portion of Denver, and with Highlands, the present North Denver, as the municipality of Denver. Under this act the first city officers for the Cherry Creek towns were elected December 10, 1859, although this union was not formally approved by the cities until the next April.

The assembly levied a poll tax of \$1.00 to defray immediate expenses and appointed committees to prepare full Civil and Criminal codes and report them to a later session to be called by the governor.

The assembly met in special session, pursuant to a proclamation by the Governor on January 23, 1860, adopted codes drawn by the committees, received the governor's approval of the legislation, and the lawmakers adjourned on January 25.

A study of the Civil and Criminal codes as adopted by the assembly of the Territory of Jefferson discloses that they were very complete, setting forth in detail the vari-

ous pleadings, defining causes of demurrer and service of notices, also concerning replevin, executions, foreclosure of mortgages, habeas corpus, providing for jury selections and the like, and would, with very few changes, be comparable to our own codes. A complete judicial system was created composed of a supreme court and a district and county court in each organized county, and justices of the peace courts and miners' courts as the same might from time to time be established.

Several special legislative acts were passed besides the one consolidating and incorporating the Cherry Creek towns. These included incorporation of road, ditch, lumbering, bridge, hydraulic, town, and insurance companies. The Jefferson constitution provided that "every white male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years," excepting persons "convicted of any infamous crime," shall be entitled to a vote "at all elections held according to law." But the Jefferson "law" specifically denied the ballot to Indians, and to "negroes, mulattoes or black persons." It also provided that an Indian, a Negro or a mullatto or black person should not be allowed to give testimony in any cause.

The revenue system put a special tax on every occupation except those of farming and mining. On storekeepers, the tax was one-fourth of one per cent on all merchandise offered for sale that was not a growth, manufacture or product of the Territory—a home-made protective tariff. The tax on gamblers was \$2.50 per month, "on each table or other appliance used for gaming." There was a territorial seal provided, and the territory was divided into 12 counties.

January 2, 1860, the voters in Mountain County, which embraced the upper Clear Creek Mining districts, instead of voting for county officers, held an election to decide whether or not there should be such a county. The vote was four to one against recognition of the county, and some 650 silver miners signed a protest against, and a refusal to pay a poll tax of \$1.00 and sent the document down to Governor Steele. The territory was now in full operation, and about to meet its most difficult task, that of enforcing the laws it had passed; as there were now four factions to contend with; those in favor of the illegal government of the Territory of Jefferson, those contending that this Territory was still Arapahoe County, Territory of Kansas, those claiming that this was tribal territory, so that neither government could function, and those who preferred to function by the miners' courts and through mass meetings of the people. The provisional government had extreme difficulty in obtaining funds for its treasury, taxes amounting to voluntary contributions rather than a lien on property; also public confidence was waning in the organization, as Congress paid no attention to the appeals for the recognition of the territory formed, nor did it take notice of the laws adopted and thus recognize it. Further, the authority and the jurisdiction of Kansas was accepted by the great majority of the people when the more direct of their affairs were involved.

Although most of the men interested in the pioneer town companies had participated in the convention adopting a provisional government, such companies never recognized it, and all business transactions were kept within Arapahoe County and Kansas Territory, as shown by their records, town lot certificates, and deeds to real property. It appears that in no instance of any written transaction, did "Jefferson Territory" figure in the papers of the case, as the place of the action.

In the meantime, the citizens of Denver resolved that the city should secede from Jefferson Territory and establish a provisional government for itself. On September 22, 1860, a mass meeting of citizens was held, which approved a constitution entitled the "People's Government of the City of Denver," and set the first day of October as the day to submit this question to a vote of the people, and elect its officers. At this election, the new government went into effect, almost by unanimous vote, and Denver City passed from under the jurisdiction of Jefferson Territory.

BOOK REVIEW

THE WEST OF ALFRED JACOB MILLER (1837): From the Notes and Water Colors in the Walters Art Gallery, with an account of the artist by Marvin C. Ross. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. 1951. 454 pp. \$10.00.

The West of Alfred Jacob Miller is a book with two hundred pictures dealing with the plains and mountain Indians, the trappers and the western scenery of a century ago.

The black and white reproductions are from the water colors made by Mr. Miller on a tour from Independence, Missouri, to Fort Laramie and the Oregon country during the summer and fall of 1837. Miller, an American artist who had studied at home and abroad, was invited by a Scotchman, William Drummond Stewart, to paint scenes of the trans-Missouri people.

The account is thoroughly documented by Miller's pictures and notes, and includes persons or scenes from eighteen different tribes. In addition to portraits of Indian chiefs, braves, women and children, Miller presents the home life, hunting parties, war parties, sports, lodges, huts, council chambers, costumes, weapons, trading, travelling, and many other aspects of the Redman.

The life of the trapper receives equally detailed attention. He is shown hunting, trapping or purchasing an Indian wife. This latter act might mean that he mortgaged himself to a fur company for as much as three years in order to make the required number of gifts to the father of the bride and supply her with the variety of items she would demand. Incidentally, Indian women did not always lead the life of drudges, for Miller shows them swimming, listening to the tales of the conversation of braves, riding to catch wild horses or even engaging in buffalo hunting. In these latter two activities, as on certain other occasions, Indian women rode in saddles with a high horn and cantle.

There are a few portraits of mountain men, including a general scene showing Captain James Bridger wearing a full suit of steel armor. But the incidents of the trappers' lives are given greater attention; such as the rendezvous and various phases of the trapper's existence. One comment indicates how the participants were encouraged to engage in sports or contests "to prevent mischief". At other times, we learn, the trapper devised his own form of amusement, as when one of them practiced grabbing the tail of a wounded buffalo and hanging on while the animal thrashed about until the wounds brought death to the shaggy beast.

A designer of hats might profit by Miller's sketches of those worn by the trappers. Anyone eager to study century old paintings of buffalo hunts (and those for deer, elk, bear, mountain sheep, and antelope), caravan travel, fur bearing boats, canoes, bull boats, bee hunting, and mirages, as well as Fort Laramie, Chimney Rock, Rock of Independence and Scott's Bluff should look through Miller's collection. Nor should anyone neglect Miller's scenes of western lakes and mountains with their Turneresque style.

The notes that accompany each reproduction are particularly to be commended. However, those which were made on the spot have had additional information, such as that from Fremont's reports, skillfully woven into them. In short, from first to last, *The West of Alfred Jacob Miller* is a notable production and a feast for the Westerner.

HAROLD H. DUNHAM



HOW THEY VOTE IN NEW MEXICO

"The vastness of our country precludes a general knowledge of every portion of it, while it admits of great differences in the civil and social condition of the people in various localities. We have recently acquired a vast territory by conquest. It has for five years been a portion of our country, and yet very little is known among us of the civil and political condition of its people. A lecture delivered in Boston by the Rev. Mr. Reed, Chaplain in the army, on the present condition of the people of New Mexico, throws some light on this interesting subject. New Mexico, as all know, has now a territorial government. Under this government some 10,000 Pueblos (Indians) have the right to vote and are eligible to office. These privileges being new to them, they are unqualified for their performance. Consequently they are hired by candidates to vote as they direct, which they do in large bodies. They receive from 25 to 50 cents each. Sometimes the priest is hired, who calls the people to mass, and then gives them votes and directs them how to use them. The Mexicans have learned enough of the influence of their votes to know that they can elect their own people to the legislature, instead of Americans, and, consequently, to the Council, consisting of 13 members, but 2 Americans were chosen. Five of the Mexicans were priests, and the best fed and most influential priest was chosen Speaker, or President, and as soon as the vote was announced, without waiting for the usual escort, immediately wended his way to the chair, and delivered himself of the following memorable speech:—'Poplar governments are certainly very good things.'

"Composed of such members, business of course proceeded slowly. The Mexicans knew no more about the business to be done than so many children. They knew, however, enough to prevent any thing from being done. They were jealous of the two American members, and any motion or order, which they introduced would be immediately voted down, for fear it was an infringement upon the rights and privileges of the Mexicans.

"The House was composed of 26 members of whom all but five were Mexicans. They knew nothing of business, and were two or three days in organizing. While a question was being taken, Major Pillon, one of the American members, not feeling any particular interest in it, replied, blank. The Mexican who sat next to him hearing the name, and supposing that the Major was voting for some *bona fide* personage, responded to his name, '*Yo vota para senor blank, tambien.*' (I vote for Mr. Blank, also.) This was in keeping with the whole course of business, and it was not long before the Americans and the more intelligent Mexicans resigned in disgust and declared they would never again enter a body composed as that was to a considerable extent, of men who could neither read, write or tell their age. It was a humiliating sight. With the exception of the seven Americans, there was no one in either house of the Legislature who had anything like a correct idea of the business to come before it. Of the perfect ignorance of the Pueblos the following is an illustration. An agent of one of the parties went to a large settlement of Pueblos, who had decided not to vote at all, and by telling them that unless they did vote they would be punished, made them all vote. Another corrupt practice is connected with the manner in which the *Pious* vote. Their masters compel them to vote as they wish, and sometimes they hire them to do so by promising to remit to them a portion of their debt. This promise they keep, unless some one else offers to pay them more than their masters will allow them. They can thus be bought forty times in succession."

Bib.: "Portland Transcript," Portland, Maine, Saturday, March 13, 1952, Vol. XV, No. 48.

— Contributed by Corresponding Member, Earl D. Emery, DDS.

HOW COLORADO TOWNS ACQUIRED THEIR NAMES

The Indians and the early Spanish settlers gave the names to some of our towns. In fact, the name of our State is a Spanish word meaning "ruddy," "blood red" or "colored." The name is also given to a river.

The city of Denver was named for James W. Denver who was Governor of Kansas. Pueblo, Colorado has a Spanish origin, the word meaning "town" or "village."

Canon City takes its name from the Spanish word "tube" or "funnel" because of its proximity to the canon of the Arkansas River.

Salida is a Spanish word meaning "point of departure" and was given to the spot where the Arkansas River joins the large branch of the stream from the south.

Alamosa took its name from the Alamosa River, which means "shaded with elms," although cottonwood is the tree that grows along the stream.

Buena Vista derives its name from the Spanish meaning "beautiful view." LaJunta is Spanish meaning "the junction" or "the meeting," and was so named because of the junction of two railroads.

Other towns were named for settlers or on account of the ore found there, or due to location. Leadville took its name from the ore found there. Telluride also was named because of the ore. Boulder took its name from a huge boulder found in the county. Aspen was so named because of a mountain near-by covered with quaking aspen.

Central City was named because it was the center of several mining camps.

Durango was the name given in honor of a Spanish family who lived there.

Fort Collins was named in honor of Colonel W. T. Collins of the 11th Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Grand Junction received its name because of the geographical location of the junction of the Gunnison and Grand (Colorado) rivers.

Gunnison was named for Captain J. W. Gunnison, topographical engineer and early explorer.

Lamar was named for L. O. C. Lamar, who was Secretary of the Interior.

Longmont was obtained by combining two words. The northern Colorado town took its name from the discoverer of Long's Peak and combined it with the French word "mont," which means "mountain."

Loveland was named for Hon. W. A. H. Loveland.

Montrose obtained its name from a novel written by Sir Walter Scott, "A Legend of Montrose."

Ouray was named for the friendly chief of the Ute Indians. The word "Ouray" is the Ute corruption for "Willie."

Walsenburg was named for an old settler and banker, Fred Walsen.

Golden derived its name from the gateway to the mountains and was the pass to the gold mines in the early days.

Georgetown was named for George Griffith, clerk of the local court.

Glenwood Springs took its name from the near-by hot springs and from Glenwood, Iowa.

Manitou means "spirit," and comes from the Algonquin Indian language. The term is applied to any object of reverence.

Greeley was named for Horace Greeley who was responsible for the founding of the Greeley Colony.

Blackhawk was named for one of the early mining companies.

Breckenridge was named in honor of John C. Breckinridge, Vice-President of the United States.

Bessmer was named for Sir Henry Bessmer, the inventor of the process of reducing iron ore.

LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD

By Forbes Parkhill

Colorado Territorial District Court for Arapahoe, Weld and Douglas counties.

File No. 352, March 17, 1863. Platte Valley Wagon Road Co. vs. Julesburg & Fort Lupton Wagon Road Co. Plaintiff charges that Weld County commissioners, T. L. Mackey, Edwin Toole, A. G. Clarke and I. A. Cook proposed the construction of a waggon (sic) road from a point nine miles west of Julesburg, near the territorial road leading from Julesburg to Denver, and terminating near the mouth of Bijou Creek in Weld county, with toll gates to charge for ten years, 75c for each loaded vehicle, pair of cattle, horses, mules and 15c for each additional span traveling west, and one-half price traveling east; 10c for each horseman, 3c a head for loose mules, horses, cattle; and 1½c for sheep, with the proviso that no toll could be collected until sixteen miles of the road had been constructed. The route was to be substantially the same as that of the territorial road, but was to have different termini. The suit charges that the action was taken at a meeting at a private home with only two of the county commissioners present, and asks that the action be declared invalid.

Judgment for plaintiff November 12, 1863.

File No. 538, March 18, 1864. D. J. Hopkins vs. Miles Holliday. Claim jumping, appeal from Probate Justice, Weld County. Plaintiff charges that on June 24, 1863, defendant unlawfully took possession of his mining claim. On July 3, 1863, Weld County Probate Justice granted restitution of claim and damages. Appeal dismissed May 6, 1864.

File No. 614, June 30, 1864. Denver City and Beaver Creek Wagon Road Co. vs. F. Z. Salomon & Bro., appeal from justice court award of \$13.50 and \$6.35 costs, on due bill executed June 15, 1864, for toll charges on eighteen wagons down, at 75c each. Appeal dismissed at plaintiff's cost December term 1864.

File No. 695, June 3, 1865. Lorenzo M. Freas vs. Thomas M. Chivington. Damages, \$5,000. Plaintiff charges that he delivered at Nebraska City to Chivington, a freighter operating between that place and Denver, coffee, sugar, cranberry sauce, brandy pachs, pickles, pineapples, peaches, strawberries, boots and shoes, boxes of mock turtle, one box azuma, tomatoes, corn, salmon, oysters, huckleberries, one box liquor, ten kegs butter, ten kegs liquor, prunes, paper, Worcester sauce, one barrel ink, tea, starch, lobenges, succotash, all to the value of \$5,000, to be delivered to the plaintiff at Denver by mule team, the carrier not to be responsible for breakage, leakage, or decay of perishables or lemons or oranges unless covered with canvas. Due to carelessness negligence and improper conduct of the defendant, the goods were lost to the plaintiff, he charges. He claims the defendant offered to settle for \$4,000, but plaintiff asks \$5,000. Case dismissed February 14, 1868, following the death of the defendant December 5, 1866.

File No. 728, July 23, 1864. Stephen S. Harding vs. Ben Holladay as the Overland Stage Line, \$10,000 damages. Plaintiff charges that on September 6, 1863, at Atchison, Kansas, he paid the stage line \$75 fare; that three days later at Midway the stagecoach, overloaded with boxes and merchandise, overset (sic) leaving the plaintiff sick, sore, lame and disordered. Holladay asks change of venue because plaintiff is a justice of the Territorial Supreme Court and is prejudiced. Change of venue granted to Second Judicial District, Pueblo. Transferred back to Arapahoe County for trial May 4, 1865. Dismissed, December term, 1865. (Note: Harding was a justice of the Supreme Court from July 10, 1863 to April 10, 1866.)

File No. 960, November 13, 1866. Stephen Goodall vs. Ben Holladay, \$1567.50 damages. Plaintiff claims that Holladay's stage line on February 25, 1866, somewhere near Fort Kearney, lost his valise containing clothing, \$75 in greenbacks, gold rings, cuff links, documents including certificate of warrants for service in First Colorado Mounted Militia. Verdict for plaintiff for \$135.80.

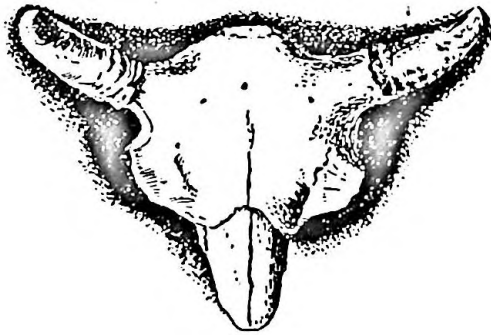
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Photo by Glenn Allen Lanson

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A gentleman and a bookdealer, Colorado Springs

Stagecoach Stations in Northern Colorado

By

RICHARD S. BAKER

While the accompanying map is not large enough to show any great amount of detail, it is as accurate as can be made so under the circumstances.

The map, while not impressive, does represent a large amount of historical research and hard work in the field. All the stage stations, with the exception of a very few, have been located as to the very spot. Many of the old stage routes have been actually traveled. All this has been made possible by Mr. Clyde Brown, Mr. Carl Lawrence, myself and countless historically interested friends. Mr. Brown has been interested along this line for thirty years; Mr. Lawrence and myself more recently.

Ben Holliday, the so-called "stage king" took possession of the 3,300 miles of Overland Stage Line in 1861. He operated this gigantic enterprise for about five years before selling out to Wells, Fargo & Co. The stages were run over a route which had stations on the average of about every twelve miles. About every fifty miles "Home Stations" were established where the drivers, as well as the horses, were changed. The stations between were called "Swing Stations" where only the horses were changed. They were not nearly so impressive as the "Home Stations".

July 21, 1862, an important change was made in the Overland Route because of the Indian uprisings on the Northern route and because of the rapid growth of Denver and its increasing importance. This transfer caused the Overland Route to run through Larimer County where it joined the historic Cherokee trail. The new route followed up the South Platte river to the mouth of the Cache La Poudre river where Latham had been established in 1859. From Latham the stage route, after fording the Platte followed up the North side of the Cache La Poudre river (No. 3 on the map), to La Porte where it joined the Cherokee trail (No. 1 on map).

Traveling north from La Porte, Bonner Springs was the next station, then Ten Mile or Cherokee Station. Thence north to Virginia Dale Station; the next station north was Willow Springs, which is just within the boundaries of the State of Wyoming. This stage line between Latham and La Porte crosses the Platte at Latham and in a northwest direction crossed the Cache La Poudre at Boyd's Crossing, thence on the north side of the river to Sherwood Station.

Up to 1863 Denver was supplied with a tri-weekly stage from Latham. The California stage went direct from Latham to La Porte and then north. In 1863 the stage route was changed to the Denver cutoff; Latham was abandoned as were the stations south and west. From then on, all stages went over the cutoff direct to Denver, thence north through Childs, Rock Creek and Boone stations. The Overland Route entered Larimer County just south of Little Thompson Station, which was eighteen miles from Boone on Burlington (No. 1 road on map). From Little Thompson, the next station was Big Thompson or Namaqua. Next Spring Canon which preceded La Porte Station.

At this time through the discovery of a train boss named Dobson, who rather than pull his wagon load of flour over Greyback hill established a new and better route (No. 4 on map). This route was then taken by the Overland Stage going from La Porte to Park Creek Station, thence through the Devil's Washboard and joining the original route at Ten Mile or Cherokee Station.

In 1864 the station at Namaqua was changed so that the stage route went through Washburn's Ranch, where a station was established. The stage company also bought land and established a station on the Sherwood Ranch on the south side of the Cache La Poudre river. This made the stage travel along route No. 6 (on the map).

From Sherwood Station on the stage road went along the south side of the Cache La Poudre, fording the river at La Porte where the highway bridge now crosses that stream (No. 2 on the map). This cut out Spring Canon Station. Sherwood Station on the south side of the Cache La Poudre was in operation only a few months, the stages going direct to Fort Collins when it was established in 1864.

For many years there had been a trail through Larimer County that started at Santa Fe, going northward to Fort Laramie. This route followed the old Cherokee trail (No. 1 on the map) to La Porte, from there running northeast to Park Creek Station, thence to Burnt Station and then to Spottlewood Station, just over the line in Wyoming. This was also a stage road as Wells Fargo used it as such from the time the Union Pacific reached Fort Kearney, Nebraska, in 1866 until the railroad reached Denver in 1877. This stage line ran between Cheyenne and Denver.

The stations in Larimer County were:

No. 1—Sherwood Station (south side of river). This was originally a ranch which had been founded by Frederick Sherwood and his brother Jesse M. in the latter part of December, 1860. In 1864 the Sherwood Ranch was an Overland Stage Station and soon became known far and wide for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to travelers and visitors. Chief Friday's band of Arapahoe Indians was camped on the Sherwood Ranch in 1865-66 and F. W. Sherwood was appointed an agent by the Government to supply them with food and look after their welfare. Sherwood Station was a swing station and was only in use a short time because of Fort Collins being established in the summer of 1864. The stages then went direct to Fort Collins.

No. 2—Sherwood Station (north side of river). This was a swing station and was located across the river from the other Sherwood Station. It was in existence from 1862 to 1863. Both Sherwood Stations were twelve miles down the river from La Porte.

No. 3—La Porte Station. La Porte Station, twelve miles west of Sherwood Station, was a settlement on the Cache La Poudre river. La Porte means "behold the gate" and is properly named. It is the gateway to all that mountain region lying north of the South Platte river. La Porte was one of the first white settlements made in Colorado. Antoine Janis staked out the first claim here in 1844. William S. Taylor kept the stage station at La Porte for several years and had the pleasure of entertaining several distinguished men, including General Grant, Vice President Schuyler Colfax and Samuel Bowles, editor of the Springfield, Massachusetts, Republican. The stage fare from La Porte to Denver was \$20. La Porte was a home station, but had repair shops as well.

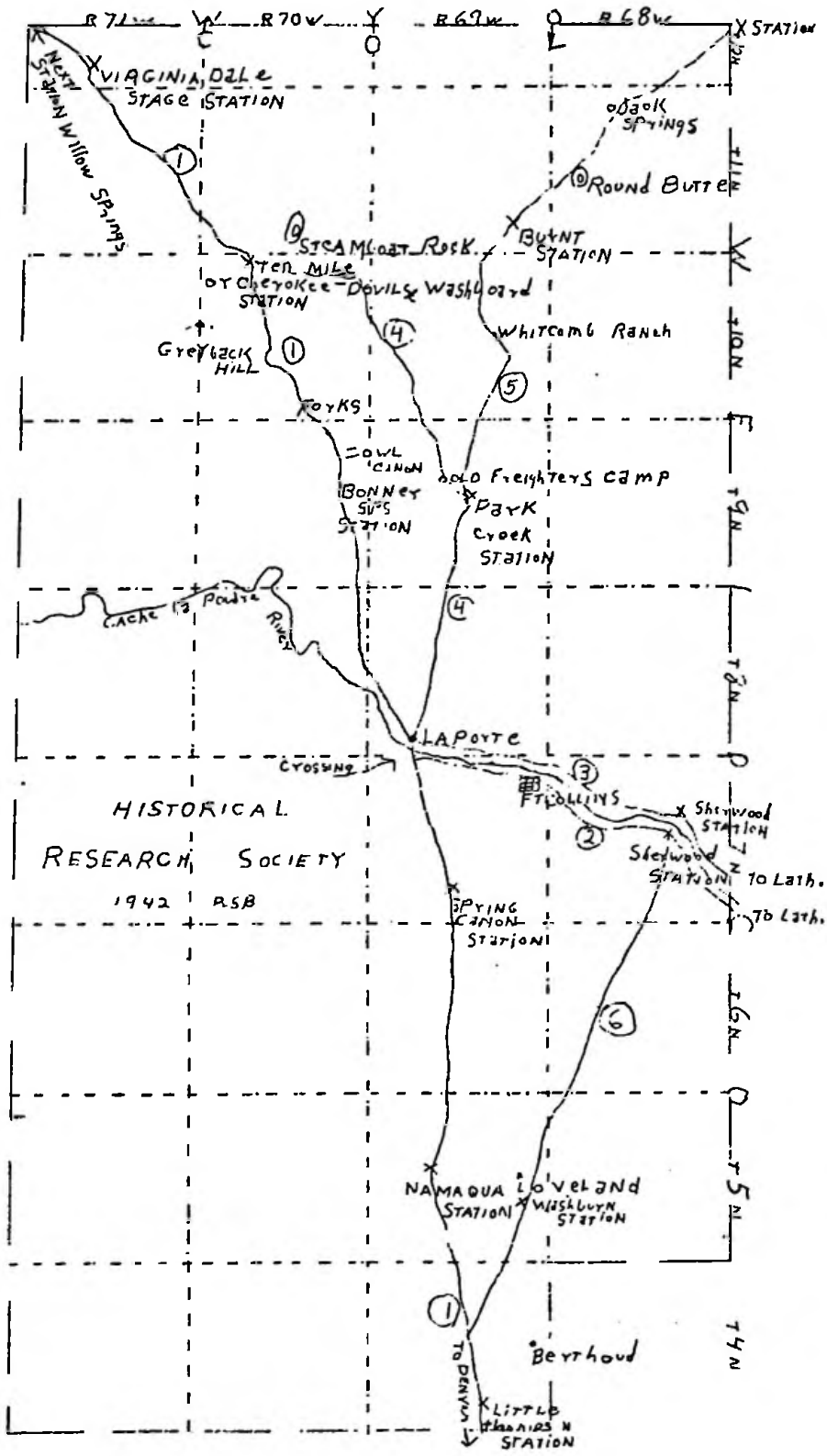
No. 4—Little Thompson Station. Little Thompson was eighteen miles north of Boone, or Burlington Station. This was a home station and was noted for the big trees on the stream.

No. 5—Namaqua Station. Namaqua Station was on the Big Thompson, eight miles north of Little Thompson. Namaqua was settled in the spring or summer of 1858 by Mariana Modena. He was of Spanish-Indian descent and originally came from the San Luis valley with his wife, who was a Flathead squaw. Namaqua is about three miles west of Loveland, where some of the old buildings can still be seen.

No. 6—Washburn Station. This station was on the J. E. Washburn ranch, where the stage line crossed the Big Thompson river. This became a station after Namaqua was abandoned and was a short distance south of Loveland.

No. 7—Spring Canon Station. Located at the mouth of Spring Canon, three miles southwest of Fort Collins. This was a swing station and was in existence from 1862 to 1864.

No. 8—Fort Collins. This was used as a place to distribute mail, pick up passengers and change horses. The old Grout was most likely the stage stop and stood on the southwest corner of Linden and Jefferson streets. Military escorts were sent from Fort Collins to guard the stages and stage lines. Fort Collins was established in 1864.



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No. 9—Bonner Springs Station. This station was located in 1862 and was named after Bonner Springs, Kansas. It was a favorite camping place for travelers. The station itself was slightly south of the springs and stood until 1872, when the Bennett brothers moved it to the springs and used it for a ranch house. Bonner Springs Station was a swing station and was abandoned in 1863, when the route was changed so as to go to Park Creek Station. Just south of the old station site is an old grave with the inscription "E. Hale died Apr. 17, 1864. Age 19 months." Bonner Springs was ten miles north of La Porte.

No. 10—Ten Mile or Cherokee Station. This station was located on Ten Mile creek near Steamboat rock. Old timers say the station was at one time burned by the Indians. The old trail came down the wash directly east of the station site. Devil's Washboard is a few miles east of the station site. At the foot of Devil's Washboard is the foundation of an old saloon. This station was twelve miles north of Bonner Springs Station and was a swing station.

No. 11—Virginia Dale Station. This is probably the most noted stage station in this part of the country. The station is still standing and is twelve miles north of Cherokee Station. This was the first division point north of Denver. It was established in June, 1862, and was named for Joseph Slade's wife "Virginia Dale," her maiden name. Slade made this station famous from coast to coast.

No. 12—Park Creek Station No. 1. This was a very important station and was the first one established. Here one branch of the road went to Fort Laramie, the other going to Virginia Dale via Cherokee Station. Here one can clearly see the foundations of the old buildings with an underground tunnel connecting two of the buildings. Parts of the old telegraph system have been found here.

No. 13—Park Creek Station No. 2. The old building is still standing and is a little north of the first station. It was used after the Overland Route was abandoned and Wells Fargo had a line from Cheyenne to Denver. This was in operation until the railroad was built into Denver in 1877. Both stations were on the old Miner Ranch and were nine miles north of La Porte.

No. 14—Burnt Station. This was a swing station ten miles north of Park Creek. Charred logs, etc., found a foot under the ground at this point definitely show that it was properly named.

No. 15—Spottlewood Station was the next station north and is not over 150 yards north of the state line in Wyoming. This station was built of rock and was not used merely for a station, but as a fort by the early settlers, as well.

LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD By FORBES PARKHILL

File No. 455, October 25, 1863. Chauncey R. Thomas vs. James Thomas, garnishee action for \$300 debt. Invoice of goods taken from James Thomas by Sheriff R. S. Wilson October 27, 1863, included: five elk skins, \$15; twelve sheep skins, \$9; ten antelope skins, \$10; ten sheep skins, \$8; eight sheep skins, \$6; fourteen sheep skins, \$10.50; one elk skin, \$3; twelve sheep skins, \$9; ten untanned deer skins, \$7.50; twenty-five sheep skins, \$18.75; four-fifths of a sewing machine, \$64; one black tail deer skin, \$4; five antelope skins, \$5; and three pairs of buckskin pants, \$30; total \$199.75. Plaintiff charges he advanced \$400, with interest at 10% per month, to the defendant, a storekeeper.

Case dismissed November 15, 1863 by stipulation at plaintiff's cost, and property levied upon by writ of attachment ordered to be delivered to plaintiff, except the four-fifths of the sewing machine, which is to be delivered to the defendant.

File No. 207, May 29, 1862. Ceran St. Vrain vs. George Shaw, Joseph S. Bailey and Allen G. Reed. William J. Godfrey as agent for St. Vrain charges that Shaw, Bailey and Reed were indebted to St. Vrain on a promissory note for \$1,000, and were about to convert their property into money and place it beyond the reach of the plaintiff. Asks writ of attachment. Dismissed August 25, 1862.

Early Mining Camps of South Park

By Norma L. Flynn

A few of the rip-roaring mining camps of the early gold rush days of Colorado were located in Bayou Salade¹—a beautiful natural park covered with lush grass which afforded grazing for vast herds of buffalo, elk and other game. In this area were many gold and silver mines from which sprang the towns of Tarryall, Hamilton, Fairplay, Buckskin Joe, Montgomery, Sterling, Mosquito, Jefferson, Dudley and Alma. Many of the names are interesting because of incidents relating to their origin.

Tarryall

"Tarry-all"—"stay awhile when you come,"—and come they did,² a continual stream of miners with wagons, carts, and pack animals, and on foot, all with one purpose—gold—described as "scales nearly as large as water melon seeds, smooth, and very bright yellow, worth from 25 cents to \$1.30 each."³ Most of the valuable ground was soon staked out so that late arrivals complained bitterly that the camp should have been called "Grab-All."

Tarryall⁴ boomed during the summer and fall of 1859; one hundred and fifty men wintered there, determined to brave severe snowstorms in order to hold their claims.⁵ There was a pit in the richest part of the gulch, on a claim whose owner had gone East. This pit was used as a "bank" from which the "hard up" miners drew gold to take care of their needs. Long before the spring of 1860 it had received the name of "whiskey hole"—a name it retained during the life of the camp.

The spring thaw of 1860 softened the ground and made it workable. More men came into the region. Nearly three hundred log houses were erected and excitement ran high to the sound of hammers and the noise of dirt being shoveled into sluice boxes during the entire summer. When winter came again most of the houses were deserted, for they were not warm enough to withstand the severe weather.

By July, 1861, nearly three hundred men were employed in the main gulch, its tributaries, and the adjacent hills; thirteen hydraulics were in operation, along with a great number of large sluice boxes. The yield of gold ran from two and one-half dollars to twenty-five dollars per day per man.⁶

A weekly newspaper, *Miners' Record*, was founded in Tarryall on July 4, 1861 by William N. Byers, John L. Dailey, Edward Bliss and H. E. Rounds.⁷ Hopes were high

¹The French word *bayou*, in the early history of this country, meant a slack water slough connected with some larger stream. In the southern part of South Park there are some salt springs, used long ago by the buffalo, which were found there by the thousands. The trappers, to distinguish this valley from others, called it Bayou Salade.

²In July, 1859 a group of prospectors consisting of W. J. Curtice, Clark Chambers, Earl Hamilton, William J. Holman, M. V. Spillard, Thomas Cassaday, James Merrill and Catesby Dale left Gregory Gulch and made their way to South Park. When they reached Kenosha range they were joined by a party of men from Wisconsin—John Aldrich, George Barnes, William Meacham, Thomas Jenkins, John Horseman and Edward Williams. These two parties were the group that made the first large discovery. Holman named the site "Pound Digging" in honor of his friend, David Pound. The name caused an influx of prospectors who thought a man could dig out a pound of gold a day.

³*Rocky Mountain News*, Auraria and Denver, Kansas Territory, September 10, 1859.

⁴The original camp of Tarryall was located on Tarryall Creek, about four miles northwest of the present town of Como. Later, another town in South Park took the name of Tarryall, but it is located near the southeast corner of the Park.

⁵*Miners' Record*, Tarryall Mines, South Park, C. T., July 27, 1861, p. 2, c. 1 & 2.

⁶The entire gold yield of Tarryall, from 1859 to 1872, was estimated to be over \$2,000,000. See: "Pioneers of Park; Early Explorers of the Buckskin District," *Rocky Mountain News*, Denver, Colorado, January 30, 1880, p. 5, c. 1 & 2.

⁷A complete file of the *Miners' Record* is in the Library of the Colorado State Historical Society.

for a successful paper; O. J. Goldrick worked out of Tarryall as the traveling agent for the paper, gathering news from the various camps. However, most of the residents were prospectors, and the lack of paid advertisers forced the paper to suspend operations on September 14, 1861, after publishing eleven issues.

In July, 1861, the Central Overland California and Pike's Peak Express Company began operations of four mule coaches between Tarryall and Denver twice a week.⁸ J. L. Lewis operated a Pony Express from Tarryall to California Gulch, carrying the mail which arrived from Denver.⁹ The camp was booming, and Dr. J. Parson of Tarryall Mines began operating a private mint. The following item appeared in the *Miners' Record*:

"We were shown one day this week by J. B. Stansell, Esq., some new coin of the denomination of two dollars and a half, which was coined by Dr. J. Parson, of Tarryall Mines. The specimens we saw were the first that had been coined, and, although they were not as even and perfect in form as is usual in gold coin, were fair samples of Pike's Peak coinage. The designs on this denomination are, on one side the American Eagle in the centre with the words, 'Pike's Peak Gold, 2½ dolls.' encircling it; on the other a representation of a six stamp quartz mill, with the words, 'J. Parson & Co., Oro.' We understand Dr. Parson designs removing his coining machinery to Buckskin Joe, where he will establish a mint for the coinage of gold of different denominations."¹⁰

Parson's mint was in operation only a short time because the United States Congress began working on a law prohibiting private coinage.¹¹

By the fall of 1861 the activity of the Tarryall Mines was being slowed down by the lack of water necessary for mining operations.¹² Seven years later the glory and excitement of the boom camp had faded and there were only two or three mud-patched cabins in the camp.¹³ For the next three or four years various companies tried to find the elusive metal, but by 1872 the scarcity of water had again forced them to give up the search, and Tarryall became important only to those who are interested in ghost towns.

⁸*Miners' Record*, Tarryall Mines, South Park, C. T., July 4, 1861, p. 3, c. 2.

⁹*Ibid.*, July 13, 1861, p. 3, c. 2.

¹⁰*Miners' Record*, Tarryall Mines, South Park, C. T., September 7, 1861, p. 3, c. 2.

¹¹In 1861 the Secretary of the Treasury recommended that the existing coinage laws of the United States be so amended as to prohibit private coinage in the United States. However, the enactment of such a law was delayed until June 8, 1864.

¹²*Miners' Record*, Tarryall Mines, South Park, C. T., August 3, 1861, p. 3, c. 1.

¹³Bowles, Samuel, *A Summer Vacation in the Parks and Mountains of Colorado*, Lee and Shepard, Boston, 1869, page 107.



PIONEER PROFESSIONAL ADVERTISEMENTS

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Physician and Surgeon, Auraria, K. T. "Office on Ferry Street, one door above the Rocky Mountain News' office, where he can always be found when not professionally engaged."¹

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J. W. McCade, M.D., Nevada Gulch
A. M. Smith, M. D., Mountain City
E. Fitzgerald, M. D., Arapahoe
C. R. Bissell, M.D., Mountain City"⁴

¹*Rocky Mountain News*, Cherry Creek, K. T., July 23, 1859.

²*Rocky Mountain News*, Auraria and Denver, K. T., October 6, 1859.

³*Rocky Mountain News*, Auraria and Denver, K. T., October 13, 1859.

⁴*Rocky Mountain News*, Denver and Auraria, Jefferson Territory, November 10, 1859.

FOR THE WESTERNER'S BOOKSHELF

- WEST FROM FORT BRIDGER.** By J. Roderic Korn. Utah State Historical Society. Fabrikoid \$4.50, paper \$3.00. Pioneering of the immigrant trails across Utah, 1846-50. Includes diary of James Frazier Reed of the Donner party, Heinrich Lienhard diary, James Clyman journal. Photographs, maps.
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BOOK REVIEW

TOMBSTONE'S EPITAPH, by Douglas D. Martin, Univ. of N. Mex. Press, 272 p., \$4.50. "Ninety per cent—is simply the news—in Tombstone in the 80's."

Predominantly selected excerpts from the "Epitaph," Tombstone's newspaper; church socials, hair pulling fights between female-attaches of the Bird Cage Theatre, John Slaughter selling 400 steers at 2c per lb., "Four-Paws Circus in town, weddings ("The cool nights are having their usual effect"), "a man—commonly known as 'Comanche' killed by unknown parties," and editor John J. Gosper's account of the local wholesale shooting centering around the Earps, including court records.

A pay-streak for those seeking the biography of a rowdy frontier town, a treasury of contemporary activities of a western community, history reported as of the moment and often with bias, ably edited by Douglas Martin, and good westernana that would delight newsmen fictioneers and devotees of western history but would be slightly cloying to many another reader. Good, *very* good, for them that likes western life as she was.

—ART CARHART

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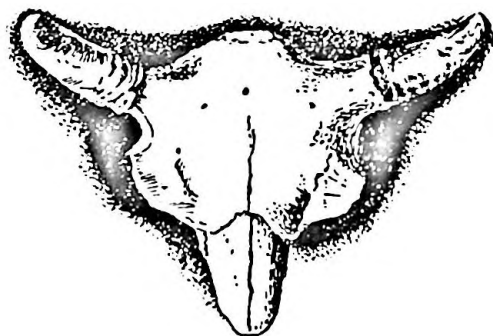
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VOL. 7

DECEMBER, 1951

NO. 12

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This is the last number of the monthly Brand Book to be edited by Ye Olde Registrar of Marks and Brands. The year 1951 has been a very pleasant one and the work involved in getting the publication to press has been enjoyable. I sincerely express my appreciation and thanks to all of the contributors, and especially to Rollin Street and Art Zeuch who have donated a great deal to the Westerners in making a printed work available, which has been done at a financial loss.

I trust the members have enjoyed the reprints of some rare old items which have been inserted in the envelopes from time to time to make them history conscious.

With this last issue, your Registrar extends a wish for continued success and a Very Happy New Year.

"So long, pardner!"

—NOLIE MUMEY



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Buffalo Bill and the Grand Duke Alexis

by CAROLINE BANCROFT |||

In January, 1872, the twenty-two year old, third son of Czar Alexander II of Russia, the Grand Duke Alexis, was in the United States. He had been sent as a special good will ambassador to President Grant and the American people. An imposing fleet of war vessels, prophecy of the day when Alexis would become Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Navy, brought him to these shores and he was received with equal lavishness on our part.

At a formal dance at the White House, the gallant and dashing little Cavalry General, Phil Sheridan, met the young prince. The two men took an instant liking for each other. General Sheridan urged Alexis to travel as far West as the Rocky Mountains, saying, that otherwise he would get no idea of the vastness of the country, and adding that the Russian would find some of the prairie land extraordinarily similar to the steppes of Siberia. As the men's mutual attraction increased, General Sheridan suggested that he might arrange a buffalo hunt. In English made even more broken by an effort at alacrity, Alexis accepted.

A special train of five Pullmans was obtained and plans were completed for a trip after Alexis should have made a triumphal formal tour of the principal Eastern cities.

On January 12, General Custer, Indian fighter and plainsman, met the party at Omaha, Nebraska. A few hours later their special train again belched westward toward the greatest sport of the times, the sport that had lured many a titled European to the West, among them, Lord Dunraven, first promoter of Colorado's well-advertised resort, Estes Park.

On board the train were members of the prince's suite—Vice-Admiral Possiet, Commander of the Russian fleet in American Waters, Lieutenants Stordegraff and Karl Tudor, Vladimir Kadrin, head surgeon of the Imperial Navy, Counts Olsenfieff and Shouvaloff, W. T. Machen, Councilor of State and Count Bodisco, the Czar's Consul General at New York, secretaries, valets and servants, making the suite very large. The Americans on the train were General Philip H. Sheridan, General James W. Forsyth, General George H. Forsyth, Colonel Michael V. Sheridan (the General's brother) Major Morris J. Asch, medical director on Sheridan's staff and Mr. McGuire, reporter of the *New York Herald*.

At North Platte, they were met by Colonel William F. Cody, known to the West, and later to the world, as Buffalo Bill, accompanied by a group of officers who were familiar with the "short grass" country between the "Big Muddy" (as the pioneers called the Missouri) and the Rockies. A band of friendly Indians, mounted on pinto ponies and mustangs circled in the background. After introductions were made and supplies unloaded, the whole party rode horseback or were driven in ambulance buggies to a camp, some fifty miles distant, on Red Willow Creek. Alexis distinguished himself on the ride by his fine horsemanship, receiving Irish compliments from Phil Sheridan.

Buffalo Bill's own words of description were:

"General Custer carried on a mild flirtation with one of Spotted Tails' daughters who had accompanied her chieftain father and it was noticed that the Duke Alexis paid considerable attention to another handsome redskin maiden. The night passed pleasantly and all retired with great expectations of having a most enjoyable and successful hunt. The Duke Alexis asked me a great many questions as to how we shot buffaloes, and what kind of a gun or pistol we used, and if he was going to have a good horse. I told him he was to have my celebrated buffalo horse, Buckskin Joe, and when we went into a buffalo herd all he would have to do was to sit on the horse's back and fire away.

"Of course the main thing was to give Alexis the first chance and the best shot at the buffaloes. When all was in readiness we dashed over a little knoll that had hidden us from view, and in a few minutes we were among them. Alexis at first preferred to use his pistol instead of a gun. He fired six shots from this weapon at the buffaloes, only twenty feet away from him. But as he shot wildly, not one of his bullets took effect. Riding up to his side and observing that his weapon was empty, I exchanged pistols with him. He again fired six shots without dropping a buffalo.

"Seeing that the animals were bound to make their escape without his killing one of them unless he had a better weapon, I rode up to him, gave him my old reliable 'Lucretia' and told him to urge his horse close to the buffaloes. I would then give him the word when to shoot. At the same time I gave old Buckskin Joe a blow with my whip and with a few jumps the horse carried the Grand Duke to within ten feet of a big buffalo bull.

"'Now is your time,' I shouted. He fired, and down went the bull. The Grand Duke stopped his horse, dropped Lucretia on the ground, and waved his hat aloft. When his suite came galloping up, he began talking to them in a tongue which I could not understand. Presently General Sheridan joined the group, and the ambulances were brought up. Very soon the corks began to fly from the champagne bottles, in honor of the Grand Duke Alexis who had killed his first buffalo.

"It was thought that we had had sport enough for one day. Accordingly, I was directed by General Sheridan to guide the party back to camp, and we were soon on our way thither. Several of the party, however, concluded to have a little hunt on their own account, and presently we saw them galloping over the prairie in different directions in pursuit of buffaloes.

"While we were crossing a deep ravine, on our way to camp, we ran into a small drove of buffaloes that had been frightened by some of the hunters. As they rushed past us, not more than thirty yards distant, Alexis raised his pistol, fired and killed a buffalo cow. It was either an extraordinary good shot or a 'scratch'—probably the latter, for it surprised the Grand Duke as well as everyone else. We gave him three cheers, and when the ambulance came up we took a pull at the champagne in honor of the Grand Duke's success. I was in hopes he would kill five or six more buffaloes before we reached camp, especially if a basket of champagne was to be opened every time he dropped one."

The party remained in camp three days, the Grand Duke totaling eight kills and dining at night on broiled buffalo steak shot by himself. Spotted Tail and his best hunters gave an exhibition of bringing the animals down with bows and arrows and lances. The most celebrated hunter, Two Lance, brought one buffalo down by sending an arrow straight through a cow which fell dead at the shot. The arrow was given to Alexis as a souvenir of his hunt on the American plains.

The Indians gave a grand dress war-dance one evening and the last day as entertainment for the Grand Duke and his suite. Another day two warriors fought a ferocious sham duel on horseback. And during all three days, Buffalo Bill basked in the limelight of the great for his ability as a horseman and a hunter. . . .

Or so Buffalo Bill said—perhaps it was the champagne or perhaps it was his natural flair for publicity that made the episode large in his memory. But whenever I hear of that dignified young Russian nobleman, six-feet-two in height, surrounded by pomp and protocol and feted by Denver society on January 18 with its most pretentious pioneer ball, I am reminded of the old plainsman buried on Lookout Mountain outside of Denver. And I like to think that for three days these two dissimilar types were buddies—Buffalo Bill and the Grand Duke Alexis.*

*For discovery of this episode among Kansas Historical Society Papers, I am indebted to Miss Ina T. Aulls of the Western History Department of the Denver Public Library.

ELEPHANT CORRAL

The Elephant Corral was a pioneer mammoth wagon yard which played an important role in the early history of Denver. It was built on the first plotted land in the state, and had an adobe wall, eight feet high and two feet thick around the enclosure, with loop holes for rifles every fourteen feet. The entire structure occupied an area 125x150 feet. Into this enclosure came freight wagons which brought supplies across the plains. It served a dual purpose—that of an exchange, and as a fortress. Many tons of merchandise were auctioned within its walls—nearly all of the supplies used by the citizens along Cherry Creek.

The corral was built by A. J. Williams between 1859 and 1861, and was located on Wazee Street between what are now 14th and 15th streets. There was a wide entrance leading from Blake Street, with another gate on the Wazee side.

D. K. Wall thinks the corral was built in 1860. He owned part of the property along Cherry Creek on the opposite side of Blake Street, and leased the Elephant Corral in 1872.¹

There was an office on the Blake Street side, and a large enclosure on the east side with rooms where people could stay overnight. These were known as "Pilgrim Rooms."

The following newspaper items show the importance of the Elephant Corral during the early days of Denver:

"The Elephant stable and auction stand is becoming a favorite resort for the crowds in our streets. The sales made there are extensive.

"We took a stroll thru this giant institution this morning, and were more than ever impressed with its magnitude and importance. It has recently been enlarged to nearly double its original size. This morning we counted within the enclosure twenty wagons just from the States, several tents and any quantity of horses, mules and oxen. Messrs. Burton, Higgins and Collins are entitled to great credit for the manner in which they have pushed forward this enterprise, and we have no doubt they are reaping a rich reward for the outlay. Pilgrims who have availed themselves of the accommodations afforded the Mammoth Correll are loud in their praises of the conveniences and facilities this institution afford them."²

"The Mammoth Correll auction stand on Blake and F. Sts. is doing a brisk business in the sale of cattle, horses, wagons and traps of all kinds, down to buttons and pins and needles."³

"Mammoth Correll. Putman & Chaplin.—"These enterprising gentlemen have bought the Mammoth Correll of Messrs. Burton, Higgins, Collins and are now prepared to accommodate the public at their 'Board & Sale Stable & horse market,' South side of F. st. between Blake & the river. The Correll has abundant shed and stable room and is a safe enclosure for loaded wagons; containing accommodations for cooking and sleeping for customers, free of charge. They have one of Fairbank's scales weighing hay, etc. Stock wagons and goods sold at auction or private sale. Look for the sign of 'Mammoth Correll'.⁴

"If you want a rare bargain go to the Mammoth Correll on Blake St. opposite Planters' House. On Saturday at 10:30 they will sell a whole stock of Hotel fixtures and bedding; pillows and sheets, counterpanes, comforts and mirrors."⁵

¹*Denver Times*, Denver, Colorado, January 16, 1902.

²*Rocky Mountain News*, Denver, May 8, 1861, p. 4, c. 1 & 2.

³*Ibid.*, October 19, 1861.

⁴*Ibid.*, November 23, 1861.

⁵*Ibid.*, May 10, 1862.

"Arrivals of teams at the Elephant Stable or 'Mammoth Corral.' Ladd's team of 5 wagons from Omaha, loaded with flour. J. W. Safley's 2 wagons, flour from Omaha. Major Johnson's train, 7 wagons, flour & bacon from Omaha. Mr. Kayhoe's mule team, from Omaha with flour, sugar and candles. Mr. Haine's team from Omaha, loaded with flour; four mule teams passed through town yesterday for California Gulch loaded with general merchandise."⁶

"Arrivals at the Elephant Corral: Judge Robinson's train, four teams loaded with bacon, from Omaha. Mr. Marble, with two teams from Omaha; bacon and flour. Mr. Donnelly, Omaha, two teams loaded with flour. Price & Co., three teams loaded with bacon from Albany, Green Co., Wis. Twenty ox teams loaded with flour & groceries passed through yesterday to the mountains."⁷

Arrivals at the Elephant Corral: "Leagon & Co., one team. Mr. Madison from Iowa one team. Spears & Stafford from Leavenworth, three ox teams loaded with flour, meal, bacon, beans etc. Coram & Bro. from Leavenworth, two teams, groceries. Roberts & Co., 4 teams with flour, etc. and two or three teams more, whose owners don't seem to know where they came from, or whither they are going to, or if knowing don't feel free to communicate. This class of pilgrims are afraid to part with any of their extensive stock of valuable information lest anybody here should get the best of them."⁸

Arrivals at the Elephant Corral: "Mr. Hilton seven wagons, groceries. Mr. Beasley, two wagons flour. A. M. Smith, four teams flour, meal and groceries. Rees & Co., four teams, flour & groceries. Mr. Human, two teams. Col. Baker three teams. Mr. Patrick two teams, Grasshopper Falls, Kas. Col. Hatterson, three teams, Plattsouth, flour, bacon, meal & corn and a lot of other teams loaded with merchandise. The arrival of teams in town yesterday was large, although the immigration is slackening up on this end and also on the other end of the road. The proprietors of the various city corrals would do us a favor by furnishing us with a list of their daily arrivals."⁹

"Arrivals at the Elephant Corral: Mr. Keyes, five teams, Cass Co., Iowa, flour & bacon (of course). Mr. Conner, one team, flour, Plattsouth. Chaplain & Co., two teams, flour and corn.

"Dr. Botsford, four teams from Marion Co., Iowa, loaded with general assortment of groceries. Mr. Lunn, one team, Marion Co., Iowa, groceries. J. Mason, four teams, Kansas, general assortment of groceries. L. Marion, three teams, flour & groceries from Iowa. J. P. Johnson, four teams, Davenport, Iowa, flour, bacon, corn, meal, etc. The in-comers report 'a perfect slew' of pilgrims on the route here. The Corral runners are in clover just now."¹⁰

"Arrivals at the Elephant Corral. Messrs. Noble & Co., two teams from Nebraska City, loaded with bacon. R. T. Middleton, two teams from Seneca, Kansas, flour. Mr. Kenedy, one team from Kansas, corn and meal. Mr. Raytee, one team, Nebraska, loaded with bacon. Mr. Reardon, three teams from St. Joe., loaded with flour, bacon & honey. Jas. W. Moore, Esq., Kansas City, five teams groceries. J. Murphy & Sons, five teams from Platte Co., Mo., loaded with flour, hams and a general assortment of groceries. Mr. Alison, three teams from Platte Co., Mo. R. Coles, Esq., six teams from Pekin, Ill., loaded with

⁶*Ibid.*, May 28, 1862.

⁷*Ibid.*

⁸*Ibid.*, May 31, 1862.

⁹*Ibid.*, June 11, 1862.

¹⁰*Ibid.*, June 18, 1862

groceries. John Anderson, two teams bound for Salmon River. Wm. Hellman, three teams from Chicago, for Salmon River with passengers. Dorsett is not far behind times now a days."¹¹

"Arrivals of teams at the Elephant Corral. J. & L. Law, two mule teams with general assortment of merchandise. Cole & Arnett, two wagons from Omaha, groceries and provisions. Thos. J. Higgins, from Chicago, one team with a little of everything."¹²

"Arrivals of teams at the Elephant. Mr. Harnest, one team, Omaha, corn. Burrough's and Trowbridge, seven teams from Ft. Union, with passengers. Mr. Silvers from Ft. Union, one team. Mr. Bender from Nebraska, one team. Mr. Hirnebaugh, one team from Nebraska, with a load of the material from which to manufacture the 'staff of life', Mr. Kanaga, Nebraska, one team freight. Mr. Blanchard, Leavenworth, one team, corn. Mr. Scott, one team from Omaha, groceries.

"J. P. Dunlap three teams from Iowa, flour and bacon. John Stevens, three teams, Nebraska, flour and bacon, too, of course. Gen'l Eastabrook from Omaha with four teams and a fine looking family of girls, handsome, rich and accomplished. Also with a general stock of groceries and provisions, including among the rest ten thousand cigars, one hundred butter bowls, butter ladles and stamps, queensware, axe handles, sugar, coffee, brooms, codfish, plums, peaches, eggs, grain and baby cradles, syrup and other sweet tasting things generally, including Catawba wine and things."¹³

"The Mammoth or Elephant Corral. Friend Chaplin of corral notoriety has re-taken an interest in the above named and may be found there henceforth, to receive his share of the traveling patronage."¹⁴

"Arrivals at the Elephant Corral: H. Nelson and family, Sargeant Bluffs, Iowa, one wagon loaded with flour, bacon and groceries. George Brassfield and family, one wagon loaded with flour and bacon, Sargeant Bluffs, Iowa. J. Brassfield, flour and bacon, one wagon. Wiley Brassfield, flour and bacon, one wagon. Wesley Critchet, flour and bacon, one wagon. J. Householder, flour and bacon, one wagon. A. Fening, flour and bacon, one wagon. J. Hodges, Burlington, Iowa, leather, shoes and boots, one wagon. Mr. Wall, Omaha, two wagons loaded with corn. J. Clark, Maquokato, Iowa, one wagon loaded with groceries. D. F. Clark, one wagon loaded with groceries. Wm. Donnon, Nebraska City, one wagon loaded with flour. J. Deterson two wagons. R. Magretton, one wagon. F. W. Caler, Council Bluffs, Iowa, two wagons loaded with groceries. W. C. Johnson, one wagon. A. W. Whitaker, Toledo, Iowa, one wagon loaded with groceries. Messrs. J. Woodward, Hughs, Morrow, Mount and Gill, one wagon each."¹⁵

¹¹*Ibid.*, June 19, 1862.

¹²*Ibid.*, June 24, 1862.

¹³*Ibid.*, June 25, 1862.

¹⁴*Ibid.*, June 31, 1862

¹⁵*Ibid.*, July 5, 1862.

BOOK REVIEW

THE BLACK RAM OF DINWOODY CREEK: A Story of Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep. By Nolie Mumey, Denver: The Range Press, 1951. Boards and cloth, tall 8vo, 16 illustrations by Inez Tatum, 192 pages. Edition limited to 325 numbered copies, signed by the author. \$4.50.

Reviewed by

JULIA LIPSEY

When Nolie Mumey, A.M., M.D., leaves his work as a surgeon, teacher and historian in Denver, he likes to get completely away from his usual surroundings. He has spent many summers in the Wyoming mountains, in the bighorn sheep country. Here he became profoundly interested in these animals. With Dr. Mumey, to get interested in a subject is to do something about it. So he wrote this book about the life of a bighorn ram.

The book has two heroes: Blackie the ram, and Ernest the hunter-guide, a solitary mountain-dweller. Old Ernest, on his rambles in the Wind River Mountains, sees a ewe with a new-born lamb, and the lamb is black—a great rarity. Ernest decides to add a black ram's head to his collection, when this lamb becomes full-grown. But he considers how many things could happen to that black lamb before he is full-size—a sharp target for both animal and human enemies. He begins to make it his business to watch the herds of mountain sheep, to keep track of the black lamb to see that no harm comes to him.

The book tells the story of what happened to Blackie through three cycles of summer and winter seasons. First an eagle swoops him off; later a cougar attacks him, and his mother saves him but is herself killed by the cougar. Blackie is wounded in the foot by a hunter. Ernest nurses him, and thereafter can always distinguish Blackies' tracks in the snow, from the misshapen foot that results from the injury.

Hunters hear of a black one among the bighorns. Then what a time Ernest has! He is hired to guide two men on a hunt, but is constrained to give plausible reasons for leading them away from Blackie's herd. Hunger, bitter winter, snow-slides—all these take their toll of the herds. But Blackie grows up, vanquishes the old bully of a ram who has led the herd, and lives to be the finest ram ever seen by Ernest. Ernest has saved the sheep's life more than once; and one time Blackie was the savior of Ernest, when he attracted the attention of men passing by to the cabin where Ernest lay ill and helpless.

The author tells his story so simply, with such an unaffected natural tenderness for these living creatures—men and animals—that the reader is carried along by it. Dr. Mumey doesn't try to write in a fashionable vein, or to imitate anybody. He just tells what he sees and feels himself. There isn't any misty symbolism, or any acid irony. It reminds me of some of the animal stories I used to read as a child, particularly of "Red Fox" and "The School of the Woods" by William J. Long. And, yes, it has the happy ending of the stories of my childhood.

As usual, Dr. Mumey has put into this book the something extra that he likes to put into all of his books. For instance, when he wrote a history of Denver, he put in facsimiles of the first Denver newspapers. When he wrote a life of Calamity Jane, he put a pocket in the back cover, and in the pocket placed a couple of pamphlets, facsimiles of those Jane sold, as her true life story, when she travelled with wild west shows. In this book, "The Black Ram", he has added a chapter of paragraphic facts about mountain sheep. Did you know that a big ram could weigh as much as 350 pounds; that he has pads on his feet to keep him from slipping; and that he can jump seven feet straight up?

Posseman Al Williams is to be congratulated for his latest literary contribution, "The Book By My Side," a popular history of the Bible, published by Duell Sloan & Pearce, N. Y. Price \$4.00.



LETTER FROM THE CALIFORNIA GOLD MINES

"California Gold Mines, June 13th, 1850

Dear Sister:

I once more take up my pen to address you, I have written a number of letters to you and William and have received none in return, if you get this letter I hope you will answer it as soon as you can, I am sure you will get it for I send it by Doctor Clemens, a friend of ours who is going directly to New York, he will put it in the post office, and if it is not directed right it will be advertised so you will get it anyhow. We live out in the mines, we keep a store and Boarding house, mining in the dry mines is midling the wet mines cannot be worked till next month they average about ten dollars a day it is very hard work, men and their wives can make their fortunes here if they work hard single men cannot do so well for it takes all they make to pay their Board, Digging gold is all luck some dig out enough to go home with, and others dont get one dollar a day. I wish you was here we would have such fine times it is very lively here in the winter we have balls and parties every week we live in Weaver Creek in the Winter, but we are 50 miles from there now we are up in the mountains, we shall go back as soon as snow comes. There is fifteen women in Weaver there is only one here beside me. We went to all the fandangoes and parties, I hope you have not sliped yourself in the matrimonial move for I want you to come out here and get a rich husband for you can take your pick here you can have a Doctor, gambler, lawyer, minister, or any other professional scapegrace your fancy may light upon. There is a great many Indians here but they are harmless, George gave one of them an old vest the other day and he put his legs in the arm holes and buttoned it around his waist I thought it made him look quite civilized, you would laugh to see some of the men here with a couple of hats on their heads, a mocason on one foot and a boot on the other, a check shirt over red flannel pants or red scarf around their waists mustaches below their chins and beards a yard long they look more like ourang outangs than anything else. I have but one child it is all I have and all I ever expect to have, his name is Winfield Scott he will be three years old in December the 23d 1850 he is the only child here I have not seen six children since I have been here, now ellen once more I ask you to write to me and tell that affectionate Brother of mine that he must write to me, I would give the world to see you both, I would not advise any one to come here that is doing well at home for there will be no more fortunes made here after this year, for there is more here now than there is dollars in the mines there is plenty of Dons here, every thing is Spanish I am learning Spanish, we talk Spanish, eat Spanish, dance Spanish and one of these days we shall walk Spanish out of this country, there now Miss ell I think I have wrote you quite a respectable scrawl and I am very sleepy so good night,

George is well he sends his love to you both he is as fat as he can be, he says if you want to come out here you must say so and he will send you money to pay your expenses if you are not married I will have you out here in a little time and when you get a husband we will all go home together in this letter I send you a few specimens of gold, it was dug out of the El Dorado Canone, it weighs two dollars and a half, I would send you a pound if I had a shure way of sending it, I intended to write this letter over but the Doctor leaves sooner than I thought he would and you will have to try and make it out, now Dear Sister I have wrote all that I have time to write if there is anything you want to know or hear about why not write and I will give you all the information I can, give my love to my Brother and receive the same from your

Affectionate Sister

Mary

Mrs. George

When you write you must direct your letters to Mrs. George Scott Sacramento City Upper California, we have a team running constantly from Sacramento to the mines we will get it nearly as soon as though we lived there, tell me where to direct my letters."*

*The above letter was submitted by Miss Marion Rule, Executive Secretary, Princeton Surveys, Princeton, New Jersey. Miss Rule is the great-granddaughter of the Ellen Rule to whom this letter was written.

FOR THE WESTERNER'S BOOKSHELF

- POEMS OF THE OLD WEST. By Levette J. Davidson. University of Denver Press. \$3.50. Collected poems of the mining and ranching days of the pioneer West, by a member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners.
- THE BLACK RAM OF DINWOODY CREEK. By Nolie Mumey. Range Press. \$4.50. Story of Blackie, a ram of the Wind River country in Wyoming, and of old Ernest, the hunter. Limited edition, by a member of the Denver Posse of The Westerners.
- A TREASURY OF WESTERN FOLKLORE. Edited by B. A. Botkin, foreword by Bernard DeVoto. Crown Publishing Co. \$4.00. Special Rocky Mountain edition, giving particular attention to folklore of Mountain states.
- CATTLE TRADE. By Joseph G. McCoy. Long's College Book Co. \$8.50. Reprint of historical sketches of the cattle trade in the West and Southwest, originally published in 1874.
- FIELD'S INDIAN BIBLIOGRAPHY. Long's College Book Co. \$10.00. Reprint of notes on scarce, early works relating to pioneers, voyageurs, frontiersmen, traders and trappers, mountain men, Indian scouts, hunters, explorers and trail blazers.
- NEW MEXICO. By Erna Fergusson. Knopf. \$5.00. History of New Mexico in terms of its people, Indian, Spanish and Gringo. Illustrated.
- CALIFORNIA CALLED THEM. By Robert O'Brien. McGraw-Hill. \$3.75. Histories of many California small towns.
- CAP MOSSMAN: LAST OF THE GREAT COWMEN. By Frazier Hunt. Hastings House. \$3.75. Biography of a cattle king who at 30 ran 60,000 head on the 2 million acres of the Hash Knife outfit in Arizona.
- THE COWBOY AND HIS HORSE. By Sydney E. Fletcher. Grosset & Dunlap. \$2.95. The Chisholm Trail, rustlers, dehorning saws, Cortez' brand, words and music to cowboy songs, annual rodeos, glossary of cowboy words. Illustrated by the author.
- SQUARE DANCE. By Ralph J. McNair. Country Life Press. \$1.50. History and description of the square dance, with emphasis on western dances. Illustrated.

FIELD TRIP FOR THE WESTERNERS IN 1952

Through the courtesy of Fred A. Rosenstock, we have been invited by Dr. R. H. Burns, Head of the Wool Department, University of Wyoming, to participate in the field trip as described in the following tour itinerary:

TOUR OF OLD TIME RANCHES OF THE LARAMIE PLAINS

July 13, 1952

Who has not heard of the deeds of Tom Horn, cattle detective and Indian Scout, who at one time purportedly represented warrant, sheriff, witnesses, jury, judge and executioner on the ranges of Wyoming.

Few realize that the Haunts of Tom Horn, during his days in Wyoming, were spent largely here on the Laramie Plains. He spent a lot of time at the Iron Mountain Ranch of John C. Coble and the scenes of his activities ranged from the "Black Hills Area" of the Laramie Mountains to Brown's Hole, some eighty miles south of Rock Springs.

The 1952 Tour of Old Time Ranches, our Third Annual event, is sponsored jointly by the Albany County Historical Society, the Summer School of the University and the Kiwanis Club. Bob Burns, ranch historian, will be in charge of the tour ably assisted by local people who know intimately the scenes and characters involved. Bud Gillespie, Morris Corthell and the Wallis Brothers have assisted ably in the past and this year we will have the terrifically interesting assistance of Gus Miller, who, as a boy, was involved in the Tom Horn trial.

Those who wish to read a few items about Tom Horn will be interested in the following references:

MONAGHAN, Jay

The Last of the Bad Men. The legend of Tom Horn.

Indianapolis: Bobbs Merrill Co. 1946.

ANONYMOUS

Tom Horn's Gory Deeds Recalled 24 Years Later

Laramie Republican Boomerang, November 19, 1927, Page 2

THOMPSON, John Charles

The Hanging of Tom Horn

The Westerner's 1945 Brand Book (Denver Posse) Pp. 111-129.