

## HISTORY OF THE PIKE NATIONAL FOREST

### INTRODUCTION

The stories, experiences and facts which are compiled and included in a history of this nature are gathered from many sources. Some of the information is secured first-hand while much of it has been retold and repeated which facts tend to change the original incident or experience more or less.

At best only a limited amount of material can be secured whether from the old settlers or their descendants and much valuable information will never be obtained thereby losing it forever.

The material used in the following article was secured by the rangers, supervisor, assistant supervisor and clerk from "old timers" who either live on or near the forest at present or lived there in the past and from newspaper and magazine articles. Considerable time was spent in securing the data. Perhaps if more time had been available the result would be a better history than is possible with the present material.

### EARLY LEGENDARY

#### Indians:

There is not a great deal of history about the Indians who inhabited the region included in the forest that could be secured. It seems that the aborigines had moved to other parts soon after the first white settlers came. The information secured is rather vague and unauthentic.

Conflicts with the Indians marked the early history of the place. The Utes, short and thick set, lived in the mountain valleys and parks up the Pass. The plains were held by various tribes of Missouri Indians, particularly Pawnees, Arapahoes, Cheuennes and Sioux. They were tall and excellent horsemen. These barbarians pursued a perennial feud in which the Utes, swooping down from the mountains, were generally successful and carried off the ponies and women of their enemies.

With the whites the Indians were at first friendly but hostilities began with the massacre of the Hungat family in 1864. The outbreak of war threw the inhabitants of Old Town into a panic and they sought refuge in a log house while agriculture was continued by men under arms. The Indians committed a good deal of promiscuous robbery and murder. The federal government bending all its energies to the suppression of the rebellion could not send aid, but authority was given to raise three regiments of Colorado volunteers under the territorial government and to these El Paso county contributed its quota. In November the troops were moved against the Indians marching down the Arkansas Valley and thence to Sand Creek, where they surprised them in camp. The Indians, being taken unawares and most of their ponies captured, were compelled to fight on foot and over five hundred of their warriors were killed. Some of the Indian women and children did not escape the slaughter. The whites had 12 killed and 40 wounded. The combatants on both sides were about equal.

The trouble continued in the three following years. In 1868 a scouting party of twenty-eight was surrounded by Indians and fought them in pits which they dug with their knives. They managed to send information of their peril to the settlements and the Indians retired, killing such straggling settlers as they could reach. There were no more important Indian fights.

The Indian question was settled by the construction of the railways, which rapidly developed the white settlements and drove away the buffalo and antelope.

Clear Creek was a favorite route of the Indians from Middle and South Parks, and they left in many places Agate chippings. It was said they used a spot between Georgetown and Green Lake as a burial place, but no evidence has been secured to establish the fact.

In 1859 William Slaughter, Dr. Shank and Bart Kennedy were out on a prospecting trip near Mt. Evans, when they were attacked by Indians and Shank and Kennedy killed.

General Fremont and the Utes had their largest battle in Ute Pass on the mouth of French Creek in front of the Cusack ranch and on the flats which lie south of there to the Iron Spring.

The South Park country originally belonged to the Ute Indians. It was one of their main hunting grounds. For a number of years after Fairplay was established it was the principal trading point for the Indians until they were placed on the reservation. It was a common sight to see a band of 300 camped across the river from Fairplay. There was no trouble between the Indians and the white people in this country. The present site of Garo is an old battleground of the Ute and Arapaho Indians.

(Following data given by S. M. Derby)

Ute Indians came down through the Tarryall region from the western slopes in the early days. They would come through in bands of three hundred or four hundred going to the plains country around Pueblo and Canon City. At one time Marksbury, a rancher in Marksbury Gulch, had a horse he had traded for a Ute pony. One band of Indians took the horse, while passing the ranch, the owner being away at the time. Marksbury missed the horse on his return and followed the Indians out to Four Mile Creek, where he boldly rode into camp, secured his horse and started away with it. All the Indians were in their tepees at the time. He was shot from his horse from one of the tepees. He lay where he fell for about twenty-four hours; then some of his friends took him away.

They were generally good natured and well behaved but at times stole quite a few small articles and food supplies.

(Following data by Mrs. C. S. Allen)

The Utes came up in the spring and back in the fall. They went over to the White River country for summer hunting. They usually kept on the move, camping at night only. They would bunch their horses in the gulches in care of a night herder. The bands would contain three hundred or four hundred Indians.

C. S. Allen put in a garden and raised quite a few vegetables when they first settled. It consisted of potatoes, rutabages, turnips, carrots, cabbage, onions, lettuce and radishes. Mr. Allen and the larger boys stayed up all night digging vegetables on one occasion when about three hundred Utes camped in the first gulch above the house. However, the Indians did not bother them. Next morning the chief of the party stopped at the fence and secured enough to load himself and saddle pony, but motioned the other Indians to keep moving.

On another occasion a big buck came to the door begging for eats. Mrs. Allen was working up some butter at the time. After getting something to eat the Indian showed interest and curiosity about the butter. When asked if he wanted some he grunted approval. Mrs. Allen fixed up a good big ball of it and breaking off some cabbage leaves wrapped it up and handed it to him. He immediately pulled the leaves off, would not listen to any interference and slipped the ball of butter down inside his blanket. No doubt he wondered where it disappeared later on.

The Indians were always begging for something to eat and would eat at every house if they could get something. They seldom stole anything and no one in that region was harmed. They never stopped to hunt in the Tarryall country.

### Explorers

The first American explorer of the region was Lieutenant Zebulon M. Pike who was sent out in 1806, shortly after the United States acquired the territory from France. He left St. Louis on the twenty-fifth of June and camped at the foot of the Peak just five months later. He sighted the Peak on the fifteenth of November and deceived by the peculiar atmosphere, expected to arrive at the base in a few days' journey, but it was not until the twenty-fifth of the month that he reached it. He called it the "Mexican Mountain" and vainly attempted to ascend its snowy heights. He met many hardships with heroic courage but they seem to have given him a bad opinion of the country, which he declared to be barren eight months of the year and uninhabitable to such a degree that it formed a natural, and as he thought, a desirable barrier to the westward expansion of our settlements. His rather euphonious name became attached to the great mountain on account of this exploration.

Pike was sent out by the United States government to explore the headwaters of the South Platte and Arkansas rivers. He visited the region now included in the forest and Pikes Peak, the most widely known mountain in Colorado, if not in the entire Rocky Mountain system.

The next visit worthy of mention was that of Lieutenant Long in 1819. In 1843 came Fremont the "Pathfinder". He examined the region with some care, and better informed than Pike, he regarded it as possessing great possibilities as a grazing and agricultural country. Ruxton, an Englishman, stopped in his wanderings at this place in 1847, and his memory is preserved in the name of Ruxton Creek, a tributary to Fountain. Ruxton frequently mentions Ute Pass and states that it was the principal line of travel to and from the South Park for all the Indian tribes of this region at the time of his arrival as well as previously hereto.

### Traders

The first white inhabitant appears to have been a pioneer and trader, Jimney Hayes by name, but more commonly known as "Jimney". He came in 1833 and entered into a steady trade with the Indians. Many years after he was assassinated

by a band of eleven Mexicans who looted his camp. This was a sad blow to the Indians, to whom he had been a faithful purveyor of the goods of civilization, especially whiskey, and they pursued the marauding "greasers" and killed them.

## SETTLEMENTS

### Mining

That gold mining was carried on in the Clear Creek region many years previous to its occupation in 1859 was evidenced to the first gold hunters by the discovery of old drifts in the banks of the creek at numerous places near Idaho Springs. Whether the mining was done by the followers of Coronado, or more recently by Mexicans, can only be conjectured.

The "Western Mountaineer" of October 25, 1860, gives an account of the finding of a skeleton of a man on Soda Creek by Howe and Miner while at work on their claim. It was found at a depth of twenty-two feet below the surface and in good "pay dirt". The skeleton was in a good state of preservation and was lying face downward in a bed of loam, gravel, sand and boulders. Two feet below the skeleton were found the trunk, limbs and roots of a yellow pine. The find was two hundred yards southeast of the soda springs.

Early prospectors discovered a shaft sunk to a depth of twenty-five feet or more on Mill Creek, and old kettles and rusted implements of various kinds.

Mr. F. L. Peck of Georgetown, when on a trip to Argentine Pass in the early 60's, noticed a pile of rocks raised by human hands on the summit of the Pass, probably as shields from observation. Similar piles were seen on Jones Pass and on Mill Creek.

The prospectors of '59 found a cabin near the Empire Station in a state of decay. It was probably the home of a trapper. They also found a trapper and a squaw living in a small cave near Idaho Springs.

An old trapper named Rufus B. Sage made a trip toward the head of Vasquez Fork (Clear Creek) in the winter of 1843-4 and found mineral which he believed to contain gold.

Gold was first discovered in January 1859, in the eastern Rocky Mountains by a party from the Boulder settlement on South Boulder Creek. Near the close of April of the same year, George Jackson, an old Californian miner, also found gold along a tributary of South Clear Creek near the present

town site of Idaho Springs.

The grand discovery, and that which confirmed the reputed wealth of the country, was made in May 1859. In 1857 John H. Gregory left his home in the mining district of Georgia bound for the Frazer River gold mines of British Columbia. He had proceeded as far as Ft. Laramie (Wyoming) in 1858, when by some means he was detained until the following spring. When about ready to resume his journey to the Pacific he was induced by reports from the Pikes Peak country to return southward to try his luck.

He followed Clear Creek from the town of Golden up into the mountains as far as where the city of Blackhawk now stands. Indications of gold caused him to strike up a gulch tributary to the fork of Clear Creek. He was alone and before he could fairly test the value of the gulch he was overtaken by a snow storm, and nearly perished. When the storm ceased he was obliged to return to the valley, or country at the base of the mountains, for provisions. He then induced Wilkes Defrees to return with him to the mountains and they reached the spot after a tedious journey of three days. It was the sixth day of May, 1859. Gregory climbed the hill where he believed the wash, or gold dirt, would naturally come from, scraped away the grass and leaves and filled his gold pan with dirt and took it down to the gulch. Upon panning it down, there was about \$4.00 worth of gold in it. The seventh of May they washed out \$40.00 worth of gold and then left for Auraria to get their friends. The discovery was made on what was afterwards known as claim No. 5 on the Gregory lode.

The rich find of Gregory set the people of the plains towns, then filled with new arrivals from the east, wild with excitement and caused a stampede for the Gregory diggings as they were afterwards called. As the canon of Clear Creek was impassible for most of the way, other routes were found necessary to reach the desired locality. These lay over almost impassable mountains covered with timber and down into ravines which necessitated the crossing of other and still higher mountains.

As the summer of 1859 advanced the wealth of Colorado's gold veins and gulches became more and more apparent. Over 15,000 men were congregated in Gregory, Russell and tributary gulches, and many of them were accumulating wealth rapidly, but everything valuable was soon preempted and large numbers were forced to hunt their fortunes elsewhere.

M Green Russell and his brothers, "Doc" and Oliver Russell, with a party of Georgians, were among the early arrivals at the Gregory digging. Some time later Russell and his party crossed over the southern portion of the county and located in the gulch that still bears the name of the leader. Russell, being perfectly satisfied with the yield of these gulch or placer diggings, remained in that locality for three or four years. He became convinced in May 1859 that there was not sufficient water to mine with profit for more than one or two months in the spring of the year. The miners, generally, had become alarmed at the scarcity of water, knowing that gulch diggings were comparatively worthless without it. Russell and a few others began, therefore, to explore the country with a view to finding a stream of water that could be brought to these mines by means of a ditch. As a result the head of Fall River was found as a practicable point from which to obtain the desired water supply by means of a twelve mile ditch and a flume, constructed around the mountain sides. The ditch (Consolidated Ditch Company) was completed in 1860 at an estimated cost of \$100,000 and soon after a thousand men were gulch mining in Russell and its immediate vicinity.

At that time populous villages were located at Central City, Mountain City, Blackhawk and at other localities.

The first organization of the Gregory District took place on the sixteenth of May, 1859, when there were but sixteen men in camp. By June first of the same year the camp had increased to eight hundred or one thousand men. The Nevada district was set off on August 1, 1859, the Russell district on August 15, 1859, and the Central City district in the summer of 1860.

The boom conditions existing throughout this region in the early days are well illustrated by the mining locations made and the number of mills and stamps at work. In these times a mining claim was only one hundred feet long and fifty feet wide, and it is estimated that not less than one hundred thousand claims were registered within and adjacent to the gold belt. No one has ever attempted to check up the entries, but in the three years prior to the establishment of Gilpin County in 1862, the written descriptions of locations filled over a hundred record books, which are now on file at the courthouse in Central City. In addition to these, from 1862 to 1915, approximately 25,000 lode claims and tunnel and mill sites have been recorded. A record of the number of mills and stamps operating in and around Central City in 1863 shows 81 mills and 965 stamps.

The first silver-bearing ore found in the county was on Fall River during the summer of 1860. It is probable that Silver City, the name given the camp at the head of the stream, was derived from this discovery.

Silver had been suddenly discovered in fabulous values at Leadville in the famous California Gulch. This disclosure of carbonate of lead ores carrying silver in 1874 marked the beginning of a new era for Colorado. A party of men in 1860 had left the congested section around the "Gregory diggings" in Gilpin County and crossed the Park range of mountains and prospected along the banks of the streams in the loose soil. At the head of a wooded creek they found rich deposits of gold. They called their "diggings" California Gulch, doubtless among their number were many who had sought fortunes in '49 on the Sacramento.

However, California Gulch as a gold field had lasted only about five years. Part of it was enormously productive but water was the problem, for, of course, gold was then only extracted by washing. As much as a thousand dollars a day was taken out by those favored by fortune, and one company's yield was one hundred thousand dollars in sixty days. Within a few months five thousand people had flocked to the camp. They were reckless and improvident men. Riches seemed so easy, to save would seem niggardly. As a result gambling dens and vice houses sprang up.

After one year went by Leadville had seen its best gold days although desultory mining continued for several years. The year 1866 found the camp practically deserted. Only the Printer Boy mine owned by J. Marshall Paul of Philadelphia kept the interest up in that section.

Nothing but silver had been found in promising quantities elsewhere in Colorado and that too before the activities that were about to begin in the Leadville district. Silver lodes were first discovered in Summit County in the '60's. Then rich deposits were found on McClellan Mountain in 1864. Silver mills were established at Georgetown and in 1872 a market was found for high-grade silver ore in Germany. Again Georgetown sprang into the limelight. Once the center of gold diggings, it had, in the year of '63, lost its every citizen but one, for such is the possible fate of mining towns. Two miles above Georgetown was located the camp of Silver Plume that has never ceased to deserve its name.

George and David Griffith, who were members of the Plattsmouth party that reached Cherry Creek on the twenty-fifth of October, 1858, went to the Gregory diggings the following year, but were too late to locate a good claim. They started on a prospecting trip and in June, 1859, discovered the Griffith lode. They built the first cabin in the new camp, which was christened Georgetown.

The Turner and Silver lodes were located soon after the discovery of the Griffith, by George Adams and R. M. Barker.

W. N. Byers, editor of the Rocky Mountain News, was at the Chicago Creek diggings in May, 1859, and in his editorial correspondence stated that the first discovery of gold in that region was on the tenth of May, 1859. The extent of the diggings was two by five miles. In June, 1859, Mr. Byers made a second trip up Clear Creek and got as far as the Empire station and ascended Douglas Mountain. He described the trip as exceedingly difficult on account of brush and fallen timber.

In August 1859, Mr. Byers made a third trip up Clear Creek, accompanied by H. J. Graham, delegate to Congress, C. Miltse of Omaha and C. Froefre of Switzerland. They arrived at Georgetown, which had already been named, on the twenty-sixth of August, and found five men and a boy there. Several discoveries were being worked. George Griffith had stampered to a reported rich find in the north. After examining the properties the party passed on over the range.

In August, 1859, John S. Gates, subsequently sheriff of the county, with a companion prospected up Clear Creek and camped near the present site of the Phelps house, which was a grassy meadow surrounded by large trees. Griffith and Leavenworth mountains and the gulches were heavily timbered and game was abundant.

The Jackson district had three hundred men at work by the end of May 1860, who were making three to five dollars per day. Later companies were organized for the purpose of fluming the creek and getting at its bed, but with meager returns. At one time fifty sluices were in operation on Spanish Bar.

Downieville district was organized July 20, 1859, by Colonel Sam McLeon, president, Edward James, recorder, and Wilson E. Sisty and J. Goldsferry.

Payne's Bar district was organized November 10, 1859. The camp was called Burtonville after Dr. T. N. Burton. The Enterprise Town Company of Payne's Bar surveyed into lots a town site and named it on the twenty-first of July.

Jackson district was without organization until 1860, but probably by common consent John Norwood acted as recorder. The first location recorded was that of William E. Allen, dated September 7, 1859. Meetings were held by the miners at various times, however, to regulate affairs. On the ninth of May they adopted the following rules. "Each claim shall be fifty feet front by two hundred fifty feet deep. Every claim shall be marked and staked with at least two stakes, and shall be improved within ten days after taking. The discoverers of new diggings shall be entitled to one extra claim each.

Georgetown was the first mining camp in Clear Creek county to be given a name. The county was called Mountain County; Idaho Springs was called Sacramento. Argentine Pass was known as Sanford Pass while Mill Creek was called Walden Fork until 1860 when it was changed. Sacramento was renamed in the summer of 1860 and called "Idahoe" and later "Idahoe City".

A news correspondent writing from Idahoe City, October 14, 1860, said: "This place dates its rise and progress from about the first of April, when instead of five large variety stores, double the number of whiskey shops, a first class hotel, and a hundred and fifty dwellings, its only boast was three log cabins, one of which was the only grocery store, owned by the popular actor man, S. D. Hunter. About this time Mr. Doherty, another theater celebrity, met with that success in mining which brought on him the universal complaint always ending with the old saw, 'a fool for luck!' Then Illinois bar became known as the richest thing in the mountains and, of course, the little insignificant Sacramento burst forth from its chrysalis into the blooming fullfledged Idahoe."

A newspaper correspondent made the statement that three thousand persons were engaged in mining around Idahoe in July, nearly all of whom left for the states in the fall. O. J. Hollister says in his "Mines of Colorado", that gulch bar and placer mining as a business of importance died out in Clear Creek County in 1860.

On the twenty-fifth of June a company composed of twenty-one men preempted 640 acres of land for the town site of Georgetown.

A convention was held at Golden October 9, 1860, for the object of petitioning Congress for a territorial government, at which Idaho was represented by T. T. Prosser, W. Hamilton, Fox Diefendorf and L. W. Bliss; Spanish Bar by L. G. Turnley, S. Hull, D. S. Davis, D. R. Myers and G. P. Boyce. The Spanish Bar delegation withdrew from the convention when it passed a resolution recommending that the people take part in the election called by the provisional governor, R. W. Steele, to elect members of the legislature.

Idaho district was organized July 6, 1860, with W. E. Sisty as president and Walter I. Welch as recorder. At a meeting held November 29, 1860, Shirt Tail and Northern districts were annexed to Idaho Springs. At the same meeting, upon motion of W. E. Sisty, a meeting was called for Saturday, December 9, to take measure for the location of a courthouse on Clear Creek. An election was held on December 11 when William Spruance was elected District Recorder "by a large majority". J. H. Batchellor, Deputy Recorder put upon record that, "The house was thrown into confusion of fear by a desperate looking young man making his appearance in the crowd with a long knife stuck in his bootleg. After looking savagely around he passed out without killing anybody. It was whispered around that he was the 'Blue Robber' of the Red Mountains, but of course nobody knows."

Among the laws of Upper Union district were the following provisions for female suffrage and protection from lawyers.

"Resolved, That all laws or parts of laws discriminating or making any distinction or difference whatever in the rights, privileges and immunities of the two sexes are hereby repealed and abolished."

"No lawyer shall be permitted to practice in any court in the district under penalty of not more than fifty or less than twenty lashes, and to be forever banished from the district."

A man convicted of stealing anything was compelled to restore it and leave the district. Failing to do so the injured person was empowered to take the thief's property, and the guilty man was subject to receive a certain number of lashes, the dose to be repeated ad libitum until he left. If the property stolen was valued at more than one hundred dollars, or if a mule or horse was stolen, the thief was hanged until he was dead.

### Cripple Creek Region

This region lies on the southwest slope of Pikes Peak, twenty miles by air line from Colorado Springs and eighty from Denver. The region was prospected in 1859 and 1860, but because of the scarcity of water and no great quantities of gold, it was neglected in favor of more prosperous places.

There was an excitement around Mt. Pisgah in 1884 but not enough pay dirt was encountered to warrant working. This gave the region another black eye.

Mr. Lowe, a mining engineer, made a location in Poverty Gulch in 1881, but it was not developed. Robert Womack was then given an interest in the claim. He interested a Colorado Springs man to the extent that the developing was financed. The discovery was made in 1891. This started the rush that made the region famous.

The town site was formerly a cow camp. The location was homesteaded by William W. Womack, uncle of Mr. Lowe. The location was made in 1876. The ranch was sold in 1884 to the Pikes Peak Land Company. The following year the title was transferred to Bennett and Myers, a leading real estate firm of Denver, who carried on the cattle business that had been run for years. Mr. Womack, a young man, was working for the company. He kept prospecting but finally the cattlemen induced the owners to visit the ranch and see the damage Womack was doing as well as the crowd of prospectors who were lodging and boarding at the ranch.

Mr. Womack was instructed to fill the holes after he was through as the owners did not have a great deal of faith in the gold producing quality of the region. They did have some of the rock assayed but results did not prove the rock unusually rich in ore.

The country began to be so overrun with prospectors that Bennett and Myers made another visit to the area and set aside eight acres of land to be sold as building lots. A clause was put in each bill of sale whereby the land was to revert back to the owners of the ranch upon abandonment of the camp.

Then came the big discovery of 1891 in Poverty Gulch; from that time on the developing was very rapid. The books show that \$200,000 was taken out of the ground by the end of '91, and that by the end of the following year \$600,000 had been mined.

a great deal of mineral has been taken out since then but the present activity has lessened considerably.

### South Park Region

The discovery of gold was the beginning of the early settlement in this region. While this country had been explored before, the first settlement was made in 1859 in Tarryall. A group of prospectors originally from Wisconsin and heading for California worked their way over the range from Gilpin County. Some deposits of gold were found in Tarryall, as these men named their camp, since they were resting on their westward trip.

The news of this discovery of gold soon spread. A number of prospectors rushed to this vicinity. They found that all the desirable alluvial ground had been taken up by those already there. These newcomers left with the determination that they would share fairly with other prospectors should they discover gold elsewhere. They soon found the object of their search on the South Platte river. So in keeping with their promises to share fairly with all comers, they named their camp Fairplay.

The first mining of any importance in South Park was carried on at Fairplay. The mining claims were limited as to size. The width of each claim was 150 feet and extended from one bank of the river to the other. In time many of these claims were grouped together and owned by individuals. In 1873 there was a strike. Wages were the cause of this strike. It seems that the placer miners and the owners of the claims could come to no agreement, so the mine owners shipped in 150 Chinamen. These Chinamen worked the ground on a percentage basis. They were here about four years. A few remained longer working claims of their own. The methods used at this time for collecting the gold were rockers, sluice boxes, long toms, and bed rock flumes.

The population of Fairplay until 1872 was about 250 people. At this time some big silver strikes were made above Alma. The result was that the population increased to around 1000 for a short time.

During this time prospecting was being carried on farther up the South Platte river. Gold was not only found along the river but in the gulches which feed the main stream. One of the more important of these gulches was Buckskin Gulch. A prospector by the name of Joseph Higginbottom, who bore the name of Buckskin Joe, was the first person to discover gold in this gulch. The bed rock was found to be rich with gold. The result of this discovery was a rush of miners. In 1861 the town of Buckskin Joe was established. A postoffice was located here under the name of Laurette. This town was a typical western camp. It sprang up quickly. Nearly all classes of people were represented here. However, they all had one desire--that was to make a fortune and as soon as possible.

Rich deposits of ore were found in the ground adjoining the town. This was the beginning of lode mining in South Park. This mine was called the Phillips. At that time it was one of the most famous gold mines in the west. It is reported that \$300,000 worth of gold was taken from this mine in two years. The width of this mine was such that four-horse teams were driven in and turned around in the open cut. Most of this ore was treated by arrastas as were other ores found in that vicinity at that time. Several of these old arrastas may be found along Buckskin Gulch at the present time. The bodies of surface ore around Buckskin Joe were very rich, but the ore that could be handled profitably with the crude methods was also limited. This town had grown to around a thousand people in a year. It was made the county seat of Park County, which was one of the original nine counties in the territory of Colorado which were created in 1861. By 1865 the town was deserted. The county seat was moved to Fairplay.

Another town of considerable importance at that period was called Montgomery. This camp was established in 1857 at the head of the South Platte River. It is located at the foot of Mt. Lincoln. This peak was named in honor of President Lincoln, whose assassination occurred at the time Montgomery flourished. Lode mining was the principal attraction in that vicinity. The town flourished until about 1883 when it was practically deserted.

Rich placer strikes were made in the vicinity of the present site of Alma in 1872. As a result the town of Alma came into existence at this time.

The first discovery of silver in this vicinity was made at the Moose mine in 1871. This mine was located on Mt. Bross at an elevation of 13,700 feet. The old town of Dudley was the headquarters of the Moose company. Sampling works and a small smelter were located here. Quartsville on Bross was the results of this company's operations. Both of these towns are deserted now. The Moose mine has produced \$1,000,000 in silver. Two other large producers of silver in that vicinity were the Dolly Varden and the Russia.

Park City was built in connection with the Orphan Boy mine. Its existence was similar to that of other towns in this mining district. Except for one family it is now deserted.

Sacramento Gulch had a mining boom in 1878. The Sacramento mine was discovered at this time. It is supposed to have produced \$1,500,000 in silver. This mine employed about 100 men for three years' time. A small smelter located on Sacramento Creek operated for a short time, but was not a success.

Horseshoe was a small town built in 1877 when a large amount of prospecting was done in this section. A small smelter was built here in 1879. It operated for some time, but during a time when there was some labor trouble it was burned down and was never rebuilt. A railroad was

built in 1890 from Fairplay through Horseshoe to a point four miles above. At this point a town by the name of Leavick was built. Two mills operated here for a time. The Hilltop and the Chance mines were the principal ones in this Gulch. The mine operators were the ones who built the railroad. The Colorado & Southern Railroad Company later took this road over.

### Arrastras

When traveling along Buckskin Creek one will notice large saucer shaped rocks with a cone like rock center. These rocks are arrastras. They were used by the earliest prospectors in extracting the gold from the rock. On top of the cone in the center of the arrastra was attached a pole probably 20 feet long. About two feet from the end attached to the cone a large rock was tied, or at such a length that it would drag in the circular basin. In the basin were small grooves in which were placed quick silver.

When ore was to be crushed the basin was filled with small specimens of ore and water. Some form of power, either oxen or burros were hitched to the outer end of the pole. They walked in a circle, and in this way dragged the stone (attached to the pole) over the ore. This crushed the ore and the quick silver in the grooves picked up the gold.

There is no evidence that these people mined. It is thought that they searched the vicinity and picked up the rich pieces of float and carried them to the arrastra.

These arrastras were used in 1864 and even earlier than that date. Some were cut out of bed rock along the creek and others out of loose flat stones.

### Salt Works

A party of which Charles L. Hall was a member was traveling through South Park in 1861. They stopped at a spring west of the present Antero reservoir to cook dinner. When dinner was ready, and the coffee was tasted, it was found to be so salty that it was impossible to drink it. Each member of the party accused the others of putting salt in the coffee. The water in the spring was tasted and found to be salty.

A small salt works was built at this spring by Mr. Hall in 1861. This water did not contain enough salt to be profitable. A salt spring containing more salt was found three miles south where the present site of the old works is. A well was dug at this site, which proved to be an artesian well and which flows about four inches of water. The salt works built at this site began operations in 1862. Fifty heavy cast iron pots were freighted to the works at a cost of \$1800 each. Long narrow sheet iron vats were also used. At first the salt was obtained by

evaporating the water by sun power. Later fires were placed under these pots and vats.

The salt was freighted to Pueblo and other nearby towns and sold for one dollar per pound. The government bought salt at these works for the Ute Indians, who came to the works at regular intervals to receive their supply. It was also used in treating ores.

It is claimed that these salt works were the first factories to be built in the state. In 1870 when the price of salt became less than fifty cents per pound, operations ceased. The buildings still stand and are in an excellent state of preservation.

### Coal

George H. Lechner was the first person to discover coal in Park County. He opened a small vein one-half mile northwest of Como. This coal was hauled to Fairplay and sold for ten dollars per ton. A short time afterwards, in 1879, George Boyd discovered coal in the King coal mine. The mine was located two miles southeast of Como. This mine was operated steadily until 1890. At this time there was an explosion in the mine and twenty-five men were killed. The mine then ceased operation and was never reopened. The air was so bad that trouble was experienced in getting miners, Chinese labor was employed part of the time. This mine worked from twenty-five to fifty men.

## Early Settlements

A party came from Kansas in 1858 and camped near the Garden of the Gods. Later another party came and built a log cabin. The advantages of the place were evident and the alluring name of El Dorado. In 1859, Colorado City, familiarly known today as "Old Town" was located and three hundred dwellings were erected the same year. The settlement was straggling in order that all might have access to water from the streams. This water was soon afterward applied to agriculture. The settlers, in order to protect their claims, formed an association known as the El Paso Claim Club, which determined and guaranteed titles to the land. It was also the rude nucleus of government and exercised criminal jurisdiction. These settlements were made with much difficulty, because the journey was long, the only means of transportation being by packs or wagons, no railways having then reached the Missouri River, while the rivers themselves were not practicable for navigation. The route, too, lay across sandy plains, which were then called deserts, although a better knowledge revealed their grazing and agricultural possibilities. Yet in spite of these difficulties the wagons came in great streams, drawn by the magic word "gold".

The settlement at Old Town suffered through the outbreak of the Civil War, because the route of the Arkansas Valley was inconveniently near the scenes of conflict and the pioneers preferred the more northern course of the Platte.

When the territory was organized in 1861 the acts of the El Paso Claim Club were given judicial recognition. Commissioners were appointed to organize the county for the region about Pikes Peak and it received the name El Paso--that is, "The Pass" so named after Ute Pass.

Colorado was so far away from the seat of war that it was but little affected by the conflict, yet some recruiting was done in El Paso County, almost entirely for the Union side. The grasshoppers did more damage than the Confederates however.

The first ranches were taken up and irrigated in the South Park region in the early sixties. From this beginning many thousands of acres in that locality have been devel-

oped for the growing of hay in connection with the livestock industry. Agricultural settlements and irrigation began in the vicinity of Denver about the same time or possibly a little earlier. The first lumbering was probably in connection with the mining development in Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties. Altogether the various industries have been in operation for approximately fifty years.

The country early became unusually accessible, both from the standpoint of railroads and wagon and automobile roads. This was true even before most of it was reserved as a National Forest. The development from all standpoints is, therefore, more advanced than is common in a rough mountainous country.

Agriculture, especially, has about reached the limit of practical development. The intensity of demand for agricultural land under the Forest Homestead Act of June 11, 1906, has resulted in the segregation of practically everything that can be successfully developed. The majority of settlers on the tracts restored to entry under the Forest Homestead Act have not made a success of agriculture. In a few cases this is due to a lack of intelligent effort, but in many cases the possibility of success does not exist in the land. This fact indicates that a very liberal policy of classification has been followed.

The presence of unusually good transportation facilities, together with the proximity to mining centers, such as the Gripple Creek, Clear Creek and Gilpin districts, and the more recent development of the tungsten mines in Boulder County, have been responsible for a very keen demand for all accessible timber. Probably seventy-five per cent of the timbered lands has been cut over some a second and third time.

The first settlements along the South Platte river were probably made in the early sixties immediately after the founding of Denver. These settlers were stock raisers who selected the best hay lands along the South Platte river in South Park and used the classified area for summer grazing.

The northern part of the Lake George area was withdrawn December 8, 1892, when the South Platte Forest Reservation was created. The present boundary of the Pike National Forest was established August 10, 1910. The townships included in the region were surveyed between the years 1874 and 1880. The land was then subject to entry under the various land laws and approximately 9,303.04 acres have been patented.

During the seventies and eighties when the mining excitements were many and short lived, men would settle here awaiting news of the next strike, when they would move on to the more alluring scenes of mining activities.

During the Cripple Creek excitement in the early nineties the Lake George region was subjected to a most thorough but unsystematic surface prospecting. The location of these old workings indicates that the prospectors of this region, in their haste to be made wealthy, worked under the theory that "gold is where you find it". No producing mines were found and very few mineral patents were ever asked for. Before the railroad reached Cripple Creek, a good market could be found there for produce, and during this period many of the agricultural tracts of this region were settled upon. Some farming was done but the coming of the railroads gave access to more fertile lands with which this area could not compete, and the temporary agricultural use passed with the change in economic conditions. The Colorado Midland railroad was constructed in 1885-6 along the line of the stage route running from Colorado Springs through South Park to Leadville. This opened the country so that the trading covered a larger area.

The first settlement on what is now the Pikes Peak (S) district occurred in about 1879-80.

Mr. M. G. Smith, known as Doctor Smith, made settlement at Seven Lakes, and entered 160 acres of land including the Lakes. He constructed a resort at the north end of Lake 5. Dr. Smith later resided in Colorado Springs and died about 1910.

Dr. Smith, who was a noted character and a friend of Horace Greeley, built a two story hotel at Seven Lakes. Later Mr. R. W. Bradshaw added another story to the building. The tourists were routed via the old stage road to Duffield, around St. Peters dome and to Seven Lakes. There was no settlement at Rosemont at that time. A burro trail was maintained to the top of the peak from the hotel. The hotel was torn down during the Cripple Creek boom.

In 1888, Tousalin, John Kerr and Dr. Adams built a cottage at the site of the present Star ranch.

At about this time John Love settled on Middle Beaver Creek near where Clyde is located, and Charley Love settled on west Beaver Creek near where Love on the old Short Line Railway is located. They each made entry of 160 acres of land. Charley Love now resides at Rifle, Colorado, where he is heavily interested in lands and cattle.

Mr. Frank Haymen, retired business man of Colorado Springs, says he and his father constructed a cabin on East Beaver Creek in the vicinity of where Rosmont is located, in 1882. They abandoned it a year later and built on Rock Creek just over Haymen Hill. They held cattle in that vicinity a short time and then abandoned it. The hill is still known as Haymen Hill.

Joel H. Wade, grandfather of Fred Barr, builder of the Barr trail to Pikes Peak, settled on the south branch of South Cheyenne Creek, Secs. 10, T. 15 S., R. 67 W., in about 1885. Wade's place was quite a noted stopping place during the early days of Cripple Creek. The buildings have since burned and have been torn down. The location on some maps is marked Wade City.

H. C. Rathke settled on East Beaver Creek in about 1888 and entered 160 acres of land in Sections 23 and 24, T. 15 S., R. 68 W. He sold his land to Charley Hancock and moved down the creek about four miles where he made H. C. Hancock construct a road house on land purchased from Rathke which was known as Halfway House between Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek from about 1892 to 1900.

### Pikes Peak

Few place names in America--in the world--are better known than Pikes Peak. In the first place the name it bears belongs to a man who not only believed it incapable of ascent but who died ignorant of the fact that this monument of the continent was to herald his name to all ages forever. For twenty-five years it even bore the name of James, the first man to reach its summit.

### History of Pikes Peak Signal Station

The history of the old Signal Station was published in Herper's Weekly of October 1873, and is quoted in part.

"----The United States signal service station on the summit of Pikes Peak was formally dedicated on the eleventh of October last. It is a substantial one story building with walls two feet thick and was erected at a cost of \$2500. The structure faces the east. The ceremonies of the occasion consisted of brief and appropriate addresses, one of which was made by 'Grace Greenwood', and the presentation of a large flag by a young lady of Colorado Springs. Mr. Boehmer, the observer of the station, responded. When the Stars and Stripes were flung to the breeze from the highest signal station in the world, three rousing cheers were given. A large number of ladies and gentlemen were present and the party remained

tourist carried flowers to the summit and places them on Baby O'Keefe's grave.

"Some years later in 1881 Sergeant Dye took charge at the summit. He went up the Bear Creek trail in company with Fee Jones and a packer named Smith. Smith was left at a halfway point with the camp and two mules. A severe snow storm occurred in the absence of Dye and Jones and it was a week before they could return to camp. Smith had no hay or grain but later rendered an itemized bill to the government for what the mules ate, as follows: One wagon box \$3.00, one saddle \$25.00, two saddle blankets \$5.00, a portion of the stable \$5.00, total \$38.00. At last accounts the bill still remained unpaid.

"During Dye's incumbency a new house was commenced and partly built where the summit house now stands.

"Sergeant Dye left in 1882 and Sergeant Hall was assigned to the position. The building commenced by Dye was completed by Hall and consisted of stone, thirty feet by fifty feet. A stone wall was built from the new to the old building and iron rods placed to guide persons passing from one building to the other during a storm. The new building cost the government about \$5,000.00. Hall remained until about 1885 or 1886. At one time the government property was stored in a part of the new building and the remainder opened to the public.

"The Cog road was completed to the summit in 1890. The Cog road and signal service both used the buildings up to 1892, when the government property was removed to Colorado Springs. The house built in 1871 was taken down and the stone used to build the addition built by Hiested on the Cog road."

The road is still a marvel in the minds of all who visit the summit over its route. The company records show receipts from more than a million visitors.

### Railroads

General Palmer first came to the Colorado Springs region in July 1869. He was then engaged in the building of the Kansas Pacific railway which ran to Denver, and conceived the idea of a railway from Denver skirting the eastern base of the Cordilleras. In the winter of 1869-70 he received a

letter from Captain Colton, suggesting the location of a principal railway point at the mouth of Ute Pass and the confluence of the Fountain and Monument.

A colony was established and the first condition for the successful planting of the colony was, of course, the building of a railway. The Kansas Pacific reached Denver in 1870. In the autumn of the same year the Denver and Rio Grande railway company was organized and decided to build at once as far as Colorado Springs. The construction of the railroad, the C. & R. G., was begun on July 27, 1871; it reached Colorado Springs on October 21 of the same year.

#### Colorado and Southern to Central City and Blackhawk

The railroads were not long in reaching the mining districts of Central City and Idaho Springs. In 1870 the Colorado Central Railroad built seventeen miles of line from Denver to Golden. This was across comparatively easy country, but the remainder of the route, from Golden to Blackhawk, carried the line through the Clear Creek gorges with a rise of two thousand feet in twenty-one miles, and presented some extremely difficult engineering problems. This latter part of the line was completed in 1873, but it was not until 1878 that the first train was run to Central City. In order to reach this town from Blackhawk, which is only one mile distant, it was necessary to construct a series of switchbacks four miles long passing over two hogs-backs to overcome a difference in elevation of five hundred feet.

#### The Proposed Pikes Peak Narrow Gauge Railway

This survey was made in 1883 by Engineer H. I. Reed, now located in the Gazette Building. A charter was secured and an act of the grant was published in the Use Book issued by the Interior Department to Officers of the then, Forest Reserves.

It started at Manitou, destination Pikes Peak, via Crystal Park, thence around north and west side of Cameron's Cone on to the east side of Lake Morain, to Seven Lakes, thence to summit of Pikes Peak. It was expected at that time that Seven Lakes would be made into a resort. The length of the proposed road, so Mr. Reed states, was between twenty and twenty-two miles, maximum grade 6%.

The funds to construct this road were subscribed by Philadelphia parties and placed with the Grant-Ward Bank. The road was graded as far as Crystal Park in 1884 when the Grant-Ward Bank failed, in which the funds to construct the road were deposited. Construction then stopped.

It has been stated that General Grant was interested in the construction of this road, but from all information obtainable it now seems that he was interested only in the Grant-Ward Bank of Boston, which was attempting to finance the deal.

### Colorado Midland Railway

The building of the Colorado Midland Railway through Ute Pass in 1886 revived the prosperity of Colorado Springs and Manitou and also opened up a large region to the west that had been more or less isolated until this time.

The railroad into South Park was built in 1879. It was completed as far as Garo that year. Two years later it arrived in Fairplay. The following year, 1882, it was built to Alma Junction. The London Company later built a spur from Alma Junction to its mill. This spur was abandoned in a few years. The Colorado and Southern company pushed their road from Garo to Buena Vista in 1886. From this point it was completed to Pitkin. Operation of this road south was discontinued after 1890. The Colorado Midland railroad was built through the southern end of the park in 1888. This road was abandoned in 1918.

### Roads

#### Berthoud Pass

The Denver, Golden City and Salt Lake Road and Telegraph Company obtained in the winter of 1859-60 a charter from the Legislature of Kansas authorizing them to locate and establish roads and stage routes throughout the Territory of Kansas. Under the provisions of this charter the company instituted a search and survey for a pass across the mountains from Denver to Salt Lake in May 1861, which resulted in the discovery of Berthoud Pass, and on the first of July, 1861, the company fitted out a second expedition and surveyed a road from Denver over the pass at an expenditure of \$3,000. The same company applied to the first Colorado Legislature in November 1861 for a charter.

Berthoud Pass was named after Captain Berthoud, for whom the town of Berthoud, Colorado, was also named. He surveyed the first trail over the pass in 1861. At that time there was a mining excitement over Gold Run in Middle Park, and this new trail was to be a shorter and quicker route into the

new placers. Entrance to the Park was then, and previously, by Breckenridge and down the Blue river to the Grand, then up the Grand, a long and roundabout trail, especially from Denver, or over the Indian trails, of course. The first wheeled vehicle in the Park was a two-wheeled cart drawn by an ox, that came over the Breckenridge route about 1860. The cart was later abandoned up Ute Creek near Elk Mountain, and years after Frank S. Byers had the yoke and parts of the cart at Hot Sulphur Springs. What finally became of it is not known. The first wagons into the Park came from Salt Lake in a government train of twenty-two wagons, each drawn by six mules, and escorted by a company of U. S. Cavalry. They traveled from Fort Douglas, near Salt Lake, to Denver, and it is thought they went on to Fort Leavenworth, but this is not certain. This train cut the first wagon road over the Range from the Park, via what was then Boulder Pass, now Rollins Pass, where the Moffat Road crosses today, in the Fall of 1864. It was over this road--Rollins Pass--that Mr. Byers first entered Middle Park, with his father, William N. Byers, in 1864. He filed on the 160 acres enclosing the Springs in 1864, and later completed his title with Sioux Script, bought from an Indian named Boshman. But Boshman had lots of relatives, and later it cost him about \$55,000 to quiet all these claims. That made the Springs a losing deal for them for all time to come. The next year the claim was jumped by a man named Ed Sisteo, who held it against them with two sixshooters, until a big negro who worked on the News grabbed him from behind, and he had to drop his guns. Then W. N. Byers explained about his previous filings and the Indian Script, and Sisteo promptly gave up all claim to the Springs. That was in 1865. At that time locations could not be definitely outlined as the only survey was a base line that ran about six miles south of the Springs.

The first cabin at the Springs was built in 1861 by Gus Reader. It was located on the town-side of the river, near the cold sulphur spring, and vanished long ago. Billy Cousens located on his ranch, about two miles above Fraser, at the foot of the Pass, in 1873, and brought in his family in 1874, and they still live there. For years this was the eating place and half-way stop between Empire and Hot Sulphur. Judge Westcott was the first settler at Grand Lake, in 1866.

The road over Berthoud was built piecemeal, so to speak. A man named Russell began it at Empire in 1862 or 1863, and built it about half way up, to the Big Bend, as it was later called. He quit in 1864, and, from the Big Bend, John S. Jones constructed a road on up the Creek over Jones Pass, and down Williams Fork to the Grand. He took over only one train of wagons, and after that the road was practically abandoned over Jones Pass. He located a ranch on the Grand, but that winter cleaned him out, as it was unusually severe and all his stock died. Except possibly a stray camper no

and then, looking for troubles, these were the only wagons Mr. Byers knows of to cross Jones Pass. The trail from the end of the wagon road at Big Bend was used more and more over Berthoud, until 1874 William Cushman, a Georgetown banker, built the road from the Big Bend, where Russell quit ten years before, on over the pass to Couzens. It was completed October 1, 1875 to Couzens, and the first stage over Berthoud Pass was driven by the famous stage driver, Bill Updyke. It was a Concord coach, and the trip was made from Georgetown to Couzens and back on the same day. He drove the mail over Berthoud for about two years.

Berthoud Pass was not used by the Indians. They traveled Rollins Pass and also had a trail around James Peak down into Blackhawk and Central. It is fair to say that the road over Berthoud was begun by Captain Berthoud in 1863, built half way up the Atlantic side by Russell in 1864, and completed by Cushman on October 1, 1875. The road remained practically unchanged until the automobile road was built several years ago, with subsequent changes of course. Only stage road on the Atlantic side, but the auto road follows more or less closely the old road down to near High Bridge on the Pacific side. The old stage High Bridge is not the present location of the auto bridge. The present auto road is four miles longer on the Atlantic slope and three miles longer on the Pacific slope than the original wagon road, with much lower grades. Even in the old days, the Berthoud road was a much better one in every way than the Rollins Pass route into the Park.

Cushman went broke and left the country and the Berthoud Pass road--both it and Rollins were toll roads, by the way--was sold to W. A. Hammond for about \$7,000, at sheriff's sale. It proved a small gold mine to Hammond, who sold it to the state about 1896 or 1897 for \$25,000, when it became a free state road. Mr. Byers used to pay Hammond from six to seven dollars a day in road tolls when he was running a stage line from Georgetown to the Springs. And others paid likewise. The little Blue Hill was the hardest, steepest pull over the Pass, located far down on the Atlantic side.

John Quinoy Adams Rollins, to give his full name, had the first mail contract over Berthoud, a summer route only, once a week, in 1875. The first all year mail contract was by Seymour & Campbell, of Georgetown, tri-weekly, and began July 1, 1876. Then C. H. Hook took the contract in 1877. Byers put on an opposition stage line over Berthoud in 1877, and later had the mail contract. He carried it daily, although the contract was still tri-weekly, most of the time; the official daily all year round mail over Berthoud was in 1886.

The first winter contract mail over Berthoud was packed on his back and carried on snowshoes by Bill Kimball in 1875 and for the next winter also. Kimball was a wonder, the best snowshoe man ever known in Middle Park. His pack was never less than seventy pounds of mail and it is known that he carried one hundred five pounds at times. He often packed straight through from Empire to Hot Sulphur, going night and day, with no sleep, stopping only for meals. He never wore gloves, and only one pair of wool socks, with ordinary cityman's rubbers over them. He was nearly blind, a tall, rawboned man from Maine. He lived long, and finally died on his ranch in the Park, later called the Peter Engel ranch.

One morning he overtook Mr. Byers' cousin, Glenn Sheriff, and Mr. Byers at Spruce Lodge on the Park side of the Pass, and they went on to the Springs together, Glenn Sheriff and Mr. Byers had slept all night in Kimball's cabin and had no packs, but they were worn out when they got to the Springs, but Kimball, with his heavy mail sack on his back, was far less tired and he had come all the way from Empire and over the Pass without stopping, except to eat. That was May 5, 1875. Kimball also packed the mail on snowshoes over Berthoud in 1877 and 1878. Glenn and Mr. Byers found a man frozen to death that trip just above High Bridge. He was seated on a stump sticking out of the snow, dead. They left him as they found him. In summer that stump was a dead pine twelve to fifteen feet high. That showed how deep the snow is up there. The famous "Snow Story" by Mr. Byers' cousin, Chauncey Thomas, gives a perfect account of what such a trip means when the weather is bad on Top. He, too, learned it by personal experience crossing Berthoud February 14, 1894, on snowshoes, and again in April of the same year, when it was melting.

#### Georgetown Road

In the spring of 1860 the Griffiths built a road from the head of Eureka Gulch to Georgetown, a distance of twenty miles at a cost of about \$1500.00. In the fall they brought in a stamp mill and had it in operation in April 1861. Cyrus Hillibiddle improved the road during the summer of '60 and drove the first wagon into Georgetown in August.

#### Loveland Pass Road

This road was constructed in the spring of 1899 and during the boom days of Leadville. At that time it was claimed that this route was seventy miles shorter than any other then existing road between Denver and Leadville.

This road was promoted and built by the Bakerville and Leadville Toll Road Company. Some eighty men were employed who started work on March 6 in the vicinity of Graymont, the promoters claiming that they would be operating their stage line within thirty days. By April 3 the camp had been moved to timber line. At that time there were only fifty or sixty of the original crew working, some twenty or thirty men having quit on account of the severe weather.

The capital stock of the Bakerville and Leadville Toll Road Company was \$50,000 and it was estimated that the cost of construction at the time of year it was built would be about three times the cost under more favorable weather conditions.

After completion a stage line owned by Silas W. Knott was operated daily (both summer and winter) between Georgetown and Kokomo, a distance of forty-four miles for two or three years, for it seems the traffic became less and less after the completion of the railroad into Leadville until it was finally abandoned.

This route was originally known as the High Line. The present name of Loveland was given in honor of W. A. H. Loveland, who in 1880 surveyed and started a tunnel through the range at this point for the Union Pacific Railroad Company.

#### History of the Denver & Leadville Road

During the summer of 1858 a small party of men returning from the gold rush to California in '49 discovered gold near where Leadville now stands. Considerable excitement resulted.

The place was named California Gulch after the men from California. Prospectors from all over the country began to gather here and dig for gold. In a short time a good sized camp was established and of course needed supplies to the extent that packing by a jack train was out of the question. A direct route to Denver over which a wagon road could be built was searched for and with the aid of the Ute Indians, who were friendly to the white men at this time, a location for their road was decided upon. This was the trail used by the Utes from South Park to the plains near Denver and the Indians assured them that this was the most direct route they know of and which afterwards proved to be a fact and also the most practicable route for the road.

John McIntyre, Major Bradford and Judge Stecke undertook the building of this road and secured a charter for twenty-five years from the Legislative Department of the territory to construct and maintain a toll road from Denver to California Gulch. These men soon built or rather blazed a trail over the route in a short time, hiring as much labor as possible and contributing actual labor themselves. In a surprisingly short time a great many travelers and freighters were following this road into California Gulch.

The road left Denver and took nearly the exact route as the present road does until within about five miles of Morrison. It then turned to the left and began to climb the mountains two and one-half miles south of the mouth of Turkey Creek. This hill was the hardest climb of the entire route; it was approximately four miles long and very steep. The road went over the top of this mountain and came back onto Turkey Creek about seven and one-half miles above the mouth of the creek. This hill was known as Bradford hill and dreaded by all teamsters who had to cross it. The intersection of this road with Turkey Creek was at the George Hutchinson Ranch, later Hutchinson Post Office and still later Bradford Junction. The place is owned by a nephew of J. K. Mullen at present. The road continued on up Turkey Creek and over the same route as the present road to the head of Pine Grove Gulch; from here it turned up the ridge and out in above Rolling Gulch and came out on Deer Creek at the Henry Wonder ranch, then over the divide and down Slaughter House Gulch, turning west about half way down and then across the low ridges to Smith Creek then down to the Platte at the Hepburn Ranch. The road then followed up the Platte and over Kenosha Pass into South Park in very nearly the exact location as the present road is today. After crossing the Park the road ran to Fairplay and then up over Mosquito Pass and then on into California Gulch. This Pass was used only during the summer as the snow prevented them crossing during the winter. Therefore, another route from Fairplay was traveled which went across to where Buena Vista is now and then on over to California Gulch.

A toll gate was placed on Kenosha Pass and another one at Bradford Junction. Toll was collected from all who used this road. A charge was made of two dollars and a half for a four horse team and two dollars for a single team; saddle horses were allowed to pass for fifty cents each. The gate collecting the toll issued a ticket which allowed the team to pass on through the second gate without further charge.

While it seems to be a rather small fee to pay for this long trip, the amount of travel over this road made it a very good paying proposition. Later on and before the charter expired so much travel was done on this road between Kenosha Pass and the Bradford Junction that it was necessary to establish several other toll gates. The first gate was kept by George Harriman on Kenosha Pass, the next by William Slaughter near Shawnee, John Parmelee at Deer Creek kept the next one, then Silas Elliott and the Omaha House between Shaffers Crossing and Conifer, then Bradford Junction. Another gate was kept for a short time at the Bell Ranch about one mile west of Elk Creek.

During the spring of 1861 a Mr. Spotswood and William McClelland began operating a stage line between Denver and California Gulch. The stage company's equipment consisted of a number of large Concord coaches and nearly one hundred head of horses. Arrangements were made with local ranchmen and settlers to take care of their stock along the road and where necessary a station was built. The cost of these coaches was five hundred dollars each and one hundred fifty dollars for a four horse set of Concord harness. The stage company paid the Toll Road Company year long rates for the use of this road.

The stage made the trip from Denver to California Gulch in twenty-four hours, which is remarkable time considering the condition of the road and also when it requires nearly eight hours to make the same trip now in a motor car on good roads. The coach left Denver at 8:00 A.M. and changed horses every ten or twelve miles. The drivers changed every twelve hours. Four to six head of horses were used in a team and they were driven on a full run except uphill and then often times the passengers were forced to walk for a short distance. The coach carried nine passengers and each passenger was allowed twenty pounds baggage. The fare from Denver to California Gulch was \$14.00 and \$10.00 per one hundred pounds was charged for express shipments. The coach also carried the mail. Mr. S. Elliott bid \$9,000.00 for this contract in 1865 but was slightly under bid by Spotswood and McClelland.

A coach left Denver every morning and one arrived every morning. The passengers were not forced to ride clear through if they did not care to as accommodations were provided for them at a stage station half way and they could stop over and continue the balance of the trip the next night. Accidents were quite frequent but in only one instance was there a passenger killed. A coach driven by Tom Cooper was

wrecked on the pass above Fairplay in which a minister was killed.

Later on and about 1864 the road was changed from Pine Grove Gulch and was built across Rolling Gulch and Deer Creek and came on to the Platte at a point where Bailey now stands, then up the river to the Hepburn ranch again. This change was made to overcome some of the steep grades and a few settlers had moved in along the Platte which could be served by the stage line. Another change was made in 1866 when John McIntyre sold his interest in the toll road to Jim McNasser who induced the other members of the company to eliminate Bradford Hill. A contract was let to John Parmallee who built seven and one-half miles of road down Turkey Creek Canon which connected Bradford Junction with Morrison. This route now is practically the same as it was then only, of course, grades and sharp curves have been eliminated.

The stage line operated from Denver up until 1877 when the Colorado and Southern railroad reached Pine Grove. The stage line then ran from here up Pine Grove and then on to California Gulch. The railroad reached Bailey in 1879 and the stage terminated here for a short time, then at Slight's Ranch near Shawnee and then at Webster at the foot of Kenosha Pass. From here the stage met the railroad as it came on until it reached Leadville in 1881. California Gulch was now Leadville as the big strike was made in 1877 and the next year the town was named Leadville. The town boomed in 1879.

A few of the pioneers who kept stage stations and toll gates on this road are George Hutchinson, who owned the ranch which later became Bradford Junction on Turkey Creek; George Elias, who kept the Omaha House between Shaffers Crossing and Conifer; Mr. S. Elliott later kept this station; John Parmallee at the Deer Creek ranch; W. L. Bailey and Mrs. E. L. Intriaken at Baileys; William Slight at Shawnee; Charlie Hepburn now Jacot Ranch and George Harriman on Kenosha Pass.

A few of the well known stage drivers were Ed Pike, Fay Gorman, Bill Rowland, W. R. Head, Abe Williamson, John Trull, Charlie Winkley, Tom Cooper and Pearly Wasson, Henry Wonder, a pioneer of Park County, was the blacksmith for the company and also drove stage.

#### Lost Park Road and Mill

In 1885, George Laws, W. H. Hooper and a man by the name of Rodgers, started construction work on a road into Lost Park. This was completed in 1887 and a mill set on the ridge

between Craig Meadows and the North Fork of Lost Park. The road cost \$1700.00 in cash and labor contributed by all of the operators. This was an extremely difficult undertaking as there were places a quarter of a mile at a stretch that had to be corduroyed and built up of logs.

The timber was cut from eighty acres of patented land on the ridge and then the mill was moved over into Lost Park. It had just been set up and all necessary buildings completed when the government was notified that a trespass was being committed. Agents were sent out from the Department of the Interior and stopped all cutting.

About all that the operators realized out of the outfit was their horses; the mill, wagons and sleds were left there and later hauled away by ranchers and other mill owners. Consequently this was not a very profitable adventure.

There were two main stage routes operated through South Park, one from Denver to Fairplay and the other from Colorado City through the Park, over Weston Pass and into Leadville. The road over Weston Pass was a toll road. A charge of \$1.50 per team and wagon was charged for the use of this road. This road was used extensively before the railroad reached Leadville. This road was built in 1361 and later rebuilt in 1878. All traffic between Leadville and eastern points was carried on over this road. Stage coaches of the Concord type were used for passengers. Ore and bullion were freighted east while most of the supplies came from Colorado City. Some came from Denver.

A toll road was built over Mosquito Pass in 1879 and 1880. The grades were steep. Only light freight and express were hauled over the road. It was called the fast freight route. Passengers were hauled over in summer. The fare from Fairplay to Leadville was six dollars. This was used only about two years before the railroad reached Leadville. All regular traffic ceased after that time. Another stage road was built up the Tarryall and over Boreas Pass into Breckenridge. A town named Hamilton was built at the mouth of Tarryall canon about three miles from the present site of Como. With the building of the railroad in 1879 as far as Garo, Hamilton was abandoned and Como was located on the railroad.

Guide posts were set about fifty yards apart along all roads in the open park. This would give the impression that the winters were much more severe in the past than they are at present.

In about 1888 a toll road was constructed up Bear Creek by H. I. Reed, who is still a resident of Colorado Springs, Frank W. Howbert, at that time clerk and recorder of El Paso County, now Internal Revenue Collector residing in Denver, and J. C. Plumb, later mayor of Colorado Springs, now deceased. The object of the road was Seven Lakes, which was expected would become quite popular as a resort, and the summit of Pikes Peak. The road was only completed to Seven Lakes and later sold to General Palmer, a portion of which is now the High Drive and belongs to the City of Colorado Springs.

From a point where the High Drive leaves Bear Creek to Seven Lakes the road is abandoned. At about the time these parties were constructing the Bear Creek road, object Pikes Peak, John Hunley and associates of the Antler's Livery built the carriage road from Cascade to the summit of Pikes Peak. It was considered a race as to which would get a road to Pikes Peak first. This was prior to the Cog railroad, which was completed in 1890.

Colorado Springs - Cripple Creek Road

Mr. M. A. Foster, who resided in Cheyenne Canon since the early seventies, states that the first attempt to build a road up Cheyenne Mountain was in about 1880 by Black Davis and W. J. Baird, who ran cattle east of where Braedmoor is located. The object of the road was to get cattle up on Cheyenne Creek and get out logs and wood. Other settlers did some work on the road to improve it so they could haul out wood.

Mr. John Himebaugh, a retired hotel man, came to Colorado Springs in 1875. He states that in 1879 or 1880 he walked up South Cheyenne over Seven Falls. At that time there was no trail to Seven Falls. He went on up to where Doctor Smith had a small sawmill and when he returned he followed a dirt road or wagon tracks that brought him over about the route of the present lower end of the new Colorado Springs-Cripple Creek road. The Dr. Smith, Mr. Himebaugh refers to, is the same Smith that made entry of the Seven Lakes. Mr. Smith extended the road up past the foot of St. Peters Dome and where Rosemont is now located and to Seven Lakes. He also built the Seven steps road between Rosemont and Seven Lakes. This road remained in about the same condition, open to the public, and used some by Weather Bureau men on Pikes Peak. Because of its location on the south side of the Peak it remained open longer in the fall and opened earlier in the Spring than the Bear Creek and Fremont Trails.

In 1890-1891 gold was discovered in Cripple Creek and a stampede to get to the new discovery followed. Mr. Dixon owned the land at the point where this road entered the mountains, now Broadmoor. He placed a gate at the entrance and charged all goers and comers a toll to get through the gate. In about 1892-1893, El Paso County made some arrangements with Dixon, made a survey changing the route via Haymen Hill instead of via foot of St. Peters Dome. Mr. Tom Ord constructed the road and he tells me the cost of the road from Broadmoor to Cripple Creek was five thousand dollars. After this road was completed it was the main road to Cripple Creek. Stages and freight were moving in both directions over the road. Road houses were all filled to capacity every night, and at noon the stopping places were Wades, Halfway House, Saderlind (Rosemont), Clyde and Love. Travel continued about the same until the Short Line Railway was built. Since that time it is used very little and has not been kept in repair. This road is known now as the old Cripple Creek Stage road. Up until 1899 Cripple Creek was in El Paso County. Teller County was organized in April 1899.

#### Pikes Peak Auto Highway

The Pikes Peak Auto Highway Association was formed in 1914. It secured a permit from the Forest Service to construct a road from the Pikes Peak Ocean to Ocean Highway at Cascade to the top of the Peak. The work was started in 1914 and was completed in 1916. It is eighteen miles long with an average grade of seven per cent, the maximum being 10.5%.

### Four-mile Hill Toll Road

This road was built in 1892 and purchased, or taken over, by The County about two years later. Although \$1.00 per person toll was charged, the road was not a financial success. The toll gate was located on the west side of the stream about 100 yards above the present Oil Creek Crossing. The venture failed after the railroad was extended from Midland to Gillette.

### Old Pikes Peak (Stage Toll Road)

This road was built in 1889 or 1890 and followed approximately the location of the present auto highway. The company ran their own stages and charged \$1.00 toll. The stages left Cascade about 8:30 a.m. and returned about 4 p.m. the same day. Four horses were used to Half Way House and four mules for the last and hardest part of the climb. The toll gate house was about two miles above Cascade on the left side and a short distance below Cascade Creek summit. This road was practically abandoned with the completion of the Cog Road.

The present Pikes Peak Auto Highway, another toll road built in 1915-16, follows the same general route to the summit of Pikes Peak.

## TIMBER

Lumbering in some form began in the various sections of what is now the Pike Forest with the earliest settlements, the earliest being about 1860. These early operations were on a small scale and were sufficient only to supply the mines and the few ranchers and stockmen who first settled the country. Outside the country in Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties, where the first discovery of gold was made in 1858, and that portion of the forest which lies nearest Denver, no lumbering on extensive scale was carried on prior to 1882. The lumber was mostly delivered with ox teams to the mines, charcoal kilns and to the town of Denver. The mills used were small portable outfits which cut only rough lumber, shingles, lath, etc. The custom was to set the mill in the most convenient place to a desirable tract of timber. Logging was not carried on at any distance from the mill nor on the steeper or rougher ground. Only the best trees were cut and needless to say the utilization was poor, while no effort was made to dispose of the resulting slash.

The lumbering business on anything like a large scale began with the coming of the railroads. This may be said to cover the period from 1882 to 1890. By far the largest part of the timber was cut during this period and the following ten years. This was also the period of greatest development of the state and of the wood using industries in the region of the Pike National Forest.

When gold was first discovered in the Idaho Springs, Central City region, the hills surrounding the present towns of Blackhawk, Central City and Nevadaville were covered with timber. On the dry south slopes scattering yellow pine was found while the north slopes bore a dense growth of lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce and other minor species in mixture. Due to the rocky character of the hills and the shallow soil as well as to the great fires which are said to have swept this country prior to 1860, the trees of the forest were of small size, averaging from ten to twenty inches in diameter. Heavy stands of large timber were only to be found in the mountains at some distance from the mines.

Wood was one of the greatest necessities in the early mining camps and there was always a steady demand for lumber, building logs, lagging, stulls and fuel wood, from

1859 to 1873. Nothing but wood was burned in the mills, mines and homes. The railroad did not reach Blackhawk until after 1873, and even after its advent coal did not displace wood for a good many years. This was largely due to the fact that the haul up the hill from Blackhawk to Central City, Nevada and Russell Gulch was very expensive, and the railroad did not reach Central City until 1878. In general, it may be said that the various camps in this locality depended, for a period of twenty years, entirely on the surrounding forests for their supply of fuel, building material and mining timbers.

The first sawmill in this region was located in 1860 at the junction of Eureka and Prosser Gulches in what is now the heart of the City of Central. This was a small mill with a daily capacity of about six thousand feet B.M. The same year a second mill was set up in Russell Gulch by a man named Barnes. In 1861 a mill was set in North Clear Creek just above the town of Blackhawk, and in 1862 a second mill was built in Missouri Gulch near the mouth of Stewart Gulch. "Judge" Chase Withrow had a mill in Peck Gulch in 1863, and later moved it to Guy Hill. In 1864 Smith and Tyler had a set on Smith Hill to the northeast of Blackhawk. In the '70's and early '80's there was a number of mills on Jenny Lind Creek, at Apex, in Boulder Park and also in Peck Flats, several miles west of Central City. By 1870 the timber immediately surrounding Central and Blackhawk had all been cut off and the mills moved, while by 1880 there was not a set within eight or ten miles of the gold camps.

The sawmills mentioned were small, cutting on the average of from six thousand to ten thousand feet board measure per day. The market demand kept them running steadily, but as timber was plentiful and there was a ready sale for small sized stuff and fuel wood only the best trees were cut for lumber.

An article by John Price, Surveyor General of Colorado, in the "Miners Register" of October 3, 1884, states that:

"In the five years that the mines have been worked, at least half that extent of land (40,000 acres) has been entirely stripped of timber, and now wood and shaft timbers are hauled from two to five miles to supply the mines of the Gregory section. Wood is now worth fourteen dollars a cord, and its cost must increase unless something is done to lessen the consumption or increase the supply. The timber required for shafts alone will soon exhaust the timber now accessible."

While the sawmills played an important part in the cutting off of the tree growth surrounding the mining camps, still it is the mine timber operators and wood haulers to whom the total destruction of the forest must be laid. The great demand of the district was for fuel wood, and we find that as early as March 1863, the wood haulers formed an association binding themselves not to sell cord wood for less than five dollars per cord. Wood was hauled exclusively by bull teams but even through the use of these antiquated methods it took less than ten years to completely strip the hills within five miles of Central of all trees, big and little, so rapid was the cutting. As cord wood became more scarce, stumps were grubbed out and used for fuel, which accounts for the large areas of barren and stumpless lands which surround the camps at the present time.

In the '60's and '70's rough lumber sold for twenty to forty dollars per thousand feet board measure, while matched boards and extra widths suitable for sluice boxes, etc., brought eighty to one hundred dollars per thousand feet board measure. Logging sold for from twelve to fifteen cents per stick and stulls for ten cents per inch in diameter at the small end.

Some mining was done in the eighties near the head of the North Fork of the South Platte River, which operations used a considerable amount of timber near timber line. The value of the mines in this region did not prove high enough to warrant the building of a railroad and the operations gradually withered until they are of very little consequence. However, the building of the railroad from Denver to South Park in 1889 resulted in almost complete destruction of the Forest along the canon of the North Fork of the South Platte and in the vicinity of Hoosier, Switch and Kenosha summit. This cutting was generally preceded by fires purposely set in order to cheapen logging operations. (and because operators did not have to pay for dead timber - RGC)

The Manitou Park-Divide country supplied an immense amount of timber and intensive logging operations were carried on. Manitou Park was largely logged prior to the construction of the Colorado Midland railroad. In this operation a logging railroad was built along Trout Creek from the vicinity of Woodland Park about fifteen miles north. Portions of this railroad grade with the decayed ties in place may still be seen. The cut from this general region is roughly estimated as 100,000 M feet. Many small mill sets were the rule and their locations are still discernible along Trout Creek and

in all its smaller tributaries. The country farther west in the heads of West Creek, Trail Creek and around Lake George has also been logged very extensively, although this occurred mostly at a later date, beginning with the construction of the Colorado Midland railroad in 1886. The fact that from nearly all of this country, where cutting was not followed by fires, a second cut is now possible is most encouraging and gives us valuable information as to the practicable rotation period in yellow pine and Douglas fir over a good portion of the forest.

Duffield Brothers brought down a lot of Douglas fir poles in 1887. They also hauled cord wood for four dollars a cord for the wood and one dollar for delivering at the brick yards in Colorado Springs. They would haul two cords per load.

In 1888 a bunch of sawmill men were arrested at Florissant and taken to Denver for stealing government timber. The men were Spurlock, Sam Rework and T. S. Clow.

Mr. McElroy had a tie chute just west of the present station of Husted. He furnished one hundred thousand ties for the Denver and Rio Grande in 1880. He also furnished many narrow gauge ties until 1890.

The Woodland Lumber Company had a contract in 1880 to furnish 3,000 M board feet for the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company at Pueblo. This was the biggest mill in the country at that time. It was shipped in from Nova Scotia.

There were several mills in the Tarryall region in 1880. Slat had one on the Platte River near Lake George. Water was used for power while the saw was of the model that worked up and down. They could start it going and have a nice visit while it sased off a board. They put out a good uniform grade of lumber, however, and sawed probably fifteen hundred to two thousand feet per day.

Anson Allen set up a water power mill on his ranch on Tarryall in 1882. Before this date the logs were hewed and shingles split. He bought the mill principally for his own lumber.

The John Mouat Lumber Company of Denver had the first sawmill operations on the Platte River about 1880. Mr. John Runge worked for this company for some fifteen years and it is difficult to estimate the number of feet that he removed from land tributary to the river. He had mill settings at South Platte, Night Hawk and at Runge's ranch.

The Towner Brothers had a mill setting on Buffalo Creek in 1882 and 1883. One was located at the Trost place and one at Baldy flats. They averaged ten thousand feet per day for the time they operated. Morrison and Bingham had one setting on Buffalo Creek at the half way rock and operated four years. Most of the time they worked day and night shifts. They averaged twenty thousand feet a day. They cut shingles, lathes and lumber. Another setting was on Morrison Creek at the Hay's homestead. They were there for two years. The date of their first cutting was 1862. J. A. Rockefeller located on Buffalo Creek just below the Redskin ranger station in 1883 and sawed for two years. During this time he moved his mill twice. One setting was on the Cater Homestead and one just a short distance up Redskin Creek. He averaged about ten thousand feet per day.

A man by the name of John Mitchell had one sawmill setting on the Higginson ranch in Spring Gulch in 1885, and sawed three years. He also had a setting in Shingle Mill Gulch and sawed three years. His timber was made into lumber, lathes and shingles. The output of his mill was about fifteen thousand feet per day.

A Mr. Miller operated a sawmill in Miller Gulch in 1885-1886 and had two settings. His timber was made into lumber, lathes and finished lumber, such as flooring, etc.

This information was furnished by J. W. Green who now operates a store at Buffalo and who worked for several of these mills when he first landed at Buffalo in 1879.

The mill set in Lost Park was financed by the McPhee and McGinnity Lumber Company in 1888. They were located there for two years and did not take out over two million feet. They had two settings, one in Lost Park and one over the divide on the Craig Creek side. They lost considerable money in this operation and removed the mill. These facts were furnished by H. C. Gill. His present address is not known.

#### Lumbering Operations in the West Creek Country.

(Data furnished by Wm. H. Hickox of Woodland Park, Colo.)

A very large amount of timber has been out in the country surrounding West Creek during the past twenty years. A partial list of the sets, where they were located, and the approximate date of operation follows:

Along West Creek south of the present town of West Creek, 1887-1889, Bush and Adams, Tom Nichols, Jones and T. S. Clough.

Along Trail Creek, 1896-1902, Karneigh, Tom Nichols and George Ginsel.

Section 36, T. 10 S., R. 70 W., 6th P. M., 1896, McCalpin.

Near town of West Creek, 1895, Henry Law.

Near Sheep Nose Mountain, 1896, Henry Law.

Soldier Mountain country east of Manitou Park, 1900 to 1907, Henry Johns, Brindle and Beach, William Hickox and George Sadler.

At Clark Ranch near West Creek, 1901, Bush and Adams, Henry Law (three sets) and Nichols.

On Rule Creek, 1899-1900, Bowman.

In Manitou Park, 1900, Green.

On West Turkey Creek, 1899-1902, Green, and Scott and Potter.

On East Turkey Creek, 1897, W. J. Davis and Jack Norris.

South of Lake Cheesman, 1902, McCalpin.

The average time put in at a set by the above listed lumbermen was from eight months to a year. In a few cases a stay of from two to three years was made in the same locality, but not always at the same set.

The ordinary mill was a circular saw affair, 25 H.P. or more boiler, cable or ratchet feed, and capable of cutting from six thousand to ten thousand board feet per day.

The output was principally rough lumber and dimension stuff. In these early days ties were hacked not sawed. The lumber haul to market or shipping point varied from five to twenty miles.

Twenty years ago when the mining boom was at its height the best markets for lumber were to be had in the Cripple Creek district, at West Creek and in Denver. The bulk of the material cut north of the town of West Creek was hauled down the river to Night Hawk and shipped to Denver, while most of the material cut south of West Creek was hauled out to the Colorado Midland or Midland Terminal Railroads and shipped to Cripple Creek.

There was also considerable local demand around West Creek as this was a boom town in these days. Henry Law at one time had a set for eight months in this locality, the entire output being used locally. Hewed ties were sold, for the most part, to the Colorado Midland railroad.

Although the demand for lumber twenty years ago was good, very low prices were received. Mill run did not average over twelve dollars to fifteen dollars per thousand board feet.

Old time lumbermen did not hesitate to put in a mill wherever there was a good logging chance. If the land was patented, they purchased the timber and often times the land also. If government timber adjoined the patented land and was tributary to the set, they cut it without hesitation. In most cases, however, it was straight government timber on public domain or on timber land reserves that was cut. In those days it was simply a case of first come first served, and in beating the other fellow to the timber. There were no officers to look after the government's interests and no one was interested enough to pay any attention to the theft of stumpage. Even in later years this same practice was continued and a number of the old timers caught in trespass by the government and made to pay for the timber. Since the creation of the National Forests this method of securing free stumpage has entirely disappeared.

In the country listed under the old time operations there are at present two or three small Service sales of green timber. Logging operations are, however, practically at a standstill. This state of affairs is said to be due to the following causes.

1. Lack of easy logging chances; the best and easiest sets having been cut out.

2. Stagnation of the lumber market, both locally and in Denver and the Cripple Creek district.

3. Competition created by the importation of Pacific Coast lumber.

The character of old time operations has been little changed. About the same capacity mill is still used and cutting done intermittently. Closer utilization is now required by Forest Service regulations and a stumpage price charged for timber, but it is claimed that this would not hamper the industry if the market would only pick up. Easy chances and lax methods have given away in a measure to closer utilization and the practice of a few business principles. The result is about the same in both cases--the lumberman makes a living and some times a small profit.

#### Lumbering Operation Along the North Fork of the South Platte

(Data furnished by A. R. Knisely of Shawnee, Colo.)

Within the last forty years it is estimated that there have been over forty separate mill sets along the North Fork of the South Platte River, on Deer Creek and in the Hall Gulch, Geneva Valley and Scott Gomer Creek country. No accurate figures on the amount of timber cut are available, but there is no question but that the output was very large. The greater part of this cutover country is now within the boundaries of the Pike National Forest. A list of the old mill sets within the period mentioned, as given by Mr. Knisely, who is an old lumberman in this country, follows:

1. John Mouat Lumber Company had a set near Estabrook from 1879 to 1882 (four years). The daily capacity of the mill was twenty thousand board feet. They also had a second set near Estabrook in 1887. The daily capacity of that mill was fifteen thousand board feet.
2. Joe Morris had a set at Insmont in 1881-1882 (a year and a half). The daily capacity of the mill was ten thousand board feet.
3. Jim Payne had a set two miles up the Creek from Glen Isle in 1881-1882 (two years). The daily capacity of the mill was ten thousand board feet.
4. Johnie Morris had a set at Baileys in 1878-1879 (two years). He cut up Crow Gulch and on Crow Hill. The daily capacity of the mill was twenty-five thousand board feet.
5. Hilderbrand had a set at Baileys in 1882 (one year) and also at Glen Isle in 1883-1884 (a year and a half). The daily capacity of that mill was six thousand board feet.

6. Sam Rewark had a set at Grousemont in 1881-1882 (fourteen months). The dailey opacity of the mill was eight thousand board feet.

7. W. H. Clay's set on Craig Creek in 1883-1884 (two years) had a daily capacity of eight thousand board feet.

8. Charles Schneider had a set at Slaghts (now Shawnee) in 1897 (one year). The daily capacity of the mill was five thousand board feet.

9. A set by A. R. Knisely at Shawnee 1908 (one year) had a daily capacity of ten thousand board feet.

10. Joe Morris' set at the Riceville Spur above Shawnee in 1880-1881 (two years) had a daily capacity of ten thousand board feet.

11. Corliss had a set in Crow Gulch above Baileys in 1887 (one year). The daily capacity of the mill was six thousand board feet.

12. Jim Payne had a set in Crow Gulch in 1880 (one Year). The daily capacity of that mill was eight thousand board feet.

13. Sam Rewark's set at Singleton in 1883-1884 (two years) had a daily capacity of ten thousand board feet.

14. Buno (old man) had a set one mile south of Weller in 1895 (one year). The daily capacity of the mill was six thousand board feet.

15. Walt Buno had a set at Riceville Spur above Shawnee in 1893 (one year); also near Grant in 1897 (one year). The daily capacity of the mill was six thousand board feet.

In the Valley and Geneva Park country there were a number of big sets twenty-five to thirty-five years ago. Old man Buno, Henry Law, J. Baker and Hal Gomer all had mills in this locality for from three to five years. Scott Gomer also cut in the gulch which now bears his name for five years, the daily capacity of his mill being twelve thousand board feet.

In the Gibson Gulch country near the head of the North Fork Charles Smith ran a mill for two years for a man named Hathaway. Cutting was also done on the mountain slopes to the south of Webster. Joe Lamping of Grant cut a large amount of timber on the south side of the river near Webster for the charcoalkilns located at that town. Clean cutting

of everything over six inches in diameter was done; the output of the kilns being shipped to the Grant Smelter at Denver.

In the Deer Creek country, about four miles west of the Henry Wonder ranch, Stewart and McConnel set for five years in 1896 to 1900. The daily capacity of the mill was fifty thousand board feet, but it was not run steadily. After the mill was moved out fire got into the slash in 1901 and burned over the whole head of Deer Creek.

A greater part of the timber cut at the above mentioned sets was located on Government land. Along the North Fork of the South Platte cutting on patented land was the general rule, although local lumbermen did not hesitate to cull out the best of the public domain timber tributary to their logging chances. A great deal of this old time patented land reverted to the Government through script after the timber had been cut. Land which was not thus turned back was bought up in later years by small land owners through the payment of the taxes due. There is still considerable good timber along the North Fork, but it is in rocky and inaccessible places, its present existence being due entirely to the difficulties of logging it. Old time loggers selected nothing but easy chances as they figured that there was no money in the hard sets.

Practically all the timber cut along the North Fork of the Platte was hauled to the railroad, now the Colorado and Southern South Park Division, and shipped to Denver. In 1878 the railroad had reached Baileys and was later extended on up the valley. Denver was a fairly steady market, but prices were low. Mill run averaged about seventeen dollars per thousand board feet and from that on up to twenty-two dollars for extra clear, long stuff. Sawn lumber and dimension stuff constituted the major output of the mills. Only one or two mills saced ties as the railroad did not look with favor on this class of sleepers. Wherever cutting was done in a tie stand, hacking was the general rule.

J. W. Spielman lived at Gillette in 1894 and logged the timber above Woods Lake. McRooney cut at the head of Putney Gulch in 1894. Arthur Putney operated his mill about 1900. George Sadler had a mill at Newport in 1913. John Buchannon operated east of Midland in 1894.

In 1895 there was a sawmill at Camp Vigil operated by Cunningham. There was also a mill at Wild Rose Camp and another at the Elk Ranch operated by H. C. Rathke. John Stinbaugh operated a mill in Jones Park in 1908.

In 1863 H. H. Harkins built a sawmill at Dead Man's Canyon. Jim Bell operated a water power mill at the Keeton Ranch on Little Fountain Creek in 1869.

## Forest Fires

The information on forest fires in the northern end of the forest is meager. Early settlers can recall fires which occurred in the territory, but are unable to give very accurate information either as to the date of their actual occurrence or the amount of damage done by them. The country around the gold camps was stripped of timber so rapidly that there was practically nothing left on the ground to burn.

1861. On November 1, the Nevada camp was entirely wiped out by fire. Prior to the day of this conflagration a small brush fire had been burning for some time to the northwest of the town. A high wind carried sparks from this fire into several hundred cords of fuel wood, stacked on the flat to the west of the camp. Fanned by the wind this fire got beyond control and swept through Nevadaville.

1868. On June 16, "The fire which has been raging for some days past in the neighborhood of Missouri Gulch has done an immense amount of damage in the destruction of timber. ... These fires which sweep yearly over the mountains are a great misfortune to our people and will be severely felt."

1868. March 30, a fire was reported burning at the head of Prosser Gulch. Between two and three hundred men from the gold camps, worked on it before it was finally under control.

1868. The Lower Falls fire across the divide to the southwest of Central in Clear Creek County was one of the biggest fires which had ever occurred in the country up to this time.

1871. Fall River Fire. This was another very large fire which burned over the headwaters of Fall River in Clear Creek County to the west of the Central district.

Mammoth Basin Fire. The greatest conflagration that has ever occurred in Gilpin County was the Mammoth Gulch fire. This fire burned out Mammoth Gulch, ten miles northwest of Central, and then spread eastward through the mountains lying to the north of North Clear Creek almost to Dory Hill region near Blackhawk, a distance of ten or twelve miles.

In the year 1879, September 19, a fire started in Twelve Mile Creek by campers was allowed to run uncontrolled for several days in the country west and northwest of Central City. A high wind carried the flames into Freeman Gulch, Pine Creek and North Clear Creek above the mouth of Pine and burned over a large territory and destroyed much fine timber. The

smoke from this fire was so dense that lamps were necessary for light in Central City as early as 3 P.M.

1881. A man named Wetstein, who was burning brush in Miners Gulch, allowed the fire to get away from him. As a result the country between Miners Gulch and New York Gulch was burned over, but with little resultant damage, as the fire ran principally on outover lands.

The first forest fire of record was in June 1859 when three unknown men were burned to death on Chicago Creek.

The next fire of which mention is made was in 1869 when the watershed of Leavenworth Creek in the vicinity of Green and Clear Lakes was burned over.

The large burn on the Tarryall range occurred before Allens settled there in 1870. There was a big fire somewhere in the Lost Park region that year however. Great clouds of smoke came up apparently just over the horizon and it was so smoky at times one could see only a short distance.

#### Fire of 1880

A fire originating south of what is now known as Victor was the result of clearing done in June by an old settler on the Love Ranch, and spread northeasterly over Bull Mountain over low mountains and entering the forest in Sections 7 and 18, T 15 S., R. 68 W., burned out the head of Bison Creek across the Seven Lakes to the west slopes of Middle Beaver Creek.

This is the data given by Charles Love to Ranger J. H. Patterson. Love stated that he and his brother with the assistance of four or five other men worked several days attempting to extinguish it but were unable to do so. The fire burned over several thousand acres.

Following is a report on a fire in Section 30, T. 7 S., R. 73 W., from a letter written to the Commissioner, General Land Office, July 24, 1902, from Bailey, Colorado, by E. T. Allen, Forest Inspector.

"On June 11, 1901, when Ranger Hooper was still working on the line, Mrs. B. Schwartz, the cook at the paper company's camp, emptied a pan of ashes into a pile of brush and in a few minutes the slashing was a fire. There were twenty-one men in the camp at the time but after beating back the fire until they could save their personal effects, they made no attempt to put it out but retreated to a safe distance to spend the night.

"Hooper implored the foreman to put the men to work but instead of doing so he shipped them on the first train to Jefferson where they began another trespass. Hooper worked on the fire continuously from June 11 until July 3, toward the last securing some help after much trouble.

"The fire burned over about six hundred acres of heavy spruce timber running about three thousand feet and ten cords of wood to the acre. It was started by a paper company employee, gained headway because of the brush made by the company trespass and might have been put out had the foreman not refused to lend assistance.

"To make matters worse the cutters set another fire about half a mile distant in order to make it appear it was started by campers. The wind changed, however, so the two fires did not join."

#### Tyler Gulch Fire

In August 1903 a fire started in Tyler Gulch from a wood chopper's camp and it is claimed that it was started intentionally. However, this fire burned for two weeks and was fought by the State and the Forest Service. This fire was left and reported out but in about ten days it broke out again and burned for three weeks. This one was the larger of the two. The entire watershed of Tyler Gulch was burned out and the fire ran around the hill and burned out the head of Foster and Shut Town Gulches. A total of approximately three thousand acres was burned over and about three million feet of timber was killed and destroyed. W. H. Hooper was the ranger in charge of this district at the time and A. R. Knisely of Shawnee was ranger in charge of the Devil's Head district. Knisely and Supervisor Michaelson were working on a fire on the west side of Devil's Head at the time the second fire broke out. They could see it plainly from there and left the fire they were working on in charge of a crew foreman and drove by team to Sedalia, then went by train to Denver. They learned upon arrival in Denver that it was a serious fire and organized a crew of one hundred men and proceeded to the fire the same night by a special train up Platte Canon. By the time they were on the fire line it had gotten under such headway that their efforts were practically of no avail. Every available man in this part of the Platte Canon was fighting it but it was not until a snowstorm that came in September that the fire was completely extinguished. While this fire was burning, ashes fell in Bailey, eight miles away, until the ground was white.

### Mt. Evans Fire

A fire on the slopes of Mt. Evans burned over six miles square in June, 1908. The Forest Service had a big crew of men here before it could be extinguished.

### Deer Creek Fire

A fire on Deer Creek in June, 1916 (June 21-24) burned over approximately six hundred acres before it was under control.

### Geneva Fire

This fire in July, 1916, burned four days before it was under control. The area burned was about five hundred acres but about forty-five men were employed to extinguish it.

Most of the fires which burned the South Park country were in 1879 and 1881. The timber across the river from Fairplay burned in 1870. The fire in the vicinity of Horseshoe occurred in 1879. Hoozier Pass also burned the same year. The fire on Black Mountain burned in 1881. A small acre between Fairplay and Alma burned in 1890. Carelessness is the cause given for these fires.

### Lower Beaver Meadows Fire

Occurred in the late 70's. It burned over about two hundred acres in a fairly open stand of timber but did considerable damage. It was accidentally started by John Evans when on a camping trip to that vicinity and Evans, who was then a boy, worked very hard to put it out. The limits of this fire are quite plainly marked at the present time around the edge of the meadows, to the north.

### Upper Beaver Meadows Fire

Occurred in 1891 and burned over about one hundred acres. It is not known how this fire started but the Evans' and the Crossons' all went to it and got it under control. It burned in a fairly open region just above the meadows on the north slopes. It is presumed that it started from a campers fire since it appeared to originate near the edge of the opening.

### Vance Creek Fire:

This is the largest fire that has occurred in the Basin. It occurred in 1891 or 92 and was started by campers at the Falls on Vance Creek. Although all the neighbors turned out on this fire at various times, it burned for several months and covered a considerable portion of the head of the Creek towards the Needles. Several hundred acres were burned over.

### Truesdale Fire

This is the last fire of any consequence that has occurred in Bear Creek Basin. It occurred in July, 1909, and burned over four or five acres and was started by lightning. All the neighbors turned out and soon got it under control before any great amount of damage was done.

as to encourage mining. They cut everything down to four inch diameter over all the country around Kenosha Pass and Webster. These ovens ran until the panic of 1893. They were closed down over night and never started up again.

Coke was used instead. At the time they were abandoned Joe Lamping owned every oven in the state, a total of one hundred fifty-two. He lost his entire fortune of about three hundred thousand dollars. If there had been no stop made for another ten or fifteen years, it is doubtful if there would be any merchantable timber left at the rate they were cutting it out.

A Mr. Bradshaw had a charcoal pit on the north end of Seven Lakes. It was built by piling long logs twelve to eighteen feet wide. The material used was bristle cone pine covered with spruce boughs. A six to eight inch covering of earth was placed over the pile, leaving a few vents for a limited amount of air to get in. He received ten cents a bushel for burning while Mr. Smith, who hauled it to Old Town hotels, received twenty cents per bushel.

#### GRAZING

Grazing was one of the major industries throughout the area, included in the Pike National Forest. The region used most, however, was that around the South Platte, South Park and Black Mountain.

#### South Park Region

The region was first settled in the early sixties and portions of it have been producing hay crops since that time. The settlement was rapid for a time following the mining activity around Fairplay and Alma, about thirty miles west, and practically all the land that is now alienated was patented at that time. The original entrymen have, however, died or sold out their holdings, and the land was gradually passed into the control of comparatively large cattle and land owners, and this condition has existed for the past fifteen or twenty years. In fact, practically all the patented land within the area is now owned by only six outfits. The value of these arid lands for grazing purposes has been recognized for many years, and cattle raising has always been the principal industry of the local settlers.

Before the creation of the South Platte Forest Reserve, which included this area, the cattle grazed freely over all the region with little or no regulation on the part of their owners. The result was that the range was overstocked

and depleted. At a meeting of the Park County Stock Growers' Association on November 24, 1906, a report which was submitted to the Forester at Washington, D. C. under date of November 28, 1906, resolutions were adopted requesting the Forester to consider cooperating with the local range users in the construction of a fence extending along the boundary of the forest to separate the cattle grazing under permit from the cattle whose owners did not care to use the National Forest range. The grazing had, up until this time, been handled on the "On and Off" basis, which proved very unsatisfactory because the local people desired to hold their immediate range for winter use, but outside cattle were constantly drifting in during the summer, with the result that the grazing was poor just at the time when most needed by the owners of the permitted cattle.

Eventually the Forest Service furnished materials and the stockmen built about sixteen miles of fence. This work was done in 1908, except about two miles which was built in 1911 by Ed N. Barlow, C. A. Wilkin, H. L. Rader and John Wallace, ranchmen then residing along the Tarryall adjoining the range. The newly constructed fence joined privately owned fences on the north and fences or natural barriers on the east, making a complete enclosure known as the Eagle Rock Drift Pasture and containing about fourteen thousand acres.

Shortly after this a fence was constructed by private parties north of Tarryall along the west side of T. 8 S., R. 75 W., which, with a short drift fence to natural barriers on the north, created another division known as the Rock Creek Hills range.

The grazing problem soon adjusted itself. The cattle growers using National Forest range put their cattle during the summer in what is known as Lost and Craig Parks, which are extensive high mountain meadows situated six to eight miles north and east between the Tarryall Mountains and the Platte River range. The cattle were taken up about the first of June and in the fall were allowed to drift down into these large pastures where they remained during the fall, winter and springs, and were fed some during severe weather. By this method the local cattle growers were able to make their rather limited supply of winter feed go further and thus were able to run larger herds of cattle than they otherwise could.

Many cattle were driven into South Park from Texas and the Arkansas river bottoms. They were grazed here in the summer. In the fall they were either driven to market or else moved to the lower range to winter. Later on local men attempted to winter stock here. Severe winters caused heavy losses. Sam Hartsel was the first man to locate a ranch and harvest hay to feed cattle during the winter. The cattle grazed more in the open park than in the hills. Grass was plentiful and very little trouble was experienced with loco. The first sheep were brought into the park around 1876. They were owned by a man named Myers. There was very little trouble between the sheep and cattle men in this country.

The Case ranch at the foot of Kenosha Pass was one of the oldest ranches in the Park. It was also a stage station on the line between Denver and the Park. The Hartsel ranch at Hartsel was the first stock ranch established. The Guiraud at Garo was also another early ranch. The Salt Works ranch was established in the early 60's.

As late as 1870 there were only about ten ranches in the Park. These ranches were in especially favored places or run in connection with a stage station. The Park was considered as a summer range for cattle. Large numbers of cattle were grazed during the summer months, but were moved to the lower country during the winter. Hay was valuable at this time so the earliest ranchers also wintered their cattle south towards the Arkansas River. Later as more of the country was settled the ranchers began to winter their cattle on their ranches. Most of the cattle in the Park were the long-horned Texas breed, but it is said that the Hartsel outfit always had a good breed of stock.

The first band of sheep was brought into the Park in 1876 and was owned by Ward Maxie and a partner by the name of Myers. This band of sheep was grazed on the head of Trout Creek. At this time many people thought that sheep would be a failure, and this band was watched with interest. Later a man by the name of Dudley started into the sheep business. Joe Rogers was the third party to try sheep. He began the sheep business between 1880 and 1885.

## The Cattle Industry by J. Higginson

Jonathan Higginson was one of the first stockmen to range stock on the South Platte range. He first came here in 1869, and squatted on land along the river above Buffalo. In 1874 he filed on this land. He acquired some stock and to keep things going he would freight part of the time between Denver and Leadville. His largest holdings in stock were around one thousand head. During the summer months part of his stock with others in this same locality were driven over the Blue River for summer forage. Other men using this range in the early seventies were George Tarbell, F. C. Webster and Z. T. Freeman. They were located on the Graham ranch, Wellington Lake and the old Johnson ranch in the order named. These three men with Higginson ran some four thousand head of stock with very little winter hay. They claim that the range was at least four times as good as it is today on the lower Platte and Buffalo ranges. They mention Gramma grass as by far the predominating grass in early days. In the early eighties there were several years of extreme dry weather when it was necessary to remove a large part of the stock from this range. It seems as though there were no heavy losses in those days from diseases or poison plants on this range.

Later such men as E. M. Ammons, Johnson and White, Ghost, Culver, Phelps and Graham moved into this locality and engaged in the stock business. Ammons owned the land along the river from Corbins to Trumball flats and lived at Corbin's place, locally called the "White House". It is reported that Ammons was very hostile to any new homesteaders locating in the country and has used many underhand methods in driving them out.

### The Black Mountain Region

Data by J. T. Witcher.

Settlement and grazing of cattle were very closely related. As early as 1872 there was quite a little grazing over the region. John Bender, W. J. Hammond and Henry Beckham settled on Carrant Creek about 1872. John R. Witcher (J. T. Witcher's father) then lived on Four Mile Creek. William A. Stump settled at High Park in 1872. Other old

time stockmen of about this date are: William Gribble, Waugh (Waugh Mountain), George Green, in South Park; Sam Hartsel (town), Joe Rogers, Mullock, old I M ranch on Badger Creek, John Sims, foot of thirty-Nine Mile Mountain.

The first ranches settled on Black Mountain range were in connection with Eddy Brothers grazing operations about 1880; the VVN ranch on the head of Rye Slough and foot of Black Mountain and 160 acres in Long Gulch. Martin Morose, old time bad man from Texas and an Eddy cowman, filed on Long Gulch and Eddy on the VVN. Morose was also a notorious horse and cattle thief and was finally killed in Texas.

Eddy brothers bought out large cattle outfits in Texas, four to five thousand steers, and drove them through to this range. Patented lands were used for head camps and a little hay was put up for saddle horses. No cattle or range stuff was fed at all. Dave Walker came into the country with an Eddy trail herd at the age of seventeen, and is still an active cowman of the region. About this same time John and "T" Witcher and J. T. Witcher were also large cattle owners of the same region. They had from five thousand to six thousand head. A regular woundup was run from the region of Pueblo up Badger Creek and the Arkansas river, across the west side of South Park to Fairplay, then back by Jefferson and the central part of South Park, then on the north and east side of the Platte river, Black Mountain and then completed the circle. Six or eight wagons were run with two hundred to three hundred horses in the "cavvy" and thirty to forty men, including several cooks and horse wranglers. Witcher's outfit often branded one hundred to one hundred twenty calves a day in the Four Mile region. The Mullock (I M) outfit ran from seven to eight thousand cattle and often branded from one hundred twenty-five to one hundred fifty head of calves a day in the Badger Creek region. Horse and cattle stealing, shooting scrapes and booze parties were quite common. The cattle of the several outfits were drifted up to the Black Mountain--South Park region in the spring and calves branded on the spring roundup. They were held in the day herd and moved to their range in both spring and fall roundups. The cattle drifted back to the lower country in the fall.

One notorious cattle thief, Ed Watkins, leader of a band, was hanged by a mob of cattlemen at Canon City. People of Canon City and vicinity very much aroused at this incident and had several cowmen arrested. The cowmen then organized,

and armed themselves, brought in a large bunch of cattle whose brands had been worked over and stopped court proceedings. Some brands changed over were O H to AA, 76 to BB and 1 M to MM. Everybody went armed and there were several crack shots, Watkins among the best.

Maverick, or wild cattle, developed rapidly from these large herds in the rough country from about Parkdale to Buena Vista. At one time there were at least two hundred head in the Limestone ridge region near Jack Hall mountain. J. T. Witcher, Dave Walker, Charles Beckham and other young cow punchers had great experiences and sport chasing these wild cattle. Some of the steers, six to eight years old, weighed up to twelve hundred to thirteen hundred pounds and maverick bulls and cows, which were as old, were as large as these. Many were caught and led out to ranches, many were chased out and corralled while many others were shot in the hills. Very often the cattle thieves started in on the mavericks and then began working over brands, rustling calves and butchering other people's stock. The butchering business was good at local towns, railroad camps and mining camps.

### The Tarryall Region

Data given by S. M. Derby

Early day cowmen were Coley, Farnum, Packer, Wicks, Mosher, LaSalle, Williams, Allen and Derby. (Several local points were named after these men.) They ranged in the Tarryall region during the winter and went up toward the Kenosha Pass country in the summer. Cattle were run in bunches of from two hundred to six hundred head, while about three thousand head in all wintered here. Some of the men did not own their home ranch; they just settled or camped there. Occasionally a potato and vegetable patch and small piece of hay land for saddle horses were worked. They built log drift fences from hill to hill to hold the stock.

When sheep first came to the South Park country a "line" was established at Tarryall bridge near Sugar Loaf Peak and was always respected.

### Grazing on the South Side of Pikes Peak

Early users of the vicinity for grazing were Charley and John Love on Middle and West Beaver Creeks in about 1879.

Frank Haymen and father settled in East Beaver and Rock Creek in about 1882.

W. J. Baird and Black Davis, who resided south and east of where Broadmoor is now located, ran a few cattle at the head of South Cheyenne Creek in 1882.

H. C. Rathke beginning in about 1888 grazed cattle on east Beaver Creek and in the vicinity of Seven Lakes.

### Range War

A man by the name of Scribner, who had a band of sheep near Balfour, was killed by Abe Fife over range trouble. They got into a heated argument and the sheep man picked up a rock to throw but was shot by Fife, who was a cowman.

The earliest sheep men in the South Park region were Joe Rogers, Dudle and Chalmers. The first sheep came in about 1888 or 1889. The sheep and cowmen had committees who established "dead-lines" and everyone held to them pretty well. There were no serious troubles. A band of sheep was brought into High Park at an earlier date, about 1870. They were nearly all killed by cowmen.

There were no real serious range wars in the region of the Pike.

### GAME

Hunting for market was formerly quite an important occupation. This applies especially to the period from 1870 to 1890. Certain individuals were naturally inclined to this work because to them it was, in a sense, sport and the profits were fairly good. Naturally the slaughter and waste was very much beyond that which was necessary to supply the market. The presence of game and the ability of the early settlers to secure their meat in this way was of the greatest assistance in the early development of the country. Domestic animals were scarce and the provisions obtained on the markets were both limited in variety and high in price. The various kinds of wild game and fish constituted the basis, if not the bulk, of the entire food supply.

The first game laws for the purpose of protecting the game and fish of this state were the territorial acts of 1870.

## Early Game Laws

A law of March 10, 1877, relates to trout and other food fish and repeals the Territorial Act of 1870, from which we may infer that the earlier act related to fish only. The terms of the law provided a closed season on trout and other food fish during the months of December to June, inclusive. It also forbids the use of poison or explosives and requires the placing of fish-ways. It also provides a penalty for placing sawdust in the streams. The penalty for the violation of the act consisted of a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than three hundred dollars.

The Act of March 15, 1877, provided for a closed season on deer, elk, antelope, mountain sheep and buffalo from January 1 to September 1. It also prohibited the killing of insectivorous birds. A closed season entirely was placed on wild turkey and quail and an open season on partridges, pheasants, grouse and prairie chickens. The penalties for violation with respect to birds of all kinds were a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars for each offense. The penalty for violation of the law in respect to game animals was not less than twenty-five dollars. No maximum appears to have been fixed. These acts also limited the taking of fish and game to reasonable needs. Hunting within the enclosure without permission of the owner and hunting with dogs were also prohibited. A bounty of twenty-five cents was placed on each hawk killed.

By the Act of February 10, 1883, the closed season on elk, deer, antelope, mountain sheep and buffalo was lengthened so as to cover the period from January 1 to September 15, and made more specific limitations on the amount to be taken. For example, none but butchers was allowed to sell or expose for sale the saddles and hind quarters of more than one game animal without having in their possession at the same time the front quarters of the same. No person outside of an incorporated city or town could have the saddle and hind quarters of more than one animal in their possession without at the same time having the front quarters to same. The aim of the law seemed to limit the killing to the needs and to require full utilization.

The Act of April 11, 1891, provided for the appointment of a State Game and Fish Warden and certain deputies. Since that time more and better laws have been passed to protect the fish and game.

### Lost Park in General

In 1860 when white men first began to come to this park, a herd of Buffalo from two hundred fifty to three hundred head summered here, but a man by the name of W. W. Webster began using this range for cattle and the buffalo soon left. However, seventeen head were killed here in the early nineties by the Freeman Brothers for the hides, but the men were caught and had to bury the hides in order to evade the law. The last buffalo seen in this park was during the summer of 1901 by C. L. Fitzsimmons, then ranger. This one was an extra large fellow and his beard nearly touched the ground.

It is reported that he was shot this same fall by Law Arbuckle for his hide, but whether this is true or not, he was never seen again.

W. W. Webster, a cowman, built the trail through Wigwam Canon into Lost Park and out to South Park. He trailed his cattle through here enroute to the mining camps. Then he tried summering his cattle here and driving them on in the fall but the bear killed his cattle and ran them out until he put out large quantities of strychnine which reduced their number until he was able to hold stock here. A cabin and barn were built by Mr. Webster on the South Fork in about 1867; this cabin is still used by the cattlemen of South Park.

The last grizzly bear seen in Lost Park was in the fall of 1886 on the ridge between Craig Meadows and the North Fork by C. E. McBeth.

### Black Mountain Region

There were many large and small bears in the Black Mountain region. One Grizzly killed on the head of Thirty-One Mile Creek was reported as weighing seventeen hundred pounds. He was called "Old Mose" and was the last big bear of the region. His operations ran over a period of ten years in which time he killed many cattle, stole much meat from cow camps and lived highly on the waste at the slaughter pens. He killed Jake Radcliff who was hunting deer in the region. W. H. Pigg, who bought the Waugh Mountain or Stirrup Ranch and was later with the U. S. Biological Survey, hunted "Old Mose" on several occasions. Pigg and Anthony, a Wyoming bear hunter, with a pack of dogs, finally killed him on the south side of Black Mountain about 1906.

J. T. Witcher remembers two head of buffalo that ranged from the Pikes Peak region to Buffalo peaks.

Deer and antelope were numerous over the whole region. The homesteaders killed deer and hauled venison to Colorado Springs and Canon City to sell. Several hundred of either deer or antelope could be seen in a band at one time in this region.

### Tarryall Region

(Data by S. M. Derby)

There were large numbers of deer and mountain sheep in the region. The sheep were found mostly on Tarryall Mountains although there were some on Puma Hills. McCurdy reported that he saw signs of several moose in Puma Hills, mostly north of Badger Mountain, and at one time he saw four head but was unable to shoot any. No one knows of any being killed. Other parties told of seeing them and tracks, however.

Few elk were reported in this region. Bears were quite numerous but were mostly small ones. A large bald face bear was occasionally seen and finally killed in the region. Buffalo numbered about one hundred head in 1880 in the Lost Park country and they drifted down to the Tarryall Creek in the spring. It was quite common to see fifteen to twenty head in a bunch. Mr. Vermillion on the Platte River five miles below Lake George practically lived off of the buffalo herd. He took pack outfit and got his winter's meat. The ranchers generally did not hunt them as they got deer or mountain sheep so much closer. Then too, beef was cheap and this was most generally used.

In the early eighties a movement was on foot and backed by several ranchers on Tarryall to have the Lost Park region made a National Park, or something similar, to protect the buffalo there. Washington officials promised to come out and look the situation over, but the main booster of the plan then sold out and left Tarryall and the matter was dropped.

The last buffalo reported definitely was a large bull that came down on the Tarryall road about 1901. Several people on Tarryall saw him and Ranger Fitzsimmons tracked him off in the country toward the head of Allen Creek to get sight of him. "Uncle Jimmy Davis" says he later found his carcass on the north slope of Badger mountain near the top.

(Data by Mrs. C. S. Allen)

There was a large number of deer and mountain sheep in the region. In about 1872 five elk were killed by hunters at the head of Allen Creek, and Mr. Allen hauled them out. Mr. Allen shot a buffalo on Sand Creek near Tarryall but never went to Lost Park to hunt. There were no trout in Tarryall and very few suckers. Bordens took two wagons and barrels and drove over to the Platte River and seined out some trout and brought them to Tarryall Creek in 1872 or 1873.

About 1874 or 1875 scab got into the mountain sheep of the region and practically all were wiped out. The disease was noticed in the fall. A few survivors were seen in the spring and were apparently all right. Wolves came through only occasionally. Mountain lions have always been plentiful among the mountain sheep and have done lots of damage. Mrs. Allen heard of moose being seen in the Badger mountain region but none of her family ever saw them.

People of the Pikes Peak region tried to get a shipment of elk from the Jackson Hole country in Wyoming in 1911 as there was a shortage of feed in the northern country at that time. They were refused, however, as the people of the north were going to feed the elk hay during the winter.

#### South Park Region

Game was plentiful. Buffalo were quite numerous over the entire park. The last buffalo in the park were killed in 1885 in Lost Park. The killing was done by a taxidermist from Leadville. He was arrested, and the heads and hides were confiscated. It is not known whether he received a fine for this offense. There were thousands of antelope in the park. During the summer some of them would work up into the parks along the Mosquito range. Thirty or forty head are all that remain of the thousands that once grazed in the park. Mountain sheep and deer were also numerous. While bear were never very plentiful, they were occasionally killed by the hunters.

Only one bear seems to have gained a reputation worth mentioning. This bear was called "old Mose". Several hunters tried to kill him but were unsuccessful. In 1883 Jake Radoliff and two others were hunting on Black Mountain. Radoliff was separated from the other hunters. They heard him shoot and shout for help. When the other two hunters arrived they found him badly crippled. The bear was not in sight. The wounded man was carried to a ranch and a doctor called from Fairplay. Radoliff died before the doctor arrived. He stated before he died that the bear had attacked him and that he had shot him once. About ten years later two hunters, one by the name of Anthony and the other W. H. Pigg, were hunting. They came up with the bear. Anthony had a 30-40 caliber rifle. He shot the

bear seven times before he finally killed him. The bear charged Anthony and was close to him when he finally dropped. It is reported the bear weighed 1700 pounds. An old bullet wound was found in his shoulder. It is supposed that this is where Radcliff shot him.

Much commercial hunting was done during the first years that settlers came to the park. One group of hunters brought only the hind quarters and loins to market. The remainder of the carcass was left where it was shot. Commercial hunting ceased by 1870.

### DEVELOPMENT

#### Sentiment Toward Reserves

The sentiment toward the creation of the early forest reserves was very bitter from all standpoints. It was not centered on any one forest but included the Forest Service in general. As a result of this feeling each forest had its individual battles to fight and problems to solve. The following excerpts are typical examples of the general attitude toward the reserves.

From the Denver Republican, May 24, 1908

#### Speaking of Forest Service and Reserves

"It is only an example of governmental assininity or possibly the creation of a "Job" for some favorite and is an outrage on the hardy pioneers who have entered that desert country with a desire to open up and develop resources much more valuable than these trees, which should be left open to appropriation and use of the "present", not the future generation.

"But such things as this are convincing to a student of political economy that the Forest Service is a theoretical and entirely unreliable bureau as at present constituted. It is a political play to the grandstand, a bait set to catch the Socialist vote."

And again--Denver Republican, May 30, 1908.

"I recognize much good in the Forest Service, even as administered by Mr. Pinchot and blindly supported by Mr. Stone, and I repeat that I am not criticizing Forest Reserves, nor forestry, nor the Forest Service except where it is a sham and a false pretense and deceiving the people."

Excerpt from the Denver Republican, June 6, 1908

"But the forestry bureau beats them all. When circular 129 was formulated Mr. Pinchot must have started the young man figuring, and then strolled up to the White House to play tennis, but got so busy whispering into Teddy the first's ear about there being but one "It" in the United States and it wore glasses and had teeth, and that he worshipped it; that he forgot the poor boy figuring on the circular and the unfortunate fellow figured clear around himself."

The above referring to a circular giving statistics concerning timber production between 1880 and 1906.

July 11, 1908--Denver Post

(Headlines)... "Foresters denounced as Thieves Who Prey upon the Helpless Homesteader and Pocket Profit."

... "A sweeping change in the organization of the forest service, which will result in the moving of the greater part of the force to the actual scenes of operations in the west, will be put into operation at an early date."

"The cities selected for these division headquarters are San Francisco, Denver, Salt Lake, Portland, Missoula, Montana and Albuquerque, New Mexico."

But in spite of all the opposition the reserves were created and established on a firm basis. No "Sweeping changes in the organization" were made but the changes were gradual and tended to make the "bureau" more strong and organized.

### Creation of the Pike Forest

The Pikes Peak and White River were the first two forests created in Colorado. The Pikes Peak Timber Reserve was withdrawn by proclamation February 11, 1892, and included 184,320 acres of land surrounding Pikes Peak. On June 23 of the same year 179,000 acres lying to the north of this tract were withdrawn as the Plum Creek Timber Land Reserve, and on December 9 of this same year 683,520 acres of land including what is now the central part of the Pike National Forest were withdrawn as the South Platte Forest Reserve. By proclamation dated December 6, 1904, 32,702 acres were eliminated and 3,641 acres added to the South Platte Forest Reserve, resulting in a gross area of 654,499 acres. These three tracts together with a further addition of 678,526 acres were combined by proclamation of May 12, 1905, which proclamation also eliminated 14,880 acres, resulting in a net area of 1,681,667 acres and was known as the Pikes Peak Forest Reserve. By Act of March 4, 1907, the name was changed to the Pike National Forest.

On July 10, 1908 a readjustment of the boundaries resulted in a transfer of 270,383 acres of the Pike National Forest to the Leadville and 156,680 acres to the Arapaho National Forest, while an area of 59,040 acres of the Medicine Bow was transferred to the Pike. This adjustment, together with a few smaller eliminations, resulted in a gross area of 1,457,524 acres for the Forest.

By proclamation of August 10, 1910, a few small tracts were eliminated which further reduced the area to 1,323,000 acres. By the Act of August 24, 1914, 9,680 acres were added to be used with unreserved lands adjoining, for park purposes by the City of Denver. Again on March 4, 1915, 16,938 acres were added for the better protection of the watershed from which the City of Idaho Springs obtains its water supply. The gross area thus became 1,349,618 acres. By Executive Order dated January 28, 1916, a gross area of 7,294 acres was eliminated as a result of the classification of the Lake George project, and on September 8, 1916, two sections were added for the protection of the watershed from which the town of Blackhawk derives its municipal water supply, thus bringing the present 1916 gross area up to 1,345,227 acres.

In response to petitions from various commercial organizations representing the municipalities of Ft. Collins Boulder and Longmont, and to requests from settlers and irrigation companies in the irrigated district, a considerable area along the east side of the Colorado and Pike Forests was

temporarily withdrawn by Executive Order of October 2, 1916, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of September 8, 1916 (Public No. 282) for classification and pending determination as to the advisability of including within the Colorado and Pike Forests such lands as may be found to be chiefly valuable for the production of timber or the protection of stream flow.

All such lands north of the base line, which is the north boundary of the Pike, were reported on by the Colorado and those to the south by the Pike.

The first land classification, under the Act of August 10, 1912, was undertaken in 1914 in cooperation with The Bureau of Soils. The Area selected for this work is situated in the southwest, portion of the Forest where the largest proportion of agricultural land is found. This was known as the Lake George Project and comprised a net forest area of 106,336 acres. The classification was approved by the Secretary of Agriculture on October 26, 1915. Three hundred and thirty-three acres were found to be chiefly valuable for agriculture; 262 acres chiefly valuable for the present stand of merchantable timber and classification suspended; 6,317 acres near the boundary containing 80 acres of agricultural land and 977 acres of alienations were found to be of such low forest value that the area was eliminated; and the remaining 99,424 acres were classified by the Secretary as chiefly valuable for forest purposes and nonlistable under the Acts of June 11, 1906 and August 10, 1912.

Since the Act of June 11, 1906, became effective approximately 14, 707.74 acres have been segregated and made available for farm purposes in the Lake George region. Practically every tract of possible agricultural value has either been patented or opened to entry, and many applications have been received for lands which were not chiefly valuable for Agriculture. The authentic history of this part of the forest and the surrounding country dates back to the expedition of Lieutenant Zebulon M. Pike who in 1806 with a little band of explorers passed up Carrant Creek across the land described (southwest part of the forest and South Park) and out into South Park in the course of his travels which were for the purpose of locating the headwaters of the Arkansas and South Platte Rivers.

The Pike comprises portions of Boulder, Gilpin, Jefferson, Clear Creek, Park, Douglas, El Paso and Teller Counties, Colorado, and lies on the eastern slope of the Continental Divide which forms the west boundary of the north portion. Its greatest length from north to south is about ninety miles and the greatest width a little more than fifty miles. The topography is generally rough and broken. The general formation is granite.

Owing to the excitement caused by the discovery of gold in 1859, there was a general westward movement which resulted in the building up of several mining towns at an early date. Central City, Georgetown, Idaho Springs and Blackhawk lie in the northern part of the Forest. These camps and the established cities of Denver, Colorado Springs and smaller towns created a demand for farm products and approximately 98,000 acres were homesteaded before the creation of the Forest. Much land within the forest has been listed for entry under the Forest Homestead Act. Of the former amount about 20 per cent now lie fallow and abandoned and nearly all farming communities have dwindled in the mountainous country, many to such an extent that schools have been closed.

The Forest contains many places noted for their scenic beauty, such as Pikes Peak, Platte Canon, Cheyenne Canon, Clear Creek (Including the famous Georgetown Loop), the radius springs, etc., the Boulder Canons, Mt. Evans and many other points of interest. From the earliest use of the country by hunters, trappers and people merely "roughing it" the recreation feature has developed and become commercialized until it now constitutes one of the principal resources. Denver and Colorado Springs are cities of large populations in themselves, whose people naturally look to the immediate mountainous areas near at hand for summer homes, camping, fishing, excursions and all forms of recreation. But aside from this these cities are tourist centers visited annually by thousands of people, many of whom spend some time in the nearby mountains. The recreational use has increased rapidly of late and promises in the near future to be of benefit to more people than any other use of the forest.

The advent of the railroads in 1870 and 1872 with the consequent settling of the valleys, which became very productive under irrigation, lowered prices to such an extent that ranching became unprofitable except in connection with stock raising, and nowhere is agriculture alone success-

ful. Many homesteads have been converted into summer resorts and summer cottages have been constructed to rent to tourists and this use is increasing rapidly. The subsequent use made of listed tracts, in a great many instances, shows that this has been the motive which prompted the applications. Nine railroads operated within the forest and all had scenic attractions. No forest in Colorado attracts so many pleasure seekers and it is of utmost importance that the government retain ownership of and maintain control of camping places and points of scenic beauty and resort value.

### Recreation

Recreation, although a development of recent years, was given some thought and was recognized as far back as 1908 by the people of the region. An excerpt from the Denver Republican of September 14, 1908, gives some idea of the attitude at that time.

"...It should be recognized by opponents as well as advocates of Mr. Pinchot's policy that the aim of the bureau is to preserve the forests and at the same time make them useful to the people. There is no thought of guarding them from destruction simply for sentimental considerations, although the beauty of the mountain groves should not be ignored. That which contributes to the pleasure of living, as well as considerations of a strictly economic character, should be kept in mind. So the beauty of the forests should be recognized as one of the reasons for preserving them, but it is by no means the only or for that matter the chief consideration."

A report was made to the District Forester in 1909 by the Supervisor of the Forest in which it was estimated that about one hundred thousand people used the Pike for recreation during the year. It was further estimated that the use was increasing ten per cent annually. The attractions were the scenic roads and railroads, natural features and formations and hunting and fishing.

An outline for a recreational reconnaissance was sent out to the supervisor in 1915. This was to get data on the recreation possibilities of the forest. It was about this time that the roads and trails were given consideration from a recreation standpoint as well as from administration. Shelter cabins, camps and a little later fireplaces and other improvements necessary for recreation were constructed where use

demanded. Summer homes and resorts were also beginning to be established on the forest. The value of recreation both from a physical and economical standpoint was recognized by the Service, communities and cities. Various type of cooperation and development was carried on until today recreation and all it implies is on par with the other forest uses.

The recreation use on the forest was advertised in 1917 by folders containing the various features and accommodations. The folders were distributed throughout the country. National Forest posters were also placed where the publicity would be an aid.

Recreation use has been increasing at such strides of late that development plans have been made for the forest which will be used as a guide toward a good final systematized scheme.

### Irrigation

The storage and diversion of water for domestic use, irrigation and power early reached a state of development beyond the ordinary, and this is rapidly becoming the most important of forest values.

Twelve filings for reservoirs for irrigation purposes have been made within the forest. Of these, six have been constructed and are now in use. These are largely situated near the headwaters of Boulder, Clear Creek, North Fork of the South Platte and on Tarryall Creek, although two or three sites of considerable magnitude are contemplated on the main branch of the South Platte. This storage is entirely for use along the lower courses of these streams outside of the Forest.

### Municipal Water Supply

#### Denver

The first use of water for municipal purposes from streams in which is now the Pike National Forest was probably at Central City and Blackhawk in the early sixties. Idaho Springs and Georgetown began the use of water a little later. Colorado Springs developed its first supply from streams emerging from the Forest on the slope of Pikes Peak in 1878. The City of Denver began its first water development in 1870. The first water was delivered from the South Platte River in 1872 and the first Denver plant, located at Fifteenth and

Bassett streets, began supplying water in this same year. This plant had a capacity of 2,500,000 gallons daily. Two years later the capacity was increased to 4,500,000 gallons daily.

By 1878 Denver had grown so much that more water was required. The Denver City Irrigation and Water Company was organized to develop a supply farther up the Platte River. This company began operations in 1880. Their plant had a capacity of 8,000,000 gallons daily. In 1882 the capacity was increased to 10,000,000 gallons daily. The total capacity of the two plants was the 14,500,000 gallons daily. This supplied about 35,000 people. But by 1886 the demand for more water was so great that the Domestic Water Company was formed to develop water on Cherry Creek. This company was a subsidiary of the Denver Water Company, which in turn was formed by a consolidation of the older companies.

Similar companies were formed between 1886 and 1888 to supply water to the towns of Highlands and Barnum. These were independent companies.

Until this time all of the companies had followed the established custom of taking water from nearby streams, though unpleasant experiences in dry years had already pointed out the inadequacy of the sources. The reservoirs in use did not contain at most more than a five day's supply.

The consumption in Denver rapidly increased to a point where the companies were severely taxed to supply water in years of normal rainfall. None of the companies had developed an earning power and stockholders were reluctant to invest more money in much needed expansion. Local stockholders, although in the minority, were laying plans to go to the mountains for additional water and to construct storage reservoirs before the growth of the city was seriously hampered. When these plans were made known to non-resident stockholders, the latter refused to contribute their share of the expense until the companies were placed on a money-making basis. In 1889 the situation became critical. Local stockholders tried to buy out the non-resident stockholders but were unsuccessful; so they disposed of their interests, withdrew from the companies and forming a new concern, The Citizens' Water Company, set out to obtain an ample water supply for the city.

Before 1886 a small lake was to be found nine miles east of Buffalo Peaks. This lake was called Green's Lake. The country surrounding this lake was a natural reservoir site. In 1886 some work was done on a dam. In 1909 a company with sufficient capital started construction work on the dam. The first construction cost was \$750,000. By the time the reservoir was completely constructed the total cost of water rights, land rights, and construction was \$1,000,000. The irrigation company sold this reservoir to the City of Denver for \$1,448,000.

They first used the underflow of the South Platte where it leaves the Canon for the plains. This water, through a thirty inch conduit twenty-three miles long, supplied a 24,000,000 gallon reservoir on the north side. Within four years this company had built a second conduit, thirty-four inches in diameter, and installed the first artificial filtration plant west of the Mississippi River. It had purchased the Marston Lake site and constructed a million gallon reservoir to insure a supply when that available from natural resources was low. The rights to storage water to supply the reservoir from Bear Creek were obtained. It had also laid plans for the construction of Cheesman Lake. These activities marked the real beginning of the development of an adequate water supply for the city.

After a series of consolidations among the various water companies of Denver, the plants of the Citizens' Water Company and its remaining competitor, the American Water Company, (then in receivership) were purchased in October 1894 by the Denver Union Water Company.

In January 1894, the South Platte Canal and Reservoir Company was organized as a subsidiary company to the Citizens' Water Company to build Cheesman Dam and extend the properties of the Citizens Water Company at Platte Canon. Since 1894 the Denver Union Water Company and the South Platte Canal and Reservoir Company have occupied the field. The Reservoir Company built Cheesman Dam, creating a reservoir with a capacity of some twenty-six billion gallons. The same company built the Platte Canon Reservoir with a capacity of three hundred million gallons and the English slow sand filter plant at Platte Canon. The Denver Union Water Company now leases all of the Reservoir Company's properties.

Lake Cheesman is the bulwark of the Water Company's storage system insuring the city a supply for more than two years of drought without replenishing. Cheesman is an ideal storage reservoir for water for domestic use. It is located fifty miles from Denver in the heart of the Pike National Forest. It has a watershed embracing eighteen hundred square miles of territory. Its storage depth is two hundred twelve feet; its circumference at high-water mark is eighteen miles.

#### Colorado Springs

The City of Colorado Springs was incorporated in 1871. The first city water-works were started in 1878. The city's population at this time was four thousand. Prior to this time wells in and near the city had furnished the needed water.

The first work consisted in laying a main from Ruxton Creek above Manitou to a reservoir in West Colorado Springs. From the reservoir the water was distributed to the city through twelve inch mains. In 1886 a nine million gallon reservoir was constructed on the Mesa in West Colorado Springs. In 1889 a new sixteen inch main was laid from the intake to Colorado Springs. Also a ten inch pipe was put in for conveying water from Bear Creek to intercept the main from Manitou. By 1890 the supply was inadequate, and a ditch was built which diverted the water from Middle Beaver Creek to the head of Ruxton Creek. In the same year the city acquired by Congressional grant 784.48 acres of land adjacent to Lake Moraine and began construction of the Lake Moraine dam. This lake is a part of the present storage system. In the same year a pipe line was laid to secure additional water from Beaver Creek watershed. In 1891 additional land was purchased along Ruxton Creek. Lake Moraine dam was completed during this year, giving a storage capacity of 492,168,000 gallons.

1893 saw a threatened water famine in the city. Nearly a mile of flume was constructed to bring water from a different branch of Beaver Creek. Also work was begun on the dam for Reservoir No. 2. This dam, completed the following year, gave a reservoir capacity of ninety-seven million gallons. In 1895 a pipe line was laid from North Cheyenne Creek to Bear Creek, and dams were started for Reservoirs Nos. 7 and 8. These dams were completed in 1898 with reservoir capacities of seventy-five million and four hundred seventy-two million gallons respectively.

In 1896 Colorado Springs purchased from the government 3,100.14 acres for the better protection of its water supply. In the same year the Strickler Tunnel was begun. This carries water from Reservoirs Nos. 7 and 8 on West Beaver Creek to Middle Beaver, where it is available for city use. In 1902 the city acquired six hundred acres of land known as the Seven Lakes property. In the same year twenty-two hundred acres more of government land were purchased. In 1904 and 1905 reservoirs Nos. 4 and 5 of the Seven Lakes system were constructed. Reservoir 4 developed leaks in the dam, which prevented utilization of the water. In 1903 and 1904 the St. John tunnel was constructed for the purpose of carrying all of the water supply from Middle Beaver and its various reservoirs to Lake Moraine near the head of Ruxton Creek. In 1924 and 1925 a new pipe line from Lake Moraine to the hydro plant near Manitou was laid.

The entire Colorado Springs water supply comes from land within the forest boundary. It is protected either by city ownership or by cooperative agreement with the Forest Service.

### Reforestation

Reforestation came in for its share of publicity and criticism as well as the uses in the forests. The following is an article from the Denver Republican of June 28, 1908:

"...If the department were not so given to "Grandstand" talk it would behoove the citizens of Colorado Springs to bring an injunction suit against the government, which threatens to plant a million trees per year until twenty million are planted on the Pikes Peak "Reserve". Water is scarce enough at Colorado Springs at present conditions, but if the government is going to attempt to water twenty million trees in addition to the trees now absorbing water, I can assure the citizens that in twenty years there would only be water for the trees and none for the city.

"It would increase the water supply of Colorado Springs materially if every tree was cut from Pikes Peak. If these men expect to raise trees without using up water they purpose to reverse nature.

"These so-called timber reserves originated in fraud and are continued in iniquity, and should be reduced to the hunting and fishing preserves which originally was intended."

A report on the problem of reforestation in the Pikes Peak Forest Reserve was made by W. H. Gardner, Forest Assistant in 1903. The examination was made during the summer and fall by a field party of the Bureau of Forestry (as it was then called) to investigate the condition of the southern portion of the Pikes Peak Forest Reserve. The object of the study was to find out to what extent the denuded slopes of this region were naturally reforesting and to locate areas where planting was necessary.

Two methods of accomplishing the desired results were adopted. One was by sowing the seed of the trees common to the areas desired to reforest and the other by transplanting seedlings raised at the nurseries.

At first the work was experimental but after nearly complete loss of some of the work and careful study, the Forest officers in charge were enabled to formulate certain principles which put the reforestation work upon a definite and practical basis.

The first field planting was done in 1905 with yellow pine and Douglas fir seedlings two years old in Clementine Gulch below Clyde. Seeding was done the same year in the same localities. The efforts were failures.

In 1908 two year old Douglas fir seedlings were planted in Clementine Gulch and also in Bear Creek near Jones Park. This work was a failure also except for a small plot on lower Bear Creek where a fifty per cent survival was obtained.

In 1907, 1908 and 1909 experimental planting of seedlings and direct seeding was done in the vicinity of Palmer Lake in Limbaugh Canon. Seedlings two and three years old were planted. These were shipped from Halsey, Nebraska, and received in poor condition. However, good results were obtained. Some fall planting in 1908 shows good results. Favorable results were had with fall sowing of Douglas fir seed where broadcasting and raking were employed under aspen. Generally, however, all direct seeding resulted in failures.

Direct seeding was used from 1910 to 1912 inclusive on a large scale notwithstanding the failures. These efforts likewise proved to be failures. Stronger leaning toward transplant nursery stock was made. As a result little or no seeding was done after 1912 and all efforts were centered on field planting. The deep hole (with grub hoe) method was used and it is still the principal method.

Since 1912 planting of seedlings has been established on a scientific basis and more than two million trees have been planted.

A planting plan for the Pikes Peak Auto Highway was made in 1917. This called for planting on the cuts and fills of the road. It was really an experiment but planting done by the planting camp in 1917, 1918 and 1919 proved to be a success.

## Nurseries

As a result of studies and recommendations made by W. H. Gardner, Forest Assistant, in 1903, the Bureau of Forestry sent T. J. Taylor, Forest Agent, and Clyde Leavitt to locate and establish several nurseries in the spring of 1904 within the areas studied by Mr. Gardner.

The Clyde, Rosemont and Bear Creek nurseries were established. They were not operated long, however, because of the slow growth, short growing season and inaccessibility. A little improvement was done such as starting a water system, etc. They were abandoned one by one. The Rosemont was closed in 1906, Clyde in 1907 and then the Bear Creek in 1909.

The few surviving trees at Rosemont (411) were transplanted at Clyde where a total failure resulted. About seven thousand two year old seedlings were taken from Clyde and transplanted at Bear Creek in the spring of 1907. These trees all finally died in the nursery. When the Bear Creek nursery was abandoned in the spring of 1909, the few thousand seedlings (about ten thousand) were taken to the Monument Nursery and placed in transplant beds.

The following men were closely connected with the nursery work at this time:

W. H. Gardner	1903
T. J. Taylor	1904
Clyde Leavitt	1904
F. W. Besley	1905
(B.S.H.R.) B.H. DeAtlemund	1905 (D'allemand ?)
F. W. Besley	1906
J. F. Kummel	1906
S. B. Detwiter	1906
W. H. Schrader	1906

Late in the fall of 1906 the site on which the Monument Nursery is now located was examined with the result that it was decided to establish a small planting station to be known as the Mt. Herman Ranger Nursery. It retained this name until January 1, 1909, after which time it has been known as the Monument Nursery. The development work has been with the idea of making it a large central nursery.

## Fremont Experiment Station

The Fremont Experiment Station on Mt. Manitou was founded in September 1909. Earlier that year, Carlos G. Bates examined certain areas within the city watershed of Colorado Springs and had attempted to negotiate with the City Commissioners for a location near Mountain View, but the restrictions necessarily placed on the Forest Service occupation of the city's land would have hampered the work; so the prospects of locating in this vicinity did not look very promising for a time. Then during a visit in August, it was discovered that the present site of the station, which had already been reserved by the Forest Service for use as a ranger station, was admirably suited for the purpose. This helped to speed the work when three men started operations in September. The men were C. G. Bates and two temporary employees of the Forest Service who had been working in Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming during the summer. One was the son of Dr. Rupp of Monument and the other a Pennsylvania boy.

The first work was the carrying of a rain soaked tent from the top of the Incline to the present station site, which is about a mile. The men were nearly exhausted when they finally reached the grounds. The men often wondered why they did not hire one of the many burros that were, and still are, kept at the top of the Incline.

About two days after the establishing of the camp, the party was increased by Albin G. Hamel, now supervisor at Pueblo, U. S. Stafford of Colorado Springs, Joe Strong, who for several years had been stationed at Lake Moraine and who was a practical mountaineer, and "Uncle Jimmy" Cribbs, a Civil War veteran who died here about two years ago. The two older men were good companions in camp as well as being hardheaded enough to serve as a check on the youthful enthusiasm of the others.

The first improvement was the development of a water system. A good spring above the location selected for the buildings was piped to the location seven hundred feet distant. A small dam was constructed to form a pool at the spring. The pipe was placed in a ditch four feet deep.

A flag pole was also erected at this time.

The station was named in honor of General Fremont, one of the early explorers of the country and who built a trail in the locality. The Indian word, "Minneyamini" meaning three waters, was suggested but was considered cumbersome and meaningless by the authorities; therefore, it was not selected.

During the autumn of 1909, one building had been constructed. It was a light frame structure which at first served as office and living room, and as office and laboratory until 1915. Stafford occupied this building for a time but was joined by C. C. Chapman before Christmas. Chapman later installed the "tower" and weather apparatus, which is still in use, while he was in the U. S. Geological Survey. The complete weather record was begun January 10, 1910, and except for two or three blanks has been kept complete since.

William D. Hayes, a technically trained forester was sent from New Mexico to take charge of the local work in February 1910. C. G. Bates was stationed in Denver at the time and could give only general supervision. Hayes remained at the station three years, during which time the work was well under way. He was an expert on planting and through his efforts experiments conducted showed the way to successful planting in the region. The greenhouse and barn were built also through his efforts and a heating plant installed to make possible the use of the greenhouse throughout the winter. One of the largest jobs at that time was the testing of seed which was being collected and sown all over the district.

F. B. Notestein, Forest Examiner, took charge of the work in 1913. He was a capable man but was soon transferred.

The next incumbent lasted only a few months and those the summer months of 1915. His training and temperament were unfitted for the rough life of the mountains and before the first frosts of the autumn he sought a warmer climate. He wired Mr. Bates as follows: "Leaving tomorrow to catch boat for \_\_\_\_\_. Come and take your dinged old station; I don't want it."

When this man quit, Mr. Bates assumed direct charge of the work and the result is that the work has been broadened and is more extensive. The offices were moved from Denver to Colorado Springs in 1919 which established the staff right on the grounds. (See 1950 comments by J. Roeser on following inserted page.)

"The offices were moved around 1920 or 22, I believe."

J. Roeser, Jr. assigned to Station 5/8/19 and except for two years, 7/1920 to 6/1922 spent as staff assistant on Pike, remained with Fremont Station (later Rocky Mountain Experiment Station) through 1935, when Station headquarters were transferred to Fort Collins under expanded Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station setup. Roeser closed the Station in October 1935. Improvements were subsequently sold and dismantled during World War II (about 1945).

Bates, founder of Station, was transferred to Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisc. in 1927 and in 1928 moved on to the Lakes States Experiment Station. He died in August, 1949.

The Experiment Station office in the Post office, Colo. Springs, (N.E. corner, 2nd floor) was taken over by the Pike when the Station office was transferred to Fort Collins in October, 1935. Roeser returned to Administration in October, 1936, serving on the Harney 10/1936 to 12/45, Roosevelt 12/45 to 8/49, and returned to the Pike as Assistant Supervisor 9/1/49.

### Devils Head Lookout

The first lookout station at Devil's Head was established in 1912. A small log cabin was constructed on top of the Peak where the lookout could be in case of a storm. The telephone was placed in this cabin also.

A table with a fire finder was placed on the highest boulder and bolted to it as the high winds would blow the table away otherwise.

A shelter cabin was built at the foot of the rocks about two hundred feet below the lookout cabin. From this a trail led down to a camp at the foot of the peak. The trail was three-quarters of a mile long.

Big trees were placed in such a manner that they were used for stair construction from the foot of the boulders near the shelter cabin to the top.

This station was maintained for many years. In 1914 a one room shingle-roof cabin was built at the foot of the stairs leading to the observatory.

In 1919 the old log barn, which had a slab roof originally, was converted into a store and bunkhouse. The cabin built in 1914 was then abandoned.

The same year a glass observatory ten feet by ten feet was constructed on top of the peak. It was completely equipped for fire lookout purposes and is the one that is still used.

### Working Plan

The general reconnaissance work for the development of a working plan began on the Pike August 1, and continued until November 1, 1908. Estimating and mapping by a cruise through the center of each forty were made. The topography was also sketched in and distances paced. The work was done in Clear Creek, Park and Douglas Counties. The work is given in a report by Joseph A. Fitzwater.

Another plan was made in January 1910 by John Bentley, Jr., Forest Assistant, and one in 1910 by Henry Reinsch, Forest Expert. Mr. Reinsch made another the following summer (1911).