

A State Highway Over Diamond Mountain will Help the Entire Basin Will Open Many New Markets

Vernal can be Placed on Park to Park Highway by North to South Road From Mesa Verde to Yellow Stone National Park

When the road from Grand Junction up Douglas creek to Rangely is completed, which will be about July 1, the only strip of road from Mesa Verde, Colorado, to the Yellowstone park which would prevent a north to south Park to Park highway through Vernal, would be about 40 miles of uncompleted road thru the Ashley National Forest, on the road over Diamond mountain connecting Vernal with Manila in Daggett county.

Accordingly the Commercial club in a petition to the city council and county commissioners asked that they endorse a movement to get the road from Vernal to Manila declared a state highway by the present legislature and to cooperate with Representative Wm. H. Siddoway in bringing about this result, during this session. Strong letters endorsing the move were given by both the city and county officials.

Daggett county officials are working heartily in accord with the same movement with their representative, as it would greatly increase traffic through that section.

Should Mr. Siddoway be successful in getting this road declared a state highway it will mean that money for Forestry highway fund can be expended on the road. According to Supervisor Charles De Molsy, Jr., they now have \$16,000 which is being expended, some at each end of this road, from the Forest development fund which will be expended by July 1st.

From the Forest Highway fund money can be only expended on state

roads and must be approved by the state road commission. There has never been any money from this fund expended on the Ashley Forest because no state road ran through it.

This road, when developed would mean much to Vernal and the entire country as it would open up a commercial road to the north and give us a market for our produce in Wyoming and bring in much money.

It will also be a link in the Park to Park Highway connecting the Mesa Verde and Yellowstone National parks and bring in hundreds of tourists traveling the Park to Park highways. There are no north and south highways except about 150 miles east and 150 miles west of us.

Another big feature is that it would open up our own recreational grounds, which no more beautiful can be found in Utah for the character of the scenery, which is in a class by itself, just as the Zion's National park is a class by itself.

Every endeavor should be made to get this road declared a highway so that it might be completed at the earliest possible moment.

The distance over the proposed route would be about 70 miles from Vernal to Manila and it is 50 miles from Manila to Rock Springs, Wyoming. From there it is about 240 miles to the Yellowstone National park through the famous Hoback canyon and Jackson Hole country. The entire distance from Vernal to the Yellowstone park would be about 360 miles and through one of the most picturesque sections in the mountain region.

Vernal Express Jan 18, 1918

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FILE FOLD IN
NO. 576

The Reader's Encyclopedia[®]
of the
AMERICAN WEST

Edited by
HOWARD R. LAMAR



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caused some of the most serious droughts in the West. Ranchers and farmers taking advantage of the Homestead Act of 1862. The boisterous hired journalists and pseudoscientists and launched a massive campaign to abolish the desert. They put their faith in the slogan "rain follows the plow" and in the theory that the planting of trees would increase moisture and alter the climate. The TIMBER CULTURE ACT of 1873 gave manly support to the latter idea, but the results proved negligible.

Because of above average rainfall during the late 1870s and early 1880s, the area prospered. A series of such years led to the general acceptance of what Henry Nash Smith in *Virgin Land* calls "the myth of the garden." There were many, however, who doubted the ability of the Great Plains to sustain agriculture indefinitely. Cattlemen knew from experience that dry years inevitably follow wet ones and they bitterly opposed the intrusion of "neuts" of farmers. In his famous essay of 1878, "Report of the Lands in the Arid West," John Wesley Powell argued that the 160-acre homestead was too small and that in the end agriculture would prove destructive to the semiarid lands. His warning went unheeded until the disastrous drought, dust storms, blizzards, and grasshopper plagues of the late 1880s. Many settlers were suddenly reminded that it was easier to abolish the "myth of the desert" than the reality of nature.

Near the end of the nineteenth century, science and technology came to the aid of the settlers on the Plains, along with the return of another wet cycle. In time the application of dry farming techniques, the invention of radically new farm machines, widespread use of barbed wire and windmills, development of drought-resistant plants, and the extension of irrigation facilities greatly assisted the integration of the arid West into the national economy. The dust storms of the 1930s (see DUST BOWL) and the prolonged drought of the 1950s brought temporary setbacks. Finally the rains returned, and legislation such as the Soil Conservation Act and the Taylor Grazing Act and new farming practices made the desert once again "blossom like the rose." (See also AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION; WHEAT PRODUCTION.)

Today the Great Plains region is thinly settled compared to the lands east of the Mississippi River. At the same time it is the largest producer of beef and wheat of any comparable area of the world. The network of interstate highways, airlines, and railroads has made possible widely separated cities and industrial plants, while air conditioning, expansion of irrigation projects, and the revolution in agriculture have all but erased the once-fordoming image of the Great American Desert.

See W. Eugene Holton, *The Great American Desert: Then and Now* (1966); Henry Nash Smith, *Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth* (1959); Wallace Stegner, *Beyond the Hundredth Meridian: John Wesley Powell and the Second Opening of the West* (1953); and Walter Prescott Webb, *The Great Plains* (1931).

—W. E. H.

Great Basin Desert. See PHYSIOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES. **Basin and Range Province** and **VEGETATION; desert.**

Great Basin Indians. See INDIANS OF THE GREAT BASIN.

Great Basin streams. The Great Basin is the only part

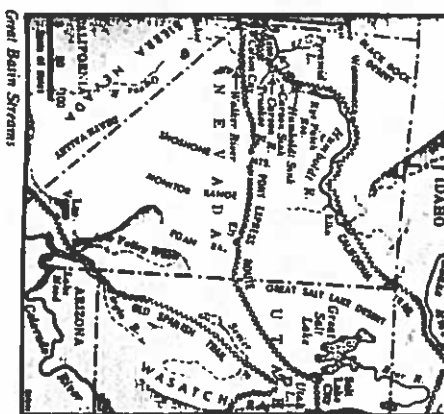
and, and the amounts of runoff from the mountain peaks within and surrounding it are meager. On the west, small turbulent streams such as the Owens, the Carson, the Truckee, and the Walker quickly waste their waters in desert lakes or sinks. On the east the many small streams flowing forth from the Wasatch front become lost in Utah Lake or Salt Lake.

The Humboldt River is the only stream that flows for any distance across this arid land. It is a small stream with a total watershed of about 17,000 square miles in north-central Nevada. It rises among lofty peaks that reach almost 12,000 feet and flows westerly to empty into the Humboldt Sink at an elevation of 3,900 feet. The total runoff in its basin is less than 900,000 acre-feet per year—puny when compared to such coastal streams as the Willamette and Klamath rivers. Its flow at any one point in any one year is, of course, much less than that. Floods along its course may occur at almost any time during the year. In winter, rain falling on frozen ground may run off quickly. In spring, sudden melting of snow in the mountains is quickly translated into a flood in the stream. In summer a thunderstorm located over the stream can transform it into a raging torrent. In dry years many parts of its channel are devoid of water.

The significance of the Humboldt is obviously not derived from its length or the magnitude of its flow. Nor does the fact that it is the only stream of any size in its oblique and land completely account for its fame. Rather, it was the accident of location beside the CALICOAS TRAIL, which ran from the frontier settlements along the Missouri to the gold fields of California, that accounted for the fact that the Humboldt became known as the "Highway of the West." Mark Twain added to its notoriety when he said that if a man was bored and wanted to entertain himself, he could jump back and forth across the river until exhausted and thirsty and then drink it dry.

The Humboldt is also notable for being the last stream of any significance to be found by western explorers. For years maps of the West had indicated a major stream, the Buenaventura, flowing from the Rockies to San Francisco Bay, and many men had sought it. Peter Ogden of Hudson's Bay Company finally found it in 1825, rappelled along it, and reached its mouth in Humboldt Sink. Beaver abounded along it, and other men soon followed. Called the Unknown River by Ogden and then Mary's or Ogden's River, it was renamed by John C. Fremont in honor of the great German naturalist and geographer Alexander von Humboldt. By the time that Fremont first saw it, the river had already become known as the California Trail's best and safest route between the Great Salt Lake and the foothills of the Sierra below Lake Tahoe. It had been used by emigrant trains as early as 1841 and was a continuation of the Overland Trail, which led up the Platte River to Nebraska. It carried the burden of the many thousands of travelers bound for the California mines.

The first settlements along the river were built by Mormons moving west from their Salt Lake oasis. The built villages near present-day Carson City, Nevada, at other strategic places as early as 1851. The Mormons wagon road was later paralleled by the tracks of the Central Pacific, built eastward out of Sacramento in the 1860s, and railroad towns added population to the area



Great Basin Streams

Unsettled ranching came to dominate the area, and the railroad towns served as collecting points and supply centers for the ranches. Highway 40, built in the 1920s, continued the route function of the valley of the Humboldt—a function continued by the interstate highway system today.—R. W. D.

Great Diamond Hoax. Two Kentucky cousins, Philip Arnold and John Slack, prospectors and mining speculators, turned up in San Francisco early in 1872 and attempted to deposit a bag of uncut diamonds in the Bank of California. They disappeared but were quickly located when their actions came to the attention of William C. Ralston, a bank director, and other men prominent in California financial circles. The financiers, assuming that they were dealing with unscrupulous miners, resolved to get control of the diamond field where the samples had been gathered. An agreement was reached whereby the prospectors were persuaded to count a representative of the syndicate to the site with the stipulation that he would travel blindfolded. Leaving the Union Pacific at Black Butte, Wyoming, the inspection party traveled four days on horseback to their destination on a mesa in the northwestern corner of Colorado. The presence of precious stones, both diamonds and rubies, was confirmed. Convinced about the quantity, the businessmen sought the opinion of jewelers concerning the quality. Sluam of San Francisco and Tiffany of New York testified to the genuineness of the diamonds, the businessmen suggesting that in quantity they would be worth "a royal's ransom."

The investing syndicate next organized the San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Company, capitalized at \$10 million, with grandiose plans for moving the diamond-cutting industry from Amsterdam to San Francisco. Arnold and Slack were paid approximately \$600,000, only a fraction of the worth of the diamonds in hand according to Tiffany's estimates. Still exercising caution, the syndicate employed the presti-

gious and returned instead by mail in the next morning, announced his intention of investing personally. Security concerning the site was most difficult to maintain, the wild rumors circulated. Prospecting expeditions fanned out all over the West, some led by guides employed by the syndicate to deceive the curious. Twenty-five known companies were incorporated with an authorized capital of more than \$200 million to seek out and develop diamond fields in the American West.

In the end, Clarence King and his associates, who had just concluded the fourth-parallel survey, which encompassed the rumored diamond site, determined its exact location by shrewd detective work, found it, and proved that the previous stones had been "salted." King convinced his friend Janin of his error and forced the syndicate to admit being duped and make restitution.

Some of the stones found had lapidary marks on them. News also came from London that interested investors had learned that Arnold and Slack had purchased \$35,000 worth of inferior South African diamonds there the previous year.

Arnold returned to Elizabethtown, Kentucky, lived lavishly on his ill-gotten gains, and made a settlement of \$150,000 with his victims to quash further legal action. He was gravely wounded in a street duel in 1878 but survived, only to succumb to pneumonia a few months later. His partner, Slack, spent his last days as a coffin-maker in White Oaks, New Mexico.

Conditions were ideal for such a hoax in 1872, because the great gold rushes were over, a depression was in the offing, and the South African diamond discoveries had fired the imagination of the restless and venturesome. The potential impact of this episode on the world's diamond supply and market gives significance to the sequence of events. Although Ralston and his partners in the syndicate magnanimously repaid all the stockholders' losses, it is Arnold and Slack who have been admired, even honored, for having victimized the sophisticated tycoons of the Pacific Slope.

A selection of documentary evidence concerning this incident was compiled in James H. Wilkins, ed., *The Great Diamond Hoax and Other Stirring Incidents in the Life of Ashby Hordening* (1915), thereby stimulating the continuing interest in the fraud. Bruce A. Woodward, *Diamonds in the Soil* (1967), provides additional material and the most recent interpretation.—W. T. J.

Great Lakes. See GREAT LAKES, MEN OF THE PHYSIC; BARRY OF THE UNITED STATES; *Central Landmark*; and TRANSPORTATION ON THE GREAT LAKES.

Great Lakes, men of the. Many men developed the extensive system of transportation on the GREAT LAKES.

Anderson, John (1837-1909). Harbor master. After working on Norwegian square-riggers as a youth, Anderson came to America in 1857. On the Great Lakes he commanded briggs and schooners of his own until 1870, when he was appointed harbor master of Chicago.

Bayfield, Henry W. (1795-1885). Admiralty surveyor. Bayfield came to Canada by way of the British Navy and spent nine years on survey of Lakes Erie, Huron, and Superior. His charts, dating from the 1820s, were the first comprehensive navigation aids for Great Lakes mariners.

Bradley, Alice (1814-1885). Vessel operator. After

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Another couple that I would really like to acknowledge is Ralph and Marsale Siddoway, and they have helped us with pictures, and Ralph has helped us in many, many, respects.

Erland and Hope Preece have helped us, and Erland has done photography work for me. However, I do not want to blame my poor photography on Erland. I am really embarrassed to show some of my photos that we each have to do as we are able to, and that's all.

But Grace and Van , , and Van is so knowledgeable of the mountain. He has made several trips with us up there, and they have been in their albums and got some interesting historic pictures out.

Neil and Nina Caldwell, they have just helped us to no end withNeil has been with us on trips into the mountain. I'll have some pictures to attest to what they have done to help us.

Dee and Clara Jenkins gave us a lot of pictures of the late Taylor Mountain cabin.

Warren Richardson helped us with photos and information.

Morgan Merkle and Mrs. Morgan Merkle helped us no end with the brands, and the brands are the art of the range. We have been doubly interested in the brands, so we have got a pretty big story about the brands of all three mountains.

Doris Burton, Uintah County Librarian, has been very helpful in helping me get information out of the Library, and in other ways.

George and Reva Long have supplied us with photos, and George has written a story about Harry Ratcliffe that's really good.

And Mr. Wallace Caldwell let us get into his album of photographs and we got some real treasures out of his album. I am sorry that he is not here tonight, but the part of our program that pertains to the pictures he gave us will come later anyway.

^{Johnny} Hugh Colton and Marguerite have been very helpful. They have given us information and photographs, and we appreciate that.

Allen and Nellie Brewer -- photos and information.

Lawrence and Merle Siddoway gave us photos of when his father was the engineer up at the very first power plant that we had here.

Ashel and Ellen Soderquist have helped us with pictures and

stories.

Flora Lind with photos and information.

Mere Watkins for a photo of her father, John Pope, the

Sheriff.

Raymond and Hallie Searle have helped us, no end, with getting

information and photos.

James Craig, the Forest Supervisor, has helped me with research

into the history of the Forest Service.

Terry Hopson of the Forest Service has helped us. Terry is the

landscape...the Recreational lands man. He helped us with some infor-

mation about the original surveys that were made on the mountain.

Ruth Sowards has given us valuable information. Ruth is in

Hawila tonight and can't be here to participate with her part of the

comment.

Ruby Freestone, Florence and Howard Williams, Kelly Powell, Dr.

Colleen Colton, B. H. Stringham, Ken Stringham, and Nora Rasmussen.

If there is anyone we have missed, I surely hope they will remind us

so that we can put them on this list also.

I'll skip the chapters, up to the cattlemen, and we have some

very good work done here for us by Neil Caldwell. It is done so

well, that I have just got to read it to you.

It is a historical record of Brush Creek Mountain, by Neil

Caldwell. He spend several weeks helping me with this.

" Prior to 1908, when the Forest first issued permits to individuals

to run cattle on Government Lands these lands were known as the reserve.

The reserve was opened to free grazing by individual cattlemen. One of

the local cattlemen running cattle on Brush Creek Reserve was Sterling

B. Colton. He used "K" brand. This brand is still used by his son

Hugh W. Colton. I asked Mr. Colton about this, I said, "How come that

"K" Brand is used by Colton?" Hugh kind of tells a story now and then

but he told me a story, and I've just got to repeat it to you. He said,

"His grandfather was not a very good speller, and he theorized that

Colton started with "ka" and kill started with "ka" -- Colton must start

with "K", so he used that brand." (Laughter)

7. Lavon Wall

Sterling Colton's cattle ran on the area from the present day, Pine Hollow to the Gorge, just below Barker Springs. He constructed a Quaking Aspen pole fence on the North boundary of this area. We have got pictures of the remnants of that. Parts of this fence are still visible in some places in the Pine Hollow and Kabell Units. In this area there was a nice spring, still used as a water source for cattle. Henline, Kabel and now called Colton Springs.....having been named for Sterling Colton. Also located near this spring is a large draw called Colton draw. In this draw the Forest erected a Guard Station, known as Colton Guard Station. The culinary water supply for this station comes from Colton Spring.

The Brush Creek Cattle Association cabin is also located on the edge of Colton Draw. An interesting story connected with Colton Guard Station states that cattle herder for Sterling was found dead near the Spring. He had been dead for some time. His body was buried in a small knoll nearby. In the early 1930's the Forest Service smoothed off the knoll and erected the Colton Guard Station on the site of the grave, so there is a dead man lying under the Colton Guard Station. Does anyone know what that man's name was? I guess he was really unknown, wasn't he. No one has ever told me what the man's name.

Another early cattlemen on the Brush Creek Reserve was Lewis Kabel--- brand unknown. The Kabel Hollow, Kabel Spring, and Kabel Unit were named for him.

Dave Karren was another cattlemen using the Brush Creek Reserve. His brand was DAV, used on the shoulder, rib and hip. Karren Reservoir, and Karren Draw were named for him.

Charlie Atwood, his brand wasNeil....I've got Neil here to tell me what these brands are...I can't read them. (Sounds like Bar-X-Lazy B (?) Atwood Spring and Draw were named for him.

After the Forest issued permits, the permittees began doing maintenance work and management for better grazing. George E. Cartrell (?)--he was your neighbor, wasn't he Hope? -- fenced the spring and put in a metal trough, thus giving his name to Cartrell Spring, and Cartrell Unit.

Porter and Peter Long developed Gorge Spring and put in a metal trough, the water has since been diverted to another large trough; how-

8. LaVon Wall

ever the original trough is still there. In the early days of the association the members would spend two weeks in early July on the mountain gathering all the cattle out, and branding the calves.

A corral was built in Dutch Charlie Flat near present Highway 44, another was built in what is now called Murray's Park. Another corral was built in Colton Draw. These corrals were used till about the early 30's. They now have been torn down and hauled away for wood. Later in the 30's some local CCC boys under the supervision of Lewis Freestone Sr. built two new corrals, one at Colton, the other at Barker. These replaced the original corrals. The same Summer, the CCC boys built the corrals they also built a drift fence, separating the spring and Summer ranges. It extended from Big Brush Creek Gorge to Little Brush Creek Gorge, and it can still be seen --can't it Neil? -- when you travel that fence along the entire brow of the mountain. It was built by those CCC boys, and they were local boys, weren't they?

Voice: No, they came from all over the United States.

Voice: The fence is from Ashley Gorge really out to the Taylor

Mountain. It is still in use.

LaVon: It is my understanding from Neil, that these were the local

boys.

Hope: One of the summers, as was usual, I was with my father

on Brush Creek Mountain. We camped at the Colton Spring, and

the CCC camp was working then on fence. There were local boys

involved, but there were also other young men from other parts of

the country. Some of them coming from Ohio and Missouri, and in

the mid-west, but there were local boys who signed up and who were

working with them. They were all from the same camp, as I remember.

LaVon: Jim Freestone was "boss", right Mark?

LaVon: Later, in 1937, some other CCC boys made the boundary

fence between the Harry Ratcliffe place -- now the Stauffer Chemical

Company and the forest. This fence is across the Diamond, Brush

Creek and Taylor Mountain. Along this fence they also developed the

present

spring

into a metal trough.

Neil's been up there for 40 years. He really has written us a good

history of ~~the~~ the Brush Creek Unit.

Ernest Seeley and Lewis Freestone Sr. developed a spring on the edge of Little Brush Creek Gorge. It is now known as Freestone Spring. From the time the first permits were first issued until 1934, there was not a permanent herder on the mountain. Each took his turn taking care of herding chores, such as, putting out salt and an occasional checking of cattle. In 1935, Warren Richardson was hired as herder and after 3 months the association ran out of money, and this is the story of those days -- running out of money. In 1936, again, there was no herder. In 1937, Neil Caldwell became the first full-time herder. He worked from May 1, to October the 31st. Neil continued to herd for 8 years until 1945. In 1945, Jim Blackburn was hired as the herder. He continued herding for seven years until 1952.

In 1952, Ed Lewis was hired and he worked for 2 years. In 1954, Clarence Freestone was hired, and he worked for two years. In 1956, Harold Powell herded for one year only. In 1957, Marcus Jensen was the herder, and he worked one year. In 1958, Leo was hired and he worked for three years. In 1961, Jess Caldwell worked one year. In 1962, Mark Nevins worked one year. In 1963, Douglas Freestone herded one year. In 1964, Neil Caldwell was hired again, and he is still continuing as herder on the Brush Creek Mountain. I think that's a real, real good history of the names and how they came about on Brush Creek Mountain. Several people have helped me with those names. Lewis has helped me on the Taylor Mountain, but we won't have time to read it here, and I don't have it written up quite as well, as Neil has here. Neal has passed us a real interesting comparison here of the minutes and the finances of the Brush Creek Cattlemen's Association.starting in 1940 and ending in 1980. In 1940, the paid permits amounted to \$265.50, the herder cost \$325.00, the salt cost \$40.00, vaccine cost \$20.00, and grub cost \$50.00. Add those few together and it cost them \$750.50, to operate for the year of 1940.

He got another one, 1958, the permits cost \$1,280.00, the herder \$840.00, Grant Southam for salt, \$78.00, Vernal Drug for vaccine \$30.00, Ashton Brothers - grub for Summer and Fall - \$41.70. (Laughter) Elmer Sweet died that year and they spent \$7.14, for flowers. This all added up made an operating expense in 1958 of \$2,276.00. Now we come up here to the year 1980, according to Nel's figures. The permits were \$7,011.00, fence maintenance \$1,255.00, moving livestock \$2,325.00, for a total of \$17,049.00, and they had les permittees, and no more cattle.

Man's voice: Same cattle.

LaVon: Same cattle -- \$17,000.00, so if you don't believe inflation

is with us..... But this is about all I want to read to you. We

will go to the pictures now, and talk about them. I am apt to be

calling on some of you for a little comment on the pictures.

I have been in your albums, and I am showing some personal

things that embarrasses you, well, you will have to get after me. (Laughs)

There is one more thing I want to do before we turn out all

these lights please. My purpose in showing you these pictures --

these pictures are of a lot of people, and most of the people have

given me a brief story of their operation in their lives -- from their

father's down -- Mr. Colton did, and we have a number of them.

This morning Mark Freestone brought me a story about his

father's operation up there that I thought was such an ideal, little

brief story about their operation that I would like to read it to you.

Anyone who would like to give me a brief history to put in this book,

I would surely appreciate it.

But Mark says, "I think the filling on the James Freestone Ranch

on Diamond Mountain began in 1912. He and his wife Vilate Sally Freestone

their daughter Beaulah Clark and Jim Freestone made their home there

for numbers of years. Dad had taken an interest in dry-farming because

of the efforts of one of his friends -- Jack Siddoway -- who had some

success in raising grains prior to this time. The first house that was

built was a one room, log cabin about 14 by 18 feet, with a dirt roof

that leaked every time it rained. However, it was replaced after a year

or two with a larger and better home. The move from Vernal to the

mountain was always a big event, especially for the two children

II. LaVon Wall

who were happy to be out of school, and on the way to the mountain

for the summer. And this reminds me of the Brush Creek days.....

The trip would take two days. The first day we would arrive at

the Goodman place on Little Brush Creek where we would spend the

night ---leaving again, early the next morning.

The water in the creek was very high and dangerous this time

of the year, and could only be crossed with safety in the morning when

the water was at its lowest.

The farming began as soon as the ground could be worked. One of

the big jobs was getting rid of the sage brush, and after that the slow

process of fallowing. The crops planted were winter wheat and oats.

Oats was a good crop, because it was sold readily to the sheep men

who would much rather buy it from the farmers on the mountain than

to haul it from Vernal. A number of people became interested in

acquiring land on the mountain, and soon homesteading was at "full swing".

Some of the names that come to mind are: R. A. Dean; Archie Johnson;

A.T. Johnson; R. H. Sainsbury; William N. Hansen; Norman Olson, E. H.

Lance; L. H. Gurr, and Jack Lamar.

The best crop dad ever raised was 935 bushel as the demand for grain

began to fail, most of the ground was used for grazing. Dad planted

large patches of head lettuce and strawberries, for which we found a good

market in Vernal.

The ranch at present is owned in part by the Ivan Baty family, and

Mark Freestone, and is used for grazing cattle. In connection with these

pictures I received. I would really like to have a little ...

(End of side #1)

D. Long: Bill Winn died in 1945, at the cow camp on Diamond Mountain.

LaVon: We won't have time to go through all of these.

.....used by Porter Long and sold to Ernest Seeley ---That's a Lazy J

...Man Voice: You have missed someone ...that is Kioeppe's Brand...

that was Henry Kioeppe's Brand. Used by Henry Kioeppe who sold to

Ernest Seeley who dropped the Lazy J K, for the J.K.

After Mr. Seeley's death, the J.K. was bought from the

Seeley Estate by Oral Shiner. Oral Shiner later sold that brand to

Hugh Garner from Salt Lake. Garner then sold to Arla Allred who

used 7 - J K and a little "a". Arlo sold to Joe and Mae Shields from

Pleasant Valley, Utah. They dropped the 7-J K and used B 1 -.

Neil has prepared a history of the brands as they came down from the older people until the new people, and we haven't planned to

read them all, but this is the second phase...o.k.

O.K. George...and this is third. These go back to the original owners. It is very interesting isn't it? We are going to put them

in the book.

James Beddows brand...does anyone remember James Beddows?

(Tape stop)

LaVon: ...at that point up on Diamond Mountain. They were struck

with lightning. Mr. Searle was killed and his horse was killed...

father escaped. It was a dramatic death. Mr. Searle was a young

man. This is Raymond, Carl, Woodley, and Milt and Jay. Milton had

not yet arrived in the family. It was just a few months before he was

born that Mr. Searle was killed...on October 11, 1923.

(Tape stop)

Ray Searle: Hall, and Erickson. Erickson was John F brother-

in-law and they were down in McKee Draw. This McKee family were

some of the earliest cattlemen, and their father was probably the largest

cattlemen that we ever had in this country. They used the McKee

Draw, and they resented these people bringing these bucks in. So

they went down in this camp and Freddy Hall, like I said, Freddy Hall

and this Erickson were there, they tied them up and they took these

bucks and they used different implements and killed quite a lot and

drove quite a lot of them off. I think Erickson got loose first, but

they got loose, and one of them went to town for help, and they

come back with Walt McCoy, I remember was one, and several other

people, and these men had been deputized, and they tracked them down.

One of these McKees was riding a horse that only had a half of shoe

on, and they tracked him right to their place. They arrested these

men, and I have read in those old Expresses that it was quite a long

battle, but they eventually sent them all to the penitentiary for this.

I have a book that shows that my grandfather was buying cattle at

that time and these McKees had to sell so many cattle to pay their

expenses. In this book it shows how many cattle he bought, and the

price that we paid for them. This took place in July in 1897.

Lavon: Thank you Ray. This other gentlemen is a Stewart.

(Tape off)

Lavon: Mr. Colton has really developed this Ranch from what it used to be when my Dad ran it. This is another view of the alfalfa, to the south -- a beautiful ranch.

This is another view of the granary and Mr. Colton's horses.

This is another view -- this is about the only picture we got of the house -- one little corner. This is the only picture we could find of the house. This house -- the first part of it -- from then on was what we lived in when we were on the ranch. Then when Dad sold it to Leo Mills, he built the lean-to on it, and then about 1962, it burned, and so it no longer exists. This is one of the very few pictures that we have of it.

This is Mr. Colton, and Ranger Seely, and I was working for Ranger Seely when all of this took place, and they are marking their cattle, is that right Hugh?

Hugh: Yes. you have to count them

Lavon: Are you marking them with paint? Do they mark them with paint at that time?

Hugh: Yes.

Lavon: This is a picture of Hugh.

(Tape Stop)

Ray: They didn't have as much road money as they have now,

and along in the fall when they would have to lay their operators off, and their machinery would sit idle, so we made arrangements whereby we would furnish the money to pay the operator, and

they would do some work on the Diamond Mountain Road. At this time the road was changed from going up to Switchback Springs, and also we, through this method, we got the cut-off made from the dump, straight across. We used to have to go up towards

Brush Creek and go up that ridge.

Lavon: Thank you, Ray.

(Tape Stop)

Lavon: ...pack horse. This doesn't show Mr. Coltharp as well as the real picture does but this is his wife.

Those people standing there are Orson Hall, Charlie Pope,

Johnny Massey, and Bill Hall, and I thought it was a very historic

picture. The Coltharps, of course, were real prominent business and livestock men in the early days. The Coltharps were the ones who started the Bank of Vernal, and right at this point I would like to inject a little bit of something that I brought to tell you earlier. Ralph Siddoway has given a document -- a history of the Uintah State Bank, which is very, very good, it was done by Mr. Cheney. He was the president of the bank for years. It was finished by Harold Sargent. It is in great detail. I am hoping that the society will take it as a project and tape a history of this bank.

A history of a bank is not only a history of the bank, but the times and the people. It really tells a good story. This is another picture of the horse, and Mr. Coltharp. You see this hand, right here. I am sorry it doesn't show as good, but in the book it shows up real well. It was quite a tragic death. This is just a picture we took of sheep...

(Tape Stop)

LaVon: Would you like to come up here. I don't believe they can hear you. This is a story that we would all like to hear.

(Sounds like Bry Stringham: This has been a wonderful thing.

We are all tired and cranky, so I'll be as fast as I can. I'll tell

you how it happened.....after many years of threatening to burn

the cabin down, or tear it down, like they did the Davis cabin across in McKee Draw. This man, a new Ranger came, and he said, what

are we going to do with that Historical Site. It's been there 50 years, and so we went to work and spent 8,000 dollars building fence, and refurbishing the cabin, and we have a "powder house" there too, back in the timber. Well, that's about all of that.

(Tape Stop)

Voice: We have a book in the cabin all summer, and 1,000 signatures were on it the first year. Last year, because of gasoline, I guess, there wasn't quite as many, but a lot of people are interested in little innocent looking things like that. So you are doing a great job in preserving it, my dear.

LaVon: 1910, would you say?

Voice: Oh, somewhere around there.

LaVon: The book says, "This is the history that came from Orson Hall. A man named Whig Browning floated into the country, and he was a prospector. And from what the book says he was headed to prospect up in the Dry Fork Area where the reported Spanish diggings were, and he felt that he maybe would make a fortune there. But he built this rock cabin right square in Brownie Canyon -- right where the creek crosses the canyon -- is that right?

Voice: Where the road crosses the creek.

LaVon: Where the road crosses the creek, and then when...then he left -- floated out of the country, and when they built the road the dozed this down, so this is the only picture of that cabin remaining. This is George Massey and his father -- what was his name?

Voice: J. D. Massey.

LaVon: J. D. Massey -- real old timers -- a very historic picture. I was real glad to get that. This is where Brownie Canyon got its name.

Here is one that I came...

Tape stopped)

D. Long: The Coltharp they was talking about is the one that the horse fell over the cliff up in Dry Fork Canyon -- killed him and his horse both.

And the cabin that B. H. Stringham was talking about is up in East McKee Draw, and of the people that have visited it.

Tape Stopped)

Indian Dances

AUTO ROUTE TO DIAMOND MOUNTAIN

Now Road Suggested That
Would Shorten Distance
and Avoid the Sand

Vernal, Utah, April 15, 1914.
Editor Vernal Express.

Dear Sir: I notice from a piece in your paper, a road is being built from Vernal due north to mouth of Steinaker draw. Why not follow the route from head of Steinaker draw to the Campbell crossing on Big Brush creek, and then build a road across an old trail to the mouth of gorge on Little Brush creek. This route is nearly directly north from Vernal, and dodges the bad road at the Cottonwood wash, between Big and Little Brush creek, also dodging a mile or more of heavy sand, and shortening the distance from Vernal to Diamond mountain at least from three to five miles.

I suppose it should be the work of the Forest Reserve people to build this road from Big Brush creek to Little Brush creek, as it would be all on the Forest Reserve. This would mean a good solid road from Vernal to the mountain.

I am satisfied the sheep men would be glad to help on this road, as Wm. Siddoway said as much to me last Summer. This can be made a good auto route from Vernal to the mountain with little work. This route would also run right to the immense body of phosphate, discovered some years ago by Frank V. Goodman, which only awaits transportation to be opened up, also on a direct route to Browns Park, and the mineral belt there of Red creek, Jesse Ewing canyon, Willow creek, Golsin mountain, etc. It does seem to me as if the authorities here should be looking after the interests of the people a trifle more in some directions. The opening up of the mines north of here means that the trade must be divided between Rock Springs Wyoming, and Vernal, Utah.

I am sure Vernal can get the lions share of that trade provided it is looked after soon enough. Even without taking the mining trade into consideration, this road would be a great help to the people here, backwards and forwards to the mountain.

Respectively yours,
FRANK V GOODMAN.

Vernal Express April 17, 1914



Rough rubies of the kind used in the salting behind the Great Diamond Hoax.

Author's Photo

Among the frontier's mine salting schemes, few compare with the Great Diamond Hoax in daring, imagination, and success. This oft-related tale of how two prospectors swindled dozens of prominent men and gave thousands of others "diamond fever" sounds like wild fiction. Yet the tale is both true and historically significant.

The gemstones were quickly brought to the attention of William G. Ralston, president of the Bank of California, who was always alert for new mining investment opportunities. Fascinated by the rough gemstones, he asked Arnold and Slack for permission to have them appraised.

Many readers may be familiar with the day-by-day events of the Great Diamond Hoax, but a look behind the scenes and at the aftermath is no less intriguing. The Hoax succeeded not because of simple gullibility among its victims, but because it played brilliantly upon frontier greed and upon a profound national ignorance and inexperience in the field of gemology.

The idea of salting a "diamond mine" was conceived in 1869, when gold fever still ran high in the West. The California and Colorado goldfields were still producing, and Nevada's rich Comstock

exciting was the news from South Africa, where the fabulous new diamond fields were already considered one of the richest mineral strikes in history.

The United States could not yet boast of a major gemstone discovery, but there was due cause for optimism. North Carolina had produced gem-quality rubies and emeralds, and diamonds were occasionally found in the California sluice boxes. Furthermore, in 1863, beautiful, varicolored gem sapphires were discovered in the Missouri River gravels near Helena, Montana.

In late summer, 1871, many thought

—Behind— the Great D

Includes Map

mines were just reaching their true potential. In San Francisco, the center of mining speculation, promotion, and investment, few doubted that more big strikes were imminent.

Along with domestic gold and silver developments, newspapers also reported the news coming from foreign gemstone

the big gemstone discovery had been made when two roughly dressed prospectors, Philip Arnold and Jack Slack, made a deposit in San Francisco's Bank of California—a small sack of rough diamonds and rubies which, they

By STEVE VOYNICK

claimed, had been collected from a rich deposit in "Arizona."

The gemstones were quickly brought to the attention of William G. Ralston, president of the Bank of California and a leading investment banker, who was always alert for new mining investment opportunities. Fascinated by the rough gemstones, he asked Arnold and Slack for permission to have them appraised by two of San Francisco's best jewelers. This began a remarkable string of professional misjudgments. The jewelers pronounced the stones "genuine" and "of excellent quality," even estimating their value at "\$125,000." Displayed in the window of one of the jewelry shops, the "Arizona" diamonds and rubies attracted much public attention.

The gemstones' discoverers, Arnold and Slack, were both Kentuckians who had come west for gold. Slack's background was vague, but Arnold had been known around San Francisco as a prospector who had enjoyed only modest success. When Ralston suggested that he would be the perfect promoter and financier for a major gemstone mining project, Arnold and Slack agreed.

Before committing any capital, of course, Ralston insisted that two of his trusted representatives personally inspect the site. After a thirty-six hour train journey to Rawling's Springs (Rawlins), Wyoming Territory, the party set off on horseback to the southwest. Ralston's men were blindfolded during the long daytime rides. Five days later, they reached the site and the

True West

diamond Hoax

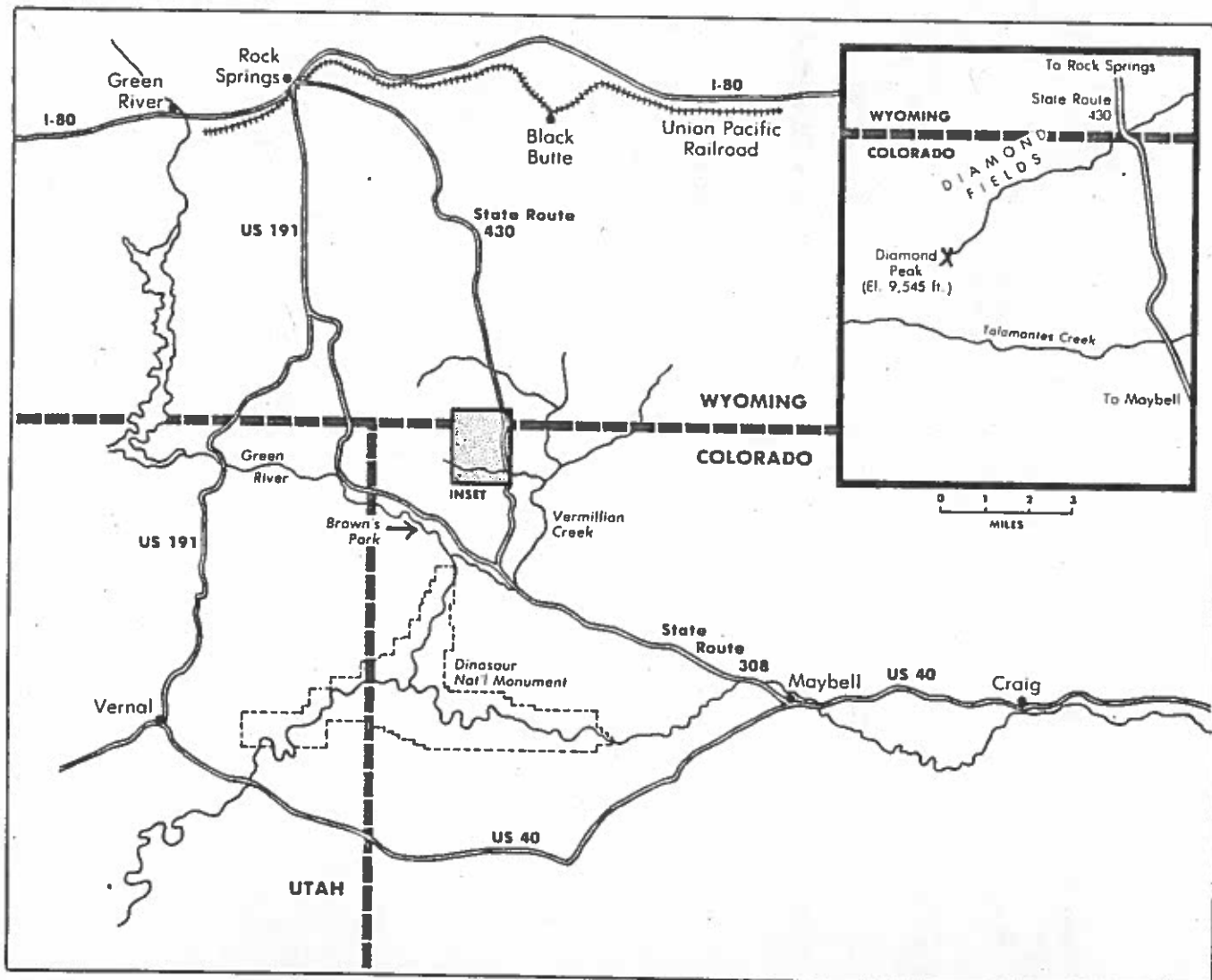
blindfolds came off. Under the guidance of Arnold and Slack, and using nothing but shovels, Ralston's men quickly filled a sack not only with rough diamonds and rubies, but amethysts, sapphires and emeralds, as well.

In May 1872, Ralston summoned a former associate, Asbury Harpending, from London, England, to organize a major diamond mining venture. Still

cautious, Ralston then ordered a parcel of the rough gemstones sent to New York City for personal appraisal by Charles Lewis Tiffany, president of the prestigious Tiffany & Co. and the nation's foremost gem authority. Tiffany would provide the second professional misjudgment for, although indeed an expert on cut gems, he was inexperienced with rough gemstones. Tiffany, too, pro-

nounced the stones authentic and of fine quality, then sent several to his lapidary for cutting. Two days later, Tiffany announced his formal appraisal of the gemstones—\$150,000.

Ralston, elated, but not about to leave anything unchecked, now demanded a final inspection by Henry Janin, a highly respected mining engineer. Janin's reputation was impeccable; a



any mine property a blue chip investment. But Janin would provide the third professional misjudgment of the Hoax. Although a proven expert on gold and silver properties, he knew nothing of gemstone deposits. At the site, Janin conducted a placer-type survey, digging and sampling gravels with gold pans and rockers. Arnold and Slack indicated precisely where to dig, then personally handled the washing and clean-up chores. Not surprisingly, the tests were very impressive. Back in San Francisco, Janin reported to William Ralston that the "dirt" contained about \$5,000 of gemstones per ton, and a twenty-man crew could wash out one million dollars every month.

Ralston, now convinced of an authentic bonanza, quickly founded the New York and San Francisco Mining and Commercial Company to monopolize all matters of gemstone mining, cutting, and worldwide gem marketing. Within weeks he raised two million dollars from his personal contacts, including such luminaries as former general and unsuccessful 1864 presidential candidate George McClellan. Also joining Ralston was Senator Ben Butler. To assure speedy legal acquisition of the discovery site, Butler immediately began pushing for a favorable diamond placer mining clause in the new mining bill then before Congress.

Rumors of a big diamond discovery had drifted around the nation for months. The growing excitement peaked in August 1872, when William Ralston went public with Henry Janin's glowing report. In London and Amsterdam, gem markets weakened in fear of a coming flood of high-quality American diamonds. In Wyoming Territory, the *Laramie Daily Independent* wrote of "the Great Diamond Fields of America," a name that achieved instant popularity. And in cities like New York, San Francisco, and Virginia City, Nevada, over a dozen "diamond mining companies" formed and began selling stock to get in on the coming action.

Ralston's close associates, of course, along with a few savvy outsiders, knew the diamond fields were really located not far south of the Union Pacific

The public, however, still believed the Great American Diamond Fields were in Arizona. Newspapers filled with strange tales of "lost" gem mines of the Navajo and Pueblo Indians. Prospectors displayed sacks of diamonds and rubies from "Arizona" and "New Mexico"; these "gemstones" were abraded quartz crystals or common garnets,



Clarence King, when he was first Director of the United States Geological Survey.

Author's Photo

worthless in themselves, but grist for the rumor mills. Mining engineers suddenly recalled sandstone formations in Arizona and New Mexico similar "to those of the diamondiferous regions of Brazil." The *New York Sun* printed a letter, signed "Old Miner," which told of digging up a half-million-dollar diamond in, of course, "Arizona."

Speculation over the location focused on northeastern Arizona and northwestern New Mexico; a usually conservative mining journal published a half-page map pinpointing the diamond fields on New Mexico's Jemez Plateau. By September 1872, consensus seemed to move north into southern Colorado. The former governor of Colorado Territory, William Gilpin, gave speeches on "The Diamond Fields of Colorado and New Mexico." Gilpin had somehow

[Poncha] Pass," emphasizing that "the good water and timber nearby" would benefit diamond miners.

Meanwhile, Ralston and his associates were ready to begin diamond mining in spring of 1873. Having no further need for Arnold and Slack, they offered \$600,000 (some sources say \$300,000) for their active interest. The pair took the cash, along with a small percentage of "future profits," and disappeared.

Almost immediately, Clarence King entered the picture. A thirty-year-old Yale graduate and government geologist, King had established his professional reputation with the California Geological Survey. At age twenty-five, he was appointed a United States Geologist and ordered to survey a 1,000-mile-long, 100-mile-wide tract along the planned transcontinental rail route, which generally followed the Fortieth Parallel. For two years, King's survey team worked from Nevada's Comstock region east to the Great Plains on the Colorado-Wyoming line, compiling cartographic records and detailed reports on everything from mineralization, topography, and geology to vegetation and wildlife.

The Fortieth Parallel Survey enhanced King's reputation, but indirectly led to far greater fame. As a geologist, King was professionally interested in the reports of the great diamond discovery. In

October 1872, he passed through San Francisco and met mining engineer Henry Janin, who was delighted to recount his exciting experience in the diamond fields. Without revealing the location, Janin described in great detail the topography, geology, and vegetation at the site.

King apparently never believed the "Arizona" location for a second, for he later wrote, "From my knowledge of the country, I was certain there was only one place that answered that description... and that place lay within the limits of the Fortieth Parallel Survey." King was now deeply concerned, for his official report stated that conditions for a major gemstone deposit did not exist within the survey limits. The existence of diamond fields would seriously damage the credibility of his report and his

True West

own professional reputation.

King believed he knew the location of the diamond fields "within fifteen miles." It was already late October when King and several experienced surveyors, under the guise of a survey assignment, traveled by rail to Fort Bridger, Wyoming. On horseback, they proceeded southeast to the Green River Canyon, fording at Brown's Park. Now in Colorado Territory, they followed old tracks up Vermillion Canyon. On November 3, the sixth day of the march, they pitched camp near a flat-topped mountain where King had constructed a geodetic survey station four years earlier.

The search for the Great American Diamond Fields didn't take long. King later reported, "I found upon a tree a water notice, claiming the right of the stream." The notice was signed by Henry Janin. Minutes later, King's party found a ruby, the first of many gemstones to follow.

From the beginning, King had been skeptical, knowing that the simultaneous natural occurrence of diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds was very unlikely. He also found gemstones literally atop the ground, rather than in the deep placer deposits he expected. He then noted that many gemstones seemed to "occur" in disturbed ground, while others were perched precariously on exposed steep slopes where the elements should have dislodged them long ago. Clarence King had no doubt that the Great American Diamond Fields were a fraud.

King soon learned he had been followed from Fort Bridger by a New York promoter who had staked out the Union Pacific stations to learn the location of the diamond fields. When King informed him of the fraud, the promoter suggested keeping the truth a secret so both could profit enormously "through the wonderful opportunity to sell short."

King, however, was not interested in the offered bribe, only in protecting the credibility of his survey report. Knowing the location was no longer secret, he also feared a diamond rush—a reckless winter stampede to the remote, high region that could cause wholesale deaths from starvation and blizzards.

January 1989

King and a companion left camp, riding hard for the nearest Union Pacific station forty-five miles to the north at Black Buttes, where they caught the first westbound train. En route, King prepared a detailed report explaining geologically why the diamond fields were a fraud.

King reached San Francisco late on November 10. The following morning,



Author's Photo

Asbury Harpending, about the year 1913, when he wrote and self-published *The Great Diamond Hoax*.

he presented his report to Ralston, Janin, and the directors of the New York and San Francisco Mining and Commercial Company. It began, "I have hastened to San Francisco to lay before you the startling fact that the new diamond fields on which are based such large investments and such brilliant hope are utterly valueless, and yourselves and your engineer, Mr. Henry Janin, the victims of an unparalleled fraud."

Thoroughly shaken, Ralston ordered King and Janin to conduct a joint examination of the diamond fields. They complied, returning to San Francisco on November 25. The next day, rumors swept the city and a huge crowd gathered before the Bank of California awaiting the news. At noon, the directors made King's original report public,

and the Great Diamond Hoax was over.

As a grand jury investigation opened, Ralston's private detectives learned that Philip Arnold had worked at San Francisco's Diamond Drill Company, where he had become familiar with industrial diamonds and their sources. Arnold and Slack had twice traveled to London and Amsterdam, purchasing \$50,000 worth of rough gemstones at dirt-cheap prices. Their diamonds were African gem rejects—industrial-grade stones—called "nigger-heads"; the rubies (those that weren't garnets) were Burmese gem rejects; the sapphires were Ceylonese culls. Further checking revealed that Arnold and Slack had made a modest gold strike which netted about \$50,000, enough to purchase the stones used in the salting.

William Ralston, intensely ridiculed, immediately repaid his investors with one million dollars of his own money. Then he framed and hung the cancelled checks in his office, alongside a map of the Great Diamond Fields of America with romantic names like Ruby Gulch, Diamond Flats, Sapphire Hollow and, the most painful of all, Arnold Creek.

Ralston was not alone in his humiliation. In Washington, Senator Ben Butler was shown to have accepted diamond mining stock in return for his work to include a diamond placer clause in the new mining law. New Yorkers directed their jokes at Charles Lewis Tiffany, while Henry Janin's face turned red in San Francisco. Janin was philosophical about his blunder. After all, he asked, who would salt a mine with hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of precious gemstones?

Clarence King received a War Department reprimand. Since his diamond field investigation was survey-related and conducted at government expense, Washington insisted that his report should have been released through proper channels. But, in the end, King emerged a hero. Bankers claimed King saved American investors about \$12 million. Newspapers put King's name in the headlines, while preachers delivered sermons on honesty, using the geologist's refusal of the offered bribe as the shining example of that noble virtue.



Author's Photo

Clarence King (right) and members of the Fortieth Parallel Survey.

The millionaires and politicians saved from further swindle announced their indebtedness to the geologist, who clearly enjoyed all the attention and praise.

The Great Diamond Hoax profoundly affected the lives of those involved. For William Ralston, it marked the beginning of the end of an illustrious career. His huge personal loss, coupled with other poor business investments, made the Bank of California temporarily insolvent within two years. With Ralston facing personal bankruptcy, the directors of the Bank of California demanded his resignation on August 25, 1875. The next day, Ralston's lifeless body was pulled from San Francisco Bay. Many suspected suicide.

Philip Arnold and Jack Slack got away with at least \$300,000, and possibly as much as \$600,000. Ralston's detectives traced Arnold to his native Elizabethtown, in Hardin County, Kentucky. Civil War resentment still ran strong in Kentucky and Arnold was greeted as a hero for having fleeced the rich California Yankees. Ralston's men filed a personal damages suit for \$350,000, attached Arnold's property, and filed for extradition to California. Arnold denounced the suits as "a

damned Yankee plot," stirring up intense local support. Kentucky flatly refused extradition. After another month of negotiations, however, Arnold turned over \$150,000 in return for immunity from all further litigation.

Arnold then bought a bank in Elizabethtown. His great popularity assured

Arnold and Slack got away with at least \$300,000, and possibly as much as \$600,000. Ralston's detectives traced Arnold to his native Elizabethtown, in Hardin County, Kentucky. Civil War resentment still ran strong in Kentucky and Arnold was greeted as a hero for having fleeced the California Yankees.

a booming business, much to the displeasure of his competition. In a gunfight with another banker, he was wounded in the shoulder. He never fully recovered, finally dying of pneumonia in late 1873, unable to enjoy the spoils of the Great Diamond Hoax.

Although Jack Slack claimed only \$30,000 of the Hoax loot, his whereabouts remained a mystery until he died of natural causes in 1896. He had taken

up a quiet, low-profile career as an undertaker in White Oaks, New Mexico.

Soon after the Hoax, Clarence King acquired many of the lavish tastes of the millionaires who befriended him. His later government surveys into unmapped wilderness became known, paradoxically, for fine food and opulent trappings. These western surveys of the 1870s were controlled by different federal departments, making them uncoordinated and even competitive. Finally, before Congress appropriated more survey funding, the National Academy of Sciences recommended that control be vested under a single, newly created federal agency. A political furor erupted over who would be appointed director, an honor for which Clarence King was given little chance. But, unexpectedly, a host of millionaires and former generals, all eager to repay their old Diamond Hoax debt with some powerful political clout, appeared in King's corner. In May 1879, Clarence King was sworn in as the first director of the United States Geological Survey.

But King's expensive tastes were ill-suited to his modest government salary. He resigned in 1881 and began a wild series of prospecting and mining ventures in Alaska, Montana, and Mexico. He established a bank in El Paso, Texas; when that failed, he worked briefly with revolutionaries in Cuba, then traveled to Spain to speculate in artwork. Meanwhile, he fell in love with a black woman in New York City, assuming a double identity to avoid the inevitable scandal. When Clarence King died in 1901 in a Phoenix, Arizona, hotel, he was penniless, alone, and still seeking his personal "diamond field" that had eluded

him all his life.

Many doubted that Philip Arnold and Jack Slack could have masterminded such a brilliant scheme alone. Although Arnold had a basic knowledge of industrial diamonds, the Hoax seemed to reflect a broader, worldwide awareness of gems and gem marketing.

Most suspicions of complicity fell upon Asbury Harpending, whom Ralston summoned from London in May

True West

1872 to oversee the proposed diamond mining venture. Both Harpending and Arnold were raised in Kentucky, and they became loosely acquainted in San Francisco in the late 1860s. And Harpending was in business in London when Arnold and Slack traveled to Europe to purchase the gemstone "salt." After the Hoax was concluded, Harpending quickly liquidated his considerable California real estate holdings and retired, interestingly, to Kentucky.

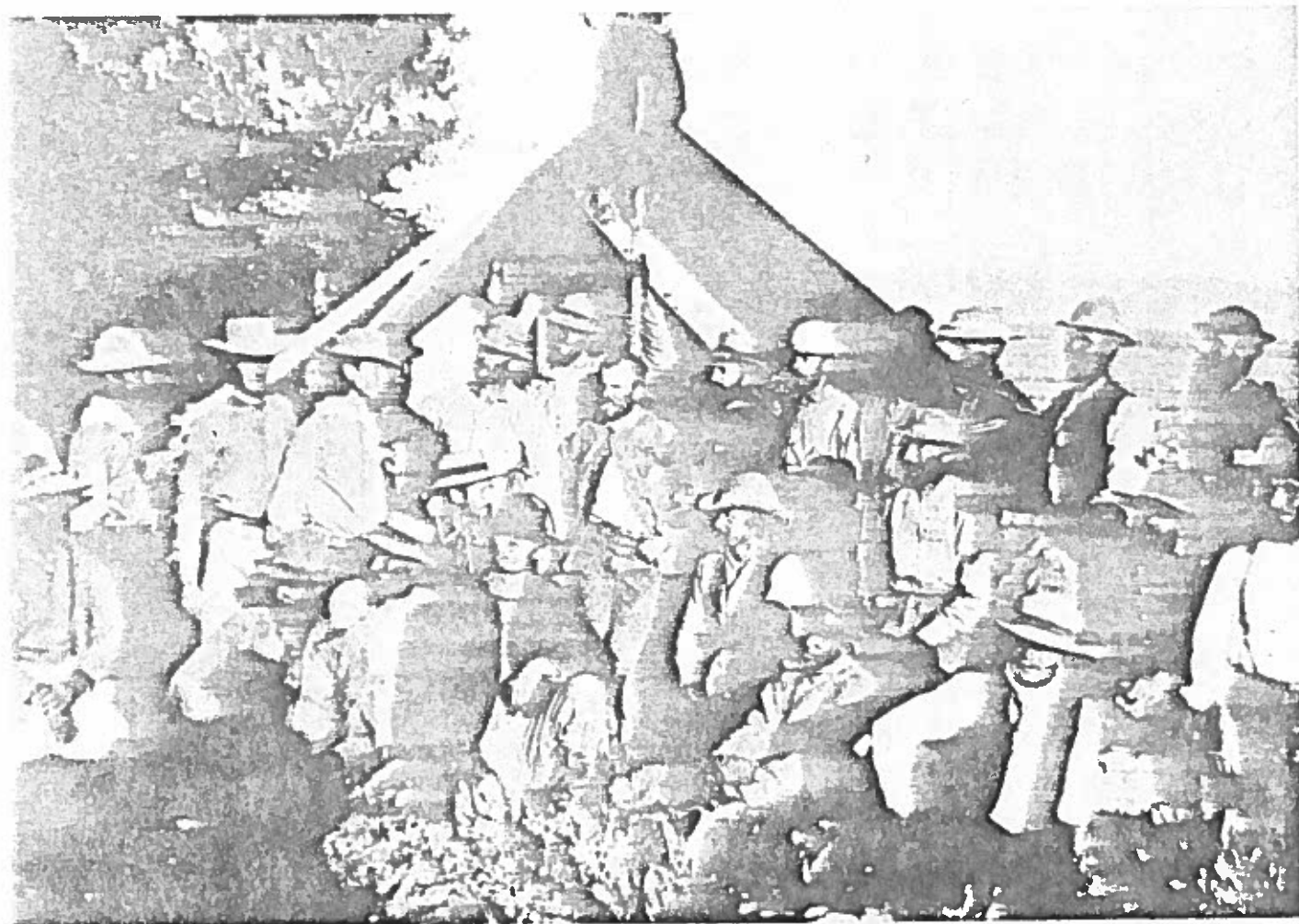
Harpending's retirement, however, was temporary, and he soon returned to the investment business in New York, steadfastly maintaining his innocence. The biggest indictment against Harpending didn't come until 1912, when a newly published history of San Francisco declared him "a scamp, ingenious rogue, accomplished scoundrel and the genius who conceived and helped execute the Diamond Hoax." To clear his name, Harpending penned a series of installment articles for the *San Francisco*

Bulletin in 1913. The articles were his life story, with almost exclusive emphasis on the years from 1857, when Harpending left Kentucky for the West, to 1873, when the Hoax was concluded. The articles appeared together in a self-published book, *The Great Diamond Hoax*, in 1915. Still claiming he was "just another dupe," Asbury Harpending died on January 26, 1923, the last surviving participant in the Great Diamond Hoax.

BUT SUSPICIONS were aroused again twenty years later when a San Francisco manuscript dealer disposed of some of Harpending's business papers. Included was an agreement with none other than Philip Arnold about the ownership of certain diamonds. The agreement was dated October 31, 1871—over six months before William Ralston summoned Harpending from London to oversee the diamond mining venture. Obviously, some big questions

remain to be answered before the book is finally closed on the Great Diamond Hoax.

One mystery that puzzled the nation for an entire year has, of course, been solved—the exact location of "The Great Diamond Fields of America." The site is in northwestern Colorado, one mile south of the Wyoming line and seven miles east of the Utah line. "Ruby Gulch," "Sapphire Hollow," and "Arnold Creek" have faded into history, but other names remain to remind us of the Great Diamond Hoax. On the "Sparks" topographical quadrant map you can still find Diamond Peak, the 9,545-foot-high, flat-topped mountain that nearly became the landmark for a diamond rush. Diamond Wash Draw descends the mountain directly toward an open, mile-square plain still known as Diamond Fields—names that will forever memorialize the frontier's greatest mine salting fraud.



Author's Photo

Clarence King (center, leaning on post) leading one of his United States field surveys.
January 1989

BLM approves new Diamond Mountain management plan

The Vernal District of the Bureau of Land Management has announced the approval of the Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plan (RMP). The plan provides for general management of 709,000 federal surface acres and 854,000 federal mineral estate acres in northeastern Utah. These BLM-administered lands are located within Daggett and Duchesne Counties and that portion of Uintah County northwest of the Green River.

Management of the BLM-administered lands in resource area is now under the direction of this RMP. Implementation of the plan's management decisions began Dec. 21, 1994, with the signature of Utah BLM State Director Mat Millenbach. A limited number of the published RMP will be available to the public on or about March 1. Those interested in this plan should contact the Diamond Mountain Resource Area for further information.

The resource management plan is nearly identical to the proposed plan and associated final environmental impact statement published in August 1993. A few of the major decisions include the following:

- Critical resource values, such as municipal watersheds, erodible and

saline soils, riparian habitat, scenic areas, will be protected by seasonal or avoidance restrictions.

- Special areas, such as significant cultural sites, developed recreation sites, etc., will be afforded higher level of protection than under previous management strategies.

- Current livestock grazing preference will remain unchanged at 50,299 animal unit months (AUMs) and wildlife forage assignments will be increased from 35,000 to 40,000 AUMs.

- The federal mineral estate is classified/assigned to leasing categories for oil and gas exploration and development, as well as solid leasable minerals.

- Off highway vehicle use areas are designated.

- Seven areas possessing significant and critical resource values are designated as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern: Browns Park, Nine Mile Canyon, Pariette Wetlands, Red Creek, Red Mountain-Dry Fork area, lower Green River, and Lears Canyon.

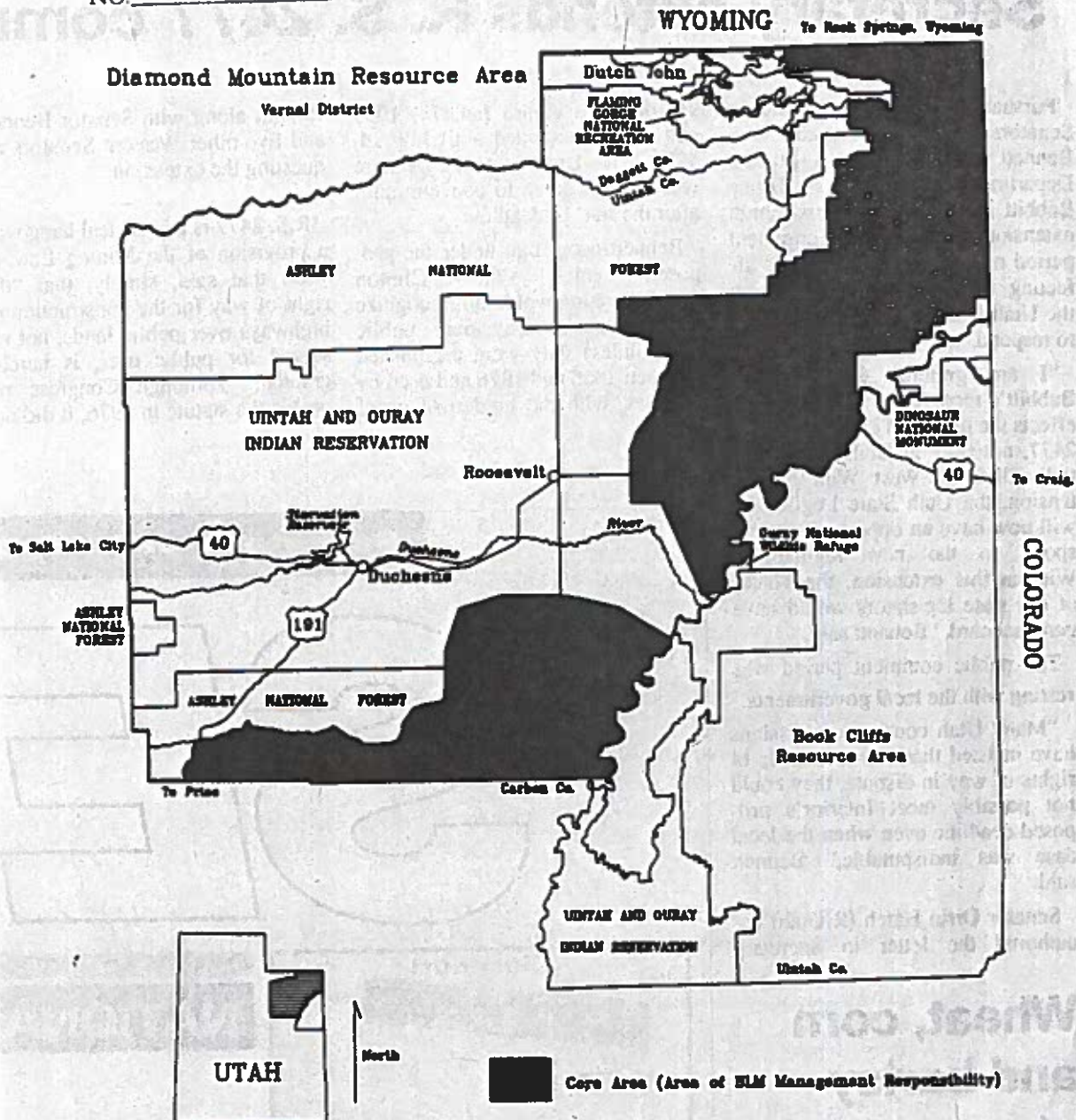
- Two segments of the Green River are recommended as suitable for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. The upper segment, from Little Hole to the Colorado

state line, is recommended for congressional designation as a scenic river. The decision to recommend the lower segment, from the public lands boundary south of Ouray to the Uintah-Carbon county line, will be delayed until a determination is made on the Desolation Canyon segment of the river administered by the Moab BLM District.

Development of the RMP began in November 1988 when public meetings were held to determine the issues of concern to the numerous public land users. Also during this time, various federal, state and local agencies and the Ute Indian Tribe were also consulted.

The plan has been reviewed by the State of Utah and determined to be consistent with the officially approved resource-related plans and policies of the state. To the extent possible, the plan is also consistent with current plans and policies of local governments, and other federal agencies.

Ron Trogstad, Diamond Mountain Resource Area Manager, says that: "With reducing federal budgets and increasing demand on public land resources, we will be relying even more on the public to help implement the decisions identified in the RMP."



COVERAGE AREA of the recently approved Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plan.



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The Romantic and Notorious History of

Brown's Park

By Diana Allen Kouris

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dealing business in Pinedale, Wyoming, and was to be gone five days. As it turned out, while he was on his way home, a band of Arapahoe Indians intercepted him. They stole his new saddle horses and nearly killed him. He avoided capture and probably torture and death by hiding during the day, eating bitter still-green berries, and picking his way along rocky pathways at night. Finally, after seventeen days, Charlie saw his cabin peeking out from the tall, silver-leaved sagebrush. Inside was his very worried and lonesome young wife. Mary would suffer periods of loneliness many times through the coming years.

In the rock cabin on Diamond Mountain - named for cattle-man Jim Diamond - Mary and Charlie's first child, Stanley, was born. In about 1880, Charlie took over squaw man Jimmie Reed's place and began building a ranch. Charlie and Mary first lived there in a dugout, then moved into the nearby log cabin that faced south toward the tree and willow-fringed creek.

In 1882 baby daughter Minnie was born in that log cabin. Before Clarence came along, Charlie hired a man to help him build a new home. Pine logs were hewed square, then the ends grooved so they would fit tightly together. With an auger, holes were bored in the proper places, then wooden pegs were pounded into them with a hammer. Other logs were split and their faces smoothed. Those logs were placed side by side for the puncheon floor. The roof was topped with a thick layer of soil which soon sprouted a few cactus plants and sprigs of grass. The sturdy home gave comfort and shelter to the Crouses, and to many others who followed them. It absorbed years of rich history in the decades it sat perched on the bank above Crouse Creek.

Charlie built a horse and cattle operation and called it the Park Live Stock Company. On the bench above the house he planted a nice-sized apple orchard against the base of Diamond Mountain. The saplings took firm root in the rich ground. In a few years the trees were bearing several kinds of large, juicy apples and some crisp golden-fleshed crab apples. In the early dawn, deer could be seen stretching their necks in the orchard. They nibbled at the tender leaves and fruit, then spread out to feed in Charlie's bordering grain fields. Into those same fields flocked hundreds of white-chinned Canada geese.

Mary felt bad that Charlie had no communication with his family. One day she wrote her mother-in-law and told her about Charlie and their life in Brown's Park. Not long afterward, on the Crouse doorstep with baggage in hands, stood Charlie's family. There was his stepfather Frank, his mother, Sarah, half brothers Joe and Columbus, and his half sister Amanderville "Mandy." (Mandy had been born shortly after Charlie ran away from home, on July 19, 1861.) As it turned out Charlie was pleased to

have his family there. He was good to the Tollivers and helped them settle into a life in the valley.

At first Frank and Sarah Tolliver lived in a cabin near the spring just above the bench. They raised a good garden and Frank collected a lot of amber colored honey from his twenty-four stands of bees.

Sarah got acquainted with the people around and made several friends in Vernal. Whenever she wanted to go visiting, Charlie loaned her Dexter, his favorite saddle horse. Dexter was an easy-gaited quarter horse with a white striped face. One day while Sarah was in Vernal, she was invited to dine with an acquaintance named Mrs. Young. When she arrived at Mrs. Young's, Sarah was dressed in her long, black dress and starched, white apron. Her mouth watered at the steaming bowl of rich-looking soup that was placed before her. In the middle of some light-hearted dinner conversation, she scooped a large spoonful into her mouth. She nearly gagged! Sarah hadn't realized, until she felt and tasted one of the rubbery little creatures, that the soup was oyster stew. Sarah hated oyster stew! She had a dreadful time wallowing the oyster into the side of her cheek until she could manage to secretly spit it into her hand. Carefully, she then slipped it into her apron pocket. It was awful at the time but later became a funny story to share with her granddaughter, Minnie.

The Tollivers stayed a few years in the cabin near the mouth of Crouse Canyon. Eventually their son, Joe, homesteaded on the bench across the river from the Jarvie place; Columbus had a cabin on Sears Creek, then homesteaded down the river a ways; Mandy married a man named Mike Lombard and moved to his place on lower Beaver Creek; Sarah and Frank moved up the creek from Mandy, to a cabin at the mouth of Beaver Creek Canyon.

Although Charlie Crouse became an anchor, of sorts, in upper Brown's Park, there was a rough side to him. He grew up in the midst of Indian fights and a civil war. It was a time when a low value was often placed on a human life.

Above almost everything else, Charlie loved his horses. He raised, traded, and raced thoroughbreds. One day in Vernal one of his favorite thoroughbreds came in second to a slick-coated gelding owned and ridden by a teenage boy. When Charlie couldn't get the boy to sell the horse, he invited him to Brown's Park.

"There's going to be a big race in Rock Springs that you ought to run this horse in. Stop by my place on your way through and have a look at my other horses."

The teenager took Charlie Crouse up on his invitation, but he never made it to Rock Springs.

Vernal Express

Cabin burglaries cause owners to fight back

By **KEVIN ASHBY**
Express Publisher

It may be you when you are out snowmobiling and you breakdown or become lost and you need a place to get out of the cold to survive the night and you come upon a cabin in the mountains.

Even though you have to break a window to gain access, you find heat and your exposure to the cold is minimized.

"I don't think that any of us would mind if someone were to use our cabins in an emergency," said Lanny Kay, cabin owner on Diamond Mountain. "But when they break in and then damage the place, leave the doors open and the heaters on so that our propane tanks are now empty, it becomes a problem that we can't ignore."

Because several cabins have been broken into this spring and winter, homeowners are offering a \$5,000 reward leading to the arrest and conviction of any individuals involved in the damage.

Relating to Kay's cabin, the person or persons broke down the front screen door and then broke out two windows when they couldn't enter by the door. After staying the night the persons damaged the hanging ceiling by pulling down the metal braces.

"My cabin is located one mile behind a locked gate and was probably done by somebody on snowmobiles which became stuck and they probably needed shelter," explained Kay. "But there have been five or six cabins broken into this year on Diamond Mountain and we need to do

something."

The Diamond Mountain Landowners Association will be offering the \$5,000 reward. There are about 150 landowners with about 40 cabins that have been constructed in the area. If anyone has information about the damage they can call the Uintah County Sheriff's Department with details.

"If it is an emergency, it is one thing," concluded Kay. "But to ransack the house afterward - they do a lot of damage."



Not only was the front doors damaged, two windows were broken to gain access to the cabin that was ransacked sometime during the winter on Diamond Mountain.



Insulation dropped out of the ceiling after visitors to a cabin on Diamond Mountain used the facility and then ransacked it before leaving.

July 12, 1918

County Commissioners Appropriate Money to Build Road to Diamond Mountain

Active preliminary work on the Vernal Rock Springs highway was started Thursday, when County Commissioners Geo Perry, Thos Nichols, and Geo Wilkins, accompanied by County Surveyor Nils Hughel, made a trip over the proposed highway to designate the most feasible course. As soon as the route is laid out and surveyed, active work will be commenced.

The county has made an appropriation of \$500, and the sheepmen owning land on Diamond mountain have given a sum of \$825 towards the construction. The farmers who own land on Diamond mountain and adjoining the roadway, have agreed to perform the necessary labor in constructing the road, and will accept half pay, donating the other half as their share of the expense.

The road this season will only be built to the summit of Diamond

mountain, but when fully completed, a road will be built, over which automobiles may travel. It is estimated by Mr Hughel that the steepest point will be a grade of not to exceed seven per cent.

Rock Springs interests have agreed it is understood, to have manifested their willingness to build the road to Clay Basin, which is 12 miles north of Brown's Park. Financial help is expected from the state and the Forest Service department in completing the roadway, as it would prove too much of an undertaking for this county to stand the expense of the completion of the road. It has been intimated that the state will recognize this as a highway, as

soon as some sort of a start has been made. Under present plans, a ferry will be constructed across Green River.

ROAD TO DIAMOND MOUNTAIN.

July 12, 1918

As will be seen elsewhere in this issue, the County Commissioners have made an appropriation toward building a road to Diamond Mountain. This is just exactly what should be done, and we trust that the work will commence with as little delay as possible. There are taxpayers on the mountain who are doing considerable work in demonstrating that the land there is worth cultivating. They have the right to be considered. Then again, there are thousands of acres of tillable land there which ought to go a long way toward making homes for settlers, and thus increasing our local markets. People are constantly arriving in Vernal in search of land to enter, and if there was a decent road to Diamond Mountain, it would not be long until every foot of land open to settlement would be taken up and cultivated.

Another thing, we understand there is to be thrown open in a few days in the forest reserve adjoining Diamond Mountain, a thousand acres of land, and there will be more to follow.

So that the county commissioners are doing a good thing in starting work for a passable road to Diamond Mountain, and with proper organization there is no reason why the necessary additional help cannot be secured to put the road in good shape.

UTAH COUNTY LI
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NO. 0576

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR GOOD ROADS DAYS

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NO. 0576

The board of county commissioners held session on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. All commissioners were present

An adjustment in the valuation of cattle assessed to J. H Reader and N J Meagher was ordered on account of the fact that the cattle were ranged for a portion of the year in Colorado and were assessed in that state

1918-04-05
A committee appeared before the board in relation to the matter of a road to the top of Diamond mountain. Upon the representation that the land owners in that district would assist with labor in building the road and that other interested individuals would contribute funds for the purpose, it was agreed that the county would assist in building the road.

On account of the many questions arising that must be adjusted by agreement between Uintah County and Moffat County, Colorado, the Board decided to accept the invitation for a meeting extended by Moffat county, and the meeting will no doubt take place during the present month, when tax matters will be discussed as well as other matters which are of mutual interest and importance to both counties

It was decided that the following days be designated as "good road days" in the various districts in the county Davis, Monday, April 8, Naples Tuesday, April 9, Glines, Wednesday, April 10; Maeser, Thursday, April 11, Vernal, Friday, April 12, Ashley, Saturday April 13. Other districts in the county are requested to set their own dates and notify the County Commissioners and the Road Commissioner

Selecting a different date for each district was done for the reason that by so doing the County Road Commissioner could be in the district on the date selected and the County tools would be available.

Crouse Reservoir scheduled to fill in 1996

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NO. 576

Biologists at the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) are already making plans to restock Crouse Reservoir. "The fish are being ordered," said Chad Crosby, regional fisheries manager. "We plan to stock catchable and fingerling rainbows into Crouse when it fills, hopefully in the spring of 1996. The catchables will provide fishing opportunities during the summer of '96 and the fingerlings will be large enough to catch the following year. We've tried brook trout and cut-throat trout in the Diamond Mountain lakes before but rainbows seem to do the best. They grow quickly and are more catchable than the other species."

Crouse Reservoir was drained several years ago when the outlet structure was damaged beyond repair. "The head gate was broken," Crosby said. "We couldn't replace it. The dam needed to be replaced anyway. It has a history of failing because when it was built, it wasn't given a clay core. The soil was just pushed up and there wasn't anything to anchor the dam or seal it."

"When construction crews began working on the dam they discovered several old drainage systems which

had to be dug out or plugged. They also found trees, brush and other debris inside the dam which have contributed to the dam's instability.

"This summer, construction crews removed material from the inside of the dam and then built a core of clay and keyed it into the base of the reservoir. Crews also plugged cracks in the Uintah Basin quartzite on the north end of the dam to stop leaks and rebuilt the spillway. When the project is finished, Crouse Reservoir will be about the same size and approximately 25 feet deep.

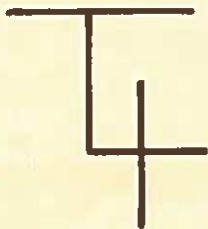
"If the snows continue, we anticipate being able to completely fill Calder and Matt Warner reservoirs with this year's spring runoff," Crosby said. "Once full, we should be able to meet the irrigation commitments and still keep both lakes productive (about 3/4 full). Most of the water will be held in Matt Warner, the upper most lake. During the winter, we will monitor the oxygen levels of the lakes. If the lower lakes have a lack-of-oxygen problem, we can release oxygenated water from Matt Warner to keep fish alive downstream in either Calder or Crouse reservoirs."

Utah Express 1-11-95

DIAMOND MOUNTAIN AND A GLIMPSE OF BROWN'S PARK

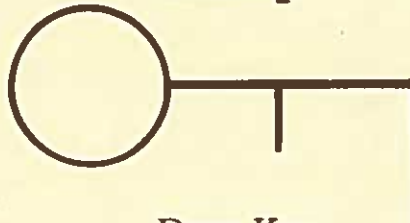
Brands used by the De Journette family
from 1900 to 1982.

Horses



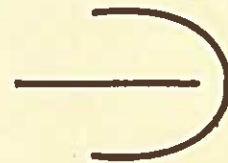
Right jaw
T. Four

Sheep



Door Key

Cattle & Horses



Horse Shoe Bar

Richard (Dick) De Journette, son of Ford and Rosalie Miles De Journette, was born March 11, 1921 in Vernal, Utah.

At one time my father, Ford De Journette, had 500 to 1000 head of horses on Diamond Mountain. So during the time I was growing up, I was chasing horses from the Forest to the West across the Colorado line to the East. From Brown's Park to the North and to the De Journette ranch on Brush Creek to the South. I've been in every draw on Diamond Mountain numerous times. I became a professional trapper from learning to trap around my dad's sheep. I retired a Government Trapper.

I WAS RAISED ON DIAMOND MOUNTAIN

THE LIFE OF BROTHER JAMES MILNE

By
JAMES MILNE



THE LIFE OF BROTHER JAMES MILNE
BY JAMES MILNE
PUBLISHED BY THE
AUTHOR
AT THE
PRINTING OFFICE OF
JAMES MILNE
1845

DIAMOND MOUNTAIN AND A GLIMPSE OF BROWN'S PARK

My Father's name was Thomas Ford De Journette. He was born April 15, 1876 in Traphill, North Carolina. He used to go down to the railroad track and watch the Hobo's hop the train. He watched them and learned how they tied themselves on the rods. In 1897, Ford got on the rods and rode to Rock Springs, Wyoming.

He herded sheep on foot on the Wyoming Desert for five years and he bought his first herd of sheep with twenty dollar gold pieces that he had saved. He first homesteaded on Goslen Mountain on the Wyoming and Utah line. There is a Spring in the area that is called Ford Spring's which was named after him. He was in what is now known as the Clay Basin area near Red Creek.

He bought Park Livestock Company in the early 1900's, which covered land in Brown's Park and the Diamond Mountain area too. He built the first reservior where Crouse reservior is today and he owned Sears Canyon Country for over 40 years. Things were moving along before the 1900's rolled around. Diamond Mountain and Brown's Park both had quite a bit of action.

Charley Crouse had a claim at the mouth of Crouse Canyon. At the head of Crouse Canyon opposite to Marshall Draw (what is now known as the Rock Cabin) is where Stanley Crouse was born. It was first taken up by a half-breed named Jimmie Reed. He was some relation to Charley Crouse.

Warren Draw was named after a horse and cattle rancher, Jim Warren. Joe Burton had the first ranch on Diamond Mountain, located at Diamond Springs. The Hoy Brothers had a ranch on Green River near Ladore. Hoy mountain was named after the Hoy's. The Sam Bassett family had their ranch at the foot of Cold Spring Mountain. Tom Davenport was at the head of Willow Creek.

Some of the Outlaws just before the 1900's were getting pretty well known in the area. There was Mike Flynn, Matt Warner, Joe Tolliver, who squatted at Sears Springs and others were roaming about in the area.

In 1900 my Dad was in the area and many of the Outlaws were moving around and there was quite a bit of excitement. There was Dave Lant, Harry Tracy, Matt Warner, Joe Tolliver, Elza Lay and of course Butch Cassidy. My Dad told me Butch eat many a meal at his sheep camp. He said Butch wasn't a mean man, he liked him. Butch was just 10 years older than my Father. He was born in April 1866, and Dad was born in April of 1876. Butch was a foreman of the WS Outfit in 1897, the year my Dad came from North Carolina.

There was one point of interest that was interesting to many, I am sure. Matt Warner's true name was Willard Erastus Christianson (he was the son of a Swede father and German mother) and on December 4, 1914, Matt had his name legally changed to Matt Warner.

Between 1900 and 1920, more and more people came into the area. Bry Stringham at Limestone, William Siddoway at Davenport Draw, Al Hatch at Speck's Cabin at Monument Ridge on the Jones Hole Road, Walt McCoy at Jackson Draw, John and Joseph Hacking in the Jackson Draw also. Raymond Milton Searle on Diamond Rim. Thomas Ford De Journette in Crouse and Sears Canyon. John Reader on the lower Rim of Diamond. John and Ashley Bennion in the Gadson Draw. John N. Davis on the Joe Burton place at Diamond Springs.

The homesteaders were coming into the area also. Between 1900 and 1930 there was John Lambert down South West of Speck's Cabin. He had 200 sheep and 100 head of goats and 3 or 4 burros. When the old man Lambert died, Johnny took over. He lived in Lapoint, Utah. Down on Pot Creek, the last ranch was Bill and Fannie Offield's. Next place up was Charles Miles (my grandfather), then Roxie Jones (a black man) and then Bill Luckenbill who later took up Roxie Jones claim. Whitey Roller was down on Crouse Creek.

I am not certain the year my Father purchased Sears Canyon but somewhere around 1907 when he was in the Park Livestock Ranch. He owned another part section that joined William Siddoway and Zelph Calder.

We used to start lambing in the Mail Draw and then moved on into Sears Canyon. I always wanted Sears Canyon for myself, it was always a special place. My Dad gave me a start of 4 cows and I built them up to 40 head, and then I got foolish and sold them to Zelph Calder and bought sheep. Later when I bought my Mother's part of the land, I owned half interest in Sears Canyon with my Dad, then we sold it to Harold Calder.

Raymond Milton Searle homesteaded on the Rim of Diamond known as the Rim Ranch today. He was struck and killed by lightning on October 11, 1923. There is a marker erected by his sons where he was killed. One son Milton was born just one month after his Father was killed, November 11, 1923. Their Mother was Zina Batty Searle. She was a pioneer woman.

On over where Ralph Siddoway's Cabin stands is called Diamond Springs. This is where Joe Burton had the first ranch on the mountain.

As you top the divide, looking towards Brown's Park, the road forks and the right hand fork goes past what is called Flynn's Point and goes down into Crouse Canyon. The left hand fork is what is called the Mail Draw. It crosses Pot Creek above what is called the Crouse Reservoir and continues on North to Sears Canyon. As you come to the head of Sears Canyon, to the right is Rye Grass Draw. There at one time was an old Outlaw Cabin there, but since they put the pipe line through there, it has disappeared.

Flynn's Point is named after a Brown's Park rancher who was a cattle and horse thief and rustler, who was bush-whacked and killed there. His killer hid and waited in the rocks as he drove his team around the point of rocks, he was shot and left on the wagon seat. The killer un-harnessed the team and hung the harnesses upon the wagon and turned the horses loose. I do not know who found him, I think it was a sheep herder. At that time my Dad owned the Brown's Park Livestock Ranch and they had been losing too many cattle and horses to the Rustlers, so him and the other ranchers brought in a hired killer, the same method that the big cattle ranchers had done in Brown's Park twenty years before, when they hired Tom Horn to kill Matt Rash and Isom Dart. I have on several occasions ask my Dad about what happened to Mike Flynn, but of course he never admitted that he had anything to do with it. He did say that he had several run-ins with him and his two boys. He told me he met those two boys on Pot Creek and they forced him and his horse out into the middle of the Creek and threatened him with guns. The story was that Mike Flynn was teaching the two boys to be Outlaws. They had long hair and packed their guns. Anyway, it more or less put an end to their being Outlaws when Flynn was killed. Speck Williams (the black man) knew who killed Flynn, but Albert (Speck) was working for my Dad at the time in the Park so I don't think he would dare tell even if he did know.

CROUSE RESERVIOR

A lot of people don't know that Ford De Journette had the Crouse Reservoir built the first time. They used teams and scrapers. I don't know how long it took, nor do I know how long it lasted. It was built so they could have water for what they called the Bench on the Park Livestock Ranch, and down Crouse Canyon where it comes out. At that time there was a long flume to carry water around the ledge rock. I don't know if it is still there or not. My Dad told me it was a sad day, as he watched the dam give way and wash out. He was living on the Park Livestock Ranch and old Speck was working for him. So sometime in April he took Speck with him horse back up Crouse Canyon to the Reservoir on Pot Creek. When they got there the ice had clogged the spill-way and they sat on their horses and watched the water go over the dam. They watched a lot of hard work and toil go down the Creek. He told me that he finally told Albert (Speck) I guess we better be getting back across Pot Creek before all of the water floods us out and we can't get back to the ranch. After that, several years later he sold out to Gauche from Rock Springs, Wyoming. Gauche put Stanley Crouse in charge as foreman. I remember when Gauche had Crouse build the Reservoir again. I think it was about 1935 or 1936 when the reservoir was re-built. I remember in 1937, Andy Jackson worked all summer hauling rocks to face the dam.

I suppose I should mention a little about Mr. Guache. Mr. Gauche was a German who started working in Rock Springs with a Butcher Shop. He was a good business man and he got wealthy buying up land. He and his wife had no children. He owned a lot of property around Rock Springs. He bought the Park Livestock Ranch from Ford De Journette and Augustine Kendall, the Banker from Rock Springs, and he put Crouse in charge of running the ranch. He also had a book-keeper, named Albert the Greek. Albert did all of the business part. When Old Man Gauche died, this Albert (I have forgotten his last name) handled all of the business and then when Mrs. Guache died, she left everything to charity. All that Stanley Crouse got was the Mandy Wiggins place (she was Stanley Crouse's aunt) on Beaver Creek in Brown's Park and one hundred yearling heifers. Stanley and young Stanley sold out and went to Lander, Wyoming, but went broke in two years.

I want to say something about the wild animals on Diamond Mountain when I was young. There was a lot of coyotes. We always lost a lot of lambs to coyotes, cats, lions and some-time bear.

In about 1936 and into the 1940's I learned to trap by following Trappers around. Roy Massey used to trap in the Warren Draw and Sears Canyon and in Crouse Creek. Andy Atwood trapped there at times also. Mick Abplanalp used to work for me and he was a trapper. Mick and I tried to find the dens before the sheep got there. There was several different places where we would bed the sheep and the lion's would kill a big bunch. When a lion gets started they can kill twenty to thirty sheep in one night.

There was a lot of deer on Diamond Mountain in the 1940's. but there was no elk. The elk didn't get started on Diamond Mountain until about 1955. I sold my sheep in 1955 and there was no elk at all in Crouse Creek or on Hoy Mountain at that time. Now I hear people say, there's a lot of elk in the area.

I remember all of the wild horses that ran on Diamond Mountain. My Dad owned about one thousand horses at one time. He bought four hundred of them from the Estate of Morris Smith.

MORRIS SMITH STORY

On the lower end of Pot Creek on the Colorado side there was the Offield place, the Charles Miles place, the Petty John place and the Morris Smith place. Now I don't know where Morris Smith came from, but he was a batchelor and he homesteaded in what was called Deer Lick Draw which later became the Lee Craig place. Anyway, he acquired a lot of range horses. Most of the land was free Government Range. Well they found him dead and it looked like his team had run a-way while he was raking hay, and he got killed there. And when Mr. Offield found him the Morman Crickets had eaten off his ears, and most of his face and body parts until they couldn't really tell if he had been shot or not. But the story was that old man Petty John had a claim across the West side of Dry Creek and had accused him of sparkin' his wife and had shot him so he could get away with all of his horses, but they could never prove anything, so the State of Colorado took charge of his Estate, and my Dad bought all of the horses. Since they were wild and no way of counting them, they estimated them as being four hundred head.

I remember when I was growing up we went to Dry Creek trying to get some of the horses. I remember we rode some of the Morris Smith Horses. They were branded with a Rafter S on the left jaw and my Dad's regular brand was T on the right jaw. My Dad bought the horses, and a man by the name of Lee Craig bought the Smith--homestead. He had been gassed and shell shocked in World War I and he painted pictures. He later lived with my Grandpa Miles at times. He sold out to William H. Gauche and moved to Vernal then later died in the Veteran's Home.

THE OFFIELD'S

I am not sure where the Offield's came from, but they first came into Brown's Park. Mrs. Fannie Offield and my grandmother, Addie Miles lined the coffin that they buried Mr. John Jarvie in. He was the one that had the store and was murdered and put in a boat and the boat was put in Green River. He had a son named John Jarvie, Jr. and he married my mother's sister, Ollie May Miles. They found the body and the boat later down by Ladore Canyon. It was several days or about a week later.

I remember when the Offield's had the homestead on lower Pot Creek. They built up a good place there. They built a big reservior so they could raise hay and they had about one hundred head of cattle and some good horses. Some winters they would bring their cattle to Vernal and lease Duane Soderquist's fathers place. I remember one winter they bought hay from Bowens on Brush Creek and hauled that loose hay all winter, everyday. And Mrs. Offield did most of the work.

SEARS CANYON

As you first enter the head of Sears Canyon, the first water you cross is not Sears Spring. When my Dad owned the land it was just a seep in there, then later someone got to digging around and more water seeped up. When you cross this first water, you take the old road to the left, the old road goes close to the hill and just above Sears Spring. The spring is on a hill, then drops into a meadow. Before 1900 Joe Tolliver started hcmesteading there, but he never proved up. He had a house by the spring. He was a cattle and horse thief and he finally got to showing off in the Barber Shop in Vernal (I think he was drunk) and accidently shot and killed himself. Ho that ended his Outlaw era. And then as you go down to the mouth of the Canyon, the next spring is called King spring. From King

spring looking East and to the right is a big draw and an old trail goes to the top of the mountain and it is called Look Out Point. The Outlaws had a cabin at Rye Grass and they hid on the mountain between Sears Canyon and Rye Grass Draw and from there they could see all of the upper end of Brown's Park and of course any riders coming either from Vernal or Colorado or Wyoming way.

LOST SKULL STORY

When I was about fifteen years old my Dad was lambing the sheep in Sears Canyon and had a Mexican herder helping him. To the East of King spring up the big draw and around the old Outlaw trail there is an area there with lots of cedars and pinon trees. Anyway the sheep were in those cedars and this Mexican found an old cabin and a man's skull. He hung the skull up in a tree. It went on for a few days and then he told my Dad about finding it. He didn't speak very good English and they were very busy with the sheep and then when he tried to find the skull again, he couldn't find it. He never did. Anyway I looked for it several times but we were so busy most of the time with the sheep. Anyway, I made several rides in there and looked for it, but never did find it.

THE HIDDEN WHISKEY STORY

Bill Luckinbill told this story to me. Luckinbill was camped at King spring with the sheep and my Dad had been in Rock Springs, Wyoming for a load of supplies. He had a four horse team and came up through Sears Canyon. Before he got to camp he decided he would hide a ten gallon keg of whiskey for future use. But he had been drinkin and by the time he got to the Canyon, he was feeling his oats. !!! When he got to camp he told Luckinbill he had hid the whiskey down in the rocks and they would go and get it the next day, because he had some Mexicans herding in the other camp and he didn't want them in his whiskey. But the next day he couldn't find it, he couldn't remember where he hid it and they looked for years for that lost keg, and when I grew up I was always looking for the lost keg, as far as I know it is still there, so as anyone rides down the Canyon, keep your eyes peeled because that 90 year old booze just might explode right under your horses feet.

BILL LUCKINBILL

When I was a kid old Bill stayed at the ranch on Brush Creek and he did the cooking for my Dad and his hired help, and I don't think he ever washed his hands. But I know I use to ride my bike from Vernal on weekends and go to Brush Creek and stay with Luckinbill just to stay up at night and listen to his stories. I just wish I could remember all of his stories. He knew some pretty tough people. He told me about the Ruples and the McKee's. He started working for my Dad in Brown's Park. Then he took up a homestead down Pot creek just West of the Colorado line. A black fellow by the name of Roxie Jones took up the place first and then let it go and Bill squatted there. Bill had a few cows. I remember my Mother telling about Bill coming to Crouse Creek when my Mother and Dad were homesteading there and when my Dad was gone Bill would come and chop her some wood and see that her and her little children were alright. Later Bill sold his cows. My Dad told me Bill gambled all of his money away. Anyway, he stayed with Dad for years and never told anybody about who he was or where he came from. Finally one day a man showed up and said he was Bill's son. He lived in Iowa and he took Luckinbill home with him, where he died later.

In the 1940's and the 1950's most of the ranches stayed in the family. Diamond Mountain was the home of bread and butter for many people. When I was young and in the sheep business myself there was over sixty- thousand sheep on the mountain. Now all but two herds are gone. Lynn Siddoway has sheep and Doc Holmes and all of the rest of the Mountain has cattle.

It is a place dear to everyone who has ever spent any time of the mountain. If the mountain could speak, what a story Diamond Mountain could tell. It is sad to think we know so little about Diamond Mountain. It is full of beauty and also mystery and silently keeps many stories and incidents to itself. I am glad I know a bit about it, but I have only touched the surface. But it will always be a special spot to me.

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Dick De Journette
aug 16 / 1991

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NO. 576

DIAMOND MOUNTAIN AND BROWN'S PARK COUNTRY

1.

AS YOU LEAVE VERNAL YOU WIND UP THROUGH THE SAGE AND CEDARS AND THEN YOU TOP OUT ON WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE RIM OF DIAMOND MOUNTAIN. THE RANCH YOU SEE IS THE RIM RANCH. THIS HAS BEEN IN THE SEARLE'S FAMILY FOR MANY YEARS. RAYMOND MILTON SEARLE'S WAS WORKING AS A CATTLE AGENT FOR PECK AND GRAHAM. HE AND SID MORRISON WERE HOLDING THE HERD ON THE RIM OF DIAMOND MOUNTAIN FOR THE FINAL FALL ROUND-UP. MR. SEARLE AND HIS HORSE WERE STRUCK WITH LIGHTENING, AND BOTH KILLED INSTANTLY, ON OCTOBER 11, 1923. HIS WIFE WAS LEFT WITH FOUR SMALL SONS AND HER FIFTH WAS BORN JUST ONE MONTH TO THE DAY AFTER HER HUSBAND WAS KILLED. THE SEARLES FAMILY ARE STILL DRY FARMING ON THE RIM.

2.

NOW YOU SEE THE LITTLE CABIN. DIAMOND SPRINGS IS LOCATED RIGHT TO THE SOUTH OF THE CABIN. THIS IS THE SITE OF THE OLDEST CATTLE RANCH ON DIAMOND MOUNTAIN. IT WAS ORIGINALLY OWNED AND LOCATED BY DUNCAN BLAIR. BLAIR WAS A RANCHER FROM BROWN'S PARK AND ROCK SPRINGS. JOE BURTON PURCHASED THIS RANCH FROM DUNCAN BLAIR APPROXIMATELY IN 1884. THE RANCH CONSISTED OF 480 ACRES, AND IS ONE OF THE OLDEST LAND MARKS ON UINTAH COUNTY AND IN FACT NORTHEASTERN UTAH. IT WAS THE HEADQUARTERS OF THOUSANDS OF CATTLE. DURING THE EARLY DAYS THE MAIL AND ALL TRAVELERS FROM GREEN RIVER AND ROCK SPRING'S, WYOMING STOPPED AT THE DIAMOND SPRINGS RANCH AND ROAD HOUSE OVERNIGHT. NO DOUBT THAT BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE WILD BUNCH STOPPED THERE MANY TIMES, TO WATER THEIR HORSES AND HAVE A BIT OF GRUB. THE SPRING OF WATER IS ONE OF THE BEST ON DIAMOND

MOUNTAIN, ALWAYS COLD AS IT FLOWS FROM THE CREVICE OF THE ROCK, WHICH ORIGINALLY WAS THE SHAPE OF A DIAMOND, AFTER WHICH THE RANCH WAS NAMED.

3.

AS WE LEAVE THE PAVED ROAD, IF WE WERE TO TRAVEL ANOTHER 14 MILES ON THE PAVEMENT, WE WOULD COME TO THE JONES HOLE FISH HATCHERY. THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL SPOT, NESTLED DOWN NEATH JAGGED MOUNTAINS, WITH ALMOST RAINBOW COLORS. THE WATER AT THIS HATCHERY IS THE IDEAL TEMPERATURE FOR A FISH HATCHERY. IT WAS COMPLETED IN 196__.

4.

NOW WE APPROACH FLYNN'S POINT. THIS IS A SPOT THAT IS KNOWN TO ALL WHO TRAVEL DIAMOND MOUNTAIN. THIS IS WHERE MIKE FLYNN WAS MURDERED, SHOT IN THE BACK, OCTOBER 7, 1912. HE WAS A RANCHER FROM BROWN'S PARK, AND A CATTLE AND HORSE THIEF, ALWAYS TRYING TO GET SOMETHING FOR NOTHING. SOMEONE WAS HIRED BY THE CATTLE AND SHEEP ASSOCIATION, AND AUGUSTINE KENDALL, AND FORD DE JOURNETTE FROM THE BROWN'S PARK LIVESTOCK COMPANY AND WILLIS RANKIN, WHO WAS FOREMAN OF THE TWO BAR OUTFIT OWNED BY ORA HALEY, TO ELIMINATE FLYNN. (JOSIE BASSETT TOLD THIS TO ROSALIE AND DAUN DE JOURNETTE) THE BODY WAS FOUND A FEW DAYS LATER IN THE WAGON THAT HAD BEEN MOVED SEVERAL YARDS FROM THE ROAD. WHEN A DRIVER REACHES THE TURN IN THE ROAD HIS BACK IN VIEW FROM THE BIG ROCK TO THE NORTHWEST, ABOUT 75 STEPS FROM THE ROAD. (THE ROAD HAS BEEN CHANGED A BIT SINCE THIS HAPPENED) THE MAN WHO SHOT HIM WOULD HAVE STOOD BEHIND THE ROCK. ONE SHOT WENT WILD AND STRUCK THE WAGON BOX, THE THIRD SHOT WENT INTO THE RIGHT SHOULDER AND PASSED THROUGH THE BODY AND LODGED IN

THE FLESHY PART OF HIS ARM. FLYNN WAS ON HIS WAY TO VERNAL.

5.

POT CREEK. THIS AREA HAD MUCH TRAGEDY AND EXCITEMENT. THIS IS WHERE DICK DE JOURNETTE'S GRANDPARENTS, CHARLES AND ADDIE MILES HOMESTEADED. DICK'S MOTHER AND JOSIE BASSETT AND WILMA TOLLIVER ALL TOLD THIS STORY. AND ROSALIE TOOK ME (Daun De Journette) AND SHOWED ME HIS GRAVE IN THE CEMETERY BY THE OLD LADORE HALL. TIM FLYNN, SON OF MIKE FLYNN TOLD THIS IN HIS OWN WORDS TO WILMA. "HE SAID HIS MOTHER SHOT AND KILLED GORDON WILSON. HE SAID AFTER SHE KILLED HIM SHE WAS GETTING THINGS OUT OF THE CUPBOARD AND STEPPED OVER THE DEAD BODY AGAIN AND AGAIN, AS SHE WAS CLEANING THE CUPBOARD AND IT DIDN'T SEEM TO BOTHER HER. JOSIE SAID MRS. FLYNN KILLED WILSON IN COLD BLOOD, THINKING SHE WOULD GET HIS HORSES AND CATTLE. MRS. FLYNN KILLED HIM AND STEPPED OVER HIS BODY. ROSALIE SAID THAT TIM FLYNN CAME RUNNING TO THE MILES PLACE AND SAID, "MA JUST SHOT WILSON." THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN IN NOVEMBER OF 1910. HE HELPED DRIVE THE TEAM AND FAMILY FOR THE MILES FAMILY WHEN THEY CAME TO BROWN'S PARK. THERE IS A HIDE OUT DOWN IN POT CREEK THAT THE WILD BUNCH USED. THERE IS SUPPOSEDLY 80,000 IN GOLD STILL HIDDEN DOWN IN THAT AREA. THE HIDE OUT WAS JUST SEVERAL HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE OLD OFFIELD PLACE.

CROUSE RESERVOIR. THIS WAS FIRST BUILT BY FORD DE JOURNETTE WITH TEAMS AND SCRAPPER. THE WATER WAS USED FOR BROWN'S PARK LIVESTOCK COMPANY RANCH, LOCATED AT THE MOUTH OF CROUSE CANYON. IT WASHED OUT A FEW YEARS LATER. ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE YEARS LATER IT WAS BUILT BACK BY STANELY CROUSE AND GAUCHE, AND WAS KNOWN AS THE PARK LIVESTOCK COMPANY. THIS IS NOW OWNED BY THE FISH AND GAME

4

DEPARTMENT.

7.

CROUSE CANYON

AFTER YOU CROSS POT CREEK GOING TOWARD CROUSE CANYON, AS YOU LOOK TO THE RIGHT YOU SEE HOY MOUNTAIN, WHICH WAS NAMED AFTER THE HOY BROTHERS. VALENTINE HOY WAS KILLED BY HARRY TRACY. THE NEXT PLACE YOU COME TO IS THE DE JOURNETTE HOMESTEAD. THE OLD CORRAL YOU SEE WAS BUILT BY DICK DE JOURNETTE. THE OLD CABIN YOU SEE WAS FORD AND ROSALIE DE JOURNETTE'S HOMESTEAD CABIN WHERE THEY STARTED RAISING THEIR FAMILY. BUT THIS CABIN HAS BEEN MOVED FROM THE ORIGINAL HOMESTEAD SITE, WHICH IS DOWN THE CREEK ON THE RIGHT WHERE THE OLD LOG GRANARY IS STILL STANDING. THERE IS A SPRING THERE ALSO KNOWN AS FORD SPRING.

THE ROCK CABIN WAS CHARLIE CROUSE'S FIRST HOMESTEAD. HIS SON STANLEY WAS BORN HERE. LATER HE MOVED DOWN TO THE MOUTH OF CROUSE CANYON IN A DUGOUT. HE BOUGHT THE RIGHTS OF THE BROWN'S PARK LIVESTOCK RANCH FROM JIMMIE REED. CHARLIE CROUSE GOT DRUNK ONE NIGHT AND WAS RIDING DOUBLE ON A HORSE WITH ALBERT WILLIAMS, KNOWN AS THE SPECKLED NIGGER. THEY HAD CROSSED THE RIVER ON THE HORSE RIDING DOUBLE AND CROUSE WAS ON BACK AND HE TOOK OUT HIS KNIFE AND SLASHED NIGGER ALBERT'S GUTS OPEN AND LEFT HIM LAYING IN THE SAND. HE WENT UP TO THE DUGOUT AND MRS. CROUSE ASK HIM WHERE ALBERT WAS. CROUSE TOLD HER HE CUT HIS GUTS OUT, AND LEFT HIM LAYIN' DOWN ON THE RIVER. SHE HARNESSSED HER HORSE AND GOT IN HER BUGGY AND FOUND ALBERT AND LOADED HIM UP AND BROUGHT HIM BACK TO THE DUGOUT AND SEWED HIM UP AND NURSED HIM BACK TO HEALTH.

Diamond Mountain

Dick and Daun DeJournette

The 27th of August 2006, and I've asked Dick and Donna if they would tell me a few stories about Diamond Mountain.

Daun: We first remember about Diamond Mountain is how the mountain or peaks or whatever, got their name. So we could start, wherever you want to start. Maybe the Marshal Dry way.

Dick: Well before you ever get to the top of Diamond Mountain, they never started going the way they go now.

Daun: You mean the road?

Dick: The first road was built over at what they call Bear Basin, and that came up on top, way over the other side of Rim Ranch.

Daun: To the east?

Dick: To the east of the Rim Ranch. It came out on top of that dug way there. It was called the Bear Road.

Daun: Now are you talking about like if you were going up around there now as you look south.

Dick: No, way over to the east. Over toward Seymore Spring.

Daun: Where's Seymore Springs located?

Dick: Well, ah, when I knew it was; well I can't remember who owned it to start with. But Ralph Siddoway owned forty acres right close to it.

Daun: Is that down close to where his pasture is?

Dick: No, it is close to the Hubers, who got it from Harold Reader. They got it from George Davis, who brought his sheep there.

Daun: Where Huber's run their sheep, is what part of the mountain? Was it considered some of the Rim?

Dick: Well yes it was called a Rim. It went on down to the burn. That was all where Hod Rupel ran his sheep way down there.

Daun: Way down to Sugar Loaf and down in there?

Dick: Way down to the lower end of the really rim of Diamond. Below Seymore Springs.

Daun: Was that the Spring that you go down off the Rim? Down in to? Where you go down to the Burn?

Dick: No, that's above Bear Spring.

Daun: So you were way down there when the first road came down there.

Dick: Yeh. When they first started Diamond Spring, the Bear's ran their cattle down below Jones Hole in the winter time. Do you remember we put in our book that the Dunkin Briar and John Briar went down underneath the rim and built a cabin. That's where the Jackson's hung out when they were running loose. The Jackson brothers hung out in that old cabin, they dug holes so when they hid out there, and covered their horses with cedar boughs.

Daun: Okay so, before Lou Roberts ran his sheep, what part of the mountain was that called?

Dick: The lower part of the Rim. The middle part of the Rim was where the road comes up now, was mostly M.J. Marr land. It wasn't always M.J. Marr land, it was Slaugh and all the homesteaders started that.

Daun: Okay they go all around and Boats Peak was where McKeachnie were then?

Dick: Yeh! And that was named after that old man, John Baites, that ran his sheep there and out south in the bad lands in the winter time and he had a place out there named Baites Knolls, named after him. That was on the Bonanza road.

Daun: So we get over to where Ralph Siddoway's cabin is, what's that called?

Dick: Diamond Springs. Ossen Burtons dad owned it at one time.

Daun: How about where Hatch's lived. What was that known as, where frog house was? Where Jack Boren lives, that's the Monument?

Dick: Yeh! Monument Ridge. Hatches owned that before Borens, Loran Hatch and Loran's dad, Sam.

Daun: So we go back to Vamar Jackson , in the Jackson, and no one knows where it got it's name?

Dick: Well its named Jackson, but the only thing that is similar to that name was, Goodson , and he had a dugout home steaded down in Browns Park and then Brookson. And people think that's where it got its name. He had his cattle on Diamond in the summer time.

Daun: What about(8.5) basin? It was a man named Bealler, that had that homestead?

Dick: Yes, it was Bealler.

Daun: So we go to Sarvisberry Springs, was that Hatch's?

Dick: Lord only knows who first started naming it Sarvisberry Springs , but Sam Hatch is right around the corner there, and Ruckinbill(?) , the old man Bill Ruckinbill had a place down the crick a half mile from Sarvisberry Spring, or a mile.

Daun: Which is the boundary to Buck Springs?

Dick: That's Buffalo Jack Crouse. (9.3?)

Daun: Then we go up to where your Dad was , where Mike McCarrell lives in that area today, was that area called Overholt?

Dick: No, that was the old HeadQuarter Place. And he bought that from Yautsy, to start with.

Daun: So your Dad had that and what about, he had some on Pots Creek, didn't he?

Dick: Well yes, but on down that way my Granddad, Miles , and all those home steaders(10.2)?

Daun: But none of the mountains were named after them? Now about the Hoy Mountain did that come from the Hoy's? Yes. What about Wild Mountain?

Dick: The Hatches ran on Wild Mountain, along with the Rupels. The Hatches and the Rupels ran their cows on Wild Mountain, more than anybody I know did.

Daun: So what about Rye Grass? Isn't that where the Siddoways live?

Dick: Well Ford DeJournette run his sheep as much as anybody. Rye Grass got its name because there was a line of big tall rye grass went up thru the center of it.

Daun: And that is where you go over to Butches cabin, and down into park. Okay , so we go over to Warren Draw, and it got its name from Jim Warren, didn't it? Yeh! Where he had his cabin, over there where Alvin Kay and them are? Then we go over to the Matt Warner Reservoir, and that was Matt Warner country.

Dick: Before you go down there, C.V. Steers homesteaded that. A King that lived there owned sheep down there in Browns Park and had a ranch there and ended up by permits out there where the wells are in Bonanza country.

Daun: Okay, then we come to the Jackson, and nobody knows, but they talk about this photographer named Jackson. But no one has pin pointed that this Jackson Draw was named .

Dick: That photographer was with the Ashley company, I think that first ran the river.

Daun: Then what about the Davenport?

Dick: That was named after Tom Davenport. He homesteaded that area.

Daun: What about the Pot Holes? Is that where the Stringhams were?

Dick: The formation there had kind of pot holes, little draws and little swells, they called it Pot Holes.

Daun: And then Lime Springs, up where Sonny Stingham was?

Dick: Lime Stone. It was called Lime Stone ridge, because of the formation there.

Daun: Then you go over to McKee draw, and that was because of the McKees, right? Yeh! So, Bassett Springs I wonder where it got its name?

Dick: I don't know about that for sure.

Daun: So those ridges down where the counting coral is, what's that part of the mountain called?

Dick: Just the Pot Holes. Then is Rigger Creek, named after John(?) Rigger.

Daun: What about where Woody was? That's just some more of the Rim?

Dick: Yeh! And Willow Springs was right there.

Daun: What about where the Mackays were? What is that called?

Dick: Well that was Wylo Mackays dad worked for Sam Wolley. So that was Wolley country. Wylo's dad was such a B.S.er that they called it Bull Shit Ridge. And that's where it got its name.

Daun: Where did the Bingham run their sheep?

Dick: Brothers Basin is where Johnny Bingham run his and Ashley Bingham was in the Gadson Draw.

Daun: So that the Bingham and Stringhams , Siddoways and DeJournettes, McKeachnies, Hatches.

Dick: The DeJournettes run on down Crouse Creek, going up toward Wild Mountain.(16.5?)

Daun: Flynn's Point got its name because Mike Flynn who was killed there, right? Right! What about Zelf Calder run his stuff? Was that part of the Mail Draw? Was that because the mail came up thru there from Browns Park?

Dick: Thru Sears Canyon there was an old road, and then they packed the mail by foot. And that's where Mail Draw got its name. And there's where Zelf and his family run both sheep and cattle there. West of Diamond Springs. (? 17.8?)

Daun: You spent a lot of time on Diamond Mountain, and when you were trapping what trail did you take to go make your loop every day?

Dick: Well, I trapped down in Sears Canyon clear down where you come back up thru Rye Grass.

Daun: Did you make that loop in a day?

Dick: All in one day. I was breaking horses while I was doing that, and I would take a bronc and I would load him with traps and a pack saddle.

Daun: Well that was a good way to break a bronc.

Dick: By the time he would make a couple trips around the loop, loaded with traps and rocks and stuff , then the next day I would be riding him and leading a new one.

Daun: Did McCoys run on Dowd Mountain? That got its name from Cleophas Dowd, right?

Dick: Summer range on Dowd. Lower end of the Jackson Draw was their main range.

Daun: Did John and Joe Hacking both run down in there?

Dick: John was mostly out by Pot Creek. John Hacking owned all that area where Woody Searle built his little place on Willow Springs. John was between Wooley and Joe Hacking. John McKeachnie owned one side of that big piece, facing Pot Creek.

Daun: _? Springs was owned by John and Tom McKeachnie, right? Right! And Bates Peak is the highest peak on Diamond Mountain. It's the one you can see from Vernal. That's McKeachnie country. So, at one time there were 125 mother ewes.....22.9.....(?) What about up there at Allen Draw, Where did it get its name? 23.2 ?????

Dick: Ashton Bingham was more to the East in Jackson Draw. The Lowes???23.7??

Daun: And Marshal Draw got its name from Jim Marshal? (Yeh!!) Then Lynn Hall homesteaded up in there ? (Yeh!)

Dick: Then there was a person named Rud (Rudolph) White, homesteaded up in the Marshal Draw. Then down below Crouse Creek was some of the Pitts that lived in Ashley Valley, homesteaded there at Pitts Draw. Right as you go into the Crouse Canyon main property, that was that big long draw to the right was Pitt Draw. One of the Pitts got killed by lightning out here on this dump pile.

Daun: So then Whitey(Charles) Roller homesteaded Roller Draw, right? So that's where it got its name?

Dick: Right! Between Ford DeJournettes homestead cabin and Marshal Draw is where Whitey Roller built his homestead.

Daun: Up in Dead Horse Draw is Winters were, right?

Dick: Well the Winters tried to build a homestead in Dead Horse Draw, but they never completed the homestead, so it went back to Government ground.

Daun: Where did Dead Horse Draw get its name?

Dick: I guess from all the dead horses that died there in the winter. I know mine died there after it was already named that.

Daun: You said something about Zelph Calder at Rye Grass?

Dick: He owned a piece of ground in there and claimed it all. But come to find out, my Dad got ahold of a hundred and sixty acres that he had paid taxes on all the time, and Calder was using the grass.

Daun: So up Pots Springs, that would be where Warner was? That's in Warren Draw? Where Matt Warner.....no, Warren Draw is where Jim Warren was. So there really isn't a Warner, but he just squatted in Jim Warrens cabin? (Yeh!) Well now where is it that Ray Hunting, he's way out to the end of the Jackson, right?

Dick: Yeh! And old Jim Nichols, homesteaded that.

Daun: Where did you go from where your Dad was at headquarters? Gottsche and McCalls, and Joel Evans?

Dick: Gottsche and Joel Evans bought it when Crouse sold out.

Daun: Now Dry Creek up where you go up around where Mike Flynn homesteaded, I don't know where it gets its name? And Yellow Jacket, those are places up above where your Grandpa lived on Pot Creek?

Dick: Well, that was what they called Dry Creek, where Lee Craig had a place. And Dr. Allen got ahold of the place Mike Flynn claimed up in there. Where was those boot leggers?

Daun: Who was the guy that got killed by the horses, was that Morris Smith?

Dick: He owned Tittles, Bill Tittles place, that was were Doc Allen owned...

Daun: I think Gary Sutton owns some up in there, unless he has sold it. Then there was the Offield place that was homesteaded, but nothing was named after them. So Holy Mountain, that was all the Hoys wasn't it?

Dick: They owned 900 acres up there. My Dad owned 80 acres. He bought a little piece of the school section, because it had water on it. And Crouse used it all the time and built a sheep coral on it.

Daun: So at one time the Park livestock was owned to start with by who? Was it Crouse?

Dick: Stanley Crouse never had it, he just worked for Gottsche, who was the banker, and Whalen owned it before Gottsche.

Daun: So the Draw up on the west side of Flynn Point was known as what? Up toward Crouse and that's the Main Draw? Then the next draw is the Warren Draw? Then the Jackson? Then you come to the Davenport?

Dick: Then up inside the Davenport is the Lambson(?)32.6) Draw.

Daun: So the Lambson was the Paul Siddoway land?

Dick: Ray Siddoway was right where they called Tittle Creek.

Daun: Well, who had the Gadson(?) before Marv Jackson got it?

Dick: Ashley Bingham. And M.J. Marr owned a lot of that land.

Daun: There where Doc Holmes was, is where MJ Marrs owned a lot of that too? He had a lot of Homestead there?

Dick: Ashley Bingham owned some of that down in there, at one time, one chunk of it when I was out chasing around hunting horses. There was another old homestead that I can't remember. Okay it was the Cooper homestead. And Frank Noel was all mixed up in there together. Because they were all related.

Daun: Where was Williams at?

Dick: That was years and years before Bryce Stringham got up in there. Right at the head of the Limestone, and it reached into the Davenport too, and Williams is mixed up in, before Clyde, and he had a big part of that range. There's so many different spots that so many different men owned, but M.J. Marr was the big land owner eventually. Him and Siddoway got ahold of a lot of those people that went broke.

Daun: Well, you think about how many sheep were on that mountain at one time. Now Calder where was he? That cabin that you talk about so much was just down across the canyon, Crouse Canyon? It's named for Charley Crouse, right?

Dick: He got it from Jimmie Reed. And that where they claim that Stanley Crouse was born.

Daun: Lynn Sadler said that down by Pott Creek there was a Rife cabin and that could have been where Stanley was born?

Dick: That was where they called it the old Headquarter place.

Daun: Bryce had the old Headquarters place to start with, and that's where they had that crazy deed?

Dick: That's right, but Nick Croft had all that Horse Company, and Matt Warners even tied up in it, and so it could very well have been that Guy Rife was born there. Ed Rife had a wife and when she had a baby he took her down there, because Mary Crouse was kind of a nurse and she could help her.

Daun: Did ____ Rife and Lynn Hall were both in the same draw?

Dick: At the very top next to the Colorado line.

(Side 2 at 6.7) ???

Daun: (7.9) So tell me how they go again.

Dick: Pitts Draw, then Marshal Draw, then Whitey Rollen, then Ford DeJournette homestead and then Allen Draw. To the right of that, the sheep coral, and then big horse draw.

Daun & Dick: Yes but up above the Allen Draw is where the Hoy Mountain is. So if you are coming from Vernal, you hit Pot Creek, then Allen Draw, then to the right is Hoy Mountain, then my Dads homestead, then Whitey Rollen cabin. Then you come to the Marshal Draw, and right at the mouth of the Marshal Draw is a rock cabin, and the home was the school section. Then the Pitt Draw is the big long canyon that drops into Crouse Canyon. Ends 10.5

Diamond Mountain

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By W F HANSON

The practical completion of the Diamond Mountain road has opened one of the most resourceful sections in the Uintah basin. An area of hundreds of thousands of acres of grazing and dry farming land are now accessible by automobiles as well as by wagons. There are at present thousands of sheep and cattle grazed during the fall and spring and many remaining during the summer.

In the farming districts in which over a hundred homesteads are claimed and allowed making 32 000 acres, beside a large area owned by stockgrowers, the soil is black loam, richly filled with humus and from 2 to 4 feet in depth, underlaid by a splendid gumbo white subsoil excellent to retain the moisture.

The mountain is covered with sage brush and mountain grass, and notwithstanding the heavy grazing and packing in some sections, very early in the spring, when the tender grass blades are nipped to the ground, they have persisted in claiming life to such a degree, that farmers are confronted with a difficult operation in breaking the heavy sod for cultivation.

Many of the farmers have started building up their homes and next spring will see many cabins built for these pioneers of this great dry farming district of Eastern Utah.

Timber and wood are easily accessible, and we are fortunate in being near to the Hick's sawmill in the Davenport Draw, and the Johnston and Slauch's mills on the forest reserve. Water, though not needed for irrigation seems to be plentiful in most sections in the form of springs. Fine wells have been dug at Siddoways, Glines', Slauch's, Wentze's and Freestones to satisfy culinary purposes.

It has been demonstrated that by cultivation the produce of the section be increased many times. Of the crops so far assured wheat, oats and potatoes are in the field many farmers having already raised 15 to 30 bushels wheat and 40 bushels oats. Mr Siddoway is among the few farmers of the county this year raising wheat and oats.

In his characteristic way George A. Slauch and his sons, who have possessions there, last year operated a small tract of experimental ground and the results in Sudan grass, Roosevelt oats, buck-wheat, sugar beets, potatoes, peas, radishes and turnips was very encouraging. On one farm a tract was partially plowed, cut and covered, and it has been noted that the natural grass with this small amount of cultivation has been more than quadrupled.

Jas. W. Paxman, who was engaged in the extension department of the Agricultural College but now retired, had given the farmers great encouragement and timely advice in the starting of this new industry and the dry farmers are now trying to encourage the officials to send him regularly to help increase the production now that many of them have land broken and are ready to farm.

The writer was informed by a prominent citizen from Monticello, Utah, that the increase in oats alone by scientific methods, on some of the successful farms there have been from 20 to 65 bushels of oats per acre. We are anxious that the Farm Bureau will continue this department and help us increase our efficiency.

People of the valley are invited to take their joy ride next summer into this wonderful portion of our basin, breathe the invigorating mountain air and partake of the most delicately flavored vegetables grown.

U. C. 1001

DIAMOND MOUNTAIN

The following incidents were taken from the life history of Robert Cooper in the Book "Second Estate."

As I walked to and from school , I used to admire a big bunch of lambs feeding in a large city lot and getting larger and fatter every day. These were the orphan lambs that the Wellman boys collected and cashed in on. This gave me a determination to try once more to make some money raising bum lambs. I talked it over with Mother and we decided it could be made a family project. By the time school was out the next spring (1923) we were ready to put our plans into action.

We borrowed four milch cows to care for during the summer for the use of their milk for our lambs. I gathered these cows together at Noel's and one morning started them past Noel's house toward the mountain. I urged the cows slowly on over the dusty 12 mile road to Brush Creek. I located Henry Kurtz, an old bachelor, made arrangements to stop there for the night with my cows and mare and colt. and was soon eating a substantial supper which Kurtz prepared.

The next morning he gave me an early breakfast and sent me on my way with my well fed livestock without accepting a penny for anything.

On the side of the mountain I stopped for awhile and the livestock and I drank from the cool spring and rested. As we continued on up the face, it became more difficult to keep the cows going, and Sorrely became concerned when her colt lagged too far behind. I had not much more than reached the top when Floyd Noel, my cousin caught up with me. He was driving a team and wagon with Mother and all the younger children except Conrad. They went on ahead to the Slaugh cabin where we were going to stay, I continued to urge the cows on. I arrived late and was glad to turn in for the night in the dirty cabin after hobbling old Sorrely, milking the cows and eating supper.

The next day Floyd returned to Vernal. We took care of our animals and cleaned out the cabin in which livestock had taken protection from the elements. By the time we had completed our work, it was late in the afternoon. We were pretty satisfied with our living quarters now and settled down to enjoy them.

ORPHAN LAMBS.

My brother, Arvene and I started picking up bum lambs from the nearby herds. Another brother, Conrad, was working for Norman Olson for the summer. His main job was to take care of the cow and keep livestock out of the wheat. Olson spent most of the time in Vernal, but by keeping Conrad on the place he was able to satisfy the law in getting his residence time completed so that he could prove up on his land.

place was not far from where the road came on top of the mountain. He was one of the few who proved up on Diamond Mountain land who continued to raise wheat year after year. He would cut it with a binder, and then, after it was all stacked in one place, he would get a crew to help him thresh.

The crew consisted of three men on the stack to feed the thresher; two men to cut the ties on the bundles of wheat with knives made from old sections of mowing machine knife; two men to relay the straw from the thresher and stack it; one man to sack the wheat from the thresher; one wagon with two men to load the sacks of wheat on the wagon and unload them at the nearby granery; one man to haul water to the steam engine; one man to keep it fired with coal and wood, keep it and the thresher greased, and try to keep the long leather belt, which crossed in the center, at the right tension and angle so that it wouldn't slip off the pulleys; and a cook.

My job was sometimes on the stack but generally right at the mouth of the thresher where the bundles entered for the threshing process. I held the home made knife in one hand cutting the binding twine ties. With the other I tried to separate the bundles when they were piled on top of each other or were coming too fast.

This was the oldest threshing machine I had ever worked on although I had watched the old horse powered machines while they were operating. The modern machines had revolving knives which were turned along with the rest of the mechanism. These not only cut the ties but also cut the straw up into pieces. In this thresher the straw came out full length, an excellent straw for straw ticks for beds.

The cook was the wife of one of the threshing hands. They were from Brown's Park and had a couple of children with them. There was a story going around that they had killed a couple of their children by tying them up in such a way that the children had hung themselves. However, the couple seemed as meek and mild as anybody I had ever known.

One day John Louie Siddoway dropped in on his way to his sheep camp it was decided that we needed some more meat for the threshing crew and that I was to go with John Louie to his sheep camp and bring back a mutton. We saddled one of old John's horses which I mounted and took off with John Louie for his camp which must have been about 12 miles to the north east.

We jogged our horses most of the way following first one old road and then another arriving at the camp from the rear just as the sheepherder was bringing in his sheep. John Louie and his herder selected a nice wether, shot it, skinned and dressed it, and left it hanging on the end of the wagon tongue all night to cool out.

After an excellent sheepherder's supper including good sour dough bread and mutton, I went to bed between John Louie and his herder.

When we arose the next morning we looked out at a beautiful world covered with about four inches of snow. The white wool of the sheep looked very dirty as they arose, shook the snow from their fleeces, and slowly started to leave the bed ground.

Right after breakfast we tied the mutton in a seamless sack and secured it in back of my saddle. I mounted the horse and dug my heels in his ribs as we headed back with the fresh mutton for the threshing crew.

The snow covered the seldom traveled road so completely that it was sometimes very difficult to tell whether we were even on it. Then we came to a definite fork in the road. I was sure that we were to take the fork to the left, but the horse wanted to go to the right. I finally forced him to take the left. However, after we had gone but a short distance and his continued unwillingness to go in that direction, I figured that he probably had more sense than I did. I stopped guiding him; I just let him do what he wished. He left the road and cut across the sage brush until he got back on the other road.

From then on I let him choose the way he wished to go even though it seemed to me that we were going in the wrong direction. Eventually we came within sight of some familiar land marks. Horse sense was vindicated. I had been completely turned around.

Our House on Diamond.

The next spring (1924) after school was out, we went back to our Diamond Mountain place. Floyd Noel and I took up two loads of sawed logs together with some lumber, roofing, and materials for our cabin. The first afternoon we drove the teams past Brush Creek and on into the cedars where we made a dry camp. The next day, as soon as the morning star appeared over the eastern horizon, we hitched up our teams and drove up the steep mountain grade with our heavy loads before the sun had a chance to bring its unwelcome heat to our laboring horses.

We needed help to build our house. Frank Hartle still owed me some for the work I had done for him at the foot of Taylor Mountain. He offered to help us out and came up with his team, and wagon, and tools.

We established the direction of our house by sighting the north star at night and driving some pegs with which we lined up the next day. We dug through the top soil and placed rocks for the foundation on which we placed some of our sawed logs for a lower plate.

The sawed logs were logs which had a slab sawed off two sides to make them a uniform width of 4 inches. We sawed these in seven foot lengths and nailed one end to the bottom plate and one end to the 2x4 plate at the top to make a two room stockade sawed log cabin. Each room was about 12 x 14 feet. I had made the two door frames in school as one of my projects in the woodworking class I took from Harold Lundell.

Because we didn't have quite enough logs to complete our cabin, we snaked some up the hill from an abandoned wrecked cabin at Gerber Springs which was about one half mile south-west on the Diamond Gulch.

After we brought the timber from the cabin at Gerber, we found that we lacked timber for the roof. Frank and Conrad went over near Brush Creek Mountain and obtained five pine poles which we lined up for a gable roof, putting sheathing and roofing over them. We now had one of the best cabins on the entire mountain, even if it did have a dirt floor.

Mother worked for Jähb N. Davis for awhile cooking for the sheep shearers but when Laurence and Claude roamed away from our cabin and got lost trying to find her, sahe came back to help us concentrate on the bum lamb project.

Conrad came over to see us again. This time he had another project in mind. There was some land still open for filing just east and south of Norman Olson's. He had heard that somebody else was planning to file on it and urged Mother to file. We went over, examined the land, and decided which was the best. Then, as soon as Mother could find a way to Vernal, she went and filed on 640 acres.

As soon as the herds were through lambing and we had secured all the bum lambs we could, we moved over to olson's cabin with them and helped Conrad take care of the Olson place while we were getting established on our own place.

The Crickets Come.

Then the crickets came. They marched across the country in hoards about a quarter of a mile across. Each cricket was a dark brown and about the size of a man's thumb. As they came to an obstacle, they would climb straight up and over the top and down the other side without turning or going around anything. If they came to a cedar post, they went up and over; if they came to a well, with or without water, they could go right in and attempt ot cross and crawl out again; if they came to a stem of wheat they would climb up, stop until they had devoured the head, and then go down and on.

One day we discovered a bunch approaching Olson's wheat field. We all rushed out to try to turn them. We dragged a chain in front of them; we tied tin cans together and dragged them; we beat on tin pcns. We kept this up right ahead of them and on into the wheat, but on they came straight ahead. Finally, we could see that nothing would stop them. We gave up and went back to the cabin.

After some time we went out to inspect what we thought would be a devoured wheat field and discovered that the crickets had taken an about face and were all back out of the wheat going in the opposite direction. The only thing we could figure was that there were leaders among them which make certain sounds which the rest follow. We must have been able to turn the leaders with all our noise of dragging chains and cans and beating pans. At the same time the rest of the crickets couldn't hear their leaders and had come right on into the wheat field. Then, when we stopped making a noise and left, theu again heard the signals and turned to follow them.

We built a chicken coop of slabs on the place Mother had filed on and started living in it so that we could put in some residence time toward proving up.

I Work on a Thresher.

John Siddoway, a relative of John Louie Siddoway, made arrangements for me to work for him during threshing. John was an old bachelor. His

We Build Fence on Diamond Mountain.

The summer of 1927 was a busy one on Diamond Mountain. There was still much to be done before we would have the necessary requirements in improvements so that Mother could prove up on the place.

Arvene and I did most of the heavy work. We went south east from our house and down into the cedars where we cut posts for our fences. We had a small team of Uncle Frank Noel's which we used to snake our posts up onto the flat. There we would load them on our small wagon and take them to where we were putting up our fence. It was almost impossible to dig the post holes the ground was so hard. We would dig out what we could then we would fill the hole with the precious water we had to haul from Diamond Springs. After the holes had soaked over night, we would dig again and then add more water and dig again the next day.

Arvene and I Haul Water

Before we had completed the fence, Grand father Cooper and his friend, Mr Mc Daneils came from California to help us complete the cistern. We dug a round hole about six feet across and eight feet deep; We had hauled sand; we had already brought up a few sacks of cement from Vernal.

Now the problem was to get water to mix our cement. We decided that five miles west to Diamond Springs was too far and we could get the water much quicker over to Lamvert's place to the east. Late in the afternoon Arvene and I hooked up the small team to the makeshift wagon, loaded on two empty barrels each covered with a piece of canvas and a tub, and took off on a short cut road for Lambert's. Neither one of us had ever been over that road before, but it was headed right in their general direction. Certainly, it would take us there. However, it wasn't long until the road came to an end. We had to cut across country to our destination, weaving around the cedars and at times back tracking. By the time we arrived at Lambert's it was after dark.

Nobody was at home, but we drove up to the well and started to fill our barrels. We were in for a disappointment. There was so little water in the well that we could only dip up part of a bucket and before long we could dip no more. We had to wait for more water to come into the well. Our horses were hungry and tired. We unhooked them, took off their harnesses, hobbled then with their halter ropes, turned them loose to graze, and prepared for a long session. We waited for awhile and again dipped what water we could from the well.

It was getting rather cold. We gathered some dead sage brush and some branches of cedar, kindled a fire and sat or stood around it, turning first one side and then another toward the flame to try to keep warm. Again we dipped from the well. We became sleepy and tried to lie near the fire and sleep but the near side got too hot and the far side chilled. In rotation throughout the night we snoozed, turned, replenished our fire, put out spots on our smoldering clothing where sparks had set us afire, and dipped water from the well.

The morning star was out before we finally finished filling our barrels. Our horses were still grazing nearby. We caught and harnessed them and started home with our prized water.

At home the folks were concerned about us. They probably put in about as sleepless a night as Arvene and I did.

Tract 1 The Northwest quarter of the Northeast quarter, the Northeast quarter of the Northeast quarter, the South half of the Northeast quarter, the East half of the Northwest quarter of Section 12, Township 1 South, Range 23 East, Salt Lake Meridian. (200 acres)

\$ 2000.00

Tract 2 Lot 1 and the Southeast quarter of the Northeast quarter, the East half of the Southeast quarter of Section 2, Township 1 South, Range 23 East, Salt Lake Meridian. (158.75 acres)

\$1587.50

Tract 3 Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, the Southeast quarter of Northwest quarter, the East half of the Southwest quarter and the West half of the Southeast quarter of Section 6, Township 1 South, Range 24 East, Salt Lake Meridian. (306.38 acres)

\$ 3063.80

Tract 4 The North half of the Northeast quarter of Section 18, Township 1 South, Range 24 East, Salt Lake Meridian (80 acres)

\$800.00

Tract 5 The West half of the Northwest quarter of Section 17, Township 1 South, Range 24 East, Salt Lake Meridian. (80 acres)

\$ 800.00

Tract 6 The Northeast quarter of the Southeast quarter, the Southeast quarter of the Northeast quarter, the Southwest quarter and South half of the Southeast quarter of Section 1, Township 1 South, Range 23 East, Salt Lake Meridian (320 acres)

\$ 3200.00

Tract 7 Lots 1, 2, & 3, West half of Northeast quarter, East half of Northwest quarter, Northwest quarter of Southeast quarter and Northeast quarter of Southwest quarter of Section 7, Township 1 South, Range 24 East, Salt Lake Meridian. Also beginning 370 feet North of the Southwest corner, the Northeast quarter of the Southeast quarter of said Section 7; thence East 70 feet, North 5°10' East 400 feet; North 30° West 515 feet; North 90°30' West 355 feet; North 40°30' West 390 feet; North 57°30' West 100 feet; West 110 feet more or less to West line, Southeast quarter, Northeast quarter of said Section 7 South 1,606 feet, more or less to beginning. (358.93 acres)

\$ 3589.30

Included herewith with the Tracts 1 through 7 are the Federal Range Rights which are included in the appraisal since the Federal Range property is adjacent to the above tracts.

NOTE HERE

Beginning 17 rods West of the Northeast corner of Section 37, Township 4 South, Range 21 East, Salt Lake Meridian, thence South 26 rods, West 28 rods, South 13 rods, West 15 rods, South 9 rods, West 74 2/5 rods, North 28 rods East 22 Rods, North 22 rods, East 95 4/5 rods more or less to beginning. (29 acres)

\$ 15,000.00

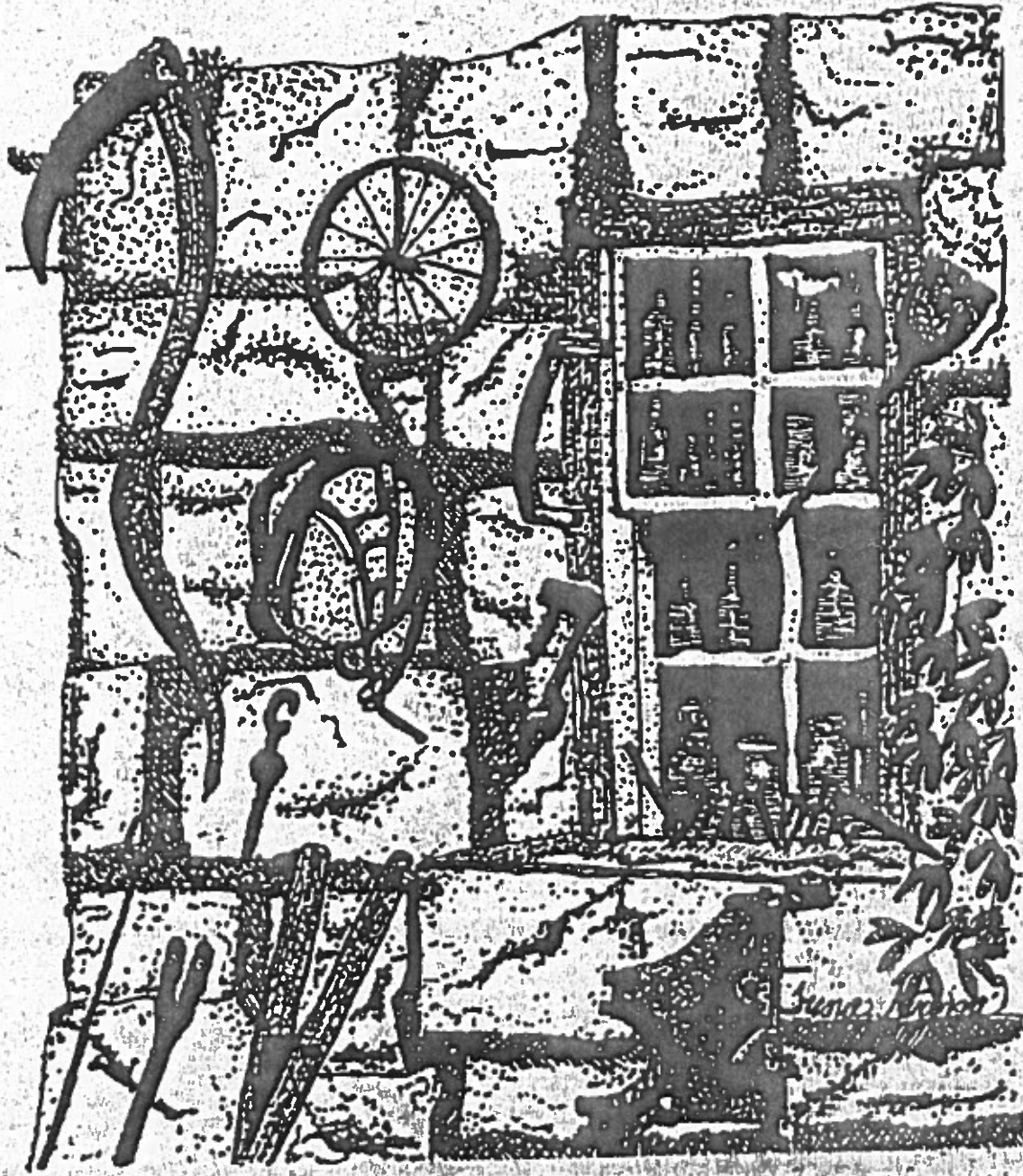
Machinery - no value

CASH (First Security Bank, Vernal Office)

Savings account - \$1709.23
Checking account - \$8115.23

2/10, 765, 11

DIAMOND MOUNTAIN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN



UNTAH COUNTY LIBRARY
NO. 576
FILE FOL.

MANAGEMENT SITUATION ANALYSIS

CHAPTER 3

PHYSICAL PROFILE

AIR

Air quality in DMRA is generally good to excellent due primarily to low population numbers, limited industrial development and few major air pollution emission sources. The Deseret Generation and Transmission Bonanza power plant, approximately 5 miles east of the resource area boundary, influences the air quality of the resource area periodically. The oil and gas development activities in the Myton Bench area and the oil and gas extraction and storage activities in Clay Basin influence air quality within the area.

The existing good air quality of the resource area is typical of a largely undeveloped region in the western United States. The measured long-term average concentrations of criteria pollutants (sulphur dioxide, particulate matter, nitrous oxide, oxidants, hydrocarbons, and lead) are well within ambient air quality standards except in the more populated areas where particulate emissions from various man-made sources, windblown dust, and emissions from soil and general roads may cause exceedances of standards periodically.

Atmospheric visibility is generally quite good. Visual-range measurements made by the National Park Service at the Dinosaur National Monument show a mean visual range of 110 to 119 miles in the summer. The mean annual visual range was 110 miles but visual ranges varied from 62 to over 186 miles during the period. The good visibility is the result of low regional sulphur dioxide and ambient suspended particulate concentrations (Uinta Basin Synfuels EIS, 1983).

CLIMATE

The climate of the resource area is variable and influenced by the complex topography represented within the resource area varying from the lower flat areas of the Uinta Basin to the more complex mountainous areas of Browns Park and Clay Basin (see map, Climate Regions). The resource area has 21 climate stations, ranging in technical complexity from rain cans to sophisticated electronic stations gathering air, precipitation, and soils data (see map, Climate Stations).

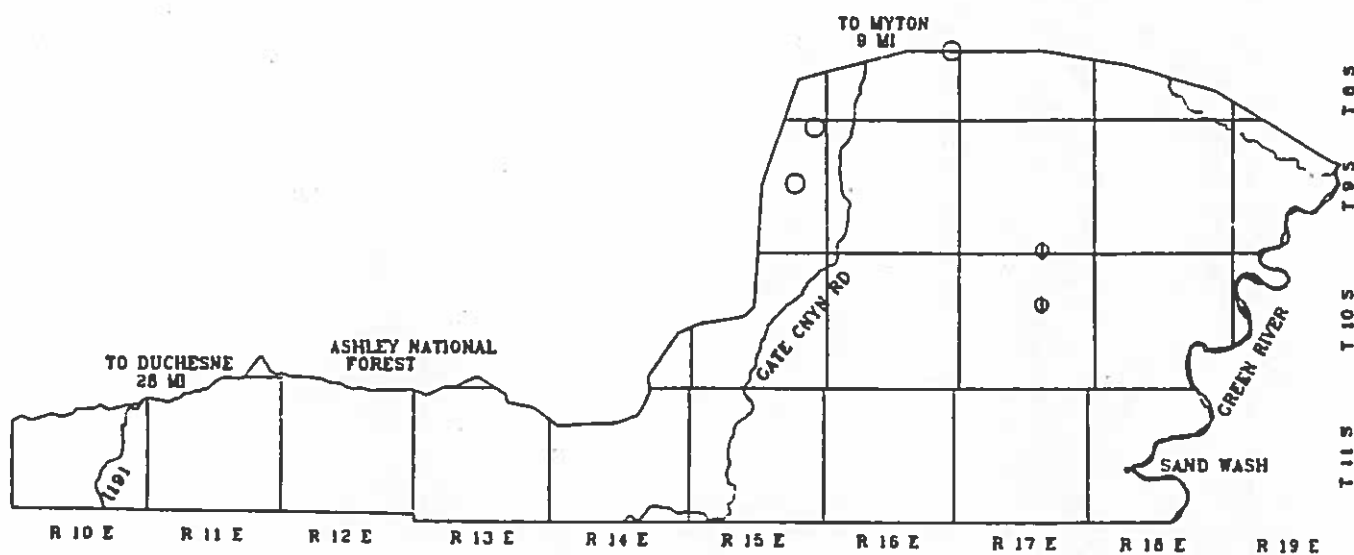
The climate is a generally semi-arid continental regime characterized by low relative humidity, abundant sunshine, low to moderate precipitation along the ridges and higher plateaus. The range is generally 8-10 inches in the basin and up to 35 inches or more at the higher elevations as a result of both snowfall during the winter and summer rains (see maps, Isohytal Lines, and Precipitation & Temperature Zones). Moisture evaporation is high because of low humidity, high temperatures, and winds. The average frost-free

DIAMOND MOUNTAIN RESOURCE

BLM CLIMATE STATION LOCATIONS

JULY 31, 1990

SOUTHERN PORTION



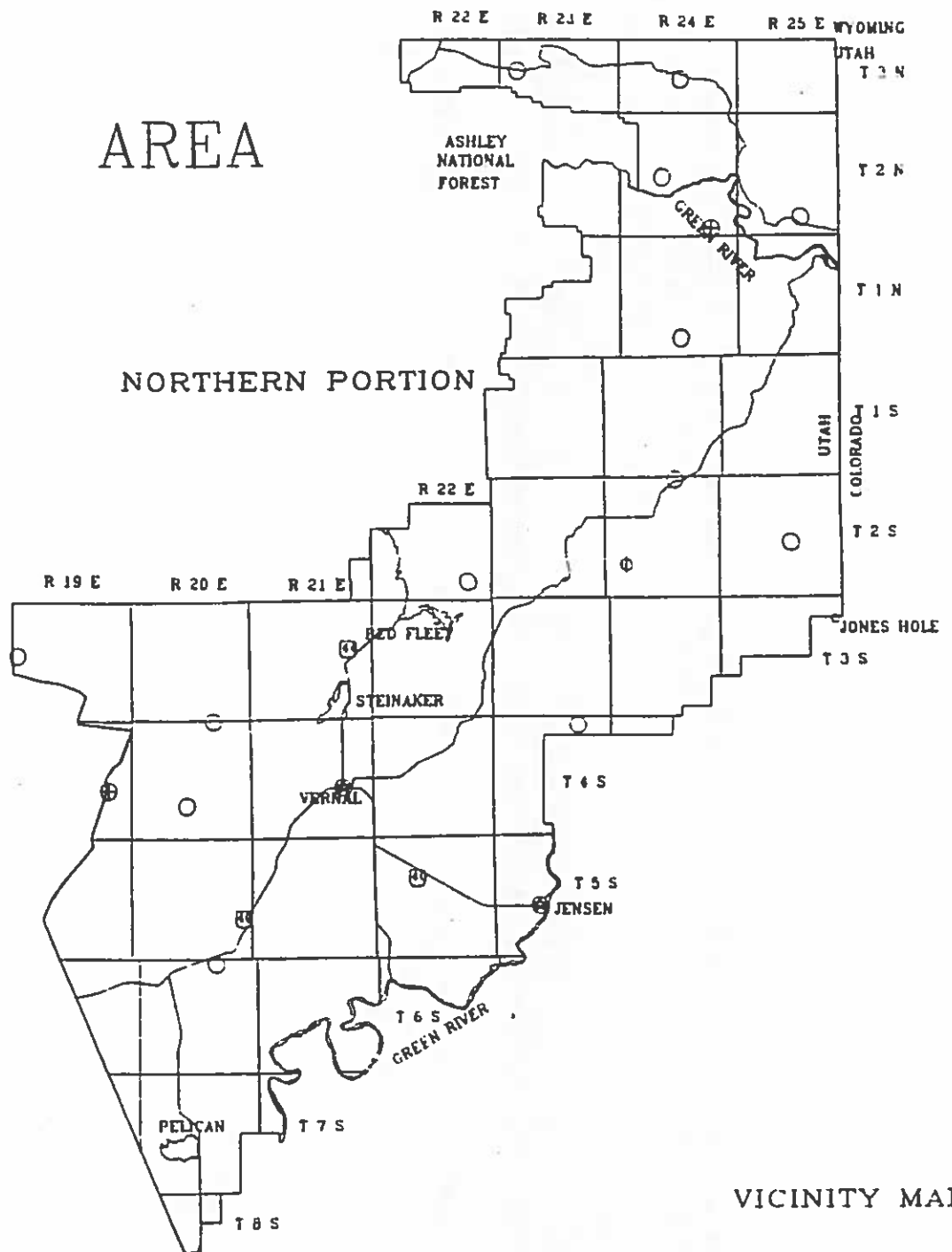
SCALE 1: 550000

REMOTE AUTO WEATHER STATION.
OMNI WEATHER STATION
PRECIPITATION GAUGE

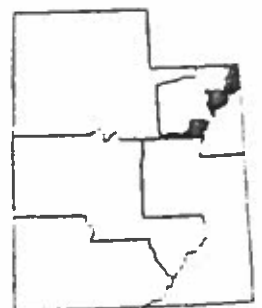


AREA

NORTHERN PORTION



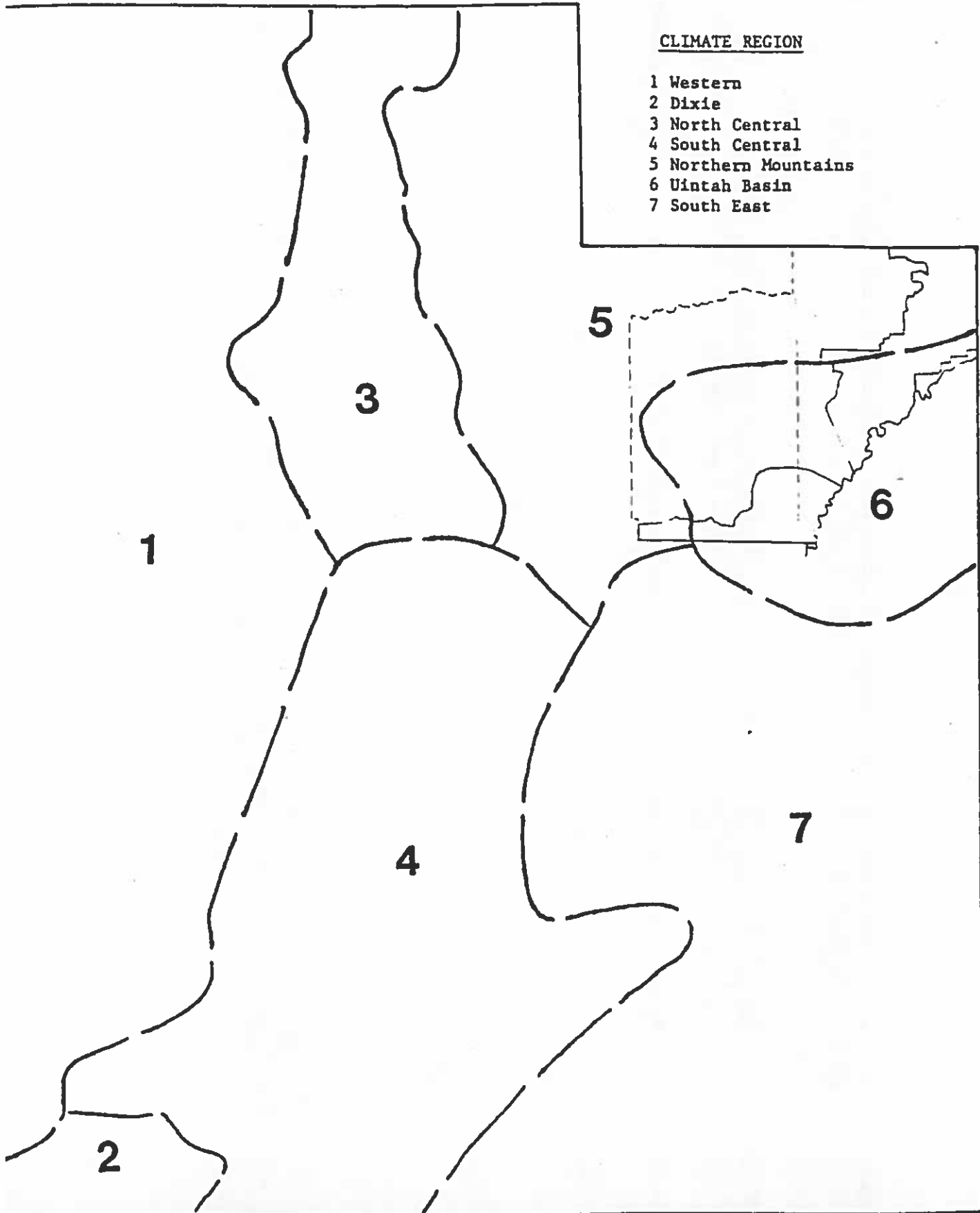
VICINITY MAP



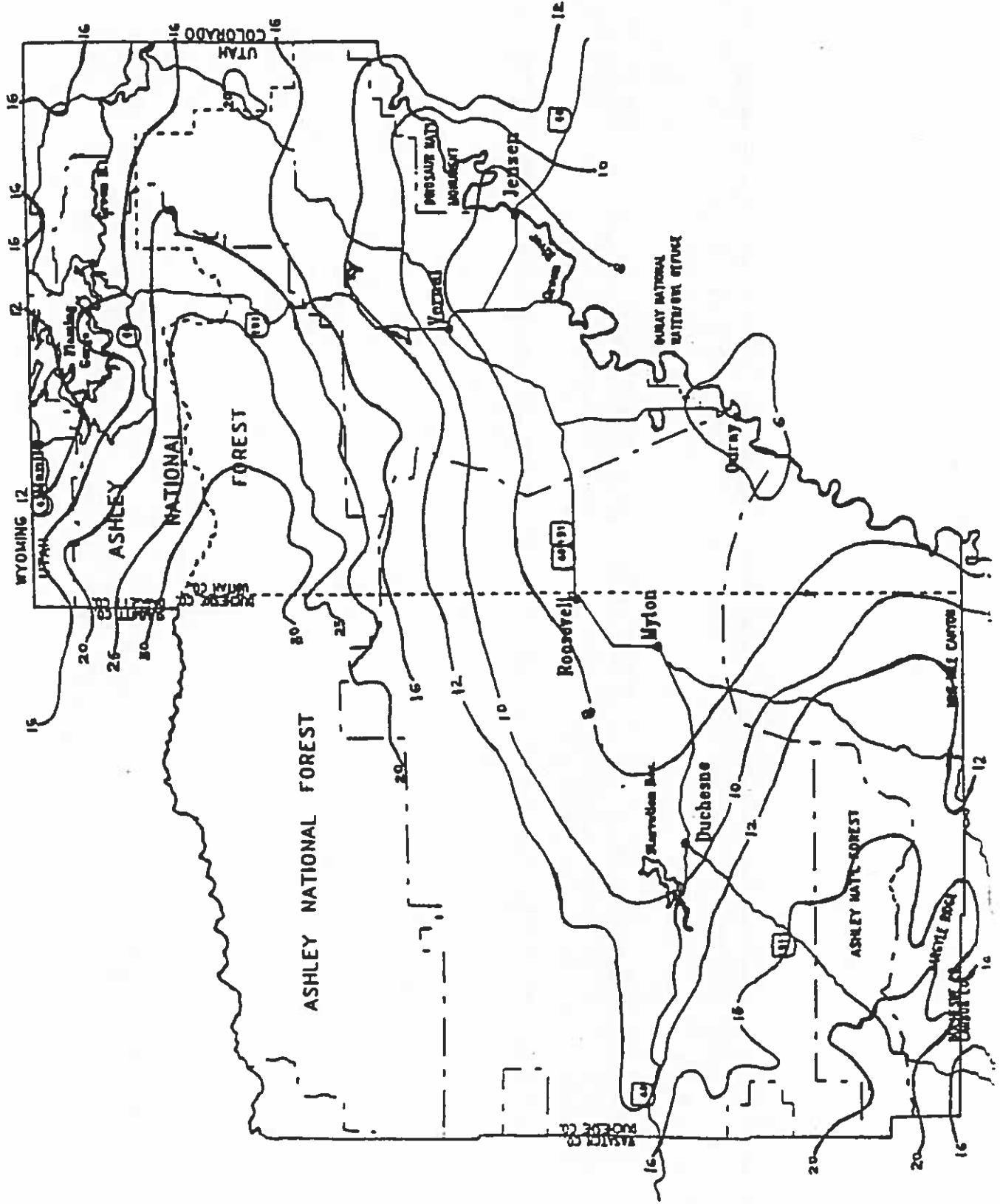
CLIMATE REGION

CLIMATE REGION

- 1 Western
- 2 Dixie
- 3 North Central
- 4 South Central
- 5 Northern Mountains
- 6 Uintah Basin
- 7 South East

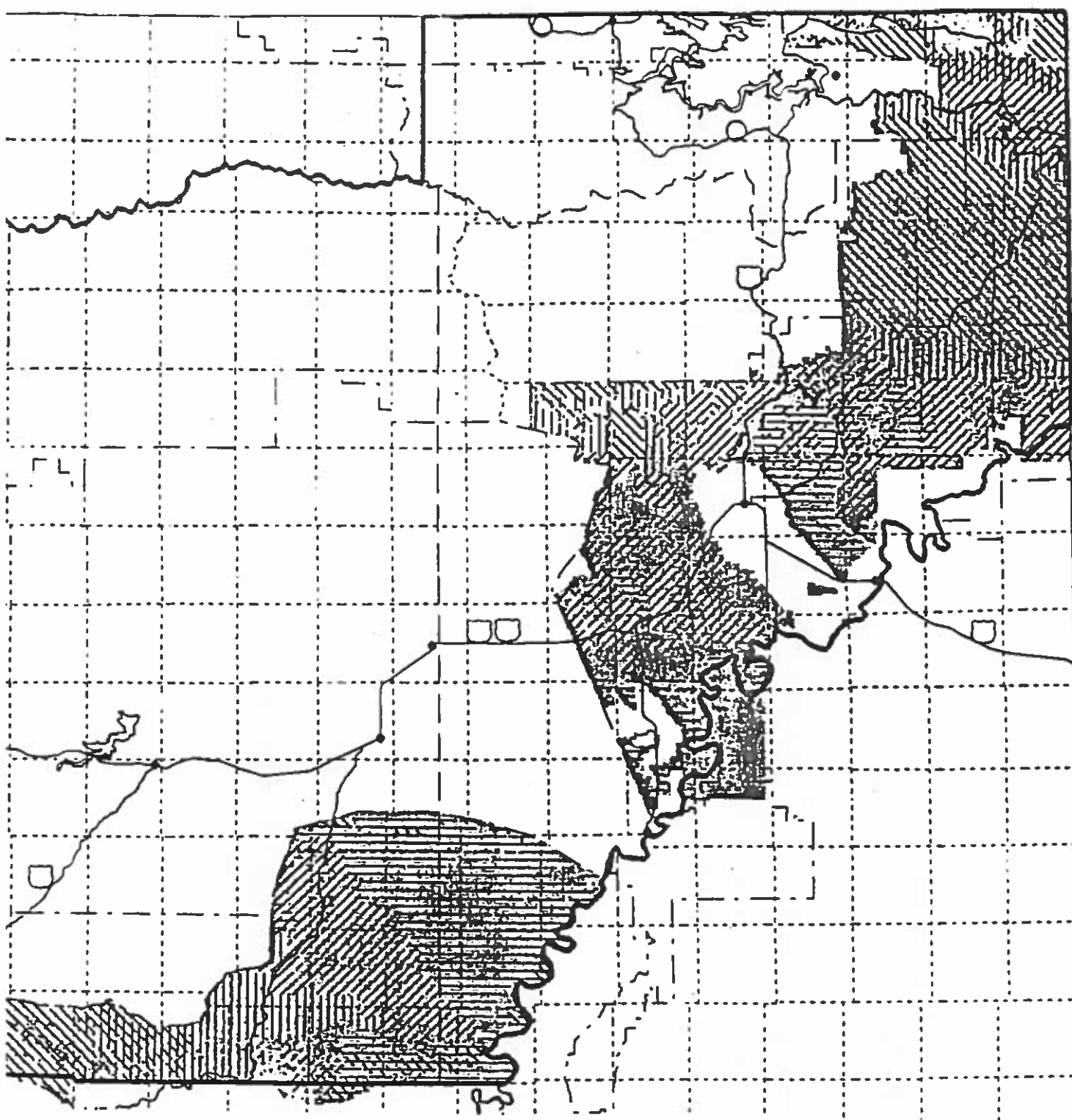


ISOHYTAL LINES (Annual Precipitation)



PRECIPITATION & TEMPERATURE ZONES

(Ecological Zones)



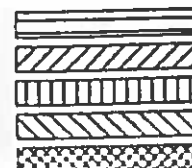
VICINITY MAP



SCALE 1: 500000



Annual Precip.	Annual Air Temp.	Ecological Zones
5 - 8 inches	44 - 49 F.	Desert
8 - 12 inches	44 - 47 F.	Semidesert
12 - 16 inches	42 - 47 F.	Upland
16 - 20 inches	40 - 43 F.	Mountain
20 - 22+ inches	38 - 42 F.	High Mountain



This is a detailed topographic map of the Ashley National Forest region in Colorado. The map features numerous contour lines indicating elevation, with labels such as 20, 40, 60, 80, 100, 120, 140, and 160 feet. Key geographical features include the Ashley National Forest, the Grand and Green Rivers, and the town of Jensen. The map also shows the boundary between Colorado and Utah, and the location of the Grand Canyon. The map is oriented with North at the top, and the scale is indicated by a bar at the bottom.

season (see map, Frost-Free Zones) is approximately 100 to 110 days in the Uinta Basin (Moon Lake project EIS, 1981).

Clear skies prevail most of the year with strong insolation during the day and rapid nocturnal cooling resulting in wide daily temperature ranges. The extremes are somewhat moderated in the Browns Park area because of the buffering effect of the Green River.

In the Uinta Basin, there is a high frequency of inversions and fog, especially during the winter months, as a result of nighttime cold air drainage from the surrounding higher elevations (Climate of the Diamond Mountain Resource Area, 1980).

GEOLOGY

STRATIGRAPHY AND GEOLOGIC HISTORY

In our discussion, it will prove useful to keep the following divisions of geologic time in mind. This will provide a useful framework within which geologic history and stratigraphy may be examined (refer to Figures GEO-1a, GEO-1b, and GEO-1c).

TABLE GEO-1: Principal Divisions of Geologic Time

Erathem	Period System	Age estimates commonly used for boundaries (Millions of Years B.P.)
Cenozoic	Quaternary	1.8 to Present
	Tertiary	65 to 1.8
Mesozoic	Cretaceous	136 to 65
	Jurassic	190-195 to 136
	Triassic	225 to 190-195
Paleozoic	Permian	280 to 225
	Pennsylvanian	320 to 280
	Mississippian	345 to 320
	Devonian	395 to 345
	Silurian	430-440 to 395
	Ordovician	500 to 430-440
	Cambrian	570 to 500
Precambrian	Phanerozoic	5.8 to 1.0
	Upper Proterozoic	1.7 to 1.0
	Middle Proterozoic	2.5 to 1.7
	Early Proterozoic	4.5 to 2.5

Precambrian divisions, in billions of years from Seyfert and Sirkin, 1979.

Paleozoic, Mesozoic and Cenozoic divisions, in millions of years from USGS, 1978.

FLAMING GORGE - NE UINTA MTS

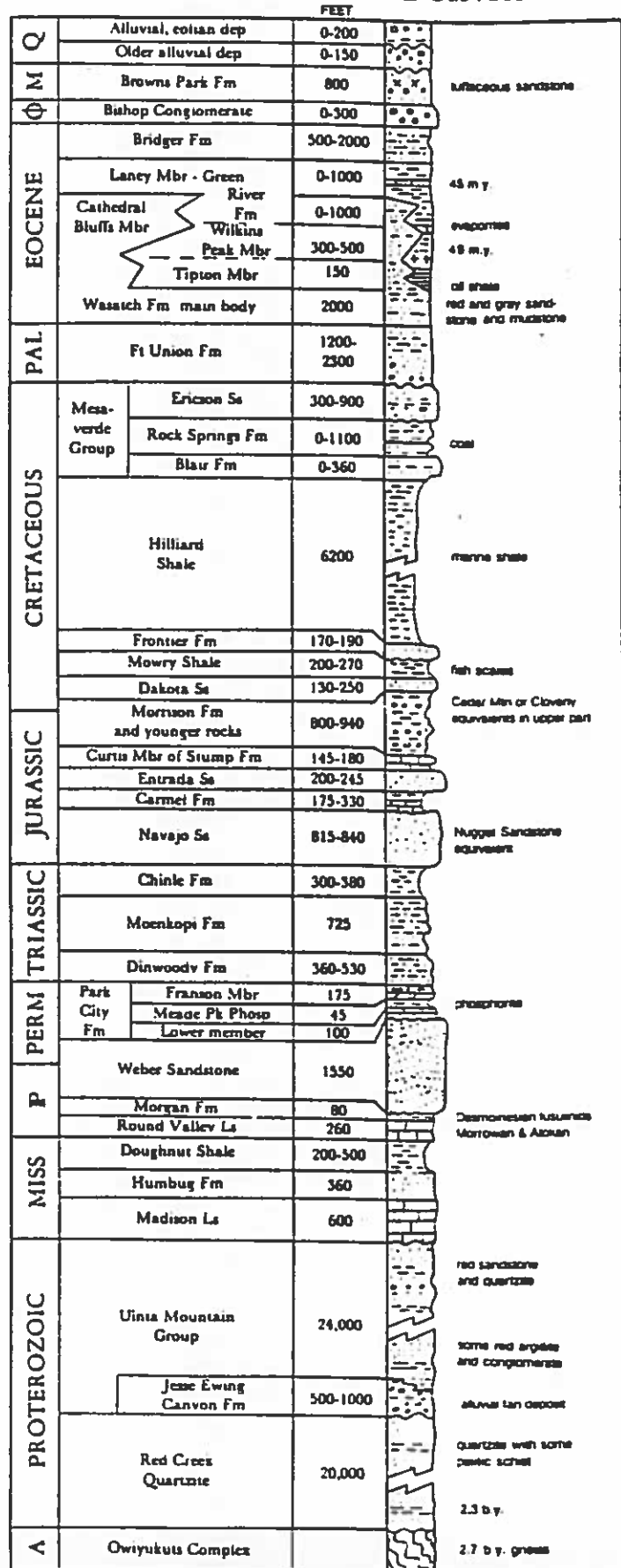


Figure GEO-1(a).

Geologic column showing the stratigraphy north of the Uinta Mountains in the Flaming Gorge area and northern portions of the Resource Area. Adapted from Lehi F. Hintze's Geologic History of Utah

UINTA BASIN

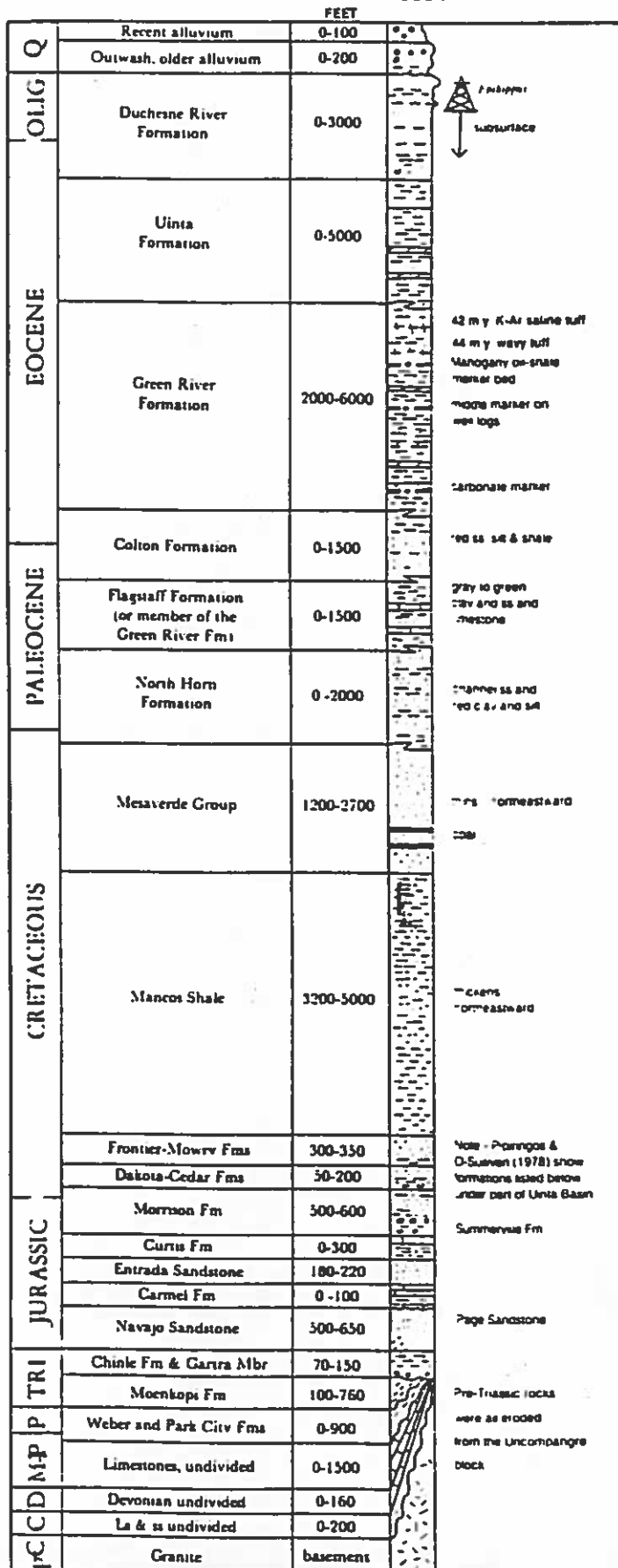


Figure GEO-1(c).

Geologic column showing the stratigraphy of the Uinta Basin including the central and southern portions of the Resource Area. Adapted from Lehi F. Hintze's Geologic History of Utah

DINOSAUR MONUMENT - SE UINTA MTS

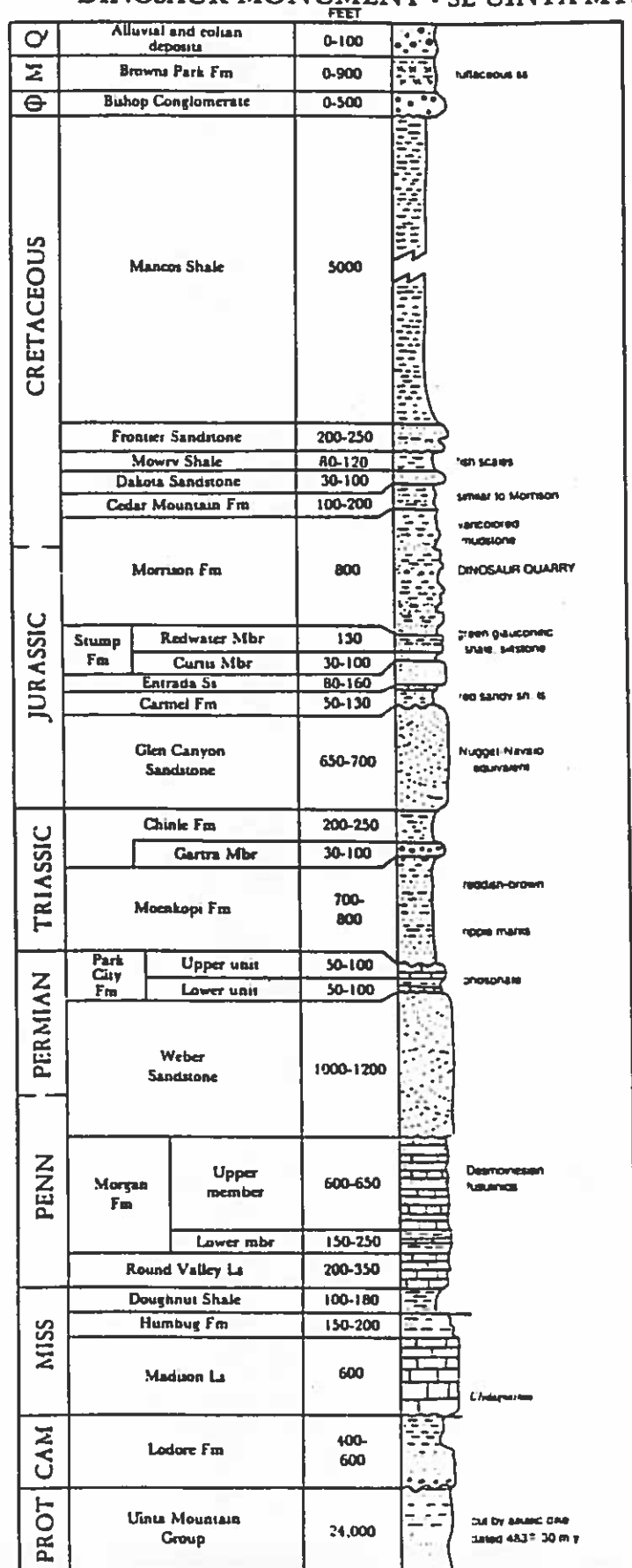


Figure GEO-1(b).

Geologic column showing the stratigraphy on the south flank of the Uinta Mountains in the Ashley Valley area and north central portions of the Resource Area. Adapted from Lehi F. Hintze's Geologic History of Utah

STRATIGRAPHIC SETTING

Sedimentary rocks dominate the landscape within the resource area. Igneous and metamorphic rocks are almost non-existent. The few outcrops of igneous and metamorphic rocks which do occur are limited to the mountains north of Browns Park. The remainder of the resource area consists of a diverse sequence of sediments spanning over 2 billion years of geologic history. Over 44,000 feet of sediment have been deposited at the present site of the Uinta Mountains since deposition of the oldest sediments began between 770 and 1,110 million years ago. (Bryant, 1985). The total sedimentary package includes: Precambrian marine clastics, Paleozoic shelf deposits, Mesozoic terrestrial deposits, Tertiary basin fill and lake deposits, and Late Tertiary and Quaternary basin fill, glacial deposits and alluvium. Figure GEO-2 shows the general outcrop pattern of these rocks.

THE PRECAMBRIAN

Precambrian rocks within the resource area consist of three distinct units. The first two, the Owiukuts Complex and the Red Creek Quartzite, are metamorphic units found only within a narrow sliver of complexly faulted terrane north of Browns Park. Excellent exposures of these units may be seen in lower Jesse Ewing Canyon. Outcrops of the third unit, the Uinta Mountain Group, are much more common with exposures all along the core of the Uinta Mountains, on both sides of the mountain crest and along the north flank. Rocks of this unit are a common constituent of terrace gravels, glacial outwash, and alluvium on both sides of the mountains.

Rocks of the Owiukuts Complex are the oldest rocks in the resource area, with an age of 2.7 billion years. These consist of various gneissic rocks and garnet amphibolite. The thickness and extent of this unit is unclear due to paucity of exposure. These rocks are thought to mark the location of the southern margin of an Proterozoic continent (Bryant, 1985).

The Red Creek Quartzite is intimately related to the older Owiukuts Complex. It is believed that after their formation, the Red Creek Quartzite became part of the Owiukuts continental mass by accretion (Bryant, 1985). Outcrops of these metamorphic rocks are also limited in extent. These rocks consist primarily of white to green, glassy, highly deformed quartzites, and lesser amounts of quartzose mica schist. The unit is a complex of metasediments, metamorphic, and igneous rock types (Ritzma, 1959). Base metal mineralization is present in these rocks and most likely resulted from this history of metamorphism and deformation.

The Uinta Mountain Group was deposited between 770 and 1,110 million years ago within a narrow east-west trending trough south of the Proterozoic Owiukuts continental margin. Ritzma (1959) estimated that total thickness may reach 24,000 feet. Figure GEO-3 shows the north-south extent of these rocks at the end of Cretaceous time, prior to the uplift of the Uinta Mountains.

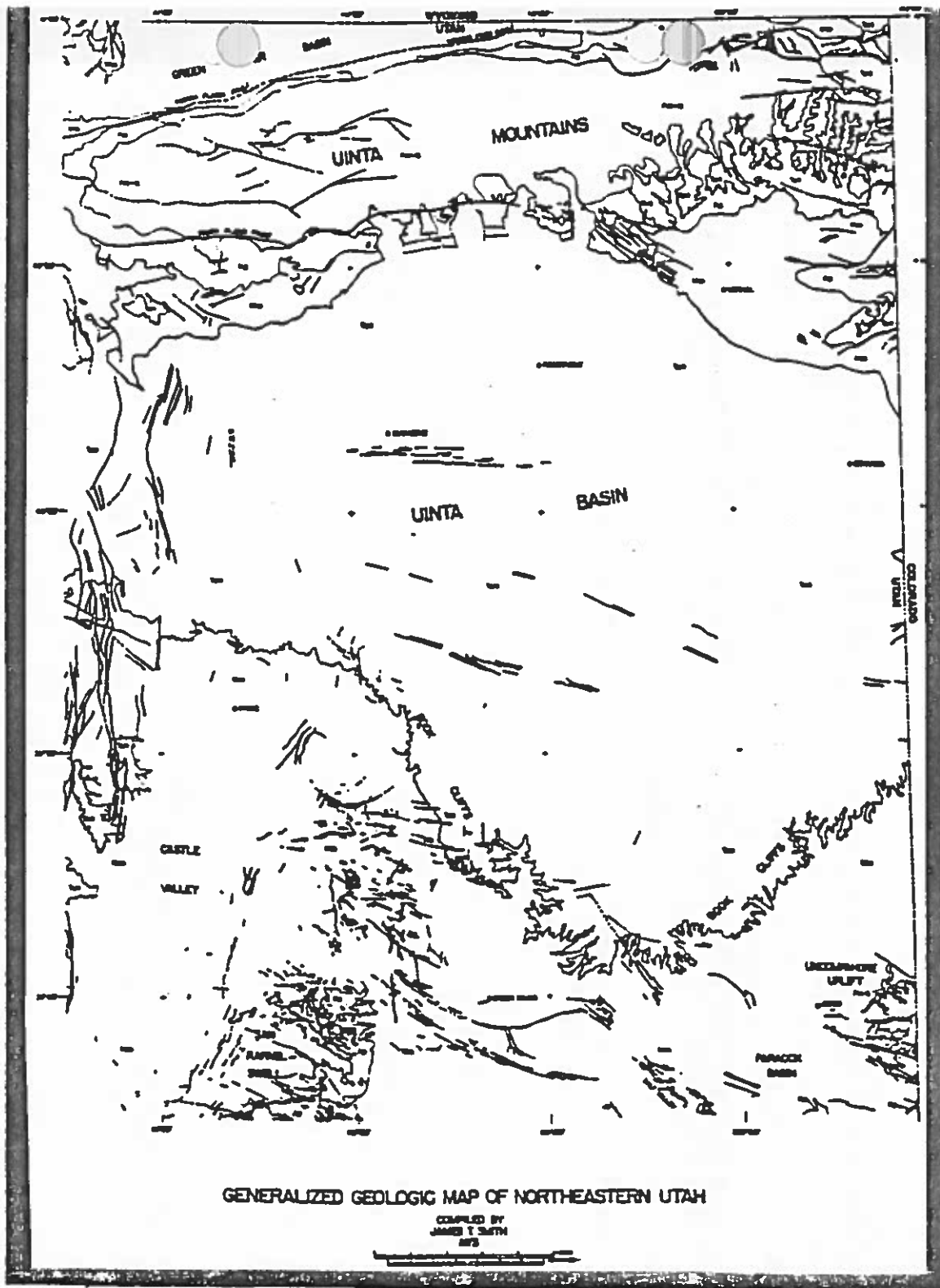


Figure GEO-2.

Generalized Geologic Map of Northeastern Utah,
Adapted from Smith and Cook, 1985.

The distribution of these rocks suggests the Uinta Mountain Group forms a thick mass of sediments extending many miles east to west but thins rapidly to the north and south (Untermann, 1969). The composition of this unit is fairly uniform throughout the eastern Uinta Mountains. It forms bold outcrops and sheer cliffs consisting of red to purple, medium- to coarse-grained sandstones, quartz-pebble conglomerates, shales and argillites in shades of red, green, and lavender (Hansen, 1957). Deposition of these sediments ended with gentle uplift. The area became an expanse of hills exposed to erosion until Middle to Late Cambrian time when the sea moved in again (Hansen, 1975).

Surface exposures of the Uinta Mountain Group are extensive. The Group comes into contact with the younger Lodore Formation just south of Pot Creek. From there it extends northward across the crest of the mountains to the base of the northern mountain front. This unit ends abruptly along the trace of the Uinta Fault. The trace of the fault extends from a point a few miles west of Flaming Gorge eastward beyond the Utah-Colorado border.

The Paleozoic

During Paleozoic times the resource area was a stable foreland shelf subject to phases of regional crustal movement (Childs, 1950) and corresponding environmental change. Marine conditions predominated with rapid lateral change in composition from east to west, and a general shallowing of the seas in an eastward direction. The resource area probably stood somewhat above sea level during Ordovician, Silurian, and Devonian times (Untermann, 1969).

Cambrian System

A single Cambrian unit, the Lodore Formation, is exposed in the Eastern Uintas although this unit is exposed only on the south flank and not the north. The Lodore Formation was deposited with the advance of the middle to late Cambrian seaway. On Diamond Mountain Plateau, the Lodore Formation consists of brown to pink conglomerate overlain by grey to tan to light green shales. Near Crouse Reservoir it is about 295 feet thick (Hansen, 1981). The formation thins to the west and is not known to exist west of Brush Creek (Kinney, 1955). It is well exposed a couple of miles south of Crouse Reservoir along the northern toe slopes of the low ridge line between the reservoir and Diamond Gulch.

Ordovician, Silurian, and Devonian Systems

As mentioned above, it is likely that during Ordovician, Silurian, and Devonian times the present site of the Eastern Uinta Mountains and Basin stood above sea level and were exposed to erosion (Crittenden, 1950). Therefore no deposits of these systems exist in the resource area.

Mississippian and Pennsylvanian Systems

However, in Mississippian time, the area was engulfed by the sea and the deposition of a regional sequence of marine sediments commenced. Shallow to marginal marine conditions persisted through Mississippian and Pennsylvanian times.

In the western United States, Mississippian rocks include a thick interval of resistant light colored limestones at its base. Correlatives of these rocks are recognized from Alberta to Arizona and include the well known Redwall Limestone of the Grand Canyon (Hansen, 1975). Late Mississippian and Early Pennsylvanian Formations comprise a cyclic sequence of sands, carbonates and shales and coals (Cyclothem) representing a period of cyclic environmental changes widely recognized in North America from these times (Hintze, 1988).

Deposition of shallow marine sands (Weber sand sheet) began in middle Pennsylvanian times. Deposition continued until the late Pennsylvanian and then deposition stopped and the higher sands were subjected to a period of erosion (Sheldon, et al, 1967). Deposition of the Weber resumed later, near the end of carboniferous times.

The combined thickness of the Mississippian and Pennsylvanian systems in the resource area ranges from about 2,600 feet on the south flank to about 2,700 feet on the north flank (Hintze, 1988). Thickness tends to diminish to the east and increase to the west. Mississippian Formations include the Madison Limestone, Humbug Formation, and Doughnut Shale. Pennsylvanian Formations include the Round Valley Limestone, Morgan Formation, and Weber Sandstone. Nomenclature and age assignments among the Mississippian and Pennsylvanian Formations in northeast Utah vary considerably among authors.

Permian System

Permian Formations include the younger beds of the Weber Sandstone and the phosphate bearing Park City Formation. The Park City Formation is divided into three members on the north flank. The lower member, named simply the Lower Member, consists of 100 feet of light gray, sandy limestone, dolomite, and sandstone. The middle member, named the Meade Peak Phosphatic Member, consists of 50 feet of Black phosphatic shale, limy shale, and black limestone. The upper Franson Member consists of 190 feet of gray cherty limestone and dolomite, some sandstone, and a band of gypsum and red shales in the middle third (Ritzma, 1959).

At Brush Creek, north of Vernal, the Park City Formation is 207 feet thick (Schell, 1964). Figure GEO-4 shows the eastward thinning nature of this unit, its division into three members and composition.



Figure GEO-3.

North to south cross section of the present site of the Uinta Mountains at the end of Cretaceous times showing the north-south extent of the Uinta Mountain Group and its thickness. Adapted from Ritzma, 1959.

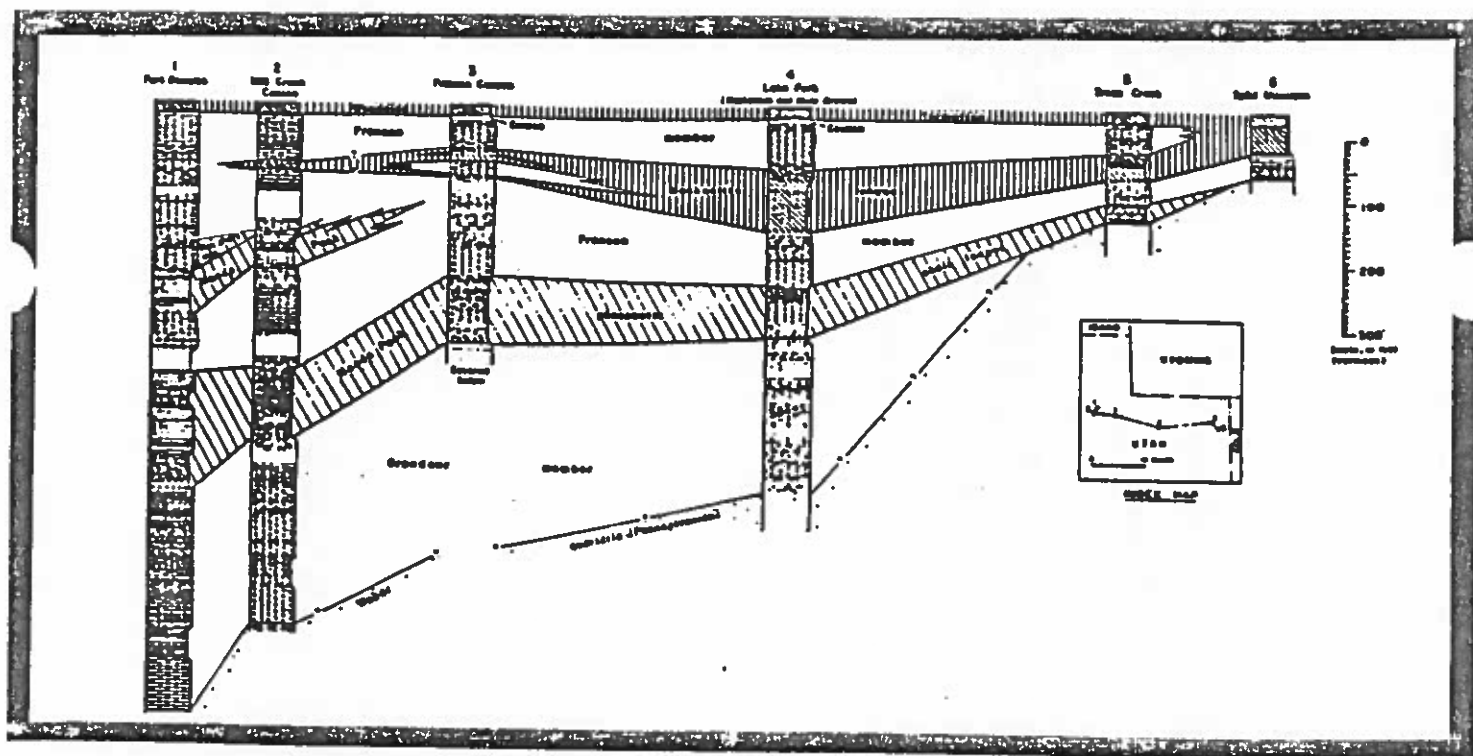


Figure GEO-4.

West to east cross section of Permian Park City formation with emphasis upon the Phosphatic Meade Peak Member. Adapted from Williams, 1969.

Distribution of Paleozoic Rocks

On the north flank, the Paleozoic section is complete at the Summit-Daggett County line. The trace of the older paleozoic rocks intersects the Uinta Fault zone about five miles east of State Highway 44, truncating the older formations. Near Highway 44 the Mississippian rocks are completely cut away by the fault zone. Outcrops of the younger Pennsylvanian and Permian rocks continue eastward but still at an acute angle to the fault zone. Thus, the older beds continue to fall away to the east. Near Flaming Gorge the entire section of Paleozoic rocks disappear. Then, further eastward, with the exception of isolated blocks along the Uinta Fault, the Paleozoic section is completely absent between Horseshoe Canyon and the Owyukuts Plateau to the east.

On Diamond Mountain Plateau, the curving low divide located between the Jones Hole Highway and Pot Creek is composed of Mississippian and Pennsylvanian rocks. The north flank of this ridge line is almost entirely Madison Limestone. The youngest paleozoic rocks, the Weber Sandstone and Park City Formations are exposed along the mountain front between Mosby Mountain and Little Brush Creek to the east. Further to the east, they then disappear beneath the Diamond Mountain Plateau and re-emerge at the head of Diamond Gorge above White Sage Flats and continue eastward to Jones Hole. Across the mountain front the Weber Sandstone Formation forms high and scenic cliffs along the inner gorges of Brush Creek, Ashley Creek, Little Brush Creek, and Split Mountain.

The Paleozoic rocks dip downward into the Uinta Basin beneath Vernal and continue southward. In the subsurface they disappear southward along a pre-Triassic erosional surface (Hintze, 1988. Note the buried Uncompahgre Highland noted in Figure GEO-8, middle panel).

The Mesozoic

The change in character from the marine sediments to continental sediments marks an important shift in prevailing environments between Paleozoic and Mesozoic times. During the Mesozoic, northeastern Utah was generally elevated above sea level and often subjected to Sahara-like desert conditions punctuated by two invasions of shallow seaways (Hintze, 1988). The close of the Mesozoic is marked by a third and final seaway invasion and subsequent retreat, leaving nearly 5,000 feet of marine shales of the Mancos Shale Formation.

Triassic System

The oldest Mesozoic formations, deposited during Triassic times, consist of nearly 1,000 feet of distinctive red shale evaporates and sands. Formations within this interval include, from oldest to youngest, the Moenkopi, Garra, and Chinle.

In early Triassic times the shallow marine conditions of the Paleozoic gave way to tidal flats, evaporite basins, and floodplains. With continued uplift the Moenkopi Formation

tilted slightly. Streams cut down through the upper beds leaving an irregular dissected surface. Eventually a new base level was established and down-cutting came to an end. Then, with the passage of time a blanket of coarse alluvial piedmont deposits, the Gartra Formation, spread out across the area. Wet conditions prevailed and near the end of the Triassic period, streams and lakes developed covering the Gartra with red shales and sands of the Chinle Formation (Rowley, 1979).

Jurassic System

Desert-like conditions prevailed in the early Jurassic. Thick accumulations of windblown sands accumulated throughout the southwest during this time. The Navajo Sandstone, on the north flank of the Uinta Mountains, is 850 feet thick (Ritzma, 1959). The corresponding unit on the south flank, the Glen Canyon Sandstone, is 650-700 feet thick (Hintze, 1988).

The area dipped below sea level twice during middle Jurassic times. The first invasion covered the early Jurassic sands with deposits of the Carmel Formation. These include carbonates, isolated gypsum beds, and brick red shales. The unit is about 330 feet thick on the north flank and less on the south, between 50 to 130 feet.

Desert conditions returned with the retreat of the sea. Windblown sands accumulated forming the Entrada Sandstone. On the north flank this unit is between 200 and 245 feet thick; on the south it is between 80 and 160 feet thick.

Above the Entrada Sandstone, marine deposits of the Stump Formation mark the return of the sea. On the north flank, the Curtis Member of the Stump Formation, is about 170 feet thick. Here the Curtis Member consists of 110 feet of dark gray shale and thin gray-green limestone. Above this, the member consists of about 70 feet of gray slabby limestone (Ritzma, 1959). North of Vernal, on the south flank, the Stump is divided into two members: The Curtis Member (lower) and Redwater Member (upper).

Kinney (1955) referred to the interval of carbonates, shale, and sandstone between the Entrada and Morrison Formations as the Curtis Formation rather than the Stump Formation. He divided the formation into two members, an Upper and a Lower. According to Kinney, the Curtis Formation thickens from 150 feet at Whiterocks River to 270 feet at Split Mountain. Most of the change in thickness may be attributed to the lower member. The lower member consists of green to greenish-grey glauconitic sandstones. The composition of the upper member varies laterally and vertically including sands, shales, and carbonate rocks.

With the retreat of the Curtis sea, nonmarine mud, sand, and gravel from distant sources built up a thick plain of stream deposits of the well known Morrison Formation. The Morrison is very widespread and its red, gray, green, and lavender clays are characteristic everywhere (Hansen, 1975). On the south flank this interval includes Morrison-like shales of the Cedar Mountain Formation but the two formations are not differentiated here.

Thickness of the Morrison on both flanks ranges from 800 to 950 feet (Hintze, 1988; Ritzma, 1959).

The Morrison was deposited during the late Jurassic and early Cretaceous. It is well known for its reptilian fauna, particularly for the remains of dinosaurs taken from it east of Vernal at the quarry of Dinosaur National Monument.

Cretaceous System

An interval consisting of three early Cretaceous formations above the Morrison Formation, mark yet another transition from non-marine to marine conditions. These are, from oldest to youngest, the Dakota Sandstone, Mowry Shale, and Frontier Formations.

The Dakota Sandstone is a basal unit deposited in advance of a transgressing (advancing landward) seaway. Thickness of the unit is variable and ranges from 30 to 270 feet. It consists generally of yellow and light-gray, cross-bedded, fluvial sandstones with some pebble conglomerate, shale, and coal. Above this, the soft silver-gray shales of the Mowry formation signify a return to marine conditions. Its thickness ranges from 200 to 270 feet on the north flank and 80 to 120 feet on the south flank. The Frontier Formation marks a period of withdrawal of the Mowry sea. Throughout most of the Uinta Mountains the Frontier Formation is twofold: a slope-forming unit below and a cliff-forming unit above (Hansen, 1975). Coal occurs near the top of the formation. Thickness ranges from 100 to 300 feet and tends to increase to the west.

The last seaway to encroach upon the area was the Mancos seaway (Figure GEO-5). This seaway extended from northern Canada southward into west Texas and Mexico. During this time 5,000 feet of soft grey and yellow shales accumulated in the Vernal area; these rocks carry the name of Mancos Shale. In the Manila area, nearly 6,200 feet accumulated; these rocks carry the name of Hilliard Shale.

Deposition of the Mesaverde Group, at the end of Cretaceous times, followed the retreat of the Mancos Seaway. On the north flank the Mesaverde Group is divided, in ascending order, into the Blair Formation, the Rock Springs Formation, and the Ericson Formation. North of Flaming Gorge, the total thickness of the three formations is 1,750 feet. Collectively, the three formations reveal a transition from marine to non-marine conditions with: intertonguing relationships between the Blair Formation and the Hilliard Shale, evidence of shoreline and swamp conditions preserved in the Rock Springs Formation, and evidence of stream scour in the Ericson Formation. Figure GEO-6 illustrates the relationships which existed during this period of time.

Outcrops of the Mesaverde Group may be found along the lower north and east facing slopes of Asphalt Ridge, south and east of Vernal. On the south slope the rocks of this interval are assigned formation status by a variety of authors. Two members are recognized. These are the Asphalt Ridge Sandstone (lower) and the Rim Rock Sandstone (upper), which are separated by a thin band of Mancos Shale (Alvord, 1980). Figure

GEO-7 shows the unconformable relationship between the Mesaverde Group and the overlying Tertiary formations. Kinney (1955) estimates that the total thickness of this unit is 1,776 feet.

The rocks of this interval mark a transitional phase from marine conditions of the Mancos Shale to non-marine. The lower unit probably was deposited in near-shore marine conditions, although some beds could have been deposited in fresh or brackish water. The upper member was deposited in predominately continental conditions as shown by frequent beds of low grade coal and vertebrate remains (Kinney, 1955).

Distribution of Mesozoic Rocks

The Mesozoic formations contribute greatly to the scenic qualities of the resource area. The Triassic red beds at the base of the Mesozoic form easily recognizable slope-forming outcrops along the up dip face of hogbacks and flat irons. Flaming Gorge derives its name from the bright red color of these rocks. North of Vernal, Red Mountain is composed of Triassic age rocks. Its northern slopes and deeper canyons are brilliant red.

Between Dry Fork and Steinaker Reservoir, the light colored Glen Canyon Sandstone erodes to beautifully sculpted forms better known from slickrock country to the south. Above the sandstones, alternating sequences of multicolored shales and sandstones form low hogback ridges and strike valleys parallel to the mountain front revealing the underlying structure.

On both flanks of the Eastern Uintas, the Mesozoic rocks are confined mostly to the lowest slopes of the mountains and the edges of the basins. On the south flank of the mountains, a complete sequence of these rocks extends continuously from Mosby Mountain along the mountain front to the edge of Diamond Mountain Plateau, just beyond Little Brush Creek. The older formations pass beneath the Plateau for a short distance and reappear on the east side of the Plateau. They then continue eastward to Island Park River. To the south, these rocks follow the base of Split Mountain around to the west and back again to the east past the Dinosaur National Monument visitors center and beyond. Nearly the entire surface of Ashley Valley is composed of younger Mancos Shale. The youngest Mesozoic beds of the Mesaverde Group form the outer rim of the valley along Asphalt Ridge. As noted above, the younger Mesozoic rocks are commonly truncated by angular unconformities along both flanks of the mountains indicating tilting and erosion prior to burial by younger Tertiary sediments. This is most apparent on the west side of Little Mountain where the Duchesne River Formation clearly truncates a series of older formations just below the ridge line.

Like the Paleozoic rocks, the younger Mesozoic rocks dip to the south beneath a cover of younger Tertiary basin fill. They do not come to the surface again until reaching the Book Cliffs, south of the resource area. Even so, only the Mancos Shale and Mesaverde Group are exposed there. On the other hand, the Mesozoic formations differ from the



Figure GEO-5.

North American map showing location of the Cretaceous Seaway. Adapted from Fouch, 1989.

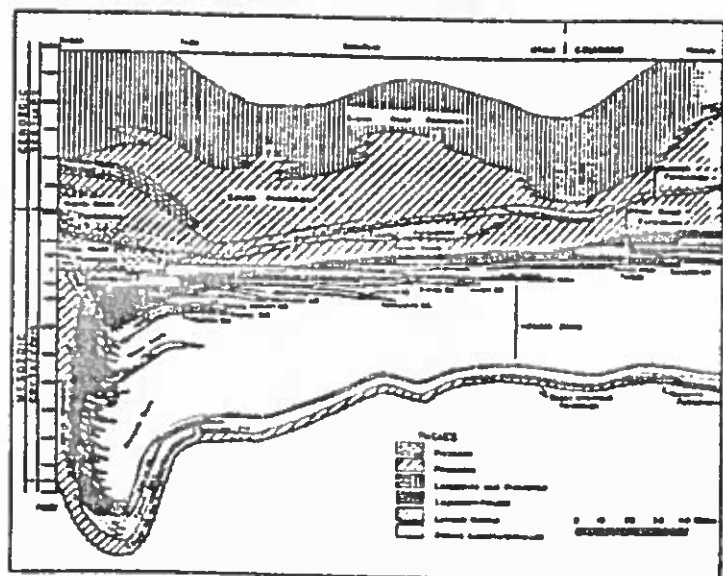
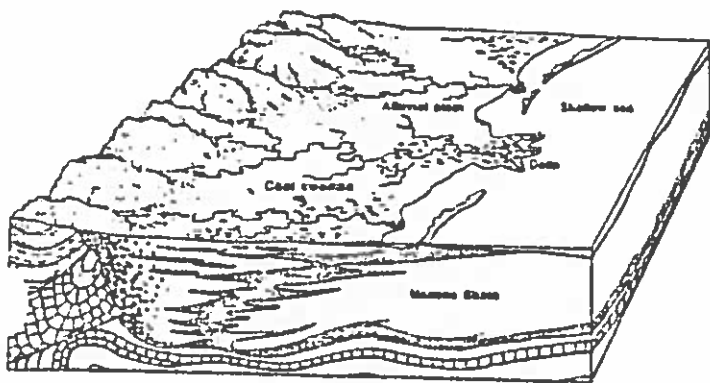


Figure GEO-6.

Block diagram and east-west cross section of Uinta Basin showing the relation between depositional environments and their representative sediments and stratigraphic distribution. Adapted from Hintze, 1988.

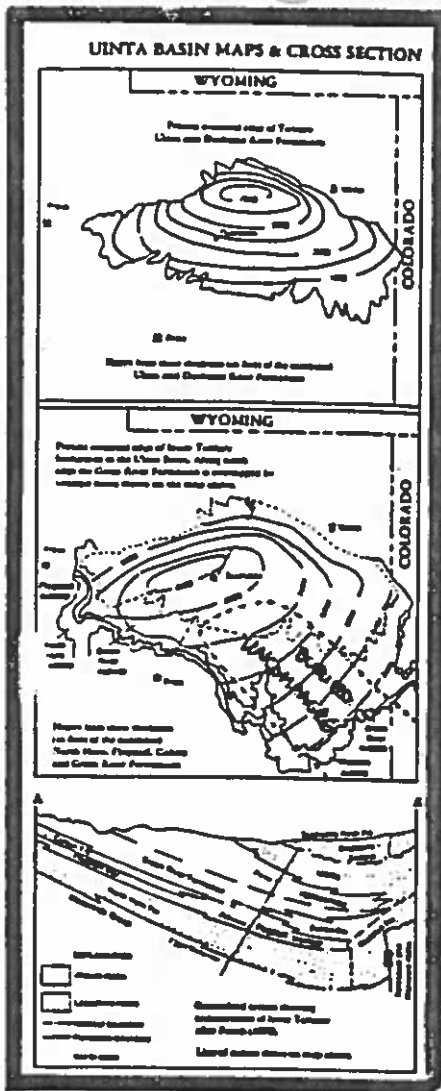


Figure GEO-8.

Thickness contours of Tertiary Formations and generalized cross section of the Uinta Basin, Adapted from Hintze, 1988

Figure GEO-10. ---->

Conceptual block diagram depicting the structural evolution of the Uinta Mountains. Adapted from Childs, 1950.

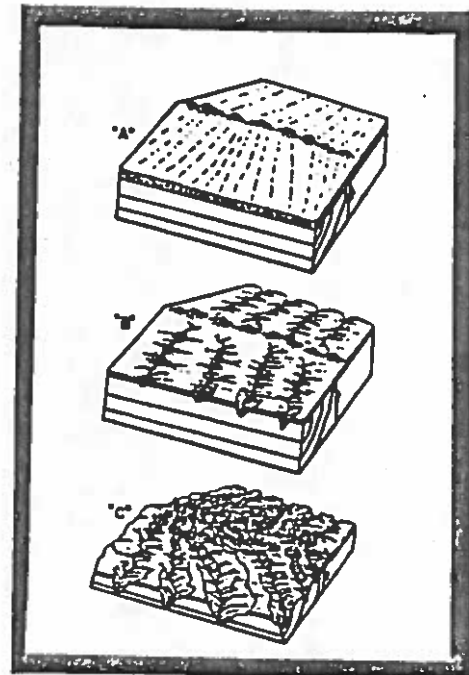
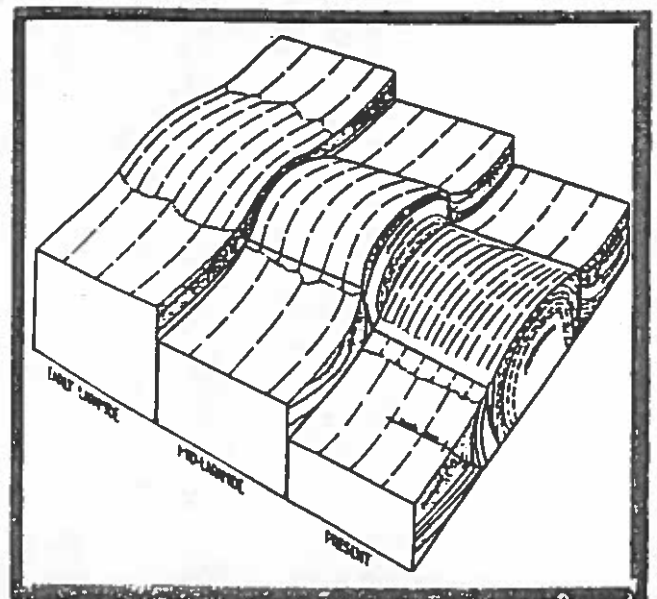


Figure GEO-9.

Conceptual drawing showing the development of the modern topography since the development of the Gilbert Erosional Surface., Adapted from R.E. Marsell, 1969.



Paleozoic formations in that they do continue southward across the erosional surface which truncated the older Paleozoic rocks.

On the north slope of the Uintas, in the resource area, the Triassic red beds and sands are cut off by faulting just east of Flaming Gorge. The younger Jurassic rocks and the older Cretaceous formations, the Dakota Sandstone, Mowry, and Frontier Formations, continue east following Dutch John Ridge and the Glades to the eastern side of Goslin Mountain where they too are cut off by faulting. In a similar fashion the overlying Cretaceous beds continue on eastward beyond Goslin Mountain to the east rim of Clay Basin. Altogether, the Mesozoic rocks continue northward to the Wyoming border where they pass into the Green River Basin deep beneath younger Tertiary rocks.

The Cenozoic

TABLE GEO-2: Principal Divisions of the Cenozoic

Period	Epoch	Age Estimates, Beginning of Epochs (Millions of Years B.P.)
Quaternary	Holocene	.01
	Pleistocene	1.8
Tertiary	Pliocene	5.0
	Miocene	22.5
	Oligocene	37.5
	Eocene	53.5
	Paleocene	65

Holocene estimate from Seyfert and Sirkin, 1979.

Paleocene to Pleistocene estimates from U.S.G.S, 1978.

The Laramide Orogeny, a period of mountain building in the western United States, began near the end of the Mesozoic. The Uinta Mountains, and adjacent Green River and Uinta Basins, began to develop as the Cretaceous seaway retreated (Hansen, 1986). Materials began to erode from the mountains as they rose. Rivers carried these materials into the adjacent Uinta and Green River basins which were forming by down warp at the same time. As subsidence continued, thick sequences of clastics coalesced forming the North Horn and equivalent Wasatch Formations in the Uinta Basin and, the Wasatch Formation alone in the Green River Basin. Figure GEO-8 (bottom panel) shows the relationships between these formations.

In the Uinta Basin, the North Horn clastics are continuous across the basin floor. Within the basin the thickness of this formation is about 2,000 feet. The upper beds of the North

Horn Formation interfinger with sands, clays, and limestones of the Flagstaff Member of the Green River Formation. By the middle of the Paleocene, conditions began to change and the floodplain deposits of the North Horn changed over to lake deposits of the Flagstaff Member. Along the edge of the basin the Flagstaff Member thins and gives way to clastic floodplain deposits. Near the basin center the Flagstaff Member is about 1,500 feet thick. Tongues of the Colton Formation overlay the Flagstaff Member except at the basin center. The Colton Formation contains sandstones, silts and clays, and floodplain deposits, indicating a shrinking of Lake Uinta during early Eocene time.

The advance of floodplain deposits did not persist and by middle Eocene times, Lake Uinta expanded to its greatest extent. Between 2,000 and 6,000 feet of lacustrine carbonates and shales and deltaic deposits accumulated over the life of this lake. In late Eocene time the lake receded one last time. This is marked by the basinward advance of the Uinta Formation across the top of the Green River Formation.

By Oligocene times, the subsidence of the basins came to an end but the mountains continued to rise. Both the mountains and basins were lifted by regional uplift of the Colorado Plateau and adjacent provinces. Warping of the Colorado Plateau may have contributed to a raising the southern edge of the basin (Childs, 1950).

Erosion continued within the mountains. A broad erosional surface developed, (the Gilbert Peak erosional surface Figure (GEO-9a)), sloping gently away from the erosional remnants of the once high peaks. These remnants are preserved within the Diamond Mountain Highland. They are the low rounded ridges situated between Davenport Draw, Lambson Draw, Jackson Draw, and Marshall Draw. They also include the low hills south of Pot Creek. The flat bottomed valleys named above are remnants of the Gilbert Peak surface. Their dendritic pattern clearly shows southerly drainage in earlier times.

During Miocene times, collapse of the Eastern Uintas led to a tilting of mountains, reversal of drainages, and the development of Browns Park. Eventually Browns Park became filled with sediment allowing the Green River to turn southward and flow across the Uinta Highland and Split Mountain. Erosion and down cutting processes continued sculpting the highland erosion surface and shaping the Ashley Valley. The landscape took on its final form with the onset of increased erosion during Pleistocene glaciation in the western highlands and increased runoff in the eastern mountains (Figure GEO-9c).

Structure

The geologic structure of the resource area is composed of two fundamental elements. To the north, the Diamond Mountain Highlands are the result of an arching up of the earth's crust during Late Cretaceous times and early Tertiary times. South of Asphalt Ridge, the structure of the resource area is dominated by the Uinta Basin, a down warp of the earth's crust created at the same time as the mountains. Structural elements of a lower order of magnitude are imposed upon these two. These lesser elements include

significant faulting along both mountain flanks, less important faulting in the basin and mountains, fractures, and subsidiary folds and warps.

When the Cretaceous Mancos seaway receded the structural setting of the area was simple. The sediments deposited since Proterozoic time were essentially horizontal, although minor structural changes through time are recognized by unconformities between some formations representing distinct phases or pulses of structural change in the past (Smith & Cook, 1985). With the exception of isolated highland areas, the whole of the western interior stood at sea level. With the onset of the Laramide Orogeny, mountain ranges throughout the West began to develop along with the Uintas.

Figure GEO-10 depicts the general Laramide structural growth of the Uinta Mountains anticline. Two major anticlinal domes are recognized in the Uintas (Figure GEO-11). The eastern dome embraces nearly the whole of the Eastern Uintas Highland. The axis of the mountains follows an arcuate convex northward trend and is located north of the topographic crest of the highland. Adjacent to the axis dips are essentially flat. Along the mountain flanks the beds become more steeply inclined and are overturned along major thrust faults.

The arching upward of the mountains is due largely to compressional forces as shown in Figure GEO-12. As these lateral forces exceeded the ability of the rocks on the mountain flanks to respond by folding, the rocks ruptured along low to high angle reverse faults that may be vertical at depth (Smith, 1985).

The effect of this movement was the placement of older sediments upon younger. At Clay Basin, movement along the Uinta Fault zone has placed the Precambrian rocks of Home Mountain above a descending body of Cretaceous rocks extending southward from the basin floor. On the north flank, the west end of the Uinta thrust fault is located about 4 miles southwest of Flaming Gorge Canyon. From there it follows Dutch John Ridge, the Glades, and the north flank of the Owyukuts Highland into Colorado. On the south flank the trace of the south flank fault is not visible at the surface. It is buried beneath Tertiary sediments along the west and south sides of Asphalt Ridge. The trend of the fault is parallel to the trend of the Ridge.

Collapse of the Eastern Uintas during Miocene and Pliocene times was accompanied by normal faulting and reversal of movement along the Uinta Fault. This movement resulted in the subsidence of Browns Park and tilting of the Gilbert erosional surface (Hansen, 1986). Related normal faulting is present along both mountain flanks and in the highland area and most intense between Spring Creek and Mosby mountain in the Deep Creek Fault Zone.

Deformation along the mountain flanks is most significant. The most notable examples include the Split Mountain Anticline and Section Ridge. Less prominent structures, but of similar magnitude, are characteristic of the subsurface structure between the mountains and basins. These can play an important role in the trapping of hydrocarbons and water.

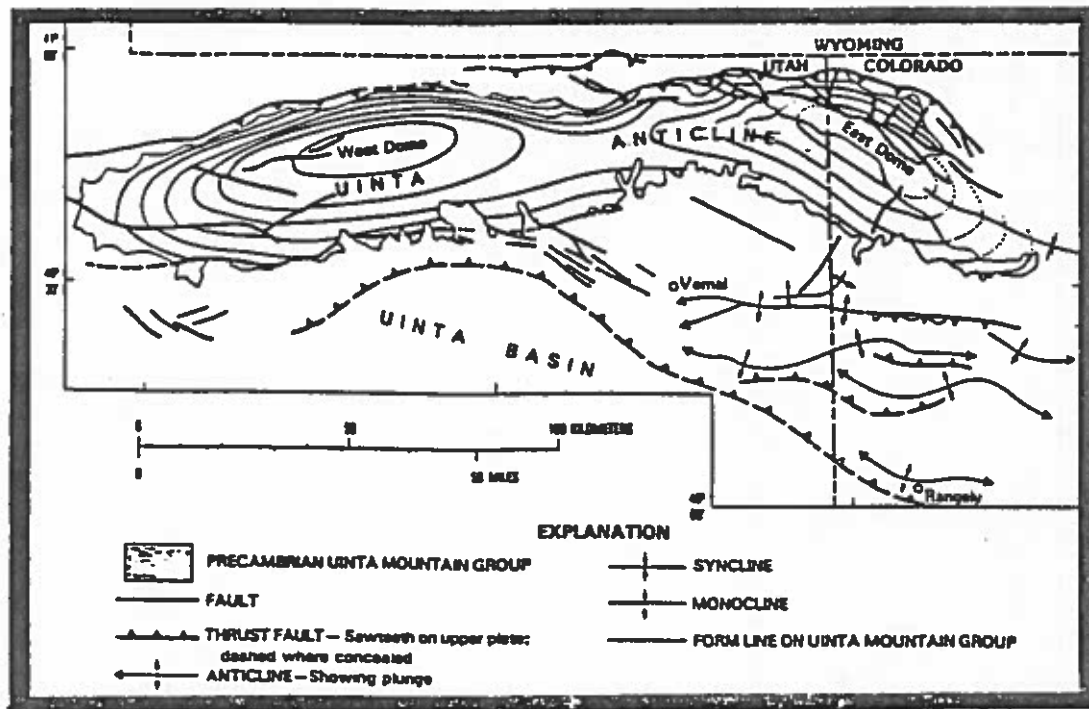


Figure GEO-11.

Generalized geologic map of the Uinta Mountains showing principal modern structural features. Adapted from Hansen, 1981.

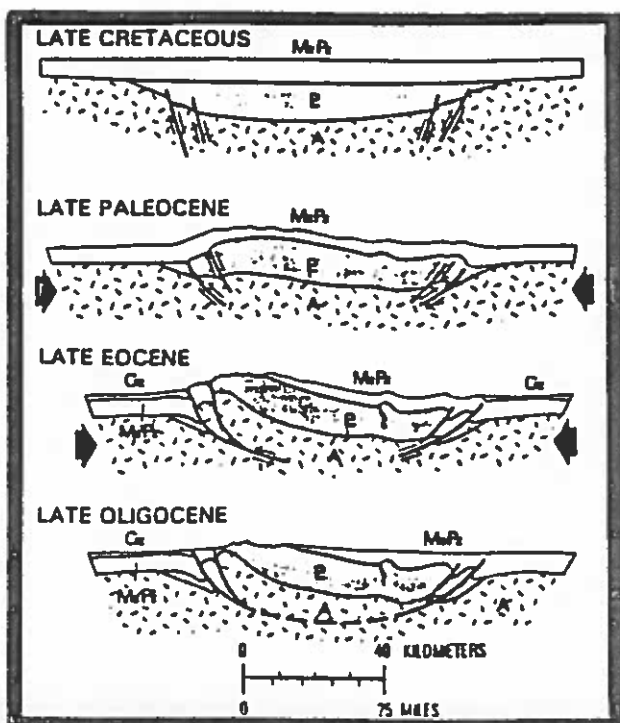


Figure GEO-12.

Generalized cross section of the Uinta Mountains and major structural responses to compressional forces during Laramide deformation. Note the Late Oligocene pediment on both mountain flanks. Adapted from Hansen, 1981.

The Uinta Basin is a large synclinal down warp. The axis of the basin follows an arcuate trend somewhat parallel to the mountains. It is located north of the basin center so beds on the north side of the basin dip quite steeply while the beds on the south side of the axis dip much less steeply, especially to the south.

Deformation in the basin, south of the basin axis, is somewhat subdued in comparison to the mountains and the transition from basin to mountain. There is some undulation of beds with some anticlinal closure. Northwest trending faulting and fracturing is notable. This is particularly evident in the occurrence of gilsonite veins southeast of Roosevelt, and in a swarm of normal faults south of Duchesne. The most prominent structural feature, aside from the basin itself, is the uplift of the southern Badlands Cliffs area.

South of Pariette the beds are gently inclined upward onto the flank of the Badlands Highland and the Book Cliffs, to the south. Subsequent to this uplift, erosion has truncated the southern limb of the basin sequences of the Green River and Uinta Formations on the south-facing scarps and cliffs.

SOCIAL-CULTURAL PROFILE

The Diamond Mountain Resource Area is contained wholly within the Uintah Basin economic unit which includes Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties. This unit is comprised of three distinct geographical areas: the agricultural bottoms surrounding the rivers, the Ute Reservation, and open, relatively flat rangelands (parts of which turned out to be very rich in mineral resources), and the mountainous regions, which includes Browns Park.

In 1861, the Uintah Indian reservation was established by executive order of President Lincoln. President Chester Arthur established the Uncompahgre Reservation by executive order in 1882. (BLM, 1987). The two were combined into the present Uintah and Ouray Reservation in 1886 and comprised 4,470,914 acres (Crawford, et al., 1975).

Lands within the Reservation have been progressively siphoned off for other purposes since its establishment. In 1888, 7,000 acres in the "Gilsonite Strip" were restored to the public domain. In 1894 and 1897, most of the Uncompahgre portion of the reservation was restored to the public domain (a half-million acres of this were returned to Indian trust in 1948 in the Hill Creek Extension). In 1905, all unallotted lands within the Reservation were opened to U.S. citizens for homesteading, a little over one million acres were withdrawn from the reservation for the Uintah National Forest, and 56,000 acres were dedicated to an irrigation project. Another half million acres were placed in the public domain in 1934 when the Taylor Grazing Act was passed.

These actions were interpreted to mean the original boundaries of the reservations had been disestablished and subsequent maps depicted the reservation boundary as the area enclosing current Indian Trust Lands within the original Reservation. This interpretation was confirmed by district court in 1981 (BLM, 1987).

In 1985, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the district court decision and re-established the original reservation boundaries that were in place prior to 1894. However, this did not change the ownership of lands within the reservation for which the Bureau of Land Management or other agencies or parties have jurisdictional responsibility. Therefore, the land management responsibility essentially remains the same as it was prior to the 1985 circuit court decision (BLM, 1987).

The Uintah Basin was settled by Mormons in 1878. These settlers came from the Wasatch Front where they were experiencing a population explosion and agricultural depression. By 1890, most of the good agricultural land in the Uinta Basin had been settled and basic irrigation systems were in place (Crawford et al., 1975). A close-knit, single-minded community was formed.

From the late 1800s until the early 1970s, the Uinta Basin was peppered with several localized, closed communities based on agriculture, a rural lifestyle, and religious unity. These communities celebrated the rugged individualism portrayed by the historical cowboy who used the land to provide subsistence while being free from the fetters of communal living. At the same time, people in the area came together in a single-minded purpose of community cohesion which allowed them to jointly set and reach difficult goals.

During this period, the Ute society remained basically unchanged from historical times except for aspects resulting from their dealings with the white political entities that became established around them. Then, in the early and mid 1900s, the Utes learned to use that political system to reacquire lands which had been split off from the Reservation through various actions.

Since the turn of the twentieth century, a slow progression towards a land-extractive economy had been occurring after abundant mineral deposits were discovered and developed in the Uinta Basin. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, with the advent of the energy boom, the slowly evolving economic basis for the three counties shifted radically toward a full-fledged land-extractive economy. There was a great influx of non-local people who influenced the social makeup of the communities. Liberal views, varying value systems, religious fragmentation, and differing land ethics (everything from pro-extractive views to protectionism) were some of the divergent thought brought in by these people. A great deal of money was expended in the communities, bringing additional goods and services that had not been necessary before. These new businesses came in bringing people with them as well as hiring local people. The local people in the communities mixed in with these new people, learning differing viewpoints, acquiring new jobs, and learning non-agricultural skills.

As the Utes became more integrated with the exterior society, they lost much of their community, cultural, and personal identities. This was further exacerbated by government subsidies and payments, adoption of English as a second language, the custodial presence of BIA, loss of historical lands to outlying white communities, missionary

activities within the Reservation, and the splintering of traditional family structure (Crawford et al, 1975).

When the energy boom busted in the mid-1980s, many of the non-local people who had come during the boom stayed because they were in service-type fields and their services were still being used. Some of the local people left, having acquired skills which were not needed in the Uinta Basin, but were useful elsewhere. Thus, the community evolved into a more diverse society. Certain facets of the society are quite liberal in their outlook and other parts of the community are holding on to traditional values.

Currently, the Uinta Basin economic unit is in a state of conflict. There are people here who value the "caring for the land" ethic and are willing to sacrifice economic well-being (their own as well as others) and there are other people who favor an extractive stance based on revenue needs.

In 1989, 13 percent of the employable resource area residents were in agricultural fields; 64 percent in government and services; fifteen percent in mining, construction, and manufacturing; and the remaining eight percent were unemployed. Employment in the Uinta Basin economic unit decreased 8 percent between 1980 and 1989, from 11,310 employed persons in 1980 to 10,392 employed persons in December 1989 (Utah Department of Employment Security, 1989a and 1989b).

In 1987, less than one percent of the area was planted into grain or hay crops: 17,500 acres of land were planted in grain crops and 77,300 acres in hay crops. In addition, 91,500 head of cattle and 39,000 sheep were raised in the three-county area (Utah Agricultural Statistics, 1988).

The largest towns within the resource area are Vernal, Roosevelt, Duchesne, and Manila which contain 40 percent of the 30,000 people who live within the Diamond Mountain Resource Area boundaries (Utah Department of Employment Security, 1988). Almost 50 percent of the people who live in the area are under 20 years of age (Utah Department of Employment Security, 1989). The Utah Department of Community and Economic Development (1989), projects that the Uinta Basin area will contain 54,100 people by the year 2010 with an average increase of two percent per year.

SOILS AND WATER

The following discussion is a brief overview of the soils and water resources to be found within the Diamond Mountain Resource Area (DMRA). Refer to the Soils and Watershed section of this MSA for a detailed discussion of these resources.

The soils occurring within the resource area were surveyed in a cooperative effort by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and the Bureau of Land Management from 1978-1987. These inventories have been incorporated into the draft Uintah and Duchesne Counties' soils survey documents, prepared by the SCS. The Daggett County area was

inventoried in 1985-1987. This information is still at the in-house working stage. Specific information regarding the soils of the resource area should be sought in these soil survey documents.

The resource area lies within the Green River drainage of the upper Colorado River Basin. This system is composed of several relatively straight ephemeral and perennial drainages, facilitating a rapid drainage. In areas with deep sand, silt, or Mancos shale, channels may be deeply incised with developed headcuts. In areas of bedrock or cobble rock, drainages are rounded and more stable.

There are 12 watersheds within the resource area, two of which (Ashley Creek and Brush Creek) have portions making up the municipal watersheds for Ashley Valley.

The present watershed issues involve: The reduction of salinity and sediment to the Colorado River system, nonpoint source pollution on public lands, and compliance with state and Federal water quality standards.

Salinity levels contributed by sediment from moderately and highly saline soils within the resource area are estimated at 1.5 tons/year.

The higher sediment-contributing areas of the resource area are east, north, and west of Vernal and along the Pariette-Castle Peak and Sand Wash drainages. These areas produce an estimated annual sediment yield from .5 to 1 acre-foot per square mile.

The resource area will continue to implement the process calling for the identification of problem areas and devising necessary control measures to obtain water quality goals--known as the Best Management Practice (BMP) System.

TOPOGRAPHY

Elevations within the resource area vary from 9,271 feet at Limestone Mountain to 4,610 feet near the Carbon County line on the Green River. The Green River skirts the eastern edge of the resource area and all drainage in the area is to it.

DMRA is located in both the Colorado Plateaus and the Middle Rocky Mountains Physiographic Provinces (Figure TOP-1). There are three basic physiographic divisions within the resource area: the Eastern Uinta Mountains, the Uinta Basin, and the Badland Cliffs uplands (Fig. TOP-2).

The Eastern Uinta Mountains

About the northern one third of the resource area is in the Eastern Uinta Mountains. Altogether, the Uinta Mountains are about 150 miles in length with a width of about 35 to 40 miles. From west to east the elevation of the Uintas and the boldness of their relief decreases.

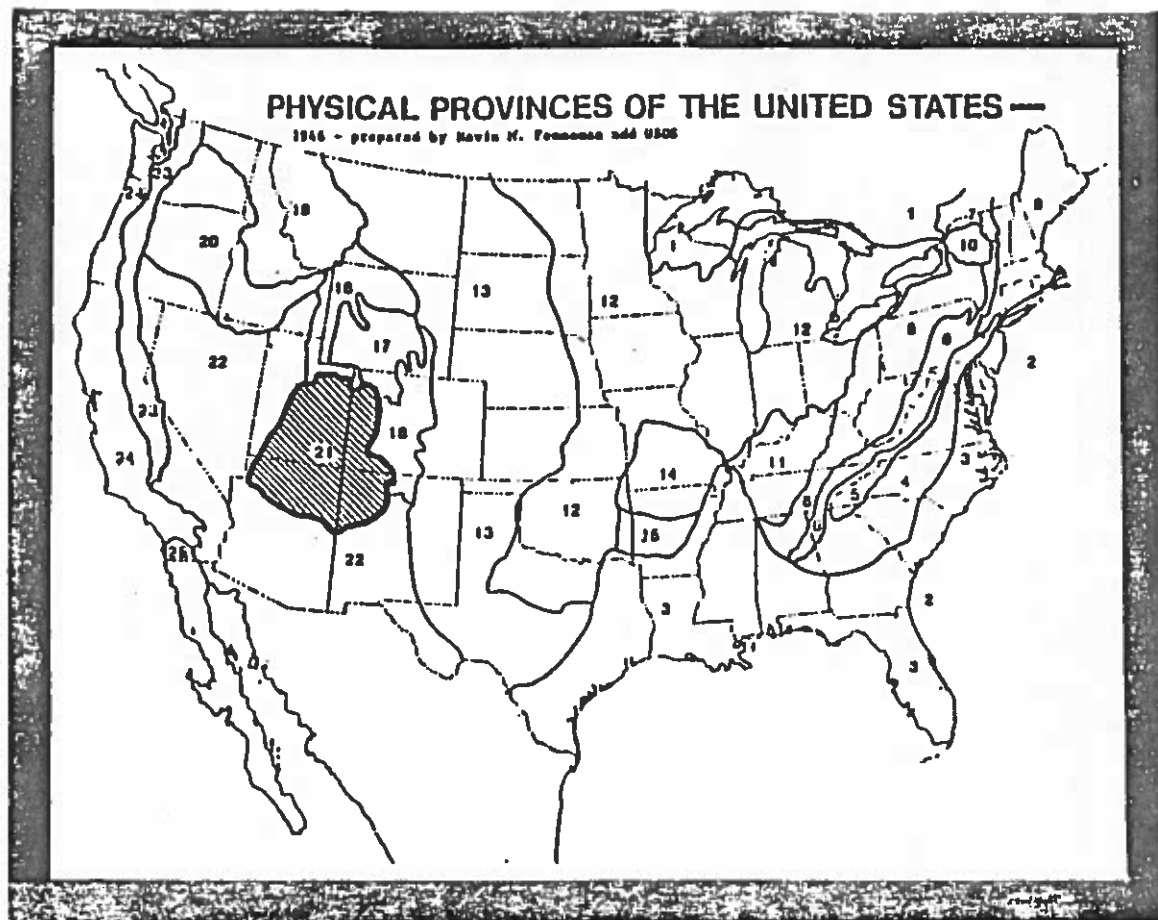


Figure TOP-1

Physical Provinces of the United States The Shaded Area (21) is the Colorado Plateau Province, Area 18 is the Middle Rocky Mountains Province.

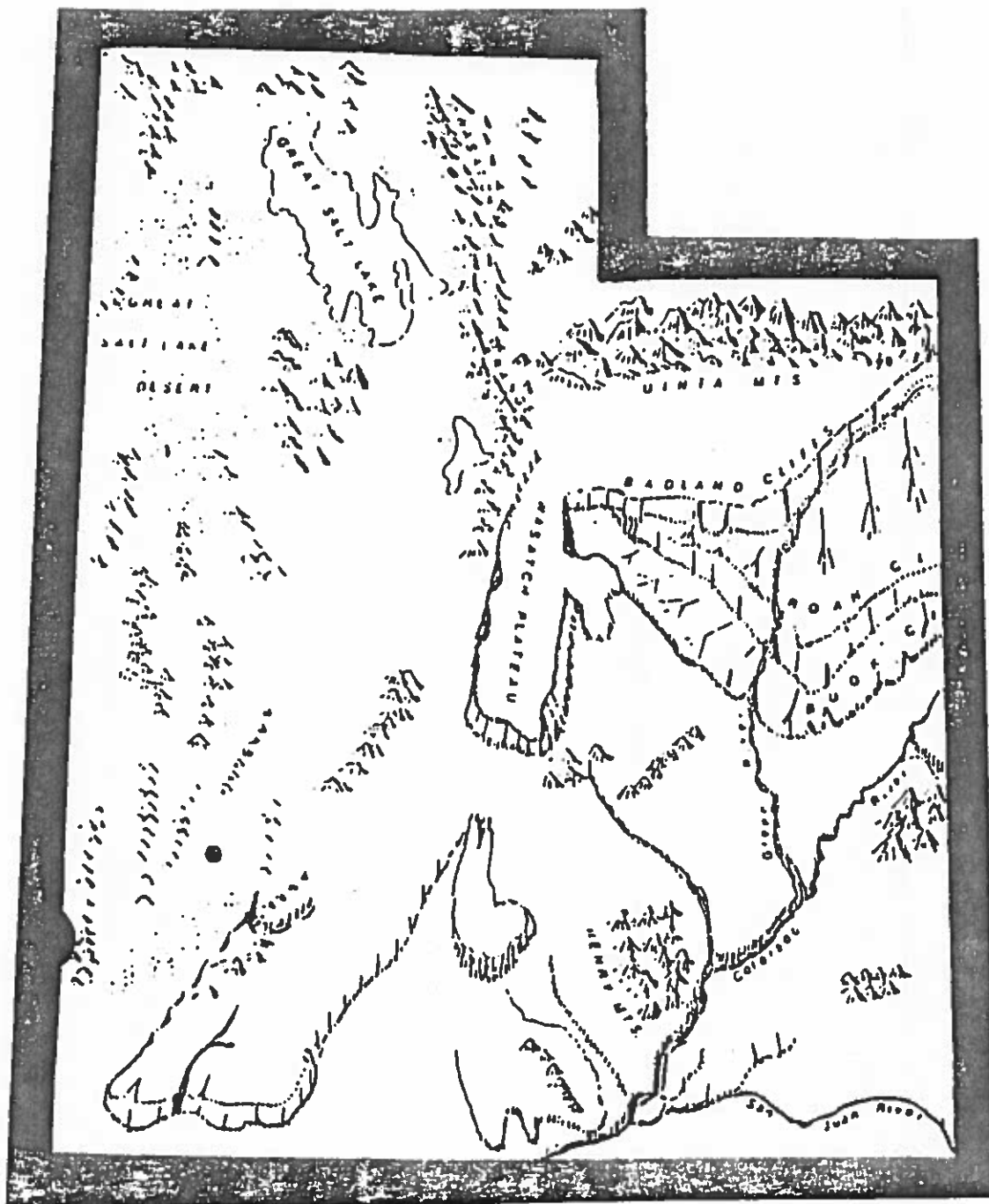


Figure TOP-2
Physiographic Map of Utah

The Eastern Uintas extend eastward from the pass through which Utah State Highway 44 passes connecting Vernal to Manila and Flaming Gorge Dam. Elevations range from about 6,500 feet, along the edge of Diamond Mountain Plateau, to a maximum of 9,271 feet at Limestone Mountain. Elevations in Browns Park range between 5,400 and 5,900 feet.

The Uinta Mountains are a great upward arching fold with an east-west orientation. In plain view, the eastern mountains follow an arcuate path trending slightly northward to a point just north of Vernal. From there the mountains turn southeastward and continue to their termination in Colorado.

Wallace Hansen (1975), (Figure TOP-3), has divided the Eastern Uinta Mountains into five smaller provinces. Those in DMRA include the Dutch John-Cold Spring Highland, Browns Park, and the Diamond Mountain Highland.

The Dutch John-Cold Spring Highland

This highland includes Goslin Mountain, Mountain Home, and the Owyukuts Plateau. These mountains connect to form a prominent and continuous south-facing mountain front. This defines the southern edge of the highland. The mountain tops are smooth and regular. Both flanks of the mountains are steep and nearly impassable forming a rampart dividing Browns Park from Clay Basin and the Glades.

Topography is much more subdued north of the mountains in Clay Basin and along the Glades. Here the landscape is more nearly flat and subdued, characterized by numerous low hills and intervening drainages. Elevations increase sharply along the rim of Clay Basin.

Browns Park

Browns Park is a long and narrow intermontane valley averaging about 4 miles in width; its length about 25 miles. Steep mountain fronts bound the valley on both sides with the north front more abrupt than the south.

Topographic relief is minimal within the park. The Green River meanders across the valley floor within the limits of a narrow floodplain. The river and its tributaries have cut down through the valley bottom leaving elevated terraces and gravel capped benches. Alluvial fans are common along the north edge of the valley.

Diamond Mountain Highland

There are six prominent northeast trending divides within the Diamond Mountain Highland. These stand upon the nearly flat platform of the Diamond Mountain Plateau, which tilts to the north and east. Wide, flat-bottomed valleys separate the ridge lines. These include Jackson Draw, Warren Draw, and Mail Draw. Drainage from these valleys is to the north. Erosion is minimal along the valley floors. In contrast, once the streams drop beyond the

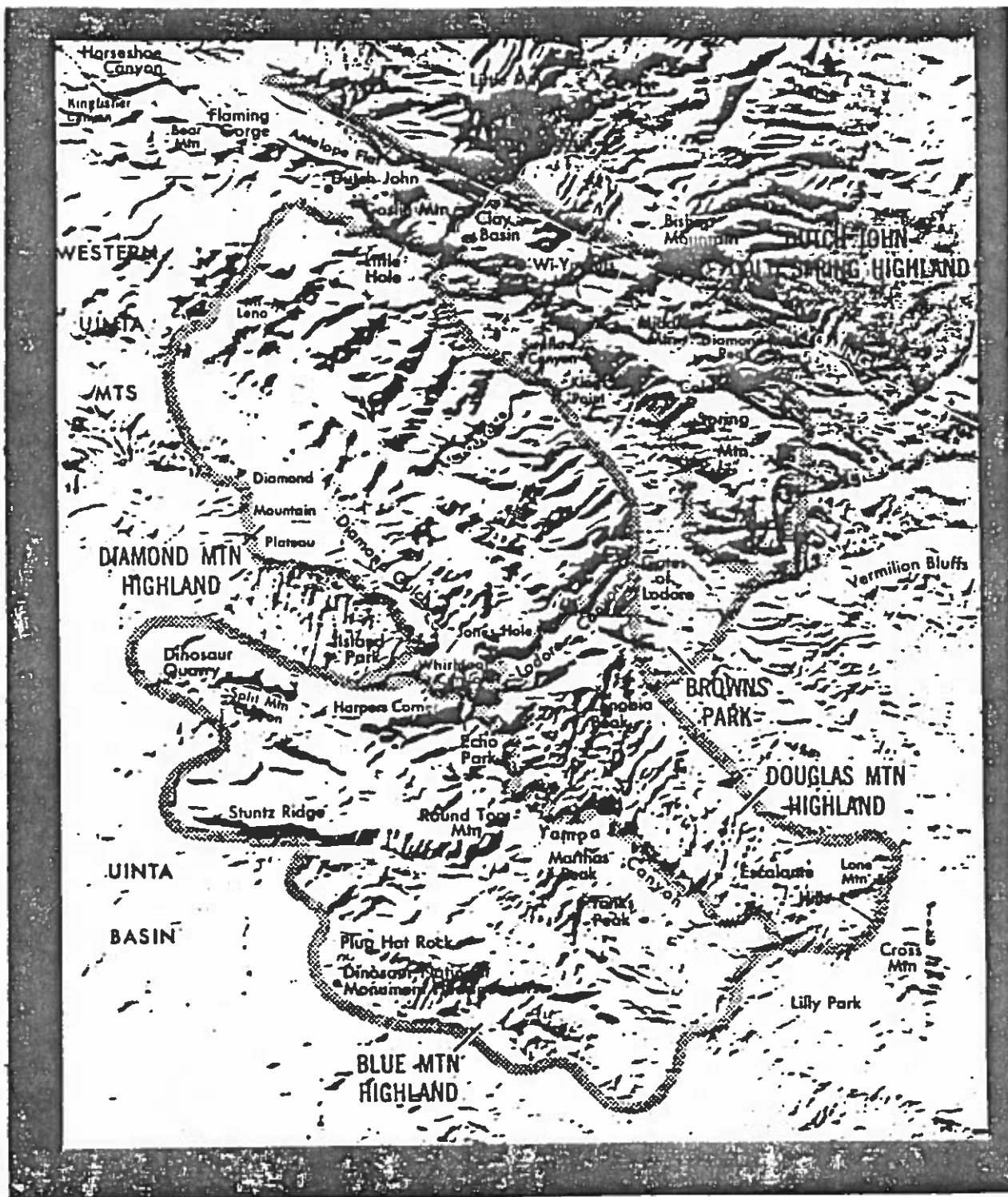


Figure TOP-3

Physiographic Subdivisions of the Eastern Uinta Mountains, Adapted after W.R. Hansen, 1975.

north rim of the plateau, gradients increase dramatically. Steep walled canyons and steep mountain fronts characterize the northern highland.

Pot Creek and Diamond Gulch carry water eastward from the southern half of the highland. A ridge of highly eroded limestone hills forms the divide between the two drainages. Between the ridge and the edge of the plateau, low rolling hills divided by shallow, gently sloping valleys are typical.

The eastern edge of the plateau ends abruptly at the Canyon of Lodore. The southern edge of the plateau is distinct and stands out on the horizon to observers below in Ashley Valley. The rounded lip of the plateau drops steeply for a few hundred feet. Below that, slopes become less steep and form a nearly uniform ramp downward to the edge of Ashley Valley and the Eastern Uinta Basin. Dry Fork, Ashley, Big Brush, and Little Brush Creeks drain lands of the Western Uintas. These emerge from the mountain front entrenched in spectacular gorges in striking contrast to the regular contour of the mountain front.

The Eastern Uinta Basin

Ashley Valley marks a transition between the eastern mountains and the eastern basin. This landscape is typical of the desert southwest. Hogback ridges, composed of sedimentary beds of alternating color and form, follow curving paths about the perimeter of the valley. They provide a pleasing contrast to the drab grey shales in the valley center. This is the resource area's own slick-rock country. The belt of hogbacks extends from Mosby Mountain in the west, to Island Park in the east. At Jones Hole the belt disappears. South of Jones Hole at Island Park, the hogback ridges re-appear and follow the curving nose of Split Mountain completely around its base.

The Buckskin Hills stand alone in the central portion of the Ashley Valley. Gently sloping flat-topped terraces slope away from the Buckskins merging with nearly flat terraces of the valley floor. Shallow drainages cut these terraces and lead downward to well developed ravines and small flat bottomed canyons. From the Buckskins the valley extends eastward to Island Park.

Little Mountain rises above the western edge of Ashley Valley to nearly the same height as the adjacent Diamond Mountain Plateau. The mountain top extends outward from the main body of the Uintas. Its top is smooth and nearly flat. The lower slopes merge with sloping terraces near the valley floor.

Asphalt Ridge extends southeastward from Little Mountain, following an arcuate path along the southwest side of Ashley Valley. High ledges and cliffs cap the steep inward-facing slopes of the ridge. The ridge crest is irregular. Deep drainages cut into the lower slopes. The slopes on the opposite side of the ridge are gentler and more uniform. Deep rills and gullies cut through the resistant upper layers of these slopes. Toward the basin the slopes flatten out. Scenic flat-topped mesas then become common.

The Uinta Basin has an eastward tilt. Drainage from its north and south flanks flows toward the Duchesne River which flows eastward to the Green River. Topography in the basin is monotonous with isolated areas of sharp relief, badlands, and interstream mesa-like uplands. The layered nature of the basin sediments is evident as south-facing scarps reveal the change from one formation to the next. Elevations increase to the south culminating in the crest of the Badland Cliffs. Elevations along the crest of the Badland Cliffs range between 7,000 and 9,000 feet.

The Badland Cliffs Highland

Basin topography becomes more complex toward the Badland Cliffs Highlands. Streams cut more deeply into the surrounding terrain. Valley walls increase in height and south-facing questa scarps become more apparent. Even so, the landscape remains subdued. Unlike much of the desert southwest, there is a lack of resistant rocks to form conspicuous spires, monoliths, and cliffs. A predominance of shales and lightness of color yields somewhat bland vistas.

South of the ridge line the topography becomes more rugged. The Badland Cliffs form a steep and continuous scarp along the length of the ridge. Cowboy Bench appears at the base of the cliffs. The bench is remarkably flat and extends along the full length of the cliffs. This surface is cut by the numerous streams flowing southward from above. Below the bench, deep, high-walled canyons begin to appear; eventually these merge with Nine Mile Canyon. Nine Mile Creek is the master stream in the area and it carries water from along the cliffs eastward to the Green River.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

The roads and trails within DMRA have been identified by jurisdiction, type of travel surface, assigned road number, responsible entity for maintenance, and frequency of maintenance. A map depicting state, county, and BLM roads is located at the back of this document.

In DMRA, there are roads maintained by the State of Utah, Daggett County, Duchesne County, Uintah County, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, private corporations, and private individuals. There are also foot trails maintained by the Forest Service and BLM. In addition, there are 2 airplane landing strips maintained by private parties.

A breakdown of roads by jurisdiction and total mileages are shown on Table TNS-1.

TABLE TNS-1: ROADS IN THE DIAMOND MOUNTAIN RESOURCE AREA

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Number of Miles</u>
State	319
County	348
BLM	575
Unknown	<u>54</u>
Total:	1,386

Source: County Records, BLM Operations files

The following categories of roads are found within the resource area:

PUBLIC ROADS. A road that has been declared and maintained as such by a public authority such as a state or county government. Within DMRA, there are public roads maintained by the State of Utah, Daggett County, Duchesne County, and Uintah County. The quality of these roads varies from asphalt-concrete interstate highways to two-track dirt roads. The surface depends on the type and volume of traffic being served.

BUREAU ROADS. An administrative road that is for access for the use, development, or protection of the public land and its resources. The quality varies from two-lane graveled surface roads to two-track dirt roads.

PRIVATE ROADS. A road that was constructed on private lands intended for use for private business, recreation, or other use. The roads vary in standards to meet the needs of the owner.

Very few roads in DMRA have been surveyed, designed, and constructed to meet BLM manual standards. The existing roads maintained by BLM within DMRA vary in the type of maintenance and intervals in which it is performed. The differences are based on the amount and type of travel that the road accomodates. Some of the resource area's roads are graveled, but the majority are native soil surface and vary in width from 10 to 30 feet.

Normal maintenance practices consist of pulling ditches, reshaping or sloping the traveling surface and ditches, and constructing waterbars and turnouts. Destination signs have been placed at key locations throughout the resource area, however, most roads have not been signed adequately with regulatory, information, or warning signs.

VEGETATION

The Uinta Basin is included in the Intermountain-Great Basin floristic region. The Uinta Mountains to the north and the Tavaputs Plateau (or Badland Cliffs Highland) to the south have effectively segregated the basin from the Rocky Mountains and prairie floristic regions of Colorado and Wyoming. To be sure the Browns Park-Three Corners area of the resource area include some species commonly found in Wyoming, but for the sake of general discussion within this RMP, Browns Park will be included in the Intermountain-Great Basin Region.

The *Intermountain Flora* (Cronquist et al., 1972) have subdivided the Uinta Basin into subjective classifications. These large, easily discernible zones result from broad climatic and soil changes. However within these zones microclimate, topographic, and geologic variations affect the vegetative compositions on any particular site. Therefore, within these zones certain vegetation communities or associations of interest are also outlined. These communities are based on the subdivisions outlined in the *Uinta Basin Flora* (Goodrich and Neese, 1986). The four general vegetation zones are:

Shadscale. Approximately 183,500 acres, this zone is generally associated with an elevational range of 5,000-6,000 feet. It is characterized by members of the *Chenopodiaceae* and *Asteraceae* families. Limited primarily by precipitation, this zone dominates in areas receiving less than eight (8) inches of annual precipitation.

Sagebrush. Approximately 493,000 acres, sagebrush generally falls within an elevational range of 5,000-10,000 feet. Associations within this zone include: Big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata* var. *tridentata*), big sagebrush-bunchgrass, Wyoming big sagebrush (*A. tridentata* var. *wyomingensis*), mountain big sagebrush (*A. tridentata* var. *vaseyana*), and black sagebrush (*A. nova*).

Pinyon-Juniper Woodland. Approximately 136,500 acres within an elevational band of 6,000-7,500 feet, thermal variations would appear to affect the ratio of pinyon (*Pinus edulis*) to juniper (*Juniperus osteosperma*)--pinyon increasing on the relatively cooler sites (those with higher elevations or northern aspects).

Conifer Forest. The smallest zone within the resource area, this zone comprises approximately 30,000 acres ranging between an elevational band of 7,500-10,000 feet. Dominant communities include: Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), Ponderosa or yellow pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), and subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*).

Within these four zones, two small but very significant habitats occur: Riparian and wetlands.

Riparian communities comprise approximately 1 percent of the vegetative matrix for the resource area. These communities are identified by the presence of numerous willow species (*Salix* spp.); mesic deciduous trees such as cottonwoods (*Populus fremontii* and *P. angustifolia*), aspen, alder (*Alnus incana*), and river birch (*Betula occidentalis*); sedges (*Carex* spp.); rushes (*Juncus* spp.); and, numerous grasses and forbs.

Wetlands comprise less than 1 percent of the vegetative matrix for the resource area and is perhaps best typified by the Pariette Wetlands on Myton Bench. This microenvironment is based on alkaline soil and is characterized by saltgrass (*Distichlis spicata*), alkali sacaton (*Sporobolus airoides*), cattails (*Typha* spp.), bullrushes (*Scirpus* spp.), rushes (*Juncus* spp.) and common reedgrass (*Phragmites australis*).

These microenvironmental variations have allowed for the genetic isolation and development of 20 endemic plant species; 7 of which are either federally listed as threatened or endangered and the remaining are special status species, demanding special management consideration.

WILDLIFE

The following is a thumbnail sketch of the wildlife resources within the Diamond Mountain Resource Area. Refer to the Wildlife Section of this MSA for a detailed presentation of the resource.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources manages the actual animal species and numbers. It is the resource area's responsibility to provide habitat for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife species. Currently the resource area provides habitat for approximately 330 terrestrial and aquatic species.

Due to this large number of species, it is more reasonable to discuss wildlife species of management interest or concern, known as Management Indicator Species (MISs). For the purposes of this MSA and forthcoming RMP, wildlife species' habitat will be restricted to these selected MISs. A summary of the MIS categories and the wildlife species associated with each category are outlined in Table WLP-1.

Table WLP-1: Management Indicator Species Categories and the Associated Wildlife Species

Category	Associated Wildlife Species
Special Status Species	Federally- and state listed, proposed-for-listing, category, and sensitive species (see Table WLD-1 and Appendix WLD-B for a list of these species in the Wildlife Section in Chapter 4 of this document)
Species Having Economic Value	Mallard ducks, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, moose, rocky mountain elk, and sage grouse
Species Requiring Special Habitat	Bison, raptors, and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep
Species Reflecting Management Actions	Common flicker, goshawk, green-tailed towhee, logger-head shrike, macro-invertebrates, mountain bluebird, plain titmouse, prairie falcon, rufous-sided towhee, song sparrow, vesper sparrow, and warbling vireo

Limited or no data is currently available on amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, or small mammals; therefore, very little will be discussed concerning these species.

Special Status Animal Species

Currently the resource area provides existing or potential habitat for 21 known special status animal species (refer to Wildlife Table WLD-1 and Wildlife Appendix WLD-B in Chapter 4 for a list of these species). Of these species, seven (7) are federally listed as endangered, 14 are federal category 1 through 3. These species are included in the State of Utah's list of "Native Utah Wildlife Species Having Special Concern" (1987). Inventories and monitoring studies will continue to add to the wildlife database.

Species Having Major Economic Value

The big game species, i.e., antelope, deer, elk, and moose, are the principal economic species. However waterfowl and sage grouse also have significance. The Table WLP-2 provides a summary of the habitat information for these species.

Table WLP-2: Summary of Big Game Species Habitat

Animal Species	: Estimated Acres : of BLM Habitat	: Current Use : in AUMs
Moose*	579,610	
Mule Deer	959,000	16,555
Pronghorn Antelope	156,000	552
Rocky Mtn Elk	474,840	<u>4,368</u>
	Total:	21,475

*Potential

Source: UDWR, 1989

Pariette Wetlands provides the most productive waterfowl habitat on public lands within the resource area. A major concern for this habitat is the increased water demands for agricultural needs upstream and the resultant dewatering of the Pariette stream, the Wetlands' major source of water.

Sage grouse are distributed throughout the resource area in habitat varying from desert shrub to mountain browse. There are 22 known strutting grounds, the majority occurring on Diamond Mountain and the Ashley Creek area.

Species Requiring Special Habitat

Presently there are no bison on BLM-administered lands within the resource area. UDWR is presently considering the feasibility of such a release in the resource area.

Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep presently inhabit a small area in Browns Park overlapping from Colorado from a release in 1983. The estimated population is 21 animals. Historic bighorn sheep range includes Nine Mile Canyon, Dry Fork Canyon, and along the Green River in Browns Park. Future reintroductions of this species are planned in the Nine Mile Canyon and Browns Park areas (refer to Wildlife Map WLD-3).

Twenty-two (22) raptor species exist within the resource area, either as migratory or permanent residents. Major habitat requirements existing within the resource area include nesting areas along riparian areas, in rock crevices of steep-walled canyons, pinyon-juniper woodlands; foraging areas; roosting or resting sites.

Species Reflecting Management Actions

Little or no data is available on macroinvertebrates and are not discussed in detail in this document.

White-tailed prairie dog towns are found in varying numbers throughout the Sagebrush Zone of the resource area. Approximately 46,202 acres of existing prairie dog habitat have been classified as potential black-footed ferret habitat. It is interesting to note human disturbance to soil seems to improve prairie dog habitat and allow for their expansion.

Little or no data is available on the other listed MIS species for the resource area. As a result no habitat management objectives have been developed or management opportunities described for them.

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Vernal Express

1938-06-09

Diamond Mountain Road Finished to Paddy's Gap Bridge

The Diamond mountain truck identical corral which were built. Project has continued with about 340 feet of hole being drilled. Some trap bridge making a total of 7 workers from DGC 31 working out water was encountered in a sand miles of road constructed on this of Bridgetland. These corrals are at that depth. It is believed that project A small bridge of mader sheep corrals consisting of 8 pens blasting one more hole will bring sufficient water for camp needs. On the General Reservoir Main was also installed. Work on this The Snyder Corral was built with Knoll Corral was built with 128 man days. The Dead Horse Reservoir was during the month for the Brush continued almost to completion. The fill is all in the riprap fin creek drill fence kept a number. The fill is all in the riprap fin of Vernal CCC camp men busy. The Snyder Springs Corral and finished in the spillway. Work on the Cottonwood Well. Surveys in Salt Lake City while one was in Vernal working for the District Gravel. Kane Hollow Reservoir about 25 miles south east of Vernal was started with the site being cleared and work on the excavation for the core being started. During the month an average of 96 men have been used by the work New Barber Shop. Kennedy L. Davies camp barber and formerly camp carpenter has built a new barber shop for Co. 1507. It is fully equipped with the most modern appliances and is finished in plywood attractively. The Vernal CCC team opened its season in the Utah State League on Sunday June 5 against the Roosevelt baseball team. Vernal was credited with its first victory by taking the game on a forfeit. Co. 1507 will play its next game on Sunday June 12 at Fort

1949-12-07

Diamond Mountain Road Work Gets Boost With Stockmen Fund

**Mountain Road Users
Each Give \$100
For Early Completion**

Thoughts of another winter of slogging over Diamond Mountain road prompted users of that rutted strip into immediate action.

Stockmen and farmers who have had trucks stuck or broken down on the summer weather road banded together—14 strong and met Thursday, Dec. 1, in the Utah Field House.

That theirs was not a hum and haw session was proved when they stormed a county commissioners meeting that same afternoon.

J. Harold Reader, chairman of the group, flatly stated that many Diamond Mountain residents and those who have occasion to use the rough-shod road each promised to make a \$100 contribution to construct an all-weather road.

Commissioner A. Don Batty, giving a consensus of the two other commissioners declared that county caterpillars and road machinery would start work immediately.

Eight interested stockmen and farmers Friday surveyed the road, starting at Brush Creek up the mountain about five miles. The road also will be realigned.

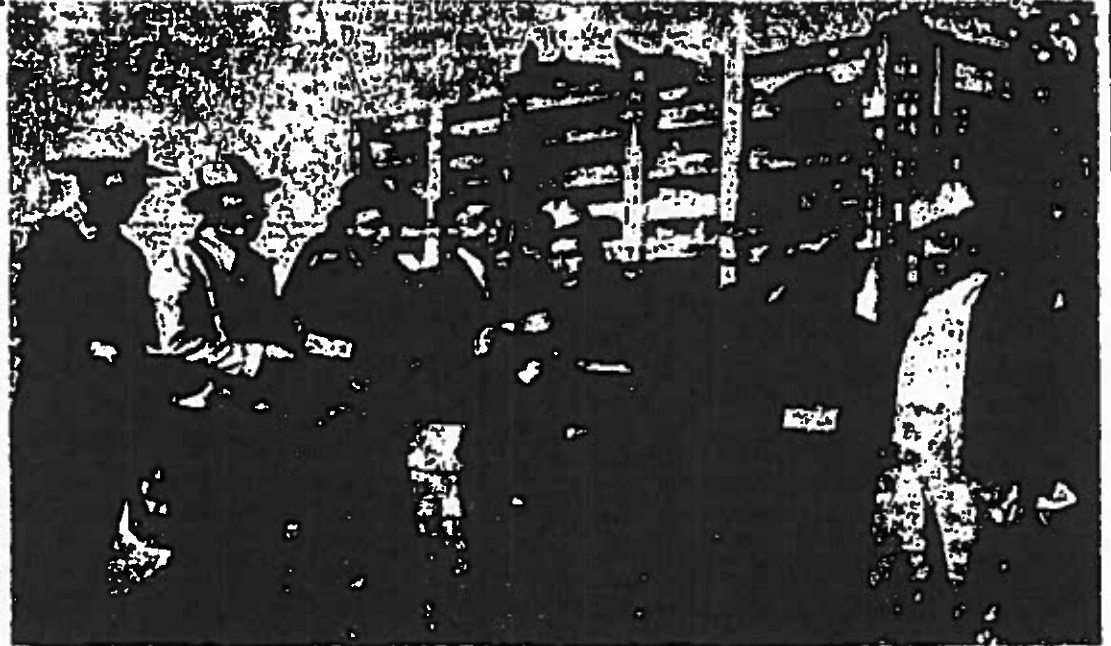
Mr. Reader stated that some \$1200 already has been raised and that \$2500 to \$3000 will be available before long. The Utah State Bank made a contribution toward the graveling and straightening and made available the bank's directors room for use by the men.

The bank's contribution was made possible thru efforts of W. H. Siddoway and sons. The divisional grazing service, who in past years has offered a \$1000 purse to improve the road, is expected to contribute when they meet in February. Commissioner Batty also contributed.

Action on rebuilding the chuck-hole filled road has been pending some time, according to Mr. Reader. Stockmen transporting cattle from grazing strips in past years have lost, thru shrinkage, about 40 to 50 pounds per head. Sheepmen have lost three to four pounds, he said.

With improvement of the road ranchers will realize enormous savings on stock as well as truck repairs. Sportsmen also will be able to drive to hunting grounds without break-downs and stops.

(Continued on Page 8)



DIAMOND MOUNTAIN STOCKMEN make donations of \$100 each to improve road to Utah's finest fall and winter range, left to right: Cliff McCoy, Zeph S. Calder, Carl Searle, J. Harold Reader, Woody B. Searle, Ray Searle and Robert Shiner.

UINTAH COUNTY LIBRARY
REGIONAL ROOM
FILE FOLDER
NO. 0576

Mountain Road Gets Boost

(Continued from Page 1)

Aside from the realignment job the road will receive a graveling, especially in parts where the strip is covered with clay. An all-weather job is the ultimate goal.

Those who at present are backing the move with funds and other support include, Mr. Reader, Woody Searle, Clifton McCoy, Harold Davis, Carl Searle, Ray Searle, Zeph Calder, Leo Calder, Duane Johnson, D. H. Stringham, Rulon Hackling, Robert Shiner, Oral Shiner, L. D. Roberts, John Bennion, Ashley Bennion, Merrill Goodrich, Kenneth Stringham, Victor Wilkins, Mr. Siddoway and sons.

NO 576

Diamond Mountain Golden Collins To Be Reseeded Is Ballard Ward Bishop

Federal, Club Officials
Meet to
Complete Project Plans

Ranchers on Diamond mountain were slated to meet Wednesday at 2 p.m., in the Utah room of the Fieldhouse of Natural History. The meeting, the third in a series, was under the direction of the Vernal Lions club. (The club, in connection with several government agencies is sponsoring a reseeding project on the mountain which will see over 7000 acres of Utah's finest grazing land seeded to crested wheat grass during the next season.



OLD AND NEW . . . Round-eyed enthusiasm and sad-eyed experience are epitomized in this picture of the oldest and youngest members of the U. S. senate. The two are Sen. Russell B. Long of Louisiana and Sen. Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee.

Cooperating in the program are the extension service which is providing the educational part of the program; the soil conservation service which will provide technical assistance in the way of engineering and range management work; the forest service which with the cooperation of the permittees will seed 5000 acres of the national forest into grass at no cost to the permittee; the grazing service which will provide grass on the public domain and the AAA which will pay the rancher half of the cost of the seed.

This is an example of all the federal agencies joining hands to put over a program.

The program was instigated by Hugh W. Colton, chairman of the agricultural committee of the Vernal Lions club and is being carried through by Howard Ivory of the soil conservation service and William C. Whitaker, Uintah county agent.

The speakers for the program were to include A. Golden Kilburn, Logan, extension soil conservationist; Glen T. Baird, extension agronomist; Arnold Erwagen, range management with the SCS, and representatives of the local agencies.

Uintah Records One Case Of Chicken Pox

Physicians and local health officers reported a total of 438 resident notifiable disease cases to the state department of health for the week ending Jan. 7. That represents an increase of 115 cases over the 321 reported last week. During the corresponding week last year, 337 cases were reported.

Chickenpox leads the list of notifiable diseases for the week with 159 cases and measles takes second place with 148 cases. Measles decreased from 179 cases

Lambs Higher At Salt Lake Stockyards

At the Salt Lake stockyards, the salable receipts for the week just ended were 1033. Slaughter cattle were uneven with steers and heifers being weak to a shade lower, cows largely steady and bulls and vealers strong. Some choice vealers were a shade higher. Bulk medium quality slaughter steers 17.50-19.00. Few low good 20.00-21.00. Few quoted around 22.00 and above. Common 14.00-17.00. Medium good heifers 17.00 to 21.00. Common 14.00-18.50. Good cows 17.00-18.00. Medium 14.50-18.50. Cattle to common 12.00-14.00. Canners 11.50 down. Good beef bulls 19.50-21.00. Medium to good sausage bulls 27.00-20.00. Bulk good and choice vealers 24.00-27.00. Choice head 28.00-30.00. Medium 20.00-23.00. Common 19.00 down. Medium to good feeder steers 18.50-21.00. Good to choice stock calves 20.00-23.50.

Compared with week ago butcher hogs 1.00 higher, sows steady. Weeks top 21.50. Closing top 21.00. Closing bulks: Good and choice 180-240 lb. butchers 20.50-21.00. 240-280 lbs. 19.50-20.00. 280-300 lbs. 18.50-19.00. 300-330 lbs. 17.50-18.00. 330 lbs. 16.50-17.00. 330 lbs.

Greasy Domestic Wools Are Steady on Market

Trading was spotty and there was little business this week in the Boston wool market. Prices for all grades of greasy domestic wools were held unchanged.

A sealed bid sale was held at Portland, Ore. on Jan. 13, where approximately 339,000 pounds of graded and original bag Oregon

bishop of the ward for eight years. His counselors were Jesse Hullinger and Eric Stollas. Ward clerk, Junior Betts, has not been replaced yet.

The new ward bishop was born and raised in Ballard. Other ward officers were retained.

Washington were offered graded and original bag Oregon. Late in the morning, the condition of the wool was heavy and the area was western. The price of 12-14 on purchased an estimate of clean wool. Also, a few was contr range of clean but wool to b year, rang pounds. Cabled. Other wool some firm and

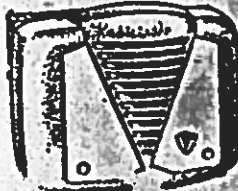
You Will Find What at the Prices

Here's a Gift He'll Appreciate

HOT-WATER CAR HEATER

27.50

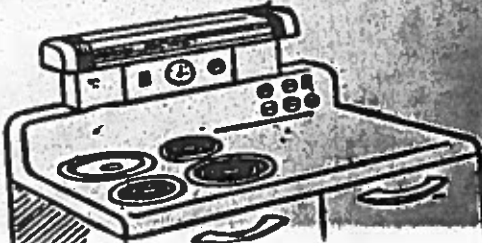
For both heating and defrosting and . . .



BOY'S De Luxe BICYCLE only 43.50

Biggest bike value in town! Streamlined and full adult size. Big, heavy tubular steel frame; double bar construction. Loaded with extras, tool . . . chain guard, kickstand, and spring saddle, rear safety reflector, balloon-type tires and tireless balloon tires.

WEEKLY PAYMENTS AS LOW AS 1.75



Fires DE L ELEC

Vernal Express Mar 18, 1923

DIAMOND MT. FARMERS OUT- LINE WORK

DIAMOND MOUNTAIN WOULD
CONNECT VERNAL AND THE
UINTAH BASIN WITH ROCK
SPRINGS, WYOMING

MAY CONDUCT SUMMER EXCUR-
SION TO THE MOUNTAIN

A rousing meeting of the farmers of the Diamond mountain was held in the court house last Monday evening with a large attendance. Wm. F. Hanson, president reported little activity during the past year. So the farmers decided on activities for the present year as follows:

First—Encouragement of all farmers to make permanent homes and farm according to scientific dry farm methods.

Second—Designation of roads across the mountain. Improvement of the present road to Vernal, and the connection of a road to Rock Springs, Wyoming.

A report of the committee on roads was given by President Ernest Eaton, followed by a discussion. The connection of the Uintah Basin to Wyoming is considered by most people of the basin as one of our best outlets. There is already an auto-road from Rock Springs almost into Brown's park, and an auto road from Vernal to the Pot creek section of Diamond mountain, so, with the little bit to be finished we hope to soon connect the Uintah Basin with the market on the north. It is hoped that the State will soon see the benefit of this as a state road.

Third—The organization will assist the members in becoming familiar with the possibilities of our country as a crop producing section.

Geo. A. Slauch gave a talk on the "Future Possibilities of Diamond Mountain." He said that the opportunities are surely marvelous. "Never before," said he, "have I seen land produce as well with so little effort as has been given to the crops here." He emphasized the possibilities of peas, wheat, barley and oats as paying crops. "Now we need farmers, up there," he said, "we have been told how to farm and have seen the land produce in abundance." It is surely possible to make a great showing this year.

Fourth—The farmers are anxious to have a large excursion party from the Ashley valley during the summer, and invite people of the basin to take their vacation on the beautiful, scenic plateau.

Fifth—A talk was given by A. Theo Johnson on the value and necessity of cooperation of the farmers. A strong sentiment in favor of a large membership existed. David Mooseman was appointed chairman of the membership committee.

The farmers were pleased to have present Farm Agent J. H. Wittwer, who is doing so much toward the advancement of the Uintah Basin.

The farmers were advised to protect their crops with good fences. However, measures to take care of the animals that damage crops will be attended to very soon. People who turn their animals loose on the mountain this year to break into the crops may find them in the pound-keepers care.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: Wm. F. Hanson, president; George Johnston, vice-president; Merrill Henry, secretary.

A meeting for Monday March 28th was called for the discussion of definite plans for the summer's work.

DIAMOND PEAK

Traveling north from Irish Canyon there is a peak named Diamond. It was at this location the famous diamond hoax was perpetrated. Several men purchased some diamonds and other precious stones and salted them on the peak.

They then proceeded to form a company to sell stock in the venture and were in the process when geologist Clarence King, working on his survey, traveled to the area. King was convinced this was the location of a diamond bonanza until he picked up a diamond that had been cut. He immediately headed for the telegraph to inform the world of the hoax.

Minnie Crouse Rasmussen indicated that her family had collected some of the diamonds and made a pin out of them.

Several years ago, a geologist studying the area indicated that he was able by shifting the sand to find several rubies at the location.

Note that Diamond Mountain on the south side of Brown's Park is different from Diamond Peak.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE ABOVE STOPS IS ENCLOSED

Article copied from:

Brown's Park
Flaming Gorge
Utah

July 31, 1982

have, receipt for making the sticky fly paper cheaply is herewith given.

Taken two pounds of resin and one pint of castor oil, boil together until it is well mixed, pour off in an open-mouthed bucket, take an ordinary paint brush and smear while hot on any kind of paper—an old newspaper is good—and place several about the room. A dozen of these may be put in one room at a cost of one cent.

It never loses its strength, does not deteriorate, and can be kept in an ordinary fruit jar or open mouthed bucket and heated when needed.

Public Park.

Vernal should have a public park. The Fourth of July celebration, the county fair which we ought to have on. It this fall, and the present warm summer days, all call for a shady, grassy place, large enough to accommodate all functions, and attractive enough to be restful and pleasing to body and mind. A place for band concerts, drives, base ball diamond, pavilion, picnic, etc., etc. We have several excellent sites for such a park, some of which are even within city limits.

The city alone, or the city and county together, might well consider getting an option on, or purchasing such a place, while it may be had at a reasonable price, and begin to plant trees and make improvements; and in a few years we could have a park that would be a pride and joy to everybody. A certain amount of revenue could always be counted upon from fairs and concessions of various kinds, and the citizens of the town might turn out en masse on Arbor Day to work on the park, so that the cost of maintenance would be little or nothing. Let the city council consider the matter.

to be extended. It will probably be extended this fall as far as west of Rebeau Calder's residence. If other sections of the town could be drained in the same manner, we could be rid of practically all the alkali in the gardens and the wells, and have good water the year around for household use. The drain is a benefit from an economic point of view, but still more from the point of view of cleanliness and health.

DIAMOND RANCH SOLD

The Oldest Cattle Ranch on the Mountain Changed Hands.

There was another big sale of mountain real estate this week. The Old Diamond Springs ranch has changed hands, and hereafter nothing but sheep will feed on the succulent grasses that have fed the festive bovine for so many years. This was about the last cattle ranch on Diamond mountain, and now it gives way to sheep.

Joseph Burton this week sold to John N. Davis all of the Diamond Springs ranch consisting of 480 acres, on the Diamond mountain, for a consideration of \$2500. This is a fine ranch, and one of the old land marks of Uintah county and in fact of Northeastern Utah. It was originally located by Dunk Blair, now deceased, father of John Blair who is now living at Whiterocks agency, but for the past twenty-five years it has been owned in the Burton family, and during that time has been the headquarters for the thousands of cattle that they have handled. During the early days when the mail and all travel came into this valley from Green River City and Rock Springs on the north, all travelers stopped at the Diamond Springs road-house over night, and many prominent men in the administration of the affairs of state and nation of to-day have rested weary heads at this place over night.

The spring of water is one of the best on the mountain—always cold, pure and sparkling as it flows from the crevice in the rock, which was originally of a diamond shape and after which the ranch was named.

County Commissioner's Proceedings.

Regular meeting of commissioners was held July 6. The following business was transacted:

The Ohio German Insurance company, in which the court house has been partly insured, has failed. Two other companies, one in Texas and one in North Carolina, in which the court house is also insured offered to re-write the unexpired policies of the Ohio German company at reduced rates. The commissioners accepted the offer.

The bond of James Hacking as County Horticulturist was approved.

An election is to be held July 17th for the purpose of establishing a few irrigation districts.

figuring the tree in the least; sometimes it may add to the symmetry and beauty of the tree.

LIBERTY PARK LOCALS.

The celebration at Taylor's Grove one mile south of the State road was a most enjoyable event. The program was fine. Excellent music was rendered by the Liberty Park quartette.

The entertainment was opened by Herman Miller, marshal of the day. Prayer by the chaplin, Mr. Pope. Reading of the Declaration of Independence by Mrs. Lee Caldwell. Song, Miss Ethel Daniels and sister. Song by Fantella and Lillian Van. In the foot races, Phill Van won the 50 yard race. In the 100 yard race, Clarence Harrisman. In the evening all enjoyed themselves at a dance at Moffat. All was quiet and no roudism was displayed. The Deep Creek base ball team beat the Indian Bench team.

There will be a dance at Millon Saturday night.

The first food of the day.

Every man, woman and child begins the day with more or less vigor of mind and strength of body according to the first food supplied to the stomach. The best first dish of the day is a bowl of Quaker Oats. The stomach can assimilate it more quickly and with less effort than other foods. There is little or no waste and every ounce of food is converted into muscle, vigor and brain activity. "The strongest people in the world are the regular eaters of Quaker Oats. You should eat it for breakfast every day."

If you are convenient to the store you'll probably buy the regular size package. For those who live in the country the large size family package is more satisfactory.

Preserving the Balance.

A well known professor of architecture commonly referred to as "Hammy" by his pupils, recently told a story illustrative of the remarkable degree to which certain persons possess the sense of symmetry.

It seems that there was once a Scotch gardener who had charge of a good sized English estate and under whose charge the formal garden at the rear had been laid out with absolute symmetry, even the two summer houses, one on each side of the garden, being identical in even the most minute detail. On one occasion the Englishman became angry at his son locked him up in one of the summer houses. As soon as the Scotch gardener heard of this his sense of symmetry was so outraged that he immediately sent for his own son and locked him up in the other summer house to preserve the balance. "Hammy" neglected to mention whether both boys were dressed exactly alike, but it is to be presumed that even this detail was attended to by the aesthetic Scotchman.

The Race Is On.

The contestants in Big Green contest stand as follows:

VE
7/9/09
Caldwell Bros.
Caldwell Bros.

Veri
Uintah Co's.
VERN

Mrs. Mary A. Wamsh... Girls and boys... Get in the race—there are able prizes amounting to they are yours if you want enough.

See last week's Express... culars.

See E. W. Davis... prizes and tickets and for in house furnitures.

We Never Sp...

Twenty-Five Cents is the Peace.

The terrible itching and skin... incident to certain skin diseases... most instantly allayed by Chamberlain's Salve. Price... For sale by Vernal Drug Co.

Over Thirty-Five Years

In 1872 there was a great diarrhoea epidemic and a... fantum. It was at this Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera Diarrhoea Remedy was first introduced into use. It proved more than any other remedy of its kind and has for thirty-five years maintained that record. From beginning its sale and extended to every part of the States and to many foreign... Nine druggists out of ten... recommend it when their patients...



Uintah Fee
COMFORTAB

YOUR COUNTY LIBRARY
PERSONAL ROOM
FILE FOLDER

NO. 576

Worth?

Underwear will insure it.

famous B. V. D. underwear, Horgan's at 50 cents and up.

s, and shirts and drawers, in knit, priced the Bracken way.

forable.

thin...

DIAMOND RANCH SOLD

UINTAH COUNTY LIBRARY
REGIONAL ROOM
FILE FOLDER
NO. 0576

The Oldest Cattle Ranch on the
Mountain Changed Hands.

There was another big sale of mountain real estate this week. The Old Diamond Springs ranch has changed hands, and hereafter not only but sheep will feed on the succulent grasses that have fed the restless bovine for so many years. This was about the last cattle ranch on Diamond mountain, and now it gives way to sheep.

Joseph Burton this week sold to John N. Davis all of the Diamond Springs ranch consisting of 480 acres, on the Diamond mountain, for a consideration of \$2,500. This is a fine ranch, and one of the old land marks of Uintah county and in fact of Northeastern Utah. It was originally located by Dunk Blair, now deceased, father of John Blair who is now living at Whiterocks agency, but for the past twenty-five years it has been owned in the Burton family, and during that time has been the headquarters for the thousands of cattle that they have handled. During the early days when the mail and all travel came into this valley from Green River City and Rock Springs on the north, all travelers stopped at the Diamond Springs road house overnight, and many prominent men in the administration of the affairs of state and nation of to-day have rested weary heads at this place, overnight.

The spring of water is one of the best on the mountain—always cold, pure and sparkling as it flows from the crevice in the rock, which was originally of a diamond shape and after which the ranch was named.

Vernal Express 1909-07-09



BLM EMPLOYEES load shrub and browse seed palatable to wildlife on aircraft to seed prime wildlife winter range.

Diamond Rim prescribed burn enhances elk habitat

In a continuing effort to improve elk habitat on public land, the Vernal district, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) teamed up with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) to complete a 577-acre prescribed burn.

The prescribed burn occurred this past fall along Diamond Rim, approximately 12 air miles northeast of Vernal. The objective was to create new year long forage for elk and deer in an area dominated by juniper trees. Following the prescribed burn, the entire area was reseeded by aircraft with a variety of high quality grasses, forbs, and shrubs preferred by wildlife.

The UDWR provided over \$7,200 worth of seed which was matched by BLM funds. RMEF contributed \$3,000 which was used to pay for the helicopter, fuel, and crews necessary to complete the prescribed burn. Ron Trogstad, Area Manager of the Diamond Mountain Resource

Area, said;

These types of cooperative efforts are greatly appreciated by the BLM. These cooperative efforts allow us to complete more habitat work than could be accomplished with BLM funds alone.

The RMEF is a non-profit wildlife organization that has raised money

for wildlife projects through annual banquets and voluntary contributions. The Foundation is dedicated to the conservation of elk and preservation and improvement of elk habitat in North America. It has been involved locally with the Bookcliffs Conservation Initiative and numerous other habitat improvement projects.

Mr. Trogstad further stated that, "It's always nice to see local dollars collected at the annual RMEF banquet returned to the Basin to the benefit of local wildlife." He expressed his appreciation to UDWR and RMEF for their continued support and hopes this type of cooperative effort continues.

VE 1/1/93

Night of violence on Diamond Mountain

By George E. Long

A true story of a brush with death on Diamond Mountain as told by Gene Long.

October is a beautiful time of the year for the most part in our mountains. It is also that time of year when winter is getting near at hand and stockmen are making preparations for it.

Such was the case in early October of 1929 when Tom McKeachnie and his young herder, Gene Long, were making their way off Diamond Mountain with the McKeachnie sheep outfit.

THEY WERE leaving their range a few weeks early this year due to the fact they had summered on Diamond Mountain instead of going to the high country and feed was getting short.

In the course of their travel coming off the mountain, the route crossed through some property belonging to a person somewhat antagonistic to the sheep outfits. There had been a couple of flare-ups before and one man had been wounded by a gun shot as a result.

McKeachnie and Long talked it over beforehand and being that it was a public road, decided that they were well within their rights to travel it as long as they kept the livestock moving and from spreading out onto the man's property. They also believed they could make it across the property in question before nightfall.

But there are times when even the best laid plans can go wrong. It just seemed like everything went haywire that day. This, along with the fact that they were in danger of mixing with another herd, slowed their progress to the point that darkness overtook them before they were beyond the owner's property line. Nothing else to do only make camp where they were. In 1929 night travel on a remote mountain road was practically unheard of, so they bedded the sheep in the road and along its edges close to the wagon and made preparations for the night.

Soon as their evening meal was over and the dishes done, Gene got his guitar and played a few tunes on it while Tom stretched out on the backside of the bed. Now there isn't much room in a sheep wagon as those of you who are familiar know. Gene, after playing a while, laid his guitar where he had been sitting on the front of the bed towards the lower end and walked over to the stove and made a final check to see if all was in order for the following morning.

You get up early at the sheep camps, and you make as many preparations as you can the night before. He looked outside and commented on how dark it was. Meanwhile, Tom rose to a sitting position at the head of the bed. Gene's guitar was laying on the lower section of the bed. These positions are very important for what is soon to take place.

GENE SPOKE to his dogs, then closed the wagon door and went back taking a seat next to the cupboard. Why he didn't sit back on the bed or stretch out on

these few quick minutes. His childhood growing up on his father's farm and how he wished he was there right now. He had read stories of range wars and feuds between stockmen, but he'd thought this sort of thing had died many years before and that it just couldn't be happening to him.

They were fighting for their lives and they both knew it. Tom had gotten the rifle as two more shots shattered the night. Gene wasn't sure if they came in the wagon or not, but he thought they did, as later in the investigation it showed that six shotgun blasts penetrated it.

TOM TURNED to Gene and said, "Come on, follow me, we're getting out of here." Gene said, "He'll kill us as we go out the door for sure." To this Tom replied, "He'll get us if we stay in here" and he doused the light.

Gene said it was a sight he'll never forget as Tom McKeachnie turned to him seconds before knocking out the lantern, holding his rifle in readiness and blood streaming down his face and shirt. He was like a bull and I wouldn't have wanted to be in his way for anything in the world. A few seconds later, I was just that and I thank God for Tom's cool thinking.

Gene wasn't sure which direction Tom had taken as he jumped from the wagon. Anyway, just as Gene reached the ground a dog ran in front of him and he fell over it. But he said he was up in record time and headed around the opposite side of the wagon that the shots had come from. It was pitch black out, especially after having been in a lighted sheep wagon and then rushing out into the night this way. He ran full tilt into Tom and felt the rifle against his chest. Gene said he knew his heart stopped beating for a few seconds as he muttered, "Don't shoot". He knew that he would never be any closer to death than he was right then. Nervous and hurt as he was, Tom kept his head. After just a couple of words, they headed for the Reader sheep camp, about a mile away near Diamond Gulch.

While making their way to the Reader camp, they could hear more shots back near their camp and expected to see it go up in flames any minute, but for some reason, the would-be assassin never tried to burn it.

AS THEY approached the Reader wagon, the herder's dogs began barking loudly and the light went out. They called out to the herder identifying themselves and explaining that they needed help, as Tom was badly hurt. As they entered the wagon, the herder in charge said he was afraid to let them stay there, that he feared for his life also. He explained, "That old hellion is apt to come down here and kill us all". One of the men there said he would get his horse and ride to the Jack Girt ranch for help. Jack's place was some four miles to the north and he had a car in which he could take Tom to Vernal.

Tom was hurting very badly by now and he couldn't see out of one of his eyes. He turned to Gene and the man going to Girt's and said, "We'll head for Reader's cabin on Diamond Gulch and Jack can pick us up



GENE LONG over 47 years later holds his old guitar with its side partly shot away. Absolute proof of the gunman's intent on that fateful night.



TOM McKEACHNIE a few years after the shooting spree. He recovered from the wounds he received that terrifying night on Diamond Mountain.

of him. Had he sat back on the bed after getting up the evening before, he probably wouldn't be alive to tell this story.

The sheriff told them to gather their livestock and start moving off the mountain. They got their dogs and caught up the horses and began rounding up the sheep.

As Gene headed for the rim with his battered wagon, a rider approached. He recognized him as the man who owned the ground and who they felt was responsible for the shooting. A lump came in Gene's throat as he looked around to see if anyone else was near. John McKeachnie was over a half mile away bringing the sheep and the sheriff had departed on up the road in another direction. A gun was protruding from a saddle scabbard on the man's horse.

HE TOLD GENE to hold up and asked him where he thought he was going. Gene replied that the sheriff had told him to move the outfit off and that was what he was trying to do. The man looked him and his shot-up wagon over real close, then nodded and rode off. Gene breathed a sigh of relief and quickly headed for the rim where he knew they'd be off the man's property. Then, parking his wagon and saddling up one of the horses, he headed back to help John McKeachnie bring in the herd.

The sheriff and his deputy gathered what evidence they could find, such as spent shotgun shells, a glove and tracks. An investigation was made and a warrant sworn out for the party accused. Feeling ran high in Vernal, so the defendant's lawyer asked and got a change of venue. The trial was held in a distant town in another county and the defendant was finally ruled not guilty.

Tom McKeachnie recovered from his wounds, but vowed if he ever met the man face to face he'd take care of things in his own way. I don't guess he ever did, as the man sold out

times we had going from neighbor's camp to another, eating dinner, pitching horseshoes and playing good music. Most were good cooks and several could play some sort of musical instrument.

TALK ABOUT good neighbors and good music, you couldn't beat Betts and Helen Freestone. They had what is probably the most picturesque place on Diamond Mountain. Bett's Cove, named after him. McKeachnies leased it from time to time and we spent many happy hours together. They could play guitars like no one you ever heard. How I cherish the times spent in their company and at their place.

They had the most unique water system that one would ever see for running water to their cabin. Water from a spring was piped to the cabin below with grooved quaking aspen trees cut and placed just right. Only Betts and Helen could think of something like this. Truly great outdoorsmen, to say the least.

Yes, these years were among the best as far as I am concerned. How good it was to be out away from the hub-bub of it all. To breathe the crisp, cool mountain air. This was truly out where the deer and antelope play and the buffalo roam. Out where the West was still young. Yes, it was the greatest, that is provided, of course, you didn't get shot at.

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Tom was hurting very badly by now and he couldn't see out of one of his eyes. He turned to Gene and the man going for the Jack Girl's car. "We'll head for Reader's cabin on Diamond Gulch and Jack can pick us up there as it will be closer for him anyway." This was another half mile away. So Gene took the gun and proceeded with Tom to the cabin on Diamond Gulch where he did what he could to help him.

JACK CAME as fast as he was able, and Tom was loaded into his Studebaker roadster and they started for Vernal over twenty miles away. He was put in the hospital under doctor's care. Some of the shot was close to the skin and therefore removed; others were deeply embedded and he packed them the rest of his life. One eye just barely missed being put out. A very lucky man indeed.

The sheriff was notified and along with a deputy and Gene and John McKeechies, (Tom's brother and partner of the sheep outfit) they returned to the scene at daylight the following morning. Sheep and horses were scattered throughout the surrounding area. Several sheep lay dead, some of which were shot and others clubbed to death.

Upon inspection of the wagon, Gene noticed his guitar still lying on the bed, two large holes through its side where shots had penetrated it. Ruined, but how lucky it was the guitar instead of him.

GENE LONG was 17 years old when this happened. He went on to work for McKeechies for over 12 years. He knew practically every ridge and draw from Diamond Mountain to the far-off Gilbert Basin in the high Uintas where they'd trail the sheep for the summer range.

As Gene reminisces about the past, he states that back in the late thirties, there were over twenty herds going up the trail. Now probably six or seven. The old counting corral on Diamond Mountain was a busy place, now it's all but deserted. You'd see sheep camps on nearly every ridge, now just one occasionally. And fences, just look at them, everywhere.

Yes, those were good years, the best when it comes right down to it. I think of the good

never forget as Tom McKeechies turned to him seconds before knocking out the lantern, holding his rifle in readiness and blood streaming down his face and shirt. He was like a bull and I wouldn't have wanted to be in his way for anything in the world. A few seconds later, I was just that and I thank God for Tom's cool thinking.

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The conversation turned to the happenings of the day and the fact that they didn't get accomplished all they had planned on doing. Just then a dog barked and two shots biased the stillness of the night. Tom exclaimed, by darn, maybe that's him and started towards his rifle which hung at the foot of the bed in a saddle scabbard tied to the bow of the wagon.

Before reaching the gun, two more shots rang out in quick succession, both of which penetrated the wagon. One of the shots took Tom full in the face and chest and he staggered back against the bed saying, "Gene, I'm hit".

Gene was nearly petrified as he crouched against the cupboard and the stove. He looked at Tom and said his face was crimson with blood and he heard him yell out, "For God's sake, don't kill us, give us a chance!" Then two more shots followed, ripping into the wagon.

Gene said his whole life was flashing before his mind in



The diamond hoax

By Mike Brown
Uintah County Historian

Perhaps the greatest swindle ever committed in the history of the American West was the diamond hoax of 1872. Early one bleary morning in San Francisco, two grizzled and filthy prospectors came out of the mist in front of one of the most prominent banks of the city. With a great show of secrecy and concern, these two men, Philip Arnold and John Slack, asked the first clerk arriving at the bank if they could deposit something of extreme value. When assured of the bank's security and integrity, they produced a bag of diamonds to be placed in the bank's vaults. Arnold and Slack then promptly disappeared.

The clerk, being a dutiful fellow, immediately showed the diamonds to the officers of the bank. These men got in touch with some of the wealthiest men in San Francisco and they founded the New York & San Francisco Mining & Commercial Company. The first thing they did was try to locate the two nameless prospectors.

After letting the idea ripen in the minds of the rich investors, Arnold and Slack conveniently reappeared to retrieve their diamonds but instead, allowed themselves to be included in the company. As a measure of security, a few of the members of the company with Arnold in tow, made the trip to New York to have the diamonds assessed by the top firm in the field - Tiffany's. Tiffany pronounced them genuine. While in New York, more important men were brought into the scheme, including Civil War hero General George McClellan. Baron Rothschild in London wanted to get in on the action also at the European end.

Finally, the group was ready to go to the diamond fields and see for themselves. As a final measure of safety, the investors took with them Henry Janin, the foremost name in geology at the time. This assorted group of characters, led by Arnold and Slack, took the train from San Francisco to a small station on the Union Pacific in Wyoming. From there they went on horseback. After a few days of riding back and forth aimlessly, they were there. Diamonds and rubies were scattered everywhere. The men went absolutely wild and to crown it all, Janin gave the diamond fields his personal professional blessing as being the "real McCoy."

Arnold and Slack were then bought

out of the company to the tune of \$600,000. During the time all this was supposedly taking place in secrecy, someone leaked the story and the West was full of rumors and the newspapers were in an uproar. Unfortunately for the investors, who were counting their future profits in the millions, the rumors came to the attention of Clarence King, Government Surveyor, who had just completed a several year survey of the Fortieth Parallel which included the area of the diamond fields. Since he was about to publish the results of his long years of field work and since he hadn't seen any sign of diamonds or even the type of geologic formations that diamonds are found in, King was deeply interested in finding out if the stories were true.

By talking to Janin and keeping their eyes and ears open, King and his colleagues, including the noted geologist Samuel Emmons, figured out that the diamond fields were probably in the area of the Yampa and Green River country. In November of '72 they set out. After searching and freezing for several days, they finally found the site and it didn't take long to determine that the area had been 'salted' with the gems. They even found one precious stone lying on top of a rock where any gust of wind could carry it away.

Returning to San Francisco, King confronted Janin and the investors and convinced them that they had been duped. They asked for a month's silence so they could unload their worthless stock and salvage some of the loss, but King's professional ethics prevailed and they made the announcement immediately.

The truth finally came out that Arnold and Slack had gone to Amsterdam and purchased between \$15,000 and \$30,000 worth of roughcut stones and then planted them at the site. The two perpetrators of the fraud fled and even though later sued, the most that was recovered from them was \$150,000.

But the end of the story anyway for Uintah County is the question - did this all occur on our Diamond Mountain? According to the surveyor King, no, it didn't. It happened at Diamond Peak in Colorado, 40 miles east of the Green River. One explanation is that our Diamond Mountain was named after an early cattlemen with the handle of Diamond.

The final note to all of this is that one old timer was once heard to remark upon hearing the Colorado version of

the episode, "Those blankety-blank people in Colorado have been stealing our stories for years, and now they got another one."

VERNAL Express

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Vernal, Utah 84057
112th Year No.

Fire meets Mother Nature

By Virginia Harrington
Express Writer

The Mail Draw fire, located 25 miles northeast of Vernal on Diamond Mountain between Mail and Warren Draws, was suppressed by fire fighters with help from Mother Nature.

The fire started August 31 and quickly grew to 1,945 acres by the morning of Sept. 1. By that afternoon it had consumed 2,600 acres. By the morning of Sept. 2 the fire had been 20 percent contained.

Progress was made Sept. 1 on both the Alpha and Zulu divisions of the fire. On division Alpha, burnout operations went smoothly, establishing control lines for that division. On division Zulu, bulldozers worked to put in control lines wherever the steep and rocky terrain would allow. A type 1 hand crew from each division worked to put in a protection line around the cabins and summer homes on the southern end of the fire.

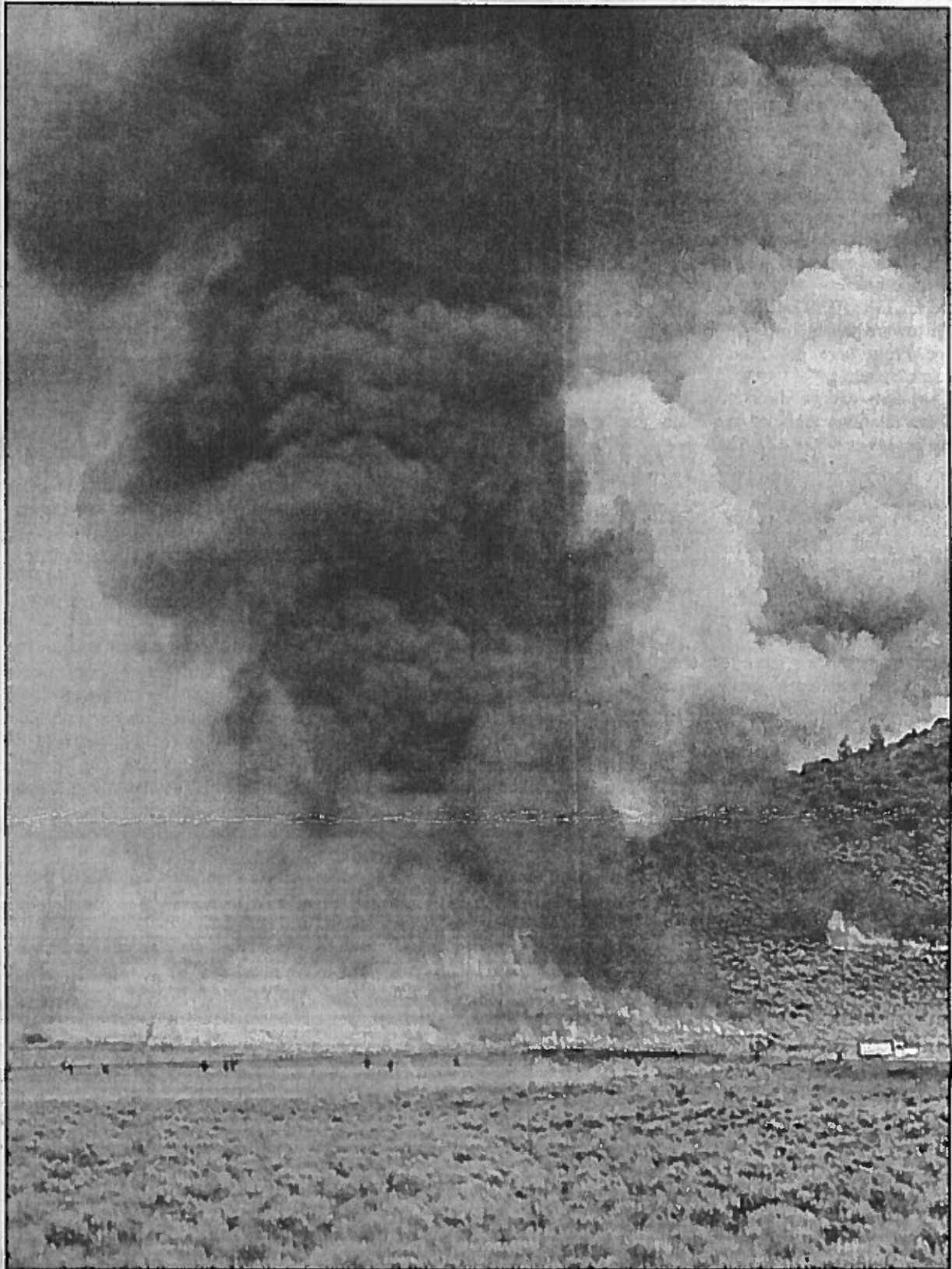
Two heavy air tankers worked to stop the fire's growth to the north and helped slow the fire to the south, where the two Hot Shot crews put in the protection line. The majority of the structures in the area are located to the south of the fire and two are located to the north. There is no immediate danger to any of the structures.

Three helicopters also worked on the fire until Sept. 2, when a fourth was added. There was one Type 1 helicopter, two Type 3 helicopters and a Type 2 helicopter added Sept. 2 to complement the resources. Other resources used were three Type 2 hand crews, seven engines, two dozers, four water tenders and nine overhead personnel. By Sept. 2 there were 150 people working to suppress the fire.

Rowdy Muir's Type 2 Incident management team was ordered Sept. 2. A briefing for the Type 2 team was held Sept. 2 at 2 p.m. Muir's team took over the fire, which had grown to 2,800 acres, at 6 a.m. Sept. 3.

On Sept. 4, suppression was curtailed due to heavy rain. Work consisted of line strengthening, mop-up and gear retrieval. Most fire fighters remained in camp due to unsafe conditions and impassable access roads. Three crews, two helicopters, two water tenders and all engines were demobilized from the fire. The remaining crews were supplied with lodging at Vernal's Western Park, allowing them the opportunity to dry soggy gear.

By Sept. 5, the fire was 100 percent contained with the help of nearly two inches of rainfall. A helicopter flight, supplied with infrared



Smoke drifts over Diamond Mountain while fire fighters work to put out the blaze that consumed 2,800 acres.

detectors, showed only four hot spots remaining early in the morning. No fire fighting resources were dispatched to the line for suppression actions and all equipment was recovered from the fire area.

In contrast to the normal conversations on fires that center on drought and dangerous burning conditions, quotes such as, "how bad did your tent leak," were heard around the fire camp. Fire managers had to quickly change tactics and strategy to ensure the health and safety of personnel. While there is still work to be completed, the emphasis switched from putting the fire out to making sure fire fighters were kept out of harm's way due to the inclement weather. Incident Commander rowdy Muir stressed that, "taking care of the

people working here is my primary concern." The release of remaining personnel was scheduled for Sept. 6.

While the rain is good for relieving drought-stressed vegetation, it also creates some concerns for hunters and campers. They will find main roads muddy and slippery to negotiate and side roads may be impassable. Driving in and around the fire area could cause unwanted erosion. Trees and rocks may have been loosened by the fire and rain, and will fall or roll downhill without notice.

People are advised to pay particular attention to their surroundings when they travel in the back country, especially around recently burned areas. It is also important to remember that wildfire is still a

possibility and care should be used to prevent wildfires.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. It was mostly on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land but also included some private and state lands. The terrain is steep and rocky with limited access to BLM land. There is some access to state and private lands. The vegetation included pinion pine, juniper, sagebrush, mahogany, grasses and timber.

Hunters and land owners planning to travel in this area should first contact the BLM for status on the fire. For any additional information please contact Karen Bloom at 435-781-4423 or Deni Kettle at 435-828-0142

Wildfire hits Diamond Mountain

Wildfire struck Diamond Mountain late yesterday morning. By 4 p.m. August 31, the fire had consumed 100 acres. The fire originated in Mail Draw at the bottom of the drainage area. It is moving toward Warren Draw, which is near the area of the Mustang Ranch fire of 2002. The fire is consuming mainly sage and juniper as it moves westward. Attempts to suppress the fire began quickly with a 10-person crew in place by mid-afternoon. Four fire engines, a helicopter and a bulldozer are also being used to extinguish the fire. Cheryl Nielsen of the Utah Basin Interagency Fire Center said the cause of the fire was not immediately known and is under investigation. She also said that so far no structures or lives are threatened by the fire.

Plume of smoke rises over Diamond Mountain as a wildfire scorches nearly 100 acres.



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THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

Foul Murder at the O.K. Corral

His two younger brothers
were lying dead. Now
Will McLaury was coming
to Tombstone in search of
blood justice

'It was as cold-
blooded and foul
a murder as has
been recorded'
—Will McLaury

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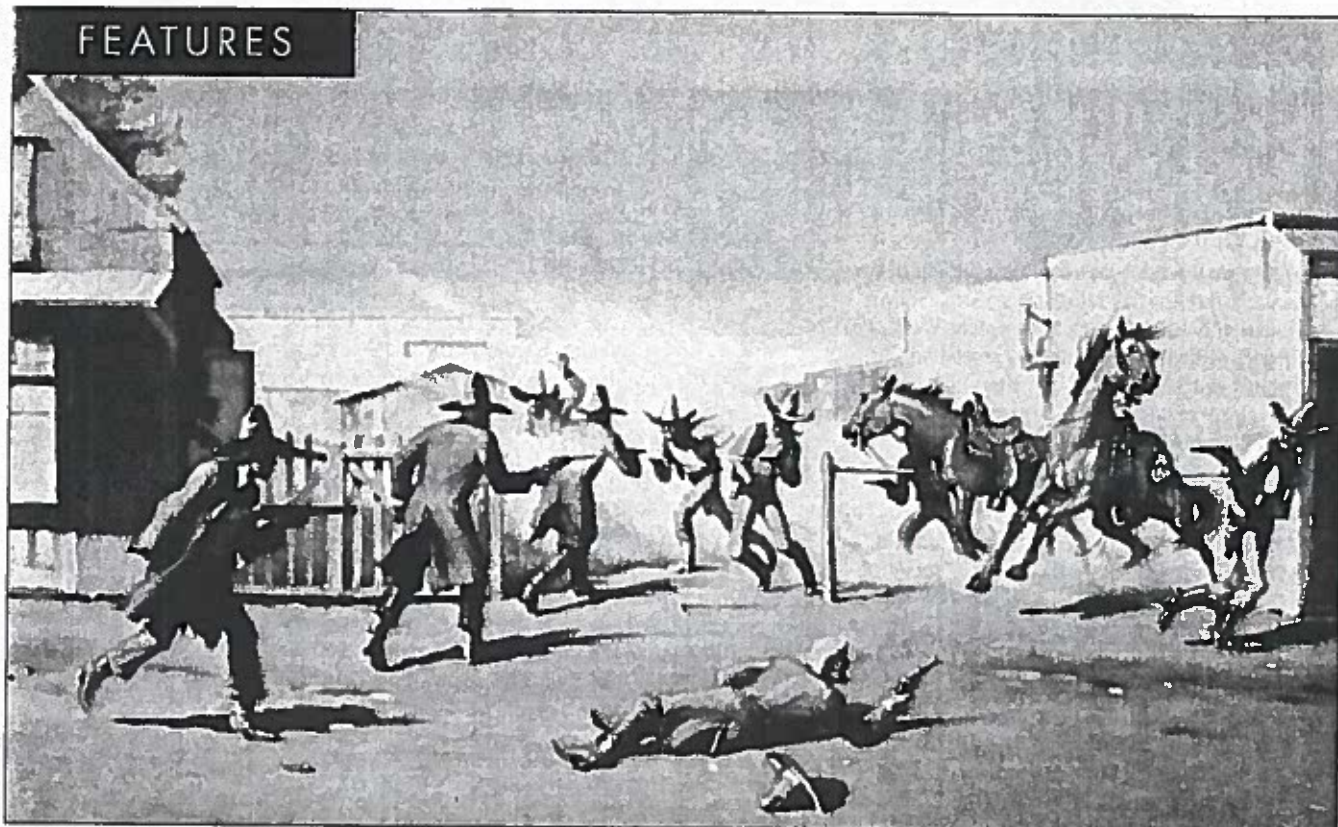
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FEATURES



Frank McLaury is at far right and brother Tom is behind the horse in Clyde Forsythe's *Fight at O.K. Corral* (compare to his work on P. 22).

Cover Story



26 The Will Of McLaury

By Paul Lee Johnson

When Frank and Tom McLaury died in the gunfight near the O.K. Corral, their older brother Will came to Tombstone to bury them and seek justice against the Earps and Doc Holliday.



34 Massacre at Dawn In Arizona Territory

By Carol A. Markstrom and Doug Hocking

Mexican and white residents of Tucson wanted to strike back at the Apache raiders of the region, so they recruited other Indians for a deadly surprise attack near Camp Grant.

ON THE COVER: An intense William Rowland McLaury posed for this photo soon after arriving in Tombstone, Arizona Territory, to bury younger brothers Tom and Frank and to see their killers punished. (Cover photos: Paul L. Johnson Collection)



40 Clay Allison: 'Good-Natured Holy Terror'

By Sharon Cunningham

In New Mexico Territory the shootist struck fear in enemies during the Colfax County War, but then he returned to Texas to peacefully raise cows and a family.



46 The Great Diamond Hoax of 1872

By John Koster

Two prospectors showed up with uncut diamonds at San Francisco's Bank of California, intriguing investors and sparking a sparkling con game.



54 Phantom Raiders On the Trinity


By Richard F. Selcer

Comanches had long terrorized the Texas frontier, and now the self-styled "Lords of the Plains" swooped down on the Fort Worth Army post—or was it a tall tale?

The Great **Diamond Hoax** *of 1872*



Knowing that diamonds are an investor's best friend, two prospecting cousins, Philip Arnold and John Slack, pulled off a sparkling con game and never looked back

In late November 1870 two grizzled, weather-beaten prospectors visited San Francisco financier George D. Roberts, whose own fortune had started in 1850 when he struck gold while working as a lumberman. Philip Arnold, the leader of the two men, had once worked for Roberts as a prospector. The other man was Arnold's cousin John Slack. The visitors were not there to talk gold. They produced a grubby-looking leather bag that contained uncut diamonds and other gems worth an estimated \$125,000—supposedly picked up not in India or South Africa but in the American West. Roberts quickly shared news of the find with his Ohio-born friend William Ralston, who had become rich off Nevada's Comstock Lode and founded the Bank of California. Roberts and Ralston knew little about diamonds but plenty about opportunity. It didn't take much to get them hooked on Arnold and Slack's diamond field, wherever it was, and to make a deal that promised big profits for everyone involved. 

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Arnold, born in 1829 in the same Kentucky county as Abraham Lincoln, was a Mexi-

BY JOHN KOSTER

can War veteran with a spotty education but plenty of experience as a prospector. Cousin Slack, born in 1820, was also a Hardin County native. Roberts and Ralston brought in another investor, William M. Lent, who had helped finance the Comstock Lode silver mining operations. The three San Francisco investors contacted Asbury Harpending, who, like Arnold and Slack, was a Kentuckian who knew something about prospecting. A would-be Confederate swash-buckler paroled by President Abraham Lincoln for his part in a scheme to raid Union merchant shipping along the Pacific coast, Harpending had earlier volunteered to soldier for freebooter William Walker in his attempts to wrest control of several Central American countries (the young Kentuckian never got there to join Walker in front of a Honduran firing squad in 1860). Harpending was in London, trying to raise funds for a California mining venture, when Ralston cabled that he must rush back to San Francisco to join him in the diamond business. Harpending's 1913 memoir contains perhaps the most detailed account of the early 1870s Western diamond venture.

"I had some knowledge of the prospectors," Harpending wrote. "Arnold generally had borne a good reputation among the mining fraternity. Slack seemed to be a stray bird who had blown in by chance, probably picked up by Arnold because of a marriage relationship. It seemed they had told a straight enough story. It was impossible to tangle them in any detail." But Harpending and the three well-to-do investors were in for the surprise of their lives—and the surprise was anything but pleasant.

Even before Harpending arrived in San Francisco to join in the quest in May 1871, Arnold and Slack had offered to return to the mysterious diamond field and bring back another load of gems before discussing a deal with the investors to form a mining coalition, the San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Co. The three investors, holding the leather bag of gems as collateral, handed them a \$50,000 grubstake. In August Harpending met the prospectors at the Lathrop, Calif., train station on their return from the second expedition. "Both were travel-strained and weather-beaten and had the general appearance of having gone through much hardship and privation," he noted. "Slack was sound asleep like a tired-out man. Arnold sat grimly erect like a vigilant old soldier with a rifle by his side, also a bulky-looking buckskin package."

Arnold and Slack told Harpending they had struck a spot rich in diamonds and other gems, dug them up and stuffed them into two buckskin bags—a haul worth some \$2 million by their estimate. On the way back, the men claimed, they hit a stream in flood stage and cobbled together a raft to cross, losing one bag of gems when the raft tipped. "As the other contained at least a million dollars' worth of stones," the men told Harpending, "it ought to be fully satisfactory."

Harpending handed the trusting prospectors a paper receipt for the surviving bag, and the Kentucky cousins left the

train at Oakland. Back in San Francisco, Harpending took a waiting carriage home and called together the potential stockholders. "We did not waste time on ceremonies," he recalled. "A sheet was spread on my billiard table. I cut the elaborate fastenings of the sack and, taking hold of the lower corners, dumped the contents. It seemed like a dazzling, many-colored cataract of light."

The cataract was soon on public display, and potential stockholders bought in frantically. Roberts, Ralston, Lent and Harpending decided to hold on to three-quarters of the stock and offer shares to prominent and influential men of business. They hoped to assemble \$10 million in capital and to locate and purchase the entire diamond field through what Harpending blandly described as legal chicanery—"a plan to facilitate the passage of a law whereby a great territory of mining land could be taken up so as to ensure to ourselves the entire field, no matter what the



COURTESY OF HARDIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY VIA RON ELLIOTT

Kentuckian Philip Arnold did most of the fast-talking when he and cousin John Slack produced a bag of diamonds and other gems.

extent." The partners offered a share to Maj. Gen. Benjamin Franklin Butler, a U.S. congressman from Massachusetts widely loathed for his toughness as military commander of New Orleans during the late Civil War but now a useful ally in keeping the great diamond field in as few hands as possible. The partners also agreed to take a large sample of the diamonds to Charles Lewis Tiffany in New York City for a thorough appraisal. Lent (the new president), Harpending (the general manager) and two other stockholders set off

Prospectors Arnold and Slack agreed to take an expert—albeit blindfolded on the last stage of the journey—to actually look over the diamond field. Some of the stockholders proposed San Francisco-based mining engineer Henry Janin, who had reportedly examined more than 600 mines and never made a mistake that cost the owners a dime. Janin's best terms were \$2,500, all expenses paid, and an option to buy 1,000 shares of stock. Lent found this excessive, but he was overruled. Thus in early June 1872 Janin set out



Diamond field investors (clockwise from left): San Francisco financier George D. Roberts was the first to see Arnold and Slack's gems; his banker friend William Ralston saw a chance to make a killing; William M. Lent, who had helped finance the Comstock Lode, agreed with him; and Asbury Harpending approved the deal.

with prospectors Arnold and Slack for New York City on the transcontinental railroad.

The partners had retained New York attorney Samuel L.M. Barlow as general counsel. In October 1871 they met Tiffany at Barlow's house in the presence of General Butler, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, Brevet Brig. Gen. George S. Dodge, newspaper editor Horace Greeley and notable bankers. Tiffany looked over the gems—diamonds, emeralds, rubies, sapphires—sorted them into little heaps and held them up to the light. "Gentlemen, these are beyond question precious stones of enormous value," Tiffany said. "But before I give you the exact appraisement, I must submit them to my lapidary and will report to you further in two days."

Two days later Tiffany issued the private appraisal: The gems he had examined, just one-tenth of one bag, were worth about \$150,000. "The hardier class of plungers were only too eager to get aboard even at this early stage of the game," Harpending recalled. Arnold was no doubt more pleased than anyone to hear how much his gems were worth.

from New York for the diamond country with Arnold and Slack, General Dodge, Harpending and Alfred Rubery, an English adventurer and friend of Harpending.

"The country was wild and inhospitable," Harpending recalled. The prospectors seemed to have gotten lost several times on the zigzagging four-day excursion from the railroad junction to the diamond field, although it was only about 20 miles as the crow flies. Rumor placed the field in Arizona Territory or Wyoming Territory, but it turned out to be in Colorado Territory. Arnold and Slack pointed out their initial diggings, and the investors quickly tethered their pack animals and got out their picks and shovels.

"Everyone wanted to find the first diamond," Harpending noted. "After a few minutes Rubery gave a yell. He held up something glittering in his hand. It was a diamond, fast enough. Any fool could see that much. Then we began to have all kinds of luck. For more than an hour diamonds were being found in profusion, together with occasional rubies, emeralds and sapphires. ... Mr. Janin was exultant that his

name should be associated with the most momentous discovery of the age, to say nothing of the increased value of his 1,000 shares. ... Two days' work satisfied Janin of the absolute genuineness of the diamond fields. He was wildly enthusiastic. ... Janin pointed out that this new field would certainly control the gem market of the world and that the all-essential part of the program was for one great corporation to have absolute control."

The investors staked out claims they hoped would hold up in court and left Rubery—despite his initial protests—to guard the diamond field along with prospector Slack. They telegraphed ahead and, perhaps through the work of bribed telegraphers, soon learned the entire financial world had heard about Janin's confirmation of the diamond field. The Rothschild banking house, which had recently loaned Great Britain the money to buy the Suez Canal from France, was more than interested. Janin estimated that 20 diggers could wash a million dollars a month out of this unique diamond field in Colorado, and there were plenty of Chinese idling about after the completion of the Central Pacific Railroad. Ralston decided that while investors were impressed with the Rothschilds—Rothschild agent Albert Gansl was added to the board of directors—the Americans themselves could



Congressman Benjamin F. Butler accepted an invitation to become a mining partner.

probably raise \$10 million in San Francisco alone. A dozen Western and New York financiers joined Lent, Ralston, Barlow and General McClellan on the board of directors.

Almost as an afterthought the managers dipped into the \$2 million in cash already in hand and paid Arnold and Slack, the all-but-forgotten discoverers, \$300,000 for all rights to the diamond field. With the diamond samples already sold off, Arnold and Slack cleared about \$600,000. Arnold lost no time in heading home to retirement in Kentucky, while Slack seemingly vanished. Meanwhile, independent investors quickly organized three maverick mining companies to exploit any gems that might be found outside the Roberts-Ralston-Lent-Harpending claim staked

out with the help of Arnold and Slack.

The sky caved in on November 11, 1872. Clarence King, a respected geologist and surveyor with almost a decade of federal employment, sent a telegram from a small railroad station in Wyoming to the office of the San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Co. that the "diamond field" prospected by Arnold and Slack was "fraudulently and plainly salted." Arnold and Slack had deliberately planted gems in the ground to dupe gullible investors.

*Tarrytown New York
 July 12th
 I have this day Bought of Philip
 Arnold fifteen Thousand Shares of stock
 in a Contemplated mining co in which
 said Arnold has a Interest with me &
 Robert & others for three hundred thousand
 Dollars
 A Harpending
 Attest C M Bruce Clerk
 Harriet Burnett*

As this receipt shows, Arnold got \$300,000 from Harpending for 15,000 "shears" (that is, shares) of stock in the mining company.

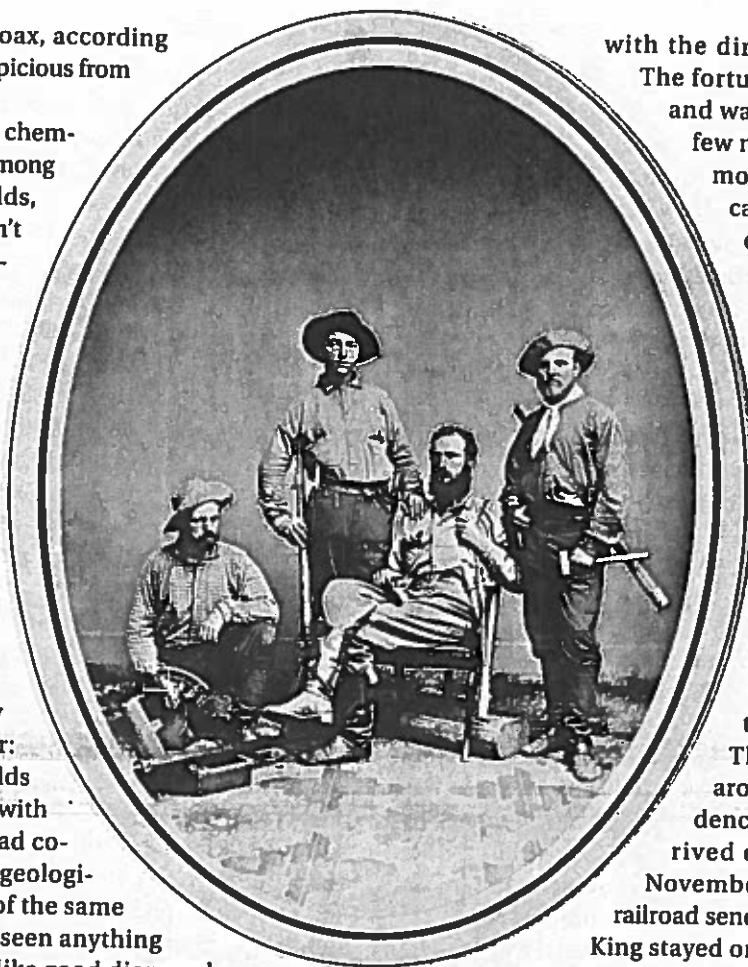
The whole thing was a hoax, according to King, who had been suspicious from the first.

King held a doctorate in chemistry from Yale and knew, among other things, that emeralds, rubies and sapphires don't usually turn up in proximity to diamonds. All pre-

Clarence King (far right), the man who exposed the great diamond hoax, posed for this photo in 1867 when conducting a federal geological survey of the 40th parallel.

cious stones are crystallized carbon formed under great pressure, and each group tends to stratify with gems of similar color: rubies with rubies, emeralds with emeralds, diamonds with diamonds. King himself had coled a federally sponsored geological survey (40th parallel) of the same general region and hadn't seen anything that looked even vaguely like good diamond country. Diamonds are usually found in rock. The Colorado field looked like a dry potato patch. On his own initiative King set out with a couple of sidekicks who also knew something about gold and silver prospecting to have a look for himself at what all the fuss was about. If there were actually diamonds in the lands King had surveyed, and he had overlooked them, his reputation would be damaged.

Harpending, who didn't like King for obvious reasons, said that some of King's travelogue adventures seemed hyperbolic and that the actual hero—as Harpending only learned later—was an anonymous German prospector King had dragged along with him. Two prospectors who knew about the Roberts-Ralston-Lent-Harpending claim showed King, the middle-aged German and the other field geologist to the claim. "Both [King and the German] began washing for diamonds and naturally enough found what they were looking for," Harpending recorded. "In fact, the geologist [King] came very near being fooled as badly as anyone else—wanted to leave instantly and thought of going to San Francisco to have a talk



King knew his reputation would be damaged if a diamond field existed.

with the directors of the company." The fortuneless German disagreed and wanted to stay and pocket a few more diamonds, and a few more after that. But then, recalled Harpending, "he came on a stone that caught his eye and filled him with wonderment. It bore the plain marks of the lapidary's art."

"Look here, Mr. King," the German said. "This is the bulliest diamond field as never was. It not only produces diamonds but cuts them moreover also." King grabbed the half-cut diamond from the sarcastic German, and the whole thing was as clear as day. The geologists rummaged around and found more evidence of salting: King had arrived on November 2, and by November 10 he was back at the railroad sending the telegram.

King stayed on-site until a party of the investors, including the mortified Henry Janin, arrived a few days later by train. With the field's credibility compromised, the hoax became glaringly obvious. "Mention has been made of ant-hills sparkling with minute but veritable diamond and ruby dust," Harpending reflected. "Perhaps because they were so pretty, no one had ever disturbed them.... They weren't ant-hills at all. They were fakes; the work of a sinful man, not of the moral insect. They were also works of art; no one would have suspected guile from looking at them."

The investors found three small holes bored in the ground, each with a large gem nested inside. The salters had forgotten to fill in these holes, as they had obviously closed the others, but as Harpending pointed out, "In such extensive operations a little reckless work was likely to slip in." Harpending capped off the evidence: "Finally, on the top of a large flat rock, several rubies and diamonds were found pressed into crevices to hold them in place. This was so grotesquely raw that it seems incredible and led to a story that some of the diamonds were in the forks of trees. Unfortunately for the story, there weren't

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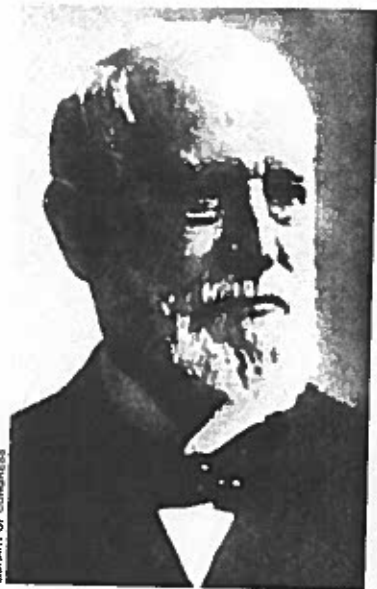
COURTESY OF HARLOW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

any trees in the neighborhood."

The Associated Press wired the hoax story around the world, and the company principals—Janin having glumly confirmed the findings of King and the anonymous German—admitted they too had been fooled by Arnold and Slack. During the subsequent hearings in San Francisco a man named James B. Cooper turned up and claimed credit for having given Arnold and Slack the idea. Arnold had served

as bookkeeper Cooper's assistant at a company that made diamond-tipped drill bits. The salting of gold claims, Cooper had explained to his two cronies, had been overdone. Prospectors who wanted to sell pay dirt to greenhorns sometimes blasted small nuggets into the earth from shotguns or smoothbore muskets and sold the claims to the gullible as soon as the smoke had drifted away. Diamond salting, he said, was a challenge, but he knew where he could find some small diamonds of the type used for drill tips. Arnold and Slack had slipped out of town and never gave Cooper his share of the money. Cooper was indignant.

Charles Tiffany can only have been embarrassed when word came back from London that the diamond specimens from his appraised lot of \$150,000 were coarse, almost worthless, originally mined in South Africa and part of a lot sold to Arnold in London more than a year before. With the mystique



Charles Tiffany's appraisal of the diamond field was in gross error.



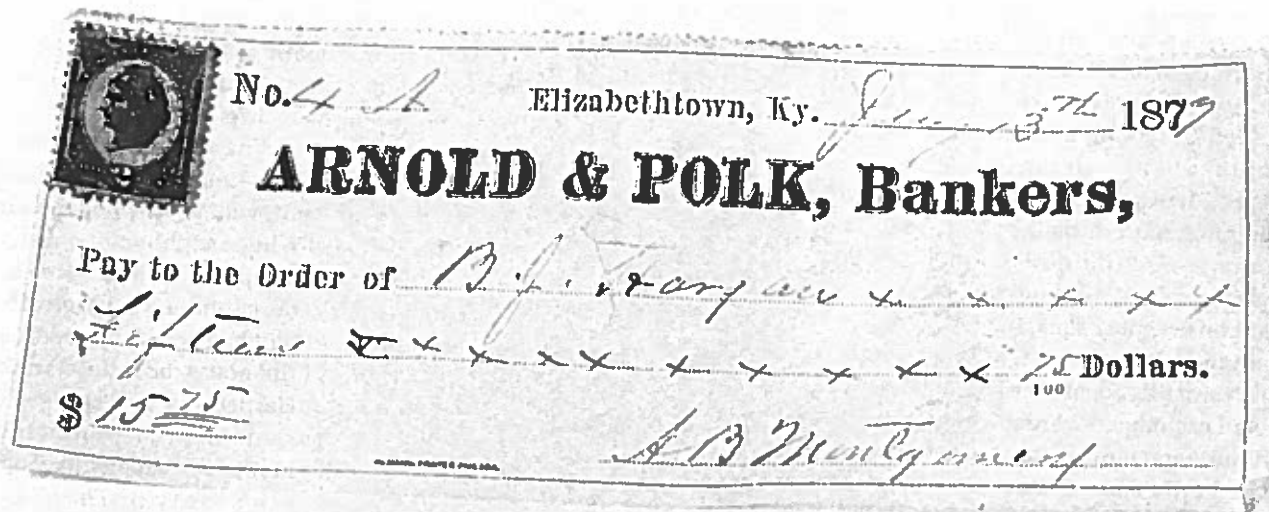
General George McClellan was taken in by the hoax for a while.

of the diamond field dissipating, a new appraisal revealed that the total worth of all the stones in hand was about \$30,000. Arnold and Slack, perhaps advised by Cooper, had obviously secured some cheap industrial diamonds used in drill tips or watches for their first visit to Roberts, then used the \$50,000 grubstake generated by the disclosure to buy some better but still mediocre stones in London for the second salting—some still bearing the telltale marks of the diamond cutter's chisel.

On November 27, 1872, the San Francisco and New York Mining Co. held its final meeting, confirmed that the diamond field was a hoax and refunded whatever money was still on hand. Asbury Harpending and William Lent chivalrously bought back the 1,000 shares from the hapless Henry Janin, whose consulting business probably suffered more than any of the bankers did. None of the conspirators, not even the talkative Cooper, was indicted.

Philip Arnold, who had returned to Elizabethtown, Ky., in late 1872 and bought a handsome farm, was there when the bubble burst. Lent soon filed a suit to recover \$350,000. Arnold denied everything, said someone else must have salted the field and accused the "California scamps" of having sullied his reputation.

"Did Arnold suffer any in the estimation of his compatriots by reason of the grave accusations preferred against him?"



Regarded as a hero back home in Kentucky, Arnold got into the banking business with friend John Polk, but it proved his undoing.

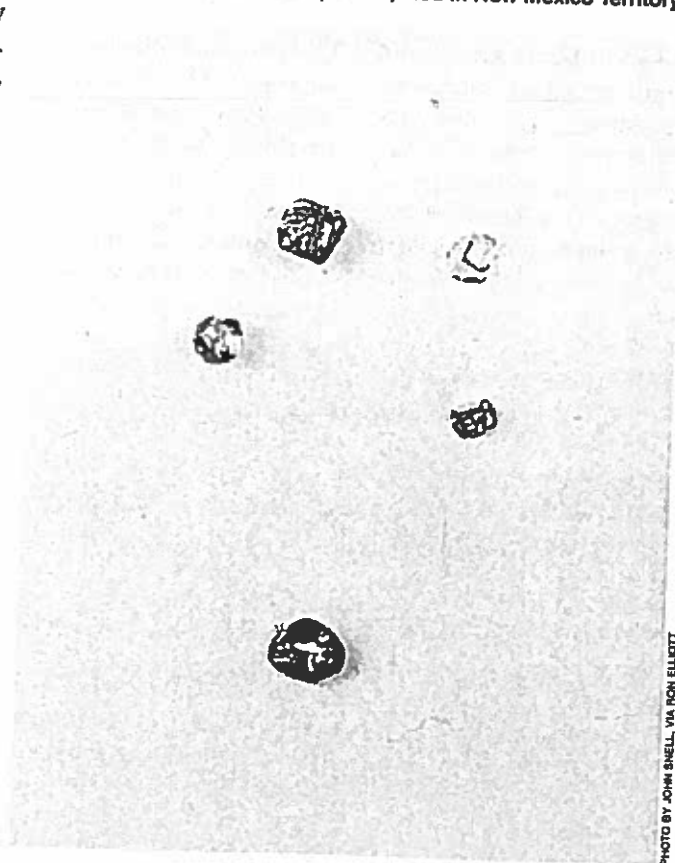
Harpending asked dryly. "Rather the reverse. They gloried in what they were pleased to call his 'spunk.' The old [Confederate Brig. Gen. John Hunt] Morgan raiders and thousands of their way of thinking looked with pride, almost with reverence, on one of their kind with nerve and wit enough to make a foray into Yankee-land and bring away more than half a million in spoils. To tell the truth, Arnold was the very hero of the hour, for the old war feeling was still rampant."

Lent and Harpending headed for Kentucky to negotiate a settlement. In March 1873 Arnold agreed to return \$150,000 to them in exchange for immunity from further litigation. The unreconstructed residents of rural Kentucky perceived him as something of a hero, which in turn aroused envy among some of his peers. Slack, the lackluster cousin, remained at large.

Arnold used most of his remaining spoils to open a bank in Elizabethtown that did a thriving business in Hardin County. He even loaned money to a struggling rival bank. But the rival refused to repay the interest on the loan, and in June 1878 Arnold's bank filed suit. Soon after, one of that bank's clerks, Harry Holdsworth, called into question Arnold's banking practices. Arnold responded by cane-whipping the clerk on the public square. Running into one another again in town that August, the two men exchanged words, blows and then gunfire. Arnold had a six-shooter but missed with all of his shots. Holdsworth had a double-barreled shotgun and blast-



Slack, Arnold's largely silent partner, died in New Mexico Territory.



These diamonds are small reminders of Arnold's fantastic field.

ed a charge of buckshot into Arnold's shoulder. Local physicians despaired of his survival, and on February 8, 1879, Arnold, 49, died from complications of his wounds compounded by pneumonia. Holdsworth stood trial two months later and was found not guilty. Going over Arnold's books, Lent and Harpending found that Slack had received about \$30,000 of the ill-gotten gains, while most of the rest of the money remained in the safe at Arnold's bank or secured in real estate. Everything beyond the \$150,000 quit-claim purchase went to Arnold's heirs, and Ralston, assisted by Roberts and Harpending, paid off the second tier of stockholders at 100 cents on the dollar. "Mr. Ralston had the receipts in full of the various parties neatly framed," Harpending wrote, "and I am told that it was one of the mural decorations of his private office in the Bank of California."

Mortified by his unwitting role in the great diamond hoax of 1872, Harpending sold off all his property holdings and investments in San Francisco and along the Pacific coast, cleared well over a million dollars, returned to Kentucky and invested in farmland—none of it said to hold any gold, silver, or diamonds. While neighbors respected him, disenchanted investors continued to suggest the plot had been conceived "in the active brain of Asbury Harpending"—a charge, he said, easily disproved by a look at the paperwork.

In a story in *The Times* of London, British investors accused Harpending's

friend Alfred Rubery, the first to find a (salted) diamond at the Colorado diamond field, of complicity. The Englishman promptly sued for libel and won a judgment of 10,000 pounds (U.S. \$45,000 at the time) from his detractors. Officially cleared, Rubery nevertheless bore the stain of the libelous accusation in Britain as Harpending had in the United States, and that stigma eventually drove him to immigrate to Australia, where friends lost track of him.

Banker Ralston, despite his integrity or perhaps because of it, was also a collateral casualty of the diamond hoax. He had reached deep into his pockets to cover the \$2 million the second-tier stockholders had invested, and his reputation, while somewhat shaken, apparently survived. Ralston invested the bank's capital in building the Palace Hotel, at the corner of New Montgomery Street and Market Street in San Francisco. The aptly named Palace cost \$5 million, was designed by the renowned architect and engineer John Painter Gaynor and was among the first buildings to feature electric call buttons and "rising rooms" (elevators). Ralston failed, however, in an attempt to buy and then resell the Spring Valley Water Co. and was caught in the back draft of the international financial Panic of 1873. These expanding ripples, likely augmented by the damage Ralston's reputation suffered in the great diamond hoax of 1872, led to a plunge in the stock value of the Bank of California. On August 26, 1875, Ralston's bank closed its doors during business hours, leaving what Harpending described as "a packed mass of pale-faced men anticipating ruin" wrapped around the block.

Ralston admitted the precarious state of the bank's finances but pledged his own considerable holdings to make good any losses. On August 27 the bank's board of directors called a meeting—but locked out Ralston. He left in a daze.

After heading home to change, Ralston, as was his custom, took a swim at North Beach. "His body did not sink, but he was floating face downward," Harpending wrote after talking to witnesses. "A boatman was quickly at his side. This boatman declared that the banker was still living. Be that as it may, when he reached the shore with his burden, the once master spirit of the Pacific coast was dead." Questions lingered over whether Ralston had committed suicide, but he was a regular swimmer who enjoyed exercise, and those who saw the body said his expression was stunned rather than tormented, suggesting a massive stroke. The Virtual Museum of the City of San

Francisco [www.sfmuseum.net] says an autopsy showed signs of a stroke. About a third of San Francisco's 150,000 citizens turned out to watch his funeral procession, and 8,000 turned out at a memorial ceremony in his honor two weeks later. Whether the notoriety of the diamond hoax caused his self-destruction or merely contaminated his fiscal reputation and brought on a stroke through nervous tension is conjectural.

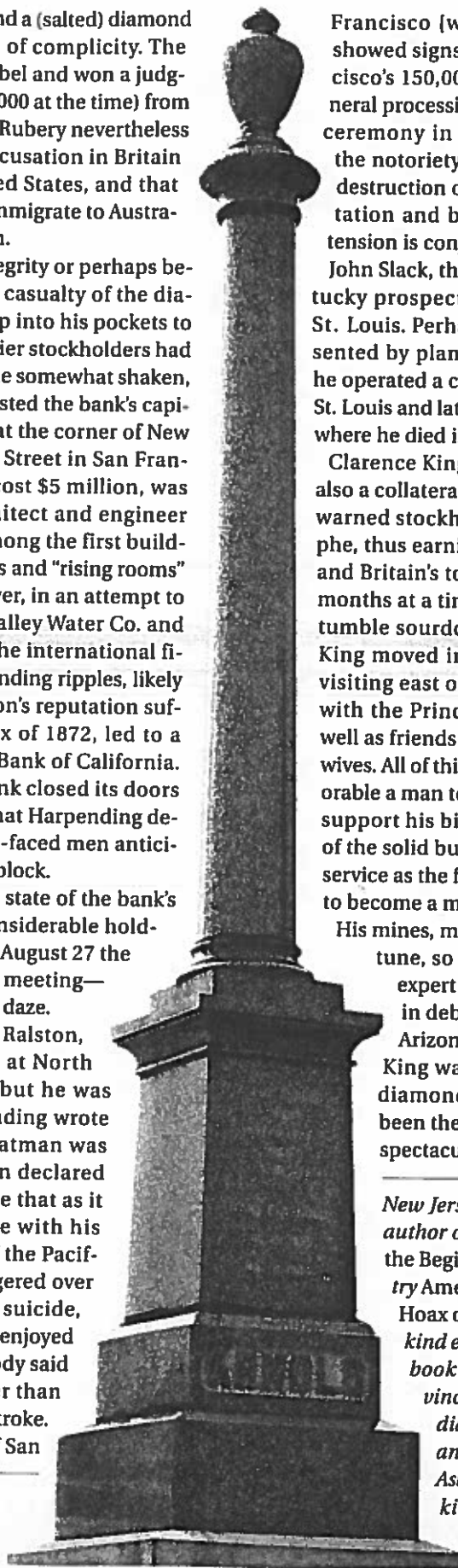
John Slack, the nearly silent partner among the Kentucky prospector cousins, eventually turned up in St. Louis. Perhaps taken with the opportunities presented by planting expensive things in the ground, he operated a casket-manufacturing company, first in St. Louis and later in White Oaks, New Mexico Territory, where he died in 1896, at age 76, solvent but not rich.

Clarence King, the hero of the diamond hoax, was also a collateral victim in a paradoxical sense. He had warned stockholders in time to head off a catastrophe, thus earning the gratitude of some of America's and Britain's top financiers. Once satisfied to spend months at a time roaming the West with rough-and-tumble sourdoughs, horse wranglers and packers, King moved into a whole new social milieu when visiting east of the Mississippi, rubbing shoulders with the Prince of Wales and Baron Rothschild as well as friends Henry Adams and John Hay and their wives. All of this cost money, and as King was too honorable a man to dip into the public purse, he couldn't support his big-ticket socializing. He dropped out of the solid but fiscally stodgy realm of government service as the first head of the U.S. Geological Survey to become a mining speculator and owner-manager.

His mines, mostly in Mexico, failed to make his fortune, so he filled in the gaps by serving as an expert witness in mining cases. Worn out and in debt, he died of tuberculosis in Phoenix, Arizona Territory, in 1901, at age 59. Clarence King was a hero rather than a villain of the diamond hoax, but in the end he may have been the final victim of one of the West's most spectacular frauds. ww

New Jersey newspaperman John Koster is the author of Custer Survivor: The End of a Myth, the Beginning of a Legend. For further reading try American El Dorado: The Great Diamond Hoax of 1872 (2012), by Ron Elliott, who was kind enough to review this article and whose book (which presents the facts of the convincing scheme while employing made-up dialogue) is reviewed in this issue (P. 69); and The Great Diamond Hoax (1913), by Asbury Harpending, edited by James H. Wilkins, which, Koster says, "provides local color but needs to be salted a mite."

The Arnold family monument is in the Elizabethtown, Ky., cemetery.



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GREAT SURVEYS *of the* AMERICAN WEST



by Richard A. Bartlett

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS, NORMAN

sojourn in the Hawaiian Islands, which greatly invigorated him for the final year of field work.⁸⁴

But now he had a new idea. He hoped to go down the Green River by boat, in order "not to be outdone by Powell," but once again Humphreys kept him to the fortieth parallel, wanting 1872, the sixth year of operations, to be the last year of field work.⁸⁵

King pitched into a vigorous last campaign. Between May 1 and November 15, the entire region covered by the exploration, from 105 degrees to 120 degrees, on a belt 100 miles wide and always including the Pacific Railroad, was completely re-examined by King, Hague, and Emmons. Additional new work was done north of the Humboldt River, and King did extensive work on problems of glaciation and volcanism in the high Sierras. The artist Albert Bierstadt accompanied him in this work. Gardner, working in Colorado, meanwhile tackled the Rabbit Ears Range (whose two great "rabbit ears" the traveler can see from U.S. Highway 40) and the Medicine Bow Range and had gone down the Cache la Poudre Canyon onto the plains to the eastern limits of the survey.⁸⁶

The field work of the Fortieth Parallel Survey was about finished. But something new had arisen. There was a rumor about, a rumor that had spread like the wind all over the West. Diamonds, it was said, diamonds had been discovered! The Fortieth Parallel men arched their eyebrows. Diamonds? In six years of geologic exploration in the area they had not seen any diamonds! Diamonds? Where?

⁸⁴ National Archives, R.G. 57, "Copy Book of Letters," December 16, 1871; April 3, 1872.

⁸⁵ National Archives, R.G. 57, "Copy Book of Letters," December 18, 1871.

⁸⁶ National Archives, R.G. 57, S. F. Emmons to J. C. Foster (Emmons writing for King) February 10, 1873; "Copy Book of Letters," August 14, 1872.

9

The Diamond Hoax

THE YEARS of the Great Surveys were also the peak years for the thousands of free men who tramped the virgin lands of the West and searched mightily for quick riches. The country was not yet settled. It was still full of mysteries, still pregnant with possibilities. And government regulations and restrictions, and law and order, had not yet caught up with the turbulent society. It was anyone's field, anyone's game. Make a fortune by hook or by crook and try not to be swindled in turn.

This resulted in a fascinating society, for where men were so free, every manner of get-rich-quick scheme, every kind of a rumor imaginable, every will-o'-the-wisp promotion found its takers. In hotel lobbies, at assay offices, and most especially in saloons, grizzled men in cowhide boots, woolen pantaloons, and heavy greatcoats drank together and exchanged gossip. Rare was the westerner who had not been taken at least once.

And it was in the nature of things that someone would eventually perpetrate a gigantic hoax that would be looked on as the greatest fraud to come out of the West. That someone turned out to be two drifting prospectors who possessed far more than their share of shrewdness, boldness, and dishonesty. Their names were Philip Arnold and John Slack. They appeared one foggy morning

early in 1872 in the city of San Francisco. When the first employee arrived at the doors of one of the prominent banks there, these two prospectors, dirty, bearded, and disheveled, just as prospectors should be, emerged from the mists and requested the nervous bank employee to allow them inside. And what business did they have with the bank? Cautiously the two men looked up and down the street, peering into the fog, wary of thieves who might be about. Then Arnold produced a small leather pouch, indicating that it contained something of great value. Could they place it in safekeeping in the bank?

The employee bade them enter and, his curiosity aroused, casually inquired about the contents of the pouch. Nuggets? Arnold and Slack paused, scanned the still vacant lobby, swore the official to secrecy, and then gave him their reply. Not nuggets. Diamonds! And they spilled the contents of the pouch out on the table and let the diamonds dazzle the already excited employee. *Of course* the bank would be pleased to place the diamonds in safekeeping.

Then Philip Arnold and John Slack disappeared into the fog. For several weeks they kept out of sight while they let human nature do their work for them. The clerk, sworn to secrecy, showed the gems to the officers of his bank; they in turn contacted a number of the most prominent wealthy men of San Francisco—among them William M. Lent, George D. Roberts, Milton Latham, William C. Ralston, and Alfred Rubery (an Englishman who lived in San Francisco). They instituted a widespread search for the missing prospectors who then conveniently showed themselves. Arnold and Slack played their parts beautifully. Acting like naïve and ignorant country bumpkins, they reluctantly let themselves be included among the founders of the New York and San Francisco Mining and Commercial Company—after their rich colleagues had paid them a sum in the neighborhood of \$600,000. Arnold even consented to take the long railroad trip to New York with a group of the founders, and there the New York jewelry firm of Tiffany and Company assessed the rough diamonds “discovered” by Arnold and Slack

as bona fide gems of considerable value. And before the party left for the West, the outstanding corporation lawyer, Samuel Latham Barlow, had been appointed as New York agent for the company, and General Grenville Dodge, General George McClellan, and General Benjamin F. Butler had been drawn into the plans as officers of the company. Even the skeptics—and there were a lot of the “once burned” around in the 1870’s—were taking second looks at a company founded by such respectable people.

But the founders of the New York and San Francisco Mining and Commercial Company had one more surprise for the skeptics. They hired as a consultant one of the best-known mining men in California, Henry Janin. His reputation, Samuel Franklin Emmons later remarked, “had been made by condemning most every new scheme he had been called to report upon.” They took him out to the so-called diamond fields—the location of which was kept secret—let him investigate at will, and then proudly announced Janin’s conclusion: the diamond fields were real.¹

The secrecy surrounding the location of the fields gave rise to widespread excitement, and the western newspapers published all rumors as soon as they were heard. Soon it was generally believed that the diamond fields were in northeastern Arizona. Then a man who claimed to be, and probably was, Philip Arnold appeared in Laramie, Wyoming, and gave out to the editor of the *Laramie Sentinel* a fantastic tale of diamond fields. He even

¹ A scholarly, thorough, and highly readable account of the diamond hoax, “Diamonds in the Salt,” is being written by Bruce Woodard, of Wheatridge, Colorado, with whom I have consulted at length. The early history of the hoax is treated in Asbury Harpending, *The Great Diamond Hoax and Other Stirring Incidents in the Life of Asbury Harpending* (ed. by James H. Wilkins), 202-208. This is an unreliable account, Harpending having been connected with the hoax. See also A. J. Liebling, “The American Goldconda,” *New Yorker*, Vol. XVI (November 16, 1940), 40-48; *New York Times*, November 27, 1872, p. 1; December 5, 1872, p. 1; December 6, 1872, pp. 1, 4; December 7, 1872, p. 1; December 8, 1872, p. 1; National Archives, R.G. 57, Emmons’ Field Notes, “The Diamond Discovery of 1872.” (A copy of this manuscript is in the Emmons Papers, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress, along with the partly burned and water-soaked diary he kept while hunting for the diamonds). Unless otherwise indicated, Emmons’ description has been my principal source.

brought in the name of the New York and San Francisco Mining and Commercial Company, and he implied that the diamond fields were on Flax Creek in the San Luis Valley of Colorado.²

From May until November of 1872, the diamond frenzy mounted. Conflicting stories only added to the mystery. Hoaxers appeared in Denver and Salt Lake, often with a precious stone or two, told fantastic stories, and thus continued the speculation. Published accounts were picked up by other newspapers and republished. There was no end to the rumors.³

The mystery, however, was soon settled. Arnold and Slack had never counted on the intervention—they would have called it meddling—of a group of government geologists. Neither had the San Francisco financiers who were investing heavily in the diamond fields given any thought to the possibility of having trained government geologists investigating their claims. Nevertheless it was from this unexpected direction that the exposure came.

If the diamond fields were in Arizona or New Mexico or in the San Luis Valley of Colorado, then they would have been of no concern to King, and he would have left them alone. But what if they turned out to be somewhere within the one-hundred-mile strip of land that had been explored by the Fortieth Parallel Survey? Such a find within territory supposedly covered by government geologists would place the professional reputations of the Fortieth Parallel men in jeopardy. For the unpleasant fact was that in all their geological investigations of that one-hundred-mile strip along the lines of the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific, King and his assistants had never found a diamond or a ruby, nor had they seen the type of geologic formation in which such gems were likely to occur. But what if they had slipped up? They realized that they could take no chances. Before any final report on the geology of their survey could be published, any real diamond fields, if they lay anywhere within the fortieth parallel country, must be visited and their genuineness established. And the King men were more than a little curious

² Frank Hall, *History of the State of Colorado*, II, 126-28. In pages 126-45, Hall traces the course of the diamond frenzy admirably.

³ The *Rocky Mountain News* was full of such news items; see September 8, 1872, p. 4; September 15, 1872, p. 4; October 2, 1872, p. 2.

The Diamond Hoax

too. It would be an enjoyable end to six long seasons of field work to go out and find the mysterious diamond fields.⁴

As the Fortieth Parallel men worked the remote lands from Cheyenne to the Sierras that summer of 1872, they heard the diamond rumors on all sides. When their chief dropped into camp to check on progress, they pleaded with him to let them search for the diamonds. King forestalled them by promising a search when the season's work was over. With their leader thus committed, the men went back to their lonely chores, elated at the prospects of high adventure when their assignments were completed. And meanwhile they kept their eyes and ears open for any intelligence about the location of the mysterious diamonds.⁵

The man who finally started his colleagues on a serious search for the source of the gems was the geologist Samuel Franklin Emmons. He had put in a busy season working first north of the Humboldt River in Nevada, then in the region south of Fort Fred Steele in Wyoming, then about the Green River and the Uinta Mountains with T. H. O'Sullivan and finally west of the Reese River in Nevada. He had had little time, he related to hear or read much about the discoveries, although his interest quickened when he learned that Henry Janin had pronounced the discoveries genuine. Then he gave little attention to the matter again until a series of circumstances aroused his curiosity and maintained it until the answers were found.

"It was on the 5th of October," Emmons wrote, "when I took the westward bound train at Battle Mountain, Nevada, congratulating myself upon the final completion of a work which had lasted six long years, and upon the unusually early season at which I was able to go into winter quarters, as the Fall season promised to be an unusually severe one." At first he paid little notice to the other passengers on the train, "but the following morning while breakfasting at the Summit of the Sierras with James T. Gardner . . . we both remarked upon a rather suspi-

⁴ Hayden was busy in the Yellowstone area that summer, and Powell was on the Colorado River, which explains why they did not investigate the rumors. Wheeler was not yet involved in geological exploration.

⁵ National Archives, R.G. 57, "Copy Book of Letters," November 27, 1872.

cious looking set of men whose rough clothes, top boots, and bronzed faces seemed somewhat at variance with a certain civilized air, and decided they must be returning diamond hunters." By sheer coincidence, Gardner and Emmons had boarded a train that was returning some surveyors from the diamond fields.

Emmons and Gardner sat in their seats and quietly watched. At Alta Station, Henry Janin appeared and immediately closeted himself with the diamond party. When he appeared again, the Fortieth Parallel men got up and approached him, for they knew him to be a fellow geologist. Janin was not embarrassed to talk to them. Yes, the men had been to the diamond fields. Janin had wanted to go, but he had been so closely followed that he had finally given up. In his place, he had sent along a surveyor from Sacramento named King—no relation to Clarence King—who had managed to shake the pursuers off the trail. To accomplish this, the party had taken such a roundabout route that they had themselves lost the way, but finally, after much wandering, they had found the diamond fields. Before they left the area, they had all been allowed one hour in which to look for jewels using only their pocket knives. Ten men had collected together 280 diamonds and rubies "too common to count." Some of the stones were shown, ranging in size from "a grain of wheat to a small pea."

Emmons' professional curiosity was aroused. For if the discovery was genuine, it might result in the solution of the great problem of the origin and manner of formation of the diamond. And the fact that Janin would not divulge the location of the fields made Emmons and Gardner more determined than ever to find them on their own. For a start, Gardner "proceeded to ingratiate himself with the surveyor King, who was all the more easily approached as it seemed he was desirous of getting some information from us with regard to the boundary lines of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming."⁶

When the train pulled in to San Francisco, Emmons and Gardner got in touch with James D. Hague to discuss the mystery.

⁶ National Archives, R.G. 57, Emmons' Field Notes, "The Diamond Discovery of 1872."

Then A. D. Wilson arrived from the field, and he was as enthusiastic about solving the mystery as the others. Earlier in the season he had heard the usual rumors about diamond fields in Arizona, but when he learned that the diamond hunters had departed from and returned to the Union Pacific at various points between Green River and Rawlins, he concluded that the fields must be south of the railroad. In Arizona? Hardly, for the Yampa and the Green were virtually impassable in the late spring and summer. Therefore the fields must have been somewhere in the Yampa-Green River country where Wilson had been hard at work during most of the summer. When his friends informed him that actual diamonds had been found, he was even more surprised and more anxious than ever to go back into the field and solve the mystery.⁷

For about a week, the team gathered information, meeting every morning to compare notes. They soon found that Janin's first trip had taken less than three weeks from the time he left the Union Pacific Railroad until he returned to it. This was too short a period for him to have gone to New Mexico or Arizona and returned. Coupled with Wilson's information, this established the general area in which the diamond fields lay. Then Emmons learned from Janin that the diamond hunters had camped at the foot of a pine-covered mountain which, even in June, still had some snow on its slopes. Gardner had meanwhile wrested the information from the surveyor, King, that the camp had been on the northeast side of a mountain from which no high mountains could be seen to the north or east.

This was a meagre amount of intelligence, but for these experienced men it was sufficient. Gardner, Emmons, Wilson, and Hague fixed the locality at the foot of a peak, which was afterwards named Diamond Peak, lying about ten miles north of Brown's Park and forty miles east of Green River. The surveyor, King, had probably been curious about boundary lines because Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming met about fifteen miles north-

⁷ King Collection, Allan D. Wilson, "The Great California Diamond Mines." This manuscript appeared, somewhat revised, as "The Great California Diamond Swindle," *Overland Monthly*, New Series, No. 51 (April, 1904), 291-96.

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west of this peak. Impatiently they waited for Clarence King's arrival in San Francisco.⁸

On October 19, tired from arduous work in the southern Sierras, King arrived. "We asked leave to proceed at once," A. D. Wilson remembered, "not thinking he would care to accompany us on such a wild goose chase." But King was interested. He sat down with his men and discussed all the aspects of the mystery, soon discovering that he had independently placed the fields just where Gardner and his colleagues had placed them. And with his usual promptness, King hastily laid the plans for the adventure. On the very next morning, Gardner, Wilson, and Emmons were on the eastbound Overland chugging along toward what they hoped was the solution of a great mystery. Not to arouse suspicion, they had agreed to speak only of "carboniferous fossils," never of diamonds. And although their baggage did include some wire sieves and other instruments for testing the soil and any gems they might find, they were saved the discomfort of many questions because their stock was not along. It was at Fort Bridger, where Wilson had left his animals a few weeks before. And to avoid suspicion, King himself did not leave until the next day.⁹

King was so careful that he did not even indicate the nature of his expedition to General Humphreys until it was all over. In a letter from Fort Bridger dated October 28, he merely informed his superior that he was leaving that day to inspect the Brown's Hole and Uinta Canyon regions, expecting to be back by November 20. Later he explained that "he had the further intention of settling the diamond question, but deemed it unwise to say so. The balance of probabilities," he added "seemed against finding the spot, and I had judged it quite as well to say nothing of a subject upon which I could not speak assuredly."¹⁰

⁸ National Archives, R. G. 57, Emmons' Field Notes, "The Diamond Discovery of 1872."

⁹ King Collection, Wilson, "The Great California Diamond Mines," National Archives, R. G. 57, Emmons' Field Notes, "The Diamond Discovery of 1872"; "Copy Book of Letters," November 27, 1872. In this letter King does not mention the work of Emmons, Wilson, and Hague.

¹⁰ National Archives, R. G. 57, "Copy Book of Letters," November 27, 1872.

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There was some delay at Fort Bridger. Hague had to go to Laramie for saddles, and an untrustworthy and highly suspicious camp man was sent with an important letter to Fort Steele. The letter instructed the officer in charge there to keep the camp man "out of the way for a while." Meanwhile the officers and men at Fort Bridger seemed not at all surprised that the group was going after "carboniferous fossils." They only expressed sorrow that the work had to be done so late in the season. The two long-handled shovels the party was taking along were explained by reference to their experiences of a year before when they had been snowed in at 10,000 feet, with only a single hand shovel to get them out. But they did not fool everyone. "As we were on the point of starting," Emmons wrote, "Dr. Carson, the Post surgeon, whispered in my ear, 'Bring me back a couple of solitaires, will you?' but as he was a confirmed wag it did not occur to me at the time that he suspected our object."

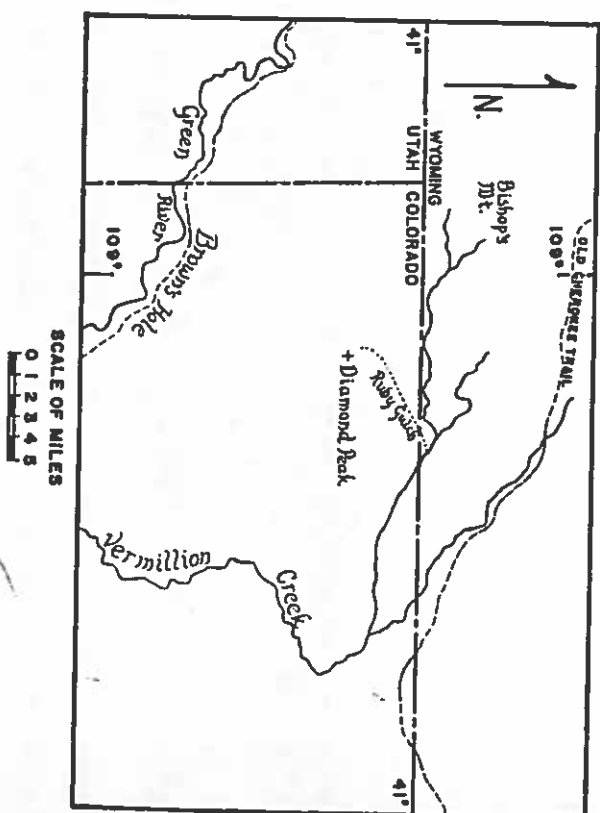
The start from Fort Bridger was made on October 29, after a slight snow the day before and a bitterly cold night. The temperature was below zero, and a stiff breeze was blowing over the sage-covered plains and high mesas, tearing at their clothing as if in anger at their intrusion into the treeless waste. And it was 150 miles to their destination. King had given each man a bright, big woolen muffler, and Emmons recalled that in order to save space on the pack mules he had worn four flannel shirts and two pairs of socks. It was "a bitterly cold journey," he said, "on tired and worn-out animals, whose legs from crossing the frequent thinly frozen mountain streams became encased in balls of ice, which rattled as they went like crude castinets."

On the fourth day out, they forded Green River successfully and then began ascending the mountains, the farther side of which was their destination. It was cold and lonely country, and yet civilization was about. Halfway up the mountains they passed the deserted camp of some hunters. A forlorn white horse, left in camp to rest while his owners and the other mounts were out hunting, whinnied with joy at their arrival and insisted upon following the party. "Lest in searching for him they should discover us and our object we camped early," Emmons continued,

"and the following morning started before daylight in a drifting snow storm, hoping the fresh snow would effectually cover our tracks." They skirted around the north side of the mountains, struck the edge of the mesas where they suspected the diamond fields to be, and at about noon stopped "at a clear spring in a deep narrow gulch, sunk some 600 feet below the uniform level of the surrounding mesas." Since the place afforded both protection from the elements and concealment, camp was made there.

Emmons, Wilson, and King then left the packers at camp and rode down the gulch to find some way of climbing the walls to the mesa above. Hardly 500 yards from the camp, they came across "a small fresh blaze on one of the cottonwoods." At the foot of the tree they found a piece of paper which contained a written claim to the water privileges of the gulch, dated Golconda City, June 15, and signed by Henry Janin. This quickly led to the discovery of mining notices, and within two hours, by circling around the gulch, they had found tracks leading up to the table rock where the gems were salted. Emmons' description is worth quoting:

... after a ride of about a mile and a half [we] came upon a bare iron-stained bit of coarse sandstone rock about a hundred feet long, just jutting out above the level of the mesa, to which all the various tracks converged. Throwing down our bridle reins we began examining the rock on our hands and knees, and in another instant I had found a small ruby. This was indeed the spot. The diamond fever had now attacked us with vigor, and while daylight lasted we continued in this position picking up precious stones. We were perhaps a little disappointed at finding but one diamond each, but attributed our slight success to want of training our eyes, since the stones we found were all about the same size and shape as the quartz grains of which the rock was composed, and could only be distinguished from them by the difference of lustre, which in the rough diamond is of a steely tinge. The work was rendered slow also by the intense cold, for there was not protection from the fierce wind which swept scarcely broken for hundreds of miles over these barren mesas, and when a diamond was found it was quite a time before our benumbed fingers could succeed in grasping the tiny stone. That night we were full-believers in the verity of Janin's reports, and dreamed of the untold wealth that might be gathered.



Site of the Diamond Hoax

The following morning they sent their two camp men out hunting, which seemed logical enough since they were out of meat. Then the party traced out the claim, looking for diamonds at all times, especially in the ant hills. It did not take them long to discover that the number of diamonds and rubies dwindled rapidly as they worked away from the wind-swept table rock that constituted the heart of the claim. When afternoon came, they decided to study more intensely the manner of occurrence of the gems on the table rock, since there they were most abundant. King soon announced the discovery of an interesting mathematical fact: where there were a dozen rubies there was sure to be one diamond. Nature certainly didn't work like that, so they brought out their sieves and tried the earth that surrounded the table rock. They soon discovered that they could only find gems in places where the earth had already been disturbed. Patches of soil that had not been touched in years, if ever, failed to yield anything more than quartz grains. Then they examined the ant hills, carefully removing the crusty exterior, then sifting the in-

terior. In several cases they found rubies—"a decided point in favor of the natural occurrence of the stones," Emmons declared—but upon further investigation they found that the ant hills gave them their first sure signs of fraud:

Examining the other ant-hills with the greatest care we found some with only a single footprint on the ground near, and beside the top hole by which the ants made their exit, there was visible in the side another small break in the crust. From the centre of these the sieve would yield us a small ruby or two, but when we found one with no footsteps near, no holes but at the top, no ruby rewarded our search, and our explanation was that some one must have pushed in a ruby or two on the end of a stick. We dug in the gulch again, and found the rubies decreased as we left the rock, until at a certain distance, sift the sand as we would we got none at all.

The evidence of fraud seemed conclusive, but King was not yet satisfied. He was aware of the power and prestige of the founders of the New York and San Francisco Mining and Commercial Company. If he shouted fraud when there was no fraud, then the Fortieth Parallel Survey would be discredited and his career ruined. Then there was the matter of Henry Janin. That man was just about the most respected geologist in California; his reputation was without a blemish. Yet he had pronounced the claim genuine. King shivered as the frigid wind tore at him, but finally nodded his head affirmatively. They had better stay and conduct a few more tests.

According to Emmons' narration (which is most accurate), all of the third day was employed in sifting the gravel, and on the fourth day the camp men were told of the nature of the investigation and were put to work digging a hole three feet wide and ten feet deep. The site chosen was at a point in the gulch where the gems, if they really did occur in nature, would be sure to be found. All the gravel thus dug up was saved, and later in the day it was panned in the stream—the specific gravity of diamonds would cause them to be left in the pan.

Just as they were completing the first part of their experiment, a lone horseman, "a stout party, city dressed, and looking very much out of keeping with his surroundings," appeared coming

toward them. The stranger dismounted and asked, "Have you found any carats around here?" The Fortieth Parallel men frankly replied in the negative, explaining that the whole thing was a fraud. The man whistled softly. "What a chance to sell short on the stock," he mused. Then he explained that he was a New York diamond dealer who, for the past year, had been interested in mines in Utah. When he had heard of the diamond fields, he had determined to find their location at any cost and had employed men all summer long to watch for Janin and King along the Union Pacific Railroad.

His name was J. F. Berry, and his interests were shady, if not actually dark and sinister. Emmons said that Berry had combined with George Hearst, later a senator, to employ Janin for a \$1,000 fee to come out and give them his opinion on a mine. They wine and dined him in an effort to find out the location of the diamond fields. They did not succeed, but he did tell them that a man named King had surveyed the fields. The diamond dealer knew nothing about King the surveyor, of course, but he had heard of Clarence King the geologist, and that is whom he assumed he was looking for. At Salt Lake City the local newspaper commented on King's passage through the city, so Berry immediately picked up his trail, found that King had got off at Fort Bridger, and began trailing him. For three days, from the top of a nearby mountain, he had watched the Fortieth Parallel men through a spyglass, and when he saw them lying down on their bellies and digging for some hours at the same spot, he was convinced that it was diamonds and not fossils that they were after.

Huddled around their campfire that night, King and his men discussed the turn of events. Not far off they could see the fire of the Berry camp, and Berry meant trouble. The wind blew ceaselessly through the camp, and the sounds of canvas flapping and coyotes howling reminded them of how far they were from the gas-lighted luxuries of San Francisco. But they had discovered a great hoax, and Berry knew about it and hoped to profit by it. The comfortable capitalists in San Francisco had to be publicly chastised, or at least warned. Finally, King turned to Emmons

and Wilson. "How can we reach the railroad in the quickest way from here?" he asked. Emmons replied that the logical way was by the road from Green River City to Brown's Park—a two-day ride. But if one really was in a hurry, he might head out through the badland country directly to Black Buttes Station, a trip of some forty to forty-five miles.

King determined to start that way immediately, taking Wilson, the topographer, along to guide him. Emmons and the rest of the party were to return by the usual route. But King felt that he must get to the company officials and force them to expose the fraud immediately. Unless they could make the public believe the hoax, now that the locality was known, he reasoned, "thousands of poor devils will be rushing in here from every quarter, utterly unprepared, and perish by hundreds in this bleak winter, without water or fuel." And Berry would sell short if he reached civilization before King had exposed the hoax. King and Wilson had to start at once.

Before dawn tinted the eastern sky, King and Wilson started for Black Butte Station. "We had a long day's ride, Wilson later wrote, "without track or trail, over sage-covered hills and plateaus. We crossed ridges, gulleys, washouts, and late at night with only the stars as guides during the latter part of the trip, we arrived at the station. Arousing the agent, we procured for our two mules a box car, which the agent kindly attached to a west-bound freight train. Just after daylight we boarded a west-bound passenger train and proceeded west."

In his letter of explanation to Humphreys, dated November 27, King continued his narration:

At that time [arrival at the station] I would have telegraphed to you a full statement, but the operators all along the line, are on a *qui vive*, and no dispatch is safe in their hands.

I arrived at San Francisco on the night of Nov. 10th not knowing what capitalists had controlled nor what stockholders made up the Company. I however knew Mr. Janin the mining expert of the Company, and I at once sought him. Through nearly all the night I detailed to him the discovery, and at last convinced him of its correctness.

On the morning of November 11, King met the directors of the company, who had been hastily assembled, and presented to them a lengthy letter in which he detailed in clear and concise fashion all the evidence that he had collected which proved the hoax.¹¹ Said King, "They were astonished and thrown into utter confusion." Nevertheless he convinced them with but one reservation—they insisted on being taken to the fields and actually shown proof of the fraud.

Reluctantly, King gave in. The next morning, tired though he was, he left for the diamond fields in the company of Henry Janin, General David Colton, manager of the company, John W. Bost, former surveyor general of California, and E. M. Fry, who had been to the fields with a previous party. Within three hours' ride south of Black Buttes, the pine-clad mountain appeared, and the men were relieved to see their goal so soon, for the temperature was twenty-below zero and even the whiskey froze in the bottle. Arrived at the site, they made fifty-six separate tests, without a diamond or a ruby appearing. Then Colton found some rubies on a bare rock overlooking the field where, he said in his report, "in my opinion, it would have been as impossible for nature to have deposited them as for a person in San Francisco to toss a marble in the air and have it fall on Bunker Hill Monument."¹² After two days of exhaustive tests the party was convinced. They rode back to Black Buttes and with heavy hearts prepared for the onslaught of public wrath that was sure to come when they announced the fraud in San Francisco.

King may have been duped in being persuaded to lead the group back to the diamond fields. Emmons is the authority for the fact that one of the officials suggested to King that the letter and the facts be kept quiet for a few days—that it might be to his interest to acquiesce in this. King replied, "There is not enough money in the Bank of California to make me delay the publication a single hour. If you do not [publish] I will, but it will come

¹¹ This letter is a remarkable example of King's literary ability. It appears in the *Annual Report of the Chief of Engineers*, 43 Cong., 1 sess., *House Exec. Doc. 1 (II)*, 1208-10.

¹² *New York Times*, December 5, 1872, p. 1. This article summarizes Colton's report.

GREAT SURVEYS of the AMERICAN WEST

with much better grace from you. Stop all transfers of stock." Yet, in granting the directors this additional time, King was in fact forestalling the publication of the letter for a few days, in which time some stockholders may have been able to sell and prepare for the storm of abuse that followed the exposure of the hoax.¹³

In any event, when they arrived back at San Francisco, the board of directors met, received General Colton's report, passed a resolution to publish King's letter plus all their own information, and then washed their hands of the whole affair.

The company was none too soon in announcing the fraud. Berry, the diamond merchant, had been up to mischief just as King had suspected. When Berry reached Fort Bridger, he distributed diamonds and raised the excitement to a higher pitch than before. He then went to Salt Lake City, where he exhibited twenty-six diamonds, one of which weighed three carats, and declared his readiness to pilot a party to the fields at once. He accurately placed the locality in western Colorado and allowed a number of Salt Lake capitalists to put up money for an expedition. The departure of the company party from San Francisco was also noted, and the arrival of the same group at Black Butte Station and their departure into the unknown areas south of there was headlined in the newspapers. The final announcement of the exposure of the hoax was big news, but it was not entirely unexpected.¹⁴

From the exposure there grew a libel suit by the Englishman Alfred Rubery against the *London Times* and a grand jury investigation in San Francisco. Arnold fled to his home in Elizabethtown, Harlan County, Kentucky, with the sum of money paid him by the company, estimated at from \$300,000 to as much as \$600,000. All attempts of the Yankees to sue him are said to have been futile—possibly one man collected \$150,000 from him—and he eventually died in 1879.¹⁵

¹³ Hall, *History of the State of Colorado*, II, 141.

¹⁴ *Rocky Mountain News*, November 16, 1872, p. 4; November 23, 1872, p. 4.

¹⁵ *New York Times*, November 17, 1872, p. 1.

¹⁶ Hall, *History of the State of Colorado*, II, 142-44.

The Diamond Hoax

The greatest abuse fell not upon Arnold and Slack, but upon the original promoters of the company. Though the San Francisco financier William Lent was said to have lost \$100,000 and his friend William Ralston \$250,000, the public would not forgive them. High financiers were supposed to know better. "It is most astonishing that leading citizens of recognized shrewdness in all money matters should have been so duped, and that the engineer who was employed to investigate the alleged diamond fields should also have fallen into the trap set for him by the most adroit and unconscionable villains," editorialized the *San Francisco Bulletin*.¹⁶

Were Arnold and Slack the guilty parties, taking in the richest and shrewdest men of San Francisco? Or were these men in the know all along, deeply embroiled in a fantastic get-rich-quick scheme as utterly dishonest as Jim Fisk's manipulation of the Erie Railroad? Whatever the answer, Clarence King upset their plans and saved thousands of small investors from losing their capital.

One of the pleasanter aspects of the whole case was the praise heaped upon a public servant, Clarence King. The *San Francisco Bulletin* thanked King for the exposure, calling him a "cool-headed man of scientific education who esteemed it a duty to investigate the matter in the only right way, and who proceeded about his task with a degree of spirit and strong common sense as striking as his success." The newspaper even praised the Fortieth Parallel Survey, pointing out that the diamond exposure sharply emphasized the practical value "in the ordinary business of society, of scientific education and research. . . . Mr. King . . . has done the public a memorable service, the mere statement of which carries with it all the praise a man like him can desire, as it is the only reward he will receive."¹⁷ The *Chronicle* said, "We have escaped, thanks to God and Clarence King, a great financial calamity."¹⁸ And the Georgetown, Colorado, *Mining Re-*

¹⁶ November 26, 1872. This clipping is in the National Archives, R.G. 77, Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers, Letters Received, 2442, 1872.

¹⁷ November 26, 1872.

¹⁸ November 28, 1872.

GREAT SURVEYS OF THE AMERICAN WEST

view, commented, "Let it not be said that geological surveys are useless. . . . This one act has certainly paid for the survey of the 40th Parallel and has brought deserved credit to Mr. King and his assistants."¹⁹

Unfortunately, the man who could have best written the story of the part played by the Fortieth Parallel men in exposing the diamond hoax was forbidden to do so. King's request to publish his story in the *Overland Monthly* was refused. Humphreys wired him that it was "not a matter in which the Engineer Department has any right under the law to take action."²⁰ The best sources are Emmons' "The Diamond Discovery of 1872," Wilson's "The Great California Diamond Mines," and King's letter to Humphreys of November 27. These three accounts, however, differ on many points, and a fourth, Harpending's, differs greatly from them.

King's letter to Humphreys is obviously controlled by a desire to avoid censure. King knew Humphreys from six long years of administrative dealings, and he knew the ways of the army. He could just hear Humphreys asking, "What right did you have to spend government funds to investigate a hoax?" So King emphasized that he was making a last geological exploration of the country around the Uintas and down the Green River. That is why he failed to mention some of the men who were with him, never mentioned the diamond dealer Berry, and never said a word about all the detective work Gardner, Wilson and Hague had conducted in San Francisco.

Asbury Harpending's account of the hoax, though interesting reading, is of whole cloth. He was a successful, shady capitalist in a robber baron era, and his story reflects his pique at King for having exposed a fraud that he, Harpending, knew a great deal about.

The diamond hoax was the greatest fraud ever perpetrated in the West, and it was an omen of the changing times that gullible investors were saved by salaried government officials who had

¹⁹ Vol. I, No. 4 (December, 1872), 5.

²⁰ National Archives, R.G. 77, Office of the Chief of Engineers, Humphreys to King, December 7, 1872.

The Diamond Hoax

no monetary stake in the matter whatsoever. Well educated, honest, and dedicated, the Fortieth Parallel men were in the vanguard of the many government men who later conducted their investigations with dispassionate efficiency, protecting the people and their natural resources alike for their own generation and for generations yet to come.

In their dedication, in their curiosity, and in their objectivity, Clarence King and his Fortieth Parallel men established a great precedent.

How Diamond Mountain Near Vernal, Got It's Name as Result of Grim Tragedy

Twenty years ago in southern Wyoming a young Englishman betrayed a friend. That malevolent act created a hatred that terminated only recently in a sensational murder in London.

In Wyoming the story has been told by word of mouth many times; cowboys talk of it on long rides across the desert; it is told on winter evenings in the out-of-the-way places of the west to the accompaniment of wind and snow that beats against the windows. Sometimes the tale is given to a traveler. The story involves the perpetration and revenge of the most dastardly of deeds—that of betraying a friend.

The country south of Rock Springs, Wyoming, is a desert-like area drained by the Vermillion river. Near the Colorado line the river drops into a canyon of colored sandstone—a canyon of blue, red and green. Rising up from the very brink of this colorful gorge, Diamond mountain stands. The slopes of the mountain and the sand foothills surrounding it are covered with tall greenish-silver sagebrush, dwarfed cedars and occasional outcroppings of quartz. In the summer the delicate sego lily hides under the brush, and down along the stream the blue fringed gentian makes a vivid edging for the red earth of the brink. Great herds of wild horses graze contentedly at the foot of Diamond mountain, and in the darkness of the night coyotes hunt about for a fallen colt. Occasionally a shepherd with his hooded wagon and a flock of woolly sheep comes into the country; or perhaps a cowboy strays by. But for the most part the whole scene at any time of the year is a quiet one with few men to disturb the serenity.

Country Once Alive With Many Men

There was a time, however, when this country was alive with men. A band of outlaws had their headquarters at Brown's park, an open space at the foot of Diamond mountain. These outlaws regularly robbed the Union Pacific trains as the gang first came together. They had become less bold in their raids upon society at the time Diamond mountain got its name, nevertheless they retained all the glory attributed to outlaws in the early days. Twenty years ago a young Englishman named Salsbury appeared in the west—a soldier of fortune. He drifted around to Brown's park one day looking for a little excitement. He

ed if he might have time to write a letter to send in with the leader. Time being granted, he disappeared into the cabin he was occupying with a great deal of nonchalance and merry whistling. As he thought it over, he came to the conclusion that there was only one thing that could save him from the mess he was in. He had one friend that had remained true to him through all his scrapes, another young Englishman of about his own age, then living in London. He wrote to this friend telling him of a veritable mountain of diamonds that he had discovered in southern Wyoming. All he needed, he said, was a little money, \$50,000, to start working the mine and the two would be rich many times over. The proposition was a cinch. He asked the friend to deposit the money in a certain bank in London. If the friend would do this immediately he, Salsbury, could begin operations at once. He sealed the letter and handed it to the outlaw for mailing in his usual suave manner.

The days went by quietly in the camp of the outlaws. In due time the checks made by Salsbury were found to be good. He stayed on in the park for awhile, riding horses in the races and making himself liked. Then, one day, quite casually he rode out of Brown's park and was seen no more.

Stranger Rides Into Brown's Park

A few months later a stranger, a clean looking, serious young man rode into Brown's park. The outlaws were delighted to give hospitality to a friend of Salsbury's. He was accepted into the gang as Salsbury had been before him.

As he became somewhat acquainted with the men he let drop an occasional word about the diamond mine. Getting no response he feared the fate of his friend. Thereafter he became more cautious. He had become attached in a brotherly sort of way to a young man in the band. One day as they were riding alone, he asked:

"Did Salsbury do any prospecting while he was here?"

"The man looked up in surprise. 'Not that I know of. He always hung close to camp, racing horses and playing cards.'"

"Racing horses," the Englishman said half-aloud, then: "Was he in debt when he left?"

The young man looked up in all innocence. "No; he made out checks on a London bank for all his debts and

hall outside the door. He almost welcomed the careful turning of the door knob. He stood up, waiting. For the first time since he had left England as a young man he saw the face of his friend. It was as if he looked at himself in the mirror. The man that stood before him was gray too, and wrecked, in the prime of life. There was none of the look of the younger with his hopes and desires written on his face; there was nothing in his expression but the result of a bitter hatred that had gnawed away all that was good in him, leaving the husks to present to the world. For the first time Salsbury realized fully what he had done, to his friend and to himself. He straightened up, looked full in the eye his former friend and smilingly awaited the bullet that dropped him at the feet of the man he had betrayed.

And so Diamond mountain found a name, and in the quiet hours of the day in Wyoming, the story of the two friends is told. Deception, they say cannot be forgiven, or forgotten.

ASHLEY

William Winn has purchased the Merkley place.

Miss Nord Lang, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Part Lang and Willard Rasmussen, son of John T. Rasmussen, were united in marriage, December 29 at 5 o'clock at the Rasmussen home. That evening a wedding supper was served to the immediate family.

Charles Monson, Sr., spent the holidays in Vernal. Mr. and Mrs. William Monson motored him back to Brush creek Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. David Karren were Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Karren.

Miss Bessie Noel was an overnight guest at the Seeley home, Sunday.

The Ashley M. I. A. was very successful with their dance held in the hall last Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Noel and children, Bessie and Floyd were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Preece.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Corless were Christmas dinner guests at the home of Mrs. Bertha E. Meredith.

Ben Morrison returned to White River Friday.

The new officers in the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association are as follows: Ronald Preece, president; Curtis Horricks, first counselor, and Albert Freestone, second counselor.

Mr. and Mrs. David Karren spent Sunday in Davis with Mr. and Mrs. David Karren, Jr.

Miss Lula Karren and Miss Blanche Seeley returned to their schools on the First of January.

Mr. and Mrs. Fisher of Helper and sister of Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Miller of Salt Lake mother of Mrs. Lee motor-

When many men.

There was a time, however, when this country was alive with men. A band of outlaws had their headquarters at Brown's park, an open space at the foot of Diamond mountain. These outlaws regularly robbed the Union Pacific trains as the gang first came together. They had become less bold in their raids upon society at the time Diamond mountain got its name, nevertheless they retained all the glory attributed to outlaws in the early days.

Twenty years ago a young Englishman named Salsbury appeared in the west—a soldier of fortune. He drifted around to Brown's park one day looking for a little excitement. He was a tall, good-looking young man with suave manner that attracted immediate notice. The outlaws took him in without question, as was their custom with a man riding alone.

Very soon he became as one of them and was trusted. When business was dull the outlaws raced horses and bet high. At night when this pastime could not be used for recreation they gathered in the head cabin and gambled. There is a certain honesty among thieves, a code of honor that concerns the exchange of money among themselves. The code was adhered to with unusual rigidity in this particular group of outlaws. There are tales that are whispered about even now of men that faced a firing squad. The rules of gambling were especially strict. A man was not to gamble on borrowed money; furthermore, all debts were to be honestly paid.

Salsbury Falls Easily Into Games of Outlaws

Salsbury fell easily into the games of the outlaws. He handled cards well, but seemed always to lose heavily. The games often lasted all night, and in the morning Salsbury would square his debts with a check on a London bank. By the time the checks had piled up into a substantial handful the leader of the gang announced his intention of going into Rock Springs. He made it quite plain to the Young Englishman that his presence would be required until the returns on the checks was satisfactory.

Salsbury was a rascal without scruples for all the evidence that his environment had been that of a gentleman. He intended to slip the country at the first opportunity. When the leader told him that he would be watched until the checks returned, he felt that his usual good luck would come along in time to save him. All would have ended here had not one of the men made a remark about the fate of those who break the code of honor among them. Salsbury began to see the significance of the code and the deadly punishment that befell him who broke it.

Salsbury Asks Time To Write Letter,

In an offhand manner Salsbury ask-

ing no response he feared the fate of his friend. Thereafter he became more cautious. He had become attached in a brotherly sort of way to a young man in the band. One day as they were riding alone, he asked:

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"Racing horses," the Englishman said half-aloud, then: "Was he in debt when he left?"

The young man looked up in all innocence. "No; he made out checks on a London bank for all his debts, and we kept him here till we found they were good."

"Oh." It was not the loss of the money that hurt him, that stung down to the very core of his love for Salsbury; it was the fact that he had been deceived, and that perhaps his family estate would suffer loss.

Englishman Walked Out To Diamond Mountain.

When the two got back to camp, the young Englishman left the men he had been living with and walked afoot out toward the mountain that was supposed to be made of diamonds. He must have walked all night, for at dawn he returned scratched, his clothing torn and soiled; and in his eyes burned a dangerous gleam. He said no more to the outlaws. Saddling his horse, he, too, rode out of Brown's park and was seen no more.

But that was not to be the end of the story. For twenty years the young Englishman followed the trail of the friend who had betrayed him. He hunted for him wherever chance traces of him led. Salsbury must have felt that he was being followed, for he never stayed long in one place. The young Englishman followed him across the ocean to the Orient; he arrived in the jungles just after Salsbury had passed through; he trailed behind him over the sun-baked plains and into the huts of natives, always a few days after the departure of the one he sought.

On all five continents went the two, Salsbury in the lead. And then one day a strange thing happened; Salsbury booked passage for England, the very land he had been running away from in the past. Upon his arrival in London he went immediately to the hotel he had used to frequent as a young man. He settled down into his room to wait.

His hair had turned gray; the tired hunted look of the escaped criminal had hollowed his eyes so that they sunk far back into his thin face. His once broad shoulders were stooped.

In One Week Pursuer Arrives

He had but a week to wait. He was not surprised to hear the approach of stealthy and halting footsteps in the

Christmas dinner guests at the home of Mrs. Bertha E. Meredith.

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Mr. and Mrs. Fisher of Helper and sister of Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Miller of Salt Lake, mother of Mrs. Lee, motored to Vernal Saturday.

Mrs. Marie Bywater returned to Myton last week after spending Christmas in Vernal.

Mrs. Alma Preece motored to La-point Thursday to attend the funeral of the little Marshall girl.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lee, Mrs. Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Fisher were the guests of Mrs. Haller Erickson in Glines Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Redden have moved to the Joseph Herbert home for the winter.

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HOW DIAMOND MOUNTAIN RECEIVED ITS NAME

It was late summer of 1871. William Ralston, financial wizard of California, juggler of millions, sat at his massive desk in the president's office of the Bank of San Francisco. Ralston was worried. Piece after piece of paper was lifted from the desk and torn into shreds, as he pondered on his precarious investments in real estate, non-producing factories, and luxury hotels. All of them were crying for more capital. The Comstock mine, whose millions had kept all these dubious enterprises going, was filled with water, and idle. The nervously built heap of shredded paper on the oriental rug by the desk grew larger.

A cashier ushered in two weather-beaten men, successful prospectors by their looks. Their names were Philip Arnold and John Slack. They had a canvas sack with them, of great value, they told Ralston, which they wished to deposit with the bank for safe-keeping. Ralston was curious. He tried to pump them, in his genial, bank-president manner, but they seemed simple men, uncertain, a little suspicious, and afraid to trust him with their secret.

The next day, Ralston happened to mention his visitors to George D. Roberts, one of the directors of the bank. Roberts recalled that he knew the prospectors, honest fellows, both of them--old 'forty-niners. He, too, became curious and hunted the two men up. Arnold, the spokesman, was still reluctant, but finally yielded to Roberts' insistence and told him their secret. He and Slack, in the course of their prospecting, had run into a large diamond field. He wouldn't say where it was, but offered to lead Roberts to it. That canvas sack contained a few of the samples they had gathered. A much larger sack had been lost in crossing a flooded river, Arnold said.

Ralston and Roberts were elated at the news, and deeply impressed by the diamonds Arnold poured out of the sack on Ralston's desk. They hurriedly consulted with their fellow-directors, William A. Lent and General Dodge, and decided there must be at least a hundred thousand dollars' worth just in the one small bunch of stones. Roberts and Dodge made a rush trip to New York with about half the stones. There, Tiffany, the great jeweler, and his experts unhesitatingly declared the stones genuine, and valued them at \$150,000. Roberts and Dodge came back to San Francisco in high glee. They gave Arnold \$100,00 down, and he promised to lead a representative to the fields.

Ralston was enthusiastic, but cautious. He called in the conservative David C. Colton, president of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and asked him to go with Arnold to the diamond field. They left the railroad at a little station west of Rawlins, Wyoming. There they hired a pack outfit, and set out on a devious route through the desert and over mountains. Several times Arnold climbed a peak to check on landmarks. Finally they arrived at "a gently sloping basin, with a small stream running through it." That, said Arnold, was the place. The diamonds were there all right, some of them less than a foot below the surface. Colton unearthed some rubies as well. There were acres of precious stones.

Colton's glowing reports settled all doubts. "The San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Company" was formed with a capital stock of ten millions. Colton resigned his position with the Southern Pacific to become general manager. Twenty-five men of national reputation were selected as directors of the new company. As technical adviser, they procured Henry Janin, the leading mining engineer of the day. Samuel Barlow and General Benjamin F. Butler of New York were retained as general counsel. The New York representative was none other than that famous Civil War veteran, General George B. McClellan. The new company was not only highly respectable, but very impressive as well.

The attorneys discovered that there were no laws under which diamond claims could be located and held in this country. The Sargent Mining Bill, allowing wide latitude in staking claims, was prepared, rushed through Congress, and signed by the President May 18, 1872.

Ashbury Harpending, then in England successfully floating American mining stock on the London Exchange, began to be deluged by frantic hundred-word cablegrams from Ralston, at ten dollars a word, urging him to come back and help promote the new company. He was frankly skeptical of the diamond mine, and inclined to be irritated by Ralston's extravagance. When he talked with Baron Rothschild, the great international banker, however, he was amazed and partially convinced. "Stranger things have happened" Rothschild told him, "and I advise you to go back. I will be most interested to hear your report."

So, right after the Sargent Bill was passed, Harpending, Janin, Colton, and a few others made an official visit to their diamond mine. They again followed an erratic course to the spot. Harpending tried to keep track of their shifts in direction, and figured out that they went generally westward from Rawlins, on a line paralleled with the railroad, and perhaps forty or fifty miles south. More than once he was sure that he heard a distant train whistle, but Arnold assured him that they were at least a hundred miles distant from the railroad.

Arriving at the claim, Janin, the ultra-conservative mining expert, was most favorably impressed. He estimated that twenty rough laborers could wash out at least a million dollars' worth of diamonds a month. The whole field would be worth, at the very least, sixty-five millions, and might run to ten or twenty times that much. Everyone in the party staked out a large claim.

Rothschild was indeed most interested when he heard the report. The House of Rothschild became the European agents of the new company, and A. Gansl, their California representative, became a member of the company. It was all to be strictly big business---no small fry welcome. So the company bought out Arnold and Slack for a total, including their previous advances, of \$660,000. The ex-prospectors took their money and left California.

Everything was going swimmingly, with only one small fly in the ointment. Despite all the efforts of the company to keep even the general whereabouts of the diamond field a secret, word had leaked out. It seems that Arnold had been a little hard up during the winter of 1870-71, and had taken one of the stones into Lou Miller's jewelry store in Cheyenne to borrow money on it. Arnold claimed that the uncut diamond had been sent him from South Africa by a brother who lived there. He redeemed the stone a few days later. Then, about a month after that, he repeated the process. He claimed that it was the same stone the second time, but Miller knew better. When word of the great diamond mine was made public, Miller told his story. Dozens of parties immediately started out to scour the neighboring deserts and mountains. And among the guides engaged by the various parties were our old friends Jim Baker and Bibleback Brown. Many people tried to follow Arnold on his trips, but by wrapping his horse's hoofs in canvas, always approaching from a different angle, leaving his horse at a distance and going to the field on foot, shod in moccasins, he always managed to elude his trackers. Diamond hunters were all over the place.

Then in November, 1872, Clarence King of the Fortieth Parallel Survey, was riding to Green River when his eye was caught by a brilliant reflection on top of a sand hill. Getting off his horse to investigate, he found a large, uncut diamond. Neighboring anthills yielded more diamonds. Nearby he ran onto some rubies and emeralds. He had stumbled on the great diamond field.

King was a little perplexed, however. The soil was a bit sandy, and not at all the sort in which precious stones were usually found. Furthermore, they all seemed to be near the surface. When he found one stone tucked in the crotch of a cedar, he was convinced that something was radically wrong. He examined it carefully, and found unmistakable marks of a diamond cutter's wheel. The mine had been "salted."

A recently dug hole under a near-by ledge yielded some surveying instruments, a map of the field, and an iron rod, which showed how the salting had been done. Holes had been thrust in the ground with the rod, the diamonds poked down, and then covered up. All the stones King found, furthermore, were the inferior sort known as "niggerheads," of no great value, and useful only to make diamond chips and dust for industrial cutting and grinding purposes. On November 11, King reached Green River and sent a telegram to Ralston. The great diamond hoax was exploded. King's reputation as a geologist, and his knowledge of minerals, made that point clear.

It was a very sheepish and downcast group of men who met in Ralston's bank next morning. The facts were gradually ascertained. Through an accomplice by the name of Cooper, Arnold had procured a large quantity of cheap stones from a gem merchant in Holland. The whole salting process had cost him possibly \$30,000, and he and Slack had cleaned up better than half a million on it. Slack was later located in Kentucky and made to disgorge a hundred thousand, which he claimed was all that he ever received from Arnold. Arnold had disappeared, and was never heard from again.

The so-called experts had been taken in because they were working out of their respective fields. Janin knew all about mining for metals, but nothing whatever about diamonds. Tiffany, although thoroughly familiar with cut stones, had never even seen a diamond in the rough before. When they were consulted as experts, however, their vanity kept them from admitting their lack of knowledge.

Although Ralston took the whole financial burden of the affair on his shoulders, and reimbursed the stockholders to the tune of three-quarters of a million, his reputation suffered. The affair even had international repercussions, and found its way into the files of the State Department. And it marked the turning point in Ralston's spectacular career. For years he had lived like an Oriental nabob and kept his non-paying investments going by plundering the Comstock mines. Now, however, his associates and creditors lost confidence in him. The Rothschilds and the New York bankers refused him loans; and less than three years after the diamond affair, the great Bank of California failed. Ralston died the next day, some people believe by his own hand. Certainly the shock and disappointment of the diamond hoax was a decisive factor in his untimely end.

Now just where that salted diamond mine was located is a matter of dispute. Colorado has a Diamond Peak, about fifteen miles east of the line in the northwest corner. Wyoming has a Diamond Butte just to the north of that point. And ^{Idaho} Daggett County has Diamond Mountain as the calling card of a good many prominent men in San Francisco, New York, and even London. We're betting on our own Diamond Mountain. For that's the most likely place to find "the gently sloping basin, with a stream running through it," mentioned by Roberts and Harpending, which is our only solid clue. Then, too, King sent his telegram from Green River. If he'd been going to the railroad from either of the other places, he'd undoubtedly have headed for one of the stations farther east. No, Diamond Mountain comes a little nearer to filling the bill.

So, if you're interested, we suggest that you go up and look around in Pot, Kettle, or Diamond draws until you find a likely looking spot. And, who knows, if you dig a foot or so below the surface, you may still be able to run across a niggerhead or two that Arnold, the San Francisco boys, King, and Bibleback Brown and the others happened to miss.

1/17/29 # 516

...whose duty it is to prepare the contracts and arrange for the organization.

The meeting remained in session from 11 a. m. until 4:30 p. m. in order that the organization might be perfected and the outline for the ensuing year made.

The unanimous decision of the body was that the bureau should undertake twelve major projects this year, as follows:

- 1.—Dairying: Snellen Johnson, Chas. Maughan and Mark Cook as leaders.
- 2.—Farm Sheep: Ed Hart, Asher Merkle, Theodore Johnson, O. B. Calder.
- 3.—Roads and Transportation: E. Peterson.
- 4.—Boys and Girls Club Work: Leroy Carroll.
- 5.—Poultry: DeMar Dudley, J. C. Buls.
- 6.—Beef Cattle: Louis Freestone, H. E. Seeley, W. L. Fletcher.
- 7.—Field Crops: W. H. Oak, Jos. Horrocks, Louis Haws.
- 8.—Hogs: E. J. Vinder.
- 9.—Tax Problem: Ernest Eason, Ellis Merkle, F. O. Lundberg.
- 10.—Pest and Weed Control: J. W.astian, F. H. Smith.
- 11.—County Fair: J. N. Lybberts, H. B. Calder.
- 12.—Commercial Killing State for Vernal: E. Peterson.

The meeting then adjourned, after which the directors met and elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

Ellis Merkle, president; Ed. Hocft, vice-president; Theodore Johnson, business manager and secretary; J. A. Heney, treasurer; Jos. Horrocks, Leroy Carroll, directors.

The plan calls for an executive committee of five members, who can be called together when necessary to transact business when it is impossible for the entire board of directors to meet.

which collected, for schools and roads, and 25 per cent shall be expended in improving the range, development of water sources and the like.

DOCTOR

S

NOT STAND THE GAFF BUSINESS

Columbus had to cleanse his mind man willing to free himself from the gaff to entertain the new ideas which

ness, of art, and even of sport, this

the hands of the discoverers. The who explored new fields, unfettered finds a man to the truth and, too a reasonable.

o investigate yourself, your business

nate in not being fettered with old have no barnacles on their ships; too often refuse to accept new ideas son they fail to grow, fail to advance ing in a modern day with thoughts, past modern opportunities are not

the gaff of modern business. If with modern people you have to be old-fashioned sellers. The old-ness will soon be gone and then that has kept up to and ahead of

mean older people. It does mean er before them did a certain thing only way it can be done; the fellow right and the other fellow wrong; or see how it is done, says it can't

1/17/29

an excellent meeting in the Uintah High school auditorium last Wednesday evening at 7:30. A fairly large crowd attended and enjoyed the following excellent program: A forty-five minute picture show; reading entitled, "In the Sleeping Car," Miss Linnle Cook; reading, "Corner of William," Miss Mable Siddoway, followed by a brief talk by Superintendent H. S. Olsen.

Jack Diamond Names Mountain

One of the First Men on Diamond Mountain Tells the Story

We have already published two lurid stories as to how Diamond mountain, one from the Salt Lake Tribune, which got its name one from the Salt Lake Tribune, which was without exception denounced as a false alarm by all the old time residents of Ashley valley, and the other by Mrs. Nils Hughel, which seemed to be better. We are now publishing a third story, which we feel sure will be more generally accepted. It came to us unsolicited, and was written by Charley Hill, well known here in the early days, and was written from Fruita, Colorado. He says:

"I have read in the Vernal Express lately, two different accounts about how Diamond mountain got its name, and I think they are both wrong.

"I came across Diamond mountain in the fall of 1877, about the time that Dunk Blair moved his cattle in there from Rock Springs, Wyoming.

"I stopped over night with Mr. Blair at a spring that had been dug out and walled up with rock. There was a flat rock by the spring, with the name "Diamond Spring", cut in it, with a cold chisel. I asked Mr. Blair how the spring got its name, and he said that three or four years prior to this, two men from Rock Springs were out there, trapping, and made their camp at the spring. That they dug it out, and walled it up and cut the name on the flat rock. One of these men was named Jack Diamond, and that is probably the way that the spring and the mountain got the name.

C. P. HILL
Fruita, Colorado

Property Holders in West End of City Oppose East End Annexation

The proposed annexation of several families in the east part of Vernal into the city limits was stubbornly opposed at the regular meeting of the city council last night. The scarcity of water was the main contention, and property holders in the west end of the city opposed the granting of the petition on that account.

The council took no action in the matter, although every member was present, and the question has to be settled one way or the other, sooner or later.

In addition to this matter of business the financial report was read and acted upon.

The mayor was very properly excused

geologist, and field manager of the corporation, states this test is now in the top of an oil zone estimated to be 600 to 700 feet in thickness, as shown by the log of the old Reed oil test, located a half mile east of the Krumvieda No. 1, and drilled to the depth of 1800 feet in 1913, and then abandoned. In the Reed test a production of oil estimated at 300 to 400 feet daily was encountered at 780 feet, and, according to Mr. Lovewell, the reason this test was not a flowing well was that the oil was encountered at too shallow a depth.

Mr. Lovewell is confident that when a shutoff of the fluid in the hole which stands 600 feet high, is made, the corporation will have a good producer in the Krumvieda No. 1 at the present depth. The shut off will be made with 6 1/4 inch casing, and if required further drilling will be done.

(Continued from Page 1)

VERNAL Thirty Years Ago

The teachers of this county held a very interesting session at the Central school House last Saturday afternoon. Superintendent N. O. Sowards in the chair. Minutes were read by the secretary and approved. Roll called, showing an attendance of twelve teachers and one visitor. The subject of psychology was ably handled by Don B. Colton, after which a discussion followed. "The Deserted village" was next taken up by Superintendent Sowards. Program for next meeting read as follows: Psychology, memory, Mrs. J. A. Holdaway; Discussion ten minutes. Spear's Arithmetic, J. P. Rudy; discussion. Literature, Miss Maggie Bingham. Discussion. "How to teach geography", D. L. Richards. A motion to change time of meeting from 2 to 1 p. m. was made and carried. Adjourned to January 28.

The Vernal Express last week commenced its eighth volume. The Express is a good thing for the Vernal country, and the people there should be liberal in their patronage, aid its publishers in making it better than ever.—The Independent.

We are pleased to congratulate the Vernal Express on attaining its seventh birthday. Uintah county is ably represented by its bright and always well printed Express. We wish it increased prosperity and many happy returns.—Washington County News.

Here is an advertisement showing prices of goods in those days, some of which have gone out of style: "We are selling the Tootin' Wheeler and Motter Dist. 76 school shoes for \$1.15 per pair. The Warner long waist corset, 55c. The Schilling's French shape corset, 50c. Men's heavy riveted overalls, 50c. Boy's Bib Overalls, 30c. Men's all wool home knit socks, 20c. Men's rubbers 15c. Men's mackintoshes for \$2.75. Ladies' fine long merino hose for 25c. A fine line of Children's, Misses' and Ladies' Jackets, Coats and Capes in Fur, Plush and Cloth, from \$1.00 up.—R. E. Collett, proprietor.

There was a very pleasant social gathering at the beautiful residence of Mr. and Mrs. Phil Stringham of Mill Ward last evening. The affair was in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hackling, who were married some time ago, but on account of sickness no reception could be given them. A bounteous

cross the plan for the new dairy association, which is being launched by the county bureau as one of its new projects. **JAN. 17, 1929**

All the dairy men present were united that when the new project is fully under way the price of cream and milk will be more uniform with outside prices. After a discussion as a whole, the plans were referred to a committee whose duty it is to prepare the contracts and arrange for the organization.

The meeting remained in session from 11 a. m. until 4:30 p. m. in order that the organization might be perfected and the outline for the ensuing year made.

The unanimous decision of the body was that the bureau should undertake twelve major projects this year, as follows:

- 1.—Dairying: Snellen, Johnson, Chas. P. Maughan and Mark Cook as leaders.
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in which collected, for schools and roads and 25 per cent shall be expended in improving the range, development of water sources and the like.

IN DOCTOR AYS

WILL NOT STAND THE GAFF
ERN BUSINESS

every Columbus had to cleanse his mind the man willing to free himself from a ready to entertain the new ideas which

business, of art, and even of sport, this

is in the hands of the discoverers. The

LOCAL AREA HAS BEEN TALKING about them, and that is a didn't get but one single pair, for they certainly are fine, and the best I have. Woolen socks surely come in handy right now, as it surely is cold here and looks as if its going to be lots worse soon.

CLARENCE HASLAM,
First Infantry.

The parent teachers association held an excellent meeting in the Uintah High school auditorium last Wednesday evening at 7:30. A fairly large crowd attended and enjoyed the following excellent program: A forty-five minute picture show; reading entitled, "In the Sleeping Car," Miss Minnie Cook; reading, "Corner of William," Miss Mable Stodowy, followed by a brief talk by Superintendent H. S. Olsen.

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#0576

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"I came across Diamond mountain in the fall of 1877, about the time that Dunk Blair moved his cattle in there from Rock Springs, Wyoming.

"I stopped over night with Mr. Blair at a spring that had been dug out and walled up with rock. There was a flat rock by the spring, with the name 'Diamond Spring' cut in it, with a cold chisel. I asked Mr. Blair how the spring got its name, and he said that three or four years prior to this, two men from Rock Springs were out there, trapping, and made their camp at the spring. That they dug it out and walled it up and cut the name on the flat rock. One of these men was named Jack Diamond, and that is probably the way that the spring and the mountain got the name.

C. P. HILL
Fruita, Colorado

Property Holders in West

shows a flow of twenty feet above the top of the hole, and tailings show a well-defined flow of oil in the pump. The last nine feet drilled materially increased the oil showing. The oil is of an amber color, with green reflection and paraffine base, and without a trace of sulphur. The oil comes from the Washach sand of the lower Tertiary age.

H. A. Lovewell, vice president, geologist, and field manager of the corporation, states this hole is now in the top of an oil zone estimated to be 500 to 700 feet in thickness, as shown by the top of the old Reed oil test, located a half mile east of the Krumviede No. 1, and drilled to the depth of 1000 feet in 1913, and then abandoned. In the Reed test a production of oil estimated at 200 to 400 feet daily was encountered at 500 feet, and, according to Mr. Lovewell, the reason this test was not a flowing well was that the oil was encountered at too shallow a depth.

Mr. Lovewell is confident that when a shaft of the kind in the hole which stands 600 feet high, is made, the corporation will have a good producer in the Krumviede No. 1 at the present depth. The shut off will be made with 8 1/4 inch casing, and if required further drilling will be done.

(Continued from Page 3)

VERNAL

Thirty Years Ago

The teachers of this county held a very interesting session at the Central school House last Saturday afternoon. Superintendent N. G. Edwards in the chair. Minutes were read by the secretary and approved. Roll called, showing an attendance of twelve teachers and one visitor. The subject of psychology was ably handled by Don B. Colton, after which a discussion followed. "The Deserted village" was next taken up by Superintendent Edwards. Program for next meeting read as follows: Psychology, memory. Mrs. J. A. Holdaway; Discussion ten minutes. Spear's Arithmetic, J. E. Rudy; discussion Literature, Miss Maggie Bingham. Discussion "How to teach geography", D. L. Richards. A motion to change time of meeting from 2 to 1 p. m. was made and carried. Adjourned to January 23.

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Here is an advertisement showing

Jack Gumaer is Arrested Charged With Shooting Tom McKeachnie on Wed.

Sheriff Emery Johnson went up on Diamond mountain this morning and arrested Jack Gumaer for whom he had a warrant charging him with the shooting of Tom McKeachnie last night at dusk. McKeachnie was brought down to the hospital last night, his face loaded with buckshot, alleged to have been inflicted by Gumaer from a double-barrel shotgun. Several sheep were killed also.

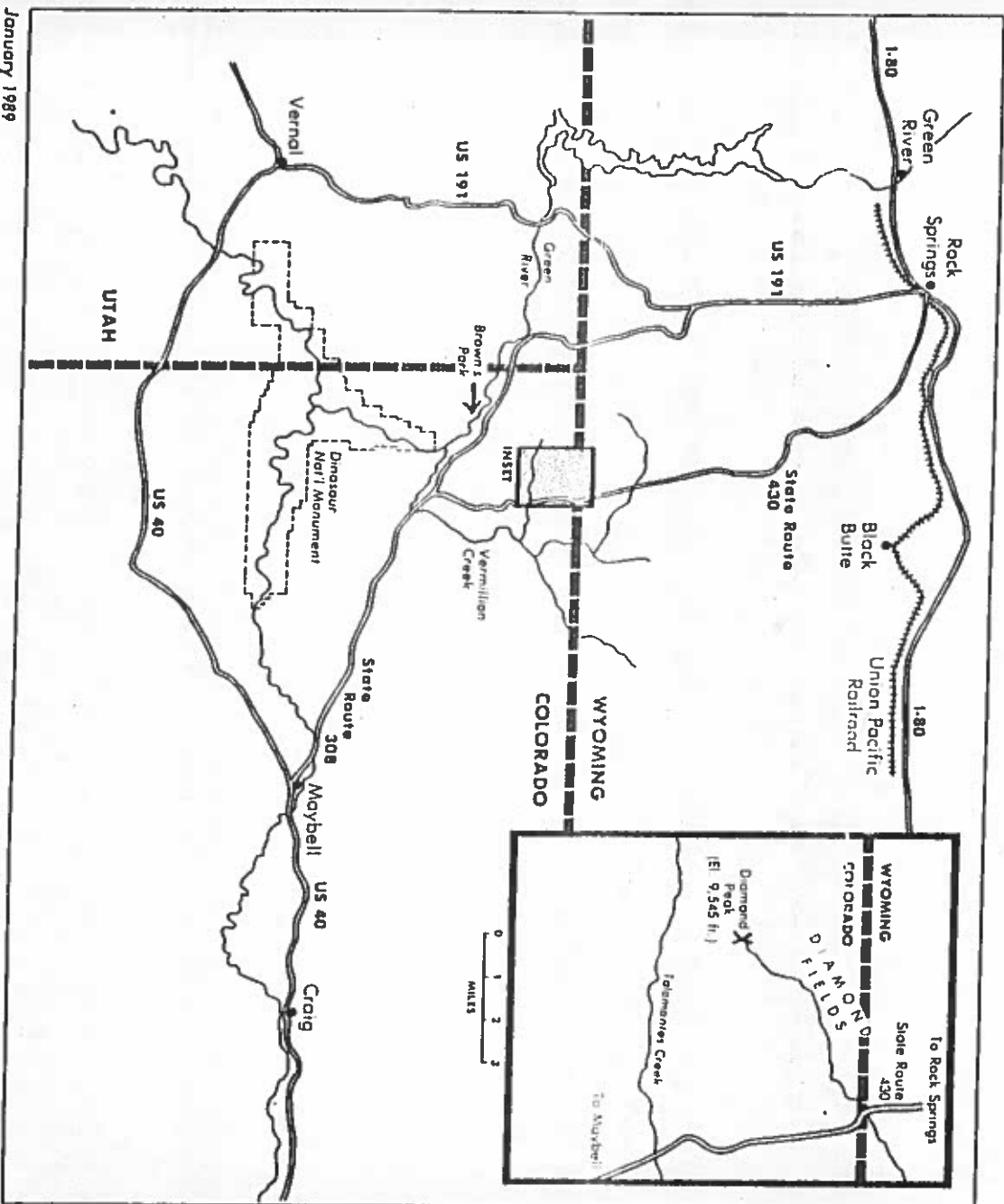
L. T. Wright, assistant general manager of the C. W. and M. Co., in Idaho and Utah, was in Vernal on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Wright is a son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Wallis.

and emeralds, as well.

In May 1872, Ralston summoned a former associate, Asbury Harpending, from London, England, to organize a major diamond mining venture. Still

tion's foremost gem authority. Tiffany would provide the second professional misjudgment for, although indeed an expert on cut gems, he was inexperienced with rough gemstones. Tiffany, too, pro-

Ralston, elated, but not about to leave anything unchecked, now demanded a final inspection by Henry Janin, a highly respected mining engineer. Janin's reputation was impeccable; a



Mrs. N. C. Hughes Tells the
Real Story of the Way Dia-
mond Mountain Got Its Title

UINTAH COUNTY LIBRARY
REGIONAL ROOM
FILE FOLDER
NO. 0576

'I suppose you read that 'cock and
bull' story about the naming of
Diamond mountain in the Sunday Tri-
bune

No I didn't read that, but I read
a copy of it in the home paper. Would-
n't that frost you?

'It would; indeed! especially this
time of the year. Why, I was up on
Diamond mountain in 1880, and it was
called Diamond mountain then same
as now. That was 48 years ago. Some-
body must have sprained their imag-
ination in the telling of that yarn.'

'It would certainly seem so. Even a
compound fracture can't hardly account
for this tale. And when there really is
a story about the naming of the
mountain we are glad to be able to
tell it. In the first place Diamond
mountain is part of the Uintah Range
and lies entirely in Uintah county,
Utah and not in Wyoming as the
Tribes story states.

In 1886, Dutch Cassidy, leading his
gang of outlaws out through Brown's
Park for a little business jaunt in the
usual line met in his overnight stop
at the old Bassett road house, three
Englishmen. They seemed to be well
supplied with money and a desire to
invest it. To Cassidy, the combination
was irresistible and he arranged his
plans to satisfy both the investors and
himself. When his business on the out-
side was finished, Cassidy laid the
course of his return to the Hole-in-the-
Wall across what is now called Dia-
mond mountain. With a small supply
of rough diamonds he had provided for
the occasion he proceeded to salt a
likely locality, and having baited the
trap, continued his journey into
Brown's Park. There he sought out and
interested the moneyed Englishmen, di-
verted them from the cattle ranch they
were preparing to buy, took them back
to his prepared diamond mine and
sold it on the spot. The extra cash
accommodated no one in the Cassidy
gang and they made their return to
their rendezvous at the Hole-in-the-
Wall with their usual success.

There was no question of personal
friendship or the betrayal of trust
in this transaction. Merely the fleec-
ing of credulous and greedy men by a
man gifted in the art of helping him-
self to the property of others.

Since that time Diamond mountain
has been Diamond mountain to all
and sundry.

As early as 1877 Isaac Burton of
Vernal bought the relinquishment of
Diamond Springs Ranch from one
Duncan Blair. And for fifty years
people have come and gone over the
mountain, unmolested by diamonds,
outlaws, Englishmen or betrayed
friends.

1929-01-10

'TWO SILHOUETTES ALIKE WHEN IT COMES TO FASHIONABLE FELTS



It seems that the ingenuity milliner would reach a limit comes to fashioning felts, but last-minute styling gives no of such a possibility.

That brings are "in" again have opened a new field for of imagination on the part of her. Then, too, self-trimmed still in the majority and no medium which yields so to this treatment as felt. All together, felts have not at "worn their welcome out" are no signs of them doing so.

Instance of the self-trimmed form is given at the top of it. Even the bow is of felt ultra hat is so designed as to frame the face.

of bows, not of ribbon but are adding a plangent note of new hats. Now that the is started, milliners are a clever bow wherever it. Sometimes a sprightly bow finds its way to the p of the crown, or it caucally one ear, or it jauntily rests its eyes on the very edge of perhaps it finds placement back at the nape of the neck.

Spotted felts are ever so smart. Sometimes they are pyrographed with a hot needle as was done in case of the French cloche model shown here at the top to the left. Then again hand painting is the method employed. The felt helmet to the left is a mode much favored, as it serves admirably to wear with fur-collared winter coats. In black or gray colors it is alike favored.

Side feather pompons effectively trim many a felt this season—the cloche (as pictured) and toque. Usually they are an accurate color match.

A tendency to bring the trimming from the top crown is noted in some instances. The gold-braided quills at the side of the felt cap in the oval are caught to the peak of the crown with an ornament.

The girlish beret shown last is of burgundy felt with silver gullion trimming edging the crown band. A tiny rhinestone ornament catches the end of the band in position.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

(© 1928. Western Newspaper Union.)

Mrs. N. C. Hughes Tells the Real Story of the Way Diamond Mountain Got its Title

"I suppose you read that 'cock and bull' story about the naming of Diamond mountain in the Sunday Tribune."

"No, I didn't read that, but I read a copy of it in the home paper. Wouldn't that frost you?"

"It would, indeed! especially this time of the year. Why, I was up on Diamond mountain in 1880, and it was called Diamond mountain then, same as now. That was 48 years ago. Some body must have sprained their imagination in the telling of that yarn."

"It would certainly seem so. Even a compound fracture can hardly account for this tale. And since there really is a story about the naming of the mountain, we are glad to be able to tell it. In the first place 'Diamond mountain' is part of the Uintah Range and lies entirely in Uintah county, Utah, and not in Wyoming, as the Trib's story states.

In 1888, Butch Cassidy, leading his gang of outlaws out through Brown's Park for a little business jaunt in the usual line; met in his overnight stop at the old Bassett road house, three Englishmen. They seemed to be well supplied with money and a desire to invest it. To Cassidy, the combination was irresistible and he arranged his plans to satisfy both the investors and himself. When his business on the outside was finished, Cassidy laid the course of his return to the Hole-in-the-Wall across what is now called Diamond mountain. With a small supply of rough diamonds he had provided for the occasion, he proceeded to salt a likely locality, and having baited the trap, continued his journey into Brown's Park. There he sought out and interested the moneyed Englishmen, diverted them from the cattle ranch they were preparing to buy, took them back to his prepared diamond mine and sold it on the spot. The extra cash accommodated no one in the Cassidy gang and they made their return to their rendezvous at the Hole-in-the-Wall with their usual success.

There was no question of personal friendship or the betrayal of trust in this transaction. Merely the fleecing of credulous and greedy men by a man gifted in the art of helping himself to the property of others.

Since that time Diamond mountain has been Diamond mountain to all and sundry.

As early as 1877 Isaac Burton of Vernal bought the relinquishment of Diamond Springs Ranch from one Duncan Blair. And for fifty years people have come and gone over the mountain, unmolested by diamonds, outlaws, Englishmen or betrayed friends.

NOTICE—United States Land Office, Salt Lake City, Utah, November 22, 1928. To whom it may concern:

Notice is hereby given that the State of Utah has filed in this office lists of lands, selected by the said State, under section 8 of the Act of Congress, approved July 16, 1894, as Indemnity School lands, viz:

SW 1/4 NE 1/4 Sec. 19, T 13 South R. 3 E. S. 1 E. M.—\$3.81.

W. H. Colthrop and W. M. Price.

recited therewith for litigation or other domestic purposes.

E. H. BURGESS.

Attorney for Plaintiff

EMERY JOHNSON.

Sheriff of Uintah County, Utah

First Date of publication Jan. 10, 1929

Last date of publication Jan. 31, 1929

GET YOUR WHIPPING CREAM

at the VERNAL MARKET.

NOTICE TO WATER USERS—State Engineer's office, Salt Lake City, Utah, December 6, 1928.

Notice is hereby given that Lynn M. Parrish, whose post office address is Lapoint, Utah, has made application in accordance with the requirements of the Compiled Laws of Utah, 1917, as amended by the Session Laws of Utah, 1919, and 1925, to appropriate 240 acre feet of water from an unnamed lake in Uintah county, Utah. Said lake inundates parts of unsurveyed N 1/4 NW 1/4 Sec. 33, T 2 S. 19 E. S. 1 E. B. M. The water is to be released from said lake at a point which bears N. 17 degrees 30 minutes E. 3550 feet from the NE cor. of Sec. 5, T. 3 S. R. 19 E. S. 1 E. B. and M. and allowed to flow down an unnamed natural channel of Deep Creek thence allowed to flow down said creek for a distance of six miles where it is reddiverted at a point which bears 1 63 degrees W 1336 feet from E 1/4 cor. of Sec. 17, T. 1 N. R. 2 E. U. S. B. and M. and conveyed by means of ditch a distance of 6,000 feet and there used from March 1st to November 15th of each year as a supplemental supply to irrigate 160 acres of land embraced in the W 1/4 SE 1/4, NE 1/4 SW 1/4 Sec. 20, NW 1/4 NE 1/4 Sec. 29, T. 1 N. R. 2 E. U. S. B. and M.

This application is designated in the State Engineer's Office, as File No. 10,403.

All protests against the granting of said application, stating the reason therefor, must be by affidavit in duplicate, accompanied with a fee of \$1.00 and filed in this office within thirty (30) days after the completion of the publication of this notice.

GEORGE M. PACON,

State Engineer

Date of first publication Dec. 13, 1928

Date of last publication Jan. 10, 1929

SHERIFF'S SALE—In the District Court of Uintah County, Utah. The State of Utah, plaintiff vs. Donna V. Burgess, Martha J. Edwards, Lucille M. Harris, Lucretia M. Evans, Leon Hatch, Mildred M. Dillman and Ruby M. Sutherland, heirs at law of Lucretia A. Miles and W. A. Miles, both deceased, defendants.

TO BE SOLD at Sheriff's Sale on the 26th day of January, 1929 at 2 o'clock P. M. at the front door of the county courthouse in Vernal, Uintah County, Utah, the following described property situate in Uintah County, Utah, to-wit: Southeast quarter of Southwest quarter of Section 36, Township 2 South of Range 1 West of United States Meridian, containing 40 acres, together with 35 shares of stock in the Dry Gulch Irrigation Company, Class "II", and any and all water and water rights used on or in connection therewith, together with the improvements and appurtenances.

Dated January 2nd, 1929.

EMERY JOHNSON,

Sheriff, Uintah County, Utah.

JT-21

Near Tragedy on Diamond Mountain
By Max B. Rasmussen

It was in the spring of 1946 that I arrived back in Vernal with Joyce, Karen and Scott fresh out of the army and after the Japs had said "We have had enough." It was great to be home, but I soon realized there was no work and no money. My little family wanted something besides a straight diet of deer meat to eat.

I soon got a job with Austin White pounding nails on the Basin Sports store on 4th West and Main Street at \$9.00 a day. I never looked up for fear he would think I wasn't a good worker and I would lose my job. I had been earning \$50.00 a month in the army, so Joyce and I had learned to be frugal with our money.

My dad gave us a lot on 126 East 500 North and we started to build us a home. I borrowed a cement mixer, and I had a wheelbarrow and few tools and we took to building. That year we poured a basement.

Come fall the sugar bowl was empty and Carl Searle told me I could cut some Christmas trees on his place on Diamond Mountain up in Betts Cove. My I was excited with the prospects of earning some money for Christmas. I went to my cousin Ray Searle and borrowed a rubber tired wagon that was made from an old truck I guess, cause it was sure heavy.

I borrowed a horse and a set of harnesses from Uncle Ivan Batty and 1 horse from Milas Colton. Milas had a mink farm and he would kill 2 horses every day to feed the mink so he didn't know anything about the horse I was borrowing and neither did I. We got them harnessed up and hooked to the wagon and along with Stanley Woodard and another young boy, (I can't remember his name) a dull axe, a bed roll that was not nearly warm enough for the cold snowy weather and a grub stake which consisted of whatever we could find at home.

We were on the road about noon. The week before we had a big snowstorm, but most of it had melted from here to the top of the rim. Oh that road was muddy and by the time we had made it to Brush Creek both of those horses were tired out.

There was 2 dug out's there in the banks or more like cellars. Everyone said that old man Swain used to live in them but that was before my time. We decided we would spend the night and so we moved up into the cove. We got our bedding and supplies out and put them in the caves. We thought it would be a good idea to build a fire in the opening to keep our little home on the range warm but what a mistake. We just got cuddled down in our nest and ready to dream about what a big load of Christmas trees we could pile on that wagon, when the wind changed and our Hilton home was full of smoke. My how or lungs did burn, and in seconds there were 3 half naked bodies out in the mud and

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snow trying to put that fire out. It didn't take long and to scrape those hot coals away and we got back in our nests. At least we would be safe from the rain or snow.

We got up early the next morning and were on our way. Things went pretty good up across the big flat but when we started up the steep part of the mountain and up past the county springs, the mud was so deep, and the wagon was so heavy and it didn't take long the horses was give out. We tried to help the horses, one of us would walk by the team with a cedar switch to encourage them on while the other two pushed on the wagon. The horses would give out and we would have to stop and rest, and then start again. Finally we made it to the top where the road was flat, things were better then, but oh how the wind did howl. There was about 2" of new snow on the ground and with the wind blowing so hard the air was full of snow.

~~The next morning we started again and~~ the road was flat and we moved along pretty good until we got to B.S. Ridge and the road used to go to the right around that hill before the cut at Mud Spring. We made it up that long muddy grade when the horses stopped and would go no more. They wanted to turn their back ends to the wind and they wouldn't move one more step, they truly were a balky team.

We got our belongings and our stove and got under the hay rack. We thought that it would provide some protection. We had a green army tarp that we put over the wagon reach for a wind break. It was a heavy tarp but that wind blew the snow right through that tarp and you could scoop it up on the inside like frost. I knew we couldn't stay there very long.

There was a small quaker tree grove and some big rocks in a draw some 200 yards to the east of us. Maybe there was better shelter there, so with the wind to my back, I faced the storm and headed to the grove of trees. When I got there I soon found out that it was better back at the wagon.

That little grove of trees is where 2 men, Fred Hicks and Mr. Sanford, froze to death. They had been cutting timber and were trying to get back to Vernal. The night before Thanksgiving while they were forced to seek shelter, they found them both frozen to death. They had a cat with them and it survived that horrible night. I knew the story of these two men and was afraid our story may ~~be~~ turn out to be 3 men who would be found frozen to death.

As I faced that screaming wind and snow straight ^{from} ~~from~~ the west, I could barely stand up and with my hand over my eyes, I could only look down at my feet. I was so exhausted trying to stand up and find my way back to the wagon. I couldn't see anything but swirling snow. All of a sudden I felt so warm and thought how nice it would be if I would just

lay down and take a little nap, but I knew I must go on those two boys were depending on me. It couldn't be to much farther even if I couldn't see it and then I thought maybe I had gone past the wagon. Then right at my feet was a wagon track maybe 3 feet long, that hadn't blown full of snow for some reason. I reached my arm out to the right and there was the wagon. For a minute I was so relieved but then I had to tell the boys that there was no shelter. They went wild, screaming "we are going to freeze to death, we are going to die." I assured them they wouldn't die and told them to fill a barracks bag with food and clothes. We unhooked the team and I put both the boys on the horse I borrowed from Uncle Ivan, as I knew he would ride. Clinging on to the food sack, I started the horse down the road and told them I would catch up. Then I filled my barracks bag tied it to the harness and not knowing if my mink food horse had ever been ridden, I climbed on to see.

I soon found out he hadn't as he hopped around in the snow trying to buck me off. I was cold and scared and knew that if he bucked me off and went to find the other horse, I would never make it out and that is where they would find me, frozen stiff, so I wasn't about to get unseated. The horse soon gave out or up and started down the road to find the other horse. As I got down to Diamond Gulch where the corrals are now, the wind had eased up a lot. I caught up with the boys and told them get off and walk to warm themselves up. Stanley was crying, and said, "Max I have gone blind, I can't see." I checked him out and found his eyes were full of frost and frozen shut. I warmed his eyes with my hands and held a neck scarf to his face and soon he was looking on a white windy world again.

Going I knew that east down what is now the Jones Hole Road, Fran Willis had a cabin. I think it is around by Jackson's now. We figured that was the closest shelter. When we got to the cabin, Fran had plenty of wood chopped and the wood box was full. It didn't take us long to start a fire and huddle around and try to dry out. Stanley's pants were frozen and we had to thaw them out before we could get them off of him. It wasn't to long before life looked brighter and we had our clothes hanging around the stove to dry and food on the stove to cook. I can see ~~us now~~, 3 mostly naked boys around that stove, one trying to poke one more stick of wood in the fire and the other 2 checking the food to see if it was done and if our clothes were dry. I can't remember what we had, but, ~~but~~ I remember how good that hot food was.

we'll ~~we'll~~ We didn't have any shelter or hay for the horses. I told the boys ~~we'll~~ tie them up tight and if it's not better in the morning we will have to turn them loose to hunt for food and maybe they will go to town.

I have never seen a night like that one was. It was a horrible wind blowing, I don't know, maybe 60 m.p.h. and blowing snow. There was

thunder and lightening. It seemed never to stop and every time the lightning would flash you could see all over the mountain, just as bright as day.

The horses whinnied and stomped and tried to get away all night. But come morning it was calm. ^{Two} or ^{three} inches of new snow had fallen and so our brown horses had turned white. They had a coating of snow and ice frozen all over their bodies, but as the sun got warmer it soon melted off.

Next problem was the hay and grain were still on the wagon. Fran had a large supply of quaker stacked up for wood. We found 2 trees that were about 10 feet long and turned up on the end, and some slabs that were about the same length. With a hammer and nails found in the cabin we made ourselves a sleigh. With some barbed wire or some bailing wire you can fix anything. Short limbs tied together and we soon had a single tree and ^{was} ready to sleigh back to the wagon for more supplies and some hay for the horses.

It was a sunny day and really quiet and quite a pleasant trip. Two on one horse and one on the sleigh to drive the other horse.

We had taken a 22 rifle in hopes of expanding our food supply with a few rabbits, but we saw not a one. But we came on to a large flock of sage chickens. We harvested one of them, which turned out to be an old rooster. To finish the chicken story someone said "Boy he will make a good stew." When we got back to the cabin we put him on to cook and we boiled him for hours and hours and still a knife would not pierce his tough body finally we had to give up.

We had a dog with us, his name was Lucky. We had kept him on pretty short rations as we didn't know how long we might be pinned down there if that wind and snow kept up, and we might be lucky to have Lucky to make Lucky soup. I can hear one of the boys say "you lucky dog you get the bird but even his sharp teeth couldn't tear the rubber bird, so we left it there for something else to try.

It was about 4 or more miles to the wagon and those tired horses ^{were} sure glad to find hay and a pan of grain. Water was not a problem as a horse if need be can eat snow.

We soon had our few belongings on our homemade sleigh and back to our home at the Willis cabin for another fun night. We stayed at the cabin 3 nights while we waited to see what the weather was going to do and if we could go on. I wanted to be able to get to those trees real bad, because to get a few Christmas trees to sell was to be my kids Christmas. But by that 4th day the decision was made for us, the snow that fell the week before and the snow and drifts made while we were there were melting and as the saying goes the mud was "knee deep or deep on a tall Indian."

We knew the horses could not pull the heavy wagon in that deep mud and we had no heart for trying to make them. So early the next morning we tied a lead rope on the horses and headed for home. We walked and lead those still tired horses. Going wasn't to bad until we got to the rim above Squaw Springs and started down in the cedar's. That mud truly was knee deep.

As we looked over the rim we saw 5 coyotes, they didn't have a problem with the mud. We took a few shots their way and kept shooting even when we knew the bullets wouldn't reach them, we still had to try.

Oh what a day. Good thing we were young and strong. Wallow through that deep mud, rest a while and go again. It was way after dark when we came down the road where Steineker Lake is now. That bentonite mud felt like you had a yard in each tired shoe. By the time we got to Uncle Ivan Batty's they were asleep. His house wasn't to far from where the dam is now. I pounded on the door and woke them up. Uncle Ivan said, "turn the horses into the pasture, I'll get dressed and take you home." I still remember how wonderful those words sounded.

I guess someone was holding my hand and guiding me back, as I am starting toward my 94th year and have survived a lot of Christmas tree trips since that time 66 years ago.

Max B. Rasmussen wrote his memories of this story, December 2013

NIGHT OF VIOLENCE
By George E. Long

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A true story of a brush with death on Diamond Mountain as told by Gene Long.

October is a beautiful time of the year for the most part in our mountains. It is also that time of year when winter is getting near at hand and stockmen are making preparations for it.

Such was the case in early October of 1929 when Tom McKeachnie and his young herder, Gene Long were making their way off Diamond Mountain with the McKeachnie sheep outfit.

They were leaving their range a few weeks early this year due to the fact they had summered on Diamond Mountain instead of going to the high country and feed was getting short.

In the course of their travel coming off the mountain, the route crossed through some property belonging to a person somewhat antagonistic to the sheep outfits. There had been a couple of flare-ups before and one man had been wounded by a gun shot as a result.

McKeachnie and Long talked it over before hand and being that it was a public road decided that they were well within their rights to travel it as long as they kept the livestock moving and from spreading out onto the man's property. They also believed they could make it across the property in question before nightfall.

But there are times when even the best laid plans can go wrong. It just seemed like everything went haywire that day. This along with the fact that they were in danger of mixing with another herd slowed their progress to the point that darkness overtook them before they were beyond the owners property line. Nothing else to do only make camp where they were. In 1929 night travel on a remote mountain road was practically unheard of, so they bedded the sheep in the road and along its edges close to the wagon and made preparations for the night.

Soon as their evening meal was over and the dishes done, Gene got his guitar and played a few tunes on it while Tom stretched out on the backside of the bed. Now there isn't much room in a sheep wagon as those of you who are familiar know. Gene after playing a while laid his guitar where he had ^{been} sitting on the front of the bed towards the lower end and walked over to the stove and made a final check to see if all was in order for the following morning. You get up early at the sheep camps, and you make as many preparations as you can the night before. He looked outside and commented on how dark it was. Meanwhile Tom rose to a sitting position at the head of the bed. Gene's guitar was laying on the lower section of the bed. These positions are very important for what is soon to take place.

Gene spoke to his dogs, then closed the wagon door and went back taking a seat next to the cupboard. Why he didn't sit back on the bed and stretch out on it he didn't know as he relates this story these many years later. It is much more comfortable on the bed than this small cramped seat, but anyhow he chose to sit there. It undoubtedly saved his life.

The conversation turned to the happenings of the day and the fact that they didn't get accomplished all they had planned on doing. Just then a dog barked and two shots blasted the stillness of the night. Tom explained, by darn maybe that's him and started towards his rifle which hung at the foot of the bed in a saddle scabbard tied to the bows of the wagon.

Before reaching the gun two more shots rang out in quick succession both of which penetrated the wagon. One of the shots took Tom full in the face and chest and he staggered back against the bed saying; Gene I'm hit.

Gene was nearly petrified as he crouched against the cupboard and the stove. He looked at Tom and said his face was crimson with blood and he heard him yell out, for GODS sake don't kill us, give us a chance. Then two more shots followed, ripping into the wagon.

Gene said his whole life was flashing before his mind in these few quick minutes. His childhood growing up on his fathers farm and how he wished he was

there right now. He had read stories of range wars and fueds between stockmen, but he'd thought this sort of thing had died many years before and that it just couldn't be happening to him.

They were fighting for their lives and they both knew it. Tom had gotten the rifle as two more shots shattered the night. Gene wasn't sure if they came in the wagon or not, but he thought they did, as later in the investigation it showed that six shotgun blasts pentrated it.

Tom turned to Gene and said come on, follow me we're getting out of here. Gene said he'll kill us as we go out the door for sure. To this Tom replied, he'll get us if we stay in here and he doused the light.

Gene said it was a sight he'll never forget as Tom McKeachnie turned to him seconds before knocking out the lantern, holding his rifle in readness and blood streaming down his face and shirt. He was like a bull and I wouldn't have wanted to be in his way for anything in the world. A few seconds later I was just that and I thank GOD for Tom's cool thinking.

Gene wasn't sure which direction Tom had taken as he jumped from the wagon. Anyway just as Gene reached the ground a dog ran in front of him and he fell over it. But he said he was up in record time and headed around the opposite side of the wagon that the shots had came from. It was pitch black out, especially after having been in a lighted sheep wagon and then rushing out into the night this way. He ran full tilt into Tom and felt the rifle against his chest. Gene said he knew his heart stop beating for a few seconds as he muttered don't shoot. He knew that he would never be any closer to death then he was right then. Nervous and hurt as he was Tom kept his head, thank GOD. After just a couple of words they headed for the Reader sheep camp about a mile away near Diamond Gulch.

While making their way to the Reader camp they could hear more shots back near their camp and expected to see it go up in flames any minute, but for some reason the would be assassin never tried to burn it.

As they approched the Reader wagon, the herders dogs began barking loudly and the light went out. They called out to the herder identifying themselves and explaining that they needed help, as Tom was badly hurt. As they entered the wagon,

the herder in charge said he was afraid to let them stay there, that he feared for his life also. He explained, that old hellion is apt to come down here and kill us all. One of the men there said he would get his horse and ride to the Jack Girt ranch for help. Jack's place was some four miles to the north and he had a car in which he could take Tom to Vernal.

Tom was hurting very bad by now and he couldn't see out of one of his eyes. He turned to Gene and the man going to Girt's and said, "We'll head for Reader's cabin on Diamond Gulch and Jack can pick us up there as it will be closer for him anyway." This was another half mile away. So Gene took the gun and proceeded with Tom to the cabin on Diamond Gulch where he done what he could to help him.

Jack came as fast as he was able, and Tom was loaded into his Studebaker roadster and they started for Vernal over twenty miles away. He was put in the hospital under doctors care. Some of the shot was close to the skin and therefore removed, others were deeply inbedded and he packed them the rest of his life. One eye just barely missed being put out. A very lucky man indeed.

The sheriff was notified and along with a deputy, and Gene and John McKeachnie, (Tom's brother and partner of the sheep outfit) they returned to the scene at daylight the following morning. Sheep and horses were scattered throughout the surrounding area. Several sheep lay dead, some which were shot and others clubbed to death.

Upon inspection of the wagon, Gene noticed his guitar still lying on the bed. Two large holes through it's side where shots had penetrated it. Ruined, but how lucky it was the guitar instead of him. Had he sit back on the bed after getting up the evening before, he probably wouldn't be alive to tell this story.

The sheriff told them to gather their livestock and start moving off the mountain. They got their dogs and caught up the horses and began rounding up the sheep.

As Gene headed for the rim with his battered wagon, a rider approached. He recognized him as the man who owned the ground and who they felt was responsible for the shooting. A lump came in Gene's throat as he looked around to see if anyone else was near. John McKeachnie was over a half mile away bringing the sheep and the sheriff had departed on up the road in another direction. A gun was protruding from a saddle scabburt on the man's horse. He told Gene to hold up and asked him where he thought he was going. Gene replied that the sheriff had told him to move the outfit off and that was what he was trying to do. The man looked him and his shot up wagon over real close, then nodded and rode off. Gene breathed a sigh of relief and quickly headed for the rim where he knew they'd be off the man's property. Then parking his wagon and saddling up one of the horses he headed back to help John McKeachnie bring in the herd.

The sheriff and his deputy gathered what evidence they could find, such as spent shotgun shells, a glove and tracks. An investigation was made and a warrant sworn out for the party accused. Feeling ran high in Vernal, so the defendant's lawyer asked and got a change of venue. The trial was held in a distant town in another county and the defendant finally was ruled not guilty.

Tom McKeachnie recovered from his wounds, but vowed if he ever met the man face to face he'd take care of things in his own way. I don't guess he ever did, as the man sold out and left the country. No man in his right mind would want to have anything to do as far as fisticuffs were concerned with Tom. He was as the saying goes, all man and he had the size to go with it.

Tom and John McKeachnie were well respected men in this community and they operated a successful sheep outfit for many years following this incident.

Gene Long was 17 years old when this happened. He went on to work for McKeachnies for over 12 years. He knew practically every ridge and draw from Diamond Mountain to the far off Gilbert Basin in the high Uinta's where they'd trail the sheep for the summer range.

As Gene reminisces about the past, he states that back in the late thirties there was over twenty herds going up the trail. Now probably six or seven. The old counting corral on Diamond Mountain was a busy place, now it's all but deserted. You'd see sheep camps on nearly every ridge, now just one occasionally. And fences, just look at them, everywhere.

Yes, those were good years, the best when it comes right down to it. I think of the good times we had going from one neighbor camp to another, eating dinner, pitching horseshoes, and playing good music. Most were good cooks and several could play some sort of musical instrument.

Talk about good neighbors and good music, you couldn't beat Betts and Helen Freestone. They had what is probably the most picturesque place on Diamond Mountain. Bett's cove, named after him. McKeachnies leased it from time to time and we spent many happy hours together. They could play guitars like no one you ever heard. How I cherish the times spent in their company and at their place. They had the most unique water system that one would ever see for running water to their cabin. Water from a spring was piped to the cabin below with grooved quaking aspen trees cut and placed just right. Only Betts and Helen could think of something like this. Truly great outdoorsmen to say the least.

Yes, these years were among the best as far as I am concerned. How good it was to be out away from the hub-bub of it all. To breathe the crisp, cool mountain air. This was truly out where the deer and antelope play and the buffalo roam. Out where the west was still young. Yes it was the greatest, that is provided of course you didn't get shot at.

POT CREEK
COMMISSIONER'S REPORT
2008

March 19, 2009

Kent L. Jones, State Engineer
Utah Division of Water Rights
1594 West North Temple, Suite 220
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Mr. Jones:

The attached is a report of water distribution from Pot Creek Distribution System on Diamond Mountain for Utah/Colorado users during the year 2008.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael L. McCarrell
Pot Creek Water Commissioner

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JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor
GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Water Rights

MICHAEL R. STYLER KENT L. JONES
Executive Director State Engineer/Division Director

Vernal office

March 5, 2009

NOTICE TO THE POT CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WATER USERS

In compliance with Section 73-5-1 Utah Code Annotated, 1953 as amended and R655-15-12 of the Administrative Rules for Distribution Systems and Water Commissioners, a meeting of the water users with representatives of the State Engineer will be held to prepare for the coming water distribution season.

The meeting will be held at 1:00pm on Thursday, March 19, 2009

The meeting will be held at: **State and County Building**
 Courtroom
 152 East 100 North
 Vernal, UT

The meeting agenda will include the following items:

1. Hearing the 2008 Minutes
2. Hearing the 2008 Commissioner's Report
3. Recommending a Water Commissioner for the next term
4. Report from the Division of Water Rights
5. Hearing the 2008 Financial Report
6. Reviewing delinquent assessment accounts
7. Preparing a budget of salaries and other necessary expenses
8. Setting the distribution system assessment
9. Selecting new distribution system chairman and committee members if necessary
10. Other business

Sincerely,

Lee H. Sim, P.E.

Assistant State Engineer for Field Services



2008 POT CREEK DISTRIBUTION MEETING

The annual meeting of the Pot Creek Distribution System was held Tuesday, March 18, 2008, in the Commissioner's Chambers of the State/County Building. The meeting convened at 2:15 p.m., conducted by Lee Sim of the Utah Division of Water Rights. Lee advised that a new procedure had been added to the distribution system meetings. The meetings are now recorded and will be available on the Division website. Erin Light advised Lee that they had not received notification of the distribution meeting.

Lee Sim called the meeting to order and asked Billie White to read the minutes from the 2007 Annual Distribution Meeting. Max Searle made a motion to accept the minutes as read and Paul McCoy seconded. Motion passed.

Lee Sim asked Mike McCarrell to give his Commissioner's Report for 2007. Motion to accept the report was made and passed. Mike added the comment that 59 acre-ft. of flow water went across the state line. Erin Light verified that it was flow water and that almost nothing went into Offield Reservoir. Erin also advised that a Parshall Flume has been installed in the Miles Ditch.

Lee presented the 2007 Financial Report and budget expenditures. There was only one delinquent account, that being Joseph Calder, and the SLO had no address for him. One of the members stated that he believed that Mr. Calder lives in St. George. The beginning balance for 2007 was \$3,403.99; total receipts for the year were 3,805.76 and expenditures were 1,895.91. The balance to start 2008 is \$5,313.84.

In reviewing the budget for 2007, \$900 travel expense was not used and that \$79.88 of the miscellaneous expense was used for propane. It was noted that the propane tank is no longer needed. Billie White advised that she had contacted Savon Propane to remove the tank and give us a refund for the remaining propane. They said they would pick it up as soon as weather permitted. Only \$1,895.91 of the budgeted amount of \$2,822.00 was expended in 2007 leaving a balance of \$926.09. Items for the 2008 budget will be set at \$2,822, and Lee stated that the amount to be budgeted under the State Engineer Assessment will remain \$133 and the assessment will remain at \$3,600.00. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the budget.

A discussion ensued regarding measuring devices on the system. Ed Johnson with Wildlife Resources and Mike will go ahead and install the measuring device above Calder Reservoir. Bob Leake stated that there were no great places, but felt that the best place would be on DWR property east of their west fence. Bob also advised them that they would need to file an extension on their Stream Channel Alteration permit. Mike reported that he has been taking his readings from the flume above Matt Warner for the record. Mike and Erin discussed the

possibility of Colorado providing data collection and transmission equipment on a temporary basis for the gage located upstream of Matt Warner until such time as Utah obtains the funds to purchase their own. Ed presented pictures of the completed flume below Crouse Reservoir.

Lee advised that directors for last year were Max Rasmussen, Levi Smuin, and. Kevin Christofferson. It was determined that Ed Johnson from the Fisheries Section was in attendance to represent Wildlife, and is more familiar with Pot Creek and the reservoirs, Ed accepted the position as a director. Gale Rasmussen said that he would be a stand-in for his dad when he wasn't available. Mike advised that Levi Smuin no longer owned property in Colorado, so Burke Buckalew was recommended to refill the position. Paul McCoy made a motion to accept Gale Rasmussen, Ed Johnson and Burke Buckalew as directors. Max Searle seconded and motion passed.

Erin introduced the new Colorado Water Commissioner, Roberta Hume, who will be replacing Kathy Bower. Erin also presented the Field Station Analysis data for Water Year 2007.

The following people attended the meeting: Gale Rasmussen was excused because of illness.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Lee Sim	Utah Division of Water Rights - SLC
Robert W. Leake	Utah Division of Water Rights - Vernal
Andrew Dutson	Utah Division of Water Rights - Vernal
Billie White	Utah Division of Water Rights - Vernal
Michael McCarrell	Pot Creek Commissioner
Ed Johnson	Wildlife Resources - Vernal
Roger Schneidervin	Wildlife Resources - Vernal
Erin Light	Colorado DWR
Kathy Bower	Colorado DWR (retiring Water Comm.)
Jean Ray	Colorado DWR
Roberta Hume	Colorado DWR (replacing Kathy Bower)
Max Searle	Utah Water User (Milt Searle)
Ellen Searle Kiever	Representing Milt Searle Family
Paul McCoy	Utah Water User

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

Harris D. Sherman
Executive Director

Dick Wolfe, P.E.
Director/State Engineer

Erin C.H. Light, P.E.
Division Engineer

April 28, 2008

Robert Leake, P.E.
State of Utah Natural Resources Water Rights
State/County Building
152 East 100 North
Vernal, UT 84078

Re: Gage Station Equipment to be provided by the State of Colorado

Mr. Leake;

At the Pot Creek Water Users meeting, we discussed the possibility of the State of Colorado providing data collection and transmission equipment on a temporary basis for the gage located on Pot Creek upstream of Matt Warner Reservoir. I have spoken with the Chief Hydrographer for Colorado Division of Water Resources and he has agreed to allow our office to install equipment in this gage on a temporary basis until such time that the State of Utah obtains the funds to purchase their own.

This office will install a data collection platform (DCP), shaft encoder, satellite antenna, battery and solar panel. We presently have available the DCP, shaft encoder and battery, which will allow the collection of data. It is anticipated that we will be unable to install the satellite antenna and solar panel until this fall.

It is our understanding that the State of Utah will be installing a stilling well at the site of the ramp flume located upstream of Matt Werner Reservoir. Once this well is installed we can setup the DCP, shaft encoder and battery.

If your office needs assistance, with the installation of the stilling well, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Erin C. H. Light, P.E.
Division Engineer

Cc: Lee Sim, Utah Assistant State Engineer
Tom Ley, Colorado Chief Hydrographer
Stoney McCarrell, Pot Creek River Commissioner
Roberta Hume, Water Commissioner
Jean Ray, Hydrographer

Water Division 6 • Steamboat Springs

P. O. Box 773450 (505 Anglers Dr., Suite 101) • Steamboat Springs, CO 80477 • Phone: 970-879-0272 • Fax: 970-879-1070

www.water.state.co.us

STATE OF COLORADO
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER

STA NO. PTCKSLCO

POT CREEK AT STATE LINE NEAR VERNAL, UTAH

PROCESS DATE: 16-OCT-2007 16:35

Rating Table PTCKSLC006 USED FROM 01-OCT-2006 TO 30-SEP-2007

DISCHARGE, IN CFS, WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2006 TO SEPTEMBER 2007
MEAN VALUES

DAY	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.10	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	.14	0	0	0	0	.17	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	.07	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	.11	0	0	0	0	.11	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	1.3	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	.22	5.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	8.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	0	6.8	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0	0	3.8	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0	1.7	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	0	0	0	0	0	.29	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	.14	0	0	0	0	.01	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	0	0	0	0	0	.03	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	0	0	0	0	0	.60	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	0	0	0	0	---	.04	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	0	0	0	0	---	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	0	---	0	0	---	.01	---	0	---	0	0	---
TOTAL	.43	0	0	0	.22	28.93	0	.10	0	0	0	0
MEAN	.014	0	0	0	.008	.93	0	.003	0	0	0	0
AC-FT	.9	0	0	0	.4	57	0	.2	0	0	0	0
MAX	.14	0	0	0	.22	8.5	0	.10	0	0	0	0
MIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAL YR	2006	TOTAL	605.65	MEAN	1.66	MAX	80	MIN	0	AC-FT	1200
WTR YR	2007	TOTAL	29.68	MEAN	.081	MAX	8.5	MIN	0	AC-FT	59

MAX DISCH: 26.6 CFS AT 19:30 ON Mar. 12, 2007 GH 1.52 FT. SHIFT 0.03 FT.
MAX GH: 1.52 FT. AT 19:30 ON Mar. 12, 2007

FOR MORE COMPLETE OR DETAILED INFORMATION SEE DAILY OR MONTHLY RECORD.

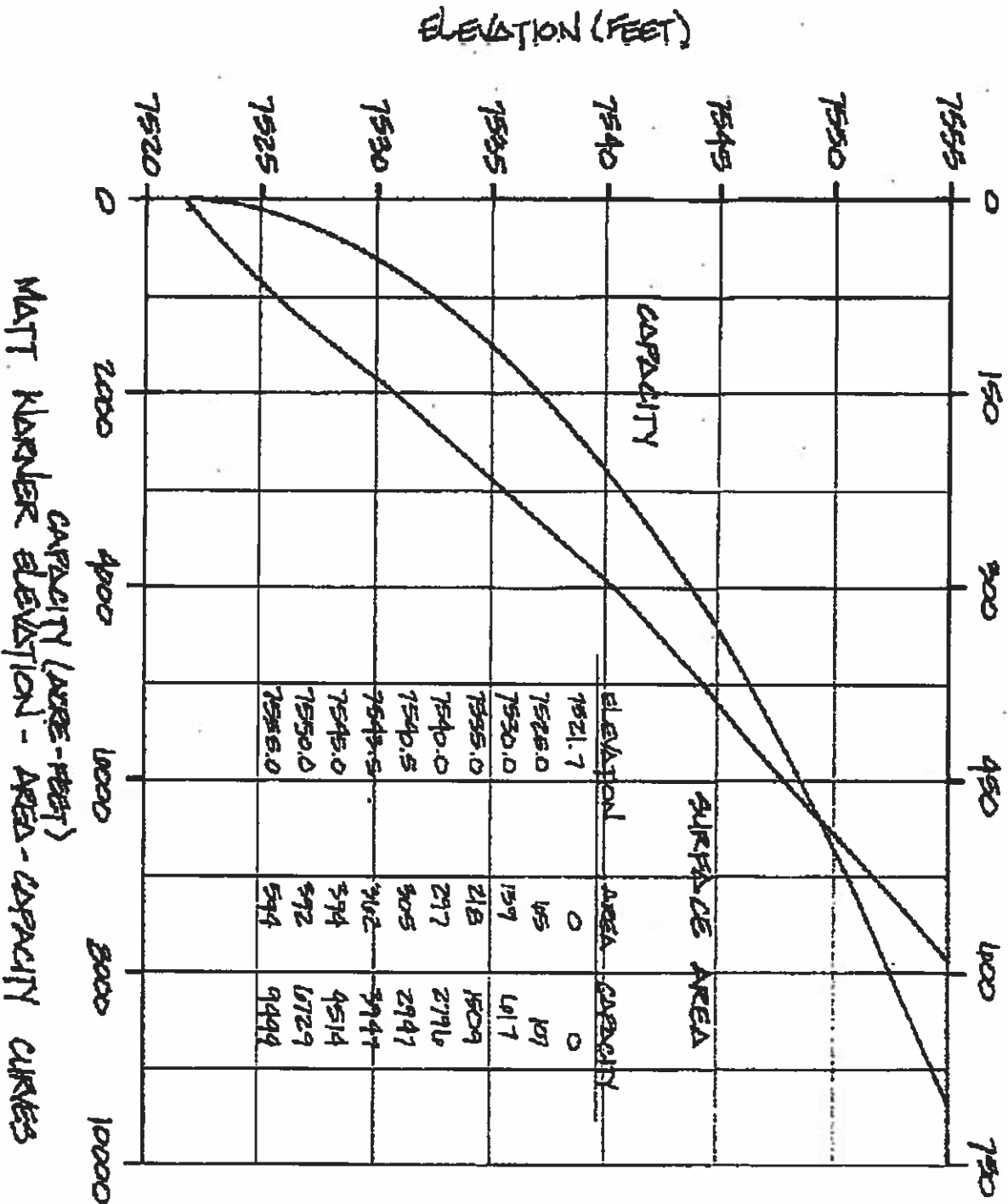
Pot Creek Reservoir Elevations and Storage

Date	Matt Warner		Calder		Crouse		Offfield (CO)		Betts Cove (Upper)		Betts Cove (Middle)		Betts Cove (Lower)		Source of Information
	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	
3-Nov-06	7,540.48	2,947.00		7,287.45	1,381.00		7,181.76		313.00						Per Dennis Bowman and Brad Weber
14-May-08	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)													Per Mike McCarrill, River Commissioner
2-May-08	7,543.50			7,276.16	488.00		7,180.00		250.00						Per Bob Laska and Brad Weber
1-Nov-07															
1-May-07															
15-Nov-06	7,540.20	2,800.00		7,287.20	1,250.00		7,185.80		845.00						Per Andrew Dutton and Dennis Bowman, 11/15/06
31-Oct-06	7,537.26	1,990.43		7,271.06	228 "empty"		7,181.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						Per Bob Laska and Brad Weber
8-May-06	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,191.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						Per Mike McCarrill, River Commissioner
6-Apr-06	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,191.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						2003 Pot Creek Folder, email, BFW and DLS Field notebook
4-Nov-05															Per Brad Weber and Dennis Bowman
4-Nov-05	7,541.20	3,160.00		7,284.30	1,370.00		7,187.50		825.00						2003 Dam Safety Investigation
28-Jun-05	7,542.67			7,286.92			7,180.60								Per Mike McCarrill, River Commissioner
18-May-05							7,189.50		1,025.00						2003 Pot Creek Folder, pink paper
18-Apr-05	Irrecoverable			7,263.87	1,125.00		"empty"		1,025.00						2003 Pot Creek Folder, pink paper
3-Nov-04	7,537.26	1,990.43		7,271.06	228 "empty"		7,181.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						2004 Pot Creek Folder, pink paper
30-Apr-04	7,538.62	2,377.50													2004 Pot Creek Folder, pink paper
27-Apr-04	7,539.25	2,235.00													2004 Pot Creek Folder, pink paper
15-Apr-04		2,160.00													2004 Pot Creek Folder, pink paper
7-Apr-04	7,537.73	2,095.00		7,272.49	297 "empty"										2004 Pot Creek Folder, white paper
1-Nov-03	7,538.65	1,912.00													2004 Pot Creek Folder, pink paper (Assumed Quantity)
20-May-03	7,540.28	2,894.13		7,281.00	785.71										2003 Pot Creek Folder, white paper
10-May-03	7,540.25			N/A											2003 Commissioner's Report
3-May-03	7,539.90														2003 Commissioner's Report
1-May-03	7,539.75	2,590.00													2003 Commissioner's Report
21-Nov-02	7,539.30	1,813.00													2004 Pot Creek Folder, pink paper
29-Apr-02	7,539.25	2,431.00		7,286.45	1,200.00		7,181.50		342.00						2002 Pot Creek Folder, blue paper
15-Apr-02	7,539.10	2,470.60					7,181.70		385.00						2002 Pot Creek Folder, blue paper
26-Nov-01	7,538.90	2,388.10		7,286.75	1,410.00		7,182.72		423.00						2002 Pot Creek Folder, blue paper
6-May-01	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)													2001 Commissioner's Report
23-Apr-01	7,542.00	3,394.74		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,185.91		650.00						2001 Commissioner's Report
16-Apr-01															2001 Commissioner's Report
Fall 2000	Commissioner's Report and Vernal Office Records do not specifically mention this information														2000 Commissioner's Report
1-May-00	7,543.25	3,842.11		7,290.50	1,459.52										2000 Commissioner's Report
16-Apr-00	7,541.00	3,103.28		7,283.25	1,453.38		7,188.50		700.00						2000 Commissioner's Report
9-Apr-00				7,286.75			7,188.50		700.00						2000 Commissioner's Report
12-Nov-99				7,286.25	1,453.38		7,188.00		680.00						1999 Commissioner's Report
9-Jun-99	7,540.20	2,800.00													1999 Commissioner's Report
1-May-99	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,191.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						1999 Commissioner's Report
7-Apr-99	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,191.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						1999 Commissioner's Report
22-Mar-99	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,191.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						1999 Commissioner's Report
Fall 1998	Commissioner reported that the three reservoirs were almost at capacity going into the winter														1998 Commissioner's Report
30-Apr-98	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,191.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						1998 Commissioner's Report
1-May-97	7,540.30	2,900.00		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,191.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						1997 Commissioner's Report
3-May-97	7,540.30	2,900.00		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,191.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						1997 Commissioner's Report
Spring 1996	Road was impassable														Assessment Computation Folder (Vernal Office Records)
Fall 1995	Commissioner's Report and Vernal Office Records do not specifically mention this information														Assessment Computation Folder (Vernal Office Records)
28-Jun-95	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,181.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						1995 Commissioner's Report
18-May-95	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,181.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						1995 Commissioner's Report
3-May-95	7,543.50	3947 (gallons)		7,290.75	1,570 (gallons)		7,181.00		1,160.15 (gallons)						1995 Commissioner's Report
24-Mar-95	7,542.50			7,287.00											1995 Commissioner's Report
20-Mar-95															1995 Commissioner's Report
20-Mar-95	Road was impassable														1995 Commissioner's Report
4-Nov-94	7,540.30	2,900.00		7,287.75	1,370.00										1995 Commissioner's Report
26-Mar-94	7,543.50	3,947.00		7,287.20	430.00										1995 Commissioner's Report
26-Mar-94	7,543.50	3,947.00		7,286.40	745.00										1995 Commissioner's Report
5-May-94	7,542.83														Assessment Computation Folder (Vernal Office Records)
2-May-94	7,543.10	3,945.67		7,285.00	1,071.43										1994 Commissioner's Report
2-May-94	7,543.10	3,945.67		7,285.00	1,071.43										1994 Commissioner's Report
22-Apr-94	7,542.20	3,467.00		7,284.90	1,070.00										1994 Commissioner's Report
22-Oct-93	7,539.30	2,840.00		7,276.25	620.00										1993 Commissioner's Report
16-Jun-93															1993 Commissioner's Report
12-Jun-93	7,542.25														1993 Commissioner's Report
2-Jun-93	7,543.00														1993 Commissioner's Report
16-May-93	7,542.29														1993 Commissioner's Report
1-May-93	7,539.00														1993 Commissioner's Report
Fall 1992	Commissioner's Report and Vernal Office Records do not specifically mention this information														1992 Commissioner's Report
2-Jun-92	7,538.10	2,350.00		7,283.50	53.00										1992 Commissioner's Report
13-Mar-92	7,537.88														1992 Commissioner's Report
13-Mar-92	7,539.60	2,730.00		Almost empty (per commissioner)											1992 Commissioner's Report
9-Oct-91	7,534.50	1,535.00													1991 Commissioner's Report
7-Jun-91	7,538.43	1,197.81		7,272.26	280.00		No Storage (per commissioner's report)								1991 Commissioner's Report
8-May-91				7,272.50	300.00										

Pot Creek Reservoirs Elevations and Storage

Date	Matt Warner		Calder		Crouse		Offield (CO)		Betts Cove (Upper)		Betts Cove (Middle)		Betts Cove (Lower)		Source of Information
	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	Elevation (feet)	Storage (acre-feet)	
Fall 1990	Commissioner's Report and Vernal Office Records do not specifically mention this information														Commissioner's Report, Division Records
Spring 1991	Commissioner's Report and Vernal Office Records do not specifically mention this information														Commissioner's Report, Division Records
31-Dec-89	7,531.78	800.00	7,275.00	400.00	7,172.00	30.00									1989 Commissioner's Report
11-Mar-88															1988 Commissioner's Report
19-Sep-89	7,531.00	845.00	7,275.00	400.00											1989 Commissioner's Report
17-Jul-89	7,531.00	845.00			7,154.00	0.00									1989 Commissioner's Report
2-Aug-89	7,535.60	1,610.00			7,153.00	0.00									1989 Commissioner's Report
19-Apr-89	7,535.00	1,610.00	7,278.00	750.00											1989 Commissioner's Report
1-Jun-89	7,536.00	1,600.00	7,278.00	500.00	7,153.00	0.00									1989 Commissioner's Report
12-Sep-88	7,537.00	1,824.98													1988 Commissioner's Report
16-Sep-88			7,275.00	400.00	7,173.00	30.00									1988 Commissioner's Report
2-Sep-88	7,539.50														1988 Commissioner's Report
8-Aug-88	7,537.50														1988 Commissioner's Report
16-Jul-88			7,283.00		7,176.50										1988 Commissioner's Report
8-Jul-88			7,283.50		7,177.50										1988 Commissioner's Report
3-Jun-88		2,449.45													1988 Commissioner's Report
10-May-88	7,539.50														1988 Commissioner's Report
13-Apr-88			7,278.00	607.10											1988 Commissioner's Report
20-Jul-83					7,182.50	400.00 (polling)									Chas. Dem Feller, 1983 Dam Safety Inspection

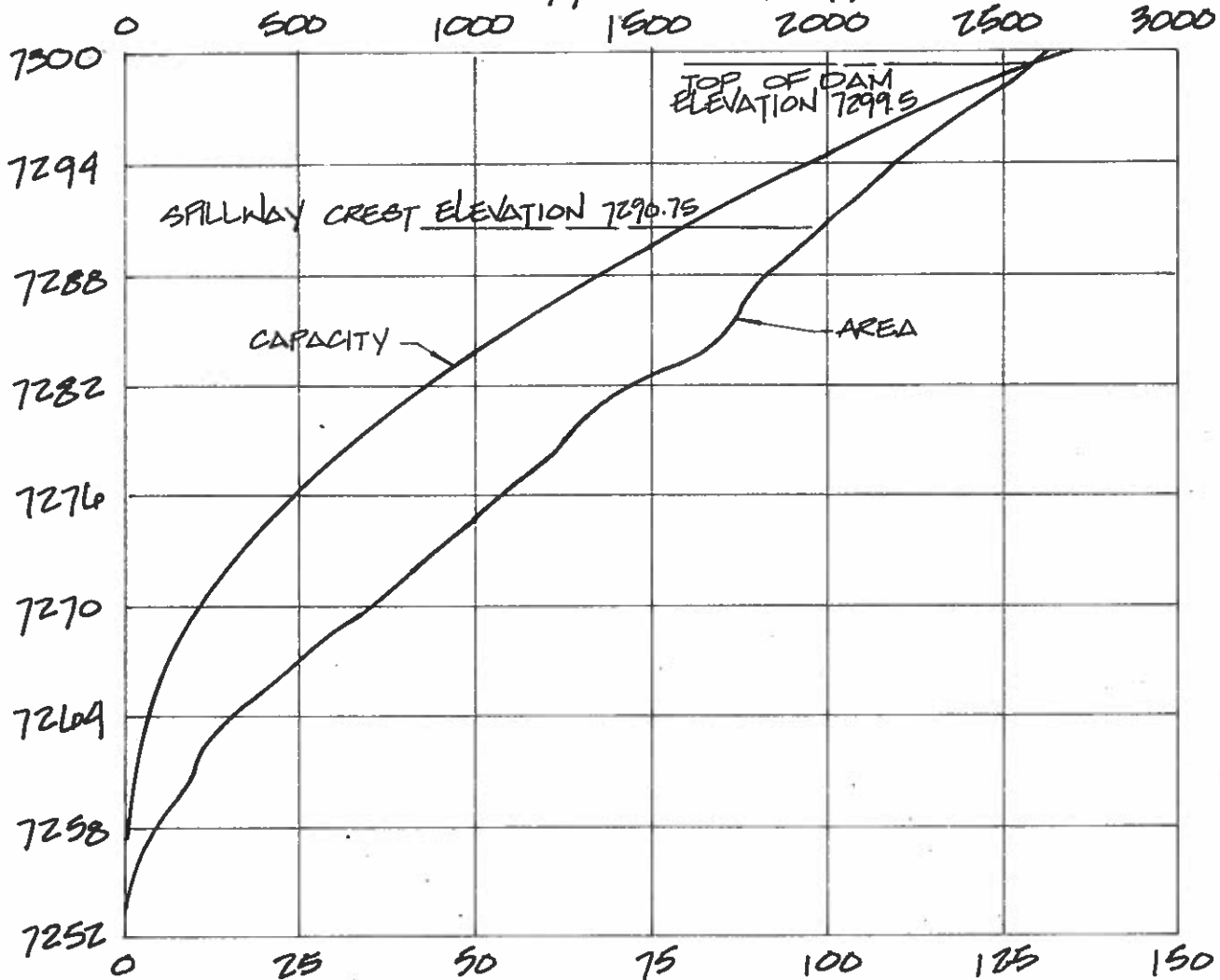
Matt Warner SURFACE AREA (ACRES)



Calder

CAPACITY (ACRE- FEET)

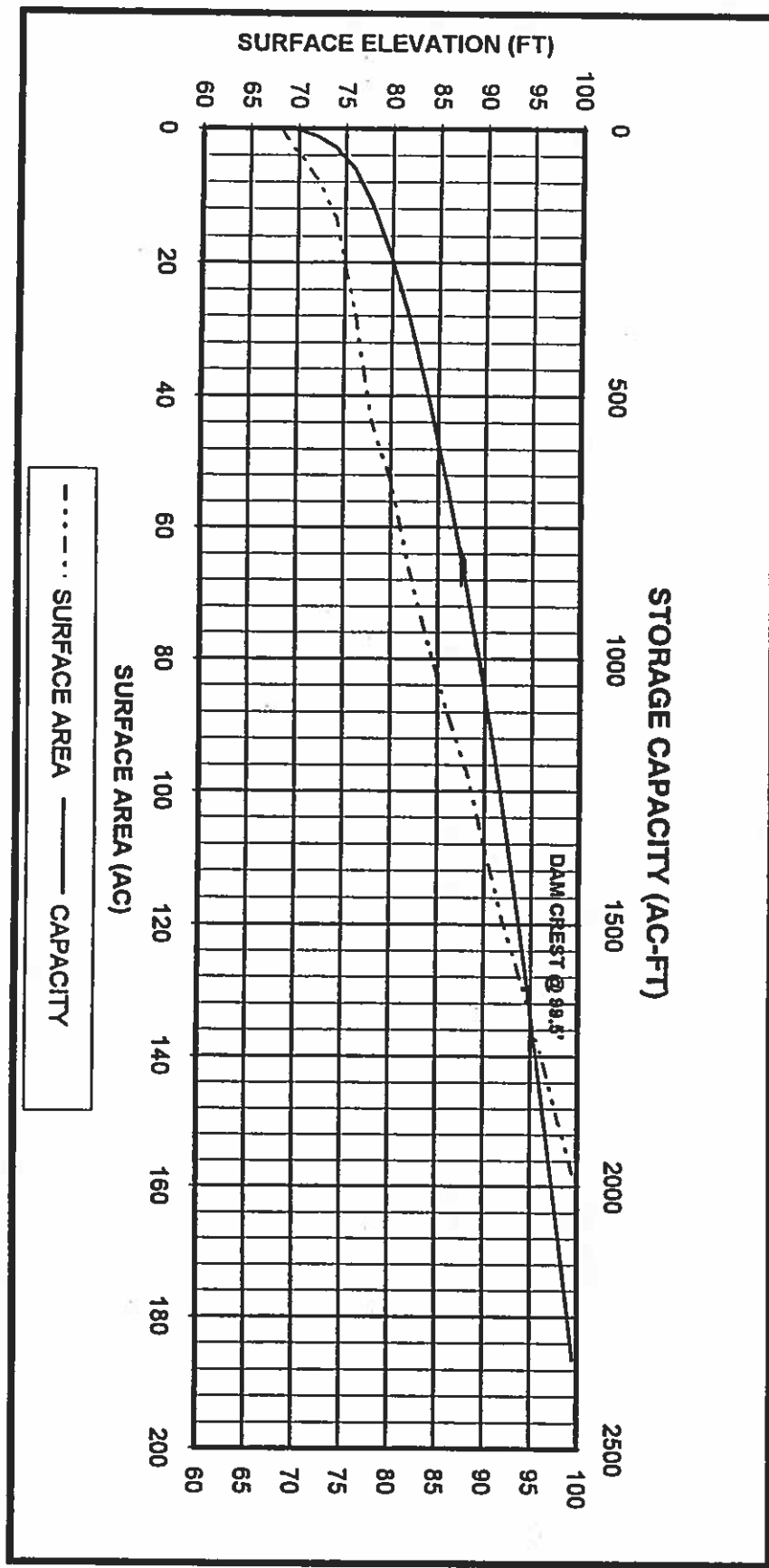
ELEVATION (FEET)



AREA (ACRES)

AREA-CAPACITY CURVES

Crouse



RESERVOIR AREA-CAPACITY CURVE

OFFFIELD RESERVOIR
STORAGE TABULATION

Elev	Surface	Average	Ac Ft/Sec	Accumulated Storage
6667.7 ⁵ (Spilling 850 ac ft on drawing)	53.4	51.95 Acs	36.37	353.2
6667	50.5	48.55 Acs	48.55	316.83
6666	46.6	44.75	44.75	268.28
6665	42.9	41.10	41.10	223.53
6664	39.3	36.4	36.4	182.43
6663	33.5	31.65	31.65	146.03
6662	29.8	27.6	27.6	114.38
6661	25.4	22.05	22.05	86.78
6660	18.7	16.65	16.65	64.73
6659	14.6	13.1	13.1	48.08
6658	11.6	10.45	10.45	34.98
6657	9.3	8.35	8.35	24.53
6656	7.4	6.3	6.3	16.18
6655	5.2	4.3	4.3	9.88
6654	3.4	2.75	2.75	5.58
6653	2.1	1.55	1.55	2.83
6652	1.0	0.85	0.85	1.28
6651	0.7	0.43	0.43	0.43
6650	0.2			

headgate = 6662.9 feet
outlet pipe invert = 6657.4 feet

STATE OF COLORADO
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER

STA NO. PTCKSLCO
13:35

POT CREEK AT STATE LINE NEAR VERNAL, UTAH

PROCESS DATE: 11-Nov-2008

DISCHARGE, IN CFS, WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2007 TO SEPTEMBER 2008
MEAN VALUES

DAY SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.14	0	0	0
.05											
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.13	0	0	0
0											
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.14	0	0	0
0											
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.13	.15	0	0
0											
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.08	.21	0	0
0											
6	.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	.05	0	0	0
0											
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.02	0	0	0
0											
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0											
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.01	0	0	0
0											
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.01	0	0	0
0											
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0											
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	.06	.02	0	0	0
0											
13	0	0	0	0	0	0	.45	.13	0	0	0
0											
14	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.2	.03	0	0	0
0											
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.1	.07	0	0	0
0											
16	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.4	.02	0	0	0
0											
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	.86	0	0	0	0
0											
18	0	0	0	0	0	0	.91	0	0	0	0
0											
19	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.3	0	0	0	0
0											
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	.91	0	0	0	0
0											
21	0	0	0	0	0	0	.52	2.0	0	0	0
0											
22	0	0	0	0	0	0	.49	8.1	0	0	0
0											
23	0	0	0	0	0	0	.48	9.1	0	0	0
0											
24	0	0	0	0	0	0	.45	8.6	0	0	0
0											
25	0	0	0	0	0	.03	.35	8.0	0	0	0
0											
26	0	0	0	0	0	.06	.25	7.5	0	0	0
0											
27	0	0	0	0	0	0	.18	5.2	0	0	0
0											
28	0	0	0	0	0	0	.18	3.7	0	0	0
0											
29	0	0	0	0	0	0	.17	3.1	0	0	0
0											
30	0	0	0	0	---	.02	.16	.68	0	0	0
0											
31	0	---	0	0	---	0	---	.11	---	0	0
0											
TOTAL	.04	0	0	0	0	.11	15.42	57.07	.36	0	0

.05											
MEAN	.001	0	0	0	0	.004	.51	1.84	.012	0	0
.002											
AC-FT	.08	0	0	0	0	.2	31	113	.7	0	0
.1											
MAX	.04	0	0	0	0	.06	3.2	9.1	.21	0	0
.05											
MIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0											

CAL YR	2007	TOTAL	29.29	MEAN	.080	MAX	8.5	MIN	0	AC-FT	58
WTR YR	2008	TOTAL	73.05	MEAN	.2	MAX	9.1	MIN	0	AC-FT	145

MAX DISCH: 10.6 CFS AT 17:15 ON Apr. 14, 2008 GH 1.18 FT. SHIFT 0 FT.

MAX GH: 1.18 FT. AT 17:15 ON Apr. 14, 2008

FOR MORE COMPLETE OR DETAILED INFORMATION SEE DAILY OR MONTHLY RECORD.

POT CREEK COMMISSIONER'S REPORT FOR 2008

At the 1993 Distribution Meeting, it was decided to continue to monitor the daily flow at Matt Warner's inlet after May 1 of each water year and deliver flow water to Colorado Users based on this measurement. If Offield Reservoir has any winter storage water to be delivered, storage water will be delivered prior to delivery of flow water.

On May 9, 2008, I was able to get to Matt Warner Reservoir after shoveling and breaking through snowdrifts. Water level at Matt Warner was 7542.8, with approximately 25 cfs at the inlet. Flume was submerged, and the lake was 80% frozen. Calder was at 7286.5 and Crouse was at 7179.4. Simons Creek was running approximately 2 cfs, Betts Cove about 4 cfs, and Cow Hollow was dry.

Instead of opening Matt Warner, I just waited for spill of the reservoir, as I wasn't sure if it would be possible to return to the reservoir. Matt Warner was spilling about 5 cfs on May 14, with approximately 25 cfs at the inlet.

Offield Reservoir needed some storage water, so on the 16, 7 cfs was turned out of Calder to start filling Crouse to the discharge gate. The gate was opened 18 turns to discharge the water.

On Monday May 19, 4.2 cfs was discharged from Crouse; Calder was opened to 12 cfs. Water reached the Colorado State line on May 21, and was to the splitter on May 23. Storage right was full on May 26. Crouse was turned down to 5 cfs discharge on May 25. Burk Buckalew was receiving approximately 3.5 cfs.

On May 27, I accompanied Colorado Division Staff to Colorado and looked at diversions and storage for Buckalew. It was determined by the Colorado staff that the irrigation right was satisfied and Calder and Crouse Reservoirs were shut off on May 28.

Irrigation water was delivered to Utah Users as called for. A total 188 acre feet was delivered.

Water levels taken on November 3, 2008 were: Crouse, 7181.76; Offield, Empty; Calder, 7287.45; and Matt Warner, 7540.48.

Diamond Mountain Landowners Association was very appreciative of the .47 acre-feet of stock water that was hauled to cattle and wildlife out of Calder Reservoir.

I made 17 trips to Pot Creek, traveled 1380 miles and am not submitting a travel voucher.



JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor
GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Water Rights

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
BOYD P. CLAYTON
State Engineer/Division Director

POT CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM TRUST FUND 2008 Financial Statement

A. BEGINNING BALANCE January 1, 2008 \$5,313.84

B. RECEIPTS

1. Assessments:	\$3,589.41
2. Delinquent Penalties:	0.00
3. Previous Assessments & Penalties:	55.66
4. Transfers & Adjustments:	0.00
5. Annual Interest Earned:	119.81
6. System Reimbursements:	0.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS 3,764.88

C. EXPENDITURES

1. Budgeted Expenditures:	1,815.36
2. Unbudgeted Expenditures:	0.00
3. Transfers & Adjustments:	0.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 1,815.36

D. ENDING BALANCE December 31, 2008 7,263.36

NOTICE: Expenditures and Assessments received after
December 20, 2008 MAY OR MAY NOT be included in
this financial statement.

SUBMITTED BY :

INTERIM

Boyd P. Clayton, P.E.
State Engineer

DATE

1/13/09

PREPARED BY:

Dennis Carroll
Dennis Carroll
Budget & Accounting Officer

POT CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
2008 Budget Expenditures

Page 2

Item No	Item Description	2008 Amount Budgeted	2008 Amount Expended	2008 Amount Reimbursed	2008 Item Balance
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	McCarrell, Michael Lynn				
1	Salary	1,550.00	1,550.00	0.00	0.00
2	Social Security	119.00	118.58	0.00	0.42
3	Insurance	20.00	13.78	0.00	6.22
4	Travel Expense	900.00	0.00	0.00	900.00
5	Miscellaneous Expenses	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
6	State Engineer Assessment	133.00	133.00	0.00	0.00
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	Totals :	2,822.00	1,815.36	0.00	1,006.64

POT CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
2008 Total Assessment Amount : \$3,600.00

POT CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
2008 Delinquent Water Assessments

Page 3

Account Number	Billing Entity Billing Contact	Amount Due
-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----
	Total Amount Due :	0.00

POT CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
2009 Proposed Budget Worksheet

Item No	Item Description	2008 Amount Budgeted	2008 Item Balance	2009 Proposed Budget

	McCarrell, Michael Lynn			
1	Salary	1,550.00	0.00	_____
2	Social Security	119.00	0.42	_____
3	Insurance	20.00	6.22	_____
4	Travel Expense	900.00	900.00	_____
5	Miscellaneous Expenses	100.00	100.00	_____
6	State Engineer Assessment	133.00	0.00	_____
		-----	-----	
Totals :		2,822.00	1,006.64	

FIELD STATION ANALYSIS
Water Year 2008

PTCKSLCO Pot Creek at State Line near Vernal, UT

Equipment: Stevens A-71 stage recorder and Sutron Shaft Encoder 5600-0530 housed in a 42-inch diameter corrugated metal pipe on left bank. Well is equipped with two 2-inch intakes of lengths 14.5 feet and 17.5 feet at elevations 0.52 feet and 1.55 feet (top of pipe), and are equipped with standard inside flushing devices. Shaft encoder is connected to a high data rate Sutron Satlink data collection platform (DCP), with satellite telemetry. Satlink DCP is in a gray housing box attached to the side of the stilling well. Satlink DCP, shaft encoder and associated equipment installed on April 19, 2005. Outside staff gages located on right and left bank with range of 0.00 to 3.33 ft and primary reference gage mounted on inside of well.

Hydrologic Conditions: The basin consists of moderate terrain near the gage station and originates in steep mountainous terrain in the Diamond and Uintah Mountain ranges. In the vicinity of the gage station, the channel slope is moderate with some sinuosity. The streambed is composed of sandstone and silt.

Gage Height Record: Primary record is hourly data developed from the DCP data log of 15-minute observations. Continuous gage height records were kept from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. The record is complete.

Datum Corrections: None applied. No levels run this water year.

Rating: The control consists of an artificial weir type structure consisting of sandstone rocks grouted in place. Channel is straight for 100-feet upstream and bends to the left just below control before straightening for 150 feet downstream. Left bank is subject to overflow at higher stages. Right bank is almost vertical sandstone rock. Left bank covered with sagebrush and other native vegetation.

Rating No. 6 was created on November 16, 2005 and used for Water Year 2008 (WY2008). The highest measurement made at this site by the State Engineer's Office was 113 cfs made on April 27, 1998. Flows above 226 cfs (twice the highest reliable measurement) on this rating should be considered poor record. The maximum daily discharge recorded at the site during the entire period of record (1957 – 2007) was 286 cfs on April 7, 1962.

This site is dry most of the year and the creek generally flows only in response to storm events, during the spring runoff period, and at times when water is released from upstream reservoirs in Utah. Flow was recorded at the site on 51 days during WY2008: October 6, 2007; and March 25, 26 and 30; April 12-30; May 1-7, 9-10, 12-16, and 21-31; June 4-5; and September 1, 2008. The flow was

recorded as zero on the remaining days in WY2008. One measurement (#19) was made during the WY2008 period of record. Measurement 19 was made on May 27, 2008 at a flow of 4.69 cfs and a shift of 0.00 ft. Higher daily flows were recorded on May 22-27, 2008. Lower daily flows were recorded on the remaining days in WY2008. The site was inaccessible most of the year, including most periods when flow was recorded at the site. There was no flow in Pot Creek during site visits on October 4, 2007 and October 2, 2008.

A peak flow of 10.6 cfs occurred on April 14, 2008 at 17:15 at a gage height of 1.18 ft. and a shift of 0.00 ft. The minimum daily flow of 0.00 cfs occurred on 314 days during WY2008.

Discharge: A 0.00 ft. shift was applied throughout WY2008. The Measurement 19 shift of 0.00 ft. was unadjusted and given full weight. The variable shift curve developed in 2006 was not applicable for WY2008.

Special Computations: No discharges were estimated during the flow period of WY2008.

Remarks: Due to weather constraints, the site is inaccessible during most of the year, including the late fall, winter and early spring months. The record is considered good/fair throughout the record period, because only one flow measurement could be made during WY2008.

There were chart recorder issues throughout the year and, therefore, graphed DCP log data were used in the WY2008 record, rather than the chart data. The chart recorder was replaced on October 2, 2008.

Matt Warner, Calder and Crouse Reservoirs, located in Utah, all capture and control flow in Pot Creek upstream of gage. Irrigation diversions occur both upstream and downstream of the gage station and the river is subject to administration. A call was placed on Pot Creek (May 15-28, 2008) and water was released from the upstream reservoirs between May 16-28, 2008.

Recommendations: Inside staff gage is used rather than either outside staff gage with the concern that they may have experienced movement since installation. Levels need to be run at this site.

at LEE CABIN DIVERSION for MAX RASMUSSEN ~~in~~ 2008

TOTAL FOR 48 AC. FT ~~ACRE- FEET~~

STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER

Daily Discharge in Second Feet of IRRIGATION WATER - MATT WARNER
at CROSS RESERVOIR Outlet for C.W. McCoy-BENNY PARK 2008
SPLITTER

Day	July	Aug	SPLITTER			
1	1.5					
2	1.5					
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14	1.5					
15	↑					
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						
27						
28						
29						
30	↓					
31	1.5					
Mean	1.5	1.5				
Total	54	56				
Ac Ft.						

TOTAL FOR.

60

ACRE FEET

STATE OF UTAH

OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER

Daily Discharge in Second Feet of IRRIGATION WATER MARK WARNER
 at MILT SEARLE DIVERSION for MILT SEARLE 2008

Day	July																			
1																				
2																				
3																				
4																				
5																				
6																				
7																				
8																				
9																				
10																				
11																				
12	4.0																			
13	4.0																			
14	4.0																			
15	4.0																			
16																				
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22																				
23																				
24																				
25																				
26																				
27																				
28																				
29																				
30																				
31																				
Mean Sec. Ft.	4.0																			
Total Ac. Ft.	32.0																			

TOTAL FOR 32 Ac. Ft. ~~ACRE-FEET~~

STATE OF UTAH

OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER

Daily Discharge in Second Feet of IRRIGATION WATER - MATT WARNER

at MATT WARNER DIVERSION for JOE CALDER 2008

Day	July													
1														
2														
3														
4	2.0													
5	↑													
6														
7														
8														
9														
10	↓													
11	2.0													
12														
13														
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20														
21														
22														
23														
24														
25														
26														
27														
28														
29														
30														
31														
Mean Sec. Ft.	2.0													
Total Ac. Ft.	32													

TOTAL FOR 32 ACRE FEET

STATE OF UTAH

OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER

Daily Discharge in Second Feet of IRRIGATION WATER MATT WARNER

at LEE CABIN DIVERSION for ALLEN BENKION 2008

Day	July	Aug												
1														
2														
3														
4														
5														
6														
7														
8														
9														
10														
11		4.0												
12		4.0												
13														
14														
15														
16	4.0													
17	4.0													
18	4.0													
19	4.0													
20														
21														
22														
23														
24														
25														
26														
27														
28														
29														
30														
31														
Mean Sec. Ft.	4.0	4.0												
Total Ac. Ft.	32.0	16.0												

TOTAL FOR

48 AC FT

ACRE-Feet

Isabell Roberts
Roosevelt Ut.

Box 1563 722-2044

PRISONERS of the WILD BULL

One of the most dramatic experiences fo my childhood occurred the summer that I was twelve years old. This was the time a big roan bull made prisoners of Mama and her six children in ~~his~~ our log cabin.

From the latter part of May to September of each year my family lived on our homestead on Diamond in Northeastern Utah. Our nearest neighbor lived seven miles ~~from the canyon,~~ ^{an} and Vernal, the nearest town was forty miles away. Our mountain home was very special to my family. I don't think there is a place on this earth that gives the peace, freedom, and happiness that a little log cabin in the mountains can give to a family. The air is cool and fresh all the time. There is a smell in the air of pine trees and wild flowers everywhere. Beautiful red ledges east of the cabin that reach high into the sky. They looked like old castles of the middle Ages.

The cabin sat back in a draw under a grove of cottonwood trees. A little crystal spring of cold water ran from under a small ledge of rocks. The garden lay west of the cabin. It was fenced with barbed wire which ran across the mouth of the draw. We had three or four milk cows, a flock of chickens and about a dozen baby lambs.

We lived in Vernal in the winter so we children could go school and Dad could work in a coal mine for a winter job. In the spring we moved back to our mountain home. It was a long hard trip which took three days of slow travel. Our transportation was a small team of black mules pulling an iron-tired wagon loaded with bedding, cookware and crates of and an crate for a cat or two. Our saddle horse, Rainbow, was a family pet. We older children took turns riding on the wagon and riding Rainbow to drive the cows. We would camp out two nights, and on the third day, about noon, we would arrive home.

PRISONERS of the WILD BULL

There was always a lot of excitement unpacking and putting everything in its place for the summer. Even the chickens were happy to be home. They jumped around and flapped their wings until they found their old coop. The cabin had to be cleaned and the garden plowed and planted.

After everything had settled down Dad would usually leave to help the shepherders move their camps and herds. Sometimes he would be gone for several weeks. Many times Mama wouldn't know where he was or how long he would be gone.

Mama and six of us kids had a great time after our Dad left. We did our work but Mama made it fun. We would pack a lunch and have a picnic on the ledge rocks, play games and explore the hill. She would sing us songs and tell us stories when we went picking wild berries.

When Dad left Mama always went out to the wood pile and chopped wood because she said it made her feel better. Now that I have raised a family I can realize how lonesome and frightening it must have been for Mama with Dad gone. It was like the time the wild bull came. When Dad rode in the wagon he almost always took the deer rifle, but for some reason he didn't this time.

One evening after he had left, Lucyle and Elsie went down to the creek and drove the cows home. Faye and I fed the chickens and helped with supper. Mama and the little ones fed the lambs. After the cows were milked and we had cleaned up the supper dishes, we had lit the coal oil lamp and started to put the little ones to bed. It was a quiet, cool evening and we could hear the sounds of strange cattle coming.

Isabell Roberts
Roosevelt Ut.

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Page three

PRISONERS of the WILD BULL

Our milk cows became restless. They were in the corral and their calves were out in the yard. It was just dark enough so that it hard to tell how many cattle were in the hard. We had forgotten to shut the lower gate but I think that it wouldn't have made much to that big old roan bull.

Mama and I started down to the to see if we could head the cattle off, thinking they would go on down the canyon. We went to the garden fence and Mama decided there was no way to stop them from coming to the corral. The bull was bawling and snorting. He would stop and paw dirt, walking slowly toward the corral. He was really mad.

Mama said "Let's go back to the cabin and wait until morning and see what he will do."

The next morning the sun came up over the mountain. The birds began to sing as they started their busy day. All of nature was waking up to a beautiful day but our family was in trouble. Mama had six small children from the age of twelve to one year old in a little log cabin, with a very angry bull wanting the milk cows out of the corral.

He was a big bull without horns but with a temper to make up for the biggest set horns that could have grown on any animal. He roared and bellowed and moved slowed back and forth from the corral to the cabin. He would stop, shake his head, paw dirt over his back, blow and snort from his nose when he bellowed.

PRISONERS of the WILD BULL

Mama hung quilts over the windows so he couldn't see in the cabin and she made su be quiet . Each time he heard us make a sound, he would circle the cabin looking for us. The cabin doors had homemade latches. There was a knothole in the kitchen door. When the bull would be a few feet from the door, we kids took turns peeking through the hole. If he had made a run at the door he would have splintered it into a million pieces and could have killed all of us.

Time dragged on. Mama worried and talked about what to do. Each time the bull came to the cabin he got madder and stayed longer, looking for a way to get to us.

About ten o'clock Mama said, "We have got to do something." We talked of trying to get to the ledge rocks, but ~~decided~~ Mama was was afraid that all us could not make it safety. She finally decided that she had to kill the bull. She got us together and told us what she had to do. She loaded the gun. The bull was at the corral, we went out the kitchen door. She boosted me up on the cabin, and I pulled John Faye up Lucyle stayed in the cabin at the bedroom window to watch the action of the bull.

Lucyle started to yell, "He's coming! He's coming! He's getting too close." Mama, Elsie and Doris ran back in the house. Mama raised the bedroom window he turned and started toward Mama when he saw the window open. She shot! The bull had put his foot out to paw when the bullet hit him. His bellow ended in a loud screech, and he didn't even pull his foot back. His tail went straight in the air and his body collapsed in a big heap.

We were wondering what to do about a big dead bull in our yard. In about ten minutes he began to move.

Elsie yelled, "Shoot him ! Shoot him again, he's not dead."

But Mama decided to see what he would do The bull moved his feet and raised his head. After a struggle he got to his feet and staggered to the corral
~~Mama got us all in the house~~

PRISONERS of the WILD BULL

Mama told me to keep the kids in the cabon while she milked the cows. She took the gun and the milk buckets and went out to milk the cows. When the bull saw her come out of the cabin he went down to the lower gate. Mama ~~he~~ milked the cow and turned the cows out to go to the creek.

It was a week or so before Dad came home. Each evening Mama would go after the cows carrying the shotgun with her. Sometimes the bull would snort around and Mama would shoot him in the hind legs with shotgun pellets. It got so when she would come in sight or he would hear her voice he would throw up his head and run away from the cow herd. The stray cattle and bull stayed with our cows until Dad came home .

Dad and a sheepharder corraled the bull. They fastened a short chain on his on his front leg . The chain would whip around his legs and stop from running.

Dad felt all over his head and could not find where the bullet had hit him. He kept saying that Mama hadn't hit him.

Mama said "I sure knocked him down."

Finally Dad found a bullet hole between the bulls shoulder blades. The bullet had gone just over his spine. That was the reason it ~~didn't~~ kill him but paralyzed him temporarily.

We were all up on the corral poles watching ^{she} Mama ^{was} up on the corral poles too. She was such vivacious little woman. I remember watching her there, telling Dad and sheepharder about our experience ^{with} ~~with~~ the bull, I couldn't help but admire her. She had to be the bravest and most wonderful Mother in the world. I believe people like my Mother are the ones that built the foundation to our great Nation.

Isabell Roberts
Roosevelt Ut.

In the early 1990s, Cecil Boren was on Diamond Mountain about one and one-half miles from what is known as the Outlaw Pasture (which the Wild Bunch used) near Gatson Draw. He was going to leave his trailer in Gatson Draw by a holding corral. It had been raining and Boren was unhooking the trailer on the wet ground. He lifted up the trailer hitch and looked around for a rock to put under it on the front of the hookup that sets down in the ground. He saw a rock and reached out with his foot to kick it up. The rock was about two inches thick and 11 by 5 inches in size. It was buried about an inch in the dirt. As he worked to kick it loose, it flipped over, and he could see there was writing on the rock. He cleaned it off and took it home.

Inscribed in the rock on the bottom left were the initials BC and underneath these letters were Bal 1896. On the middle of the right hand side was the word Montpelier. Under this is an odd shaped figure. To the right top were what look like two quotation marks one above the other and a hoof mark followed as if in a trail with two more quotation marks. Two parallel lines then run horizontally across the left side and off the top.

The actual rock is red on the top down to about an inch where it was buried. The other inch where it was underneath the dirt is grey. He showed the rock to Marvin Jackson, who has property in this area. Jackson went to the area and searched all around. He found another piece of the rock which had the same black looking ink but no words. He wondered if the black looking ink could be gilsonite. Gilsonite is found only in Uinta Basin and is used to make ink among other things. They may have broken a piece of gilsonite on the second rock and added moisture to make ink to write on the other rock. This is just a thought not a fact. Jackson said there are no other rock in the area, however, he found a ledge of this rock south of Vernal on one of the old trails leading to the Book Cliffs. Joe Winder a member of the Outlaw Trail Association took this picture of the rock. We thought some of you professionals might understand these markings. Give us your thoughts. I might add these three older gentlemen are very ethical men.

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ROCK

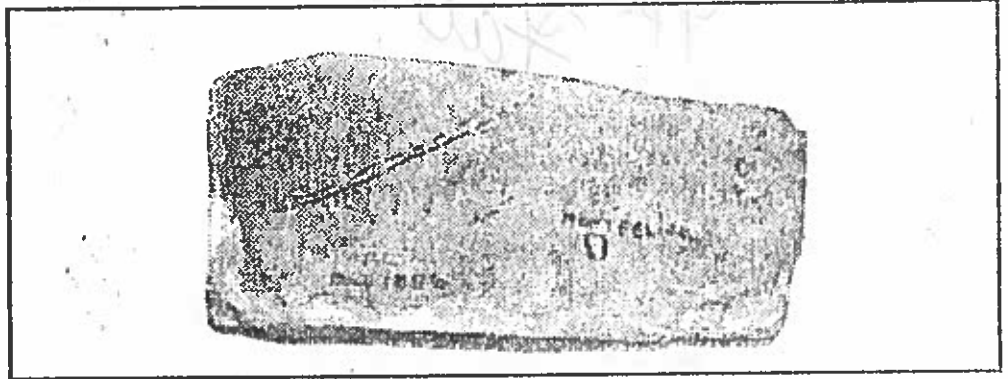
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could be gilsonite. Gilsonite is found only in Uinta Basin and is used to make ink among other things. They may have broken a piece of gilsonite on the second rock and added moisture to make ink to write on the other rock. This is just a thought not a fact. Jackson said there are no other such rocks in the area, however, he found a ledge of this rock south of Vernal on one of the old outlaw trails leading to the Book Cliffs. Joe Winder a member of OTHA took this picture. We thought some of you professionals might understand these markings. Give us your thoughts. I might add these three older gentlemen are very ethical men.



Uintah County Library
Outlaw Trail History Center
155 East Main
Vernal, Utah 84078

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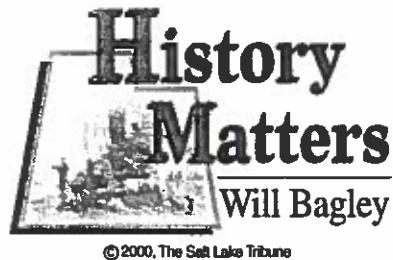
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■ FOR THE RECORD, B-2

■ LOTTERY, B-2

■ BARBERI & WILSON, B-4



Sack of Gems Made Fools Out of Many

Around 1870, two ragged prospectors made an odd deposit of "precious gems" at an assay office in San Francisco. The miners quickly vanished, but the hoard they left behind triggered a financial frenzy that generated the equivalent of \$3 billion in capital investment. Even before the strike could be verified, men made fortunes investing in an astonishing rumor that "blossomed into a craze of speculation worthy of the Arabian Nights."

The prospectors, John Slack and Philip Arnold, were Kentucky cousins whose 19th-century economic wonder rivaled the Internet. Historian Peter DeLafosse has noted the parallels between today's cyberexcitement and the fiscal furor generated when Arnold and Slack arrived in San Francisco with their sack of diamonds, rubies, emeralds, amethysts, garnets and spinels.

The gems came to the attention of William Ralston, president of the Bank of California and the Bill Gates of his time. He tracked down the prospectors in Wyoming and tried to all but swindle them out of control of their discovery. Slack and Arnold agreed to take Ralston's scout to their secret site. Four days' ride south of Fort

Salt Lake's

TO CO



The Diamond Hoax

In 1872 two men appeared at the Bank of California in San Francisco and asked to deposit a canvas bag in the vault. They refused to say what was in the bag but hinted at contents of great value. Finally, the bank's president, William C. Ralston, and a group of local citizens prevailed on the two men, Philip Arnold and John Slack, and the bag was opened. Onto Ralston's desk poured a handful of diamonds. Arnold said they had found them on a recent trip but would not say where.

Excitement ran high. With seeming reluctance, Arnold and Slack finally agreed to choose two men and allow them to visit the diamond field and inspect it, with the condition that they be blindfolded while approaching and leaving the field.

The two men were selected, went by train to a small Union Pacific station—probably Table Rock, near Rawlins, Wyoming—and were met by Arnold, who drove them deep into the countryside. During the trip they donned blindfolds and at the site removed them and inspected the field. In San Francisco later they reported that the field was literally strewn with diamonds!

The news created a sensation. A \$10 million corporation was formed. Arnold and Slack were to receive half the stock, Ralston and his friends the other half. To allay fears, the stones were sent to Tiffany in New York and were pronounced genuine, with a value of about \$150,000. An eminent mining engineer went to the field and reported that 25 men could wash out a million dollars worth of diamonds in a month. Slack and Arnold sold out.

But later in the fall of the year, a well-known geologist, Clarence King, wired the company that the diamond field was a fraud and that the "mine" had been "salted." At the site he explained to company officials that he had found a diamond that had been partially cut and polished; that other diamonds had been found at the bottom of holes made by sharp instruments.

Finally the details of the swindle came to light. The gems were industrial diamonds from South Africa. Arnold and Slack had bought them in Amsterdam and London. Arnold presumably repaid the \$150,000 he had received; Slack was never caught.

THE DIAMOND MOUNTAIN BOYS
A song by James H.
Beckstead
Copyright 1991

Verses

A cowboy stoked the fire
and set the night aglow
on a Utah mountain
a hundred years ago
a saddle for his pillow
a blanket for his bed
Visions of the girl back
home
were dancing in his head

The silent night was
broken
as riders came on in
loaded down with weapons
and looking mean as sin
the horses foaming lather
their spirits strong and
bold
straining from the weight
of men
and leather bags of gold

A warming by the fire
a sip or two of brew
nothing more was wanted
that's how the legend
grew
here's a coin from Castle
Gate
pretend you never saw
this tired gang of
outlaws
just running from the law

There is a lonely
mountain
where legends live and
grow
where outlaws use to roam
a long long time ago
and cowboys on that
mountain
have heard their mournful
cry
when the moon is full
they've
seen

ghost riders in the sky

Chorus

It was Cassidy and
Sundance
Matt and Tom O'Day
Kid Curry and the Texan
Big Nose and Elzy Lay-ay
high living was their
pleasure
robbing was their ploy
outlaws everyone of them
The Diamond Mountain Boys

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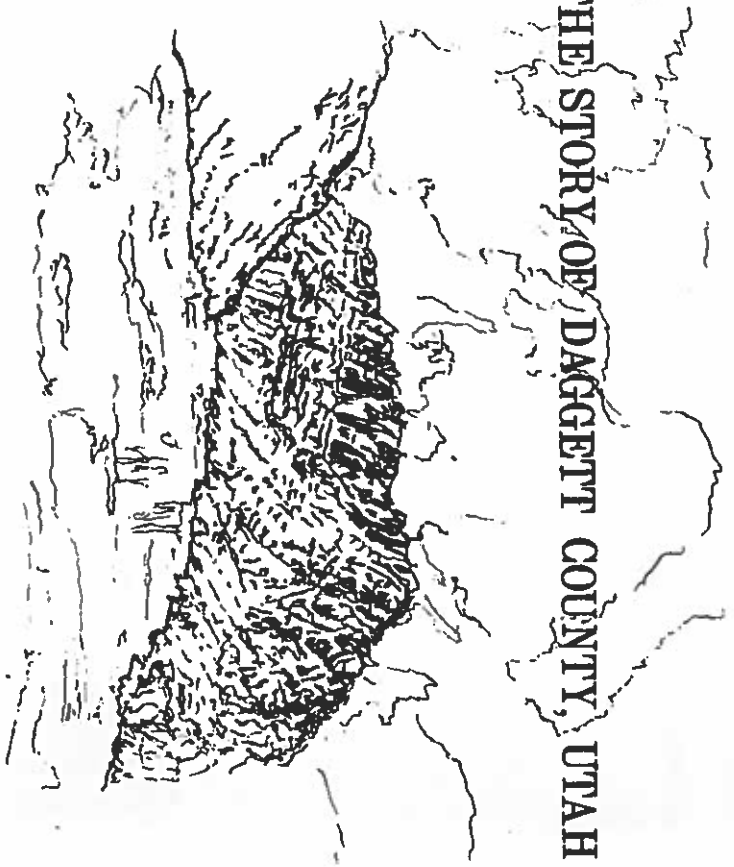
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FLAMING

GORGE

COUNTRY

THE STORY OF DAGGETT COUNTY, UTAH



by Dick and Vivian Dunham

breeze would have dislodged it. King became suspicious. Searching some more, they found that the only ant hills with rubies also had a hole poked in their base. Other ant hills were empty. When they sifted the soil, they found emeralds, amethysts, sapphires and garnets — an impossible combination never found in nature. Finally they dug pits where the specific gravity of diamonds should have carried them and found nothing. That was the clincher. The diamond field had been salted.

King was distressed that evening to discover that their actions had been spied on. He could visualize a midwinter stampede and wholesale deaths from blizzards. He decided to get back quickly to San Francisco and confront Janin and Ralston with the truth. Leaving his friends to fool the watchers, he made a night ride north to the Black Buttes station and luckily caught the westbound train.

In San Francisco, King met Janin and Ralston and demanded that they reveal the hoax immediately. They asked for a month's delay, but King insisted they publish the truth right away or he'd do so himself. Janin and Colton made a hurried trip back to the salted diamond field with King and saw the bitter but plain truth for themselves.

It was a sheepish and downcast group that met in Ralston's bank and voted to publish King's report. King was the hero of the hour. Except for his intervention, twelve million dollars of worthless stocks might have gone on the market. Although the discovery had to compete with the news of Horace Greeley's death, it made headlines all over the country.

A grand jury ascertained many of the facts. Arnold and Slack had made a couple of trips to Amsterdam and procured a quantity of "niggerheads" — cheap industrial stones only good for cutting and grinding. The whole salting process had cost them possibly \$30,000, and they had cleaned up better than half a million. Slack had disappeared, but turned up later as a coffin maker in New Mexico. Arnold had gone back to Kentucky and bought himself a safe to hold his loot. William Lent attached Arnold's property and filed suit. He finally recovered \$150,000. Arnold got into a quarrel, horse-whipped a neighbor, was shot in return, and died not long after from pneumonia.

The so-called experts had been taken in because they were working outside their special fields. Janin knew all about mining for metals but nothing whatever about diamonds. Tiffany,

familiar with cut stones, had never seen diamonds in the rough. When consulted as experts, though, their vanity kept them from admitting their lack of knowledge.

Although Ralston took the whole financial burden on his shoulders and reimbursed stock holders to the tune of three quarters of a million, his reputation suffered. The affair even had international repercussions and found its way into the State Department files. It also marked the end of Ralston's spectacular financial career. For years, he'd lived like an oriental nabob, keeping his luxury hotels and other losing investments afloat by plundering the Comstock mine. Now his associates and creditors lost confidence, banks refused him loans. Less than three years after the diamond affair, his great Bank of California went under. Ralston died the next day, many believed by his own hand.

Now just where that salted diamond mine was located was a matter of dispute for years. It's clear from what King tells us, though, that it wasn't our Diamond Mountain nor Wyoming's Diamond Butte to the north, but Colorado's Diamond Peak, about fifteen miles east of the Utah line, that was the spot. Arnold and Slack chose to sprinkle their not-so-precious stones. Quite a few residents can vouch for the location, for they've some of the stones they gathered to prove it.

It may come as a disappointment, even a shock, to learn Daggett County's Diamond Mountain probably had nothing whatever to do with the great hoax. It seems it got its name from Jim Diamond of Ashley Valley, who was the first to run cattle there.



Diamond Peak where Arnold and Slack salted their diamond field is near the right.

They looked like simpletons, the two weather-beaten prospectors who wandered into the Bank of California with a buckskin sack of diamonds. It was just the first act in

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The Great Diamond Hoax



BY RUSSELL QUINN

Illustrated by B. J. McCausey

ONE day in the summer of 1871, two ragged desert rats wandered open-mouthed into the ornate marble foyer of the Bank of California with a buckskin sack which they asked to be placed in safe keeping. That little act touched off the most amazing series of chain reactions ever to be let loose in the explosive old West. Its repercussions panicked the financial world from San Francisco to New York, and from London to Johannesburg. It threatened the economic stability of two European countries and a Crown colony. And only by sheer luck it missed plunging the United States into a financial tailspin.

The two apparently simple-minded prospectors outwitted the best financial brains in the world—from Baron Rothschild in London to William Ralston, dynamic head of the Bank of California in San Francisco. They threatened with ruin the great diamond industry of South Africa and the extensive gem processing industry of the Low Countries of Europe.

And about all they did was to bring a package of diamonds to the Bank of California to be put in the vault for safe-keeping. After that they mostly kept silent. The play was picked up by the smart money and taken from there. It worked out in its own incredible way with only slight coaching from the sidelines. Their silence was brilliant.

AT that time San Francisco was riding high on a second mining boom. As the rush of '49 petered out and the city was sliding into a depression hang-over, the richest hill in the world was suddenly uncovered at Virginia City, Nevada. Bullion once more was mule-trained down from the hills to pour robust energy into the flagging commercial life of the City. It was bursting with optimism. The West could turn up one surprise after another. Its mineral wealth had probably scarcely been touched. Who could tell where the next bonanza would turn up?

Into the vortex of this optimism, the two prospectors walked with their bundle of diamonds. Then they left.

A curious employee took a peek at the package in the vault and soon news of its contents reached the ears of William Ralston, dynamic head of the Bank. Before nightfall he had the two men cornered in his office. They appeared a little bewildered at the excitement their deposit was causing and uncertain as to how to go ahead with their find. Or so Ralston thought. He proceeded to enlighten them.

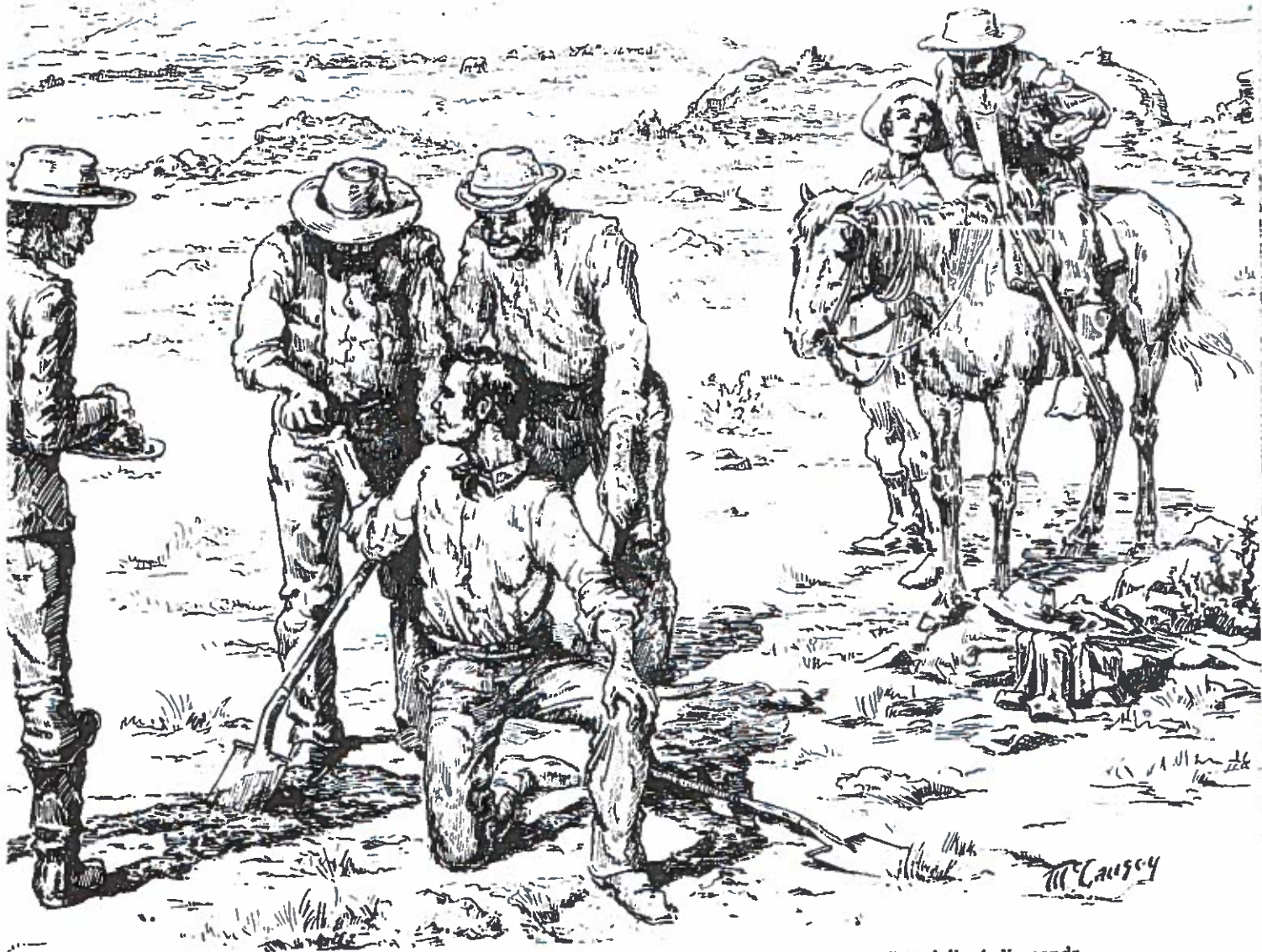
The men were reluctant to give the banker any information except that they had found the diamonds "out yonder," and that there were more where they came from. But they finally agreed to

let Ralston have a lapidary appraisal of the gems.

Ralston also had the men appraised. They were bona fide prospectors all right. One of the men, Philip Arnold, had in fact at one time done a prospecting job for one of Ralston's partners. The other, John Slack, had a good reputation among the mining men around town.

When the lapidary reported an estimated value of \$125,000 on the small parcel of gems on hand, Ralston was ready to move. Billy Ralston, the West's leading financier of his day, is known in California history as "the man who built San Francisco." He was a product of the Old West. His sound banking instincts were disturbed only by a romantic love for San Francisco. He would plunge into any project that contributed to the greater glory of his city. At one instance he singlehandedly saved the West Coast, and possibly the country from financial panic. And in the manner of the Old West.

Because of one of those flukes of "fine print" that occasionally occur when a restless Congress passes laws with more attention to the coming vacation or next election than the work at hand, the country's banks found themselves unable to exchange bullion for coin with the U.S. Treasury. When this situation was discovered, every bank in the West



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BILLY RALSTON, a man of action, knew that he could not wait for Congress to remedy this situation. In the dead of night he broke into the sub-treasury building in San Francisco and lugged a million dollars worth of bullion over from the Bank of California. Then he lugged back a million dollars of "stolen" coin from the sub-treasury.

At nine o'clock the next morning the sleepless head of the Bank of California watched the lines of people forming outside the institution. Getting his tellers together, he opened the Bank an hour earlier and began paying off. Then he went around to all of the other banks in San Francisco. Mounting a soap-box he told the nervous crowds to bring their bank books over to the Bank of California. It would recognize their accounts.

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five o'clock train twenty miles down the peninsula to his home.

This is the man who looked at \$125,000 worth of gems in an old buckskin sack and visioned a great diamond industry for San Francisco. But the reluctant Simple Simons didn't allow as to whether they wanted big money to come in on their diggings or not. Finally, Ralston pried them away from a small interest for \$100,000.

Then he became the banker again. He would, of course, have to see the fields before he turned over the \$100,000. That seemed fair enough to Arnold and Slack. They agreed to take a small party consisting of anybody he chose out to see the diamonds. They could satisfy themselves as to the extent of the fields. But they added one proviso. At a certain point before coming to the discovery the party would have to submit to being blindfolded. And on the return journey, likewise.

These conditions were accepted. In the party was David D. Colton, general manager of the Central Pacific Railroad. The group entrained for Rawlins Springs, Wyoming. There, taking to horse they set off across some wild, inhospitable country. After a week's travel, with Arnold continually taking off to scale various mountain peaks to get his bearings, the party was blindfolded and

finally allowed to enter the diamond fields.

The eye-rubbing that followed was not due to the tightness of the blindfold. Not only did they uncover diamonds, but rubies and sapphires as well. The party returned to San Francisco in high spirits.

Ralston now went into high gear. He sent a \$1,100 cable to his old partner, Asbury Harpending, in London. He told of the discovery of a vast diamond field on the West Coast and insisted that Harpending come to San Francisco to manage the venture. Harpending thought his old friend was out of his mind. Besides that, Harpending was in the middle of a titanic financial struggle with one of London's leading financiers, Baron Grant.

JUST as he was slugging his way into a position of leadership in London's financial mart, this cable from Ralston arrived. He replied that under no circumstances could he leave London at the time. Cable after cable came from Ralston. Finally Harpending began to give the matter consideration. Ralston was dealing in certainties. He had samples of the gems. The fields had been examined. It was a project that dazzled the imagination.

Then Baron Rothschild called on him.



Arnold and Slack wandered open-mouthed into the ornate marble foyer of the Bank.

He had heard that a great diamond field had been discovered in western America. Did Harpending know anything about it? Harpending showed him Ralston's cables, but also expressed his doubts. Rothschild said: "Don't be too sure. America has produced some wonderful surprises. She may have some yet in store. If you find out anything further let me know. The House of Rothschild is interested."

That tied it. Harpending decided that he had his quarry pretty well cornered in London. He would go to San Francisco for three months, settle the diamond business one way or another, and then come back to pick up where he left off in London.

When he got to San Francisco, he immediately checked all of Ralston's notes. The story seemed straight enough.

Throughout Ralston's lengthy questioning the men had never contradicted themselves. Moreover, at their own suggestion, they had gone back to the diamond fields to pick up "a couple of million" dollars worth of diamonds as security for the \$100,000 promised for the part interest. Ralston had asked for more security before turning over the money. The men were on their way to the fields when Harpending arrived.

A few days later a wire came from the prospectors. It asked for someone to meet them at Lathrope, a railway junction point, to help share the responsibility of the burden. Harpending decided to go himself. He boarded their train at Lathrope and had no trouble in locating the men. They were both mud-stained and tired. Slack was sound asleep. But Arnold was grimly awake with a buckskin

package at his feet and rifle at his side.

The men told him a lurid but not improbable story. They had collected what they thought to be about two million in stones and then put them in two packages — one for each. On their way back they had to cross a swollen river. They constructed a raft, but it had upset in the rushing torrent and one bundle had been lost. However, there must be a million dollars worth of gems in the bundle they had salvaged. Harpending was satisfied that that would be enough.

ARNOLD AND SLACK left Harpending at Oakland. He took the heavy sack on the ferry for San Francisco. An excited group was waiting at his home. Without ceremony he emptied the sack on a bed-sheet. The gathering gave an astonished gasp. Diamonds, rubies, sapphires tumbled out on the spread.

The next day they were openly displayed in the bank window and fortune-hunters struck for the hills. Somehow, possibly by design, the word got around that the fields were in Arizona. So most of the diamond-seekers went thataway instead of thisaway.

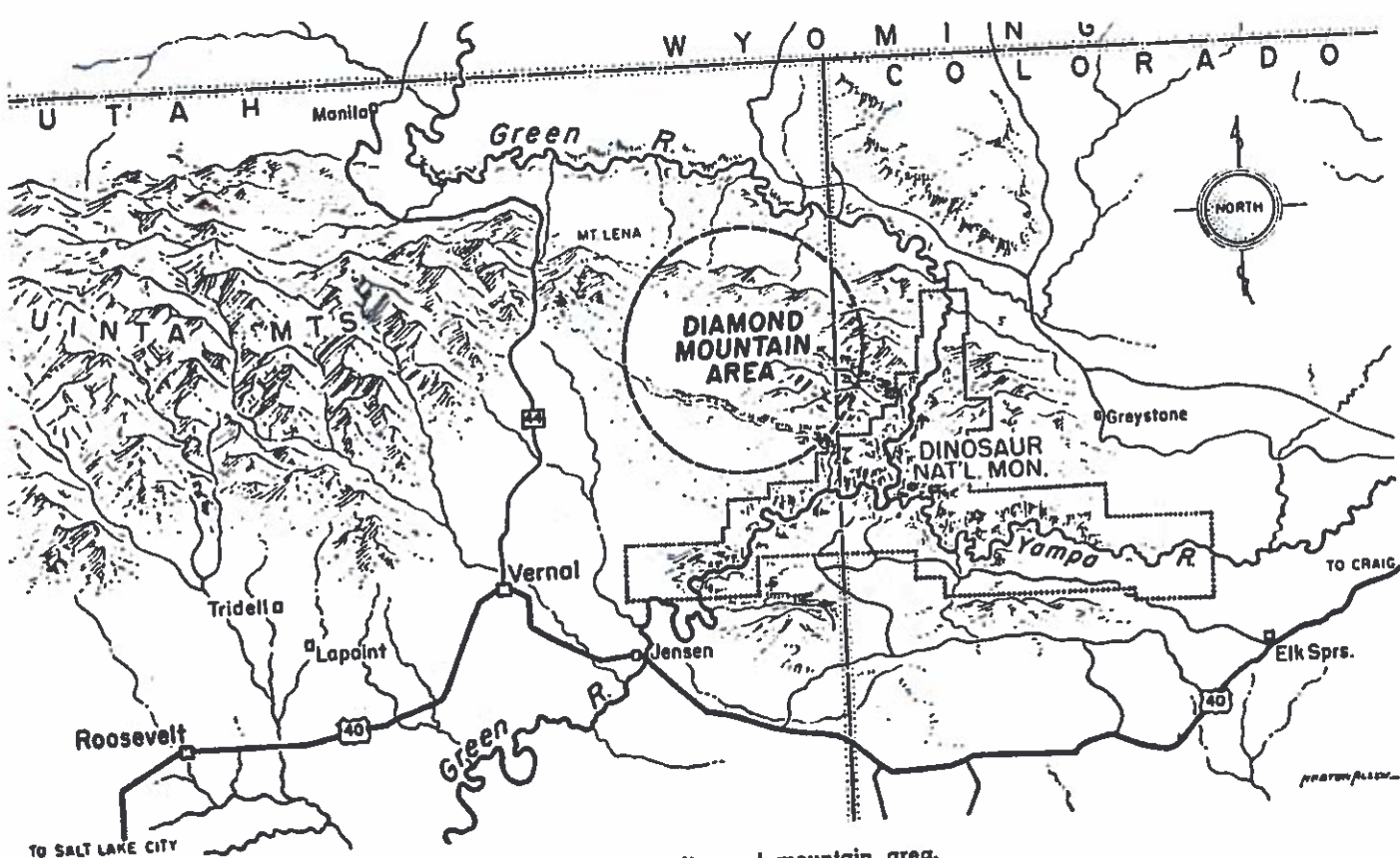
Ralston now moved to set up an organization. First Arnold and Slack were called in and convinced that they had hold of something that was too big for them. It would take millions to develop the fields. Arnold was the spokesman throughout the negotiations. Slack would sit back with pipe in mouth and merely grunt assent to whatever Arnold agreed. And Arnold spoke very little. Finally the men were willing to part with two-thirds interest for \$600,000. Papers were drawn up to that effect.

But before consummating the deal the banker made two more cautious provisions. Samples of the gems would be taken to Tiffany's in New York. If their appraisal agreed with the San Francisco appraisal then a mining expert would be chosen to look over the fields. The prospectors agreed. Ralston could pick his own mining expert and they would personally conduct him to the fields.

Harpending took personal charge of the samples that were being taken to New York. With him were General Dodge; William Lent, another of Ralston's partners; Alfred Rubery, a London associate of Harpending's; and the miners, Arnold and Slack. In New York, Harpending retained Samuel Barlow, a

Left: Asbury Harpending, financier who came over from London to investigate the diamond deal. Center: William C. Ralston, financial wizard who built San Francisco and thought he was going to reorganize the world's diamond industry. Right: Baron Rothschild, head of the great financial empire, who was also taken in by the two simple prospectors.





Map showing the diamond mountain area.

leader of the New York bar, and General 3. F. Butler as legal advisers. General Butler was then a member of Congress. He was taken on to handle the Washington end.

General Butler arranged to have Mr. Tiffany see the jewels in his home. A distinguished group was invited to witness the momentous event. It included General George B. McClellan, Horace Greeley, and other leading figures of the era.

The men stood around the billiard table as Harpending dumped the gems on the green cloth. All eyes were on Mr. Tiffany. He rolled them around, sorted in little piles, and then held them to the light. Finally he said: "Gentlemen, these are beyond question precious stones of enormous value. But before I give you my exact appraisal I must submit them to my lapidary. I will report to you further in two days."

Arnold and Slack ambled out into the night. The evening-froked men of affairs remained to click billiard balls and discuss the consequence of a vast diamond field on the North American continent.

IN two days Tiffany sent in his report. The gems submitted were valued at \$150,000. That placed the value of gems on hand at \$1,500,000. News of the appraisal leaked out and the speculative market began to stir. The hardier plungers stormed Harpending's door to get in on the ground floor. But the financier wasn't opening up.

There was still the last clincher to be taken care of. An examination of the fields by an expert. The importance of the project demanded the services of the leading expert in the field. That man was Henry Janin—an expert head and shoulders above any of his contemporaries. It was common knowledge that no one ever lost money on one of Janin's recommendations. He was ultra-conservative. His recommendation on mining

prospects pegged the value of the property in every mart in the world.

Janin agreed to examine the field for \$2,500, all expenses paid and the right to take up 1000 shares of stock at a nominal price.

As the party was making preparations for the trip Arnold began to get restive. He took his complaint to Harpending. He disliked all the publicity. He pointed out that he was placing his property at the mercy of others without proper security. It would be impossible to keep the location a secret after this large party had explored the fields. He had faithfully kept all his agreements but all he had to show for it was a piece of paper. The amount of wealth he was about to disclose was all out of proportion to the meager sum he was asking. Mining being the tricky business it was he wanted some cold cash before going any further.

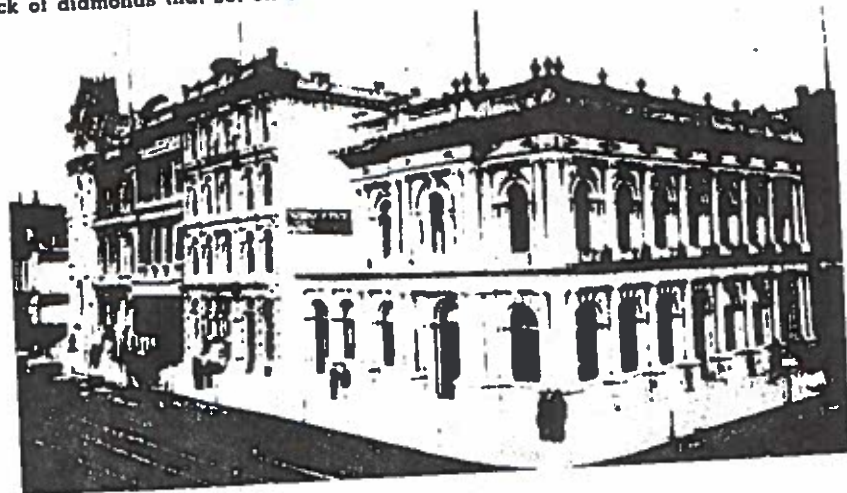
He wanted \$200,000 in cash and the rest of the \$600,000 put in escrow pending the Janin report. This seemed reasonable to Harpending. After all, they had much more than this amount in diamonds on hand. He telegraphed Ralston in San Francisco and the banker immediately wired back the money.

That taken care of, the party set out in high spirits for the mysterious diamond fields. It consisted of Henry Janin, General George S. Dodge, Alfred Rubery, Harpending, Arnold, and Slack.

There were also high spirits in San Francisco. The Tiffany report had touched off a holiday mood in the group out there. They wanted to be on hand to give a champagne welcome to the greatest discovery on earth. Clamoring aboard an east-bound train they wired Harpending that they would join his group at Omaha.

(Continued next page)

The old Bank of California building into which the two old prospectors stumbled with a sack of diamonds that set off a fantastic chain of events.



WHEN Arnold heard of this he blew his top. He went to Harpending. He was only a beer-drinking prospector, but he knew you didn't discover mines with champagne suppers. Or if you did the beer drinker would be lucky to come away with the price of a beer. Why didn't he have him draw a map to the fields and have it published in the *New York Tribune*. Call everybody in. Free diamonds for the picking.

Harpending saw the point, wired the western group and they debarked at the next way-station for whence they had come.

After a hot, dusty Union Pacific ride to Rawlings Springs, the party got horses and set out into the wilds. The party was not blindfolded this time but they followed a tortuous zig-zag route with Arnold again climbing mountain peaks to get his bearings. On the third day Harpending thought he heard a train whistle. He mentioned it to Arnold. The miner said, "The railroad is at least a hundred miles away."

At four o'clock of the fourth day after plodding through some desolate country with the party beginning to get quarrelsome, Arnold stopped and said, "Here it is." They were on a plateau of about 30 or 40 acres in area, 7,000 feet above sea level. Through the middle ran a stream. The ground was covered with rocks. It was later determined that they were about twenty miles from the railroad.

The party encamped and then despite their weariness began to look for diamonds. Arnold and Slack showed no signs of nervousness. In a few minutes Rubery gave a yell. He had found the first one. Then they all got lucky. Within an hour everyone had his fists full of diamonds. Not only diamonds, they occasionally came across rubies, emeralds and sapphires. Harpending states later, "Why a few pearls weren't thrown in for good luck I have never yet been able to tell."

He further reported: "You may depend upon it that we were in a happy mood that night. There wasn't the usual row over who should cook supper, who should wash dishes, who should care for the stock, which little incidents of camp life had brought us to the verge of bloodshed during the three previous days. On the contrary, good will and benevolence were slopping over. Arnold and Slack had excellent reason to be satisfied. Mr. Janin was exultant that his name should be associated with the most momentous discovery of the age, to say nothing of the increased value of his 1,000 shares; while General Dodge, Rubery, and myself experienced the intoxication that comes with sudden accession of boundless wealth."

THE next day prospecting was resumed. Janin wanted to determine the extent of the fields. He told Harpending that the fields would certainly control the gem markets of the world, and that an essential part of such control would be to have one corporation in complete possession of the entire diamondiferous area. Arnold and Slack remained in camp while the rest of the party set up claim notices over a vast section of Wyoming.

On the third day Janin was satisfied that the entire area had been claimed. Leaving Rubery and Slack to guard the claim, the rest of the party headed back to New York.

When word of the Janin report leaked

out the financial world was electrified. From bucket shop to the House of Rothschild there was a wild scramble to get on the gravy train. Baron Rothschild was let on, but fortunately not the bucket shop speculator. Twenty-five of Ralston's friends were allowed to come in to the amount of two million dollars.

The "San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Company" was incorporated with a capital stock of ten million dollars. Its powers were broad. Not only was it to own mines and their accessories, but it was to engage in every type of commercial business pertaining to the gem industry including the preparation of the precious stones for the market. The incorporators planned to move bodily the great lapidary industries of the Low Countries to the West Coast. The peoples of Belgium and Holland were thrown into a panic of fear.

A statement credited to Janin that twenty laborers could wash out a million dollars worth of stones a day foreshadowed the ruin of the South African economy. A tremor passed through the entire British empire.

The stock markets of the world tried to make dizzy adjustment to the news. The financial cables buzzed day and night between San Francisco, New York and London. In the meantime, the two desert-weathered prospectors were paid their \$600,000 and they wandered off into the hills as artlessly as they had wandered into the Bank of California that morning when they set off their financial time-bomb.

Head offices of the company were set up in San Francisco under the direction of Billy Ralston, with a branch in New York under Harpending, and one in London under the Rothschild agency. General George B. McClellan became one of the directors. David D. Colton resigned from the Central Pacific Railway to become general manager. A huge map was hung in the head office showing the three thousand acre claim; and General Butler threw a bill into the Congressional hopper to doubly insure the right to the claim as well as to clear up all haziness as to the legal requirements of the operation envisioned.

THEN the company had to mark time to await spring thaws before operations could begin. Forty years later Asbury Harpending still shuddered at the thought of the catastrophe that was narrowly missed that following month. Pressure began to mount on all sides for shares of stock. He recalled:

"Just what might have happened in a single month of wild speculation had the stock of the San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Company been placed in any considerable quantity on the market is hard to tell. But one thing is very certain—it would have caused a catastrophe almost without parallel in the civilized world. The public was keyed up to a point of a speculative craze such as even the Comstock never saw, not alone in San Francisco but in nearly every financial center of the earth. Millions upon millions would have been invested. The shares would have soared to fabulous figures. Banks would have advanced money on these prime securities, as was the custom in those times. And then the awful crash. There would have been more ruins in financialdom than San Francisco exhibited after the fire. Every day the mails were loaded with letters from eager correspondents making inquiries for stock.

The best and unanswerable proof that everyone connected with the company acted in good faith is to be found in the fact that not a share changed hands."

The company had decided that it would work only one pocket and let out other areas on a cash and royalty basis. Some twenty bona fide offers were received by the company during that month. Fortunately none were closed. For these marginal companies could have sold stock on the basis of their concessions and thus opened the speculative flood gates.

In fact, three other independent diamond companies were formed waiting only for the Ralston outfit to open up its stock so as to unload their stock on the speculative upsweep. But the men around Ralston were not speculating. They had their hands on the greatest discovery on earth and they were sitting tight.

Then one month after the San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Company had set up sumptuous shop, Ralston picked a telegram from his desk. It was marked from Rawlings Springs, Wyoming. He read it. And then he read it again. He paled. But he was a man reared in the broad humor of the West. Then he laughed, long and heartily. That laugh came back to him from around the world.

IT seemed that a young government geologist named Clarence King was making a periodic trip through the western territory. He decided to look in on the great diamond find. In company with an old German prospector he had little difficulty in locating the fields. And less difficulty in locating diamonds. The area was spotted with ant hills. These industrious little workers had become enamoured with the bright stones and had carried them into their holes. In practically every hill they found a diamond. In fact, some of the hills were made of diamond dust. The helpful little insects were not only digging them up but they were processing them also.

Clarence King looked at his partner. The old prospector looked at King. In his hand was a diamond clearly marked by a lapidary's tool. "This is the greatest field ever," roared the German. "It not only produces diamonds, it cuts them yet!"

The geologist took horse to Rawlings Springs and sent the telegram that broke the diamond bubble. A party, including the discomfited Janin, immediately set out for the fields. But that was anticlimactic. Ralston began to write out checks even before the party got on the train. He knew the swash-buckling mining game of the Old West. He had been outsmarted by two harmless-appearing desert rats who knew how to clam up. He had seen the fortunes of men go up and down too many times in that game to lose any of his bounce. He took the rap in full. Out of his own pocket he paid off everyone who had put money in the project and joined in the laugh that went out over the Sierras.

The debate raged for years in mining and financial circles as to how so many experts could have been fooled at so many different points. And it is quite obvious that they were fooled. No one made any money on the deal—except, of course, the two prospectors who until now had been lost in the shuffle. Had the stock been put on the open market with a resultant financial crash the whole operation would have been sus-

(Continued on page 88)

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The Great Diamond Hoax

An illustration of a wooden barrel falling from the sky, spilling a large quantity of diamonds onto the ground. The diamonds are depicted as small, sparkling stones with radiating lines indicating their brilliance. The barrel is shown in a dynamic, falling position, with motion lines around it.

BY RUSSELL QUINN

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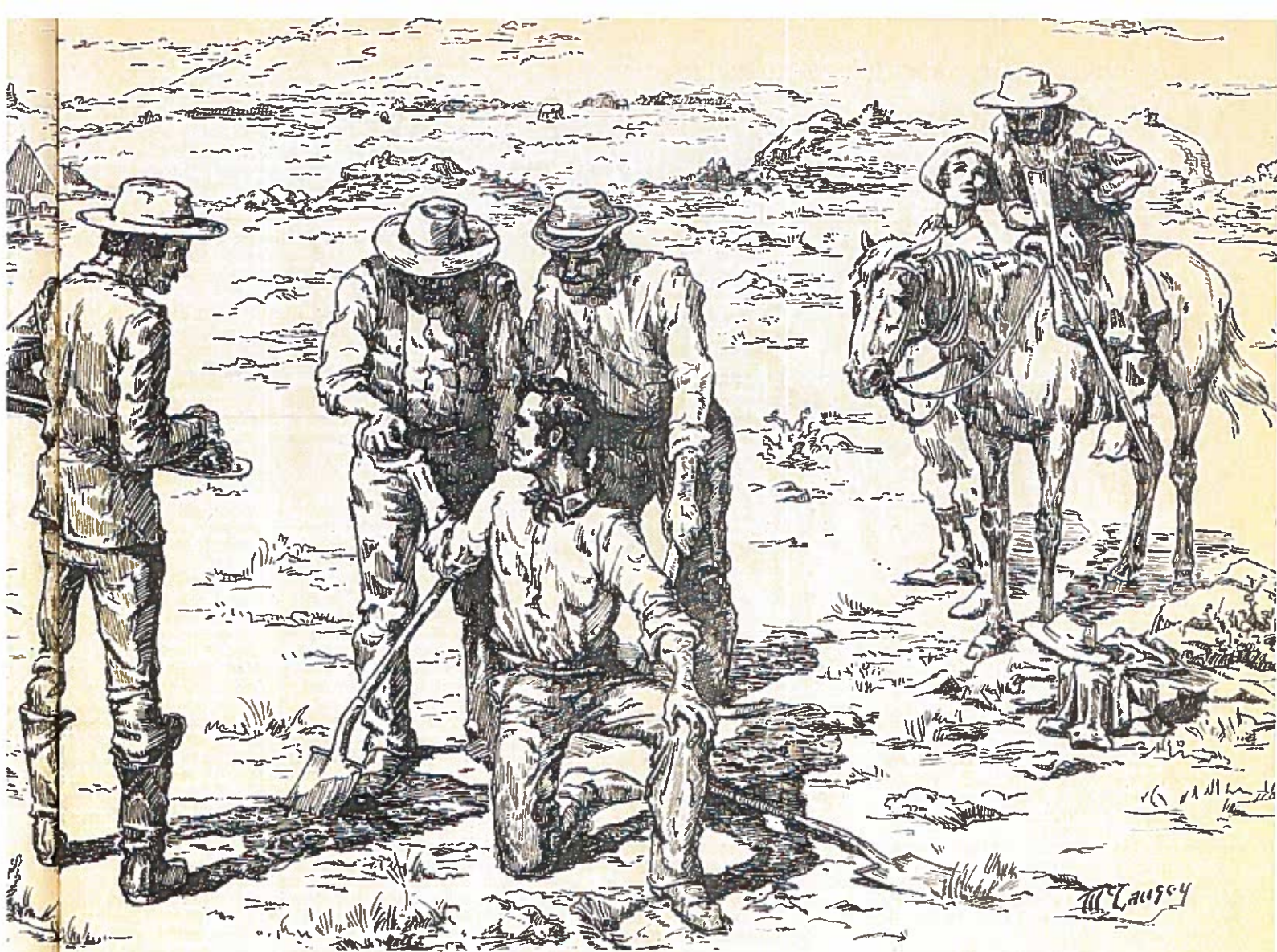
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finally allowed to enter the diamond fields.

The eye-rubbing that followed was not due to the tightness of the blindfold. Not only did they uncover diamonds, but rubies and sapphires as well. The party returned to San Francisco in high spirits.

Ralston now went into high gear. He sent a \$1,100 cable to his old partner, Asbury Harpending, in London. He told of the discovery of a vast diamond field on the West Coast and insisted that Harpending come to San Francisco to manage the venture. Harpending thought his old friend was out of his mind. Besides that, Harpending was in the middle of a titanic financial struggle with one of London's leading financiers, Baron Grant.

JUST as he was slugging his way into a position of leadership in London's financial mart, this cable from Ralston arrived. He replied that under no circumstances could he leave London at the time. Cable after cable came from Ralston. Finally Harpending began to give the matter consideration. Ralston was dealing in certainties. He had samples of the gems. The fields had been examined. It was a project that dazzled the imagination.

Then Baron Rothschild called on him.



Arnold and Slack wandered open-mouthed into the ornate marble foyer of the Bank.

He had heard that a great diamond field had been discovered in western America. Did Harpending know anything about it? Harpending showed him Ralston's cables, but also expressed his doubts. Rothschild said: "Don't be too sure. America has produced some wonderful surprises. She may have some yet in store. If you find out anything further let me know. The House of Rothschild is interested."

That tied it, Harpending decided that he had his quarry pretty well cornered in London. He would go to San Francisco for three months, settle the diamond business one way or another, and then come back to pick up where he left off in London.

When he got to San Francisco, he immediately checked all of Ralston's notes. The story seemed straight enough.

Throughout Ralston's lengthy questioning the men had never contradicted themselves. Moreover, at their own suggestion, they had gone back to the diamond fields to pick up "a couple of million" dollars worth of diamonds as security for the \$100,000 promised for the part interest. Ralston had asked for more security before turning over the money. The men were on their way to the fields when Harpending arrived.

A few days later a wire came from the prospectors. It asked for someone to meet them at Lathrope, a railway junction point, to help share the responsibility of the burden. Harpending decided to go himself. He boarded their train at Lathrope and had no trouble in locating the men. They were both mud-stained and tired. Slack was sound asleep. But Arnold was grimly awake with a buckskin

package at his feet and rifle at his side.

The men told him a lurid but not improbable story. They had collected what they thought to be about two million in stones and then put them in two packages — one for each. On their way back they had to cross a swollen river. They constructed a raft, but it had upset in the rushing torrent and one bundle had been lost. However, there must be a million dollars worth of gems in the bundle they had salvaged. Harpending was satisfied that that would be enough.

ARNOLD AND SLACK left Harpending at Oakland. He took the heavy sack on the ferry for San Francisco. An excited group was waiting at his home. Without ceremony he emptied the sack on a bed-sheet. The gathering gave an astonished gasp. Diamonds, rubies, sapphires tumbled out on the spread.

The next day they were openly displayed in the bank window and fortune-hunters struck for the hills. Somehow, possibly by design, the word got around that the fields were in Arizona. So most of the diamond-seekers went thataway instead of thisaway.

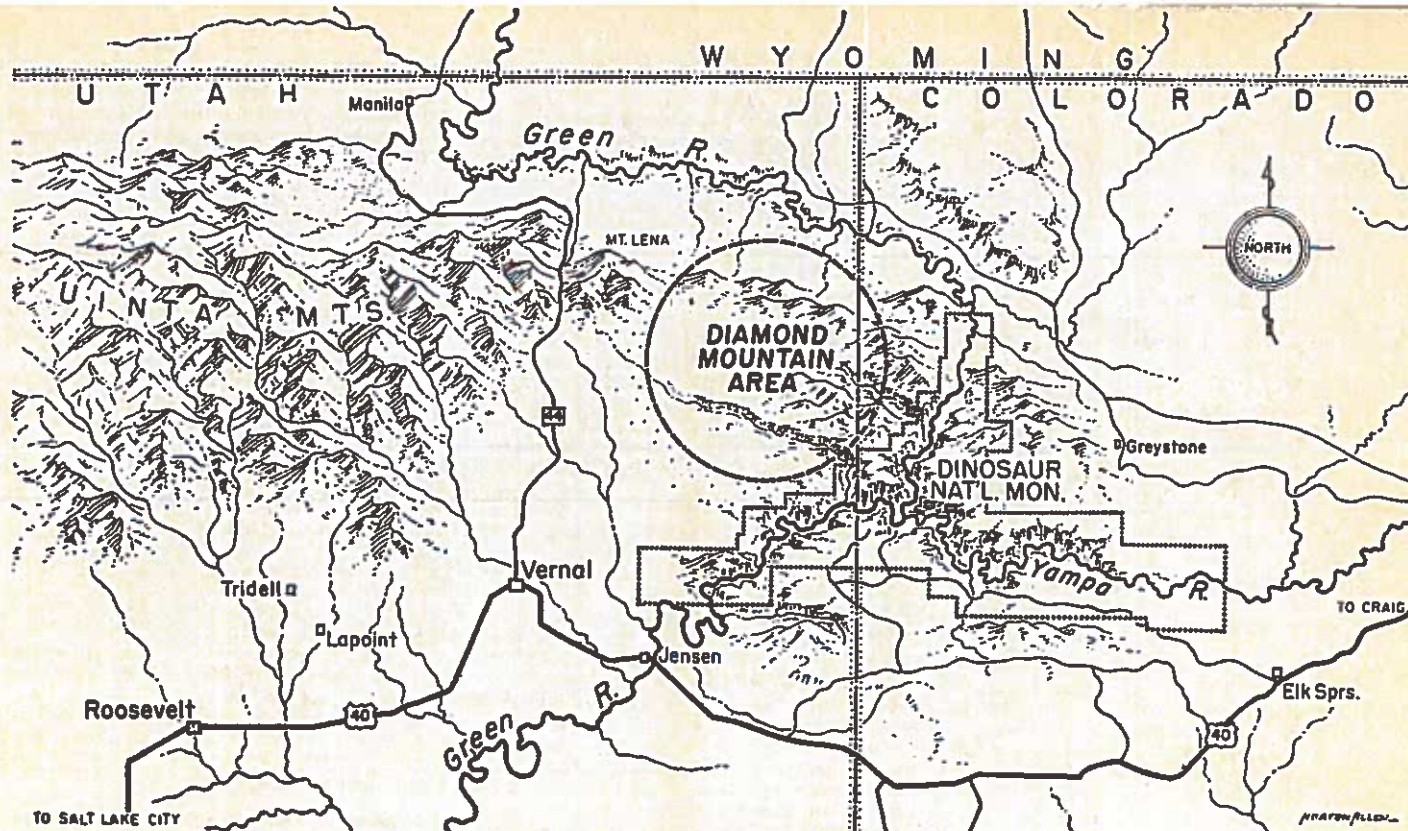
Ralston now moved to set up an organization. First Arnold and Slack were called in and convinced that they had hold of something that was too big for them. It would take millions to develop the fields. Arnold was the spokesman throughout the negotiations. Slack would sit back with pipe in mouth and merely grunt assent to whatever Arnold agreed. And Arnold spoke very little. Finally the men were willing to part with two-thirds interest for \$600,000. Papers were drawn up to that effect.

But before consummating the deal the banker made two more cautious provisions. Samples of the gems would be taken to Tiffany's in New York. If their appraisal agreed with the San Francisco appraisal then a mining expert would be chosen to look over the fields. The prospectors agreed. Ralston could pick his own mining expert and they would personally conduct him to the fields.

Harpending took personal charge of the samples that were being taken to New York. With him were General Dodge; William Lent, another of Ralston's partners; Alfred Rubery, a London associate of Harpending's; and the miners, Arnold and Slack. In New York, Harpending retained Samuel Barlow, a

Left: Asbury Harpending, financier who came over from London to investigate the diamond deal. Center: William C. Ralston, financial wizard who built San Francisco and thought he was going to reorganize the world's diamond industry. Right: Baron Rothschild, head of the great financial empire, who was also taken in by the two simple prospectors.





Map showing the diamond mountain area.

leader of the New York bar, and General B. F. Butler as legal advisers. General Butler was then a member of Congress. He was taken on to handle the Washington end.

General Butler arranged to have Mr. Tiffany see the jewels in his home. A distinguished group was invited to witness the momentous event. It included General George B. McClellan, Horace Greeley, and other leading figures of the era.

The men stood around the billiard table as Harpending dumped the gems on the green cloth. All eyes were on Mr. Tiffany. He rolled them around, sorted in little piles, and then held them to the light. Finally he said: "Gentlemen, these are beyond question precious stones of enormous value. But before I give you my exact appraisal I must submit them to my lapidary. I will report to you further in two days."

Arnold and Slack ambled out into the night. The evening-frocked men of affairs remained to click billiard balls and discuss the consequence of a vast diamond field on the North American continent.

IN two days Tiffany sent in his report.

The gems submitted were valued at \$150,000. That placed the value of gems on hand at \$1,500,000. News of the appraisal leaked out and the speculative market began to stir. The harder plungers stormed Harpending's door to get in on the ground floor. But the financier wasn't opening up.

There was still the last clincher to be taken care of. An examination of the fields by an expert. The importance of the project demanded the services of the leading expert in the field. That man was Henry Janin—an expert head and shoulders above any of his contemporaries. It was common knowledge that no one ever lost money on one of Janin's recommendations. He was ultra-conservative. His recommendation on mining

prospects pegged the value of the property in every mart in the world.

Janin agreed to examine the field for \$2,500, all expenses paid and the right to take up 1000 shares of stock at a nominal price.

As the party was making preparations for the trip Arnold began to get restive. He took his complaint to Harpending. He disliked all the publicity. He pointed out that he was placing his property at the mercy of others without proper security. It would be impossible to keep the location a secret after this large party had explored the fields. He had faithfully kept all his agreements but all he had to show for it was a piece of paper. The amount of wealth he was about to disclose was all out of proportion to the meager sum he was asking. Mining being the tricky business it was he wanted some cold cash before going any further.

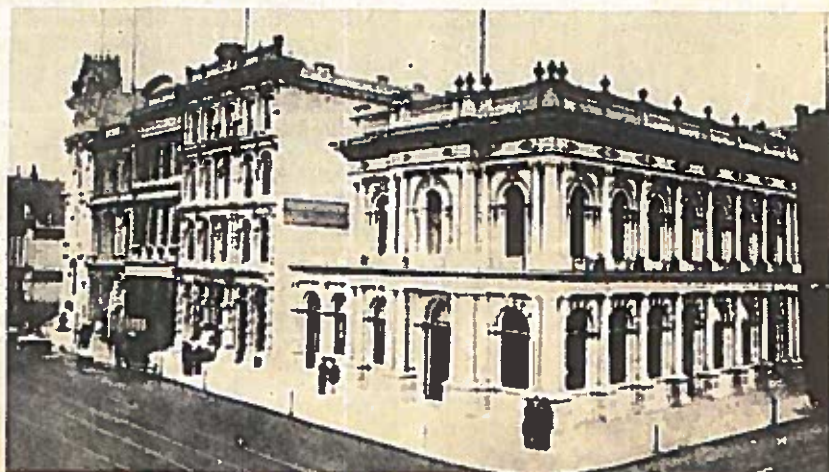
He wanted \$200,000 in cash and the rest of the \$600,000 put in escrow pending the Janin report. This seemed reasonable to Harpending. After all, they had much more than this amount in diamonds on hand. He telegraphed Ralston in San Francisco and the banker immediately wired back the money.

That taken care of, the party set out in high spirits for the mysterious diamond fields. It consisted of Henry Janin, General George S. Dodge, Alfred Rubery, Harpending, Arnold, and Slack.

There were also high spirits in San Francisco. The Tiffany report had touched off a holiday mood in the group out there. They wanted to be on hand to give a champagne welcome to the greatest discovery on earth. Clamoring aboard an east-bound train they wired Harpending that they would join his group at Omaha.

(Continued next page)

The old Bank of California building into which the two old prospectors stumbled with a sack of diamonds that set off a fantastic chain of events.



WHEN Arnold heard of this he blew his top. He went to Harpending. He was only a beer-drinking prospector, but he knew you didn't discover mines with champagne suppers. Or if you did the beer drinker would be lucky to come away with the price of a beer. Why didn't he have him draw a map to the fields and have it published in the *New York Tribune*. Call everybody in. Free diamonds for the picking.

Harpending saw the point, wired the western group and they debarked at the next way-station for whence they had come.

After a hot, dusty Union Pacific ride to Rawlings Springs, the party got horses and set out into the wilds. The party was not blindfolded this time but they followed a tortuous zig-zag route with Arnold again climbing mountain peaks to get his bearings. On the third day Harpending thought he heard a train whistle. He mentioned it to Arnold. The miner said, "The railroad is at least a hundred miles away."

At four o'clock of the fourth day after plodding through some desolate country with the party beginning to get quarrelsome, Arnold stopped and said, "Here it is." They were on a plateau of about 30 or 40 acres in area, 7,000 feet above sea level. Through the middle ran a stream. The ground was covered with rocks. It was later determined that they were about twenty miles from the railroad.

The party encamped and then despite their weariness began to look for diamonds. Arnold and Slack showed no signs of nervousness. In a few minutes Rubery gave a yell. He had found the first one. Then they all got lucky. Within an hour everyone had his fists full of diamonds. Not only diamonds, they occasionally came across rubies, emeralds and sapphires. Harpending states later, "Why a few pearls weren't thrown in for good luck I have never yet been able to tell."

He further reported: "You may depend upon it that we were in a happy mood that night. There wasn't the usual row over who should cook supper, who should wash dishes, who should care for the stock, which little incidents of camp life had brought us to the verge of bloodshed during the three previous days. On the contrary, good will and benevolence were slopping over. Arnold and Slack had excellent reason to be satisfied. Mr. Janin was exultant that his name should be associated with the most momentous discovery of the age, to say nothing of the increased value of his 1,000 shares; while General Dodge, Rubery, and myself experienced the intoxication that comes with sudden accession of boundless wealth."

THE next day prospecting was resumed. Janin wanted to determine the extent of the fields. He told Harpending that the fields would certainly control the gem markets of the world, and that an essential part of such control would be to have one corporation in complete possession of the entire diamondiferous area. Arnold and Slack remained in camp while the rest of the party set up claim notices over a vast section of Wyoming.

On the third day Janin was satisfied that the entire area had been claimed. Leaving Rubery and Slack to guard the claim, the rest of the party headed back to New York.

When word of the Janin report leaked

out the financial world was electrified. From bucket shop to the House of Rothschild there was a wild scramble to get on the gravy train. Baron Rothschild was let on, but fortunately not the bucket shop speculator. Twenty-five of Ralston's friends were allowed to come in to the amount of two million dollars.

The "San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Company" was incorporated with a capital stock of ten million dollars. Its powers were broad. Not only was it to own mines and their accessories, but it was to engage in every type of commercial business pertaining to the gem industry including the preparation of the precious stones for the market. The incorporators planned to move bodily the great lapidary industries of the Low Countries to the West Coast. The peoples of Belgium and Holland were thrown into a panic of fear.

A statement credited to Janin that twenty laborers could wash out a million dollars worth of stones a day foreshadowed the ruin of the South African economy. A tremor passed through the entire British empire.

The stock markets of the world tried to make dizzy adjustment to the news. The financial cables buzzed day and night between San Francisco, New York and London. In the meantime, the two desert-weathered prospectors were paid their \$600,000 and they wandered off into the hills as artlessly as they had wandered into the Bank of California that morning when they set off their financial time-bomb.

Head offices of the company were set up in San Francisco under the direction of Billy Ralston, with a branch in New York under Harpending, and one in London under the Rothschild agency. General George B. McClellan became one of the directors. David D. Colton resigned from the Central Pacific Railway to become general manager. A huge map was hung in the head office showing the three thousand acre claim; and General Butler threw a bill into the Congressional hopper to doubly insure the right to the claim as well as to clear up all haziness as to the legal requirements of the operation envisioned.

THEN the company had to mark time to await spring thaws before operations could begin. Forty years later Asbury Harpending still shuddered at the thought of the catastrophe that was narrowly missed that following month. Pressure began to mount on all sides for shares of stock. He recalled:

"Just what might have happened in a single month of wild speculation had the stock of the San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Company been placed in any considerable quantity on the market is hard to tell. But one thing is very certain—it would have caused a catastrophe almost without parallel in the civilized world. The public was keyed up to a point of a speculative craze such as even the Comstock never saw, not alone in San Francisco but in nearly every financial center of the earth. Millions upon millions would have been invested. The shares would have soared to fabulous figures. Banks would have advanced money on these prime securities, as was the custom in those times. And then the awful crash. There would have been more ruins in financialdom than San Francisco exhibited after the fire. Every day the mails were loaded with letters from eager correspondents making inquiries for stock.

The best and unanswerable proof that everyone connected with the company acted in good faith is to be found in the fact that not a share changed hands."

The company had decided that it would work only one pocket and let out other areas on a cash and royalty basis. Some twenty bona fide offers were received by the company during that month. Fortunately none were closed. For these marginal companies could have sold stock on the basis of their concessions and thus opened the speculative flood gates.

In fact, three other independent diamond companies were formed waiting only for the Ralston outfit to open up its stock so as to unload their stock on the speculative upsweep. But the men around Ralston were not speculating. They had their hands on the greatest discovery on earth and they were sitting tight.

Then one month after the San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Company had set up sumptuous shop, Ralston picked a telegram from his desk. It was marked from Rawlings Springs, Wyoming. He read it. And then he read it again. He paled. But he was a man reared in the broad humor of the West. Then he laughed, long and heartily. That laugh came back to him from around the world.

IT seemed that a young government geologist named Clarence King was making a periodic trip through the western territory. He decided to look in on the great diamond find. In company with an old German prospector he had little difficulty in locating the fields. And less difficulty in locating diamonds. The area was spotted with ant hills. These industrious little workers had become enamoured with the bright stones and had carried them into their holes. In practically every hill they found a diamond. In fact, some of the hills were made of diamond dust. The helpful little insects were not only digging them up but they were processing them also.

Clarence King looked at his partner. The old prospector looked at King. In his hand was a diamond clearly marked by a lapidary's tool. "This is the greatest field ever," roared the German. "It not only produces diamonds, it cuts them yet!"

The geologist took horse to Rawlings Springs and sent the telegram that broke the diamond bubble. A party, including the discomfited Janin, immediately set out for the fields. But that was anticlimactic. Ralston began to write out checks even before the party got on the train. He knew the swash-buckling mining game of the Old West. He had been outsmarted by two harmless-appearing desert rats who knew how to clam up. He had seen the fortunes of men go up and down too many times in that game to lose any of his bounce. He took the rap in full. Out of his own pocket he paid off everyone who had put money in the project and joined in the laugh that went out over the Sierras.

The debate raged for years in mining and financial circles as to how so many experts could have been fooled at so many different points. And it is quite obvious that they were fooled. No one made any money on the deal—except, of course, the two prospectors who until now had been lost in the shuffle. Had the stock been put on the open market with a resultant financial crash the whole operation would have been sus-

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Secrets of Panning Gold

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gold prospecting. Portable, highly sensitive detectors can locate small deposits of gold and black sand at considerable depths. They can find virgin black sand deposits beneath the surface, unsuspected by the old timers.

In spite of the fact that panning is the least efficient and most laborious method of extracting gold, the use of the pan is as essential to the modern prospector as it was to the forty-niners. A gold pan can be bought for about two bucks. The pan should be between twelve and eighteen inches in diameter, about two-and-a-half inches deep and with sides having about a thirty degree slope.

TO DESCRIBE the action of using a gold pan without demonstration is like trying to define a spiral staircase without using your hands. The technique can best be learned by practice and observation. The tricks of finding and identifying the gold, already outlined, are ninety percent of the game.

Briefly, the pan is filled with sand and gravel and washed in water. The whole point is to concentrate the heavier materials by washing away the lighter. Large rocks should be discarded to keep the material as even a size as possible. Perhaps it's necessary to mention that any nuggets should be picked out and saved as they appear.

The washing is continued until a concentrate of the heavier materials remains. If the gold is very fine, it will usually be in a mixture of black sand that cannot be separated by panning without risk of losing the gold. Save the concentrates for later separation. Let the concentrate mixture dry; then use a magnet to draw out as much black sand as possible.

The gold can be separated from the balance of the concentrates by amalgamation with mercury. Add about one-half teaspoon of mercury to five pounds of concentrate; agitate vigorously under water until no trace of gold remains. The gold will be taken up by the mercury, giving it a pasty consistency. The mercury can be panned free of the now worthless concentrate in the usual manner.

Now you have a quantity of amalgam which must be further reduced until only gold remains. For the amateur, the simplest and safest procedure is to boil off the mercury. Place the amalgam in a clean iron vessel and heat to around 675° F. The mercury is vaporized, leaving the gold.

Warning! Mercurial vapor is poison. Boil the amalgam outdoors and avoid inhaling the vapor.

The gold is ready to sell. At this point, the question of markets becomes one of more than academic interest. Amounts less than one ounce can be peddled to individual buyers, mineral dealers, and jewelry stores at a discounted price. Larger amounts should be sold to a United States Mint. The gold can be sent by insured parcel post with a separate letter enclosing Form TG-19, obtainable by request from any mint or assay office. The mints will pay \$35 an ounce for pure gold, less for impure gold, and will deduct various charges for melting and refining.

Gold panning still has its elements of suspense and high points of excitement—for today's amateur as much as for history's old prospector. Take your kit up into "them thar hills" and start panning. Fort Knox needs the gold.

Yogo!

(Continued from page 79)

and ditches and ruined machinery. Buildings and wreckage were strewn about. The tragedy lay not in the destructive cloudburst, but in the stubbornness of the British owners to reconstruct. England was struggling desperately to repair the ravages of war on her economy. The absentee owners decided it was no time to sink money in the rebuilding of an American gem mine. Besides, they held a monopoly on the supply of these fine sapphires, so why rush? The mine would still be there ten or twenty years from now. American interests tried to buy it back repeatedly, but the obstinate answer came back across the sea, "No!" So, nothing was done.

In 1946 a small group of die-hard Montanans decided the time was ripe to acquire control of the Yogo if ever. Their timing was perfect. The British badly needed American dollars which they could get from the sale of the mine. This time, the native sons were determined to hang onto one of the state's richest products. Negotiations were slow and tedious. Finally, in 1949 the purchase was made and the contract signed.

TALK ABOUT your lost gold mine!

Plans were swinging into action. It is believed thousands of dollars worth of sapphires can be recovered without even mining—from dike materials that were dug years ago. Mining engineers estimate that there are close to five million tons of sapphire-bearing material still untouched and only two hundred thousand tons already mined.

The Montana dike is the only one in the world to contain gem sapphires. They are uncovered wherever this dike is opened. The future looks exciting for that wild remote country above Utica. Untouched treasure is always exciting and there is plenty of it, just lying there, waiting to be picked up and tilted to the light. It is a thought to stir your heart. Rockhounds make excursions to the area and bring back fabulous samples which they keep in fruit jars and eventually have polished to suit their taste.

You hardly ever see a Yogo in a Montana jeweler's window. They can't get them. I did see a synthetic stone which the old rascal handled reverently and stated was a choice Yogo. Let us hope it won't be long before the beautiful cornflower sapphire is on the markets of the world. Then maybe our own people can get acquainted with its lovely color and have a chance to acquire one.

Diamond Hoax

(Continued from page 40)

pect. The only answer seems to be that anyone can be wrong once, and that by coincidence all the experts had their one time for being wrong at the same time. Add to this the intoxication of the era and the place in which the events occurred.

The subsequent examination of the field revealed some very clever "salting" and also some crudities. Narrow holes were made with a sharp instrument into which the diamonds were placed. The holes were carefully covered and

then allowed to weather during the rough winter months. Possibly some of the diamonds are still there. But lest another hoax get started it might be well to warn the diamond-seeker that they are of a very poor grade—Tiffany's lapidary to the contrary notwithstanding. Investigators finally pieced out the story.

A picture of Arnold was recognized by the diamond merchants of Amsterdam. They remembered him as an American who made several trips over there to buy great quantities of inferior grade diamonds. This fact alone gave them cause for recalling him. They passed him off as a rich American who had more money than taste. It was also determined that he had made \$50,000 in a gold mining deal which would have given him the money to buy the diamonds.

The Tiffany appraisal can be partly explained by two facts. The prospector undoubtedly bought some expensive stones to be used as samples. And Tiffany was not a house that dealt in uncut stones. There was probably no expert in that field in the country. Why King found a cut stone while Janin, after three days of search did not, is anybody's guess.

The prospectors just had an unaccountable amount of luck along with their grumpy silence. Many crudities were revealed after the fields were thoroughly explored. Rubies and diamonds were found pressed into rock crevices. These gems are not found together, and why no one thought of that sooner is another one of the mysteries of the hoax. Harpending denied a howling story, however—that they found diamonds perched in the crotches of trees. There were no trees in the area.

The laconic Slack simply disappeared. No one could find out where he had come from nor where he had gone. Arnold was traced to Kentucky where he had set himself up on a fine estate in Harlan County. A California contingent went down to Kentucky to file suit for recovery of his \$300,000. They were met at the county line by Arnold's neighbors armed with shot guns. He was their hero. He had taken the smart-money boys. They warned that Harlan County was very unhealthy for Californians. The Californians went back home.

Billy Ralston took all of his cancelled diamond hoax checks, had them framed and hung in his office. A reminder, should any more bewildered wanderers of the wasteland stumble into his marble foyer carrying buckskin sacks.



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April 18, 1968

Daggett County History:

II 576

The Great Diamond Mountain Fraud

By Kerry Boren

MANILA—The Great Diamond Fraud, perpetrated in the eastern section of Daggett county, is one of the most interesting events in the county's long history.

In 1871, William Ralston was one of the most wealthy and influential persons in the world. As owner of the famous Bank of San Francisco, he held within his grasp the mighty Comstock Mines of Nevada plus innumerable other enterprises. However, by 1871 the famous ore-bearing mines stood idle with murky waters clogging the tunnels and Ralston was on the verge of nervous collapse.

INTO THIS situation one day came two disheveled prospectors, who introduced themselves as Philip Arnold and John Slack. They had with them a curious canvas sack, the contents of which they would not divulge. They wanted to keep the sack in the bank safe, claiming its contents to be very valuable. Ralston induced his friend and associate George

D. Roberts to speak with the two prospectors and learn the contents of the mysterious sack. Roberts eventually learned the story but only by offering the bank's assistance in promoting whatever the bag contained. And as it turned out, the sack contained about one pound of raw diamonds!

EXCITED OVER the discovery, Ralston induced the two prospectors to let him have the diamonds analyzed for authenticity. The best would only be good enough in this instance and so Ralston sent the diamonds to New York City to the famous Tiffany, in the care of the famous Civil War hero, General Dodge and George D. Roberts. Tiffany's report was glowing; the diamonds were valued at more than \$150,000!

Ralston immediately called the two prospectors to his office and presented them with a retainer fee of \$100,000 under the condition that they would lead a bank representative to the diamond field. Arnold and Slack agreed to do this only if

the representative were blindfolded, which was reluctantly agreed to. The man thought capable for this venture was David C. Colton, president of the Southern Pacific Railroad and a graduate geologist.

THE PARTY, which included only Arnold, Slack and Colton, left by train for Rawlins, Wyoming where they purchased a pack animal and set out to the southwest by a "devious route." Colton was blindfolded soon after leaving the town limits. Colton later recalled that they stopped several times during each day while Arnold climbed a hill to seek out familiar landmarks. After several days of seemingly aimless wandering, they arrived at their destination and Colton was unmasked. He later described the place as "... a gently sloping basin, with a small stream running through it." They began digging immediately and within a short time, diamonds were discovered, some only a foot below the surface.

With a sackful of glistening

stones, the three returned to San Francisco where the doubts of any investors were immediately dispelled. Ralston hastily formed a company which he named the San Francisco and New York Mining and Commercial Company. David Colton resigned as president of Southern Pacific and stood at the head of the new company as manager. The capital investments in the new company soon soared to over ten million dollars! Investors included some of the most prominent and influential men of the day.

AT THIS same time, Asbury Harpending, an associate of Ralston, became caught up in the new discovery. But Harpending remained skeptical. The brilliant young surveyor Clarence King, who later became the first head of the U.S. Geological Survey, had convinced Harpending that diamonds could not be found in such quantity in the continental

(Continued on page 3B)

Fraud . . .

(Continued from page 1B)

United States.

Harpending, together with about four or five others including Arnold, visited the diamond field, this time without blindfolds and the reports were more glowing than ever before. Henry Janin, the nation's foremost expert on such matters, estimated the entire field to be worth at least \$65,000,000 and perhaps twenty times as much and more!

ARNOLD and Slack were thorns in the side of big business and they were bought out by Ralston for \$660,000. Ralston and his associates went to great lengths to keep the location of the diamond field secret but to little avail. Arnold himself now kept the location no secret whatever and hundreds of prospectors flocked to the area around Diamond Mountain. Rumors spread as rumors will and soon men were looking for the fields as far away as Arizona and New Mexico. The entire thing might well have went on indefinitely had it not been for Clarence King. While completing his famous survey of the Fortieth Parallel in November of 1872, King came across the field and his knowledge of the geological structures of formations convinced him immediately that the entire field was a great fraud. And too, he discovered beneath an overhanging ledge nearby in a hidden pocket, a map of the region, some surveying instruments and a long metal rod. The hoax was out. King went immediately to Green River, Wyoming and from this place telegraphed Ralston at San Francisco, informing him of the find. Results were not long forthcoming.

WHEN THE truth was finally learned, all were amazed. The raw diamonds had been purchased for about \$35,000 in the Netherlands, having come from Africa. They were in fact only impure, imperfect specimens.

The great Tiffany was embarrassed for he had never seen a raw diamond previous to that experience. Arnold and Slack had made a profit of more than \$600,000! They were never legally apprehended because of a loop-hole in the law. They had never actually mentioned a diamond field - only that they would sell the diamonds. Therefore they were within the limits of the law. But retribution will out and it is said that at least one of the pair was killed in a gun duel, while the other soon spent his ill-gotten gains and died a pauper.

As for Ralston his case may be the saddest of all. His friends lost confidence in his judgement, he spent his entire personal finances on repaying the vast debts he had incurred in the fraud, and a gigantic run was made on his bank, throwing him into bankruptcy. The state department stepped into the scene at one point to prevent international complications. The day following the run on the Bank of San Francisco, Ralston's body was washed ashore on a lonely beach, where many believe he plunged himself to his death.

CONTRARY to other claims, Daggett County claims the site of the infamous event. More than \$80,000 worth of diamonds (at today's prices) are said to be buried there still, somewhere on property now owned by Ralph Siddoway of Vernal, near Diamond Springs. If

one should discover them today, and still is only one of the great don't get too excited; it was test frauds of all time.

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THE HISTORY OF DIAMOND MOUNTAIN.

By Ray Searle.

It is interesting as we read of the early settlers on Diamond Mountain to note that many of their names still remain on the places where they settled or roamed with their herds.

There are two main drainage systems on Diamond; one is Pot Creek, the other is Diamond Gulch. Pot Creek runs from west to east, running practically the full length of the mountain, it drains into Green River in Colorado. Diamond Gulch begins in the Pot holes near McKee Ridge, runs east into Jone's Hole and thence into Green River. The area around Pot Creek is near Browns Park, as a result the people from there made more use of that area in the early days than the people from Ashley Valley.

To start down by the Colorado line and come west, we first have Hoy Mountain. The Hoys were a very influential family in the Brown's Park area. There were three of them for whom this mountain was named; they evidently used it to quite an extent.

Along side of Hoy Mountain on the north is the Allen Draw. It goes toward the Colorado line, through the Yellow Jacket Pass and drops into Dry Creek, which is in Colorado.

The Allen Draw is named after a man by the name of Charles Allen, who was a brother-in-law of Charlie Crouse. (Charlie Crouse was the man for whom Crouse Canyon was named.)

There were three of the Law girls, Mary, Elizabeth and Jean. Mary was the wife of Charlie Crouse, Charles Allen married Elizabeth and a fellow by the name of W.G. Tittsworth married Jean. I will speak about Tittsworth later.

Allen was the first Justice of the peace, gaining the title of Judge, in Brown's Park.

Charlie Crouse had a rock house at the head of Crouse Canyon a little west of where the road is now. It was there that Stanley Crouse was born. A little farther down the draw on the right, the Marshall Draw takes off. It may have derived its name from a man by the name of James Marshall, who ran horses in the Park.

Ren Hall had a homestead in the Marshall draw. Gene R. Hall, son of Ren Hall, tells of this incident:

"In about 1920, my father who was Ren Hall, homesteaded in the Marshall Draw on Diamond Mountain. He built a cabin where he could move his wife and two children Boyd and Ralph, to prove up on the homestead. In the summer of 1921, he took a job as fire guard at the Trout Creek Ranger Station. My mother was about seven months pregnant and she moved to the homestead in Marshall Draw with the two small boys. Her sister Elma Rasmussen, now Elma Smith, was sixteen at the time, came to stay with her that summer while dad was stationed at the Trout Creek Ranger Station. During the last of August, in 1921, my mother began to have labor pains and she sent Elma, her sister, to DeJournette's ranch for help. It was a dark stormy night. One of the fellows at the Ranch left for Vernal to get Dr Francke, while word was sent to my father at the Ranger Station. Dr. Franke left Vernal late in the evening the following day and arrived at the cabin in Marshall Draw about daylight the following morning, traveling by horse and buggy. Ren arrived about the same time as the doctor did. Shortly after the arrival of the doctor, the baby was born. He was approximately two and one half months premature. They built a fire in the stove and put the baby in the warming oven, using the stove as an incubator. The baby was kept in the warming oven for three days until he was able to breathe and take care of himself normally. He was named Keith Marshall Hall. He was killed in a horse accident when he was five years old."

"Alvin Kay was at the site of the cabin two years ago and brought me the leg of a stove which is probably the leg of the stove which was used as the incubator."

Going on west from the Marshall Draw we come to the Warren Draw. It was here that Jim Warren ran a sizable herd of cattle and horses.

Warren had studied for the ministry but decided that a free life and adventure was more his style. It was said that his operation was not exactly ethical.

Next we come to the Jackson Draw. I have never been able to get any information as to where the Jackson derived its name.

Sears Canyon, which is the lower half of the Mail Draw was settled by a family by that name who used the water there.

The Mail draw probably got its name because of the mail which was carried through there to Vernal. In the book "Flaming Gorge Country" we are told that they ran a stage line from Green River through the Mail draw quite a lot through the 80's and 90's. A fellow by the name of Maxim was in charge of it. They make an effort to run once a month.

At the bottom of the Jackson Draw is the Little Hole. I have always supposed that, since Brown's Park was called Brown's Hole at that time and since this area is nothing more than another Hole, that is how it came to be called Little Hole. The first record we have of white men using Little Hole is Joe Davenport. A man by the name of Powers was also known to have been there. Powers was associated with Charlie Crouse.

Early in the 90's, here in Ashley Valley, they held a horse race, Tom Caldwell and Charlie Crouse owned the horses. There was some disagreement about the outcome of the race. Caldwell contended that they doctored his horses, a law suit was filed and went on for several years. One of Caldwell's boys went to Brown's park and disappeared. It was intimated that Crouse was responsible but there was never any proof.

Powers, at this time was in the little hole and was evidently in with a group who was doing a lot of cattle rustling. W. G. Tittsworth, who I mentioned before, was with the group. They had stolen a bunch of cattle and Tittsworth had sold them. He came to Powers, supposedly, to pay him his share. Instead of paying him, he killed him. He claimed self defence and was able to get away with it. However, he left the country, Perhaps not because he was afraid of the law but geared the other members of the group.

As you start down into the Little Hole, a trail that is barely discernable, takes off to the right leading to what we call Boan's Hole. Joe Boan had a farm there; his brother Clarence was with him some. It is interesting to go in there to-day and see the cabins and corrals he built. At one time Joe had a patch of alfalfa there which appeared to have a good crop of seed. I talked to him one day on his way to get a threshing machine. The thresher is still there and after walking down there to-day you can't help but wonder how he ever got it in there. The threshing machine came from Island Park. I helped Hod Ruppel thresh with it once. He powered it with a 1924 Chevrolet.

At one time Ben Kelly and his father were in the Little Hole. Ben later had a partnership in Ashton's store, known then as the A.K. After the Kelly's the Whitbecks were in the hole for a time.

Next, comes the Davenport Draw. As far as I know, it was named after Joe Davenport.

The Lambson was named after a cattleman by that name.

Going on over to the foot of the mountain is Simmon Springs. The Simmons were early day sheep men from Payson. At that time, the law required that all sheep must be dipped for scabies, a contagious skin disease. The Simmons had a dipping vat there for a short time.

This brings us pretty well to the upper end of Pot Creek. Now, we will go over to the Diamond Gulch side which was settled more by the people from Ashley Valley.

In the book "Builders of Uintah" published by the Daughters of the Pioneers, the Burtons and McKees as being early cowmen. Burtons settled at Diamond Springs. At this point an incident occurred which is of interest to the Searles:

We own most of the ground in the Blair Basin. Under the Rim of the mountain is a spring, also known as Blair. For a long time we couldn't get any information as to where the name Blair originated. A few years ago I read the life history of Pete Dillman. Pete carried the mail across the mountain during the hard winter of 1880. When Pete made his last trip in the spring he stopped at the cabin at Diamond Springs, as was his custom, and there he found a man by the name of Duncan Blair. He had wintered his cattle in Jones Hole. Blair was a squaw man and from the information we have been able to glean, we learned that he came from Rock Springs, Wyoming. There were four brothers who were influential in the early days of Rock Springs, there being a part of the City still known as Blair Town. Duncan came this way; we also hear of him in the White River area. Those who stayed in Rock Springs married into a family by the name of Hayes, they engaged in the cattle and sheep business and are still prominent there in the Banking Business.

As before mentioned, Pete met Duncan Blair at Diamond Springs in 1880. The Meeker Massacre was in 1879, after which the Indians were driven out. However, the area was still an Indian reservation closed to white settlers but because Blair was married to an Indian

he was allowed to take up land there. History records that he had a thousand head of cattle, was very successful and highly respected.

If you are familiar with the White River area you remember the Yellow Creek School house. As you make the turn and come up on the ridge you are on the Blair Mesa.

In a recent Wernal Express, under "70 years ago" it tells of the Burtons selling out to John N. Davis in 1909 and it mentions the fact that Burtons bought it from Blair. It was about 1883 that Duncan Blair went to Meeker so the Burtons must have been at Diamond Springs for about 25 years.

When the Burtons first settled there, two of them were implicated Theodore and Joe, Theodore was killed by a horse, leaving a wife and two small children. She had been an Arnold from Jensen. She later married J. K. Bullock.

Another family prominent in the cattle business was the James McKees. Evidently they were one of the biggest cow outfits in this part of the country at that time. McKee Draw was named after them. James McKee must have died just before they started printing the Express because his death is not recorded there, but, soon after his wife advertized his cattle for sale. This was in about 1892. She advertized 1600 head of steers branded a stirup on the left hip. Just a short time later the Express showed that Coltharp, Joe Luxon, Curg Johnson and sterling Colton bought these cattle and evidently they bought the brand, everything for 2,000 head. If you are not familiar with the name Joe Luzon, I might say that he built a large brick home below Rangely. The Rectors live there.

About 1894 Curg Johnson and Sterling Colton bought Coltharp and Luxon out. My Grandfather gathered those cattle. They took 800 head to Opall, Wyoming and delivered them to M. K. Parson. Parson was the foreman of the Keystone outfit of which you are probably familiar. Later they took between 7 and 800 head of steers to Bittercreek, Wyoming and shipped them. This accounts for about 1500 head. They took 1300 head of cows to Maybell and delivered them to Haley. I imagine they took the calves also because in that day they they didn't sell a calf until it was three or four years old. If the cow was sold they threw the calf in also.

Grandfather said Haley talked them into staying to help with the branding which would be no small job with both cows and calves to brand.

It is evident that the McKees didn't know how many cattle they had since the number my Grandfather helped deliver amounted to between twenty-six and twenty-seven hundred.

There is another story pertaining to James McKee which you may not have heard. I have heard the story at various times throughout my life. Just a short time before his death Mr. McKee sold some cattle and is said to have had a dutch oven full of gold.

In one of my Grandfather's account books which I have in my possession, it shows that he sold cattle ~~just a year or two later~~ for thirty dollars a head. If Mr. McKee sold his cattle for twenty five dollars a head, he should have had around twenty thousand in gold. According to the story, he had been down to Jensen to see some relatives. On the way back he became ill and stopped at the home of a family he knew. There he became ill and died; no one ever knew what became of the money. People began talking when a few years later this same family built a big new home.

I might relate another experience which happened during the summer of 1924. Jim Freestone and his wife, Elmer Packer and his wife and I went to Jones hole fishing. As we stopped at the Q cabins, we found two big holes had been dug and scattered around were a number of money bags from a Kansas City Bank. We never did learn what that was all about. I talked to Hod Ruppel, who had met and talked to some people who had maps of the area. The sacks were in good condition so we used them for fish sacks.

One of the very important industries of Diamond Mountain was the sheep business, which flourished between 1900 and 1950. We are told that Tom Caldwell was the first to have sheep there. He supplied sheep to Al Hatch and Ike Burton.

In 1886 and 87 three of the Young's came to the Valley and ran their sheep on Diamond. The Carters, the Bennions, the Readers and several other big herds came into the area about that time.

We have talked about the road over Diamond Mountain to Green River and Rock Springs. These sheep men took all of their sheep to Diamond Mountain to shear them because that was the best route out to ship the wool.

Walt McCoy came to this area in 1888, arriving from Texas with

a drive of cattle branded with a J. Mr. McCoy later adopted this brand for his livestock and the McCoy's are still using it. Walt started herding sheep when he first came into the Valley, gradually acquiring a herd of his own. He was still in the sheep business at the time of his death in 1948.

Claud Hatch tells me that his father was in charge of the counting corral where they pulled the stray sheep out of the herds as they came off the summer range. At that time they had the ear marks and brands for 57 herds of sheep coming off the forest onto Diamond, where they grazed until time to go on the winter range. At this time (1981) there are 6.

As I stated before, livestock was the big industry in this area until the discovery of oil. In the book "Builders of Uintah", published in 1947, it tells us that there was 200,000 sheep in Uintah County.

Throughout the West at the turn of the century there was a considerable amount of friction between the cattle and sheep men. On Diamond, however, there hasn't been a lot of friction between these people.

We had one instance in the McKee Draw. The sheep men sent a herd of bucks into the lower end of the draw. A man by the name of Erickson and a boy, Ren Hall were herding them. Four masked men came into their camp, held them at gun point while they tied them up, then, using the ax from the camp, they killed quite a number of the bucks. After the men had gone, the herders were able to get loose and started in pursuit but, since they had no guns, they decided it was wise to come to Vernal for help. Returning with the sheriff, they tracked the men which was a simple matter as one of the horses had a broken shoe and they were able to follow them right into their camp, where they found four of the McKee boys. They were arrested and taken to Vernal. This took place on the 22 of July 1897. In the account book which belonged to my Grandfather, it shows where he bought cattle from the McKee boys at that time as they needed money to fight their case in court. They fought a hard legal battle but were all sent to jail.

We should mention the homesteading and how the ground was acquired. The first people didn't seem too concerned about acquiring the land. Using it for nothing had been the practice and for

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a time this seemed a better idea. For an example let us take the Snow Springs area:

Hugh Snow patented Snow Springs but he only patented 80 acres. That was very good ground and he could probably have patented 160 as easily as 80. The 80 acres gave him the water he needed, the grass was free. This procedure seemed to be typical with most of the stockman who used the mountain.

One thing I haven't mentioned is the problem of cattle rustlers coming onto the mountain from the Browns Park side. The Snows left Diamond Mountain about 1900 because they lost too many cattle to the rustlers.

There were different ways to obtain the title to the ground. After the Civil War the United States couldn't pay their soldiers so they issued them script. This was good for the purchase of land. A fellow by the name of Nutter over in Nine Mile acquired enough script to buy a township.

Another way the ground could be obtained was to buy school sections. The Government was leasing them for $2\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ an acre so they were glad to be able to sell them for \$2.50 per acre.

At first the homesteader could only acquire 160 acres, then, the larger homestead of 320 acres was made available. Later the grazing homestead act was passed and 640 acres was allowed. This brought a great influx of homesteaders on to Diamond Mountain.

Before homesteading began in earnest the mountain was used more or less as a Community pasture for the people of the Valley. The sheep men had acquired a lot of the water but after homesteading began the ground was pretty well all taken up and friction began to occur between those who had and those who didn't have ground. Many people were putting stock up there who didn't have a place to put them, not even a place to drop a block of salt. Agitation grew and those who had been using the ground without owning any began sell their stock. I was there with my father in the fall of 1923 when he was buying cattle for a company known as Peck and Graham and many of these stockman sold out. That was the fall father was killed by lightning there on the Rim where he was holding some of these cattle. The Monument there on the Rim marks the spot of his death.

The following year George Slauch ran a stray pen on the Leonard Slauch place. Those who didn't have land to run their stock usually found them in the stray pen where they had to pay to get them released. The price of cattle wasn't very high, and that along with stray pen fees encouraged more people to sell out. Those who had ground took better care of their stock and soon a big change came about on Diamond Mountain. Of course, there was no fence on the forest at that time and strays from that source were still a problem until the fence was built.

In speaking of the homestead privilege, it was, in many ways, misused. For instance, many of the stockmen who had a herder working for them could have him file on a 640 acre piece of ground, pay the \$40 fee and as soon as it was allowed the stockman could use it for three years then get an extension for two years, and if he relinquished before that time expired he could get his \$40 back.

Another scheme they used to avoid paying taxes was to change their filing, maybe it would only be on 40 acres but it would give them another three years to prove up and thus avoid the taxes for that period.

In defence of the homesteaders I might add that their life was not easy, times were hard and even after making the struggle to prove up on their land they were unable to make a living there.

Our problem in the West was that we did not have the representation in the Congress to get the laws passed that we needed. To those people in the east with plenty of rainfall and better growing conditions, 640 acres seemed like a lot of land. In the West three times that would have been more adequate. For example: Charles (Whity) Roller homesteaded 640 acres, lived on it 17 years on a starvation basis (according to his children), mortgaged it for \$500 and lost it.

Many of the homesteaders were trying to dry farm during the early 1920s. The equipment for this type of farming had not yet been developed. To add to their plight, a plague of crickets devoured their crops causing many of them to abandon their farms. Following this came the depression and the drought of the 1930s and all that remained was the stockman. During the the Goodriches, myself and Zeph Calder began again to dry farm. With larger tracts of land, better equipment and improved farm practices we experienced more success.

1900-08-04 Vernal Express

The Pot Creek Reservoir Drowning,

Justice R. C. Camp and Assessor Tyzack returned from the Diamond mountain, where they went to investigate the drowning in the Pot creek reservoir referred to in the last issue of the Express. The facts as reported by them are that the victim was an Austrian named John Flar. He being a new arrival in the country was unable to use much English. He had been employed about a month by the Park Livestock company and at the time of the accident was in charge of the buck herd. He had become interested in shooting and had sent for a shot gun to use in killing ducks and sage hens.

The last seen of him was on July 22nd, when his camp was moved to the reservoir on the 28th, the other herders having passed his camp a few times and seeing nothing of him a search for him was instituted on that date which resulted in his discovery, he being in the reservoir. Part of his clothes were on the north bank. He had apparently taken off all of his clothing except his shirt and under shirt, and had waded in after some of the young ducks that abound there. The water being only to his knees until he reached the channel where it slopes off abruptly to over six feet. Here he was found leaning against the bank. The chances are that he could not swim a stroke and he perished in water not six inches over his head.

He was left where found until July 29th when Justice Camp arrived and an inquest was held. The members of the coroners jury were J. D. Powers, Herbert Tyzack and George Law. A verdict of accidental drowning was rendered. The body was buried near there immediately, as it had started to decompose. It was floating when Justice Camp and party arrived.

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THREE MILES OF ROAD TO DIAMOND MOUNTAIN IS NOW COMPLETED

Three miles of new road has been completed on the Diamond Mountain highway. There is a force of men at work under Supervisor Oaks, and they have completed the road out of Brush creek onto the bench. Work will be pushed steadily on to completion. It is expected everything will be done this fall.

The county appropriated \$500 and the sheepmen who have ranges in the district appropriate \$850. Through Lnos Bennion, the sheepmen have promised another \$400 or \$500. The farmers in the district have promised their share in labor, which it is expected they will immediately furnish.

The completion of this road will be a big improvement and aid to farmers and sheepmen alike. When the course is completed, an automobile may easily traverse the route. Even in the present shape of the road an automobile made the trip for the first time, a few weeks ago. Wm O'Neil, of Roosevelt and a party were headed for Rock Springs. They negotiated the trip easily. The chug and purr of the automobile startled natives on the mountain.

The harvests on the mountain this year have been exceptionally good and next year it is supposed it will be better than ever. New entries are being made all the time, and there is but a few choice tracts remaining.

Vernal Express Oct 18, 1918

1936-05-28

Two fifty-pound bear traps were displayed by S M Ross this week. The traps are in the window of the Vernal Express. Mr Ross said the traps caught three bear on Diamond and Brush creek mountains recently. The implements of torture belong to J I Gamar of Mt Dorr Florida, where they will be shipped. Mr Gamar formerly resided in Vernal.

Wildfire crews able to contain fire near Diamond Mountain

Federal officials with the Bureau of Land Management announced on Monday that only four hot spots remained in the nearly 2,800 charred acres of the Mail Draw Fire near Vernal.

The declaration means that the fire, which started on Aug. 31, is now 100 percent contained. Officials at the incident command post at Calder Reservoir said aerial reconnaissance of the fire area early Monday morning revealed the four remaining hot spots. They said no fire crews were dispatched to the fire lines.

The fire was sparked by a slightly curved piece of glass magnifying the

morning sunlight, said BLM Law Enforcement Ranger Wayne Stevens.

"In addition to being a hazard to wildlife and barefooted people, [glass] can also be a fire hazard," Stevens said.

Officials expect fire some minor smoldering in the burn area over the next few days, but a mild weather forecast should prevent any flare-ups from occurring.

There were no injuries reported during the week-long incident, and no structures were threatened. Officials estimate the cost of the fire at \$915,000.

UBS 7 Sep 2004

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Dec 19, 2007

payments they have received,"

Wind energy on Diamond Mountain

Five conditional use permits were approved for Rim Ranch & Ridgeline Energy to install and operate wind towers on Diamond Mountain. The towers will gather data on wind speed and duration for energy use over three to five years. Constructed exploratory equipment will stand 191 feet tall and measure 3 1/2 - foot-square and will be supported by cables.

Ridgeline LLC is located in Idaho, will work "to a develop utility-scale wind energy project in for commercial power production," said Matt Cazier, Uintah County planner.

The exploratory effort may take between three to five years with tower placement on private and Bureau of Land Management lands. Commissioners approved temporary conditional uses permits for the five locations on the plateau. Provisions for FAA regulations were placed on the conditional use permit given to Rim Ranch & Ridgeline

Energy.

In a recent Salt Lake Tribune article, Pat Henetz, that "wind supplies already 13,000 megawatts of power in the United States and 80,000 megawatts around the world."

Uncertainty in the global oil market has hastened interest in alternative energy resources. PacifiCorp spokesman David Eskelsen said that their company is looking to develop a natural-gas, wind and solar powered 1,700-megawatt facility in Utah, Idaho or Wyoming over the next six years. His comments were recorded by Jasen Lee of the Deseret Morning News in an article dated Dec. 8.

Future energy development projects may combine environmentally friendly and partial fossil fuel production facilities. For now, application has been held back by the economic viability and production levels of these methods.

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