In the year '81 Bruce Johnson and Jud L. Brush were the big cattle men on the south side of the Platte and at that time the end of the Burlington railroad was at Indianola Nebraska.

Mr. Campbell Supt of Western Division of Burlington, induced Johnson and Brush, thru personal friendship, to ship their cattle from Indianola to Chicago. The cattle were gathered in the territory of Morgan, Logan, and Washington counties and driven to Indianola for shipment. The first made shipment was in October 1881 which the writer of this article participated.

In the summer of '82 when the railroad came west from McCook to Denver/Mr. Campbell Burlington then sput. of Western Division of the railroad induced the Lincoln Land company to name the town Brush after his old friend "Brush".

Long before there was a town on the spot now known as Brush it was known among cow-men as Beaver Creek.

The place had become a favorite shipping point on the old Texas-Montana cattle trail, over which hundreds of thousands of cattle were driven between Texas, Wyoming and Montana. Late in the summer of '82 the Lincoln Land Company of Lincoln Nebraska filed a plat of the town with the county clerk of Weld county. The original site contained 960 acres.

An immense volume of business concentrated at this point.

In the year 1884 there were 1200 carloads of livestock shipped from Brush.
In the same year a herd of 500,000 head was driven thru Brush to the river ford north of the town, on its way to the ranges of Wyoming and Montana.

In the fall of '82 the first residence was built in Brush by John T. Wylie, who with his wife were the first residents.
In the late fall there were 25 residents.
The first post office in Brush was established in 1883 in the Burlington section house and R. Nelson was the first postmaster.

The first newspaper, "The Lariat" was published in '85 by William S. Holmes.

Brush had no corporate existence until 1884.

The following gentlemen were the first board of town Trustees:

S. K. Cheadle, mayor; C.B. Simpson, Dr. N.A. Way, C.H. Rosenerans, Capt.

J. R. Ham, W. M. Downe, Jos. Sherman.

***************
In the spring of 1930 saw the beginning of the sugar beet industry in the vicinity of Brush. Previous to this time a few farmers had raised small quantities of beets for stock feeding, but the possibilities contained in their extensive cultivation for sugar manufacture had never occurred to them, or if they gave the matter a thought it was immediately dismissed as chimerical and non-utilitarian.

In the spring of 1900, the Brush Tribune obtained thru Mr. Officer of the Loveland sugar factory a quantity of imported seed and distributed them free of cost to a number of farmers in this section. After strenuous efforts on the part of E.H. Madison farmers promised to go to Loveland to investigate for themselves. Cheap rates were obtained as an inducement but even then, out of 25, only 7 took the trip.

The first distribution of seed had resulted in failure to arouse interest in the project. Farmers who had planted beets gave them little or no attention and took but scant interest in the matter. But after the return of the enthusiastic seven from Loveland the love of their enthusiasm gradually permeated the community.

The next year Dr. W.B. Turner and E.H. Madison went to various country school houses in the Brush district, Dr. Turner taking for his subject the Necessity for storage reservoirs and Mr. Madison pushing the beet sugar industry.

Contracts were handled thru the seed distributed thru the Tribune office. In 1904 the Brush Chamber of Commerce signed a contract with C.E. Morey as the president of the Morgan county construction company, agreeing to furnish the beets and sugar.

The Brush factory was built in 1906.
M.B. Gill

Thomas B. Park

Born at Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1877. Came to Colorado with his parents in 1889 and located at Evans Colo. His father's birthplace was in Scotland. He was married in 1898 to Grace Benson. To this union four children were born: Guy, Helen, Herald, Vivian.

He is one of the foremost farmers in Morgan county and he has been prominent in the advancement of public interests. He was prominent in the organization of the Independent sugar company who erected a sugar factory in Fort Lupton.

In 1933 he raised corn that went 94 bushels to the acre shelled. In 1926 he raised 20 tons of beets to the acre. For several years he has raised as high as 100 bushels of barley per/and his alfalfa went 5 tons per acre. Has always been interested in sheep feeding.

**************
December, 1934

R.L. Kendall.

Born 1870 in Harrison county Iowa. Married 1895. Came to Colorado 1907. Engaged in mercantile business in Fort Morgan for many years. Been a resident of Fort Morgan with the exception of two years spent in California ever since coming to Colorado. For the last eight years has been auto license clerk in county clerk's office.

**********
Born in Iowa 1875. Came to Colorado 1903. His farm lies two miles east of Fort Morgan on paved highway No. 6. Has been a large cattle feeder and has been wonderfully successful. Married to Miss Ripley in 1902. Children: Herbert, Herald, Ruth. Mr. Graves has farmed on rather a large scale. His usual crop is 20 tons of beets per acre on a sixty acre patch. He raises 75 bushels of barley per acre. 75 bushels of corn, and five tons of alfalfa.

He was director in People's State Bank which closed its doors a few years ago. His home is modern and his family enjoy all of the comforts of life.

***************
Dec. 1934. W.B. Gill

Williams E. Echols.

Born in Virginia in 1869. Came to Colorado in 1883. He took
homestead "San Roya" south west Ft. Morgan. Married 1890 Miss Jennie
Stowe Smith. No children.

He is one of the oldest and most prominent citizens of Brush.
He claims to be one of the best known real estate and live stock man between
the Missouri river and Rocky mountains. In coming to Colo. he drifted into
the South Platte valley in the year 1883, over what is known to the Indians
and old-time cowmen as the "Chisholm trail."

After looking over the country Mr. Echols decided that
Brush looked good to him, and he accordingly established the W.E. Echols
Livestock and Real Estate exchange, which business has been conducted with
a high degree of success. He has always had his shingle out offering to
publish one half of the money to anyone who will purchase any part of the
$200 to $400,000 worth of choice real estate that is daily looked after
by him.

Mr. Echols long residence in Morgan county makes him an
expert in the real estate business and he is regarded as an authority on
land values—both city and county—in this part of the state. Some of
the largest real estate deals ever consummated in the county have been
handled by Mr. Echols. He is known for his activities in matters affecting
the county.

*******************************
H. C. Giese

Manager of Great Western Sugar Co of the Fort Morgan and
Brush factories.

Born in Hall county, Nebraska 1877 came to Colo. 1907 as
Agricultural field supt. for the Great Western Sugar co. of Fort Morgan
from 1907 to 1917. In 1919 he became general manager for the Fort Morgan
and Brush factories of the Great Western Sugar co.

In 1906 he married Nettie B. Helm. They have two children,
Helen and Ada.

He soon acquired one of the best farms in Morgan co.
and is now one of the largest feeders of sheep and cattle in the county.
He is feeding 4400 sheep and 300 head of cattle on his 560 acre farm.
He has two large silos on his farm and has raised 16 ton of corn and fodder
per acre silo measurement. He has raised 16 tons of beets per acre on 122
acre field. 100 bushels of barley per acre, 85 bushels of oats. To give
an idea of Mr. Giese's ability as farmer on one of his farms of 400 acres
which is under the Morgan ditch he raised in 1934 370 tons of alfalfa,
1200 tons of beets, 4400 bushels of grain, 200 ton corn silage, 800 sacks
of potatoes.

Up until recent years the sugar factories at Brush and
Fort Morgan fed several thousand sheep and cattle and grew an acreage of
beets under their own supervision for the factories but have discontinued
the practice in recent years.

The Morgan and Brush Sugar factories were built in
1926. Capacity of factories 1700 tons per day each. To supply these factories
with beets the farmers have raised from 24 to 30 thousands of acres of
beets each year. Average production of beets per acre is 13 to 14 tons
per acre. The cost of each factory was about 1,000,000. Employed in
these factories are about 650 men. 150 men are employed the year round in these factories. Sugar output from these factories is about 3000 tons each campaigne of slicing beets runs from 75 to 110 days. The Ft. Morgan factory has won the Great Western Sugar penant for five years. The winning of the penant reflects on the efficiency of the management and the work of the employees.

In 1932 they had 55 thousand tons of beets piled on the ground at the factory at one time. The biggest pile of beets we have any record of.

During the World war the company grew beet seed. On account of the difficulty of getting seed out of Germany.

Frank Luhr is supt. Of the office force in Ft. Morgan factory. Mr. Frank Miller supt of the office force in Brush Mr Good is cashier and Guy Weybright is superintendent. These two factories stand at the head of the list for good performance among the 22 factories owned by the Great Western Sugar company.

After the campagne 150 men are kept busy putting the factory in shape, ready for the next campagne. These beet sugar factories put millions of money into circulation.

The beet pulp from these factories is sold back to the farmers for feeding cattle and sheep and adds another industry to our country.

**************************
Howard B. Bloomorn.

Howard Bloomorn born in 1893 Plattecenter Neb. Attended high school in local town and attended two years University of Nebraska. Came to Colo. 1919 and with his brother John, established Farmers State bank. Served in world's war, was sergeant Q.M.C. married 1920 Gladys Hogan. No children survives this union. Past master of his local lodge in Nebraska, Past president Lions club, Past Exalted Ruler Ft. Morgan Elks lodge 1143 for ten years. Has taken great interest in boy scout work.

Taken great interest in civic affairs and is always ready to boost the town.

He is cashier of the Farmers State bank of which his brother John is president.

The Curry hotel of Ft. Morgan was razed to make room for the building of the new Farmers State bank building. 30,000 lbs. of hard steel was used in the vault, all the latest equipment was used in the equipping of this new bank building. The entire banking fraternity of the state congratulated the Bloomorn Bros. at the opening of the bank.

*************
## STATEMENT OF BOND ISSUES AS OF OCTOBER 1, 1934

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Interest</th>
<th>Coupon Payable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>$750.00</td>
<td>$375 due July 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>$500 due Dec. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>750 due Oct. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>650.00</td>
<td>$315 due Oct. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290,000</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>12,325.00</td>
<td>$6,162.50 due Jan. 1, $6,162.50 due July 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>807.50</td>
<td>$403.75 due June 1, $403.75 due Dec. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>637.50</td>
<td>$318.75 due Dec. 1</td>
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</table>

Total $403,000.00

$17,650.00 $9,825.00 $8,825.00

**INTEREST COUPONS PAYABLE JAN. 1, 1935 to JAN. 1936:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st, 1935</td>
<td>$6,162.50</td>
<td>July 1st, 1935</td>
<td>$575.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st, 1935</td>
<td>375.00</td>
<td>July 1st, 1935</td>
<td>6,182.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st, 1935</td>
<td>750.00</td>
<td>Oct. 1st, 1935</td>
<td>750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st, 1935</td>
<td>315.00</td>
<td>Dec. 1st, 1935</td>
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<td>403.75</td>
<td>Dec. 1st, 1935</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st, 1935</td>
<td>318.75</td>
<td>Dec. 1st, 1935</td>
<td>318.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$8,825.00 (Fwd.) Total $17,650.00

**SERIAL BONDS DUE 1935-36 BUDGET:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
<td>June 1st, 1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29,000</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
<td>December 1st, 1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total annual payment on Bond principal</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total interest coupons due 1935-36</td>
<td>$17,650.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Treasurer's collection fees</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total amount due 1935-</td>
<td>$22,850.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriation to cover delinquent taxes and sinking fund</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for Budget Item No. VII, 1935-36</td>
<td>$27,950.00</td>
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</table>
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. THREE, MORGAN COUNTY, COLORADO—JUNE 30, 1934.

AMOUNT ON HAND—JUNE 30, 1933:
Special Fund ........................................... $1,147.83
General Fund—County ................................. 408.00 (O.D.)
General Fund—State ................................... 304.71
Bond & Int. Fund ........................................ 935.09
District Treasurer’s Fund ............................ 605.33

TOTAL ON HAND, JUNE 30, 1933 TO JUNE 30, 1934: ................. $2,515.35

AMOUNT RECEIVED, JUNE 30, 1933 TO JUNE 30, 1934:
Special Fund:
Tax collections ................................. $ 83,450.95
Delinquent taxes ................................. 10,787.61
Interest on Del. taxes ........................... 1,430.99

General Fund—(County)
Tax collections ................................. 35,042.17
Delinquent taxes ................................. 5,303.33
Interest on Del. taxes ........................... 796.83

General Fund—(State)
State Aid ........................................... 4,443.12
State Apportionment .............................. 373.71

Bond Fund:
Tax collections ................................. 23,748.18
Delinquent taxes ................................. 2,672.64
Interest on Del. taxes ........................... 383.56

District Treasurer’s Fund:
Tuition, book fees and
Smith-Hughes Agr. Aid .......................... 4,956.56

TOTAL COLLECTIONS DURING CURRENT YEAR ...................... $173,368.25

TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE FUNDS .......................... $175,901.31

DISBURSEMENTS

GENERAL CONTROL (Supt.—Clerk—Secty.) Truant Officer, salaries & supplies) $8,951.70
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICE (Textbooks, Instr. supplies; teachers’ salaries) 85,717.16
AUXILIARY AGENCIES (Library; Phys. Education; Co. Treas. collect. fees) 3,773.81
PLANT OPERATION (Janitors’ Salaries; & supplies; fuel, light, water, phones) 13,283.35
TRANSPORTATION (Drivers & Mechan. salaries; bus repairs & supplies) 8,063.85
PLANT MAINTENANCE (Repair & replace- ment furniture & equipment) 1,411.83
FIXED CHARGES (Insurance on bldgs) 625.66
DEBT SERVICE (Bonds, interest & collection fees Co. Treas.) 22,628.20
CAPITAL OUTLAY (Purchase of equip., & instructional apparatus) 513.66

TOTAL CURRENT BUDGET DISBURSEMENTS $142,988.52
Less warrants issued—not yet paid 44,138.44

ACTUAL PAID DISBURSEMENTS ................................ $98,850.08

WARRANTS OUT JUNE 30, 1933, NOW PAID:
Special Fund—$37,117.23
Int. Reg. Wts—$1,082.29
General Fund—$11,802.01
Int. Reg. Wts—$720.92

TOTAL WTS. OUT–NOW PAID .......................... $51,782.45

TOTAL WARRANTS PAID BY CO. TREAS. .............. $150,612.53
TOTAL CHECKS PAID BY DIST. TREAS. .................. 3,858.05
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS ALL FUNDS ................... $154,450.58
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Fund</td>
<td>$8,970.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund - County</td>
<td>$5,066.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund - State</td>
<td>$678.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond Fund</td>
<td>$5,111.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Treasurer's fund</td>
<td>$1,613.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ON HAND ALL FUNDS JUNE 30, 1934</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,441.03</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$175,901.61</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **W WARRANTS ISSUED STILL OUTSTANDING, JUNE 30, 1934** *(Note * above)*
  - Special Fund, Registered: $9,800.87
  - Special Fund, Out but not registered: $7,866.31
  - General Fund, Registered: $28,471.26
  - Total unpaid warrants: $44,138.44

Bonded indebtedness June 30, 1934: $403,000.00

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Secretary, School District No. Three

Morgan County, Colorado
Dr. F.W. Lockwood came to Colorado in 1879. Moved to Boulder Colorado in 1882 and graduated from Gross Medical College in 1893. He is the son of Fred and Martha Buridge Lockwood (Fred Lockwood was state senator, ninth and tenth General Assembly).

He came to Fort Morgan in 1902 and on April 5 of that same year he was married to Mrs. Anna Maridon.

Dr. Lockwood was mayor of Fort Morgan two terms and member of city council for 9 years, Regent of Colorado University for 8 years.

He is one of the leading physicians in this community.

Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood have four children: Marion, born Aug. 11 1905; William K, born March 21 1905; Phillip, Oct. 31, 1905; Francis R. October 20, 1910.

**************
Abner Baker, the Second.

Abner Baker, son of the founder of Ft. Morgan. Born November 11, 1833 in Fort Morgan. Graduated at Fort Morgan high school. He was City Clerk for two years, has been Deputy County Treasurer for 12 years. Married in 1927. Has two sons Paul, and Abner the third.
M.B. Gill

Mark B. Gill was born in Jefferson County, N.Y., January 5, 1865, being the youngest son of William H. and Elmira H. (Otis) Gill. He was one of seven children, of whom besides himself now living are: Alice M., Florence E., William H., all residents of Greeley at the present time. Frank H. owned a ranch in Morgan County where he resided until his death.

William H., father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Springfield, Vermont in 1807. In 1814 he came to Gallo Island, Jefferson County, New York where he grew to manhood, married and raised a family of five, one of whom, Mark B. Gill, is the youngest.

Mark B. Gill came to Colorado in 1879. At the age of 16 years he began to work on the range in round-ups, which work he continued more than 40 years, being with Bruce Johnson, one of Colorado's most prominent pioneers. In the year 1887 he had entire charge of Mr. Johnson's cattle interests and also of 22 ranch, comprising 4200 acres. He became owner of cattle on the range and also became part owner in the ranch.

In 1896 he was made County Commissioner of Washington County and served seven years. In 1901 he was made Mayor of Ft. Morgan. While Mr. Gill was mayor the City Power Plant which proved a good investment was built. The Municipal swimming pool was added to the city's advantages. The ten acre Rosser tract was purchased and the City Camp Ground installed. The city hall had been remodeled. In addition to these civic betterments a total of $69,000 in city debt was wiped out.

Fraternally, Mr. Gill is a member of Oasis Lodge No. 67, A.F. & A.M., at Fort Morgan; Chapter No. 31, R.A.M., in that town; Past Master of Oasis Lodge No. 67, Past High Priest of Royal Arch Chapter No. 31, Past Commander of Knight Templars No. 28, Past Patron O.E.S No. 34, Past...
Grand High Priest of the state of Colorado. Mr. Gill
served four years as representative from Morgan and Washington county
in the state legislature.

On July 2, 1889, he married Ada E., daughter of U.C. Killebrew
who came from Illinois to Colorado in 1887. There were three daughters
born to this union: Eula B., Helen H. and Lucile O. Of these three daughters
only Eula B. survives.

**************

The Swimming Pool, sponsored by Mayor M.B. Gill caused
considerable controversy at the time of building. In fact the proposition
was sarcastically referred to many times as "Gill’s dipping vat." However
he fought its way through and it is now the scene of an annual Swimming
Carnival held August 1st. Last year there was an estimated attendance of
over five thousand people. It is enjoyed by all the people of Eastern Colo.
and his wife says there is not a child in Ft. Morgan who does not know
Mark B. Gill personally.
Fort Morgan abandoned by Troopers in Spring of 1868.

Port Morganite in California meets G.W. Farrington, who was a Sergeant in Company at the Old Fort.

Events in the days of the old fort are here given thru the efforts of J.F. Arbuckle, known to everybody in Morgan county, and who is now residing in California. His letter to the Fort Morgan Times is self-explanatory:

Lomita, California,

My Dear Mr. Spencer:

During our stay in Long Beach, wife and I visited one of the chapters of The Order of the Eastern Star. At one of our visits we gave Fort Morgan, Colo., as our home. Immediately a fine looking old gentleman, G.W. Farrington by name, came forward and said he wanted to ask about Fort Morgan, as it had been many years since he lived there. He could describe very accurately the Fort, and the surrounding country, as it was at that time. He was quite pleased to hear that the site of the Fort is now marked by a granite monument, erected by the D.A.R. I described Morgan county to him as it is at this time, the best I could.

Mr. Farrington enlisted in the Civil war at the age of 15 in New Port, Kentucky, as a bugler boy. He served thru the civil war and at the close of the war he enlisted in the army of the U.S.A.

Mr Farrington has lived in Long Beach 46 years. He was the second Past Master in Long Beach. I solicited the help of Miss Fern Coulter of Fort Morgan who acted as stenographer.

Respectfully yours,

J.F. Arbuckle.
The Old Fort at Fort Morgan.

Mr. G.W. Farrington, Sergeant of the Company G, 4th U.S. Infantry now living at 1202 Olive street, Long Beach, Calif., was stationed at Fort Morgan, from Sept. 1867, until May 1868 when the fort was abandoned, and is able to give a very clear description of the construction of the fort at that time and the exciting times they had with the Indians.

Fort Morgan was established as a protection against the Indians for the stage line running from points on the Missouri to Denver. The stage stations were ten or twelve miles apart, the horses being driven on the run and making the distance in about an hour. A Sergeant and two or three enlisted men formed a guard on each coach. The railroad was only completed as far as North Platte, but the rails were laid to Julesburg and telegraph wires were strung to Denver.

Company G was brought to Julesburg on a supply train and then the 122 men marched the 120 miles to Fort Morgan in five days. During the first few days march the Indians circled about them all day, but made no attack.

The Morgan Fort was about the size of a city block. The buildings which were made of sod or of logs brought from the mountains, were around the sides and a fine flag pole in the center. Between the buildings a heavy stockade was built with a deep ditch on the outside, making a solid wall to protect the post from Indian attacks. There was a canon at the southwest corner, one at the northeast and one at the flag pole.

The officers were Captain William H. Powell and General K.E. True. of Los Angeles. In an adobe house north of the forest and down near the river Mr. Bouten kept a small store and also furnished the soldiers with beer.

The water for the fort was hauled from the river in a wooden tank wagon drawn by eight white mules. In winter the wagon was covered with bales and the doctor who had a thermometer, reported it went to 33 below
several mornings the winter of 1867-68. The Indians did not attack the fort but were a constant menace to the immigrants and the stage.)

At one time the telegraph linesman was riding his horse beside the stage and becoming tired traded places with one of the stage guards. The road lead around the sand dunes and in a secluded spot they were attacked by the Indians. The horseman was killed his head cut off and stuck up on an old mustard stack along the road and his body left face down with 42 arrows on it. The coach had a number of arrows sticking in it when it arrived at the station but the three passengers were unharmed. The soldier's body was brought in and buried in a coffin made of cracker boxes.

While stationed there a supply train coming along the trail from Sedgwick was attacked by the Indians and the only one to escape was a youngster of 16, who had his wagon full of sacks of flour. He piled the sacks up around the wagon to form a barricade and as he had plenty of ammunition was able to hold off the Indians.

The fort was abandoned May 18, 1868, the railroad being opened up to Cheyenne they had no further need of the stage route to Denver. The buildings and moveable materials at the fort were sold at auction to parties in Denver, and on the morning of May 16 they came with ox teams to haul them away. Company G formed in line and presented arms; the flag was lowered, and the cannon fired a salute. At this time 42 dogs in camp also gave one loud, long salute to the flag. Company G then marched to Fort Laramie where they helped rebuild that fort and were there for some time.

Mr. Farrington marched on foot 700 miles over the western plains and his wife says he is still treating his corns he acquired there.

**********
January 1935 M. B. Gill

The Presbyterian Church of Ft. Morgan

The Presbyterian church of Ft. Morgan was organized in the fall of '86. The meeting for organization was held in the building then used by G.W. Warner as his office. Dr. T.C. Kirkwood of Colorado Springs was present at the organization.

Father Glassey and family, J.D. Johnson, Walter T. Brown and Howard M. Putnam were prominent in the earliest work done for the church.

A building was duly planned and was in process of erection, when, on the 19th of February, '87 the building was blown down. In less than two weeks $900 was raised for the erection of another building to be erected on the very same spot. M. I. Tuttle was the contractor.

Within ten days after the keys had been turned over the building was paid for.

This was the first church organization in the Ft. Morgan community and the people of all denominations worked together with unanimity and enthusiasm.

******************
Carnegie Library in

Fort Morgan.

Through correspondence carried on by County Supt. of schools
with the Carnegie Corporation

Anna R. White during 1914/5 a Carnegie Library was assured Fort Morgan.

The letter from Carnegie Corporation contained proposed plans for $10,000
library building according to plans tested out by experience as proving
the greatest service for the money. (Under the terms of the gift not
any of the $10,000 was to be used for the purchase of a site.)

After discussion it was decided to locate the library building
in Fort Morgan City Park. And on February 25, 1916 with a good attendance
of citizens interested in the welfare of the public library the new Carnegie
building was formally opened, Mayor Patterson presiding.

The address of the evening was made by Miss Linda Clatworthy
who had been in the employ of the library board for the past month to assist
in the cataloguing of the books and in the general arrangement and
classification of the library contents. Miss Clatworthy, head of the Eaton
Ohio Library spoke of the work she was doing in going from one section
to the other of the country/doing special library work especially commended Mrs. McCutcheon
on her library work who continues as librarian to this day. She was liberal
in her praise of the library board, the city council and the wholesome
spirit that prevailed in the community for the public library.

Citizens of Fort Morgan have seen to it that the small beginning
of collection of books have been rounded out in all classifications.

The library now has idealistic and inspirational fiction, imaginative
literature in good story form for children and good stories of all kinds
for children, reference books, books of travel and poetry, drama, fine arts
nature, and books on practical lines technical, agriculture and various
industries.
On opening day various clubs presented gifts of statuary and numerous pieces of furniture. Among the pieces presented were the Friday Club's presentation of the statue "Joan of Arc," the P.E.O. society's gift of a statue, and Venus de Milo, "the Merry Mothers club's gift by Mrs. C.M. Snodgrass, the Bay View club's gift by Mrs. J.C. Ambrose, the Riverside club's gift by Mrs. J.W. Pollock, the Helpful Homemakers' gift by Mrs. C.W. Ingram, the South Side Country club's gift by Mrs. W.S. Woodside and the Round Table club's gift by Mrs. S.W. Bagg.

The Library Board was Mayor Patterson, Judge Stephenson, Mrs. Catisfaction Sr., Mrs. Packard, Miss Crouch, Mrs. C.E. White, Mrs. C. E. Walker.
M.B. Gill
C.B. Rhodes

C.B. Rhodes died in Fort Morgan August 1934.

was born in Ashton Milne August 5 - 1852. Came to Colorado in 1880.

bought the Mill Iron ranch from James Kempton in 1883. This ranch is
located two miles south of Orchard.

In the early eighties he drove cattle out of
the Pan Handle Texas thru Oklahoma to New Mexico and Colorado ranges under
government escort. John Clay was one of the men to try to stop Rhodes and
others from driving cattle thru the Indian Territory. Rhodes said that
Clay had so many six shooters and fire arms on his person that he looked
like a porcupine. An appeal had to be made to the war department for a
permit to drive cattle thru Indian Territory. He was one of the largest
cattle owners in this part of the state. They were all Texas cattle in
the early days. He fought off many an Indian attack.

He lived in California about three years, working
in the interest of asphalt co. and while there organized California Club.

He was one of the early members of the Denver Club.

He also organized the Overland Club of Denver and was manager of Overland
Park for several years

He married Mrs. Thompson in 1905. He was one of
the leaders of this part of Colorado and was well thought of. He
and of his life he had the interest of this community at heart.
Another pioneer gone.

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C. E. Barkley was born in Wayne Indiana Oct. 7, 1886. Came to Colorado in 1899. Farmed one and one half mile east of Ft. Morgan for 26 years. Several seasons raised as high as 20 tons of beets per acre, 90 bushels of barley per acre, 86 to 90 bushels of corn. Has fed sheep for the last 20 years. This summer he dug an irrigation well and kept his supply of irrigation water up to normal during the dry season.

Mr. Barkley is said to be one of the prize farmers of Morgan county and his farm shows that the credit is due him. He is a forward looking man for all community interests.

He married Edna Simpson in 1906. To this union were born: Grace, Ira, Rose, William (deceased) Gayle, Jean, Donald.
Early in the winter of 1889 I made my first extended visit to Ft. Morgan, Colorado. Mr. J.T. Ross took me out over the Bijou flats and showed me the finest lays county I ever saw. Then the next day he hitched a good team to his surrey and took me east and north over the Morgan and Platte and Beaver country. I there saw fine well bred stock feeding in alfalfa and corn stalk fields, from which I was told, fifty bushels of corn had been taken from an acre, and five tons of hay to the acre. That led me to consider the Bijou country too valuable to be devoted to cactus.

(I then went to Denver and met Senator J.W. McGreevy who was then a member of the state senate. He told me of the noble fight that had been made years ago by the pioneers of the country to bring the land under irrigation and that a late move had been made by D.C. Gamfield and himself to renew the work on Bijou ditch, and also they had obtained the franchise and rights to the old ditch from Jarvis, Conklin & Co. which they had obtained by foreclosure of mortgage; that they also had a franchise for a ditch and two large reservoirs on the north side of the river, and were then negotiating with N.Y. Parties for the sale of bonds for the development of both sides of the river, but they failed on the project about the first of the following March.)

Mr. D.A. Canfield took me over the line of both ditches and reservoir sites, and after seeing the great possibilities of the country, I concluded to go east among my acquaintances and try to raise the money portion for the enterprise, and spent a good part of the summer in trying to interest capitalists in it, and only succeeded in getting two men to come and look at it, one of whom was S.H. Shields. While he was favorably impressed
with the enterprise, he considered it too large an undertaking and declined to take hold with us. After spending the most of the season trying to get people interested in the business, I concluded in December to buy a forth interest in the franchise, and we organized a company with Josiah Work as president; James W. McCreery, secretary; D.A. Canfield, general manager, and C.H. Wheeler, treasurer.

(Then during the winter of 1900 we went among the land owners of the Bijou country and took subscriptions for 130 water rights, amounting to about $90,000, and in April commenced repairing and making the Bijou ditch.)

In October I saw that our money was gone and the flume across the Bijou was yet to make, which would cost about $5,000. I remarked to senator Hill that I felt like waiting until there was more money in sight before undertaking it. He proposed if we would reduce the price of the water rights to $500 each, he would help to sell enough to make the flume.

The money was raised and contract given, but it was not completed until late in December, and our subscription list was forfeited, as the contract called for the ditch being completed December 1st. Only a few took their water rights, and consequently we were hampered in means to facilitate the work. Though we did not get much water in 1901 or many rights sold, or the cooperation of many of the citizens we kept at work making No. 2 reservoir.

In the spring of 1902, after traveling nearly all over the United States, S.H. Shields came back to Ft. Morgan and inspected the ditches and reservoirs again, and concluded that we had the best enterprise in the best country that he had seen and bought one-fourth interest in
it, and with his money we paid off the old claim and continued to develop the enterprise with renewed vigor. We developed the Jackson lake and sold some rights in it in 1903 and sold the principal part of it to the Morgan district in 1904.

Court proceedings were instituted against our company in 1905 to deprive us of our franchise and a number of the farmers under the ditch kept up the persecution to the detriment of themselves and stopping the progress of the whole community for two years or more.

(1905 the Bijou Irrigation district was formed, and the Empire reservoir has been developed since then. Our Bijou irrigation district was formed, and the Empire reservoir has been developed since then. Our Bijou company, under the name of the Riverside cemetery, is still at work on the Riverside reservoir and ditch for the benefit of the Northside or Riverside Irrigation district, which will soon bring in a fine body of land from Orchard to North Morgan.)

Notwithstanding the persecution and obstacles that have been placed in our way, that have not allowed us to have financial remuneration, yet the sight of a city of hay and grain stacks, where so recently it was only a playground for the jackrabbit and the prairie dog, and the Morgan district covered with beets made possible by Jackson lake and the town of Ft. Morgan coming up to the appearance of a city, peopled with the best class of civilization, that the Eastern states could supply, gives us a remuneration, a satisfaction which should remunerate for all expense, effort and anxiety of the past. Then the gratification of looking forward to the prospective future of the town and country on all sides is inspiring gratifying and ever remunerative.

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More about the old Fort Morgan.

January 1935

M.B. Gill

To a stranger coming to our city there is nothing except the name to indicate that this was anything but a peaceful little farming town growing slowly and steadily as the rich farming lands surrounding it were irrigated and improved.

Those who have lived here for a good many years know that at one time there was a fort on the brow of the hill overlooking the river and that the town was named for the fort, but how many even of these, I wonder know anything of the history of those who were here, in truth, the first citizens of Fort Morgan.

The trail followed by the Pony Express and by the emigrants rushing to Pike/Peak gold fields followed the South Platte river and for the protection of these, military posts were established at intervals of about fifteen or twenty miles apart along the trail, and the site of the present city was chosen as a location of one of these posts. It was first known as Camp Tyler and was in charge of General Sam Browne on June 25, 1865 the name was changed to Fort Wardell and on June 25, 1866, when some substantial buildings were erected the name was again changed, this time to Fort Morgan. And Fort Morgan it continued to be until it was abandoned on May 18, 1868.

The first soldiers stationed here were 150 rebel prisoners who were sent out into the Great American Desert to fight the Indians, and incidentally to reduce prison expenses. The fort was under the command of Captain Williams at this time. Most of the rebel soldiers deserted, and in 1865 a detachment of the twenty-first New York Infantry, under the command of Lieut. John H Mandeville, later a prominent citizen of Fort Collins, was transferred to the fort to guard the overland Mail and the emigrants.
The following is quoted from a clipping from the Fort Collins Courier, entitled "Pioneer Days Recalled" and is in connection with some of Lieut. Manderville's experiences at Fort Morgan. "All outfits were detained at the fort, no matter which way they were going unless they numbered at least 50 wagons each. Many of them rebelled against being detained and it was the duty of Lieut. Manderville and a squad of cavalry to watch them and see that they did not get away. One day he was obliged to follow one outfit some ten or twelve miles and bring it back to the fort, as it proposed to go on its way regardless of orders." Some very interesting data concerning the old fort was secured from L.T. Cornforth, of Denver, Colo. who was a freighter in the early days and who hauled the material from Fort Leavenworth for the building of the fort. According to Mr. Cornforth the fort in 1865 consisted of three commissary buildings on the west, six officers buildings on the north and ten small buildings on the east which were used for soldiers quarters. There were a number of rifle pits around these buildings and an earth embankment or stockade five feet high around the whole.

On the banks of the river and antedating the fort were to be seen as late as the 60's the remains of an old sod stage station where the 49ers were wont to refresh themselves and to rest for the night.

Fort Morgan was named in honor of Col. Christopher A. Morgan Additional Aide-de-Camp, United States Volunteers. He was commissioned July 1, 1862 and was on General Pope's Staff. He died in St. Louis Mo. Jan. 20 1866 from asphyxiation, the result of breathing gas from a stove in a closed room while asleep. His body now rests in Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati Ohio. He was unmarried, was a man of education and culture and was at one time connected with a publishing house and book store in Cincinnati.
Fort Morgan was the largest army post on the river, there was nearly a regiment of men quartered there, supported by a battery of guns of a caliper calculated to keep the red skins away, and when at the height of its importance boasted commodious plastered quarters for the officers, servants quartered, lookout towers, and a flag tower; magazines of a solid sod structure, close guard houses, long mess rooms, bunk houses and stables, besides two elevated rooms at the south west and northeast corners of the stockade in which were placed 3 inch rifled Parrot guns for use against the savages in case of attack.

It hardly seems possible, as we ride over our beautiful country roads and see the rich farms with their beautiful homes and well kept lawns, as we look on our little city of which we are so justly proud, that this was once a battle ground where white men and Indians fought their bitter fights where death dealing arrows, and leaden bullets claimed their toll in the lives of white men and red and where women and children, huddled together within the stockade awaited the outcome with bated breath.

The walls of the old fort have crumbled, level to the dust, and though now it is still a memory to some, in a few years it will only be a tradition, now marked by a granite marker erected by the D.A.R. However the first days of old Fort Morgan will be lost in oblivion unless what little we now have of relics and of history be carefully preserved for the benefit of those who are to come.

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Was born in Syracuse, N.Y. 1858. Went to southern Wisconsin when a small boy. Moved to Colorado 1876 and lived here ever since. Lived in Walden Valley 28 years and was one of the promoters of Walden Valley ditch. Was Water Commissioner for eight years. Was County Commissioner for twenty years. Was one of the first beet raisers in Walden Valley. He is very proud of a record crop of 28 tons of beets per acre. He says he has raised wheat that went 60 bushels per acre under irrigation. He was a very successful farmer and sheep feeder. He drove a bunch of horses from Sydney, Nebraska here in 1873. Met the Indians in Lewis's Canon. The Indians were being moved North from Texas to Montana under pressure of the U.S. Troops, but the troops were about three days behind. However he finally got away from them and finally landed in what is now known as Cliff, Colorado.

He was married in 1885. They had one son, Howard, who now lives in Fort Morgan.

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"Lutheran Home and Sanatorium."

One mile west of Brush on paved highway.
Eben-Ezer. This institution is part of the Lutheran church, and is owned by a board of fifteen members. In 1904, thirty-five acres of land was bought west of Brush and in 1906 the building was constructed.
Eben-Ezer (a stone of help is the interpretation of it) desires nothing more than to be in sympathy with the lonely consumptive coming West in search of health.

The aim of the incorporators was to provide a Christian home with homelike surroundings where persons afflicted with tuberculosis with limited means might benefit from the climate. Not that the doors of the institution should be closed to any class or nationality of sufferers but so far as circumstances would allow Eben Ezer should stretch out a helping hand.

The corporate articles require that whatever surplus may be obtained from the care of the well-to-do, or full pay patients, shall be expended for the benefit of those who are unable to pay.

The location was decided on because of the altitude being 4,200 feet above sea level as being preferable to a higher altitude.

Thirty-five acres were bought that there might be feed enough for a few cows to supply the institution with fresh milk, cream and butter, vegetables and small fruit.

About 12 acres are laid out and planted with trees. At first the patients were cared for mostly in tents before a little 8 room structure was built which is now used for kitchen purposes. Several buildings have been added. Today it is an institution which compares well with a modern hospital of small means.
There are a number of Danish farmers residing in the district, and they form a most desirable element in the life of the community.

A majority of them came here, possessed of nothing more than their inherent qualities of thrift, industry and honesty. To this was added the spirit of American enterprise and the grit to tackle the same proposition which has confronted so many of our western pioneers—the problem of making arid land fulfill the purposes for which it was intended.

Their early experience contained some pretty "hard sledding" but their business-like methods and absolute integrity in their dealings with their neighbors, have resulted in a large measure of prosperity which they deservedly enjoy today.

Their social life centers around their church which was organized today in 1898, with a few members. They have a large membership in comparison to the early days and there is absolutely no illiteracy among them. As a class of Danes they are devoted to religion and education and follow in the path of rectitude which has led to thrift and success.

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Jim bolinger.

One of the county's most successful farmers. Born in Speedwell Eastern Tennessee in 1863. Came to Colo. 1884. He was married 1883 to Miss Carr. Children born to this union, Charlie, Hugh. Ruth. Rohdie, John, Susie, Stella, James Jr.

He raised 21 tons of beets to the acre 200 sacks of potatoes this year. 100 bushels of barley, 85 bu. oats.

His farm contains 320 acres on which he has a fine home. He is a heavy sheep feeder. Feeds from 3,000 to 5,000 sheep every year.

When James and Ike, his brother, first came to Colorado they located 2 miles north of Brush. One of their principal crops was watermelons and they hauled them by team to Sydney Nebraska where they found market for them.

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James A.M. Crouch, veteran merchant of Ft. Morgan, now living retired in that city, was born at Fall Branch, Tennessee, November 23, 1865. He is the son of Rev. George A. and Emmeline (Cox) Crouch, natives of Tennessee and Kentucky, respectively. His father was a minister of the Baptist church, who as evangelist and pastor baptized more than three thousand persons during his years of service in Missouri and adjoining states.

Mr. Crouch received his early education in the public schools of Missouri, was graduated from La Grange College, La Grange, Missouri and studied for the ministry at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, and the Rochester Theological Seminary in Rochester New York from which he was graduated in 1895. He held pastorates in Rochester N.Y., West Haven, Vermont, Cincinnati, Ohio and St. Louis, Missouri, until ill health forced him to retire from the active ministry.

Mr. Crouch had come to Colorado several different times, but in 1900 he came to Denver with the intention of staying. In 1901 he purchased a small mercantile business in Ft. Morgan, thus returning to the field in which he had been trained and had experience both before and during his college years. In his 21 years of merchandising in Ft. Morgan under the firm name of Crouch Brothers, by careful planning and management by close touch with trends in merchandising, by selecting efficient employees who shared his desire to give to each customer the best possible service and by courtesy and personal attention to the demands of the buying public his business earned its reputation as the leading store in Northeastern Colorado.

While conducting his mercantile business and more particularly since selling it, Mr. Crouch has engaged in the purchase and improvement
of Morgan County farms believing that favorable geographical location, superior climate, good soil, irrigation facilities and other agricultural and feeding advantages promise that the land in this valley will increase in popular demand. His ownership of farms has resulted in his branching into feeding operations for cattle and lambs.

Mr. Crouch has maintained an independent course politically. Active in the civic life of his community he has served as president of the Chamber of Commerce and the Men’s University Club; chairman of such public service committees as the Council of Defense which directed all the war activities of the county, including the Red Cross contributions and the sale of liberty bonds, and the first R.F.C. county organization; and is still actively identified with all movements for the growth and development of the community. Mr. Crouch has loyally adhered to the religious faith of the Baptist denomination and has served for years as superintendent of the church school and as chairman of the board of trustees.

In December in 1895 Mr. Crouch married Lora Schoppe, in Denver, Colorado.

They have three children: Marjorie Schoppe Crouch, at present associated with Scripps College in Claremont, California; twin sons, James Donald Crouch associated with his father in the investment business and James Douglas Crouch, department merchandise man with the Denver Dry Goods Company of Denver.

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The father of Charles W. Emerson, Dr. Charles Emerson, came to Colorado in 1870 coming with the colony to Greeley, and became treasurer of the Union Colony in 1870. He went back and forth for six years before coming to Colorado to make it his permanent home. He became a heavy stockholder in the Platte & Beaver Improvement Company which built the two largest ditches in the Eastern part of Morgan County. He died in 1896.

Charles W. Emerson

At the division of the Lower Platte and Beaver Improvement Company, Dr. Charles Emerson, came in to possession of about 7,000 acres of land and managed this property for several years finally selling out and moved into Brush, in 1904. and already a stockholder in the bank, he became cashier and afterwards president. For years he has conducted a successful banking business. At the time Roosevelt called a moratorium on the banks of the United States the Emerson Bank was the first bank in Morgan county to open its doors, with more money on hand than the bank ever had had before.

Charles W. Emerson was reared in Denver and enjoyed the educational opportunities offered by its school system. He started out into the business world as an employee in a bank, in which he continued for two years, and afterward spent about two years in the employ of a real estate firm. He next went to Oregon and took up the study of law and in 1898 was admitted to practice in the bar. He later went to California and was admitted to the courts where he followed his profession for a year and a half. On the expiration of that period he returned to Colorado, settling in Morgan County where he engaged in the cattle business.

In 1902 he became a factor in the organization of the First National Bank of Brush and in 1904 Mr. Emerson accepted the management of the institution and Cashier, later he became president.

Mr Emerson belongs to the Masonic Fraternity and as
Past Master of Brush lodge No. 23. He is a Royal Arch Mason and Knight Templar. He is also identified with the knights of Pythias.

Mr. Emerson gives his political allegiance to the republican party and for three terms he served as mayor of Brush and has also been treasurer of the town for several years. He has always been deeply interested in the upbuilding of his city and county.

On July 1st, 1916 Mr. Emerson was married to Lois I. Lusel. Two children were born; Eugene born 1921 - Dana in 1924.

Mr. and Mrs. Emerson are outstanding citizens of the community.

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