Larimer County’s first white child, Frank A. Chaffee, was born June 30, 1862 near Namaqua in the Big Thompson Valley. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Adna R. Chaffee who came from Michigan, and traveled to Denver with an ox team in the summer of 1860. Their purpose in coming was to prospect for gold at Russell Gulch. They moved to the Big Thompson Valley where they stayed for a short time, then to LaPorte when their son was two years old.

Adna Chaffee drove the stage from LaPorte to Virginia Dale, and also kept officers’ mess for the soldiers who were stationed there at that time. On the morning of the flood down the Poudre in June of ’64, Mr. Chaffee awoke to find the water level just at the bottom of the window sill. He said that if the water got any higher they would have to move out, but it was not necessary for them to leave. The soldiers then moved to their camp at Fort Collins.

(The Chaffees took up a ranch a mile and a half east of the soldiers’ camp down the river in 1864 and to this day it bears the name of the Chaffee Ranch.)

Frank Chaffee attended nearly all the early Fort Collins schools — he started at the age of seven to Mrs. Rust who with her husband lived in the building used as a school down beyond where the U. P. depot is now located. The next school was in a building on Jefferson Street next to the Morgan Blacksmith shop. A Mrs. Smith was the teacher here. Then the first school building erected for that purpose was on Riverside Street — Maggie Meldrum was the first instructor, followed by Mrs. Patterson (was formerly a Watrous); Mr. Colman; Mr. Myrick who later had the Standard, a newspaper; L. R. Rhodes, at one time publisher of the Courier; and John Lord. This school
was used as a general public meeting place. The number of pupils attending grew too large, the grades were divided, the upper classes were moved to a school built on the corner of Mountain and College where the Poudre Valley National Bank now stands. Then the Remington School was erected, it seemed very large with its four rooms and a regular recitation room.

Mr. Chaffee then entered the Agricultural College in 1879. This was the first class, and had a membership of thirteen students. Three professors – Edwards, Blunt and F. J. Anis had charge of the educational welfare of these students. Mr. Chaffee recalls an incident of "boys being boys" – the belfry consisted of four poles with a bell in the top outside the only building on the campus, Old Main. George Glover, now professor at the college, was janitor at the time, and it was his duty to ring the bell for classes. The students conceived the idea that if the bellclapper were taken down, there would be no means of calling classes – the bellclapper was taken down and hid among the railroad tracks. But to their dismay, Mr. Glover climbed up the next morning, and with a hammer rang the bell as usual. The bellclapper was returned.

The heating plant at the college consisted of three cast iron stoves. Mr. Chaffee also acted as janitor, his duties were to clean the blackboards, sweep, dust, then to arise at five every morning no matter what the weather might be, walk in from the farm and have the fires built and the building warm by the time the classes would take up.

The boys who worked on the College farm were allowed 10¢ per hour for about two hours after school. Mr. Chaffee attended the college three years.

In 1892, the Collins Cash Clothing Company on Linden Street was
organized, the members of the firm were W. C. Stover, R. M. Ferguson and Frank Chaffee. He was the acting head of the firm for many years.

During his term (1903-1912) as County Commissioner, much road work was done of constructive nature—the cut-off by way of Horse-tooth to the Big Thompson, the new road over Pingree Hill, the road to Cherokee Park and changing the route to Owl Canon. The salary in this office was $430. per year.

Mr. Chaffee's advent into Larimer County was of such an early date that it may be said that he has seen its full development to the present time. He can remember when there was but one store in Fort Collins.

The Chaffee ranch was down in the river bottom, a little two room log house was their home. When the soldiers vacated their headquarters at Fort Collins, "Ruf", the negro handy-boy of the camp came to Mr. Chaffee's father and asked if there weren't work there for him. As there were several other hands on the farm, and the household duties were many, Ruf assisted Mrs. Chaffee. He was a loyal servant and very economical. When Mr. and Mrs. Chaffee left at night, Ruf and little Frank sat in the dark to save the candles.

The garden was just around the corner or bend in the river. It was noticeable that the onions were disappearing, but the problem was solved when two Indians were seen stealing his vegetables. They were promptly and unceremoniously driven home with a whip.

(Chief Friday made a hair bridle and knife scabbard, the latter still being in the possession of Mr. Chaffee.

Upon his return from a trip east, Mr. Chaffee brought the first bicycle into Fort Collins—it caused a sensation to the townspeople to see this new vehicle ridden down the street. It is now
being preserved in the College Museum.

He also recalls when the Fort Collins water system consisted of a span of mules, a wagon and several barrels. The water was taken from the river and distributed to the residents.

The Chaffee farm was like many others - butter, vegetables, eggs and other farm products were sold or exchanged for necessary articles as flour, clothing and others that could not be obtained from the land. Sometimes wheat was taken to the mill to be ground into flour.

There was little spare time to be had for the farm children from their daily tasks and duties, but Mr. Chaffee looks back with pleasure on his boyhood days, especially to their skating on the reservoirs.

The first Larimer Courthouse was a little log building near LaPorte, all the first records were kept here. Also LaPorte was once seriously considered for the site of the state capital.

Mr. Chaffee married Anna Hawley in 1892. Mrs. Chaffee was the daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Charles C. Hawley who had come from Minnesota to Denver by ox team. A brother of Capt. Hawley had been in Denver for some time and had written of the unusual opportunities and land in Colorado. When Capt. Hawley and his wife and baby arrived, his brother was ready to go on the gold rush at Golden. He divided all his property equally with his his brother and wife before his departure and that was the last any one heard from him.

A log house with dirt floor and roof were the living accommodations they found in this new land. There were many problems to face. Capt. Hawley enlisted in the Union forces, his family lived on a ranch near Fort Collins. Mrs. Chaffee was born here. After the flood in '64, it was necessary for him to build a raft to cross
the Poudre to get home.

The life of the Hawley children was much the same as all other children of that time. They went to District #11 school. Many half breed children were their schoolmates. Amusements consisted of spelling bees, singing schools, taffy pulls and country dances. The dances were most enjoyable, violin, organ and mouth harps furnished the music.

Fruits were indeed a luxury, especially apples and oranges. This was before fruits were raised extensively here. An Uncle was the first to sell fruit in this territory, it was shipped in from eastern markets.

The railroad changed the west more than anything along the mechanical line. When transportation was easier, everything grew in parallel with it. When it was first built from Cheyenne, numerous excursions were conducted from that city to Fort Collins. A big picnic would be enjoyed in the grove of cottonwood trees across the river, the Cache laPoudre. It is not difficult to imagine how the people from the northern city enjoyed this as there were no trees there.

( It was an advanced improvement in farm methods when the (threshing machine) was introduced - the first machines were operated by the power of about twelve horses. P. G. Terry, an old pioneer of this region, took the machine from farm to farm to thresh the grain. )

The early farm products consisted for the most part of vegetables. A great deal of sourkraut was made and taken to Cheyenne where it sold for $40. per barrel. Three days were required to make the trip.
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Chaffee have lived in the same house located at 202 Peterson Street since their marriage forty two years ago. They have one daughter, Mrs. Hugh Watson of Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated February 14, 1934
EARLY LIVERMORE

Adolphus Livernash and Stephen Moore built a cabin in this territory in 1863. They had been preceded by N. C. Alford, Jacob Cornelison and William Calloway who had a hunters' camp there in 1861. As early as 1824 trappers of the Hudson Bay Company made headquarters in the region though the location of their camps in not known. The land was not surveyed and no legends have been handed along of what name they gave the region.

(The name of Livermore is a combination of the two who made the district known, Adolphus Livernash and Stephen Moore.)

Adolphus Livernash was sixteen when he came from Michigan to this country to prospect for gold. In 1874, he was married to Sarah Elizabeth Isard who had come to LaPorte in 1872 with her brother and a group of young people from Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Livernash had three children, one of whom, Mrs. Pat Hurley, lives in Fort Collins. Mr. Livernash was engaged in the mining industry above Boulder in the Carabou Mine when he was killed by a bolt of lightning in 1883. Mrs. Livernash and her children made their home in Fort Collins after his death.

In 1871, Russell Fisk bought the property from Stephen Moore. Mr. Fisk was a pioneer post master of Livermore as well as a storekeeper. He was a quiet man with a bushy set of whiskers.

The important air he assumed at times when speaking of matters of history or business was just his way. Few knew he had been in big deals, manufacturing and a promoter.

Mr. Fisk had lived in New York and had patented a surfacing for streets, something like the asphalt of today. Opposing contractors convinced city officials that the creosote Mr. Fisk had used was injurious to the health. Mr. Fisk was refused a contract and lost
his wealth in trying to fight his case. He then advertised for
land in Colorado - this ad in a New Jersey paper caught his at-
tention:

Exchange - 17,000 acres of finest land in Colorado, on
line of Kansas Pacific Railroad, adjoining Kansas on
South bank of the Arkansas River, for nearby property
or cash, price 75¢ per acre - worth $3., no encumbered
property wanted. Apply from 10 - 3 at store, 107 York St.,
Jersey City.

He planned a colony, but it did not materialize.

He then came with the Father Meeker Colony that established
Greeley, but he didn't stay long. He selected the place known as
Livermore as his residence, and bought from Livernash and Moore.
The deed for this property was recorded in the county clerk's
office at Fort Collins, December 11, 1872.

In 1871, Mr. Fisk induced the residents to start a public school,
Mrs. Fisk was the teacher. He built a hotel, and in 1874, leased
the hotel to Mr. R. O. Roberts. After a year in the hotel, Mr.
Roberts built another known as "the Forks". Mr. Fisk held the
position of postmaster until about 1880.

Bernice Schultz

Material compiled article by Frank
McGeeland in the Express & Courier,
August 24, 1933, and from material
furnished by Mrs. Pat Hurley of
Fort Collins.

Dated February 9, 1934
The little town of LaPorte has been the center of much early history, and one of its residents, Mrs. Eliza E. Gardner has witnessed these incidents and happenings since October of 1864. The Samuel Binghams left their home in Missouri in May, 1864, and started for Oregon to seek their fortunes. They traveled nearly to Salt Lake City, Utah when they turned back to go to Denver. On their way back, they stopped at LaPorte to spend the night, Eliza Bingham was just nine years old that year. Mrs. Bingham insisted on staying at LaPorte and settling there, she was tired of traveling — they had been on the road for five months with their cattle, two covered wagons and their household furniture. Their first night at this little town was spent on the school grounds, then a house was rented from Antoine Janas, living here until the following spring. Then the Binghams bought a place of 160 acres and homesteaded another 160 acres. (Bingham Hill was named for Samuel Bingham.)

At the time of their arrival in LaPorte, the soldiers were moving from their camp up on the Poudre to what is now Fort Collins. LaPorte had five saloons one of which was owned by John Provost, a grocery store with the post office owned by John Wildes and Henry Harrison, and a blacksmith shop operated by one of the Decorah brothers. (The Overland Trail went through LaPorte, the stage station was kept by Bill Taylor, it was a little building later moved east of LaPorte by him. John Provost did not have the stage station as is commonly thought, his was a log building used as a tavern. He also operated the ferry across the river after the big flood in 1864.)
(The first school was built in 1866 on the north shore of Claymore Lake - Samuel Bingham and "Uncle Ben" Whedbee assisted in the construction. A Mr. and a Miss Adams and Maggie Meldrum taught here during the first years. Some of Mrs. Gardner's school mates were the Allen, Howell, Ship and Yeager children. Later a school was built in Pleasant Valley.)

Three of the Bingham boys helped in the construction of the first irrigation ditch which furnished water at the Yeager place.

Squaw dances were held at a building which had been a saloon but transformed into a dance hall. They were given this name because the half breed girls were frequent in attending. This building was later moved to Cheyenne.

(In 1872, February 23, Eliza Bingham was married to John Wesley Tharp. They first lived on the Taylor place. The products of their farm as butter and vegetables were taken to Cheyenne to the market.

In 1876, the Tharps bought 40 acres, part of which is in the town of Laporte. It has since been cut up by roads and other lots. The log house which was built in the early 60's still stands there and is a historical place - it was originally a saloon, but has no resemblance of one now. The building was erected by Sam Deon, who operated the saloon and billiard hall. The original windows and logs are still in the house and the material in one of the doors inside the house was of the first building. It stands across the street from the old Baxter store where the postoffice is located.

The Tharps had six children. Mr. Tharp died in 1890.

In 1904, Mrs. Tharp married William Gardner. They had one daughter. Mrs. Gardner survives both her husbands. She now lives in the little log house which has been her home since 1876 with her daughter in Laporte.

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
February 6, 1934

Mrs. Eliza E. Gardner
In 1859, William B. Wylie came to Colorado, for what reason no one knows. Then in 1864, he brought his wife and children from Illinois to Colorado by ox team and a covered wagon. There wasn't any particular danger since they were required to travel in large groups, but there had been Indian disturbances before and after their coming. They never traveled on Sunday, usually stopped Saturday afternoon to do general household duties as baking bread and washing the clothes. Part of the wagon train went on to California to seek their fortune. Eleanor Wylie was seven years old at this time.

The Wylie family settled near what was called the Latham post office, later Fort Latham. This was near where Greeley is now. The pony express and stage line came through Fort Latham. Due to the big flood in 1864, they were forced to wait several weeks until the water went down before they could get on to the land they were to homestead on the South Platte.

A little log house was their home. The next year in 1865, Mr. Wylie had very poor health, he started back to St. Louis to receive medical aid but died on the way near Fort Kearney, Nebraska. His widow sold the homestead, and with her six little children took up another homestead on the Poudre near Fort Latham.

Their home here was a little sawed house. It was considered much safer than those around, so when there were Indian scares all the neighbors came there for protection. The children always looked forward to these times as it was so seldom that they could get together to play.

The center of their education was a little log building. Much interest was taken in the subjects of writing and spelling, the latter enabled them to do much in their spelling matches. There were no
grades and the books were passed down from one member of the family to another as they progressed. At one time, a large group of Indians with their squaws and children camped near Latham. The chief and his daughter, through curiosity, came to visit school near by. The visit was enjoyed by them and the school children too. Even the pupils' lunches were divided at noon with their guests. The Indians were peaceable and made friends with the whites.

Sunday

A small school was organized by several families for the spiritual wants of the children. Later a small church was built at Evans, a small town near by. Lumber wagons were the means of transportation.

It is very evident that Mrs. Wylie and her children suffered many hardships in this new land, but if the children missed anything in life, they didn't realize it. At that time, farming was not an extensive industry. No irrigation had been introduced. A small garden along the river banks raised a few vegetables. The main means of livelihood was through the selling of wild hay from the river bottoms, and by a meager dairy business. Butter and hay were sold at Denver, 50 miles distant, in return for a few dollars cash and what groceries were needed. Butter sold up to a dollar a pound and flour cost around $16 per sack. This was before the advent of the railroads, all shipping was done by ox teams.

The town of Greeley was organized in about 1870, the Wylie children grew up with the Greeley colonists. A brother and sister still reside on the place their mother homesteaded in the 60's.

In 1879, Eleanor Wylie was married to John C. Richards. For a time they lived in Wyoming, then moved to Fort Collins which has been their home since 1880. Mr. Richards was engaged mainly in the cattle and sheep business, he also conducted a grocery and meat business. They had two children, Mrs. Wils Black and Fred Richards, both of whom live
In Fort Collins, Colo. Mr. Richards died seven years ago. Mrs. Richards lives at 206 West Mulberry, Fort Collins.

Eleanor T Richards

Interviewed by Bernice Schulta
Dated February 3, 1934
I was in the LaPorte postoffice the other day waiting, and while there I met Mr. Frank Baxter, the postmaster. I explained the purpose of my being in LaPorte, he was very much interested and in the short time I was there, he and others there told me a few things about the old settlers around there.

John Provost was a friend of everyone it seems, his generosity was in keeping with the size of his body. He ran a saloon, but it was no discredit to him, his business was one of the best order, only a certain amount of liquor that insured the customer's well being was sold to him. Everyone had a good word for "Uncle John". There is a story told of him, whether true or not, no one knows. At the time he ran the ferry across the river, a Jew came along and asked what the charge was for he and his horse to be carried across the ferry. The answer was $5. The price was beyond what the Jew wanted to pay, so he spent the rest of the day trying to find a place to ford the stream but was unsuccessful in his attempt. The next day he returned and inquired as to the price. The second day it was raised to $10, and it was paid.

John Provost's squaw wife went to the Agency. His second wife, a sister of le Roque, was known by an uncomplimentary term, "hatchet face". At their wedding celebration, Mr. Provost treated the men to beer and the young men under age to pop, this was kept as a hard and fast rule. Mrs. Provost was known for her excellent cooking at their tavern. The old tavern burned down several years ago.

Bernice Schultz
February 8, 1954
In 1870, the John Riddle family came to Colorado from their home in Iowa. They went to Council Bluffs where the wagons and loose stock were ferried across the river and then loaded on the U. P. railroad and came to Cheyenne. This was a desolate looking country to the children. Their destination was Boulder. One of the daughters had married and come to the Boulder territory in the early 60's and had taken up a homestead. After her husband's death, she returned to Iowa. It was to this ranch that the Riddle family went.

On their way to Boulder, the Riddle family passed through the Poudre Valley - it impressed them as being an excellent location. Near the Rockwell School, they met Peter Anderson, a young man of a pioneer family, with a herd of hay and through him obtained feed for their cattle that they were driving through. This young man and Asbury Riddle became very fast friends.

John Riddle stayed near Boulder only a short time, leaving his son, Asbury, with his sister and came to Fort Collins where he bought a farm from Joe Mason around what is now North Shields Street. About five years later, Asbury Riddle came to Fort Collins and farmed with his father. He later sold his share here and bought the right from a man who had homesteaded a ranch about ten miles west of Livermore.

(It was commonly thought that the only land worth while was that along the river. A few farmers dug a little private ditch from the Poudre River to irrigate their land, this ditch was later bought by the Eaton Ditch Company and was enlarged into the Eaton Ditch. Because of these farmers' priority, they were given free water rights on this ditch. John Riddle was one of these.)
The table lands or mountain districts were considered worthless in the early day. But the grass found there was found to be nourishing feed for the cattle. The native grass grew high and was cured with its full value while standing by the sunshine. No matter how dry the grass became, it was excellent feed for cattle and sheep. The feed was abundant and free - there was nothing prohibiting the consumption of it.

In the earlier cattle days, no roundups were needed - the ranchers aimed to keep their cattle on the home range. This was not difficult because the ranches were not numerous. It was later when the small cattle men came into existence that the roundups were necessary. The early fences were taken down and numbers of homesteading were taken up, the country gradually became more settled.

Asbury Riddle bought and sold cattle, he usually purchased them from the smaller ranchers for about $10 per head, fed them and sold them to cattle buyers from Omaha and other eastern market men.

Life on the ranches was rather lonesome, especially for one to live alone. Neighbors and other visitors were always welcome, and invited to stay as long as they could. Even though there was no one at home, a visitor or passerby was welcome to put up his horse and prepare his meal, then he usually left a note saying who had been there.

Mr. Riddle recalls the first bank in Fort Collins - it was organized by Mr. and Mrs. Young, their clerk was Charles Sheldon. After Mrs. Young's husband's death, she attempted to run the organization but was not very successful. The building was located on the corner of Linden and Riverside. Then Mr. Sheldon and William Stover (one of the partners of the Stover and Mathew General Store) organized the Poudre Valley Bank which is still in existence.
Mr. Riddle later purchased a farm near LaPorte. He now resides at 530 Smith Street, Fort Collins, Colorado.

E.A. Riddle

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated February 7, 1934
Mr. Pennock's first occasion to be in Fort Collins was in 1868 when he was in the freighting business. A detour from the Overland Trail which followed the foothills, was necessary to bring them into this town which was hardly more than a fort at that time. Old Friday was here with his band of Indians. With him they traded horses.

Mr. Pennock was born in western New York, and being left an orphan, was bound out until twenty one years of age. But due to the treatment he received, he ran away when thirteen and joined the Union Army where he stayed two years. The West called him, in 1866 he reached Omaha on his sixteenth birthday. Here he nearly became a printer - he turned a crank of the printing press for a few dollars on which to live.

His next movement westward was on a mule train. Like all young boys, he dreamed of becoming famous as an Indian fighter and rescuing a fair maiden from the clutches of these hostile people. But a few Indians came up and ran off with several of their mules, as the wagon master called all hands to arms, our young hero lost all his enthusiasm for Indian fighting.

The first great migration to Colorado was the gold rush to Pikes Peak. The one big factor was transportation - means of bringing people, hauling supplies, machinery and everything needed for a bare existence in this new land and its new occupations opened to the throngs of people coming west. As for means of transportation, mules were used some, but cattle were much more satisfactory due to the fact that they could live on on the grass and hay to be found along the way, no grain was necessary. Furthermore, cattle were not coveted by the Indians like horses or mules, and were thus safer from
being stolen.

The common term for this means of transportation was 'bull trains'. Each wagon had from four teams to as many as needed. The team on the tongue was called the wheelers, the next the pointers, then the swing, then the leaders. The number could be as large as wanted, but it didn't pay to more than five or six teams - they figured about a ton to a team. There were about ten to fifty teams to a wagon train. Most of the cattle in the bull teams were Texas or Mexican cattle. Bull whips were used to enliven speed.

The wagon boss might be either the owner or hired. It was his duty to go ahead and look out for feed and water, to see that the wagons were loaded, and that there/sufficient supplies and provisions. The bull whacker, as Mr. Pennock, was driver on one of the wagons. The man who herded the cattle at night and who called out every morning, "Roll out, roll out," was the night herder. The start was usually made early in the morning before breakfast while it was still cool - they could travel faster at this time. A lay over of three or four hours was taken at noon during the heat of the day, this refreshed the travelers, then they continued until a water hole was found for the night. The cavy yard was driven along behind - this was a common method of working one's way across the prairie and plains.

After a good deal of travel, the cattle's feet or hoofs wore down until they became sore. To prevent this, the hoofs were shod, small iron plates were nailed in place. In order to do this, the cattle were roped - a rope in a half hitch or loop just in back of the front legs, and a rope around the leg, this prevented their moving while the shoes were being nailed on.

The wild Texas cattle had to be "broken" for service on the wagon. They were roped tight, the yoke put over the head of one, and the other's head was drawn through the other end of the yoke by a rope.
Then their tails were tied together so one could not get out of control and turn the yoke. Two wild ones were always put together. After a few days on the wagon, they were as gentle as the rest and knew what was expected of them. The illustration shows how the wagons were put together to form a corral to hold the cattle while this process was going on. The wagons were arranged in an oval, the wheels together with the tongues pointing outward, the two wagons at the head and the two at the end were chained together so that there would not be an outlet. The road goes down the center.

There were many different routes for the bull trains - some of the most prominent ones were from Leavenworth, Kas, to Denver - Julasburg to Denver - Denver to the points on the Union Pacific railroad as Cheyenne, Rock Creek, or Laramie City, then to Salt Lake City. Mr. Pennock made trips to all these cities. At one time, he hauled a load of books to the Mormon City.

Mr. Pennock spent some time in Nevada where he did some mining and freighting - he did some freighting with a four yoke team, clearing about $60. per day for the owner. Mr. Pennock thought he would enter this business but as teams were beyond the price for a young man, he came back to Colorado to get a cheaper team. After his purchase was made, he began hauling piling down Rist Canon to Fort Collins, he decided to stay the winter here. During this time he made trips to the Lone Pine saw mill, and met Jacob Flowers who later became his father-in-law. He didn't go back to Nevada as he had anticipated but remained in Pleasant Valley, near Fort Collins.

Lydia Catherine Flowers, daughter of Jacob Flowers, came with her family and about ten other families from Kansas by train to Greeley, from there by wagons to Bellvue to form a colony, in 1873. Mr. Flowers had an important part in the building of Bellvue, having laid out and plotted the town in 1882. On January 13, 1880, Mr. and Mrs.
Pennock were married in the Colon House at Bellvue. They settled on a farm near an Pleasant Valley which has been their home for these fifty four years of their life together. Here they have lived a happy and peaceful life making friends as the years go by. Mr. Pennock has become well known for his gardening interests.

Mr. Pennock recalls Pleasant Valley of the early days. It was a Utopia when he came - there was nothing wild and woolly about this part of the west, every one was happy and contented. The Indians were their friends and did much to help them. Antoine Janis, an early French Canadian settler in the valley, was of medium size, long whiskered, pleasant personality and an easy talker. Janis told Mr. Pennock of the incident of hiding their supplies and powder near the foothills on the south side of the Poudre River in 1836.

John Provost, also an early settler of this valley, had a squaw wife and several half breed children. He was a big, rough man. His sign above his place of business was, "One Horse Grocery" - the groceries were for the most part whiskey and other liquors. (Provost conducted a profitting business with his toll bridge across the river at LaPorte, charging $5. a wagon to cross the river. No one doubted his word or authority when he saw this burly man standing with his pistol in his belt, not even the wagon boss of the bull train when Mr. Pennock first saw him. The wagon was accustomed to bluffing and arguing his way across the toll bridges, but met with little success with John Provost. In 1868, there were but two stores and several houses at LaPorte.

The day I had the pleasure of calling on Mr. and Mrs. Pennock was their fifty fourth wedding anniversary which they were spending quietly at their home near Bellvue. They have five children living.

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated January 20, 1934

X Charles E. Pennock
Judge Bouton was one of the first citizens of the new town of Fort Collins established by the colony in 1872. His office was the first building erected in the site laid out adjoining the old Camp Collins reservation which was also included in the town.

Our subject was born on December 28, 1849 at Moravia, New York - he received his primary education there, then later attended night school receiving his law degree at Cortland, New York. In October of 1872 he came to Fort Collins with his brother Clark who was in search of a climate that agreed with him.

Judge Bouton erected the first building on the colony lots, then being surveyed for what was the "New Town" of that time. His building was the office of the Colony until its own office was built facing on Mountain Avenue. He served as secretary of the Colony after the resignation of W. E. Pabor. The Colony building was on a lot devoted to the most part for a lumber yard. This made an excellent hiding place for the children in their play. The Judge's first office was a one story affair, with a flaring front making it appear like a two story structure facing on College a few doors north of Mountain. Later the Central Building was erected, his office being on the second floor. The old Opera House was a part of that building. Many of the political speeches of the day were made here.

In 1873 he was appointed Town Attorney, then County Attorney in 1874, then was elected County Judge in 1876 serving in this capacity for three terms. In 1894, he was named Judge of the Eighth Judicial District composed of the counties of Boulder, Larimer, Morgan and Weld, serving six years in this position. A number of times, he exchanged court trials with the Judge at Golden, in the earlier years these trips were always made on horseback.
A little school that is still standing in Pleasant Valley was the scene of his first political speech. After this many years of his life were spent in public life in Fort Collins, eight years on the city council, and eighteen years as President of the School Board. It was while in this office that he was responsible for the establishment of the kindergarten in Fort Collins. This was in 1880, and in 1895 he got the state legislature to make the kindergarten a part of the school system of the state. He was also a member of the Library Board for 27 years. Throughout his life time he collected books acquiring a remarkable library, especially of books concerning law.

Judge Bouton was known for his fairness and justness in his career as a judge and otherwise, this was shown through the numerous gifts made in prison he received from men who were sentenced by an excellent him. He was especially well known as a juvenile judge because of his love for children.

He had a kindly disposition and a retiring manner. His service in office was only a part of the work of Mr. Bouton in behalf of the city. Much of his time was spent in public business unofficially in behalf of the town and its advancement. His interest was always in the many improvements and establishment of industries in the community.

His brother, Clark Bouton was founder of the Standard, a newspaper; he was also County Superintendent of Schools. He passed away in 1874. Judge and Mrs. Bouton were married in 1876 - three children, Mrs. L. D. Crain, Clark Bouton, Henry Bouton survive their parents who both passed away in 1929.

Signed by Bernice Schults
February 29, 1934
Compiling Historical Information
Of Fort Collins and Its Vicinity
Is CWA Worker’s Interesting Task

Delving into the historic past of Larimer county in search of valuable information of pioneer days to be filed in the archives of the Colorado Historical society at Denver, there to be made available for future reference—that is the absorbing task to which Mrs. Bernice Schultz of Fort Collins is devoting her time. She is employed on the work under a state CWA project.

Miss Schultz has interviewed a number of pioneer residents of the county, and relatives of some of the earliest settlers. Much interesting material has been revealed. Among those who have assisted her with information of their own experiences and of pioneers whom they knew are Charles F. Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth Coy Lawrence, Boldvar S. Tedmon, Mrs. P. J. McHugh, Peter G. Terry, George Metz, Mrs. Winona Washburn Taylor, A. A. Edwards, Frank L. Watrous, Mrs. Caroline Frasier Taft, Cyrenius D. Neff, Mrs. T. H. Robertson, Raymond L. Willis, John Currie, Mrs. Violette F. Clark, Charles Pemock, Mrs. Lucy McIntyre, Mrs. E. J. Gregory and Mrs. Helen Greenamyre.

Of these, Mrs. Taylor is the oldest resident of Colorado, having been a resident of the state since 1860. Mr. Neff is the oldest person interviewed, being 93 years of age.

Miss Schultz will appreciate information from any others, and will be glad to receive names of persons of whom interviews are suggested. She may be reached by telephoning Nos. 2164 or 243. She is a graduate of the Minnesota State Teachers college, where she specialized in history.

Some of the subjects which have been covered to some extent in interviews which have been made thus far are the following: The old cattle roundups, the little town of Coloma, early farming, first irrigation, Camp Collins at the time of the soldiers, methods of taking up land for homesteads, the early overhauling trains and their methods and routes, Lepore’s in the early days, stage stations, early schools and churches. Material on some of the early pioneers who have passed away has been taken up. Some of these are Antoine Janis, John Proctor, Harris Stratton and R. Q. Tenney. Any further information that anyone can give will be appreciated by Miss Schultz.
Mrs. Anna Drager at the age of twelve came from Iowa to Cheyenne by train in 1874. Because her parents' early death, she lived with an uncle and aunt, Mrs. and Mrs. P. P. Black and family. An uncle, Mr. Landis met them at Cheyenne, they were forced to lay over several days because of bad weather. When asked of her impression of the at first west and Colorado in particular, Mrs. Drager replied that she did not like it, it didn't seem to be much after leaving a more populated area in Iowa.

The Blacks rented a place near Terry Lake, then in 1875, they took up a homestead on the ground where part of Terry Lake now stands. It is known as the old Black place, the log house still stands there. A little high projection, now to be seen above the level of the water, was on their farm. Before the lake was formed, there was a natural basin which filled in the spring from the excess rain and high water, but dried up in the summer. A road made its way through the basin, this was a direct road to Fort Collins. The homestead was later sold to the Larimer County Ditch Company.

The little log school, District No. 11 was the center of education for the young people. The benches around the room with the desks were so constructed that all the children's backs were in the center of the room. At class time, they crawled out and went up to sit on benches in the middle and front of the room. Their gravest punishment was to be kept after school to get their lessons until sundown, and then to walk home several miles after dark. Spelling matches were held there of Friday nights perhaps once a month.

School companions were Mrs. E. J. Gregory (Grace Madellville), Mrs. John Conrey, the John Riddle children, Joe Mason, Rock Bishew, Kewski, Mishees and others. Many half breed children also attended-
they were just as close as white children and later intermarried. 
Mrs. Drager often spent the night with her dusky girl friends, and 
they came to see her. When at their homes, the squaw mothers pre-
pared the meals, but were not seen otherwise. The half breed girls 
were very pretty and intelligent. 

The young people made their own entertainment, and had the best of 
times. At the dances, the girls furnished the refreshments and the 
boys provided funds for the music.

Mrs. Drager was well acquainted with the second Mrs. John Provost 
who was a sister of La Roque who had a squaw wife. She had come out 
from Canada to visit her brother, she was a very well educated woman. 
Mrs. Drager stayed with her one winter while attending school. John 
Provost's first wife, a squaw, either died or went to the Agency, he 
then married this French woman and they raised his half breed chil-
dren. They had a hotel near the bridge at LaPorte. Mrs. Drager often 
attended dances there.

The primary purpose of the Blacks' coming to Colorado was because 
of Mr. Black's health which was much improved here. This state was 
known for and praised as a health resort. Mr. Black was a carpenter 
by trade, but did farming too. Wild hay and timothy was cut and cured 
for feed for the livestock. Wheat and many vegetables were raised. 
The vegetables were much in demand at Laramie City and Cheyenne.

Mr. and Mrs. John Drager were married in 1885. Mr. Drager was killed 
in 1904. Five children are living. Her home is at 415 East Laurel, 
Fort Collins.

Mrs. Anna Drager

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated January 27, 1954
Mrs. Drager wished me to add the following:
The children of Mr. and Mrs. P. P. Black who are still living are:
Charles Black now in California, Mrs. Dotts, Frank Black, and Mrs.
Biffus. Mrs. Drager was raised with these people and has thought a
good deal of them.
Mrs. Mary Calloway has seen this territory from the time it was a barren prairie to the present day of populated areas. Clinton County, Indiana was her birthplace, April 20, 1851. On April 1, 1869, she, her husband and baby daughter arrived in Cheyenne, Wyoming by train from their home in Indiana. Mr. Calloway's brother, William, met them there and brought them to the Boxelder Canon district which was to be their home for the next ten years.

The Martin Calloways bought the Boxelder ranch which had been taken up by his brother. It was located on the Boxelder Creek above Buckeye and consisted of many acres in the foothills. A little log house was their home, it was later replaced by a two room structure which had been the stage station before the stage line was discontinued at Buckeye. Many improvements were made on the place as the years went by.

The valley was very fertile, wild hay grew in abundance, it was cut and hauled to Cheyenne to the market by ox teams. Later hay presses were introduced which made the hay easier to handle. Ditches were dug and in this way water was distributed over the land to improve the crops. Then the sheep industry was started, they were raised for the wool which was a good price. Groups of men made it a business to go around to the ranches in the spring to shear the wool from the sheep. Besides sheep, cattle were raised and this led to dairying—butter was made. Perhaps fifty pounds at a time was taken once or twice every two weeks to Cheyenne. A large garden provided the potatoes and vegetables for their table.

The Calloway's little home on the Boxelder was a lonesome place for Mrs. Calloway who had been used to a more densely populated area. For the first six months she saw no white woman. Her neigh-
born were squaw wives of white men, and became welcome visitors. The squaw wife of O. P. Goodwin lived about a mile away, she was the mother of six half breed girls, it became a problem to her to know how to dress them. A bolt of material, usually bright red plaid, was bought and taken to Mrs. Calloway for assistance in cutting out dresses for her six little girls - all had dresses alike. In return in appreciation, the squaw kept her white neighbor in mocassins and driving gloves made from buckskin she had tanned, cut, sewed and beaded herself. She couldn't speak English but made her wants known by signs and pointing to desired articles, she could understand what Mrs. Calloway said to her. Her youngsters and numerous dogs accompanied her to the Calloway ranch.

It was a life of constant fear for Mrs. Calloway. Her husband insisted on her learning to shoot with a revolver to protect herself, she became a very good shot. Mexicans were feared much more than Indians because of their stealing and roughness. Many times when she saw men coming on horseback, she took her baby in her arms and hid in the willows until they had passed or until she knew who they were. Ned, a watch dog trained by the Indians, was a constant companion. He could see a great distance and gave warning to anything that looked suspicious.

Antelope often came in from the prairie, also deer from the hills and at times, little cub bears strayed down near the house.

In 1879, Martin Calloway died leaving his widow and two little daughters. The ranch was sold, Mrs. Calloway moved to Fort Collins where her two daughters had a better opportunity for an education - they attended Remington School which had just been completed.

In 1881, Mrs. Calloway became the wife of William Calloway, a
brother-in-law. He had come to Colorado in 1859 when he was associated with Jacob Cornelison in freighting with ox teams from Missouri and Colorado. In 1867 he came to Boxelder Canon where he took up a ranch which was later sold to his brother, Martin. He then located in the Livermore district; this territory was a little more populated and better educational facilities were to be had than the Boxelder district. They had one daughter. Mr. Calloway died ten years after their marriage.

Mrs. Calloway sold this ranch and moved to Fort Collins. She and her daughter, Miss Emma Calloway, live at 400 South Meldrum Street.

Mary E. Calloway

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated February 1, 1934
Union City, Pennsylvania was the birthplace of Mrs. Lucy McIntyre on November 11, 1844. She taught school near her home. In 1862, she married J. W. McIntyre who left immediately for service in the Civil War. He was discharged in 1864 because of disability. She continued to teach after her marriage, and her husband also after he came home. In 1867, the McIntyres came to Missouri to continue their teaching. This particular section was badly damaged by the war, they had to reorganize the school there.

Their next move was to Fort Collins, in 1877 - their first home here was in Aunty Stone’s Cabin when it was located on West Mountain. The front of this old hotel was moved by Mr. Harris to the location and is a part of the Northern Hotel of today. Mr. McIntyre was a traveling salesman for the Marshall Field Company of Chicago, his field was in the western states as Colorado, New Mexico and UTAH. His wounds from the Civil War caused his blindness, he went back to the University of Michigan and finished his law course. He died in 1892.

Mrs. McIntyre recalls some of the early Fort Collins history. The first school was a small frame building on Riverside Avenue near the corner of Peterson Street. This was used until a larger building was needed. A campaign conducted before the election was a very strenuous one - one faction declaring that the four room building planned on was too large and too expensive for the taxpayers to support, and the other faction supporting the other side of the issue. Mr. Ansel Hattersley, editor of the town paper at the time, opened his paper to solicitation from both sides. Mrs. McIntyre did a great deal in the campaign to support the issue of building the new school, she saw the need of the increased size of the building and the need of educational
advantages for the young children. Mr. Lord and Mr. C. C. Emigh were the first teachers. The Catholic school was in the Avery Block.
The first Methodist church services were held in the second story of the old Grout building on Jefferson Street. The second floor was used for all public purposes as for court sessions, dance hall and others. Ricketty wooden benches and tin oil lamps were about the only accommodations to be had. For suppers and other social gatherings of the Methodist membership which only numbered fourteen when Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre joined, Grange Hall located where the Poudre Valley Bank now stands was used. The next location of the Methodist church was on Howes Street, then moved to the present location on Oak and College.

The first Church in town was the Episcopal Church located in the 200 block on South College Avenue, and is being used today.

A little building in the 300 block on Remington was the first Baptist Church. The new church is located on the same spot.

Mrs. McIntyre lives at 137 Mathews Street, Fort Collins. This has been her home for 56 years. She has one son living.

Lucy N. McIntyre

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz

Dated January 23, 1934
In 1853, fourteen years after Antoine Janis had settled in Pleasant Valley, John B. Provost, Francis and Nicholas Janis, Antoine LeBeau, Todd Randall, E. W. Raymond, B. Goodman, Oliver Morrisette and others came down from Fort Laramie with their families, looking for a promising site for a town. After skirting the hills as far south as Denver, the party returned north to the "river of the hidden powder" and located on its banks a town to be known as Colona. This marks the first community settlement made in Larimer County, and from this nucleus the region has developed into the present populous and prosperous county, dotted with farms, towns and cities. The projectors of the town of Colona recognized that in the Cache la Poudre valley would some day be built up a large and prosperous community.

With the Great Plains extending eastward for hundreds of miles, the mountains to the west covered with valuable timbers, overrun with game and seemed as they believed, with vast mineral deposits; the snow-fed streams and a climate unequalled in the north temperate zone, these hardy men decided to build themselves homes and await the rolling in of a tide of immigrants that would result in the building of a country that would "blossom as a rose", and grow rich and powerful. They believed that a great city would some day grow up at the northern gateway to the mountains, located as Colona was on the great Overland Trail from Santa Fe to Salt Lake City and regions north and west of that city. But the great mineral discoveries south and west of Denver turned migration in these directions, giving rise to cities like Denver, Pueblo, Leadville, Colorado Springs and others of less note; though in 1858, with the unexplored and undeveloped resources of the county and only a guess at the command of the locators the situation at Colona seemed full of promise of a great future.
The present day visitor at LaPorte, to which name Colona was changed in 1862, can see remains of a town that once declined to trade lot for lot with Denver and even aspired to be the seat of the Territorial government. But a few years ago there resided in Fort Collins who, having acquired a few lots in Denver in a horse trade, allowed them to be sold for taxes rather than throw away more money on them. The town of Colona was located a short distance west of the present site of LaPorte, but the ford of the Cache LaPoudre being slowed down the stream and practically at the point where the bridge crosses at LaPorte, the site of the town was later abandoned and a new town site was located (LaPorte) at the ford.) In 1859 Mr. Provost erected a log house on the south side of the river in which he kept a grocery and a saloon. This house is still standing. (It has since burned down) That year, Mr. Provost also built and operated a ferry across the river during flood times for the accommodation of emigrants, but the early June flood of that year carried his boat down the stream, so that Mr. Horace Greeley and party passed that way on June 21st, he had to ford the stream at considerable risk. Mr. Provost also operated a ferry at the point during the big flood of June 1864, and, as the travel westward was heavy that season, he coined money, charging $10.00 for taking a double team across and $5.00 for a man on horseback.

This was a section from Ansel Watrous' History of Larimer County, Colorado - pages 46 and 47

Bernice Schultz
Dated January 22, 1934
BEGINNING OF FARMING in the Poudre Valley

In the rush for gold in the earlier years of Colorado but little attention was paid to agriculture. That was thought to be too slow a method for accumulating wealth. Most of the pioneers expected to garner a fortune in the mines and return to their homes in the east and enjoy their gains, surrounded by more civilizing influences than were to be found in the Rocky Mountains. Some did accomplish their ends and did return eastward, but by far the greater number either lacked the means to recross the plains or attracted by the climate and the great dormant possibilities of the country, remained and engaged in farming and stock raising. They were incited to do this from the high price of provisions, and in view of the fact, since everything consumed came from the eastern states and was often months on the way, that a scarcity might sometimes bring it with a high price for the farmers. It was not long until the lands bordering the streams on the plains and the valleys of the mountains were found to be extremely fertile and capable of producing very large crops. At first farming was limited to raising vegetables and cutting and curing native hay which was in great demand at the mining camps as Denver, Central City and Black Hawk districts and said to mining men and livery men. (The area of farming was small during the first decade, but had become important in the Cache la Poudre Valley by 1867 & 68. The raising of wheat had been successfully introduced, then a demand for a flour mills was increased, Henry Clay Peterson built the Linden Mills in 1868. Flour could be produced at a much lower rate than to have it shipped in as had formerly been done.) Agriculture became very successful, migration was steadily coming from the eastern states, not to gain wealth but to establish homes in this new land that was so fertile and had the Colorado
sunshine. It wasn't long until all the land directly along the rivers was taken, the further irrigation was necessary to accommodate the newcomers. (In the spring of 1870, the Mercer Pole and ditch Company was organized and the work on the Mercer Ditch was started with a diversion dam about one mile west of LaPorte. Lack of finances caused delay and some time after, the New Mercer Ditch Company was formed and the ditch finally constructed to the land near Fort Collins and several miles beyond.)

Among the pioneer water users and the old time irrigation ditches of that period were the following: The Yeager Ditch owned by Joshua Yeager, with Priority No. 1 diverted water for irrigation of a small farm in Pleasant Valley located near the present village of Bellvue. The Jackson ditch which served lands near LaPorte and which afterward enlarged and extended eastward to Dry Creek valley.) The Jackson ditch served the farm of Antoine Janis near LaPorte. (Pleasant Valley ditch which served small farms in that valley and afterward enlarged and extended out on the farming lands lying west and south of Fort Collins) (Taylor and Gill ditch which served lands near LaPorte and just east of that town, among the owners of land and users of water were Bill Taylor and Tom Gill) (The Chamberlain ditch a small one furnished irrigation for the farm of H. W. Chamberlain, located just across the river from LaPorte, Mr. Chamberlain was the first County Clerk to serve the County of Larimer) (The Pioneer ditch which was owned by Judge A. F. Howes and which delivered the water for irrigation on the Howes farm was located about one and one half miles east of Fort Collins.)

After the first rush and excitement for gold, the main purpose of those coming here was for making homes and to continue to live here, not to settle here temporarily as had been the case before. It is true that some stayed here by accident, but after living here a
a short time, they very seldom cared to leave. Larimer County is primarily an agricultural region, it owes much of its success to the early pioneers who came here in the early days and laid the foundation of this industry.

Compiled by Bernice Schultz
Material from clippings, History of Larimer County and A. A. Edwards' article on The History of Poudre River Irrigation

Dated January 24, 1924
In 1884, Antoine Janis returned to the Cache la Poudre valley to make his home. He had previously been in the valley in 1836, his father was captain of the caravan of trappers in the employ of the American Fur Company, enroute to Green River, Wyo, from St. Louis, Mo. It was at this time that the famous incident of the hiding of the powder and provisions in a hole beside the river because of the stormy weather, returning for the 'cache' later. Janis was a boy of twelve at this time.

When he returned, Janis selected land north of LaPorte, and facing the Overland Trail, while his cabin was built by the river, south, about a quarter of a mile. Near his cabin was a gnarled old willow tree which was planted in 1844 by the Indian Chief, Bold Wolf, in token of faith between the white and red men. He said," May this friendship last as long as this tree." (The willow tree was cut down in order that a new house might be built only a few years ago.)

Bold Wolf became a fast friend of Janis, and called a meeting of his braved to decide how much land they would give him. Imagine if you can, this famous meeting at LaPorte, when the Cache la Poudre valley, then nameless, changed hands. The Indians, as a race, are dignified and serious and on formal occasions, act with great deliberation. They are a generous people, and about to give away to their white brothers, who had come to dwell with them, a present.

Bold Wolf called his followers and from out of the 700 tepees they came in their brilliant dresses of state and gathered around the camp fire, seated on their feet. Antoine Janis was their honored guest, with whom they smoked the pipe of peace. The land where they were assembled was theirs, it was the land of their fathers, it was theirs by right of discovery, by right of occupancy, and they were
about to give it to the white men. This was done in a grand way that only the Indian can do. Later on when the land in Colorado was deeded to the government and surveyed, Antoine Janis filed on 160 acres of that land that he had been occupying as a squatter. He secured this land patent on May 1, 1867. This was the first land in Larimer County to thus receive a patent. In 1917 Cache la Poudre chapter, D. A. R. erected a marker, on which is inscribed in bronze the above fact. This marker is to be seen at the right of the road, foot about a quarter of a mile past LaPorte, before entering the hills.

This was a more detailed account of the settlement of Antoine Hanis given by Mrs. P. J. McHugh in an article written for the Express - Courier entitled, 'Trappers Enrout to Wyoming Had Powder Near LaPorte and Gave Name to Cache LaPoudre.'

Bernice Schultz
January 15, 1934
PIONEER DAYS RECALLED

John H. Manseville, member of the twenty first Cavalry, U. S. V. when it was stationed at Fort Collins in the early sixties, tells of some interesting incidents which occurred during that time.

At that time, Camp Collins as it was called, consisted of a group of rude log buildings including commissary department, government stables, officers' quarters and barracks. In the center was the parade ground with a tall flag pole in the middle. These buildings occupied the ground where the northermost part of the city now stands. The Redmon House, a three story brick building or hotel stands at a point near the southeast corner of the parade ground. (This has since been torn down.)

The fort was established by Colonel Collins of the Eleventh Ohio Cavalry, the first regiment of the U. S. Volunteers to be stationed in Colorado. This regiment was succeeded by the twenty first N. Y. and the regiment was sent out to guard the settlers against the onslaughts of the hostile Indians. It was not Lieutenant Manseville's first campaigning, however, for he had been a member of the regiment from 1863 and was under Generals Sigel, Hunter and Sheridan fighting no less than thirteen battles in Virginia. He helped Sheridan chase Early up and down the Shenandoah Valley. In coming west at the close of the war, the regiment shipped on board of a steamer at Parkersburg, W. Va., sailed down the Ohio, then up the Mississippi and finally up the Missouri to Leavenworth, Kansas where it disembarked and proceeded overland to Colorado. By the time the regiment reached Fort Collins it was a good deal decimated by sickness and desertions, but the Indians were inclined to be peaceful and not much active service was seen in the immediate neighborhood. The only Indians near were Old Friday's band of Arapahoe who were camped at the Bill Sherw
wood place on the south bank of the Poudre about six miles east of Fort Collins. Old Friday was an educated Indian, having attended college in the east and was friendly with the whites. But he later went up to the Sweetwater country in Wyoming and went on the war path.

Soon after arriving at Fort Collins, the companies of the regiment were consolidated and several detachments were sent up along the overland Trail as far as Fort Hallock to do guard duty. That was in the days of Ben Halladgy's overland stage route when the notorious Jack Slade, who was hung in after years in Montana by a party of vigilantes. He acted as division superintendent of the stage line from Denver north to North Platte River near where Laramie City now stands. LaPorte, a hamlet some four miles west of Fort Collins was the stage station in the Poudre Valley at that time. It was the fifth station out of Denver. At LaPorte there still stands several of the orginal buildings occupied by the stage line, notably Uncle John Provost's hotel. (Has since burned down.)

But one of Lieut. Maddeville's most pleasant memories of that interesting era is the trip he took in company with two companions of his regiment in the fall of 1865 down into the San Luis Valley. The battalion was detailed as an escort for the late John Evans who was then governor of the territory and who was going down to have a peace pow wow with the Ute Indians. Governor Evans took along thirteen wagon loads heavily laden with gifts for the Indians. One was loaded exclusively with navy tobacco in old fashioned plugs, each one at least a foot long. Another member of the troop was George E. Bass who acted as quarter master. He was later a citizen of Fort Collins. Lieut. Franklin had charge of the wagon train. One day the main body of troops was ahead and the wagon train some distance behind. They came upon the home of an old settler in the valley and
the old man had a patch of oats. Captain Farran made a bargain by which the horses were turned into the oat field to feed. When Lieut. Franklin got his wagon train in sight of camp he rode ahead to come down the trail at a rattling pace, coming suddenly to the patch of oats he freightened the company horses who broke the frail enclosure and stampeded in every direction. There were nearly 100 of the animals and it took nearly two days to find the last of them, some of which were found on the very summits of the surrounding hills.

Arriving at the point selected for the conference, the Indians came in from all directions with their squaws and papooses. Old Ouray was the chief, Colorow joined the expedition at Denver and proceeded a part of the way with it. When the Indians got ready to talk they formed in circles, one within another, and the head chief and his people taking the outer circle and the others the inner, according to their rank. In the center sat Governor Evans and his attendants. Major Head, then the Indian agent, acted as interpreter. Lieut. Mandeville had a seat near the governor and before the talk commenced, Mr. Mandeville at the request of governor procured a good size piece of pine board. When the talk was ready to proceed, the governor drew from his pocket a very keen clasp knife and began to whittle long clean shavings from the pine board. As he talked he whittled and before the talk was over he had demolished several pieces of board. Old Ouray's talk was very mild but dignified, but the other two chiefs, especially Colorow, scored the whites unmercifully for the treatment the Indians had received. As Colorow warmed up to the subject, he moved round and round in his allotted circle, but the other two stood like statues during their speeches.

The talk seemed to have a good effect on the Indians and at its conclusion the gifts were passed out to the chiefs who divided them...
Later the Indians had a feast and a dance to which the officers were invited. They accepted the invitation, and as they stood in a group watching the performance, the dusky dancers circling around them and finally surrounded them entirely. The officers showed some surprise, the Indians broke out in a hearty laugh at the joke they had played on the white men. They retired again with as much cermonial serenity as they had approached. Soon after

Soon after their return to Fort Collins, the twenty first N. Y. regiment was transferred to Fort Morgan where its principal duty was to take charge of the emigrant outfits that were passing to and from constantly. The Indians infested a great part of the Overland Trail, and would attack and massacre outfits that did not go well armed and in strong numbers. All outfits were detained at the fort no matter which way they were going unless they numbered 50 wagons each. Many rebelled but it was the duty of Lieut. Mandeville to see that they did not get away. One day he had to go ten or twelve miles to bring one outfit back that had not obeyed instructions.

This article was found in the Weekly Courier, Thursday, July 27, 1899.

I have condensed the article. It was furnished by Mrs. E. J. Gregory, daughter of Lieut. Mandeville.

Bernice Schultz
Dated January 13, 1934
John Currie and Jack Kissock put the first cattle on the Little South in 1875. Mr. Currie had come here a short time before from Cheyenne, Wyoming. Nearly everyone was interested directly or indirectly in stock raising, chiefly in cattle. Only the river bottoms were utilized for raising crops at this time. Cowsmen settled the wide ranges—they went out to look the new country over for a good location having a good range and near a creek. A log house with a dirt roof and corrals were then built.

The next step was to contract in the fall or winter from Texas cattle men for so many cattle to be delivered the next year. When these cattle arrived, they were branded and turned loose on the range. The brand from each ranch was recorded at the county court house and through the state in order that the brands would not be duplicated by any one else.

In the spring, the foremen of the ranches met to plan the spring roundups. The roundups were usually started after the grass had grown considerably and was sufficient to keep the cattle near the home range. Representatives were sent from each cow outfit. They usually took a southeasterly direction as that was the direction the cattle took during the winter months in search of feed. The roundup foreman assigned a territory to a group of cow punchers who went out and brought in all the cattle they could find. Sometimes when the groups came in, there were too many to put all together, so the groups were kept separate. The representatives cut out the cattle belonging to their respective outfits putting them original in a cavy yard leaving the cows and their calves in the group. Then the calves were branded the same as their mothers. After the long distance they were driven, the calves went to their mothers to feed,
in this way it was easy to brand them the same as their mothers. If this didn’t get the desired result, the calves were roped and spanked, their bawling would bring their mothers so the brand could be determined. Many times there were unbranded beef. In the early cattle days, these belonged to the owner of the range on which they were found. Later these maverick calves as they were called were picked up by rustlers who made this a profitable business. The cowpunchers of the roundup then auctioned them and the money went for the inspector’s fees, and then later used in school funds. If any mistakes were made in branding, a tally mark was branded on the animal righting the ownership.

Horse wranglers took charge of the horses when they weren’t being ridden. Cowcavies watched and herded the cattle in the cayy yards where cattle were held that had already been branded and cut for the different ranches.

The beef roundups took place in the fall, the beef were driven to the nearest railroad station and shipped east to market.

The mess wagon with its cook accompanied the roundup. A dutch oven, heated by buffalo chips or a little wood, cooked the food which in the earlier days consisted of beef, biscuits and coffee. This was before the days when they took canned goods along as part of the diet. Perhaps if they stayed in one location for a day or so, beans with bacon were baked in the oven, this was a great treat. The food and dishes were placed together, each cowpuncher helping himself and finding a place to sit to eat.

Cattle many times wandered a good many miles from home in storms which sometimes proved disastrous. In the year of 1877, March 5, 6 and 7, a severe storm raged, which even confined people to their houses. Thousands of sheep and cattle perished out on the ranges, their skeletons were found in the next spring roundup. The water
in the rivers was contaminated, and when water was needed, holes were dug along the bank and the water would be purified through its course through the sand and gravel to the hole. Cattle were more distributed than ever, and found farther away than before due to their wanderings in the storm.

Buffalos and many wild horses were encountered. Mr. Currie tells of an amusing incident on a roundup near the Ute Reservation. The cowboys had come into camp about two in the afternoon. They were warm and tired after the ride, and were resting under the wagons in the shade while the cook was preparing dinner. Their wrangler, Snowball, was of the blackest of his race. All of a sudden he came into camp on horseback, nearly white with fright and in a stammer said that the Indians had run off their reservation and were charging. But the scare didn't last very long, several Indians as they were coming over the ridge gave the peace sign, and told the whites they were hunting buffalo. They thought it a good joke that Snowball had turned so white.

The Indians were a peaceful lot when dealt with fairly. They were honest and true friends until the whites took advantage of them. Their kindness knew no bounds when the whites treated them honestly.

Bull outfits consisting of about eight to ten animals to a wagon did hauling to and from railroad centers as Cheyenne or Rock Creek center or Laramie City. These teams were the cheapest to maintain because they did not have to feed them grain - they lived on grass. They hauled during the summer as long as the grass lasted. Hay was put up and much of it shipped.

Mr. and Mrs. Currie live at 429 Remington, Fort Collins.

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated January 17, 1934
James B. Fletcher, his wife and children came to Colorado from Missouri in 1870. They came with their cattle and wagons making the quickest trip that had been made at that time from Kansas City to Denver - the record they made was six weeks.

Their homestead was up in the Buckhorn country, sixteen miles from Fort Collins. Here they built a comfortable one and one half story log house having seven rooms. This was unusually large for an ordinary home here, but Mr. Fletcher had originally come from Virginia and was accustomed to plenty of room. Fletcher Hill near their homestead was named for him. Theirs was a cattle ranch, it was a good location having plenty of grass and water. They needed constant care and observation, the mountains made a good wintering place and protected them from the storms that often occurred on the plains. Wild hay was put up in the summer for the extra nourishment they needed in the severe months. Enough corn was raised for the horses.

A bountiful garden was raised every year for their food supply. As wild game was plentiful, they never lacked for meat, Mr. Fletcher often killed deer or mountain sheep or antelope.

Some of the cows were milked, and butter was made. Whenever a load of butter was had, Mr. Fletcher took it over the trails to the market at Cheyenne or Denver where it sold for one dollar per pound.

As Mrs. Clark looks back, it seems that there wasn't much to their life there, but they lived happily and contentedly - they were free and independent - the children amused themselves after their daily tasks were completed by wholesome play. They fished for mountain trout which was plentiful in the little streams, and
they kept the table well supplied. Each youngster had a pony, riding over the hills was one of their means of enjoyment. As for neighbor children, there were very few and those were miles away. The nearest neighbors were bachelors who lived five miles away.

It was soon necessary to send the children to school, so Mrs. Fletcher came with them to Fort Collins where they made their home. They lived on the northeast corner of College and Oak streets. Five years residence on a homestead was necessary to hold it, Mr. Fletcher stayed at the ranch for another year in the mountains, coming down for week-ends or whenever it was convenient for him with his family.

The first school they attended was on East Mountain between College and Linden Streets, Mrs. Emily Abbott was their first teacher. This building served as a school and church too until the churches were built. Father Barns, a missionary from England, was the Episcopal minister at the time and under whom they took their first Sunday School work. Mrs. Clark joined the Presbyterian Church then on Linden and Walnut, in 1879 - Dr. Fink was the pastor at that time.

After coming to Fort Collins, Mr. Fletcher entered into business operating a market and grocery store. His death in 1882 was tragic he was killed by a horse.

Mrs. Clark was in her third year at the Agricultural College, but discontinued after her father's death. She was married in 1884, and lived for some time away from Fort Collins. During the year of 1909-10, she taught school in Porto Rico which proved to be a very interesting year.

Mrs. Clark has two daughters living in the east. She came to
back to Fort Collins to live among her friends, many of whom she had as playmates as a child. Her residence is at the Scott Apartments, Fort Collins.

Violetta Thatcher Clark.

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated January 13, 1934
The subject of this sketch was born in West Virginia and came with his parents by train to Greeley, Colorado, September 15, 1871. Henry Bosworth, his mother's brother, had come west in the Pike's Peak gold rush, then went by the overland trail to Virginia City, Montana. This trail passed Old Lone Tree near LaPorte. Mr. Bosworth came back to Pleasant Valley and settled on what is now the W. C. Graves place, it was formerly owned by Abner Loomis. To this place the Willis family came by team from Greeley.

The Willis family spent that winter on the J. H. Yeager place, known as the Maxfield place now, in 1871-72. The following winter they filed and moved on the homestead which was their home for many years. It was located where the Cook Store of Bellvue is now. The logs for their home were obtained from RistCanon and hauled down to what was called the Open Chain Saw Mill, located on what is now the Falloon place. It was the custom to have logs sawed on shares. The family moved into the new home in 1874.

Mr. Willis recalls some of the incidents of the Chubbuck murder in 1875. His oldest brother witnessed the killing, Chubbuck and Phillips had disagreed on the ownership of an unbranded steer in a roundup where Lake Loveland now is. The former assaulted Phillips who was a cripple with a blacksnake whip and ordered him off the place. Phillips returned the next day to assert his right, but when Chubbuck cast toward him with his whip, Phillips feared for his own physical condition, so jumped behind his horse and shot his enemy. Mr. Willis' brother went home that night to stay with his mother and brothers while his father was at the Miner place shearing sheep. The next morning, his brother went out to feed his horse and shortly heard his mother's screams. He found Phillips, the
killer, behind the kitchen door. After a short discussion in which Phillips said he wanted to get to the river so that he might make his way unmolested to Fort Collins to give himself up, he ate breakfast with the Willis family. He went to Fort Collins, his trial was held a short time later, the jury set him free, he then left the country.

John Provost was known throughout the country as being an honest and upright citizen. He was always generous with his money and ready to help anyone he thought to be deserving. A French Canadian, he was one of the first white settlers in Larimer County, having come from Montreal, Canada in 1853 with a band of trappers and fur traders. He later made his home near LaPorte where he kept a stage station and road ranch on the south side of the river. After the big flood of 1864, he operated a ferry across the river, the only bridge having been washed out by the flood. His wife was a Sioux woman, two boys and a girl were born to them. His squaw wife years later took the two boys with her to the Pine Ridge Agency or Reservation. The younger became homesick, stole a pony from his mother and rode the long distance to his father. One son is supposed to be living at this same Agency at the present time. The daughter attended Carlyle College, came back and married William Dixon, later married Jim Pedego, she died in Montana.

In 1876, Mr. Willis brother hauled by wagon two loads of flour from the Hotte Mill in Fort Collins to Deadwood, making two trips.

In February of 1876, a group of Fort Collins men went by wagon to the Black Hills during the excitement in the gold rush. These men were P.H. and Lawrence Willis, Perry Bosworth, Louis Blackstone, Andy Downs, Billy Micheud, Al Harvey and Ben Claymore. Their hopes of riches weren't fulfilled as they had anticipated. Perry Willis before leaving had bought a pony by which he was to make his way
to their destination. But the pony was stolen. To complete his misfortune, while he was at the river, the bonfire got out of control and burned everything he had except the clothes he had on, excluding a vest with $40 in the pocket that was hanging on a willow tree.

Mr. Willis gives very interesting details of the roundups in which he took part. In 1886 he was left in charge of the cattle of an uncle, E. B. Davis who went to Wales. At this time all the land east of Loveland and the foothills to Greeley was open country and on this open range the cattle ran free. The spring roundups, which began from the first to the middle of June and lasted about two months, gathered all the cattle and calves that had drifted over the open range during the winter. The new calves were branded at this time. Each cow outfit sent several cowpunchers to take part in the roundup to get the cattle from that particular ranch. They started out with a mess wagon pulled by four horses, roundup cook, bed wagon, and each rider from the different ranches with about nine good horses which were changed every half day. The best horse was kept for night riding. In order to keep track of the cattle and horses at night, cowpunchers took turns on the three hour shifts. The "Graveyard Shift" from 3 in the morning until day light included catching horses for the day's ride.

The roundups went by districts. The district in this part was #26, it included most of Larimer County, ranging from this side of Loveland along the foothills to the Wyoming line - east to Chalk Bluffs and into Weld County. Dist. #11 started at the Platte River. The two roundups would meet and turn over cattle belonging to the other that had drifted in the other district, they had picked these up in the territory they had gone over. Big Crow Springs was usually the meeting place.
The roundups usually consisted of twenty to fifty men, and probably 150 saddle horses. A horse cavy took care of them during the night. A corral made of forty to fifty feet of rope between the mess and bed wagon was used to pick out the horses wanted. The horses were again brought in at noon.

At daybreak in starting their day's work, two circles were formed—the outside circle perhaps would go out twenty miles and gather all the cattle, coming in at about one or two o'clock in the afternoon. The inside circle would pick up all the cattle inside. Three men always remained with the cattle already driven in. When a large enough bunch was had, calves were branded the same as their mothers and taken back to their home ranges. If mistakes were made in branding, they were righted by branding one of the other calves to even it up. Sometimes the brands couldn't be seen very well, so the animal was roped and the hair cut off the distinguish his ownership. If the work lasted until in the afternoon, they took the rest of the day off.

The fall roundups, or beef roundups, starting about the last of September and lasting about two months, were very similar to those taking place in the spring except that they took in the beef ready for market instead of the calves. The steers were usually about four years old, three years at the least when shipped. Dry cows were shipped in the beef herd. The beef was driven to a central point, Cheyenne was the closest from here, and shipped to markets in the middle west and east. Omaha was the common market for cattle around here.

'Reps' or representatives from distant cow outfits were often sent to the roundups to look after and take home any cattle that had wandered on to the distant ranges.

Horse roundups were conducted much in the same way, they went
after the horses that had been let go the preceeding fall to winter on the range. They were gathered up about the middle of June, at this time they had had a chance to get fat on the spring grass.

The outfits were kept up by an assessment on each cow outfit. The meat and bed wagons always went ahead to some given point, all would meet here for meals. Sometimes they went ahead twenty miles. The round up cook usually had a helper, all hands assisted in gathering wood, if there was none to be found, buffalo chips were used. The meals were of the best - bacon, baking powder biscuits, potatoes if they were to be had, much canned fruit and vegetables, tomatoes being used a great deal as was syrup. Beef was always used in the meals, it made no difference whose beef it was, the first one to be had was killed.

Everyone slept out on the ground, each having a bed roll with a canvas to throw over the top. The cowboy's outfit or wearing apparel consisted of the regular boots, shirt, trousers and hat. The trousers were either blue denim overalls sewed in red, or 'foxed' all wool pants of checkered material with patched of leather at the seat, knees and ankles. The Stetson hat, white or yellow, with a three inch brim and six inch crown usually had buckskin straps under the chin, through holes in the hat over the ears and around the back of the head. This prevented the wind from blowing the hat either frontwards or backwards. His spurs were always on his high heeled boots. The process of dressing was not a long one, just pulling on his trousers and boots which were under the canvas. No gloves were worn. They did not wear shaps as commonly thought, only in case in rain. A yellow slicker was tied on the back of the saddle for rainstorms.

A cowpuncher usually furnished his own saddle, the horse and remaining necessities by the owner of the cow outfit. Sometimes the
cowboy rode his own horse, in this case he was riding for himself. His wages were from $40 to $45 per month including board.

This was a hard and strenuous life - their day's work began at sunup until their tasks were completed for the day. They were hard working, honest men. If any one of them wasn't, it was soon taken out of him by a good sound spanking as he was stretched over his bed roll. Tenderfeet were initiated by proper methods, the better natured they were, the better it was for them. They had a good time and could always enjoy a good practical joke on one another.

Mr. Willis now lives at 215 Remington, Fort Collins.

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated January 11, 1934
The subject of this sketch was born in Ontario, Canada in 1840. At the age of eleven, he came with his parents to Williamsville, New York, then the following spring moved to Indiana. Their next destination was Waverly, Iowa.

Patrician called Mr. Neff, he served in the Northern forces in the Civil War - Company G, 9th Iowa Veteran Volunteer Infantry. During a period at home in 1864, he was married at Waverly, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Neff came by train to Greeley in 1873 - this was when the town had few people and no surrounding land had been plowed. The next spring the farmers started their careers in the west, they plowed up the soil and planted their seeds. The grasshoppers completely destroyed the crops for two consecutive years and particularly the third year.

It was commonly understood that water was required to raise good crops in this good land. But Mr. Neff used a little sound reasoning - if weeds grew in abundance without water, why not the ordinary crops? This was the beginning of his forty-eight years of dry land farming.

In those days, because of the handicap of having no hay, the cattle were let to roam the prairies during the winter season in order that they find subsistence until spring when they could be taken to their respective ranches and kept until the following fall. This often proved a hardship on the cattle because of the severe winter weather and snow which prevented their obtaining sufficient feed. The only hay available was a small amount of buffalo grass to be found along the river bottoms. The editor of a Greeley paper realized the situation, this lead to his sending to the east for a small amount of alfalfa seed. This was planted, it proved to be just what they wanted, so the seed was carefully saved until there
was enough for a much larger acreage. This was a great help to the farmer. At that time the old fashioned clover grew wild around Fort Collins but it was later replaced by alfalfa.

Mr. Neff found that fall plowing proved to be the most satisfactory for all crops except the potatoes. The soil was plowed in the fall, then harrowed twice in the spring, this kept a good portion of the moisture in the ground. The first years of planting potatoes and their harvesting was rather crude, a furrow was plowed, the seed dropped and another furrow plowed to cover the seed. They were dug with a four tine fork. A little later more efficient methods were used, a planter and a Downa or Smith digger lessened the lork. Good soil and proper care the finest of this vegetable. When on a trip to California, Mr. Neff attended a Potato Day celebration. He thought there was no reason why everyone couldn't conduct a similar one in his community. The following fall about the time that the potatoes were being harvested, he introduced the plan, and every farmer donated some of his finest potatoes to be given away to visitors as souvenirs of one of the best crops of that territory. Mr. Neff was crowned Potato King.

Farming was not Mr. Neff's only occupation. Because of the unfairness of the millers' treatment of the farmer in buying his wheat, Mr. Neff conceived the idea of buying all the wheat in the surrounding territory from the farmers at a just price which justified raising wheat. He became so efficient that the millers furnished capital by which he could purchase this grain throughout the country. This seemed to be a check on the miller, those who wouldn't pay a good price would get no wheat.

At the same time, or in about 1889, he was running a Grain, Feed and Seed store in Greeley. In this business he handled all the seeds the farmer needed and wanted. Five warehouses sheltered his stock of
merchandise. Since at that time, fanning mills were not a part of a farmer's equipment, grain was brought to Mr. Neff's huge apparatus for cleaning. His farm and livestock was his experiment station, he tried out various seeds and feeds to get the best possible results, then offered like material for sale at his store. His fixed rations were popular with the farmers. For years he donated seed from his dry land farm to the Agricultural College for experimental purposes.

(When the sugar industry was first started in this part of the state, officials of the company went around the surrounding territory asking the farmers for their support in the enterprise by planting a few acres in sugar beets. Colorado has the three essentials for raising sugar beets - sunshine, water and good soil. Mr. Neff devoted much of his time to the organization of the sugar factory at Loveland - he was in charge of the territory from the Poudre to Greeley.)

Mr. and Mrs. Neff have six children living. Mrs. Neff died in 1921. A second wife passed away several years ago.

He is entirely self-educated, he had no schooling other than the method of seeing for himself how other people lived and existed. Travel has been his hobby throughout his life, he has visited and lived for short periods all over the United States. Instead of reading, he went to see for himself. He is now planning trips which will take him to places he has not been and things he has not seen. He resides at 714 South College, Fort Collins which has been his home for over thirty years.

Sincerely,

David Neff

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz

Dated January 9, 1934
In 1829, Abner Loomis, father of Mrs. Robertson, was born in Fredonia, New York. His family later moved to Ohio, then to Iowa, then to near St. Joseph, Missouri. His first trip west took him to California in 1850 to seek his fortune in the gold fields, he went there by ox-team, taking three months to make the trip.

With his bride in 1862, he came to the Poudre Valley, arriving in October of that year. A ranch in Pleasant Valley was their home for about seven years. During this time, Mr. Loomis made trips east for hay which was hauled to Central City and other mining towns.

Many times when alone, Indians came to the door and asked Mrs. Loomis for salt and bread, this was a common request, the salt was used in preservation of their meat and the bread was a tasty food that was new to them and which they seemed to like. The home in Pleasant Valley has burned down, but a row of trees marks the location of what was once the Loomis home.

The Loomis family next moved to Spring Canon where they lived until 1872 when they purchased their first home in Fort Collins from Doctor McClanahan, this was in Block 13. The corner of Linden and Walnut Streets used to be their garden and the other side of the house was a croquet ground. The Ideal Furniture Store and the Shaap Second Hand Shop are now located here.

Mrs. Robertson's father erected the brick building in which the Linden Hotel and other places of business are now located. In 1885 the Loomis family moved to the 400 block on Remington which was the family home until the death of Mr. and Mrs. Loomis. They had five children, Leonidas who was a member of the first graduating class at the Agricultural College, Guy who is not living, Mrs. Charles Dyer, Jasper Loomis, and Mrs. Robertson.
Mr. Loomis was for many years engaged in the cattle business, both near Fort Collins and in Wyoming. His trips by means of horses several times a year aided him in keeping contact with his cattle in the northern state. He was also President of the Poudre Valley Bank.

Schools seemed to change locations rather often then - there was a school where the Poudre Valley Bank now stands, and also a Remington school. L. R. Rhodes was teacher at the school near the Lindell Mills. When the pupils were thought to have consumed enough knowledge at the grade school, they continued at the college. Mrs. Robertson tells of an incident in her college life. It was a strict rule that boy and girl students should not walk together on the campus or in any of the buildings. One day she and a young man walked down to the railroad tracks to watch the train go by and then up to the dormitory and ate lunch with him. She was called before the president and very sternly reprimanded. But they didn't expel her because they couldn't afford to lose any students, there were so few. Mrs. Robertson was in 1885 a member of the second class to finish its work at the Agricultural College. Commencement exercises were held at the old Opera House where Central Hall is now. This was an impressive ceremony, it was customary for each member of the graduating class to give an oration.

Mrs. Robertson recalls some of the early locations in Fort Collins - there were two parts to the town, the Old Town which consisted of the Jefferson and Linden Street district, and the New Town consisting College and Mountain Avenues. There was much rivalry between the two. The Episcopal Church was then in Block 16, on College, the Methodist Church was located in Block 42, LaPorte Avenue. The first town cemetery was where the Post Office is now. This was the highest place around, and because of this the soldiers of Camp Collins buried their dead here. The next burying ground was on East Laurel, then its permanent location on West Mountain Avenue.
Mr. and Mrs. Robertson were married in 1888 and now reside at 420 West Mountain Avenue. They have two children.

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated January 6, 1934

Mrs. Lelia Lorraine Robertson
John Tyler was president of the United States when Antoine Janis built his modest little home on the banks of the Poudre in 1844. Janis, a native of Missouri, born of French parents, is believed to have been the first permanent settler in all that part of Colorado north of the Arkansas River. Years before this time, the valley had been traversed by freighters transporting goods and supplies by wagon trains for the fur trading posts along the Green River. The late Phillip Covington, some of whose descendants are still living in this valley, passed up the river and on into the mountains with a wagon train as early as 1828, and Antoine Janis' father had often made the trip from St. Louis, Missouri to Green River as a freighter, his route taking him through this valley going and coming. It was his glowing description of our beautiful valley, then a virgin wilderness that fired Antoine's brain with a burning desire to see it for himself.

Mr. Janis lived on a ranch he staked out in 1844 until 1878 when he moved to Pine Ridge Agency to join the tribe to which his Indian wife belonged, where he died a few years ago.

JANIS' OWN STORY

In February, 1883, the editor of the Courier addressed a letter to Mr. Janis at Pine Ridge Agency, requesting him to furnish the writer for publication such facts relating to the early history of the settlement of the Cache la Poudre Valley as he possessed. To this request Mr. Janis answered as follows:

"Pine Ridge Agency, March 17, 1883

My dear Mr. Watrous:

In regard to the early history of the Poudre Valley, I will say that as one of the party, I have in my possession all the facts
relating to its first settlement, including names of persons, day and date. On the first of June, 1844, I stuck my stake on a claim in the Valley intending the location selected for my home should the country ever be settled. At that time the streams were all high and the valley blank with buffalo. As far as the eye could reach, nothing could be seen scarcely but buffalo. I was just on my return from Mexico, and I thought the Poudre Valley was the loveliest place on earth and I still think so.

The gold fever broke out in 1858. Soon after locating my claim, I moved over from Fort Laramie and settled on it. The place is just above LaPorte, and now owned by Tobe Miller. (Joseph Hamerly is now the owner of the place—Ed. Courier.) One hundred and fifty lodges of Arapahoes moved there with me at the same time. They asked me if I wanted to settle there. I told them I did. Bold Wolf, the chief, then called a council of braves who finally gave us permission to locate and donated to us all the land from the foot of the mountains to Boxelder Creek. The donees were E. Gerry, Nicholas Janis, and myself. In the winter of 1858-9, settlers commenced to come in.

A company was formed composed of Nicholas Jans, E. Gerry, Todd Randall, Raymond, John B. Provost, Oliver Marisette, LeBon, B. Goodwin, Ravoiere and others which located a town site and called it Colona. We had the site surveyed and mapped, and built fifty houses.

I was born in St. Charles, Missouri March 26, 1824. First came to Colorado in 1844. You ask me all the particulars. It would consume a good deal of time to give them in detail, and my health has been such that I dare not undertake the task. Have been away or I should have answered your kind letter before.

ANTOINE JANIS

I found this article in a scrap book at the Pioneer Cabin in Fort Collins. Was printed in the Courier in about 1905.

Dated January 4, 1934
The subject of this sketch was born in Lebanon, New Hampshire March 14, 1838. His early boyhood was spent on farms and then in 1856, he entered the employ of the Vermont Central Railroad as an apprentice in the machine shop at Northfield where he spent nearly six years. Later he attended the Norwich University for one term. Patriotism to his country called him, he enlisted in the Northern forces of the Civil War in August, 1862 from Vermont.

Mr. and Mrs. Tenney were married in February, 1871 in Dixon, Ill. and in the summer of that same year came to Colorado, by rail to Denver where they landed June 15. Mr. Tenney says of their first days, "Two days in Denver — then to Longmont by rail and stage. But our objective was Fort Collins. By private conveyance to Greeley over the broad prairies taking our first picnic dinner under a cottonwood tree at the Little Thompson Creek. Night brought us to Greeley. We will never forget our first night in Greeley. There were only two houses to choose from. Our first choice was a disaster. We were hardly in bed before the good wife was out of bed. "What's the matter, Belle?" 'Matter? Bed bugs!' The very air was full of them. We fought them with machine guns, Spencer rifles and Barrot guns until daylight. A reconnaissance in the morning developed a new clean plastered building. The other was ceiled and every crack contained a million bugs, I guess. We liquidated our bill and changed our base.

"The next day I left the wife in the clean new Barnham House, and with another ex-warrior, Bradfield, I had met on our way took the stage to Fort Collins. The stage running from there (Fort Collins) to Greeley went up one day and down the next, and was owned by Joe Mason. On our trip to Collins we were given an opportunity to
survey in a causal way the "The Valley of the Cache la Poudre!"
just east of town on the Andrew Ames, later the Slocott place, we
saw Coon and Scranton irrigating a field of potatoes. As we came
through the Greeley Colony Lands, we saw several wouldbe farmers
tilling their crops. There was nothing new in that but the potato
field was an interesting sight. This was our first lunch of irriga-
tion. Bradfield as well as myself was very much interested.

"On our arrival in Fort Collins, we alighted in front of a newly
erected, supposed to be, hotel. It was owned by Harry Conley, another
Civil War veteran. This hotel was on the ground later occupied by the
Tedmon House.

"A short interview with Joe Mason, a French Canadian and early
pioneer having come to LaPorte in about 1860, convinced him that
we were seeking, not adventure, but a place to establish ourselves
in some industry. He volunteered a pony and saddle to each of us
to look the country over and to go as far as we pleased. We thought
we had been royally, and loyally, welcomed to this newly discov-
ered Utopia.

"Our second day was spent on a trip to Pleasant Valley, eight
miles up the river, where we could cross the only bridge between
the Lindell mill and the Poudre Canon. We came down on the north
side to where number 11 school house now stands, continued to
Peter Anderson's and to Brother Coy's, then to the village of our
starting point.

"My conception of the Poudre Valley was conclusive - that it
was the most productive area of agricultural land that my eyes had
ever seen. In conclusion, it determined me to stick our stake here."

Mr. Tenney then told of his settlement here at Fort Collins,
"During the first few months here I worked at varied occupations,
weeding Cowan's garden on the land where the Union Pacific Station
now stands and digging potatoes which were freighted to Cheyenne and sold for 4½ per pound the first trip and 2½ per pound the second trip. The farms were mostly along the river. I rented the Blake land, three fourths of a mile north of Sullivan's Dairy for $400, later applying this rent money to the purchase price, adding a little to it, and leaving the remainder for the time honored custom of installments."

A short chronicle of events in his first years here as set down himself for a local newspaper is as follows:

1871 - Arrived in June, took up a piece of land along the Poudre.

1872 - Greeted Ledru R Rhodes, afterwards State Senator, on his arrival at my farm.

1873 - Elected President of the Fort Collins district school board, gave Rhodes a job as teacher.

1874 - Made road overseer, had hard time getting roads into shape, kicked about it and got myself disliked.

Their household goods including a range and pipe costing $45. were purchased from Charles Boettcher at Greeley. On this farm, he began to work out and solve some of the ideas and problems that had been going through his brain.

Mr. Tenney wanted something better than the long horned Texas cattle that roamed the plains, so he ordered from the East a Jersey bull and heifer with which to form a nucleus of a breed of cattle, these two animals being the first of that breed of cattle being brought to Colorado. He then set up the Victor Dairy. He ordered from New York four dozen four gallon cans for milk which were also the first to be brought into the state, or territory. This was in 1872. The butter was packed into four pound packages which were labeled "Victor Dairy, Fort Collins, Colo., R. Q. Tenney, Prop., Prop." So far as was known at that time, this was the first dairy in this state. At this time, February, 1872, Mr Tenney notes that butter
was 50¢ per pound, oats 2½ per bushel, eggs 35¢, wheat 2½¢, potatoes 1.25, sugar 13¢ per pound, flour 6.50, Japan tea 2.80 per pound and corn 2¢.

While engaged in the dairy business in 1872-76, Mr. Tenney sent to New York for a quantity of sugar beet seed which he planted and harvested, feeding the beets to the dairy cows. The yield was more than forty tons to the acre. This was the first time that sugar beets had been raised in Colorado. Mr. Tenney's experience had much to do with the establishment of the sugar beet industry now worth millions of dollars to the state.

The Granger Movement had gained a foothold in Colorado, and being ever ready to help along any movement to better the condition of the farmer, Mr. Tenney joined Grange No. 72 installed November 9, 1873 and was elected its first Master.

In the spring of 1876, Mr. Tenney and his family moved to what is now known as the Inverness farm. He bought a mowing machine, harvester and gang plow and with these implements he did work for his neighbors as well as himself. He with Mr. Coy bought a seed drill and later a self binder which was the first self binder to be brought into this country. We can thus distinguish Mr. Tenney as being the first man to introduce and employ modern methods of farming and to use labor saving devices and farm machinery in Larimer County.

From the first, Mr. Tenney took a great interest in the subject of irrigation and in company of the late Jack Dow, former county surveyor, made the first survey for the north Poudre system which has since become one of the most important irrigation plants in the state, and in the summer of 1877 or 1878, he made the first preliminary survey of Terry Lake, now known as the Larimer and Weld reservoir. He and his brother Melvin extended the Jackson
Ditch a distance of three miles, through which water was run into Long Pom., completed the Warren Lake Reservoir in the Poudre Valley. He also developed the Sand Creek irrigation supply system.

With Andrew Ames in 1879, he bought from Mr. Bailey his Grain, Feed and Coal business, it was known as Ames and Company. In 1880, he filed on homestead Section 28, SW 1/4, and his brother a preemption claim on Section 28, SE 1/4-9-68. They were required to spend one night every six months on the homesteads in order to hold their claims. Another brother, Edwin, had the NE 1/4 as a tree claim.

Because of his knowledge of the territory and land laws, he was always interested in placing people on homesteads and tree claims. He did a good deal of planting trees throughout his lifetime. Even in his old age, a vacant spot beside his home was planted with tree seeds and the trees given to friends and those interested in his hobby. In 1908, Mr. Tenney was made an honorary member of the State Forestry Association. The idea of planned forestry was always of interest to him and carried this out whenever possible.

In company with his brother Melvin in 1883, he developed a large stock ranch in the Boxelder Valley. He traded Block 166 in Fort Collins for some cattle then engaged in cattle raising and breeding carriage horses. In 1885, he moved to Wellington to his preemption, Sec. 20, SE 1/4-10-68W., this was the last fenced place from there to Cheyenne. In 1890, he moved to Fort Collins, and in 1893 bought the City Hotel and operated it until 1900. During that time he was Water Commissioner of Dist. #3, Division #1, this appointment being made by Governor Waite.

There are few enterprises, businesses or industries in which Mr. Tenney had not a part - farmer, stock raiser, engineer, promoter of irrigation, farmers' mills and cooperatives, builders - he has interests in them all, and not with the frequent result of making
no profit of any. In addition he was secretary to the last horse growers association in Larimer County and arranged the details of the last horse roundup. These horse roundups were as necessary in days gone by as were the cattle roundups, for they recovered many animals that had strayed or that had been purposely driven off the home ranges, saving property for owners and harrassing those dishonest fellows who took horses that belonged to others. At every horse roundup the object was to go over thoroughly the country, pick up the animals of members of the association, and note such strays or those with brands of other communities so that they could be restored to owners.

Mr. Tenney always wanted the right things done, he was fearless in expressing his opinions, criticisms often came from this, but as long as he was in the right, he did not worry. His interest was in the farmers and ways in which to better agriculture. Contributions were frequent from his pen to local papers, giving his opinion on all public matters, even up until shortly before his death. Throughout his lifetime seems to have had a historical sense - he has saved clippings and other things of historical value from the time he was a boy.

Mr. and Mrs. Tenney had two daughters, Mrs. Fannie Dowell and Mrs. Helen E. Greenamyre who now lives at the Tenney home at 634 South Mason, Fort Collins. Mrs. Tenney died in 1915, and Mr. Tenney passed away in April, 1932.

Mr. Tenney picked up a bit of anonymous verse and re-entitled it "A Good Munch". His daughters who know him best say it was Mr. F Tenney's creed. Here are the words:
"Tis the coward who quits to misfortune;
'Tis the knave who changes each day,
'Tis the fool who wins half the battle;
Then throws all his chances away.

"There is little in life but labor,
Tomorrow may find that a dream;
Success is the bride of endeavor,
And luck but a meteor's gleam.

"The time to succeed is when others
Discouraged, show traces of tire;
The battle i'd fought on the home-stretch
And won 'twixt the flag and the wire."

Mr. Tedore entered the mercantile business in his native town
1871-1872. On June 12, 1879, he was united in marriage to Alice C. Allen,
Daughter of Iras Allen of the town of Harrisburg, Lewis County,
State of New York. He continued in business with his brother, J.E.
Tedore as partners in Harrisburg until the spring of 1873, when
they disposed of their business and came to Fort Collins, Colo.
where they purchased the business of Mack and Tucker, in which
business they resided until 1886.

and information

This sketch compiled from material/furnished
by Mrs. Greenmyre

Dated January 2, 1934

[Signature]
Bolivar Tedmon was born in the town of Martinsburgh, Lewis County, State of New York in the year of 1848. His parents were Levi and Rachel Seward Tedmon. He was reared on a farm and educated in common or what were termed district school and finished in Lowville Academy. Mr. Tedmon taught school for several winters and the balance of his time was spent on the farm with his father. He had two brothers, Ferdinand L. and Herbert Eugene, and two sisters, Almira and Edith Elnora.

Mr. Tedmon entered the mercantile business in his native town in 1872. On June 12, 1873, he was married to Alice C. Allen, daughter of Ira Allen of the town of Harrisburgh, Lewis County, State of New York. He continued in business with his brother, H. E. Tedmon as partner in Martinsburgh until the spring of 1878, when they disposed of their business and came to Fort Collins, Colo. where they purchased the business of Mason and Carter, in which business they remained for about 2 years. Following this, Mr. Tedmon built the Tedmon House, this being the first three story hotel or building erected in Fort Collins. This was later sold to G. M. Jones of Cheyenne, Wyo.

About this time, he was appointed Superintendent of Insurance for the state of Colorado, being the first official to serve in this capacity under an act passed by the legislature at that time. This appointment was made by Hon. John C. Abbott, State auditor as provided in the act mentioned. He served as Supt. of Insurance for the state for two terms or four years. He was then appointed Deputy State Auditor by Hon. John M. Henderson. After completing this term, he entered the mercantile business in Denver, he disposed of this following the panic of 1893. Since this time, he has
followed the Real Estate and Fire Insurance business, for a time in Denver, Colo. and latter for several years in New York City as Manager for the Columbia Investment Company whose operations were largely confined to the Palisades on the West side of the Hudson River opposite New York City.

In 1904, he with his family returned to Colorado where they again located in Fort Collins, which has remained or continued to be their home since, following the same line of business, Real Estate and Loans and Insurance.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Tedmon consists of one daughter, Anna R Tedmon who is a graduate of Emerson College in Boston; two sons, Allen H. and B. S. Tedmon, Jr., both graduates of the Agricultural College at Fort Collins. Miss Tedmon has followed dancing and teaching of dramatic work. Allen H. Tedmon is connected with the college from which he was graduated into the Extension Dept. B. S. Tedmon, Jr. is a teacher in Central High School in Pueblo, Colo.

Mr. and Mrs. Tedmon reside at 419 Remington Street, Fort Collins.

Bolivar S. Tedmon

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated December 12, 1933
One of our first professors at the State Agricultural College in Fort Collins, Colorado is Charles F. Davis. His birthplace was Baltimore, Maryland in 1856. He taught off and on in the public schools, and in 1880 graduated from the Michigan State College.

On April 1, 1881, Professor Davis took over the duties of Professor F. J. Annis, that of teaching Chemistry and Mathematics. Since the college was founded in 1880, it was very small in comparison with our present day institution. Only three professors had charge of the welfare of the forty-five or fifty students – the faculty consisted of E. E. Edwards as President, A. E. Blunt and C. F. Davis. It is interesting to note that the three graduates of 1884, the first class to finish, are still living. They are Mrs. Elizabeth Coy Lawrence, wife of the late Professor James W. Lawrence; Professor George H. Glover, who is now connected with the Veterinary Department at the same college; and Leonidas Loomis. Prof. Davis states that the college at that time compares to a well advanced high school of the present day.

Professor Davis has been connected with the Agricultural College a good part of his life except from 1887 to 1914 when he was engaged in the practice of law in Fort Collins. During this time some of the members of the bar with Mr. Davis were Messrs Robinson-Love, Garbutt, Rhodes, Ballard, Norvell and Darrosh.

In 1914 Professor Davis was called back to the college as Professor of History and Law. His retirement took place in 1931. He and Mrs. Davis reside at 411 South Howes, Fort Collins. One daughter lives in California.

It has always been the impression upon those living in the East,
especially in earlier days, that the Indians have been ready to take the scalps of those who came West. At the time Mr. Davis came to Fort Collins, Colorado in 1881, there had been no official census taken, the railroad time table stated about 1100 population, but this was over estimated, that of about 1000 would have been more correct.

Like every new comer, Professor Davis was interested in the people and their activities that occurred before his time. LaPorte, six miles North West of Fort Collins, was created as a fur trading post by the Indians and the French. Needless to say, things happened and these fur traders had experiences creating the early history of that community. Only these early settlers could tell that history. It was the wish of Mr. Davis, shortly after his arrival, to get these pioneers together to tell what they knew of the history. But unfortunately these men were not of the same mind, they refused to disclose close anything to contribute to the cause, perhaps for some personal reasons, perhaps it was their idea to let bygones be bygones. Therefore anything we can say of that time before records were kept will only be guess work on our part.

[Signature]

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated December 8, 1933
Larimer County is proud to claim Mrs. Elizabeth Coy Lawrence as its first white girl to be born within its borders - that was in 1865. Her parents, Mr and Mrs. J. G. Coy settled just a short distance east of Fort Collins in 1862. It was not their intention to remain here, but through the circumstances of having 3 of their 6 oxen disappear one night, and fear of the snow closing the mountains before they could get over them to California, their original destination, caused them to decide to stay a year or two. They found Colorado and its climate so agreeable that they never did fulfill their plan of mining in California.

Elizabeth Coy was the third of ten children. Theirs was the life of the average pioneer children, amusements were devised and made in the home. Rag dolls and small home made doll beds were the chief delight of every small girl. Their visits with other children were few and far between due to the scarcity of population. The whole family participated in the visits to friends and neighbors, it was an all day affair and sometimes they stayed all night. The children of this family attended the Public Schools of Fort Collins, being just a short distance away.

It is interesting to hear from an onlooker just how the Agricultural College was located. It seems that there was some difficulty in deciding just where it would be located - in Greeley or Fort Collins. The first town to erect a building on the so-called campus would settle the matter. All men in Fort Collins turned out, transported rock from the mountains and erected a small brick house on the corner of College and Myrtle, just in front of where the Conservatory of Music now stands. Old Main, the first real college building was begun in 1873. Several of the professors lived in this one and
only building, and as the enrollment and demands of college life expanded they were forced to find residence elsewhere. The students only source of information was that of the textbook and their pro-

fessor, with a possible book or two for reference from the instructor. One of the professors' wives later gave up her sitting room in Old Main for a library.

The remainder of the campus was put into wheat by all the farmers around. A fence protected the crop from the wandering herds.

Separate literary societies for boys and girls were about the only extra curricular activities indulged in. Due to President Edwards' strict doctrine as a Methodist minister, he objected very strenuously to any means of entertainment excepting that. It seems strange now, but he was even opposed to boys and girls walking down town together-

an attempt to prevent this was made by dismissing the girls about five minutes before the boys. This was cleverly avoided - for the girls waited on the shady banks of the ditch outside the school grounds until the boys came.

Coy

Elizabeth graduated in the first class to finish the four year course at the college in 1884, she was the first girl to have this honor.

On June 19, 1890, she became the bride of James W. Lawrence, a young professor at the Agricultural College. Professor Lawrence resigned 1917 and was in retirement until his death in April, 1933. Their only son resides in Rochester, New York. Mrs. Lawrence is now living in the home into which she came as a bride at 206 West Myrtle, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Elizabeth Bay Lawrence

Interviewed by Bernice Schultz
Dated December 11, 1933