

# **William E. Taylor Alfalfa Bill Scrapbook**

## **Mss.00006**

---

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

November 05, 2013

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center  
1200 Broadway  
Denver, Colorado, 80203  
303-866-2305  
[cosearch@state.co.us](mailto:cosearch@state.co.us)

## Table of Contents

---

<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Historical Note</u> .....	4
<u>Scope and Contents note</u> .....	9
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	9
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	10

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository</b>	History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center
<b>Creator</b>	Taylor, William E., 1872-, Alfalfa Bill
<b>Title</b>	William E. Taylor "Alfalfa Bill" Scrapbook
<b>Date</b>	1908-1914
<b>Extent</b>	1.0 Flat box(s) oversize (19x25)
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Collection [Flat-Box]</b>	1 oversized

### Preferred Citation note

Cite as: William E. Taylor "Alfalfa Bill" Scrapbook, Mss.00006, History Colorado.

## Historical Note

---

According to the 1910 census, “Alfalfa Bill,” the Reverend Bill Taylor, was born in Ireland and was 38 years old; he would have been born, then, in 1872. He lived at 82 Railroad Street [Niwot], with his wife Ada E. Taylor, also 38, and their children, Joseph R., 12 years old, and Myrtle M., 7 years old. Mrs. Taylor and the children were born in Colorado. The census lists Rev, Taylor’s occupation as minister of the United Brethren of Niwot.

According to the Polk directories, William E. Taylor (wife Ada) was connected with the general merchandise store in 1916, while the Rev. J.M. Cole was pastor of the church. Taylor was still with the general store in 1926 and, in 1936, had no occupation listed. During the 1920s and extending until some unknown date, the Rev. Bill Taylor, early Niwot and Boulder County parson, published a little newsletter, title unknown, which was mailed to Niwot-area residents, and which contained local news tidbits. Taylor wrote the newsletter under the name “Alfalfa Bill.”

In 1992, there was a Niwot restaurant named “Rev Taylor’s,” in an old building that Taylor constructed.

## Scrapbook Inventory

### Inside Cover

The troubles of Adam, by Herbert George

#### Pg. 1

Red paint papers got Arnold’s goat, says Alfalfa Statesman; “Lady Creel knows how to get 10,000 crooks in race for Denver”; Alfalfa trailing men he thinks robbed cash register at city hall; Arnold owes crowbar men dandelion laurel wreaths, says Alfalfa “Come on back,” Henry wires, but Alfalfa is too busy making hay

#### Pg. 2

Alfalfa spurns Henry’s offer to help grab the phone company; Danny’s lid a fake, like Otto’s fight dope, Alfalfa thinks; Harry Tammen always honest bartender, alfalfa recalls; “I can stop floods,” said Alfalfa in ’92, “graft” cry halted plan; Raising hay at \$23 ton beats city hall job, writes Alfalfa; The benefit of improvement taxes

#### Pg. 3

Get fat salary and auto for drowning the Plutocrats; Timid writer makes Alfalfa so hot he jabs “realty” change; Alfalfa, preferring politics, refuses to tempt poet’s muse; Good word for old timers draws general roasting for Alfalfa; Alfalfa’s reform neighbors test his belief in principles; Harriman and railroad evolution

#### Pg. 4

Henry, always talking flood, too busy to fire democrats Alfalfa declares war on auto sightseers overrunning ranch; “Durn reformer farm hand put cat in kraut” – Alfalfa; Alfalfa urges Henry take kink from Evans’ car track; Room for improvement; Bawb Speer now the organ for Christian layout, says Alfalfa

#### Pg. 5

Henry blundered in his move to kick out Speer democrats; Why was Henry elected? Just to lose earned meal ticket?; Ni Wot Bar Association fails to endorse Honest John's race; Antics of "cheep reform stiffs" get Alfalfa statesman's goat; Henry writes Alfalfa he's losing his hold on Denver; The benefit of improvement taxes Realty exchange takes up Times low rate fight (article is loose)

**Pg. 6**

Ni Wot Bar Association fails to endorse Honest John's race; "Oh Jestis, cum here an' roost!" Alfalfa pities poor Bonfils; What is to become of Denver if Lexow business keeps up?; It is in the mind; Alfalfa spends winter nights dreaming before big open fire

**Pg. 7**

"Box car bunch get reform bug and offices," says Alfalfa; Sugar trust agrees to stake Alfalfa in race for Congress; Hugh O'Neill helps Alfalfa get square with old woman; Henry writes Alfalfa he's losing his hold in Denver; A day dream

**Pg. 8**

Grafting? Everybody's doin' it this year, says Alfalfa Ben Hillyard's will beat Ike Stevens', Alfalfa asserts Ben Lindsey and Gail Loughlin to jig at big Ni Wot meeting; Saloons and sobriety; Stand by our friends; Alfalfa says he's after shops of roads to locate in Ni Wot

**Pg. 9**

Alfalfa does not want ranch in city with wild cats and elk; Alfalfa, victim of reformers, to hide out for vacation; Alfalfa says he's after shops of roads to locate in Ni Wot; Alfalfa says he understands now why crime is on the increase; Spoldin's ordinance to give Champa Street loafers job

**Pg. 10**

Stout mourns his whiskers, lost in forgetful moment; "exne mini iniquum" means Mike Delaney our best mayor; Bob Rollins quits coroner's race as it costs too much; Pea-vine jags help Alfalfa entertain guests from Denver; Be patient; Reformers stopped auditorium free Sunday entertainment

**Pg. 11**

Alfalfa, out on farm, smiles at high cost of living kicks; Alfalfa recalls Denver's old days, tells of odd ordinance; Has Arnold let Walker smoke him out of a job? Alfalfa asks; Judge Campbell luckiest chap going, says Ni Wot statesman; Sullivan-Kindel scrap shocks feelings of Niwot statesman; B. Stout, Alfalfa's pal, "stung" by Creel job

**Pg. 12**

Police war wearies Alfalfa, useless as cat's tail, he says; Beat raisers can't interest me, there's too many dead ones; Make Lindsey governor, force farmers to feed reformers; Alfalfa's anniversary ball tops Boulder County week; Alfalfa's still right on job, he'll be in parade today, too; Newspaper picture of Alfalfa Bill in parade

**Pg. 13**

School of hard knocks better than college, says Alfalfa; Entire state is hit by Denver political wars, writes Alfalfa; Gas inspector to each range, give lot of reformers jobs; A preachment by the Builder

**Pg. 14**

Alfalfa "yells his head off" for beautiful festival queen; "Invited us here," says Alfalfa, "and then won't let us play"; Alfalfa's headache ripping and so was that time he had; Alfalfa scores Denver Council for blocking Burlington shops; Statesmen with sad faces appropriate to democracy; By Gum! Ni Wot goes for Taft, state looks bright - Alfalfa

**Pg. 15**

Old-timers are real boosters, not knockers, asserts Alfalfa; Ni Wot to reform reformers who would smudge their town; Alfalfa arrives to “do” festival; Alfalfa enjoying it... writes quaint views; Alfalfa puts in time pulling Bill Stout away from windows; Newspaper photograph of Alfalfa Bill

**Pg. 16**

Bill Stout back, “fibs” to wife, Alfalfa says ma’s mad at him; More Alfalfa sees of the East better he likes the West, he says; Ni Wot best advertised city in Colorado, declares Alfalfa; Greatness vs. mediocrity; Philosophical observations

**Pg. 17**

Bill Stout again strays away, Alfalfa will read him verses; Alfalfa has some great ideas on how Denver should be run; Alfalfa, “punkin” pie expert, says “ma’s” best on earth; Alfalfa is in town, deserts Old Windsor for Albany Hotel; Reformers yelling for jobs remind Alfalfa of tomcats; 2 editorial cartoons, Dec 28-29 1912

**Pg. 18**

Denver politics and religion come too swift for Alfalfa; Timid writer makes Alfalfa so hot he jabs “realty” change; Alfalfa going to call in old timers on 40th anniversary; Delaney new crooks from A to Z, so he did, says Alfalfa; Someone tampers with Ni Wot’s whiskey, Alfalfa’s mournful cry; Alfalfa resents criticism of his original style of spelling

**Pg. 19**

Alfalfa tips every Chicago flunky, nerves worn to frazzle; Alfalfa too busy making lye to write much to Republican; Jim Brown’s good looks sure to land women’s senate vote; Baseball draws Alfalfa away from his home and farm crops; Earth flat? Sure, as much as I’ve seen of it, says Alfalfa; Creel and Sullivan won’t mix except with fists – Alfalfa

**Pg. 20**

Alfalfa sets self up against Lindsey in kid-raising game; Alfalfa can’t find buck saw, thinks it’s at police station; Underworld folk better than reformers, said John Elitch; Roosevelt “hangers-on” spoil chance to get Alfalfa’s vote; Alfalfa cuts across few lots, but gets home safe in auto; Ni Wot Statesman surprised, Henry studying how to spend

**Pg. 21**

Alfalfa ready now to help Denver settle big problems; Alfalfa to have automobile, will burn up earth, he says; Alfalfa has farm all in shape for Thanksgiving with his son; Alfalfa and “Ma” live over old days as winter comes on; Alfalfa, auto driver, buys suit bright enough to outshine city; Alfalfa sees billiard-ball factory opening at City Hall

**Pg. 22**

Alfalfa buys auto, is climbing statues and towers of Denver; “Majority rool’s good enuff for me” – Ni Wot Republican; Red drives people crazy? You bet, red ink does, anyway – Alfalfa; Herb George talks at Ni Wot, Alfalfa listen to address; Bill Stout most artistic liar, got his “jag” on mince pies; Bill Stout strayed or stolen? Was last seen chasing widow

**Pg. 23**

Creel gyrates like baby “Si” with sticky hand and feather; Alfalfa thinks there’s fine chants for reform move here; Ben Hilliard’s honest looks make him a winner – Alfalfa. Alfalfa mourns statesman who ran things with Waite; Danny’s lid a fake, like Otto’s fight dope, Alfalfa thinks; Reformers in automobiles pleasant sight for Alfalfa

**Pg. 24**

Alfalfa says Bill Stout dead, just joke, Stout’s still stealing; Alfalfa enthusiastic believer in plan for Denver 1915 show; Drive away that sparrow-bird, Alfalfa wants phiz to look alive; Alfalfa

thinks there's fine chants for reform move here; Alfalfa notes Henry dodged "hart and sole" sirkus; Alfalfa's lament from Chicago, train jolted food, spilled coffee

**Pg. 25**

Alfalfa learns fine new way to cook detested sauerkraut; Rocky life for any trimmer, says Alfalfa, referring to Henry; Ni Wot holding high carnival, weather sharps tell of storms; Alfalfa regular "speed demon," scares Ma speechless in auto; Denver to go "bust" for sure if Creel resigns, says Alfalfa; Alfalfa doesn't like butlers; waste of men, farms need 'em

**Pg. 26**

Alfalfa "blue" over passing of old friends and pioneers; Ni Wot Christmas, celebration best in country, says Alfalfa; 2 liars feel crowded in Ni Wot, Bill Stout or Alfalfa must go; Alfalfa spends day in Denver, had "Ma" with him on jaunt; Alfalfa bets his hat on Denver as cleanest city in America; Home again and thankful for it, Alfalfa discourses on voting

**Pg. 27**

Alfalfa, peeved at Bill Stout, will lock cellar door on him; Alfalfa wants to change face to look like "Uncle Joe" Cannon; Sleighing fine out Ni Wot way, Alfalfa busy enjoying winter, lazy friends want all summer; Announcement of Masked Parade

**Pg. 28**

Poor Alfalfa on water wagon, can't get off to pick up whip; Alfalfa snooping around Chicago, brings up at Italian opera show, go to sleep? That's what he says; Is it a public debt? Cider and walnuts in barrels, Alfalfa will call at C.P. Hoyt's; Is it in the air? He can kill dandelions

**Pg. 29**

Government without politics; The tattlers of Denver; Get together for Colorado; 2 political cartoons with music and lyrics

**Pg. 30**

America's mercantile marine; Denver needed it badly; 2 political cartoons with music and lyrics

**Pg. 31**

The home industry fizzle; Scientific optimism; In the editor's mailbag; Harriman and railroad evolution; 1 political cartoon with music and lyrics

**Pg. 32**

Jack Howland discovered west, Alfalfa says so and he knows it; Sleighing fine out Ni Wot way, Alfalfa busy enjoying winter, lazy friends want all summer; Bill stout most artistic liar, got his "jag" on mince pies; Alfalfa anniversary ball tops Boulder County Week; Give policemen pink parasols, says Alfalfa, that will fix 'em; Government by petition makes Alfalfa weary down to his toes

**Pg. 33**

News of death of J.S. Brown [1913] puts lump in Alfalfa's throat; Bill Stout takes few punches at Lindsey at "speech of Life"; 2 disturbing politicians gone, Alfalfa sends away third; Alfalfa says Bill Stout dead, just joke, Stout's still stealing; Alfalfa regular "speed demon," scares Ma speechless in auto; Alfalfa learns fine new way to cook detested sauerkraut

**Pg. 34**

Sleighing fine out Ni Wot way, Alfalfa busy enjoying winter, lazy friends want all summer; Alfalfa doesn't like butlers, waste of men, farms need 'em Majority rool's good enuff for me – Ni Wot Statesman; Alfalfa spends day in Denver, had "Ma" with him on jaunt; Alfalfa has farm all in shape for Thanksgiving with his son; Ni Wot holding high carnival, weather sharps tell of storms

**Pg. 35**

Alfalfa recalls Denver old days, tells of odd ordinance; Alfalfa gets good one on old Eb Maine; By Gum, Ni Wot goes for Taft, state look bright – Alfalfa Hank Bumpus, nabur of Alfalfa Bill, is onto Bill's skeme; Alfalfa Bill asks in letter, "Hoo the dickens is Keeley? Alfalfa Statesman's cup of joy full... voters swat "reformers"; Alfalfa wants a big county "Fare"; Alfalfy Bill don't want commisson guvmint, read why; Tries to cross eggplant with milk wead in hope to raise custard pies

**Pg. 36**

Alfalfa tells of champion knocker; Wishes Alfalfa would put a few loafers to work; "Alfalfa Bill" has new "skeme" to make farmers rich; "Alfalfa Bill" on the curfew whistle; Articles titled "Alfalfa Bill"—May 16 1914, May 19, May 22, May 23, May 24, May 26

**Pg. 37**

Articles titled "Alfalfa Bill" – May 27, May 28, May 29, June 1, June 2, June 5, June 6, June 10, June 10

**Pg. 38**

Herbert George flays fake telephone promotion schemes; Cup for newspaper doing best for city; Opportunity not only knocks, sometimes kicks the door in; Realty Exchange endorses Allen's tunnel measure; Colorado stone will be used in new post office; Boy will win who is willing to work, Says Herbert George; Realty Exchange wants talk from Auditor Kenehan; To urge speed on Federal Building; Newspaper photograph of "fans"

**Pg. 39**

Herb George reaches Panama; Story of a boy who believed in himself; "Fitzmac," noted writer, dies victim of apoplexy; Union Pacific fights Hill; Committee goes to give silver service; Civic Center list cannot be given to the public; Form new gas firm, rate chop is plan; "Frisco new offer \$20,000,000 for franchise Moffat demands; A word about the court house

**Pg. 40**

Advocates of wet and dry Denver dividing forces; Herbert George flays fake phone promotion schemes; Still hunting withdrawals to count out center antics; Picks realty men to wage battle for fair rates; Realty Exchange tables resolution on trackage; Enjoin printer of public stationery; Everybody goes crazy; Mining and political writer dies suddenly; Allow saloons downtown, may be board's plan; Water Company watching more of consumers; Walker resigns, real estate body in great tumult; Oliver P. Fritchle answers Herbert George; George paying bills for petitions of the wet zone

**Pg. 41**

Flashlight of businessmen who met at the Brown Palace last night to plan for the upbuilding of city and state; Realty men plan to locate family on every vacant lot; The Denver Property Board; 5 newspaper photographs of Denver businessmen

**Pg. 42**

7 articles titled "Alfalfa Bill" – June 12, June 14, June 15, June 17 June 17, June 18, June 23

**Pg. 43**

9 articles titled "Alfalfa Bill" – June 25, June 26, June 27, June 29, July 1, July 5, July 7, July 8, July 8

**Pg. 44**

Philosophy of Alfalfa Bill; 7 articles titled "Alfalfa Bill" – July 9, July 10, July 11, July 15, July 18, July 29, Aug 1

**Pg. 45**

8 articles titled "Alfalfa Bill" – Aug 2, Aug 8, Aug 8, Aug 8, Aug 8, Aug 10, Aug 11, Aug 16

**Pg. 46**

7 articles titled "Alfalfa Bill" – 3 undated, Aug 23, Aug 24, Aug 25, Sept 7, Wise Bill

**Pg. 47**

8 articles titled "Alfalfa Bill" – 3 undated, Sept 3, Sept 3, Sept 5, Sept 5, Sept 16

**Pg. 48**

8 articles titled "Alfalfa Bill" – 3 undated, Sept 24, Sept 26, Sept 26, Oct 4, Oct 9

**Pg. 49**

5 articles titled "Alfalfa Bill" – 1 undated, Oct 12, Oct 14, Oct 15, Oct 17

**Pg. 50-207**

Blank

**Pg. 208**

Colorado presents cruiser namesake with magnificent silver service

**Pg. 209**

Salt Lake City has two famous Sunday resorts; The railroads and the unions; The telephone question; 4 newspaper photographs of the Colorado delegation to the Trans-Mississippi Congress

**Pg. 210**

Rich old men with gout and young wives "doing" Florida; She misses signal; Havana, "winter paradise," bully good town, barring noise, is opinion of Herbert George; U.S.S. Colorado lead fleet in target practice; Cruiser Colorado in gala attire to welcome silver service

**Back inside cover**

Man of 80 has gigantic schemes for the country; Foresees Salt Lake great metropolis; Florida is hot for Denver visitor, but society is basking; Service for cruiser ready to be given; Coloradoans meet at banquet table; Newspaper photograph of presentation of the Colorado silver service

---

## Scope and Contents note

---

Collection consists of a scrapbook of humorist William E. Taylor, "Alfalfa Bill", known as the "Statesman from Niwot". Taylor was minister in Niwot, Colorado, who published a newsletter containing local news and humor for residents of Boulder County, Colorado, the 1920s.

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Information

History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center

### **Conditions Governing Access note**

Open to researchers without restrictions.

### **Provenance**

Provenance is unknown.

### **Processing Information note**

Reprocessed by Leigh Jeremias, October 2013.

---

## **Controlled Access Headings**

---

### **Genre(s)**

- Boulder County (Colo.)
- Editorials.
- Newspaper clippings.
- Scrapbooks.

### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Niwot (Colo.)

### **Personal Name(s)**

- George, Herbert
- McCarthy, Fitzjames, d. 1910
- Taylor, William E., 1872-, Alfalfa Bill

### **Subject(s)**

- Humorists, American