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Bruce, John W. (1857-1911)

960 p. :

John W. Bruce was a retail merchant and real estate broker, who, after starting a retail business in Crested Butte, Colorado, made his fortune, and moved to Paonia, Colorado, where he became a prominent citizen, and a builder of the town.

Bruce was born in Pletou, Nova Scotia, on June 9, 1857. He left there in 1879, came to Denver where he stayed for a winter, and then moved to Gothic, Colorado. He remained in Gothic for about two years. In 1881, he married Sophia Grant and moved to Crested Butte, Colorado.

In Crested Butte, Bruce went into the retail business and remained there for about twenty years. By the end of that time, Bruce had amassed a considerable amount of money. Around 1901, he moved, with his family, to Paonia, Colorado, where he opened another retail business.

During the remaining ten years of his life, Bruce literally helped build Paonia. He built a number of commercial buildings, including two different newspaper offices. He also became much more involved in real estate. In addition to the buildings that he owned, he also invested in fruit lands, and owned, along with his brother Angus, most of a mesa outside of town, which was known for many years as Bruce Mesa, until it was officially named Gavin Mesa.

John W. Bruce died after short illness, on January 4, 1911, at the age of 53. He was survived by his wife, a son, and two daughters.

The collection contains correspondence (1895-1916), financial material (1892-1917), printed material (1911-1914), and a ledger that he used in his retail business in Crested Butte.

The provenance of the collection is unknown.

Collection Number 89

Bruce, John W.
(1857-1911)

Correspondence (1895-1916)

FF	Description	Date
1	Western Union telegram form	2/23/1895
	Letter to John Bruce from J.M. McDougal	9/25/1908
	Letter to Sophia Bruce from the Postal Life Insurance Company	4/13/1913
2	Letter to the Postal Life Insurance Company from Sophia Bruce	4/26/1913
	Letter to Sophia Bruce from A.M. Downey	3/7/1914
	Letter to Sophia Bruce from F.R. Sweet	1/12/1916
3	Easter card	undated

Financial Material (1892-1917)

4	List of items purchased, with prices, of S.C. Robinson, customer of John Bruce	10/14/1892
5	Miscellaneous financial documents	[1902]
6	Miscellaneous receipts	1901-1917
7	Notes regarding various properties of John Bruce	undated

Printed Material (1911-1914)

8	Newspaper clipping from the <u>Delta County News</u> regarding John Bruce's death	1/13/1911
9	Obituaries of John W. Bruce from the <u>Paonia Booster</u> , and the <u>Paonia Newspaper</u> (photocopies)	Jan. 1911
10	Small wall calendar	June 1911

11	Scrap of pocket calendar	Mar. 1914
	Letterhead of Dr. John W. Bruce	undated
	Letterhead of Joseph Faussone, saloon owner	undated

Ledger of Accounts (1891-1898)

Loose Ledger of accounts containing transactions
for groceries, real estate, liquor, and games.

Page	Description
1-229	Grocery accounts
230-275	Real estate accounts
276-565	Liquor and games (gambling) accounts
566-609	Real estate accounts
610-624	Estate of John W. Bruce
630-637	Property and expense accounts
712-714	Delinquent debtors list
716-720	Sunday accounts
721-812	Miscellaneous accounts
950-960	Family accounts



INVENTORY

AGENCY #89 OFFICE _____

CONTACT BRUCE, JOHN

SERIES LEDGER (1891-1898)

DONE BY ALEKS H. DATE 8/17/1992

CONTAINER PAGE #	#	FF	DESCRIPTION
1-229			GROCERIES
230-275			REAL ESTATE
276-565			LIQUOR AND GAMES
566-609			REAL ESTATE
610-624			ESTATE OF JOHN W. BRUCE
630-637			PROPERTY AND EXPENSE ACCOUNTS,
712-714			DELINQUENT DEBTORS
716-720			SUNDAY ACCOUNTS
721-812			MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS
950-960			FAMILY ACCOUNTS

- Codes:
- RC=record container box
- HB= Hollinger box
- FC= file cabinet
- D= drawer
- E= envelope
- FF= file folder
- LB= letter box
- RB= ring binder
- PO= portfolio
- BK= book
- PH= photo
- AR= 3-D artifact