

Tidbits from Snake River and Routt County History

The Elk and Snake River Valleys are gems of beauty and productiveness. The ranchmen rejoice in bountiful stacks of hay and sleek, fat cattle and are rapidly developing the country into a condition similar to the Hayden area.

From - The Undeveloped Empire, supplement to the Steamboat Pilot, Special Spring Edition, 1899.

It was \$0.50 (fifty cents) an acre in the Little Snake River Valley under the Carey Land Act. To purchase the land with perpetual water rights, the price went up to \$35.00 an acre with payments over 10 years and a first payment of \$3.75.

From - Routt County Colonization, CO, 1734 Wellington St. Denver, CO, 1909.

By 1907, Ranger Districts were set up and manned in the Routt National Forest area.

From - The History of Routt National Forest 1905-1975

All or the above information was obtained through the Colorado Historical Society's Steven Hart Library.

Little Snake River Valley Having a Boom: Requests for Information Daily Received from all Over Country by Denver Realty Men

The Routt Colonization company, with offices at 1734 Wellington Street, has filed application with the land board in behalf of a large number of people for 1,000 acre in the Little Snake River valley, representing approximately \$40,000 worth of contracts, to be divided according to the provisions of the Carey act.

Inquiries from all parts of the country regarding the valley of the Little Snake, which is in Routt is in Routt County, Colorado and across the line from Wyoming, are being received today from firms in this city interested in the sections. A tremendous campaign by advertising has been carried, both by realty firms and by Moffat Road, so that there is now a tremendous movement of colonists and homeseekers thither.

The Routt County Colonization company is now running regular excursions to the Little Snake valley, via both the Union Pacific and the Moffat Roads. By the latter route, passengers are taken from Steamboat to Craig by auto, thence to Baggs by auto or horse. The Union Pacific route is to Wamsutter, Wyo., thence by auto over the survey of the proposed Union Pacific branch from that point to Baggs. The branch is expected to be built the fall, the contract having been let.

Dr. M.E. Donahue of Omaha has organized a colony of Nebraskans who will settle in the valley of the Little Snake, and this will likely be followed by others, as there is tremendous interest by Eastern Nebraskans in the new country.

The Colonist company will shortly establish a comprehensive bureau of information on the county, exploiting the resources of the entire county in systematic fashion. There is at present considerable rivalry between Steamboat, Craig, Hayden and Baggs, and it has been the general impression among travelers that, once having seen Steamboat, nothing else remained worth seeing. As a matter of fact, the most wonderful resources of the county lie westward of Steamboat. Routt County is as big as a fair sized Eastern state, and a journey of no mean proportions is required to see it properly.

From - The Denver Republican, Sunday July 11, 1909. Courtesy of the Denver Public Library Western History Section.



The photo is courtesy of Joan Miller, a descendent of the Charles Blackburn family of Hahn's Peak.