

THE BEND BULLETIN

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He Used to Raise Cattle— Now Has a 'Human' Ranch

By DON H. HIGGINS
Bulletin Staff Writer
COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — J. Selby Young is a sturdy, brown-eyed man of 50 years with stubby fingers that look strong. He operates a human ranch. It used to be a cattle ranch. He was born and grew up here and makes a lot of money.

Selby looked up in mild surprise when I interrupted our interview on his favorite subject with this abrupt question:

"Are those your own teeth?"

He seemed a little uncomfortable, but he has a lot of poise and he said yes they were his own teeth.

"How many fillings do you have?" I inquired.

Selby said a little impatiently he had one filling, his teeth were sound, he could crack nuts with them and did I want him to show me?

Never Hurt Him
"No," I explained. "The reason I asked was that I knew you grew up drinking fluoridated water and I wondered if it ever hurt you any and if it helped in making strong teeth."

"It did," said Selby Young, "and it never hurt me any."

So we resumed his favorite subject of busy, prosperous Colorado Springs, the city that started out by selling mountain air and just about nothing else.

Selby Young is one of the big wheels of this metropolis which now boasts about 61,000 residents and enough outside the perimeter to make 100,000. It expects 135,000 by 1960.

When J. Selby Young bawled his

way into the world 50 years ago there were 8,000 residents of "Little Lannon", as the town was then affectionately called by a number of Britishers who lived there.

Some Competition
J. Selby didn't do all the bawling around his home. He grew up on a dairy and cattle ranch and the calves gave him some competition. He developed those strong and stubby fingers by milking cows. The water fixed him up with sound teeth and what with milk to drink and beef to eat, along with mountain air to breathe, he's what you might call robust.

What of it? What am I trying to prove off here 1,200 miles from home? Why ain't I back in Bend picking up local items like I'm supposed to be doing instead of writing about some tycoon in Colorado Springs who is making a lot of money running a human ranch? It's like this: I'm on vacation. Came over here to see my son, who is a light colonel in the Air Defense Command. (A "light" colonel is a lieutenant colonel and is written "Lt. Colonel" and you can't pronounce "Lt." and "lieutenant" is too long to say, so they call them "light" colonels. Easy does it.)

Robert W. Chandler, as editor and publisher of The Bend Bulletin, fixed it up so I could make this visit. Then, thinking as president of the Bend Chamber of Commerce, he mentioned in an off-hand way that if I found some extra time I might drop in on J. Selby Young, an old friend of his, and pick up a story on the promotion of Colorado Springs from a small town into a city.

Called Him Up
Then he gave me three days of extra time in addition to what I had coming, and said not to bother about the story unless it was convenient. I felt like I ought to use an hour or two of it with J. Selby Young, anyhow, and called him up and made a date.

We met in the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce, a plush outfit full of slogans, secretaries, directors and pamphlets.

We walked behind a railing and sat down outside the president's office. I had thought Young was president but he told me he had been in 1955 and now was chairman of committees on public utilities, military affairs and agriculture.

J. Selby wanted to know about Bob Chandler and I told him. Then he wanted to know about Bob's wife and daughters and I told him. It was my turn and I asked him what he did for sandwich money. He admitted to being a kind of rancher of cattle as a sort of hobby thing, but said he made his money ranching humans.

Pays Better
"Pays better than cattle," he said.

I let that one pass.
"You tell Bob Chandler I'm a resources conservationist — without fee," he said. "That'll get him," he grinned.



POLIO TAKES A LICKING — There were at least 75 per cent fewer cases of polio among children vaccinated with Salk polio vaccine last year than among unvaccinated youngsters, according to Surgeon General Leonard Scheele. Dr. Scheele recommends that vaccination programs continue all summer to give best possible protection.



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PIGGLY WIGGLY!