

Back Stairs: Ike's Stream May Dwindle

By WARREN DUFFEE
United Press Correspondent
Fraser, Colo. — (U.P.) — Back stairs at the summer White House: President Eisenhower's favorite fishing stream, St. Louis creek high in the Rockies, may be on its way out as an ideal lair for the wily trout the President loves to catch.

The city of Denver, 70 miles below to the southeast, is tapping the source of St. Louis creek to build up its own water supply. As a result, the ice-cold stream where the President loves to wade with his fly rod may be down almost to a trickle in another year or so.

The fast-moving creek runs through the ranch of Aksel Nielsen, Denver banker and Mr. Eisenhower's host at Fraser. The diversion project to help water-shy Denver will remove most of the stream's normal flow about six miles above Nielsen's ranch.

Fishermen in the Fraser area have complained, but so far the President has made no public comment.

But Mayor Charles Clayton of this town of 450 was a little more optimistic than some.

"I don't think they'll ruin the fishing," he said, "but if they take out as much water as planned, it's going to make it pretty skimpy along the creek, water-wise."

Clayton was proud of one surprise for the Chief Executive, however. He arranged to give Mr. Eisenhower the first drink of chlorinated water from the little mountain town's newly finished water purification system.

The President couldn't pick a greater contrast for his summer vacation from low-lying, steaming Washington to Nielsen's Byers Peak Ranch, 8,600 feet high. The tall blue peaks of the Berthoud Pass country loom above the area.

Fraser, sometimes dubbed the "nation's coldest spot," regularly has night time temperatures dipped into the 30s and sometimes lower at this time of the year. But it warms up by day.

Nielsen's ranch this year sports a new cabin for the President's use when he wants it. He also has remodeled the old ranch house and cabin where the President has previously stayed.

The President's valet, Sgt. John Moaney, has the same tastes as his boss. Moaney, who has been with Mr. Eisenhower for 12 years, fishes the same streams as the Chief Executive here in the mountains. He is rated a good fly fisherman.

But back east on the Eisenhower farm at Gettysburg, Pa., Moaney is a farmer, by his own choice. Reporters spotted him recently working the vegetable garden in a bright red cap.

Freeburger Animal Wins Top Award

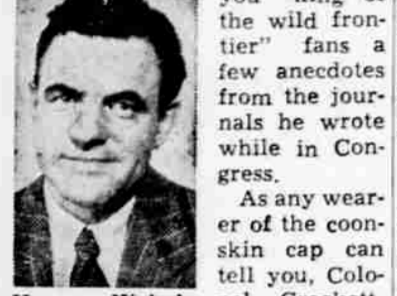
Grants Pass — Brier Creek Lucy 23rd, bred and owned by Dr. Frank Freeburger's Lazy F Ranch in Jackson county, was selected as both Junior Champion and Grand Champion Aberdeen-Angus Female at the Josephine County Fair Thursday.

Kedar's Lucy and Eminent Bandolier, also owned by the Lazy F, received honors at the Thursday showing. Kedar's Lucy placed first in the Senior Heifer class. Eminent Bandolier won another blue ribbon in the Senior Bull cage class.

CONSCIENCE BOTHERS
Oakland, Calif. — (U.P.) — When asked in a questionnaire why she was volunteering for duty in the Ground Observer Corps, Mrs. Evelyn Parks of Alameda, Calif., wrote: "Conscience."

A Nichol's Worth of . . . Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer



Washington — (U.P.) — It's a couple of days late to observe Davy Crockett's birthday anniversary. But I have for you "king of the wild frontier" fans a few anecdotes from the journals he wrote while in Congress.

As any wearer of the coonskin cap can tell you, Colonel Crockett, as he was known, served his Western Tennessee district in Congress for three terms—in the 20th, 21st and 23rd Congresses.

When Davy first went to Congress in 1827, he traveled by horseback, stagecoach, and often by river steamboat.

Toward the end of his last term, Davy's doctor told him he ought to travel for his health. So, according to his writings on file here, he left Washington by stage on April 25, 1834. He first went to Baltimore, which is something like 40 miles from the capital today and surely was longer over the dusty coach trails.

First Train Ride
From Baltimore, the hero of the Alamo traveled by steamboat to Frenchtown, Md., where he got aboard for his first train ride.

"This," he wrote, "was a clean new sight to me; about a dozen big stages hung onto one machine . . . After a good deal of fuss, we all got seated and moved slowly off, the engine wheezing as if she had the tizzick. By and by she began to take short breaths, and away we went with a blue streak after us."

While he was whizzing along, reading, Crockett suddenly burst out laughing. A traveling com-

panion wanted to know what was so funny. He explained that "It's no wonder the fellow's horses run off."

He was referring, according to his report later, to an incident that had been reported by a California waggoner who was crossing a railroad track when the locomotive and train puffed into sight.

Crockett wrote: "It was growing dark, and the sparks were flying in all directions. His horses ran off, broke his wagon, and smashed his combustibles into items. He run to the house for help and when they asked him what scared his horses, he said he did not just know, but it must have been 'hell in harness.'"

On his way to New York, Davy hooked a ride from Bordentown, N.J., on the newly opened Camden and Amboy Railroad. He clacked along the 61 miles to South Amboy, and it likely was the fastest ride of his life.

He wrote that the steam horse "galloped along at a frightening 25 miles an hour, and nigh knocked us from our perch."

"We were going so fast, he said, 'that an object I projected as an experiment out the open window of the car came back and hit me smack in the face.'"

In all, Crockett was gone on his sight-seeing trip over 20 days. He wrote that he was "shore glad he did it, but he was a bit weary. There is something about swaying back and forth on a saddle that a man can't git over."

AIR CONDITIONING DEAD
Baton Rouge, La. — (U.P.) — Louisiana State University students were hot under the collar today. Acting Chairman C. E. Barham said a \$750,000 legislative appropriation suggested for air-conditioning classrooms "is a dead issue, as far as I'm concerned."

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