

# The Overland Post

Overland Trail Museum Current Events Newsletter  
Volume 5.1 January 2023

## Admission

Adults (19+) - \$5.00

Seniors/Youth (60+/12-18) - \$4.00

Children (4-11) - \$1.50

3 and Under - FREE

## Hours of Operation

Tuesday—Saturday

10am—4pm

Closed Sunday & Monday



## LET US RESEARCH FOR YOU!

We are always taking research requests! Please call  
(970)522-3895 to speak with a museum staff member.

## DID YOU KNOW...

You can buy yearly passes to the museum?

Individual Pass—\$15.00

Family Pass \$30.00

Passes are good for a year from the purchase date

## WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

WHAT ARE SOME PROGRAMS YOU'D LIKE TO SEE  
THE MUSEUM DO THIS COMING YEAR??



## FACILITY RENTALS

OUR 2023 CALENDAR IS READY TO  
BOOK FACILITY RENTALS!

CALL THE MUSEUM FOR DETAILS

# A Portal To The Past

## DRY JANUARY

## TALES

By Brian Jesteadt

'Dry January is an increasingly popular observance where one forsakes alcohol for the first month of the year. The idea of a sober January - or a sober month in general - is not new, this specific phrase and ad campaign were started by a British non-profit around 2011. Interestingly enough, January is also the month that Prohibition was enacted in the United States in 1919. In honor of this, I've decided to share some tidbits about Prohibition in Logan County.

Logan County, like many areas of the country, struggled over the question of alcohol sales in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Both Sterling and the county had legal efforts to limit alcohol sales by the 1890's. However, temperance was a constant struggle to maintain, even when the entire country had full prohibition. Surreptitious stills were common, as were the supplies necessary for alcohol production. A mask works as log feed

and as a starting point for moonshine. A local court case about alcohol bootlegging revolved around alcoholic corn mash. I or ho go. The prosecutor, Mr. Scofield, outright states that "He might have wanted to feed it to hogs, but if we are to believe the chemist who testified, he had intoxicating liquor in his possession." The prosecutor ended up winning the case! One factor was that the farmer also had extensive distillation equipment for turning mash into moonshine. Another farmer, Frank Scavani, tried a similar argument about log feed but was foiled when his still was discovered hidden in a haystack.

If the chemistry of home brewing seemed too hard, one could always turn to local stores. Two former business partners were arrested in 1924 for selling illegal alcohol from their drug store in Sterling. Drug stores were a frequent illicit alcohol spot - even before national Prohibition because medications could

contain alcohol and some dry laws allowed medicinal alcohol if prescribed by a doctor. Inventive sellers - or creative customers - could figure out what products could have disguised alcohol or even required it. AL. Ohristsen, a Merino grocer, was arrested in 1924 for selling copious amounts of vanilla and lemon extracts. These extracts require alcohol, just like today, and thus were a way to try and circumvent the law. Ohristsen was supposedly selling more vanilla extract from his small store in Merino than the entire city of Sterling and that included pint bottles!

Prohibition was overturned by constitutional amendment in 1933. These days, there are no heightened restrictions on alcohol in Logan County. Dry January is by choice, not by legislation. If you are an adult who can legally drink and desires to do so, I leave only one suggestion: avoid the vanilla extract.

# A Portal To The Past

## Republican – Advocate, Sterling, Colorado

Thursday, January 4, 1923

### Railroad's Faith is Shown by Construction of Freight Depot Costing near \$110,000

Union Pacific Company also Makes Extension of Passenger  
Station Costing \$22,000; Work is well Under Way and should  
be Completed During New Year

Sterling people believe in the future of their city. They have taxed themselves for the best sort of street paving that money could buy. They erected school buildings of the most permanent type. Their newer church buildings have been calculated for the needs of the future. They have bought parks and are improving them on a plan that looks to their ultimate beauty and utility rather than present uses. But what do others think of Sterling's future?

One great corporation, whose principal concern undoubtedly is to make dividends, has answered the question in a manner that ought to be gratifying to every citizen of the community.

The Union Pacific Railroad has confidence enough in the future of Sterling to invest \$132,000 in improvements of its facilities here. These improvements, which now rapidly are taking form, include a

new freight station which is perhaps the finest in Colorado with the exception of the new freight house at Denver, and rebuilding and extension of the passenger station. The Union Pacific Railroad property here should be, when these improvements are

completed, equal to any that may be found in Colorado, and far above the average for communities of Sterling's size.

The railroad company's plans practically double the passenger station heretofore had in Sterling. An extension has been added to the south side of the building providing more room in the women's waiting room. Another large extension has been made at the north side, providing large quarters for a baggage room. The space formerly used for baggage room will soon be available as part of the general waiting room of the station. Sanitary conveniences of the most

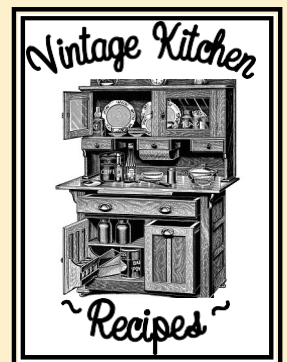
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### A RECIPE FROM Out of Sterling Kitchens

#### Stuffed Peppers

—Mrs. MAURIENE RANSDELL

4 green peppers  
2 c. cooked rice ( $\frac{2}{3}$  c. raw)  
1  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. salt  
2 8oz. Cans tomato sauce  
1 lb. ground beef  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  c. chopped onion  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  tsp. pepper



This recipe card is made perfectly to fit inside of a recipe card box. ♥

# A Portal To The Past

approved type have been added. The ticket offices will be made smaller and the operators will be transferred to the new freight house. This work at the passenger station has been almost completed at the beginning of the New Year. Spring should see the rubbish cleared away and the railroad park in its usual neat and beautiful appearance.

The Improvements at the passenger station are made at an approximate cost of \$22,000. Further work to be done in the spring includes construction of two brick platforms at the station extending from Chestnut Street south to the new freight depot, or a distance of nearly a block.

Should weather continue warm enough to permit laying of brick, the new freight depot should be a reality within a month or so. The structure has reached a stage to give to the public a comprehensive idea of its size and facilities.

The freight house will consist of three parts. There will be the “head house” at the north side, in which will be located the offices of the agent and other workers. This building is of red brick similar to the passenger station, thirty-six by 110 feet in size, completely enclosed. The walls bring formed of steel and brick pillars supporting steel doors that may be raised at any place. In addition to

theses enclosed parts there will be a covered platform, thirty-six by eighty-eight feet in size, extending to the north. This platform will be of construction similar to the freight house and may be enclosed in the same manner at any time desired. The freight house includes a cellar for the storage of perishable commodities.

The freight station also includes two uncovered platforms. One on the east side of the building will extend 645 feet in length, or south to Ash Street. This platform will be covered at the freight house by a canopy. At the south end it will be used as an automobile platform. The second or island platform is located between the tracks. It will be twelve feet wide and 645 feet in length, parallel to the first of main platform. A drive way for teams will be laid out to the north of the depot leading in to the tracks. The whole space covered by the tracks will be covered with Sherman gravel.

The Freight station is of steel, brick and concrete construction of the best kind. The building proper will be trimmed in terra cotta, with the blue seal of the Union Pacific system at the north side.

H. S. Marimon, a young civil engineer of wide experience is superintendent of the building work.

## A RECIPE FROM Out of Sterling Kitchens

*Cut peppers in half, lengthwise. Remove seeds and wash. Combine beef, cooked rice, onion, salt, pepper, and ½ can tomato sauce.*

*Pile mixture into peppers in large baking dish.*

*Poor remaining tomato sauce over each pepper.*

*Cover and bake in moderate oven 350 degrees for 1 ¼ hours or until peppers are tender.*

*Serves 4-6.*

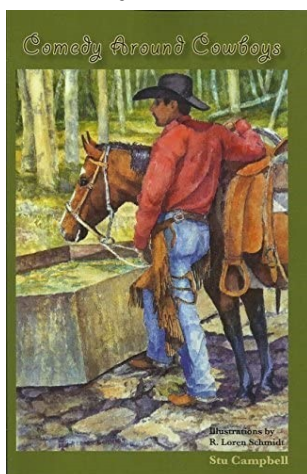
This recipe card is made perfectly to fit inside of a recipe card box. ♥



# Logan County Historical Society Gift Shop

## Comedy Around Cowboys

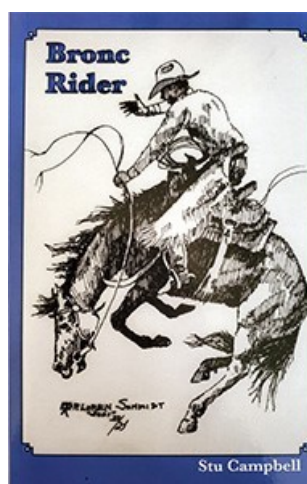
\$16.95



Cowboy and humorist Stu Campbell has finally come out with another book of short stories of cowboy humor and perspective. Not that he hasn't been busy writing—this may be only his sixth book of humorous short stories, but he's written a total of nineteen books on cowboy life. And he teams up again with R. Loren Schmidt, whose illustrations grace the pages of this book.

## Bronc Rider

\$18.95



**He hit the ground with a hard thump.** His whole body bounced once and then lay still. He tried to catch his breath, but it was difficult. He thought he might have broken some ribs when he hit the ground, but he soon determined that he hadn't broken anything.

He spit the corral dust out of his mouth. Somehow, it didn't taste like regular corral dust. It had a foul taste and as much as he spit, he couldn't completely rid himself of the taste.

Men were running towards him as he rolled over and tried to sit up. Not being able to sit completely up, he fell back down.

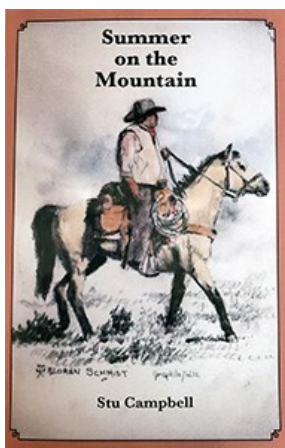
One of the men reached him and asked, as he helped the fallen rider sit up, "you all right, son?"

The rider, not being able to speak, just nodded his head in a weak "yes" reply.

The man helped the rider slowly to his feet. The rider was struggling. Standing upright, the man asked the rider, "Can you make it?" ...

## Summer on the Mountain

\$16.95



**"The owner wants his fences hog tight, horse high, and bull strong."**

"What you figurin' on doin' this summer, Slim?"

The owner always called me Slim, although my name was Brad. I guess it was because of my slender build.

"I figured I'd roll up an' look for a ridin' job somewhere," I said.

"Well, I could use you here," said the owner. "I was thinkin' we could use you durin' the summer to check our cows on the Forest Service land up on the mountain, fix fence an' pack some salt. You interested?"

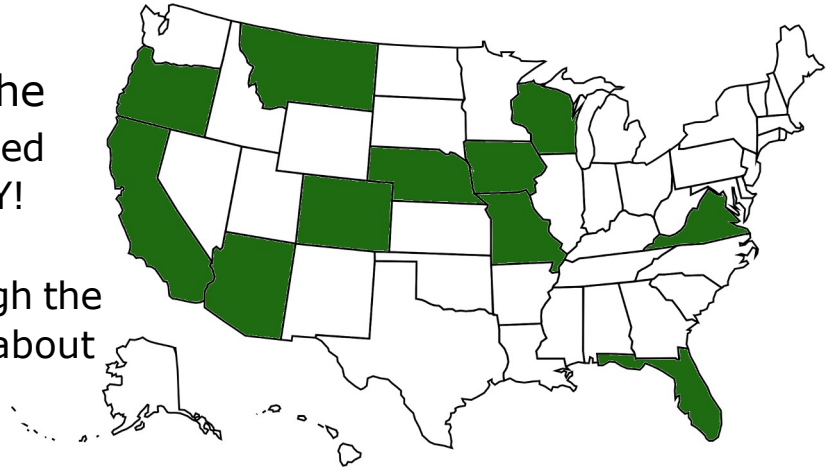
"I might be," I answered. ...



# A Look Back At December







**SEND  
US  
YOUR  
PICTURES!**

WE LOVE SEEING YOUR PICTURES!  
POST THEM TO OUR  
FACEBOOK WALL OR TAG US AT  
@OVERLANDTRAILMUSEUM  
#OVERLANDTRAILMUSEUM #OTM



# Year End Review



PRINT SHOP &  
MEDIA CENTER  
GRAND OPENING



FREE TO THE PUBLIC





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# Year End Review

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In **2022**, the **O**verland **T**rail **M**useum  
welcomed visitors from all over the **WORLD!**

People from **45 states & 16 countries:**

***Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic,  
Germany, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New  
Zealand, Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand,***  
came through the entrance door  
to explore and learn about Logan County's history!

