

**PRINCE OF WALES HOTEL**  
**WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK**  
**ALBERTA, CANADA.**



CAPTAIN R.S. HARRISON,  
 Resident Manager

SEASON  
 JUNE 15 TO SEPTEMBER 15

REACHED VIA GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

10th, December. 1929

L.W. Hill. Esq  
 1127. Great Northern Building  
 St Paul, .Minnesota, .

Dear Sir:-

Early in November a meeting was called by the combined Board of Trades for Southern Alberta for the purpose of appointing a delegation to wait on the Minister of Interior the Hon. Chas. Stewart, the result being the President of the Lethbridge Board of Trade Mr. A. Baalim and Commiteeman Mr. Lyn. Fairbank of the same B of T were named delegates to wait on the Minister, this they did on the 9th November, and by reports they received much encouragement from the Minister in their venture, they reported back at a combined meeting held at Pincher Creek on the 2nd inst for the purpose of framing a resolution to be forwarded to the Federal Government at Ottawa. Making an application for larger appropriations for use in the park.

I have a copy of resolutions passed and am taking the liberty to enclose them in this letter to you thinking you would be interested to see what an interest the people of Southern Alberta are taking in the devolopment of the park, I might say that Pincher Creek were the ones that started this movment and an invitation was extended to the following Board of Trades who responded. Lethbridge. McLeod. Cardston. Blairmore. Coleman, Fernie and Waterton Park, the Snowplow that they are appling for could be used to an advantage just now it has been snowing since the 5th there is now 45 inches of snow to wade through but there is only a little wind and the thermometer only registering 8 below but still snowing.

Trusting the enclosed will interest you, I remain

Your obedient servant

*Fred Udell*

PINCHER CREEK, Dec. 3rd.

A resolution to the Parks Dept, embodying suggested improvements and reasonable application of a larger appropriation from the federal government for the Waterton Lakes National Park was passed by the Associated Trades Board of Southern Alberta at the meeting of the Pincher Creek Board of Trade meeting last night. The cost of which was roughly estimated at \$150,000.

Mr. Balaam, President of the Lethbridge Board of Trade outlined their interview with the Hon. Chas. Stewart the minister of Interior at Lethbridge on the 9th November. in which the minister told them that he would do all he could. Mr. Balaam said that they were gratified and encouraged by the favorable view of Mr. Stewart regarding larger appropriations also by a letter that he had received since from Senator Buchanan. Mr Stewart had asked for a definite requisition of desired improvements:

The following resolution defining improvements to be asked for from Ottawa was passed:

- (1) Electric lights for the townsite - no cost was shown here as it is probable that the Calgary power could be induced to extend their line to Waterton Park.
- (2) A permanent water system - 90 per cent of the water utilized now during the winter months comes from the lake, there is only a summer system and no value for fire protection in the winter months.
- (3) New Registration office - the present sight conflicts with the daily motor traffic to the Golf Links, Pass Creek valley and lower lakes fishing. also that registration be made compulsory and that a regular 24 hours service be maintained there at least for the season
- (4) Enlarging and improving the present Golf Links
- (5) Construction a new cement bridge over the Waterton River or if found feasible a new bridge over the Dardenelles between lake 2 and 3.
- (6) Fire Protection - it was suggested that a fire guard be cut from above the timber line on the south slope of Bear Mountain down across Cameron Creek and over the slopes of Cameronian Mountain to the lake-side, the cutting be at least 200 yards wide and all timber and brush cleared out so as to not only provide a stop against brush fires which may occur but to permit fighting back. Also to clear out the heavy underbrush and dead fall in the timber leading from the west side of Evergreen Avenue up past the Akamina road from the foot of the Great Northern hill to the Falls. Fire fighting equipment is also required for the townsite.
- (7) Purchase heavier mechanical machinery for the upkeep of all roads in the park also a caterpillar and snowplow.

#### Akamina Trail

- (8) The completion of the Akamina highway to the B.C. boundary which entails grading about 1½ miles from its present terminus
- (9) The establishment of paddocks in the park for wild animals Pass Creek valley being a good location for this on account of the good grazing lands here to the slopes of the mountains. Deer, Elk, Sheep, Goat, Moose and Buffalo would be placed here and be in sight of all passing traffic
- (10) Landing field be provided for aeroplanes in the park
- (11) The widening of the present road from the Mouth of Pass Creek to Red Box canyon - a point of special interest owing to its scenic features in addition to fishing grounds in three different streams which merge here at this point.
- (12) Building a connecting road from Pass Creek bridge over the Lineham summit and connecting with the Akamina highway providing a circle tour around Bear Mountain via Pass Creek and the Cameron Creek.
- (13) Increasing the appropriation for new trails and maintenance by an additional \$3,000.00 so as to permit of the connecting and opening

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(1# cont) up of more science points including Bertha, Grandell, Hell Roaring and Stoney Creek the later has a 1600 ft fall of water,

(14) The erection and establishing of a regular camp at Cameron Lake by the building of a few shelters with stoves ect

(15) A foot bridge across the narrows making a connection with the trails on the east side of the lake, more particularly Sofa Mountain, and the Hell Roaring Wayon Trail. Also the reconstruction and maintenance of certain parts of the trail from Pincher Creek gate to the fish hatchery, including all trails leading to the park with special reference to all dangerous curves,

(16) A reclassification of Waterton Lake National Park from "C" to class "A or B"

The meeting also spoke highly of the valuable assistance that Mr. Cromarty had given along many lines during his summer stay as park superintendent



December 17, 1929.

Mr. A. J. Binder:-

Please note and return.

W. P. Kenney 12-18-29

Mr. Fred Udell,  
c/o Prince of Wales Hotel,  
Waterton Lakes National Park,  
Alberta, Canada.

Dear Mr. Udell:-

Receipt is acknowledged of and I thank you for your letter of December 10, with which you enclosed a copy of resolution passed by the Associated Trades Board of Southern Alberta suggesting improvements and a larger appropriation by the Government for Waterton Lakes National Park.

I appreciate your thoughtful courtesy in sending me a copy of this resolution.

Yours very truly,

(SIGNED) LOUIS W. HILL

Mr. W. P. Kenney:-

Herewith I hand you letter of December 10, together with enclosure therein referred to, which is self-explanatory. I thought you might wish to note and pass to Mr. Binder for the same purpose, after which please return papers to me.

Louis W. Hill

St. Paul, Dec. 21st, 1929.

Mr. L. W. Hill:-

Referring to the notation on the attached copy of your letter of December 17th to Mr. Fred Udell, of Waterton Lakes National Park, in regard to a resolution passed by the Associated Trades Board of Southern Alberta suggesting improvements, etc. for the Park:

Mr. Binder and I have noted these papers.

W. P. Kenney ✓

## PARK GUIDE TELLS OF MONTANA TOWN IN PIONEER TIMES

### Drinking Orgies by Indians Marked Frontier City, Now Long Vanished.

Glacier Park, Mont., Dec. 27.—Mike Shannon, veteran Glacier park guide, recalls a Montana ghost town long since forgotten. He says:

"Forty-six years ago Robar, located near here, where the Great Falls-Glacier Park highway crosses Birch creek, was a flourishing western town. Today there is not one stick of timber or a habitation in sight as far as the eye can see over wind-swept plains as evidence that there was a town.

"The businesses at Robar were selling whisky and gambling. Black-foot Indians from their reservation, bloods from their Canadian reservation and wandering Crees bought food and blankets and celebrated. As many as 200 Indian tipis at a time used to be pitched in a big circle on the flats east of the town.

"The cheapest whisky was used for this trade and saloon keepers added a generous amount of water to each bottle as it was drawn from the barrel.

"Indians would form a big ring on the ground within the tepee circle and a quart bottle would be started around, each Indian taking a drink. At a big gathering it would take several quarts to make the round once. When the 'fire water' had begun to produce the usual results, the dance and songs would start around the bonfire.

"Members of the tribes would tell tales of the great deeds they had done. Stories led to bragging, bragging to fights and these would gradually involve entire families. Before morning saloon keepers would lock up supplies, barricade buildings and refuse further trade.

"To the north, in Canada, where local option was practiced, there was a big demand for whisky but the Blackfoot Indian reservation had to be crossed to reach Canada. If a smuggler was caught, he lost his load and he went to the penitentiary.

"Robar was the center of an immense cattle country. A number of big cattle outfits were on the Blackfoot reservation and others ranged to the east. On occasions when wagon trains camped in the vicinity, there would be hilarious nights, with hundreds of dollars on gambling tables.

"Where were organized gangs of horse and cattle thieves, with headquarters at Robar. Teton county, which in those days comprised seven of the present counties, Toole, Pondera, Teton, Hill, Liberty, Cascade and Glacier, had a sheriff and a few deputies at Fort Benton, which was then the county seat. There were a few justices of the peace at some of other widely scattered towns, Depuyer, Chateau, Havre and the like, but, with such a great territory to cover, law enforcement was feeble.

"In 1884 there came drifting into Robar a party of three men with a covey of mules they had stolen in Canada. Description of the mules had preceded them to a few of the regular inhabitants of Robar, bartenders, gamblers and cattle thieves, many of whom have since become industrious and respected citizens. They organized a committee, representing themselves as vigilantes, but one of the mule thieves overheard part of the conversation and told his comrades, who being well armed, strongly barricaded the log cabin in which they were spending the night.

"When the pseudo vigilantes surrounded the shack they found themselves unable to storm the barricade and get the men so they entered into negotiations instead, promising the three men a trial at Fort Benton. The men gave themselves up at once but instead of keeping their promise, the vigilantes took the three prisoners to a spot half a mile up the creek from the present road crossing and langed them to a cottonwood tree, not for the sake of law but to procure the mules and sell them to their own profit. This false committee was arrested and taken to Fort Benton for trial, but because of lack of evidence the case was dismissed.

"Three unmarked graves in willows at the edge of Birch creek are the only evidence at the spot of this happening and the cottonwood tree has long since been cut down."



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