

# NEW DEAL Colorado Springs Chronology

In **1933** the nation was deep into the Great Depression, banks in 32 of 48 states had closed, less than half of the workforce was employed full time, and in over three years suicide rates had tripled. For President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who took office in March of that year, his immediate goal was to put 'the forgotten man' and his family back to work. Under Roosevelt's New Deal, the CCC and the Works Progress Administration, the umbrella name for construction and various federally funded arts and culture programs, began in **1935**.

*"We are definitely in an era of building; the best kind of building-- the building of great public projects for the benefit of the public and with the definite objective of building human happiness." --Franklin Delano Roosevelt in reference to New Deal projects.*

**August 20, 1932** Another big step toward a paved highway between Colorado Springs and Limon is being taken by the state highway department, with the result that Nov. 1 probably will find five miles of concrete highway extending eastward from the east end of Platte Avenue. This is part of the national emergency unemployment relief program.

**December 11, 1932** Cold weather has deprived scores of unemployed men of their only means of earning food and clothing. Zero temperatures have made work on roads impossible.

**February 27, 1933** Aroused by legislation which would deprive married women of state jobs except in cases where they are the sole bread-winners of the family, the Colorado branch of the national women's party is launching a fight for the equal rights of married women. Mrs. Lillian H. Kerr of Colorado Springs, chairman of the Colorado branch, issued a statement condemning house bill No. 215 which is now before the state legislature.

**March 8, 1933** "Inexpensive, but well-balanced and appetizing meals to offset that salary cut." This is the slogan of Frances Constantine, expert home economist of the Safeway stores homemaker bureau, while waiting for prosperity to come skipping around the corner. Miss Constantine will conduct a three-day cooking school in Colorado Springs at city auditorium.

**March 10, 1933** Despite the fact they were ready to open for business this morning, Colorado Springs banks will remain closed in compliance with the proclamation of President Roosevelt issued late last night in Washington ordering an indefinite extension of the national bank holiday.

**March 13, 1933** The eastern slope of the Rocky Mountain region, from central Wyoming to New Mexico, is suffering from an unprecedented drouth. Rainfall and snow have been below normal for three years.

**March 22, 1933** What the farmers of Edison community, in southeastern El Paso county, should do to overcome conditions arising from protracted drouth and shifting sands was discussed at a meeting in Edison yesterday between the farmers and T.G. Stewart, state agronomist, and Harold J. Ryon, county agent. Mr. Stewart recommended sorghum crops and milo maiz, with small acreage of pinto beans as a cash crop.

**March 29, 1933** Staking out of 320 "community gardens" as a self-help project for unemployed receiving federal relief aid has practically been completed and applications are now acceptable at the relief agencies, C. J. Vollmer, chairman of the county central relief committee, announced yesterday.

**April 19, 1933** Another reduction in salaries of all employees and teachers in the Colorado Springs school district has been put into effect by the board of education. This reduction is the second in salaries made in the last year. The amounts available for operating and maintaining the schools have already been reduced—a reduction of 28.6 per cent.

**April 20, 1933** El Paso County has a first quota of at least 75 young men for the civilian conservation corps which will go into the forests of the state this spring, and applications will now be received thru the federal relief committee. The recruits must be unmarried men between 18 and 25 years of age, must now be receiving federal relief and must allot \$25 a month of their pay to their dependents. In the forest camps they will be fed and sheltered and paid \$1 per day.

**April 24, 1933** Petitions for oiling streets in several parts of the city are expected by city hall officials in the new future. Last week there were a number of property owners who called on city officials to inquire as to the method of procedure to obtain oiling to allay the dust nuisance which has been serious throughout the winter months.

**April 25, 1933** The city council moved to give manager Earl Moseley authority to purchase \$10,000 worth of equipment, looking toward the launching of a street oiling project. He plans to buy a modern efficient distributor which will permit of the laying of a sealed surface where necessary, of a bituminous coat.

**April 27, 1933** The barbers who have come to the aid of children whose parents cannot afford to have their hair cut, and turned some of the schools into barber shops evenings soon will be giving the vacation trim. Perhaps this will be made extra close, to last a long time. Thirty-five children had their cut in one evening alone recently at the Lowell school.

**April 28, 1933** Colorado Springs residents responded most generously to the call for clothes for the needy, as issued by the El Paso County Parent-Teachers association and

the Ellen Brinley guild. Twenty cars and trucks and 300 scouts were busy gathering garments which were stored in a building behind the Liller school. Crews will spend much time sorting the clothes, preparing summer clothes first and winter clothes to be in readiness for the demands of the cold weather season. Bundles of clothing and bedding had been placed on front porches of hundreds of homes.

**May 9, 1933** Sprinkling bans were lifted today by the city council, on the recommendations of City Manager Earl Mosely and Superintendent BB McReynolds of the eater department, with the result that water will now be available fro this purpose for one hour every day. Heretofore sprinkling has been confined to one hour on Saturday.

**May 12, 1933** Colorado College will be represented in the citizens conservation corps forest camps by seven men, including graduates, undergraduates and one faculty member. There will be places for about 10 in all, these men to have the rank of technical men on the job. They will not work in the capacity of the recruits except that all must take the required army physical examination. The college men will serve as foremen, each heading a crew of about 20 men.

**May 15, 1933** The grim, grey specter of hunger, “rioting and extreme suffering” stalked today before Colorado’s poor and unemployed. Only enough relief funds to last thru May 19—four days away—were available to care for the some 60,000 persons dependent wholly or in part upon this federal aid. And there was no immediate prospect of obtaining additional money from the government.

**May 16, 1933** Painting a dismal picture of conditions in the Pueblo area, a delegation from that city urged upon Gov. Edwin C. Johnson an immediate special session of the Colorado legislature to consider relief measurers. More than half the population of the county, or about 32,000 persons in all, now are dependent upon relief funds for existence, the delegation said.

**June 5, 1933** There’s a chance for 10 more Colorado Springs youths to join Uncle Sam’s civilian conservancy camps. Those between 18 and 25 years of age, in good health, whose families are receiving R.F.C. aid, can enroll for camp work, where they will receive \$1 a day tomorrow at 8 a.m. at the federal building. They must go to Fort Logan at noon and arrangements will be made for their transportation. Colorado Springs has 100 in the camps now and these youths have made a fine record in the camps.

**July 16, 1933.** Explanation of the federal government’s plan for curtailing their wheat crop acreage was given by Harold J. Ryan, county agent, at yesterday’s meeting of the El Paso County Farmers Luncheon Club.

**July 22, 1933.** Jars needed for canning by needy families will be collected Monday morning by Girl Scouts, who will make a house-to-house canvass. The girls will begin the campaign with trucks at 8”30 o’clock in the morning.

**July 24, 1933** With the north slope project already on the preferred list of jobs in the state meriting federal aid, regional groups have indicated their preference for the Templeton gap flood control and the Monument creek flood control and detention reservoir projects for secondary consideration. The CS real estate board is sponsoring a movement to present these projects to the state industrial recovery committee for consideration in the order named.

**July 25, 1933** Despite failure of the necessary forms to arrive yesterday, the Colorado Springs federal home loan branch will open this morning at 8:30 for dispensing information.

**July 26, 1933** One hundred twenty persons yesterday called at the local office of the Home Owners Loan corporation on the first day of business, to see about making applications for loans. Of the applications made, the average was for a loan of from \$5,000 to \$6,000. When the day closed, the blanks on hand were about exhausted.

**July 27, 1933** Prospects of securing Civilian Conservation corps camps for the Ute pass flood control and reforestation project next winter brightened yesterday with receipt of word from Washington that the camps will be continued for six months after the expiration of the first six months in November.

**Aug. 17, 1933** Organization of the 'army' that will make a house-to-house campaign on survey results of the national recovery movement here went forward yesterday at an NRA committee meeting in the Chamber of Commerce. Tonight, retail gasoline and oil dealers of the city will meet to consider a code. Milk dealers met last night. Meanwhile, business firms of Colorado Springs continue to sign codes and obtain blue eagles.

**Aug. 27, 1933** The Myron Stratton home at its model farm just south of the city this year has the best crops in 26 years. Outstanding yields are expected from corn, alfalfa, barley and oats. There is nearly 100 acres of Trebi barley, which is expected to harvest at from 75 to 80 bushels an acre.

**Sept. 15, 1933** The Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce is able to accumulate a set of printed copies of codes, as they are submitted to the NRA. Copies of 212 codes have been received. The names of some of these lines of business are infrequently heard. Some of them are: Corn cob pipe industry, city directory business; drive it yourself industry; commercial duplicating and mailing industry; privately owned and controlled home study school industry; Schiffli and hand machine embroidery industry; umbrella industry; punch board manufacturing industry; heel manufacturing industry; and wadding industry.

**Sept. 21, 1933** The surplus pork which the government has been killing in recent weeks will become a factor in the El Paso county relief food allotments. This was the word received by the El Paso County relief committee at this meeting. The shipments of pork, which will be of the smoked and salted varieties, will be made monthly once the details are worked out. A warehouse will be obtained here.

**Sept. 23, 1933** The public is invited to attend "open house" at the Lake George and Saylor park camps of the civilian conservation corps today and tomorrow. The Lake George camp is located at Blue mountain, and may be reached from the Eleven-Mile canyon road. The Saylor park camp is situated on the Mount Hermon road. Officials of the Pike National forest and the military officers in charge of the camps will be on hand to show visitors what the young men in the camps have accomplished in their forestry improvement program.

**Sept. 24, 1933** Resumption of regular postal service is scheduled for Monday following a curtailed delivery service thru the summer months, it is announced by Earl E. Ewing, postmaster. The nine-days furlough without pay imposed by the government as a part of the federal wage and salary cut program is over. During the spring and summer the furlough system was in effect. Service in Colorado Springs was considerably curtailed. Starting tomorrow there will be two deliveries a day in the residence sections and three in the business district except Saturdays.