

Babbitts' Anniversary Recalls News of '86

Stagecoach Robberies, Gun Fights and Horse Rustling

Observance of the 120th anniversary of the arrival of the brothers to Flagstaff and the beginning of the CO Bar Ranch brings to mind thoughts of the long buried past. What was Flagstaff like in 1886? The Arizona Champion, predecessor of the Coconino Sun, recorded the incidents that made up the lives of the people of Flagstaff more than a century ago.

(Saturday, April 10, 1886)

David Babbitt and brother, of Cincinnati, are visiting Flagstaff. These gentlemen are here for the purpose of visiting and inspecting cattle ranges with a view of purchasing, and are the guests of our popular townsman, Dr. D. J. Brannen.

(Saturday, April 17, 1886)

Just as we are going to press we are informed that Messrs. Horsely and Warner have sold to Babbitt Bros., of Cincinnati something over 1000 head of cattle.

B. B. Bulwinkle, general manager of the Arizona Cattle company, delivered to J. R. Kilpatrick, this week, some very fat beef steers, for this season of the year.

(Saturday, May 1, 1886)

The quiet of our town was rudely disturbed yesterday morning by two gentlemen who tried to settle their personal difficulties a-la-Sullivan—or in the words of one of Yavapai's legal lights, they approached each other in a "Billy-ge-rant" manner.

(Saturday, May 22, 1886)

The stage running between Silver City and Georgetown, New Mexico, was robbed last week, the road agents getting away with \$1,000. The driver was seriously wounded.

P. J. Brannen will have a car load of the celebrated Studebaker wagons and carriages in a few days. Parties desiring to purchase wagons of any description should call at our store and examine prices, which are very low.

There is considerable complaint that stock is allowed to roam at large in the town cemetery. This should be corrected at once.

(Saturday, June 5, 1886)

The summer rains have commenced. Several of our citizens are on the sick list. David Babbitt, one of our prominent stockmen, is in town purchasing supplies.

(Saturday, June 19, 1886)

The election of three school trustees for Flagstaff precinct will be held Saturday, June 26th at the school house. It is to be hoped that only those having children, and who will take an active, personal interest in the matter will be chosen. Women are eligible to election.

(Saturday, June 26, 1886)

Last Sunday night, an employee of Parker's mill, named Gardner, boarded the west bound train here, very much intoxicated. When the cars arrived at Belmont, conductor W. D. Pegram ordered the man off, but he refused to go and drew a revolver. In the struggle for possession of the weapon, which the conductor had grasped, Gardner discharged the pistol and a ball from it passed through the calf of his own leg and then into the right leg of the conductor. Both men were brought here for treatment. Mr. Pegram is at the house of Judge Hicks, while Garner, who was confined in jail here, waived examination and was last night taken to Prescott to appear before the grand jury. Both men were attended by Dr. P. G. Cornish under whose skillful treatment they are rapidly recovering.

(Saturday, July 3, 1886)

We invite the attention of our readers to the brand, C O Bar, and other brands of the Babbitt Bros., who have recently settled in our neighborhood, with a band of some 1800 head of fine cattle.

(Saturday, July 17, 1886)

Several horses are reported as having been stolen in the past few days, in the vicinity of Flagstaff. If any of these rustlers are caught, they are taking chances of not having a jury trial.

We had a few showers of rain during the week, but they did not give the ground the good drenching so badly needed. However, we are correspondingly grateful, for they laid the dust and purified the atmosphere.

Last week's Prescott Courier, under the head of "Crimson Deeds," says: "One man, Mr. Bullwinkle, shot at Flagstaff, and some men are held at same place, on charge of arson, in having started the fire which came near destroying all of Flagstaff a short time ago." Mr. Courier, you are entirely mistaken, and your informant, whoever he was, must be very visionary. Captain Bullwinkle has not been shot, nor is there any likelihood of his being. No men are in confinement here or a charge of arson, and the burning of Flagstaff last February is generally believed to have been purely accidental. The people of Flagstaff are as law abiding, peaceful citizens as can be found in Arizona.

(Saturday, August 21, 1886)

We are informed that on the night of the 18th someone placed a bolt on the railroad track near the Ayer Lumber Co. It is claimed to have been done by

children who live at or near Old Town. It is only a short time ago that a hand car was overturned and a man so seriously wounded that he died soon after. This was also said to have been occasioned by children placing stones upon the track. If this is as it has been stated to us, parents should forbid their children from doing the like of this as it may at any time cause the ditching of a train, whereby many lives may be lost and property destroyed.

(Saturday, August 28, 1886)

Quite a lively scrapping match occurred in one of the saloons on Thursday. Result—Free flow of claret, no lives lost, and hand shaking over the bloody chasm.

(Saturday, September 4, 1886)

Seventeen car loads of Texas cattle arrived here Sunday afternoon for the Arizona Cattle company. They were in much better condition than those which came last week.

(Saturday, September 11, 1886)

David Babbitt, of the Babbitt Bros., owners of a large band of cattle in this section, left Tuesday for a visit to relatives and friends in Cincinnati, Ohio. He will be gone about a month.

(Saturday, September 18, 1886)

It is said in railroad circles that a handsome depot will be erected at this station within the next thirty days. This will not only add to the beauty of our town, but is an assurance that Flagstaff is looked upon as a place of permanent importance by the railroad people.

(Saturday, October 23, 1886)

All men out of employment can get it at the ranch, by applying to Capt. B. B. Bulwinkle, general manager of the Arizona cattle company.

(Saturday, November 6, 1886)

David Babbitt, one of our prominent stockmen, arrived by last night's train from Cincinnati, where he has been on a visit for the last six weeks, and brought with him a fair young bride. Cordial welcome and hearty congratulations are hereby extended.

(Saturday, November 13, 1886)

The Lockett Bros., Joe and Hank, sold last week to Geo. B. Kangat, Indian Trader of the Little Colorado River, 100 head of fine stock cattle, and purchased from Frank Rosilda and Herman Muler 1,500 head of sheep. Boys you might think that there is more in wool than beef.

(Saturday, November 20, 1886)

We are happy to state that John McCullum, who was so severely injured by logs rolling over him at the mill about three weeks ago, is rapidly recovering under the skillful treatment of Dr. Cornish.

(Saturday, November 27, 1886)

A number of the boys who came in with the cattle from the San Francisco and Mogollon mountains, held a genuine old-fashioned rodeo dance at the San Juan on Wednesday night to which everybody had a cordial invitation.

Among the many prominent cattlemen who were elected to the 14th legislature and who will exhibit during the session a whole lot of good sound common sense in helping to enact some sensible cattle laws is one of Flagstaff's oldest citizens W. H. Ashurst.

The little girl of W. F. Walters found a bottle of corrosive sublimate in their back yard at Mill Town last Saturday and took a drink of it, which nearly cost her her life. The prompt administration of milk and the whites of eggs counteracted the effects of the poison, and the little sufferer soon recovered.

(Saturday, December 4, 1886)

A shooting scrape took place at Brigham City last Tuesday between Lot P. Smith and John Thistle, which grew out of a dispute over some sheep which, it appears, had got mixed. Angry words passed between the men and Smith ran into his house, obtained his gun and fired two shots at Thistle, shooting off his little finger. Thistle had no arms. Smith then, pulled his gun on W. A. Daggs, who was present, but did not shoot. A warrant has been issued for his arrest. This is the Mormon Bishop who left here some two years ago for Sonora at the time the U. S. marshals were arresting the prominent polygamists.

(Saturday, December 11, 1886)

The building boom continues in Flagstaff. There are now one store, three private residences and a church in course of construction.

(Saturday, December 18, 1886)

Flagstaff Needs

To be incorporated.
To have ordinances for the better regulation of the town.

A secure jail.
Sound and continuous sidewalks laid down on the principal streets.

A court room for the justices' court.

A scavenger to clean up the streets.

Everybody to subscribe to the CHAMPION and all of the business men to advertise in it.

Arizona Daily Sun, Oct. 31, 1969

Two Area Cattlemen Argue Over Indians

SUNfiles, October 7, 1886

A conversation between two local cattlemen. One was very bitter at the Government for not turning the Indians out of their reservations and letting the white men in.

The other did not agree with him, and said:

"I don't need no law. I can get along all right. Why last year I leant a man \$1,000 and took a bill of sale on his herd. Well, when the amount came due he told me to go to hell. I didn't go. Told him the climate was hot enough for me where I was."

"What did you do?" the other asked.

"What did I do? Why I just gave my boys a lot of Winchesters and some revolvers and I says to them:

"Boys, I've got a bill of sale on the head of that herd. Go and take one thousand dollars worth of them cattle.

"Don't shoot anybody you don't have to but anyhow, bring over one thousand dollars worth.

"Well, they just went over and took 'em. That's all there was to it. Didn't need no law or no bother—just took 'em.

"Yes I believe they shot one man. He interfered. The cattle were mine and he ought to have minded his own business."

"Did they kill him?"

"Did they? Well now, them cowboys don't shoot for fun unless they're drunk. My boys were sober."

79 Elk Were Turned Loose Near Winslow

SUNfiles, Dec. 5, 1934

In 1913 a herd of 79 elk were turned loose in the forest south of Winslow. They were brought from Wyoming at the expense of the Arizona Order of Elks. They are reported to be several times the original number now in the country southeast of Flagstaff.



Looking west on Aspen from San Francisco. At the right is Babbitts' Flagstaff department store, "Granddaddy" of the present building, as it looked 30 years ago. Note the ladies' dress styles; the "rigs" and wagons; also the spire in the left background, which used to cap the ornate facade of the Weatherford Hotel.

BABBITT RANCHES CO
EST. 1886

Flagstaff, Arizona

Van Camp's FEAST-FOR-THE-LEAST Sale

CANNED FOODS FOR YOUR HOME, PICNIC OR CAMPING TRIP

Make this table test today. Do as thousands of Arizona's most discriminating housewives are doing in their search for different, "tastier foods" . . . make the Van Camp's "table-test." Place a few of these delicious foods on your table tonight. Let your family try them . . . then take a vote. They'll not only vote yes for Van Camp's . . . but give three cheers for the cook. Furthermore, with Van Camp's on your menu, you will have more time to spend away from the kitchen, as Van Camp's Famous Foods are ready cooked and all you need do is heat and serve.

Van Camp's PORK & BEANS

There are two reasons why Van Camp's Beans taste more completely satisfying than any ordinary pork and beans you've ever known. The first is the Van Camp's famous secret sauce. The second reason is the Van Camp's special "flavor penetration" cooking method, developed after a half century of expert experiment. In this process, only carefully selected beans from the country's finest bean growing areas are used. But the important thing is—they are prepared and cooked so that each and every bean can absorb its full share of the famous Van Camp's secret sauce. They are marvelous either hot or cold—deliciously ready to serve just as they come from the can.

Van Camp's BEAN HOLE BEANS

From the north woods comes the famous old recipe for Van Camp's Bean Hole Beans. They have a "different" back-in-the-woods home style flavor and aroma. Select navy beans, choice sugar cured toasted pork, molasses, brown sugar and mustard are the principal flavor ingredients. Try them.

Van Camp's SPAGHETTI

The envy of Italian Chefs—prepared with Cheddar cheese, spices and a touch of onion: that gives Van Camp's Spaghetti a real Italian flavor you'll enjoy. It's ready cooked in a delicious tomato sauce—ready to serve.

Van Camp's ITALIAN STYLE SPAGHETTI

Cattle Drive Comes Right Through Flag

SUNfiles, July 24, 1886

Last Saturday evening some 1,200 head of cattle were herded within the northern limits of our town and their constant bellowing, mingled with the cries of the cowboys, kept such a racket throughout the night that sleep in the vicinity was impossible.

Next morning the cattle were driven right through the main street, of which they held possession for over an hour, to the detriment and

obstruction of all other travel and business, while there were better and more feasible routes on either side of town.

The cattle were rendered frantic by the unusual sight of houses, engines, cars and a labyrinth of railroad tracks, and only the utmost efforts on the part of their drivers prevented a general stampede.

We do not know who directed this drive but hope such an outrage will not happen again.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT

BABBITT RANCHES

CALL:
928/774-6199

WRITE:
**P.O. BOX 520
FLAGSTAFF, AZ 86002**

VISIT OUR WEB SITE:
WWW.BABBITTRANCHES.COM

Lives Well-Lived

David Babbitt
Born: May 14, 1858,
Cincinnati, Ohio
Died: November 8, 1929.

George J. Babbitt
Born: October 11, 1860,
Pittsfield, Massachusetts.
Died: March 24, 1920.

William Babbitt
Born: November 13, 1863,
Cincinnati, Ohio
Died: February 27, 1930.

Charles J. Babbitt
Born: June 22, 1865,
Cincinnati, Ohio
Died: May 29, 1956.

Edward J. Babbitt
Born: February 4, 1868,
Cincinnati, Ohio
Died: September 6, 1943.

Have You Tried a BEANBURGER SANDWICH?

Surprise him tonight! It's new! Another delicious new Van Camp's budget-wise dinner dish. Easy to make and downright good. Here's how:

2 cups Van Camp's Pork and Beans (1-lb. can makes 2 cups) 1 tablespoon prepared bottled mustard (or catsup if you don't like mustard flavor)	8 thin slices crisp whole wheat toast (white or rye toast is good, too) 4 paper thin slices American cheese (2 ounces)
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Heat beans and mustard (or catsup) in saucepan. Then heap beans on 4 slices of toast. Cover with remaining toast slices. Top each sandwich with slice of cheese. Put in broiler of moderate oven (375°F) until cheese is melted. Serve at once, garnished with pickles.

RECIPE SERVES 4

FREE

A complete book of 28 delicious, meal-in-a-minute recipes! In Van Camp's home-type kitchens, expert women cooks constantly test new and better ways of serving Van Camp's Pork and Beans. 28 of their recipes have been collected in an attractive, illustrated new book: "28 Meal-in-a-Minute Recipes." It's yours, FREE, for the asking. Simply drop a penny postcard to: Van Camp's, Dept. VC-102, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Van Camp's Kidney Beans

Modern cookery makes these dark red kidney beans meaty and delicious, makes the skin very tender and still keeps the beans whole, so that their appearance is fresh and appetizing as is their flavor.

Why you can depend on Van Camp's quality.

Van Camp's quality is assured by laboratory and kitchen testing. To keep uniform quality it is necessary that each individual product undergo a thorough inspection by a complete laboratory system—from the raw produce to the finished product. Van Camp's foods are downright good and wholesome. Furthermore, each product is guaranteed to satisfy.

Van Camp's Kraut

Even the color of Van Camp's Kraut is more tempting. It is made according to a scientifically controlled process—so that it is always exactly the same—perfect in color, crisp and just tart enough.

Hominy

Snow white, large fluffy kernels, Van Camp's Hominy has become a great favorite with people everywhere because it blends so well with many kinds of food.

VAN CAMP'S—STILL TOPS AFTER 78 YEARS AND NOW BETTER THAN EVER!

BABBITT'S Thriftway Stores

4 Free Deliveries Daily - Phone 450 or 188