Robert Osborne Throckmorton

Robert Throckmorton was born in Kansas in 1873 and moved with his family to Grand Lake in 1882 where on July 4th the following year he witnessed the tragic historical Grand Lake Massacre, wherein two rival political factions were shooting it out for political power. Blood-stained papers taken from one of the dead men was one of R. O. Throckmorton's prized possessions.

Perhaps the longest four days in his life, Bob thought, were spent one spring when he and Court Doolittle, after a winter at school in Golden, drove home a herd of cows which his father had leased out in Golden. The hard part was that these two would be cowboys



were a foot, and anyone who knows cows can imagine the many extra weary miles that these lads chased cows in and out of willows and quakers, miles not scheduled on a road map.

By 1905 he was living in Hot Sulphur Springs in partnership with H.F. Adams in their grocery store.

"Bob" as he was known to nearly everyone in the county, had a long political record in Grand County having served seven years as commissioner, 14 years as county assessor (1912-1926) and 26 years as county clerk and recorder (1926-1942). He retired from public office in 1955 and was awarded a plaque at that time for ending 47 years of public service to the county.

His first political appointment came when he was twenty years old. The family had moved to Coulter (above Granby) and in 1893 he was named Postmaster. The turn of the century brought his second political assignment as census taker for the County. He was elected to his first public office in November 1900 and was sworn in as Grand County Commissioner on January 7, 1901.

Four children were born to R.O. Throckmorton and his first wife, Lucy Miner: Laura (Mrs. George McLean), Fred (died 1918), Alice and R.W. "Bill".

Every spring found Mr. and Mrs. Throckmorton impatient to move back to their ranch home at Windy Gap which was bought about 1918, even though they have an attractive new winter home built recently in Hot Sulphur Springs.

(Also in the picture is Marjorie Johnston, a neighbor)

Robert passed away at 85 on July 15, 1958 in Hot Sulphur Springs.

