

ELKWATER EYEOPENER

AUGUST 15, 2010 - Elkwater, AB

63 consecutive days without a libel suit

NEHI JUST THAT, AFTER ALL

Mt. Nehi only second tallest.

In a startling announcement in Elkwater last Wednesday, the International Association of Weights and Measures disclosed that Mt. Nehi, in the remote south-west corner of the Cypress Hills, is only the second tallest mountain in the Wildcat Range.



Notsotal Notsosmal Afteral

Although previously unclimbed until renowned mountaineer Frederick Cook reached the summit on May 2nd, 2010, Mt. Nehi was also thought to be the highest mountain in the Wildcat range. The earth-orbiting satellite which measures the elevation of the world's mountains was fooled into believing that Nehi, with its 14 feet of snow cover at the summit, was taller than nearby Mt. Notsotal which had significantly less snow cover. When all of the snow melted and the satellite could get a true measurement it was discovered that Mt. Notsotal is, in fact, 8 feet higher than Mt. Nehi.

This discovery casts some doubt on the achievement of Cook who, although he was the first at the summit, also thought he had climbed the highest mountain in the Wildcat Range. Reached for comment at the International Mountaineering

Federation (IMF) in Alice Springs, Australia, Cook said: "Son of a b****!"

In another startling development it was disclosed that **Eyeopener** photographer Nathan Labocane, who carried Cook the last two thousand meters up Nehi, was therefore probably the first human to set foot on Nehi's summit, further tarnishing Cook's achievement. Asked for comment about this disclosure, Cook replied: "Hey, so sue me, already!"

The whole matter is in doubt until the IMF releases the findings of its independent review sometime in 2014. In the meantime the Elkwater Chamber of Commerce is considering removing the commemorative plaque, nailed to a tree in Cook's honour, if they can remember which tree it was nailed to.

NEW BUSINESS STARTS IN ELKWATER

by Eyeopener business reporter Bernie Madoff.

Elkwater and the Cypress Hills region are truly rich in the entrepreneurial spirit which gives rise to new business ventures in troubled economic times.

A case in point is the new business started by Elkwater residents, brothers Pete and Lincoln "Lefty" Jones. **Meriwether Moving and Storage** is now ready to meet all the cartage needs of Cypress Hills residents. "We'll move anything, anywhere, big or small. And if you don't have any place to put it after we've moved it, we'll store it for you at reasonable rates," said Lefty.

The company was named after Pete and Lefty's mother, the late Meriwether Jones (nee O'Reilly), long-time resident of the Cypress Hills, who taught the boys to drive a team of horses when they were just young lads after Mr. Jones Sr. left to join a gold rush somewhere.

"Trucks are always breaking down. That's why we decided to go with horses. And if the business doesn't get off the ground, you always have something to eat," said Lefty with a hearty chuckle, which made this reporter wonder if he was kidding, or not.

The Meriwether storage facility, pictured here, is state-of-the-art and lavishly air-conditioned. The brothers hope to buy a quantity of tarps to protect stored items in case the roof leaks.

The Elkwater and District Chamber of Commerce welcomes this new business in town and wishes them well.



Pete and Lefty ready to roll



We are now serving and stock Creekside Coffee. Come in and enjoy a cup of Joe!

EDITORIAL

Residents of the Cypress Hills region who derive their livelihoods from the land are, and always have been, subject to the vagaries of the weather. The spring of 2010 will go into the record books along with the winters of 1907 and 1967.

Farmers, ranchers and homeowners who came through the recent flooding will endure like their forebears did in earlier times. This is as much due to the spirit of neighbourly togetherness as it is to a sense of rugged independence and self-reliance.

However, as much as we applaud the concept of neighbours helping neighbours we also think that it can go too far, as when certain undesirables in our midst are sustained by the generosity of local residents. This Mulrey character is a case in point. We see him as being of no benefit to the community yet he persists in hanging around aided and abetted by handouts from local citizens. If not for the fact that he submits the majority of our letters to editor we would ask our town council to have him run out of town.

On another topic, we sincerely hope that the day of the picturesque cowboy on horseback, so typical of this region, is not passing into oblivion. A disturbing trend, as illustrated by the photo on this page, of ranchers checking their cattle by a new mode of transportation is to be deplored. We hope it doesn't become permanent.

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The Modern Cowboy

NEIGHBOURLY NEWS

Brooks, Alberta

S. O'Malley, (Foreign Correspondent)

Brooks Town Council has approved a cash payment of \$550 as a preliminary finder's fee to hitherto unknown concert promoter Cyril Mulrey of Primrose Township, Ontario. At a Town Council meeting last week, Mulrey made the pitch to bring music legends *The Rolling Stones* to our community for a one-night concert at the Brooks Centre for the Performing Arts in October.

Tickets will be reasonably priced at \$12, an unheard-of low price for such a high profile rock band.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor.

As much as Elkwater and the Cypress Hills region is a vacation paradise, I recently decided to take a brief vacation to explore the country west of here. I secured a lift as far as Walsh where I recognized the vehicle belonging to Paulette Heller parked at the Trailside Cafe. While I was trying to jimmy the lock on her truck so as to be able to await a ride out of the hot sun, she came out of the cafe. I cut around behind the truck in order to access the passenger door. She engaged the reverse gear, backed up and drove over my foot. Obviously she is becoming deaf as she did not hear my cries of distress. And although I'm sure she looked in her rear-view mirror, her eyesight must be failing because she did not see me hopping up and down in the parking lot, trying to get her attention.

I would have to hitch-hike if I was going to advance my travel plans. Eventually a farmer stopped to give me a lift. He said "This rig's going to Brooks," and waved me into the back of the

truck. I realized too late that what he actually said was "This pig's going to Brooks." To my horror, I saw that my travelling companion was a large porker of the Tamworth persuasion. By the time the journey ended we were at the stockyards in Brooks, an otherwise charming community on the western plains.

I toured the amenities of that town, visiting a number of taverns and public houses. I was invited to not stay long in any of them due to the somewhat unpleasant aroma which I picked up from the pig.

If there is anything to be said for the unusually heavy rainfall which this region has been subjected to lately, it is that the rain eventually washed away some of the odour. After a day or two spent outdoors exposed to the cleansing effects of the elements I secured a number of short rides which brought me back to my home here in Elkwater. I shall curtail any further travel plans for the time being.

Sincerely Cyril Mulrey, Esq.
P.U.

COMMUNITY NOTEBOOK

- New maps of the Cypress Hills are now available at the Elkwater Town Hall. These maps show the new location of the many creeks and rivers whose watercourses were altered by spring flooding.
- The regional realty tax assessment department is expecting an influx of reassessment applications arising from flooded houses. Total property assessment is expected to balance itself out however. Properties from which

houses and outbuildings were washed away can expect a reduction in assessment. Properties downstream which received those houses and outbuildings will see an increase in tax assesment.

- The **Re-name Many Islands Lake contest** closes September 15th. Current favorite is *Many More Islands Lake*. Please get your entries in before contest deadline.