

Boulder Creek In 1898



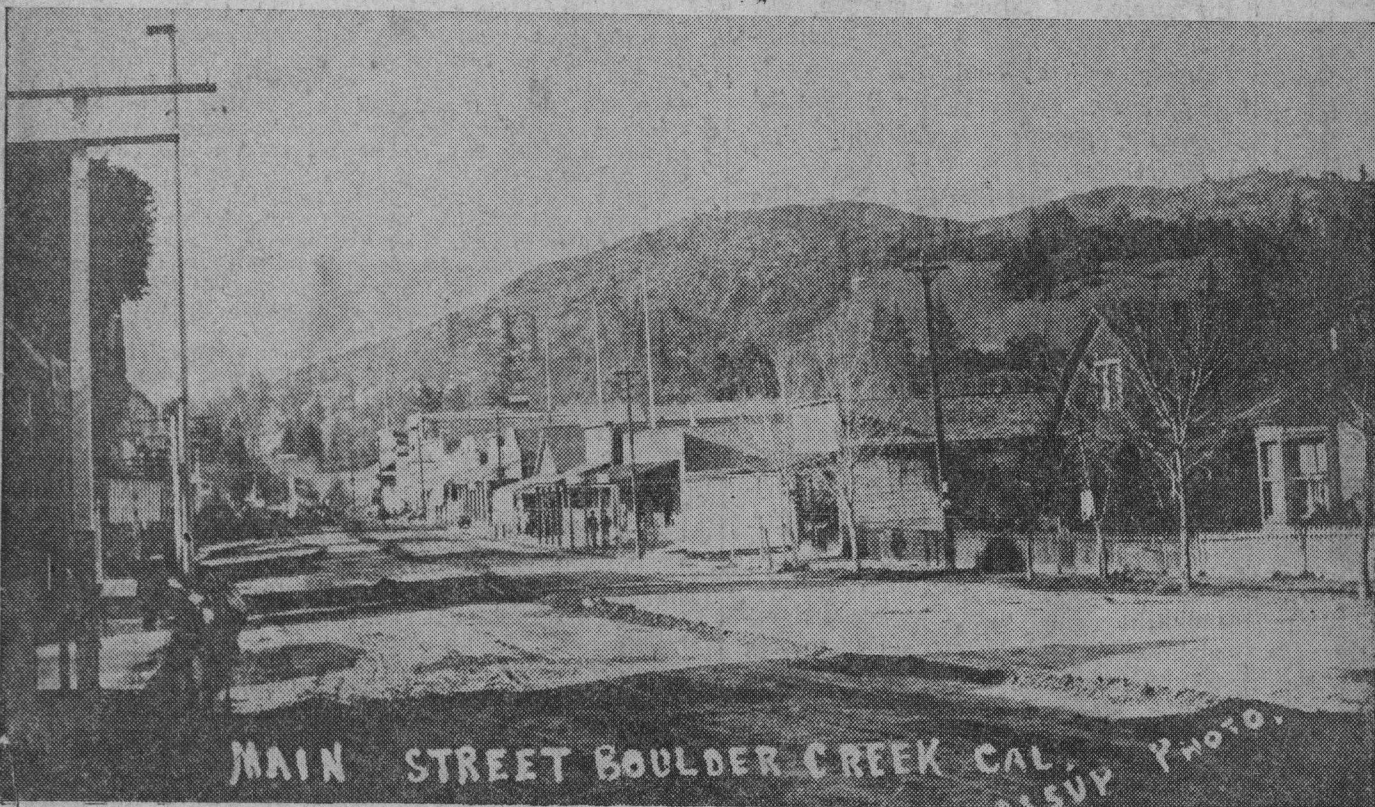
This is Boulder Creek in 1898 during a parade in which Teddy

Roosevelt participated. His Rough Riders were there and according to the early newspa-

per, the Mountain Echo, they earned their name. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the folks in

the mountain community will whoop it up again in memory of these rip-roaring celebrations.

The Morning After



Another shot of Boulder Creek, perhaps the morning after the parade. Main street was as vacant as the hills in the

background which have been cleaned of timber. The big Boulder Creek Days parade will

be presented this Saturday noon. Citizens of the city will be decked out in the costumes of 1900.

Citizens To Relive Wild West During Boulder Creek Days

Boulder Creek Days, this Friday night, Saturday and Sunday, is a yearly celebration observing the wild and woolly days of the early west when lumbering employed thousands of men in the area.

There'll be a seemingly endless parade down main street Saturday noon, dances, entertainment, contests, horses galore and a horse show Sunday.

But to catch a glimpse of the background of this three-day event it's best to go back and take an issue from the old Mountain Echo, the weekly Boulder Creek paper edited by W. S. Rogers, who also sold real estate, surveyed land and when the occasion arose put on a black coat and notarized legal papers.

Take the issue of November 10, 1900.

Look's shoestore in Santa Cruz, 176 Pacific avenue, advertised baby shoes for 25 cents, women's shoes for \$1.25 and fine men's dress shoes for \$2.50.

Results of the general election the day before had William McKinley elected as president over William J. Bryan. For example, one Boulder Creek precinct with 147 voting had Bryan 58; McKinley, 68. In the vote for liquor saloons, 40 voted for them and 60 against.

In the election story Rogers wrote; "during the election the saloons were kept tightly closed, which probably contributed to the serenity of the occasion. A sumptuous dinner was served by the WCTU on election day."

Boulder Creek was visited on this pre-election day by Teddy Roosevelt' Rough Riders who marched in the parade and then proceeded to set the town on its ear.

The community was no place for a dandy to settle, but even so, the occasion of this visit by the Rough Riders prompted the following "down the nose and over the glasses" editorial in the Mountain Echo the next day:

"The occasion was a Republican party campaign rally on the same day the Rough Riders came roaring through town to participate in the parade.

"The unpleasantness began with the unseemly uproar made by the Rough Riders in the hall during the speaking. There was yelling and beating and banging of sticks on the floor and walls, which was supposed to be applause — it was something ear splitting and terrific.

"They were pretty well scattered among the audience and would talk industriously so that neither the speakers nor the audience could tell what was being said. When a ripple of applause was started near the stage, they would

take it up and nearly take the roof off the building.

"When the hall was cleared for dancing afterwards the Rough Riders (who certainly appeared to have been named well) showed signs of having visited the saloons too often. Some had to be fired incontinently from the ball room.

"During the supper hours the climax was reached. Mr. J. F. Valpey, and wife had prepared a fine chicken supper at the fireman's hall, for 35 cents a plate. The Rough Riders had been heard to declare during the evening that they were entitled to a free supper. They went to the table in solid blocks and took the suppers, 104 of them, utterly ignoring the cashier who tried to collect from them.

"At 2 a.m. Sunday, it was with great difficulty that many of the Rough Riders were able to go to the train, so artistically were they boozed up on Boulder Creek whiskey."

So now, 57 years later, the folks of Boulder Creek will whoop it up again, but probably not with the same intensity as the Rough Riders.

There's a dance Friday night in the fire hall, starting at 9 o'clock. Saturday from 8 to 11 a.m. there'll be a chuck wagon breakfast back of the firehall. The old time parade starts at noon. A \$1.50-a-plate steak barbecue will be held back of the firehall. Professional entertainment has been engaged. Square dancing and free juke box jiving will start at 9 p.m.

Sunday noon a grand entry horse parade will lead to the Chequita riding stables for the big horse show.

Contests including the whisker judging and log sawing will be during the afternoon.

The celebration is sponsored by the Boulder Creek Volunteer Fire department. The horse show will be presented by the San Lorenzo Valley Horseman's association.

WATSONVILLE YOUTH HURT IN ACCIDENT

Arlie Lacy, 17, of Watsonville, was taken to Watsonville community hospital yesterday afternoon with suspected concussion after the car he was driving hit a telephone pole on the Hecker Pass road. Hospital spokesmen said this morning that Lacy probably will be released "either today or tomorrow."

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