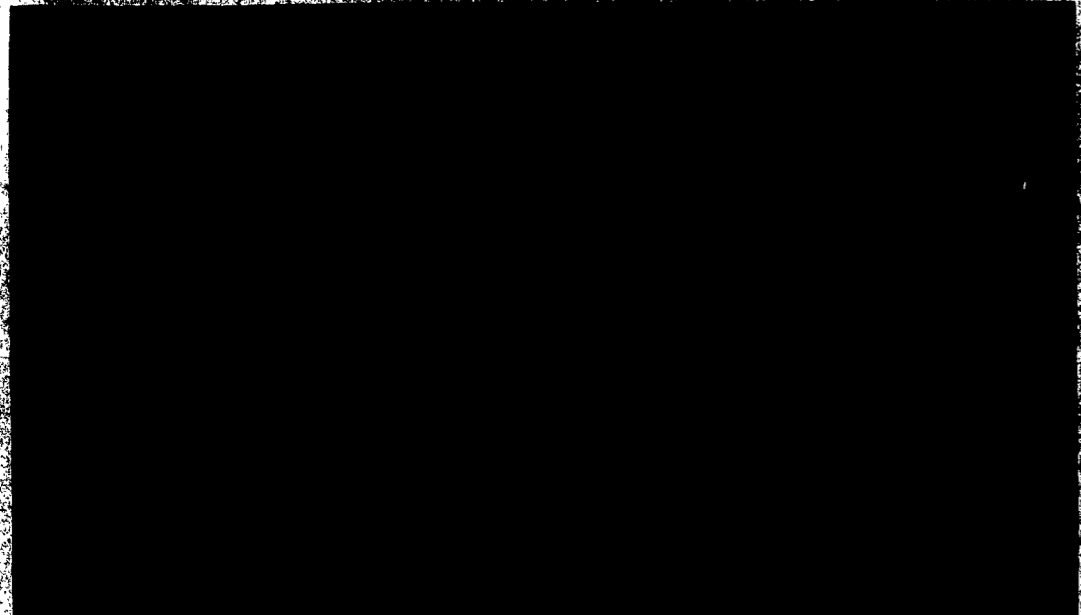


# Views of Middle Falls



These are more post card pictures of Middle Falls, and the first one was loaned to The Journal by Mrs. Harold Morris of Middle Falls. It is no longer a store, but the home of Jack Bruno. Mrs. Morris can identify four of the five people in the picture, but isn't sure who the small boy is. The others are, from left to right, Art Hoffman, Rita Leson, Harold Morris, and John Smith on the steps.



This is another post card view of the present Bruno house, then the Middle Falls post office, and is one of a collection of post cards loaned to The Journal by Clyde Greene.

# Ralph Myers Finishes Account Of Trip to the West Coast

This is the second and final article by Ralph E. Myers Sr. telling of his trip to the West Coast this summer.

Thursday, June 15. We toured through Lassen Volcanic national park. There are some extinct volcanos here. This park was also blocked by snow. We went in under Lassen peak, which is 10,497 feet high. Bumpass mountain is 8,763 feet. We went through "Bumpass Hell". The last eruptions were in 1914 and 1915. Here many trees were buried to half their height. Some places the rock and lava is 20 feet deep. All vegetation was killed by the hot lava. Now there is some new vegetation starting, but it is still a desolate looking place. It goes in for over a mile. The road through the park was not expected to be opened until the middle of July. We went to the visitors center, spent quite some time in the museum. Then we came back out and went south around the park to the southern entrance. We went in six miles, to where the snow was. We saw the hot springs. The water was boiling out and running down into the snow. At this place the snow was thirty feet deep. In the rest areas the "His" and "Hers" were nearly covered with snow. At the entrance to some of the buildings there was a corrugated iron tunnel, looked like a Quonset hut. This was for the people to get in and out of the lodges, which were opened to skiers. We came out of the park and went south east to Susanville, then on to Reno, Nevada, where we spent the night.

Friday, we drove 38 miles north of Reno, to Pyramid Lake. There is no vegetation around the lake. Just rocks and cliffs. It has an underground outlet that comes up quite some miles away. We returned to Reno, where we ate breakfast. Then we went to Carson City. The old mint building is a museum, underneath there is a simulated gold mine. We took the tour, it was very interesting. Then we drove around the Capitol building and to Genoa, Nevada's oldest settlement, it was established in 1849 as a supply point on the road over the Sierra Nevada mountains. Some of the buildings are in their original state. They have been kept this way by the people. Many moving pictures are made here.

We went into the Mormon Station Historic state monument. We went through the museum, some of the buildings have the original furniture, and many of the tools used by the early day settlers.

We were about 15 miles east of Lake Tahoe, we went on south with the intentions of going

through the Yosemite National park. When we got to the entrance, it was posted on the bulletin board, four of the passes were closed. We went into the park and turned north, when we found an open road we were just eight miles from Lake Tahoe. This road is always kept open for the Californians to get to Nevada to gamble.

We went through Sacramento, drove around the capital building, but we did not see Ronald. We went on to Oakland and San Francisco, we stayed over night at Vacaville.

Saturday we arrived at Don and Irene Whiteside's about 10 a.m. Don, Irene and the children took us on a sight seeing tour Saturday afternoon. Sunday we toured the Paul Masson Winery and Campagne cellars in Saratoga, Calif.

On Monday, we went south through San Jose and east through Merced to Yosemite National park. We went by Cascade Falls, Yosemite Falls and Bridal Veil Falls. We were on the north road, went to Yosemite village and Mirror Lake we turned and came out the south road. Went through a tunnel to Arch Rock entrance down to the Yosemite history center.

Then we came southeast to Kings Canyon National park, we went through the Cedar Grove in 34 miles to the end of the road, then returned to the General Grant section of Sequoia National park. In the Mariposa grove we photographed the General Grant giant sequoia and many others. We roamed around the foot paths in the park. We saw the big stump. Tried to get a picture, but there were too many people around. This tree was about 32 feet in diameter it took two men nine days to chop it down. We went through the museum. It was very interesting, gave a history of the giant Sequoias, Redwoods and Ponderosa pines.

We went south on the General highway to the Giant Forest. We photographed the General Sherman sequoia. This tree is 272.4 feet high, 101.6 feet in circumference at the base. The first limb is 130 feet up and is estimated to weigh 625 tons. Enough lumber is in it to build 70 modern homes. It is the world's largest living thing, even larger than the huge blue whale.

Ralph and I climbed Midway rock. It is three-tenths of a mile high and the top is 6,225 feet above sea level. Looking down and west to the road it looks like a corkscrew. The cars looked like small toys. We had to go down that way. It takes one down over 6,000 feet in a few miles. We drove through the giant redwood and through the tunnel log, which is a tree that fell many years ago. A section is sawed out, making a tunnel for cars to go through. Also there is a log on which one can drive a car and take a picture of it.

In the park there is a giant tree that was hollowed out by a forest fire. This fell many years before any white man had been there. When the park was being mapped the party of men stayed under this tree. As the log rests on the ground it makes a room about 8 or 9 feet high, 10 feet wide and 15 feet long. The sequoias do not decay. The park has many dead-end roads. In the village we went through the museum.

We left Sequoia and went west through Bakersfield for Los Angeles. We went through Los Padres National forest, and stayed in Santa Ana two nights.

Wednesday, June 21, we went out to the beach to get a look at the Pacific ocean. The smog was very thick, but we did get a look at the water. After breakfast we went to Disneyland for the day.

Thursday, June 22, we started East, came through Riverside then north to San Bernardino and Barstow, then northeast to Las Vegas. We went through a part of the Mojave desert. This is very desolate country. A few kinds of cactus grow along the edges, but in the interior there is just sand, no vegetation at all. The temperature was about 130. In Las Vegas, where we did a little shopping, the temperature at 4 o'clock in the afternoon was 104 in the shade.

That night we stayed in Mesquite, Nevada.

On Friday we went through the northwest corner of Arizona on our way to Zion National park in Utah. This place is awe-inspiring. The formations of rock layers, the towering cliffs and spires, all done by wind and water, are beyond description. There are many foot paths and horse trails in the park. Only a small part is accessible by auto. We went to the visitors center and museum. We went north to the end of the road, then returned to the junction which goes east through the park to route 89, to Bryce Canyon National park, which is 86 miles. After touring part of Bryce we went north to the visitors center and auditorium. Many of the parks

have an auditorium where slides are shown of the area and wild life, with commentaries.

We continued on north to the Pink Cliffs, which are pink ledges, then south to Cannonville. It is over 150 miles to make the return trip to the junction of route 89 to go to Page, Arizona, but it is 46 miles on a dirt road across country. We were told it was a three-hour trip but would take five to go back the way we came. We took the dirt road. We made a side trip of a mile to see the Grovesnor Arch. It is about 75 feet high, carved out of the limestone by wind and rain. We spent the night in Gray Mountain Trading Post, Arizona.

Saturday we went to the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. We did the east rim drive through the park headquarters to the west rim drive and return. We went through the visitors center and heard a description on how the canyon was made.

At one of the many parking places we met Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Rafferty of Elmira, N. Y. We did not see Curley Locks floating down the Colorado river on his rubber raft. We came south through the Kaibab National forest to Flagstaff.

We went to Montezuma's Indian Wells National monument. This is a large hole caused by an eruption of the earth that blocked a river. The well is over 300 feet in diameter, 70 feet down to the water, and the water is 55 feet deep; it never varies. There is an underground outlet that flows 1,000 gallons a minute. The Indians made canals to irrigate the land long before the arrival of the white man.

Monday we came through Las Cruces and turned south to El Paso to see Frank and Edith Bryant. We stopped at the house and visited with Frank for about three-quarters of an hour, then went downtown to where Edith works. We all went to lunch together, spent a little over an hour and then headed for Carlsbad, New Mexico, where we stayed over night.

Tuesday we visited Carlsbad Caverns National park. We made the 8:45 guided tour that lasted until 12:30. This is one place, after you have seen it, you can say "I still don't believe it." You walk into the caverns down for one and three-fourths miles to the hot-

Next we went to Montezuma Castle National monument, a distance of about six miles. The Indians here get their water from the well. They are cliff dwellers. Their dwellings are the best preserved in the United States and about 90 per cent intact. Some are four and five stories high, dug out of the limestone. We spent the night in Black Canyon, Arizona.

Sunday, June 25, we came through Phoenix, then went west to Palo Verde, then south through Gila Bend and Ajo. At Ajo there is a very large open pit copper mine. We went on south to the Organ Pipe Cactus National monument, then almost to Mexico. We came back about 50 miles to Tucson. Just east of there we went through a dust storm and then a thunder-shower. It rained so hard we had to stop as we could not see to drive. We came into Lordsburg for the night, at the Myers motel, but we didn't get a dis-

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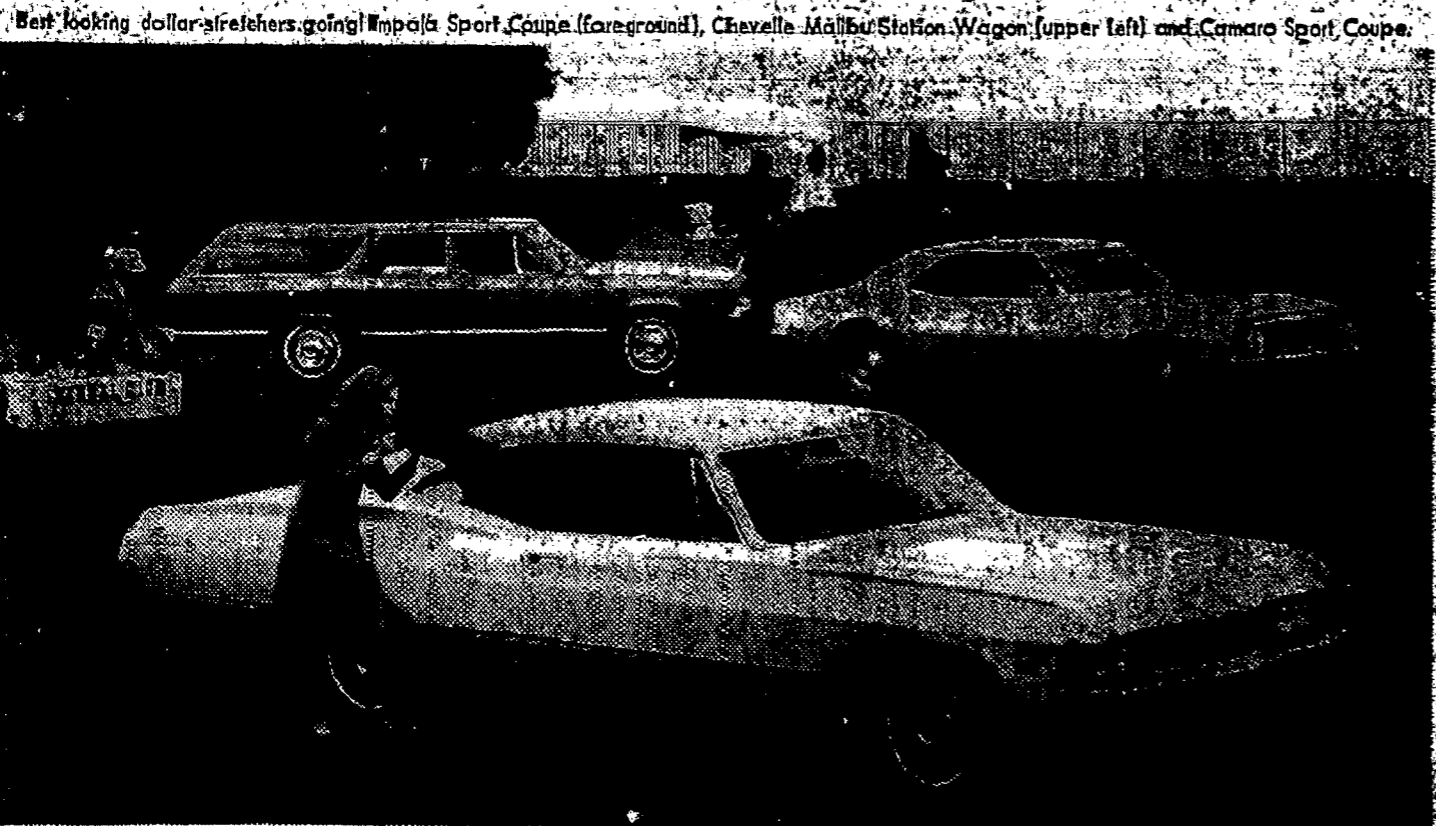
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