PLACE NAMES IN REGION—'P'

Papeton (Curtis) (200 population), El Paso county. In August, 1899, W. W. Curtis, Colorado Springs financier, opened the Curtis coal mine. The settlement that grew up around the mine was known as Curtis, in his honor, and a postoffice was established under that name about 1900. In 1903, when the settlement had a population of some 250, a miner's strike developed; the resulting trouble between the strikers and the negro strikebreakers caused the removal of 150 of the white miners and their families. They established a settlement a half mile south called Papeton, for John Papa, their leader. Soon all the adjoining coal settlements became known by that name.

Palmer Lake (269 population), El Paso county resort town, was built around a spring-fed lake, once known as Divide lake. The original railroad name for the station was Divide, but the postoffice department called it Weissport, for C. A. Weiss, first station agent for the Denver & Rio Grande railroad (1871-1880). Dr. Finley Thompson, who settled in the region in 1882, had a section of land surveyed and platted, established the town, and was its first mayor. The present name of the town, as well as the lake, honors Gen. William J. Palmer, of Denver & Rio Grande railroad fame. The lake was christened Palmero by Kate Field, noted lecturer, but the name was soon altered to Palmer. Incorporated March 12, 1889.

Peyton (123 population), El Paso county farming town, was settled in 1888 by George Peyton. The site was surveyed December 25 of that year, and Mr. Gilson, of the townsite company, received a 50 per cent interest for the expense of surveying and platting. Originally called Mayfield, the settlement was renamed in honor of Peyton after a postoffice had been refused under the old name.

Pike View (150 population), El Paso county coal mining community, lies six miles north of Colorado Springs, where a splendid view of Pikes peak is to be had. The Pike View or Pikes Peak View mine started operating in 1886, and the settlement that soon clustered here was named for the mine.

Penrose (90 population), Fremont county farming village, was settled in 1908 by the Beaver Park Land and Water company, and named in honor of the late Spencer Penrose, Colorado Springs capitalist and the company's largest stockholder.

Parker (Parkers) (200 population), Douglas county, was in early days a station of the stage line from Denver to Colorado Springs on the old Happy Canon road. The postoffice, first called Pine Grove, was later changed to Parker in honor of James S. Parker, who served 33 years as postmaster, and who in the early 1860s was a stage driver on the Smoky Hill route. In 1890, Mr. Parker bought the ranch that was the site of the station and postoffice. Many railroad stations in Colorado bear family names, with a terminal "s" added. Thus, Parker was called Parkers by the railroad, and Bailey was known as Baileys.