

# COLORADO'S TIN CAN TOURISTS

## A NEWSPAPER NARRATIVE



Denver Tourist Camp  
Overland Park

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September 2025

A resolution was adopted by the chamber in which was endorsed the proposition made by the county commissioners to advertise the Rainbow route in the next publication of the Automobile Blue Book, the "Bible" of the auto tourist. Letters relative to the matter have been sent to the county commissioners of all the counties on the route.

Montrose Daily Press  
Montrose Colorado  
1.1.1914

Lake county's section of the Lincoln highway through Colorado is one of the best advertisements that could have been devised to bring the auto tourist traffic this way.

Herald Democrat  
Leadville Lake County Colorado  
6.22.1914

Visiting automobile tourists in Denver may camp at any of the city parks for a night or two by applying to Secretary McNerney in the office of the park department at the city hall for a permit. Several such applications have been granted recently.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
8.1.1914

## 25 AUTOISTS GO TO JAIL TODAY

Members of Colorado Springs Body to Be Imprisoned for Not Paying Licenses. COLORADO SPRINGS, Aug. 13.—

The auto sightseeing trade of this city is paralyzed tonight as a result of the open fight between the members of the Auto Tourist Drivers' association and the municipal authorities over the city's license fee. With two men already in jail and warrants now issued for eleven others, the entire membership of the association, numbering twenty-five, is expected to be arrested within the next twenty-four hours. The fight over the city's license fee for auto drivers, which is renewed annually when the tax becomes due, reached its climax today when thirteen members of the organization ignored a court order to appear. The police tonight began the work of rounding up the drivers and serving the warrants.

## Only Five Autos Operated.

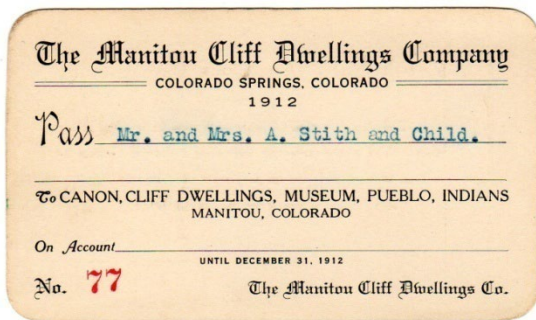
Not more than five automobiles in the tourist traffic operated on the streets today. Visitors from out of town who wished to visit the Garden of the Gods, Cheyenne canon, Manitou and other places of interest, were forced to make use of the street cars. Today's situation is the direct result of the auto tourist drivers' appeal a week ago that the federal license be reduced \$30. Upon the city's refusal most of the drivers neglected to renew their licenses. The drivers also objected to the recently passed ordinance prohibiting tourist machines from taking up stands within the fire limits. This new ordinance practically cripples their business, the drivers have maintained.

## Thirteen Ignore Order.

Thirteen of the drivers stopped by the police within the last few days for driving without a license were ordered to appear in the local court today. Not one put in an appearance, and on adjournment of court warrants were issued for their arrest. More warrants are expected tomorrow, as no new licenses were

taken out today. Officers of the organization tonight stated that they would make a fight to the finish. Attorneys have been engaged and the arrest of the thirteen for whom warrants were issued today will be made a test case. It is hinted that the matter may yet go to the higher courts.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
8.14.1915



Manitou Cliff Dwelling Annual Pass  
Manitou Colorado 1912

#### First Trans-Continental Tourist

The first trans-continental auto tourist of the season to visit Steamboat Springs this season were here last Thursday night, enroute from Milton, Wisc., to the Pacific coast. They were C. B. Hull and son, E. W. Hull, and had come across Tennessee pass and to Rout county by way of Wolcott and State Bridge. From there they planned to follow the Moffat highway to Vernal, Utah.

Route County Sentinel  
Steamboat Springs Colorado  
6.9.1916

#### Another Highway Link (Vernal Express.)

The Commercial club has received a communication from the chairman of the Good Roads committee of the Grand Junction, Colo., Chamber of Commerce, asking for co-operation in the building of a road from Vernal to the Colorado state line. They promise to complete the road from there to Grand Junction. This is done because so much auto tourist travel comes to Grand Junction, and because of inaccessible roads, must turn back. If the building of the road can be accomplished, Vernal and the Uintah basin will be on the route of at least three trans-continental auto routes. The Good Roads committee of the Vernal club will make an investigation and use every effort to bring about the establishment of a good road between here and the Colorado line.

Steamboat Pilot  
Steamboat Springs Colorado  
5.29.1918

#### AUTO KAMP TRAILER

Never been used. Special discount. Ordered for a customer who was unable to take. Will sell at 15 per cent discount. Come and see this. It's great.

THE UNIVERSAL TRUCK COMPANY,  
801 BROADWAY.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
6.30.1918



Auto Kamp Ad  
 ca. 1918

**Auto Tourists Spend Big Sums Of Money Here**

Do, auto tourists leave big money in - Denver? Is the city auto camp in Rocky Mountain Lake park worth the money spent upon it by the city? Answer these questions yourself after you read this: The manager of a 5 and 10-cent store estimated that the auto tourists in Denver spent \$1,000 a month with him. K One of the big Sixteenth street department stores reported that it was so common during the day for an auto tourist to spend \$100 that it wasn't noticed. Another Sixteenth street department store reported that auto tourists bought heavily of all classes of goods. One of the big shoe stores told of selling \$100 worth of shoes to one auto party; another shoe store reported selling \$50 worth of shoes, and both stores reported that such "sales are so frequent as not to earn any special notice." Grocery stores, meat markets, fruit dealers and the like declare that the auto tourist is the heaviest buyer during the summer months. Moving picture houses report that "crowds of auto tourists attend every day."

Rocky Mountain News  
 Denver Colorado  
 1.1.1919

**HERE'S REAL SOLID COMFORT IN AN ENCLOSED DORT**

The enclosed car has become immensely popular in Colorado for touring as the occupants haven't anything to worry about in the way of weather, and the Dort has all the speed that the average auto tourist wants.

Rocky Mountain News  
 Denver Colorado  
 3.30.1919



Dort Enclosed Auto Ad

### Free Camp Grounds For Tourists Now

The Commercial Club has chosen the vacant block east of the Hollywood creamery as the place for the free camp grounds for the tourists this season. The grounds are spacious, have ovens and free wood is furnished. Already they have been used and no doubt later in the season dozens of tourists will be induced to spend a night in our city because of the attractiveness of these grounds. Additional guide posts are to be placed on street corners so that tourists may more easily keep to the highway.

Simla Sun  
Simla Elbert County Colorado  
6.9.1921

### Dort Automobile Ad

#### TIN CAN CLUB COLORADO SPRINGS. June 28.

The Tin Can Tourists Association, an organization formed by auto tourist at Miami, Fla., last winter, has organized a branch in Colorado Springs. R. K. Reason of Manhattan, Kansas, who organized the Miami society, was instrumental in making the new organization here, which is composed of automobile tourists who are using the public camping grounds. "Ford Nomads" is the name the association has given to the local organization.

Montrose Daily Press  
Montrose Colorado  
6.28.1921

While we would like to see every business man in Hugo get his share of the auto tourist business passing thru Hugo, at the same time we believe it is detrimental to Hugo to mislead the traveling public by signs which bewilder them as to the direction of the Union Pacific highway thru the town. At the meeting of the 5000 club last Monday night, the controversy seemed to be settled amicably to our business interests which in the end will prove beneficial to the entire community and town.

Ranger Ledger  
Hugo Colorado  
7.2.1921

### Auto Tourist Plans Trip Over Route Taken in '59

Sixty-two years ago William Ryan, according to his own statement, journeyed from Leavenworth, - Kan., to Cherry creek, now the site of Denver, with "rifle and bull-whip" in hand. Mr. Ryan, who is now president of the Port Chester Savings bank of Port Chester, N. Y. has written the Denver Tourist bureau that he is planning an auto trip from New York to Denver. Mr. Ryan proposes to drive over the same route that he traveled in 1859 by way of what he terms "the Smoky Hill Fork route," now the Union Pacific highway.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
7.6.1921

## Record Smashed For Tourists at Overland Park

The number of tourists that visited Overland park during the past summer smashed all previous attendance records, according to figures compiled by Edgar C. MacMechen, editor of Municipal Facts. The year of 1920 stood as a record year for the municipal auto tourist camp, but nearly 4,000 more cars and 10,000 more people visited the park this year, the report shows. The visitors have this year represented forty-seven states of the union, the District of Columbia, half a dozen Canadian provinces, Mexico and Hawaii. More than \$45,000 worth of improvements were made at the park during the last two years. The ten leading states, in point of attendance at Overland park, were: Kansas, 7,990; Nebraska, 6,070; Colorado, 4,727; Missouri, 3,253; Oklahoma, 2,026; Towa, 2,401; Texas, 1,914; Illinois, 1,727; California, 1,587; Ohio, 924.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
12.18.1921



Overland Park  
Denver Colorado

Colorado with a population of 1,000,00, had half that many rail and auto tourists in 1921 who remained from one to three weeks and spent \$35,909,000.

Montrose Daily Press  
Montrose Colorado  
1.30.1922

## Delta Purchases Tourist Camp.

The deal was closed the fore part of the week whereby the city of Delta becomes the new owner of ten lots on the west side of South main street, just north of the Rio Grande ice house. The purchase was made from Jennie E. Bear. This property Is an excellent location for the auto tourist campground as it is on the Delta Montrose highway. Funds to the amount of \$1,200 are already available for the fitting up of the grounds in the way of accommodations, water and sewer lines. This work will be completed In time for this season's flock of tourists.

Surface Creek Companion  
Cedaredge Delta County Colorado  
3.23.1922

## Camp Ground Committee to Meet

Members of the camping grounds committees of the chamber of commerce and the Greeley city council will meet at 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon and go to Island Grove park to look over the site for proposed improvements to the auto tourist camping grounds.

Greeley Tribune  
Greeley Colorado  
4.20.1922

Queen Beach

JAMES GIBSON, Prop. Lamar, Colo.

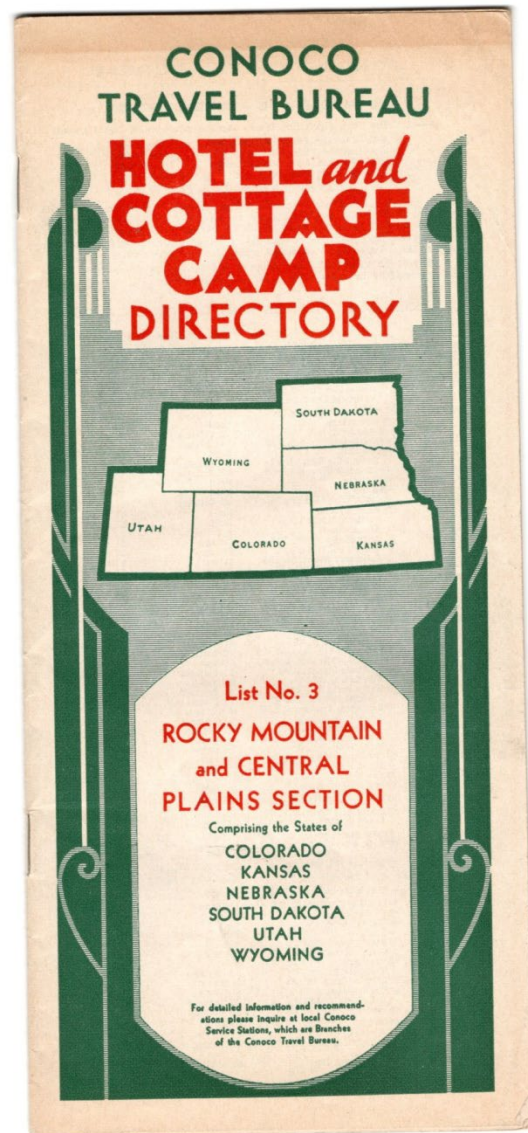
A Delightful Resting Place for Motor Tourists and Pleasure Seekers Located 12 miles north of Lamar and 10 miles south of Kansas-Colorado Boulevard, on the Denver Colorado Springs Denver Highway. Plenty Shade, Dancing, Boats and Fishing Lunches and refreshment served – Electric lights. Free Camping Grounds for Auto Tourist.

Kiowa County Press  
Eads Kiowa County Colorado  
6.30.1922

#### AUTO TOURIST CAMP

There are 213 auto tourist camps in Colorado and the more progressive towns, where the value of tourist trade is appreciated, are making strenuous efforts to do everything possible to attract visitors. In Loveland a number of electric ranges have been installed. Dozens of desirable individual camping sites are illuminated with individual electric lamps. —Montrose Press

Daily Journal  
Telluride Colorado  
4.20.1923



Conoco Travel Bureau  
Cottage Camp Directory

#### Thousands of Tourists Live in City of Tents

The cosmopolitan auto tourist street of the world is in Denver's \$250,000 free auto camp at Overland park where tent houses are pitched and hold travelers from everywhere. On summer nights the city of canvas numbers 5,000 people. The motorist

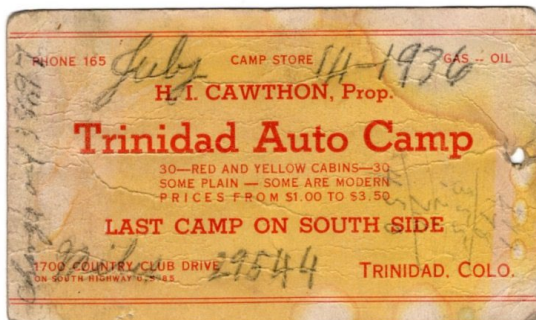
registers, selects his camp site and receives free bath and laundry privileges; also reading, writing and rest room facilities. The camp grounds with its woodlands and open spaces, contains a community club house, grocery store, restaurant and filling station. Cool nights are the rule in this tent house recreation spot—a mile above sea level—maintained by the city of Denver. The park contains 180 acres and is fourteen minutes' drive from the business district.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
6.24.1923

### Delta complimented ON AUTO TOURIST PARK

The Delta free auto tourist park, says the Tribute, has just completed its second season which was a most successful one. Many compliments were handed out during the season to Delta people on the splendid camp ground. The first of this year electric lights were provided, picnic shelter, a kitchen range, shower bath, hot water tank, stationery wash tubs and toilets. During the fall Delta people will plant many trees to afford shade during the 1924 season.

Daily Journal  
Telluride Colorado  
10.1.1923



Trinidad Auto Camp Colorado  
ca. 1936

### Now 247 Camps in State

The mayors and other officials attending the conference were surprised to hear that from two municipal camps In Colorado in 1915, with 4,500 campers, the automobile travel has increased in 1923 to 217 camps, with 6,015 registered motorists. An exhaustive study of the auto camp situation has disclosed that in camps on the Pacific coast a charge of 50 cents a night is made, almost without exception,” said Mr. Burhans. “Even cities that still have the free camp are advocating a charge, believing that this plan will bring the desired auto travelers and provide a revenue that will go toward camp improvements. A charge has the effect of discouraging the undesirable element from traveling in the first instance and of keeping up the morale of the camps. Then again many camp grounds are taxed to capacity during July and August and these questionable characters who loaf their way across the country in broken down automobiles, having no objective in view, only add grief to the many other cares of camp attendants.”

### Tourists Benefit Community

Tourists brought \$45,500,000 to Colorado last year, according to figures from government and municipal sources read by Mr. Burhans. He urged communities to pay more attention to travelers, whether they come by rail or auto. The motorist is deserving of the hospitality of the community, he told the mayors.

Boulder Daily Camera  
Boulder Colorado  
3.28.1924

## Folding Bucket Really Necessary For Auto Tourist

Many Uses for Pail That Can Be Slid Under Seat or in Tool Box. Special attention should be given by the camper to an emergency water carrier for use while on the road. The carrying of such essential equipment will avoid inconvenient delays and sometimes serious accidents. Among these emergency accessories should be included a folding water pail, which is invaluable to the summer motorist, for refilling the radiator or for carrying water for cooking purposes. The outstanding advantages of such a pail is that it folds into a small package which may be easily stored away under the seat or in the tool box. In addition to the collapsible water bucket, the Planet Manufacturing company makes a folding wash basin that also folds to a small compass.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
6.8.1924

## Big Bear Eyes Tourists Driving Pikes Peak Road

Mountain Lion Scared Up During Chase of Black Bruin. Special to The News. COLORADO SPRINGS, Sept. 26.—

A big black bear, seated on a rock about 500 feet from the Bottomless pit, gave auto tourist drivers and their clients a touch of the fast disappearing wild West yesterday. Bruin was taking a sun bath but soon “hopped off” for parts unknown at the appearance of humans on the Pikes peak highway nearby. As the drivers were trailing the honey hunter cautiously they scared up a mountain lion, which followed in the tracks of the bear, but more speedily.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
9.27.1924

## FORTY TO FIFTY CARS IN THE AUTO CAMP HERE THESE NIGHTS

Rainy and cool weather over the week end curtailed the usual large number of visitors and automobiles at the municipal camp. H. D. Tobey caretaker, said today. The average number of cars at the camp now is between forty-five and fifty daily. Receipts for the season now total approximately \$1,000 — the only time in the history of the camp receipts have ever been that large. There have been more visitors —and more satisfied visitors. The charge of 50 cents per car per night has eliminated almost entirely the undesirable “tin can” tourist of a few seasons ago who was looking for a free place to atop.

Boulder Daily Camera  
Boulder Colorado  
8.4.1925

## THE “TIN CAN” SCHOOL.

Education Week focuses attention on a new sort of school, which is designated “The Tin Can School.” The Grand Junction Sentinel explains this as being a development of the auto tourist camp. Florida is just now the Mecca toward which tens of thousands of cars are turned, and the occupants of these camps have children, and there is need for schooling for them in the towns where they squat. Paying no taxes they yet demand schooling or, where they do not demand it. the authorities compel it.

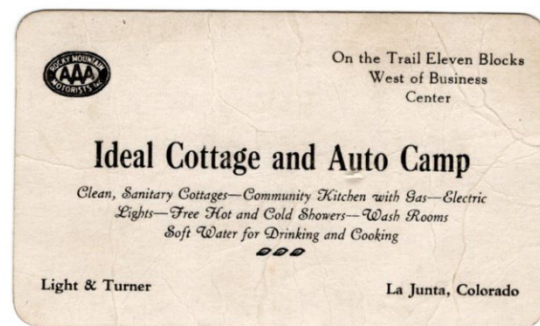
They've had to establish "Tin Can Schools"—meaning schools for children of those people who live out of cans, foraging from the wayside grocery or the case of canned goods taken along. Which causes an aggrieved Florida paper to say: "The first 'tin can' school is reported from Florida. It is attended by children of the 'tin can' tourists.

"The 'tin can' tourist is one who roams about the country in an automobile, subsisting for the most part on canned goods. "There are so many of them in Florida for the winter that they have established a school in one of the tourist camps. There was no room in the public schools for these children, so their wandering parents employed a teacher and started a private school. "It is a fine thing for those who have automobiles to shut up house for a time and make overland trips. It is a healthful diversion and education in away, for travel is broadening. "But any family that swaps home life for life in an automobile makes a bad bargain. Especially is it a rank injustice to the children. "Those unfortunate children of 'tin can' tourists who are offered no better opportunity than a 'tin can' tourist camp school may get a smattering of knowledge, but they will wind up with a 'tin can' education, and that isn't going to take them very far. "These tourist camp privileges are being abused all over the country. It was never intended that they should be converted into permanent abodes by the irresponsible wanderers who will seize at any method to escape responsibility. "It is said that gangs of crooks now rove around in automobiles, posing as tourists and putting up at these tourist camps. Perhaps, if the police of the various towns would make a close inspection of these camps daily, they might better protect their communities and turn over to the law many fugitives from justice.

"These tourist camps were established for the convenience of bonafide tourists, many of whom are now kept out of them because they do not want to risk the chance of coming in contact with outlaws. "There should be a welcome awaiting respectable tourists at every tourist camp, but none of them should be permitted to outstay that welcome. Camping on these grounds for a few days or a week is all right; but pitching tents on them for an indefinite stay is all wrong and should not be permitted.

"The tourist camp certainly is no place for the establishment of a school, and these 'tin can' schools should be discouraged or even prohibited. "The automobile is a great factor in our modern life; but, if we permit it to break up home life and deprive the children of proper educational advantages, it will prove a curse instead of a blessing."

Boulder Daily Camera  
Boulder Colorado  
11.19.1925



Ideal Cottage and Auto Camp  
La Junta Colorado

Fishermen's Paradise Found in Lake Region

The Grand Mesa lake region is thirty-two miles from Delta, sixty-five miles from

Grand Junction and seventy miles from Glenwood Springs, the route being over splendid automobile highways. Sixty lakes and fifty mountain streams are available to the auto tourist fisher, and many more can be reached by trails. Camp grounds and resorts abound thru out the region.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
6.6.1926

#### DENVER CENTER OF CAMP GOODS

Brooks Co. Equipment for Tourists Found on Cars All Over the Country Tents, camp furniture and equipment, square umbrellas and the like manufactured in Denver and sold all over the United States. It would be pretty hard to find an auto tourist camp and not goods made by the Brooks Tent and Awning Co. Twenty-five years ago the Brooks company was established by B. H. Brooks, with the determination to get its place in the sun, and the wide distribution of its goods today is proof positive that this place has been reached. The Brooks company manufacture about everything in its line, and that takes in tents, awnings, square or garden umbrellas, folding beds, collapsible buckets and so on down a long list, including auto and stack covers. The list of goods handled would make a column of the newspapers. Elaborate and illustrated catalogs are issued by the company, for it is not only a manufacturer, but a jobber and retailer of its products. Complete camping outfits may be said to be a specialty of the company, with especial reference to automobile campers, hence the note above relative to auto camps thru out the United States. Here is where you find air beds and bags and cases and dozens of other articles that today make camping not only a comfort

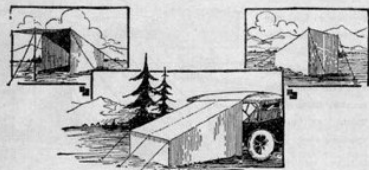
but a pleasure. Camping with Brooks equipment means a score or more little conveniences, to say nothing of the tents with their entrances that transform into a home; with mats for the floor and entrance, collapsible tables and chairs and the like, all of which can be easily stowed on an automobile and without materially increasing the load. One point stressed is that room is left for the family in the car. Another Brooks idea is the tent that fastens to the car, known as the Mesa Verde tourist tent, and it can be attached to the automobile or used separately and with or without poles. The idea of this is to give the auto tourist a cheap, but efficient tent. There is also the Yellowstone that not only gives the tourist a closed tent, but an extension under which he can put his car or he can use this tent with poles or attach it to the car.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
4.10.1927

Popular "Lean To" Style Auto Tents

The Overland Tourist Tent

The Overland Tourist Tent is made in three sizes and two materials as listed. Light in weight and compact to carry. May be used with the automobile or separate from the automobile, as illustrated. Complete with ropes and stakes. Carrying sack furnished with each tent.



NET PRICES

No.	Size, Ft.	Height	Wall	10 oz. Stand.		7-65 Khaki Waterproofed Duck (Grey Wat.)	
				White Duck (0.93 oz. per Sq. Yd.)	Weight Lbs.	Weight Lbs.	Weight Lbs.
45	5 x7	6'6"	2'0"	\$ 8.40 ea.	12	\$ 7.25 ea.	18
47	7 x7	6'0"	3'0"	8.15 ea.	15	6.95 ea.	22
49	9 1/2 x7	6'0"	3'0"	9.60 ea.	18	10.90 ea.	27

No poles are furnished with this tent. Awning may be used to close front of tent or as an awning. Rope full length of ridge to front guys. See page 12 for price on poles.

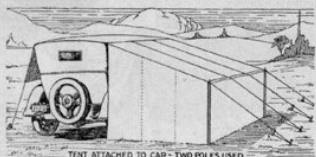
The Yellowstone Touring Tent



INDEPENDENT OF AUTOMOBILE USING POLES. Compact to carry. Carrying sack of same material furnished with each tent.

No poles are furnished with this tent. Ropes and stakes included with each tent. Carrying sack of same material. Rope full length of ridge to front guys.

This tent is made in two sizes only and two materials as listed. The partition between the tent and awning adds to the comfort of this tent. May be used with the automobile or separate from the automobile by use of poles as illustrated. No ridge pole required, as side guy ropes are a continuous rope running through the ridge of the tent. Light and compact to carry.



TENT ATTACHED TO CAR - TWO POLES USED

NET PRICES

No.	Size, Ft.	Height	Wall	10 oz. Stand.		7-65 Khaki Waterproofed Duck (Grey Wat.)	
				White Duck (0.93 oz. per Sq. Yd.)	Weight Lbs.	Weight Lbs.	Weight Lbs.
27	7 x7	6'6"	3'0"	\$11.55 ea.	20	\$12.70 ea.	30
29	9 1/2 x7	6'6"	3'0"	14.50 ea.	25	15.60 ea.	35

See page 12 for price on poles.

Brooks Tent & Awning Advertisement  
Denver Colorado 1935

Rim rocks Hold Up Towering Mesas

Awe-Inspiring Sight Greets. Auto Tourist in Colorado ~

Mesas hundreds of feet above the road and supported by rim rocks. That is the awe-inspiring sight that confronts the auto tourist winding thru the Rio Grande National forest. This road winds thru the forest for 20 miles, following the Conejos river, famed for its rainbow trout fishing. With alder, aspen and spruce blending in a harmony color that would enthuse an artist. There is mountain scenery, too, to charm the eye and the winding course of the road makes ever

changing views revealed to the motorist. There are almost countless camping places, open to the tourist, with only one warning—and that applies to every national forest—to be careful of the camp fire.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
5.29.1927

Fast Time Made By Motorists to Grand Junction

Trip in Early May Proves How Easy Passes Are Negotiated By Cars

Here is where the auto tourist can get a line on the rapidity of motor traveling, and also the condition of highways across the mountains in early May. Claire Henderson and H. P. Dockstader of the Public Service Company of Colorado covered the 373 miles between Denver and Grand Junction in 18 hours, actual running time. This is better than 20 miles an hour, and it must be taken into consideration that motorists do not speed over Blue Mesa and Cochetopa pass, with its elevation above 10,000 feet, as they do on plains paved roads. The two men reported that the highway over the mesa and pass even in the opening weeks of May, was & boulevard and heavily traveled, with a large number of tourists, mainly from California, encountered in their trip. There are one or two stretches where the highway is under construction that forms the only, bad spots. Grand Junction has become one of the central points for summer tourists. It is reached by auto highways for the motorists and by the Denver & Rio Grande Western for the rail traveler.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
5.29.1927

## Indian Massacre Sites Can Be Visited by Auto Tourists

Where Meeker and Thornburgh Were Killed Easily Reached From Three Towns.

The auto tourist Interested in Indians and their massacres in the west may see two battle fields by auto from Steamboat Springs, Craig or Meeker. In 1879 N. C. Meeker was massacred by Indians near the town now that bears his name. He was U.S. agent and his attempts to transform the redmen into farmers and occupants of houses instead of tepees brought about the massacre. In going to Meeker's relief a detail of U.S. soldiers commanded by Maj. Thomas T. Thornburgh was ambushed and many of them killed. Possibly many of the auto tourists who will visit this northwest part of Colorado have heard of Colorow. His uprising in 1887 was in this district.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
5.29.1927

## Free Camp Grounds For Tourists Now

The Commercial Club has chosen the vacant block east of the Hollywood creamery as the place for the free camp grounds for the tourists this season. The grounds are spacious, have ovens and free wood is furnished. Already they have been used and no doubt later in the season dozens of tourists will be induced to spend a night in our city because of the attractiveness of these grounds. Additional guide posts are to be placed on street corners so that tourists may more easily keep to the highway.

Simla Sun  
Simla Elbert County Colorado  
6.9.1927

## It's a Problem

What are we going to do with the hobo auto tourist who starts out on a cross-country journey busted, in an old rattle trap bus, begging his way from town to town?

Sometimes he has the whole family with, three or four half starved children and always a dog or two. This class is getting to be a big nuisance to towns like Deer Trail on a half dozen main highways.

Deer Trail Tribune  
Deer Trail Colorado  
6.10.1927

## TOURIST COTTAGE CAMP BEING BUILT

Mrs. Cora Forrester, formerly owner of the Burlington hotel at Lyons, is what will be the finest cottage tourist camp in northern Colorado. Mrs. Forrester recently acquired the O. S. Burton place just east of Lyons for this purpose. When the tourist season opens next year Mrs. Forrester will have ten up-to-date cottages, each 12x16 feet, painted white and with red roofs. Each cottage will be equipped with built-in furniture and all modern conveniences for the auto tourist.

Daily Times  
Longmont Colorado  
9.9.1927

## SUMMER AUTO CAMPS

The automobile has practically transformed our mode of transportation. and with it has crept a new element of annoyances. While attending a very enthusiastic meeting in one of our suburban towns last week, we learned

that some auto tourist camps in various parts of the state where seeking to build up their popularity by hanging out “For White People Only” signs. Every sign of this character is a disgrace to civilization, an insult to decent Americans and a shameful violation of our state law. A lesson should and no doubt will be taught some of these narrow, overzealous owners of such camps if this practice is indulged in during the present tourist season.

Colorado Statesman  
Denver Colorado  
4.28.1928

Though many an auto tourist has refused a lift for fear of being held up, the real reason for passing up the bums, is that a traveler nowadays carries so much trick camp equipment he hasn’t room to stow another passenger.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
5.15.1928

#### TOURIST CAMP OWNERS PROTEST PAYING LICENSE UNDER NEW LAW

Denver, June 6.—Owners of auto tourist, or cottage camps have joined forces to fight the new state camp license law passed by the recent legislature. The license of flee of \$1 a year for each camp and 60 cents a year for each cottage, or cabin, will never be collected, it seemed apparent, until a court decision is given on the law.

Longmont Call

Longmont Colorado  
6.5.1929

#### Tenth of Auto Camps Have Paid License

Seventy-eight of the estimated 750 auto tourist camps coming under the new state licensing law have paid license fees and received certificates, according to Secretary of State Charles M. Armstrong. The fee is \$1 a year for each cabin in a camp.

Colorado Transcript  
Golden Colorado  
7.18.1929



Pikes Peak Cottage City  
Colorado Springs

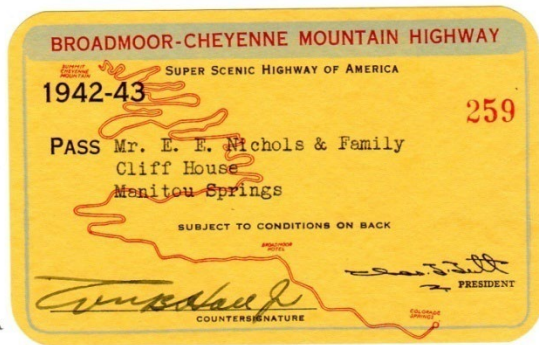
#### Cottage Camps America’s New Way of Doing It

One of the most unique cottage cities in Colorado is at Colorado Springs, where Pikes Peak Cottage City entertains over 55,000 guests each year in 150 well-furnished individual apartments. Seventy-five of these camps are equipped with one double bed, on single cot., two tables, four chairs, a washbowl, and cooking utensils.

Forty of the other cabins are more pretentious and boast a gas plate and sink with running water. The remainder are in the order of deluxe furnished rooms, living-room, bath, and kitchenette, which includes a cozy breakfast nook.

Pikes Peak Cottage City spreads over 12 acres of wooded grounds at the city line and is 13 block from the down-town shopping district. A score of employees service the cottages and grounds. The community building is a central structure, where ordinary needs of the traveler can be cared for: lounging room and porch with comfortable chairs and porch hammocks, cafeteria, dance hall, grocery stores, bake-shops, bath and shower rooms, barber shop, and marcelling shoppe, and what do you need?

Auckland Sun  
Auckland New Zealand  
11.5.1929



Broadmoor Cheyenne Mountain Highway  
Colorado Springs 1942-1943  
Annual Pass

War for Tourist Cash Breaks Out at Springs  
Rio Grande Road and Two Hotels Accused  
of Trying to Create Monopoly

COLORADO SPRINGS, July B.—A tourist “war,” with money spent by vacationers for hotel rooms, meals and sightseeing trips as the spoils, has flared up in Colorado Springs. The controversy is based on asserted violations of a city ordinance forbidding solicitation of visitors by representatives of sightseeing companies at the Colorado Springs railroad stations. On one side in the row are arrayed the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad, the two leading hotels—the Broadmoor and Antlers—and scenic tour companies affiliated with the hotels. Opposing them are the city administration, the city council and independent sightseeing lines and hotels.

Attempted Monopoly Charged

Charges that the Rio Grande and the two leading hotels are attempting to monopolize tourist business in the Pikes Peak "region have been hurled. - Several arrests for asserted violation of the ordinance regarding tourist soliciting have been made. The Denver & Rio Grande Western, it is charged, has barred all representatives of independent sightseeing companies from soliciting tourist business on trains arriving at Colorado Springs. At the same time, it is claimed, the railroad, co-operating with the two leading hotels of the city, has placed its own representatives, or “riders,” on the trains to solicit tourists.

Independents Protest

In this way, independent hotel and scenic line operators contend, they are “frozen out.” Most of the travelers have been “signed up” for hotel accommodations, meals and sightseeing trips before they reach

Colorado Springs, it is claimed. The controversy was brought to a head at a meeting of the city council yesterday, at which both sides were represented. The session was spirited, with charges and denials being flung by the opposing forces 'in the "tourist war." The city will continue strictly to enforce the law against tourist solicitation, it was warned by George G. Birdsall, mayor of Colorado Springs and president, of the council.

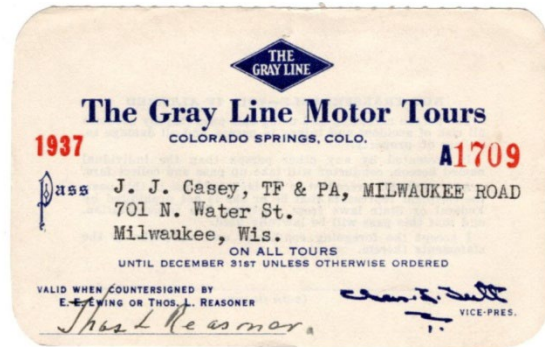
#### "Disagreeable Situation"

Persons found violating the ordinance will be arrested, Birdsall asserted. "A disagreeable situation has arisen in Colorado Springs regarding solicitation of visitors," Mayor Birdsall said. "Representatives of sighting-seeing companies affiliated with the two leading hotels here have been -chiefly guilty of violations along this line. "When one of these drivers gets hold of a visitor at the railroad station he isn't satisfied merely with taking him to a hotel. He attempts to sign up the visitor for everything —hotel, restaurant, meals and sightseeing trips— before releasing him.

#### 50 Lines in Fight ~

"The city contends the tourist 'should be allowed to make those decisions for himself, without undue importunities from hotel and scenic line representatives. - "It was with that in mind that the ordinance banning solicitation was passed several years ago. The independent sightseeing companies of the city have uniformly abided by the law." Nearly 50 independent lines are allied with the city administration in the tourist fight. Spokesmen for the independents yesterday were Thomas L. Reasoner of the Gray Line Motor Tours Co., and C. M. Hammond of the Hammond Auto Co.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
7.9.1930



Gray Line Motor Tours Pass  
Colorado Spring  
1937

#### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Two filling station and cottage camp sites, at key locations in fast growing towns on Lincoln Highway, in N. E. Colorado. An exceptional cottage camp site in Estes Park, the famous tourist resort of Colorado. Don't pass this up. No trades. For details write, Ben T. Allison, Limon, Colo.

Wray Gazette  
Wray Colorado  
2.19.1931

#### LEADVILLE MAN GUILTY OF DRY LAW VIOLATION

Ira Allenthorpe, proprietor of a cottage camp near Leadville, was sentenced to 60 days in jail and fined \$200 by Federal Judge T. Blake Kennedy yesterday when he pleaded guilty to violation of the prohibition law. A clubroom at the camp, in which

Allenthorpe sold whisky to dry agents, was allowed to remain open under \$500 bond.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
3.2.1932

Dissertations by Dr. Conner  
BY DR. B. U. L. CONNER

These grasshoppers—they've come back to the farm after many years. Is it possible that that pest in human form—the tin can tourist, who used to hop along from town to town, plucking roasting ears from roadside fields and pilfering chickens and gasoline—is coming back, too?

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
6.7.1934

Letters to the Editor

Tourist Camp Morals Only Molehill

Editor's Note: Letters are welcome. But please be brief. As a rule, 200 words should be, ample. Your name and address must accompany each letter as evidence of good faith, The News reserves many more letters than it has room to publish. Therefore we reserve the right to reject or condense any letter.

Editor; I have been following with considerable interest your letters on the question of the morality of the cottage camps—the letter that was written by Rev. Manning and the replies. The thing that strikes me very forcibly is that this whole question has been considered from an

emotional standpoint. Reasoning the condition out, it appears to me, first, that two people who have progressed far enough in their enamor to mutually agree to go to a cottage camp, have progressed to a point that denying them the privilege of a cottage camp would not terminate the affair and that closing the cottage camps would not in any way raise the morals of these people. On the other hand, from a sanitary standpoint, it is far better for them to go to a cottage camp than some place along a country road. My wife and I have made a good many trips, staying at cottage camps and I have never seen anything that could be considered immoral at any of these camps. Our principal necessity has been to find one with a vacancy and we accepted the location without question. In conclusion, I feel that all have been making a mountain out of a mole hill and the approach to the subject has been from an emotional, rather than a rational standpoint. This seems to be a common fault and should be corrected.

Very truly yours, 1441 Welton. C. H. COBERLY.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
9.24.1936

LIQUOR LAW SCANNED

Whether a cottage camp may serve liquor to motorists who drive in will be decided by Judge Henry S. Lindsley Saturday. He took under advisement Monday a test case. Defendants are Eddie Bohn, owner, and Burdie Davis, waitress, at a cottage camp on W. Colfax Ave.

Rocky Mountain News  
Denver Colorado  
5.18.1937

Newspaper Sources:

Colorado Historic Newspapers

<https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org>