

**Silver Fox of the
Rockies;
The Delph
Carpenter Story
Water Literate
Leaders Class**

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Commerce





Why was he called the “Silver Fox of the Rockies”

- Ralph Meeker informed Delph of the good news of the passing of the Colorado River Compact of 1922, “Sweet news from Washington,” Meeker wrote, “Congratulations on your Compact Baby, “Mr. Silver Fox of the Rockies”
- Silver Foxes belong to the family of red foxes but are larger.
- They are known to have great patience and strong survival instincts in the face of predators.
- They are territorial, notably adaptable, and legendary in their determination and acute sensitivity to their surroundings, attributes that make possible their success and survival!

Values & Character

This sustained them through hard times forged values of parents and grandparents seeking fortunes in undeveloped lands.

An indomitable respect for hard work

Strong Religious faith

Sense of fair play & honesty in your dealings

Patriotism & Temperance

Strong application of ordinary sense



Love in an Envelope

Married over 50 years and lived in the Union Colony



About Delph Carpenter's Parents Author Daniel Tyler

- When Leroy Carpenter left his home near Tipton, Iowa, in April 1871 to pursue farming in the recently settled Union Colony of Greeley, Colorado, he left behind Martha Bennett, a young lady from De Witt, Iowa. The two had been introduced the previous fall and began writing letters to each other in December of 1870. Over the next sixteen months their correspondence would blend romantic elements with the practical challenges of frontier life as the two developed intimacy, fell in love, and eventually married.
- This compilation of fifty-four letters exchanged between Carpenter and Bennett reveals the societal changes facing men and women in the late-nineteenth-century West and provides an alternative to studies of class and gender that tend to focus on the more urban and industrialized Eastern seaboard of

Points of Interest

He was born in 1877 and me in 1977, similar ideals of farming families

His parents Leroy and Martha arrived at the Depot in Greeley in 1872, the depot location where I now work each day downtown in Greeley at 902 7th Ave

Stopped at Greeley Museum; so many documents on Carpenter (you can also read up as CSU)

- Read a story from Mary Carpenter titled: my early life and later experiences as a western pioneer
- Carpenter Coat of Arms
- Pictures on metal of Leroy and Delphus
- Marriage invite to their daughters wedding in Japan
- A salute to him by Governor Carr
- Copy of their will and art they wanted given to their children



Centennial Village Museum ReOpening

Prior Appropriation Doctrine

- **1874** New colonists at Ft. Collins dry up the Poudre River
 - Union Colonists and Ft. Collins meet at Windsor school house
- **1876** Colorado Constitution
- **1879** Prior appropriation doctrine (Colorado Doctrine) – set national precedence
 - First in Time – First in Right
 - Court decrees water rights
 - Water is administered by the state
 - Water must be put to beneficial use and not wasted



MON. SEPT. 24, 1928 Ther.

Wea. TUES. SEPT. 25, 1928 Ther.

All day consultation
with Francis C
Wilson, Commissioner
for New Mexico,
in re Rio Grande
& Colo. Rivers matters
at Ajo Caliente Hot
springs (his son
with him)

Original Copy
Colorado River
Compact

An Act To provide for the construction of works for the protection and development of the Colorado River Basin, for the approval of the Colorado River compact, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purpose of controlling the floods, improving navigation and regulating the flow of the Colorado River, providing for storage and for the delivery of the stored waters thereof for reclamation of public lands and other beneficial uses exclusively within the United States, and for the generation of electrical energy as a means of making the project herein authorized a self-supporting and financially solvent undertaking, the Secretary of the Interior, subject to the terms of the Colorado River compact hereinafter mentioned, is hereby authorized to construct, operate, and maintain a dam and incidental works in the main stream of the Colorado River at Black Canyon or Boulder Canyon adequate to create a storage reservoir of a capacity of not less than twenty million acre-feet of water and a main canal and appurtenant structures located entirely within the United States connecting the Laguna Dam, or other suitable diversion dam, which the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to construct if deemed necessary or advisable by him upon engineering or economic considerations, with the Imperial and Coachella Valleys in California, the expenditures for said main canal and appurtenant structures to be reimbursable, as provided in the reclamation law, and shall not be paid out of revenues derived from the sale or disposal of water power or electric energy at the dam authorized to be constructed at said Black Canyon or Boulder Canyon, or for water for potable purposes outside of the Imperial and Coachella Valleys: *Provided, however,* That no charge shall be made for water or for the use, storage, or delivery of water for irrigation or water for potable purposes in the Imperial or Coachella Valleys; also to construct and equip, operate, and maintain at or near said dam, or cause to be constructed, a complete **Lorem ipsum dolor sit ame adipiscing elit** economic development of electrical energy from the water discharged from said reservoir; and to acquire by proceedings in eminent domain, or otherwise, all lands, rights of way, and other property necessary for said purposes.

SEC. 2. (a) There is hereby established a special fund, to be known as the "Colorado River Dam fund" (hereinafter referred to as the "fund"), and to be available, as hereafter provided, only for carry-

Mentions of the Compact

What philosophies informed his work in water policy?

His upbringing in the Union Colony in Greeley; He was not a conservationist
Equitable apportionment of interstate streams; to ensure Greeley was able to keep its water for use and not give it to other growing areas

We should shape all our plans and actions, he warned, upon the assumption that moisture from the clouds is never to be depended on, except to germinate grain

Carpenter believed in local controls, and a defense of it from his days in the Union Colony and relied on his understanding of the nature of Federalism

Carpenter struggled with “first in time, first in right” as a young attorney, he believed in the principle not only because it was state law but because he recognized the economic and financial risk assumed by the early pioneers

Delphus E. Carpenter (1877–1951) was the Commissioner of Interstate Streams for the State of Colorado at a time when Western States' water rights were becoming a legal battleground, and became the primary driver behind the Colorado River Compact of 1922.^{[1][2]}

Thank you!

Past Greeley water system managers pondering
the future of Greeley's water system at the
lookout above the Bellvue Water Treatment
Plant in 1915

