

Union Pacific Railroad Company
Cheyenne, Wyoming
February 6, 1940

Bishop Patrick A. McGovern,
2105 Capitol Avenue,
Cheyenne, Wyoming

My dear Bishop;

In regard, to our conversation January 29, at which time you made inquiry as to steel foundry formerly operated at Laramie, and also when Union Pacific first established Hospital at Laramie:

I handled this with Mr. E.C. Schmidt, Assistant to the President, and after making due research he advises as follows:

“The Laramie Rolling Mills were built in 1874, consisting of a main building 113 x 310 ft., of stone construction with slate roof, a warehouse 50 x 100 ft., a shed 42 1/2 x 61 ft., a carpenter shop 21 x 49 ft., two hose houses and other miscellaneous buildings. The original cost of the building, the machinery and stock was approximately \$200,000. In the main building were machine shop, blacksmith shop, two store houses, bolt house, trestle rolling mill and spike house. The mills and most of its contents were destroyed by fire November 9, 1910, and in its last year of operation employed about 85 men with a monthly payroll of from six to seven thousand dollars.

The mills produced angle bars, track bolts, track spikes, bridge bolts, tie plates, car bolts, car forgings, bar iron and rerolled rails into shorter lengths.

We have been unable to find any tangible evidence that the Union Pacific ever established a hospital at Laramie during the construction period or during the years immediately following it. There might have been some hospital facilities provided in connection with the rolling mill, but none of the rolling mill records refer to any such hospital. Furthermore, the Union Pacific Hospital Department did not adopt the practice of keeping records until 1884.”

I hope that this information will be of some assistance to you,

Yours very truly,

B.O. Wedge
Superintendent