

# THE SIZERVILLE MINERAL SPRINGS

In the twenties the most fashionable means of entertainment for the "in" crowd was to "partake of the waters" at the Mineral Springs, located, according to my friend Marguerite Randolph, "three railroad crossings up the road" from Emporium.

People came from all over the United States to use the Mineral Springs, located at Sizerville. Horses and buggies and a few 1927 touring sedans were the modes of transportation for those living in and near Cameron County. The Pennsylvania Railroad, on its daily run from Buffalo to Philadelphia, brought many "seekers of the cure" to this small area in Sizerville, getting off early in the morning on the passenger train from Buffalo and then returning on the 581 in the evening. Some stayed out in tents or even slept under the stars. A cool brook wound close to the mountain nearby and my grandfather, Harry S. Spence, remembers it as a "good trout stream."

Some came for a mere social outing, as there was a small hotel at the Springs; others came with the belief that the water would cure all their ailments including arthritis, rheumatism, gout, boils and even corns. This alone is not unusual as there are many mineral spas in existence today. Folks were so sure of this remedy that they would carry a bottle of it back with them, as it was bottled and sold much as soda pop is today. My great grandfather, Henry O. Haupt, owned the Mineral Springs at that time.

Today, were you to travel to the old Mineral Springs, you would see nothing but a field of cornflowers and goldenrod. Most likely the spring itself is still there but the ladies in their long skirts and high buttoned shoes and the gentlemen in their striped vests and straw hats have long since stopped frequenting the "Mineral Springs at Sizerville."

I would like to thank my friend Marguerite Randolph and my grandfather Harry S. Spence for giving me information on the Mineral Springs.

Contributed from the files of the Cameron County Historical Society.