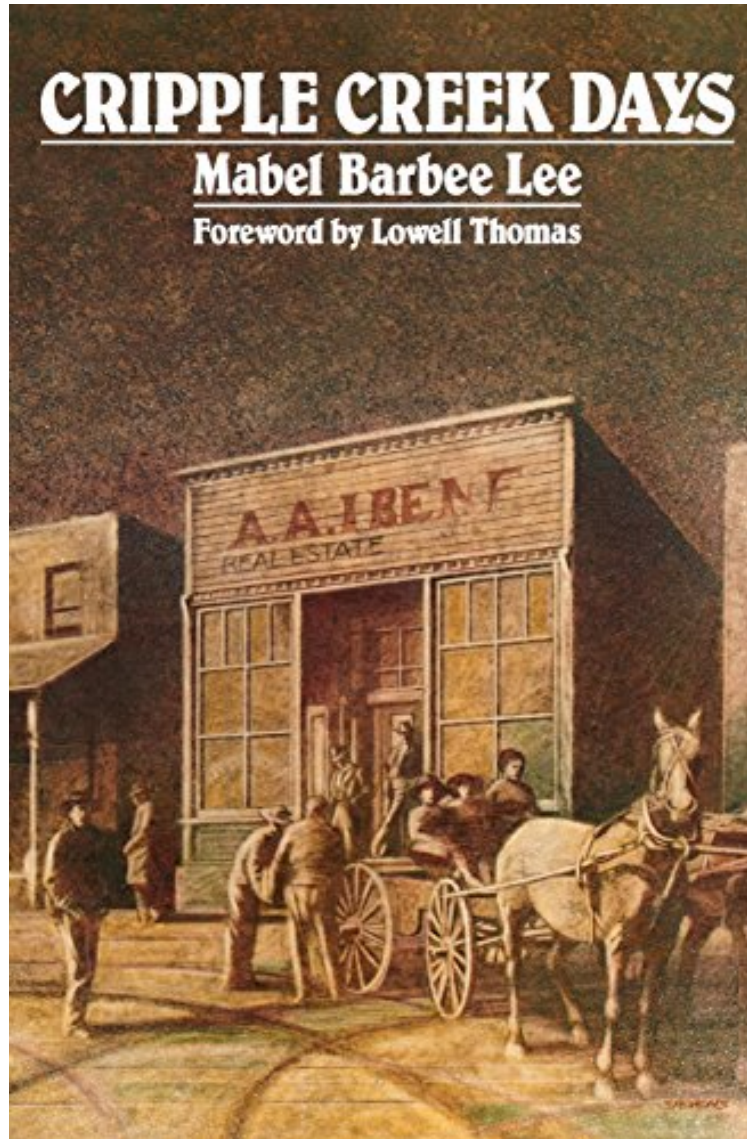


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Cripple Creek Days

Mabel Barbee Lee

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Mabel Barbee Lee : Cripple Creek Days before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cripple Creek Days:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wonderfully writtenBy DoodlesA great story of real women and men over a century ago.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The "Gone With the Wind" of the Rocky MountainsBy RFRFMMy name is Dick French and I do some writing. This book is one of the best I have ever had the pleasure of reading. The author, Mabel Barbee Lee, places her readers in Cripple Creek in what was most certainly its

finest hour. It was a point in time when Americans believed in adventure, the promise of gold and in their ability to do whatever it took to get it. Thousands of them came together in a tent city at over 9,500 feet in elevation; why? because they had the courage of their convictions, and the ingenuity to make their dreams come true. Mabel Barbee Lee saw the efforts of that unique population, tapped into it, and gave it to us in the pages of her book. She was a very bright writer and a brilliant witness to the history occurring all around her. She knew exactly what Cripple Creek was when people all over the world, at the time, called it the "Greatest Gold Camp on Earth." Richard "Dick" French, one of the people who found the following review helpful. A true boon of experiences by one who was there. By Yakatony This book is not the best written, since it was the author's first, but it is the very best true accounting of life during the heyday of Cripple Creek and Victor mining towns in Colorado, as experienced by one who was there. This fine lady's writings reflected the prudish (and most admirable) traits of good ladies of the time. As a "dirty old man" I wish it had been written by a man of those times to really see what went on and happened from a man's perspective (the women generally stayed home and tended the house and children, and hardly ever went out at night except during special occasions). She has a sequel (Return to Cripple Creek), but really, her first covered things pretty well. The sequel was important to me only because it put the final days of certain of the prominent old characters in proper (and in one case, surprising) perspective. YAK

Mabel Barbee Lee has written a rousing tale of early days in Cripple Creek, Colorado. She speaks with authority because she arrived there as a child in 1892, and with wide-eyed wonder saw the whole place turn to gold. With his divining rod, Mabel's father tapped gold ore on Beacon Hill but missed becoming a millionaire by selling his claim short. Nonetheless, life was rich for young Mabel in a booming town with points of interest like Poverty Gulch, the Continental Hotel, and a fantastic house called Finn's Folly; with characters around like the promoter Windy Joe and (seen from a distance) the madam Pearl De Vere; with something always going on, whether a celebration or a disastrous fire or train wreck or a no-nonsense miners' strike. Mabel Lee's book brings back a time and place with affection. The foreword is by Lowell Thomas, who was her pupil when she was a young schoolmarm in Cripple Creek.

"One of the most fascinating accounts of a gold rush town." Chicago Sunday Tribune