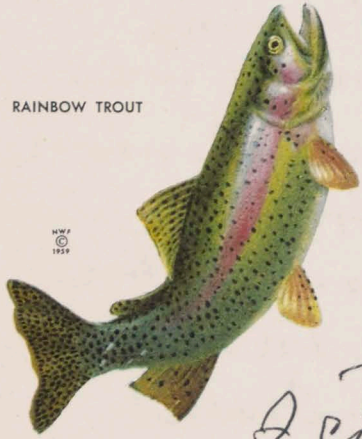


1571 Madrono Ave  
Palo Alto  
California

Jan. 5, 1964

RAINBOW TROUT



Dear Mr Sparks, -  
My son William was fraternity brother of yours and you were his best man at his wedding. I could not be there because of illness. Last February I asked him to find you. I wanted to find you because through <sup>you</sup> I hoped to learn whether John Sparks sons Leland and Benton were still alive. One of them was your father, the other your Uncle. Bill was unable to find you. But a couple of days ago a mutual friend phoned Bill & was sure your address was 1816 Devonshire Road, Sacramento. On this clue I am writing you, I will explain, and I am afraid at some length.

In 1898 I had the good fortune to be one of a number of guests that John Sparks took on a hunting trip, leaving Wells, Nevada with a caravan of about five rigs, a chuck wagon a cook. They made a big circle up through the Sparks-Harrell range over into southern Idaho & back around to Wells, hunting and fishing. Picked up a cavy & a wrango at San Jacinto. All gentle horses. Sparks three sons were along on that trip. Charley, Benton and Leland. I doubt that Leland and Benton would remember me. Leland & Benton were about nine or ten & I was sixteen. That is quite a difference in ages for boy & we paid no attention to each other.

All I was interested in was Sparks. He was not only a great cowman but he looked the tall, rangy but powerful. I followed him around watched his every move. He paid little attention but I was a kid

and he had a lot to do. But I did get out hunting with him a couple of times. He was always kind to me. His third son Charley was a little cripple. Younger, I think than Benton & Charley. I got my first buck on that trip. Sparks took this sort of party out each year. John Sparks was a hard man, you had to be in those days. But a prince royal to his friend. I went on the trips in 1897 and 1898. The last trip was the last time I saw him. Some years after I rode for a few months with the shoe sole outfit. Of the Sparks Harrell Company outfits.

On my Epiz Sparks was just about God. Sparks had sold out & was in process of becoming Governor. Charley died.

Now I'll get to the point. I have a woman friend in Reno. I have known her only since February. Have never seen her. Never expect to. Know her only through correspondence. She is Mrs Nevada in Person. She is a cultured, widely traveled woman many interests. We have one thing in common. We both love Nevada. She was born in Elko County, High school in Elko, two years in Nevada State University. Her name is Velma Thruett her grandfather & all his sons cattlemen in Elko County. She spent four years in research & wrote a book on Cattle & Horse brands in Nevada sent me a copy of of the Centennial number of Nevada State Highway in which she had a story about John Sparks. In this years America Hereford Journal she has a story mostly about Sparks. She thought all of Sparks family were dead. I think there is a chance Benton & Leland are about eighty now. It is very important for her to find them. I do hope you will drop me a note & one to her, I am much indebted in her debt. It has been a honor to know her. Her address

Miss ~~Velma~~ ~~Truett~~ Miss Velma Truett

Sincerely  
Edward C Price

995 Forest Street  
Reno, Nevada 89502

In case my scrawl became  
illegible at the end her address

is

Miss Velma Truett

995 Forest Street

Reno

Nevada 89502

1571 Madrono Ave  
Palo Alto  
Calif



Mr Benton Sparks  
1816 Devonshire Road  
Sacramento  
California

VIA AIR MAIL