Janks papers, Courtesy Thomas Ball, Bland, NM

The Bland Canyon of New Mexico

THE SITE

This historical canyon of beauty has long been a favorite with both local residents and tourists. It has become necessary to close the town of Bland to the public because of the destruction caused by souvenir hunters and picnickers, but I plan to open it as a mountain resort -- not just an ordinary mountain resort, but something more unique, more elaborate, more spectacular than anything yet achieved. I hope to make it a combination Sun Valley, Central City, Virginia City and Tombstone.

ENTERTAINMENT

Besides the sight-seeing of places of natural beauty and historical interest, the entertainment will include skating, skiing, sleigh-riding, coasting, dog-sled derbys, mountain climbing, and other activities in keeping with a Snow Festival.

There will be hunting, fishing, swimming, nutting and berrypicking parties, prospecting trips, treasure hunts and trips through the mine and mill.

ARCHITECTURE

The hotel proper I think I shall call The Bucking Horse Palace. In architecture and interior decoration it will be unique.

I hope to have one dining room of ornate Victorian grandeur, with formal service, while another will be the opposite, patterned like a cow shed, with chuck-wagons serving camp fashion.

The bar will be in the pattern of a horse shoe, with saddles mounted on stools and tables set in horse stalls. Decoration will be in keeping - pictures of famous horses framed in horse collars, horse blankets, horse shoes, etc.

FINANCE

I own eighteen patented mines and buildings, including a mill. These are paid for. I hope, through my various writings, to raise

enough money to re-open the mines, which I believe will finance the project.

HOTIVE

My motive in engineering this enterprise is not for personal gain. I plan to make it a non-profit venture called the Bland Canyon Foundation. The money obtained from paying guests I will use to take in Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, veterans and, if possible, Salvation Army workers and others devoting their lives to service. It is my hope to make the aurora of the place such that all who come here will not only find physical relexation and strength, but a soul-cleaning and a renewal of spiritual energy.