

PANDO SCHOOL Y.C.L, SCRAPBOOKS COLLECTION – 2.0 LINEAR FEET

ABSTRACT

Pando, Colorado is located in Eagle County 6 miles east of the boom-and-bust mining town of Red Cliff, west of Mount of the Holy Cross, and north of infamous World War II Camp Hale in White River National Forest. The name “pando” is Spanish for ‘slow of motion, as applied to deep waters’, referring to the Eagle River that flows nearby, but there are many ideas as to where and why it was named this. There is some debate over the name and time frame of Pando: many say that the Denver Rio Grande rail station was named Pando and therefore became a town. However, the railroad did not arrive until 1887, but Pando was named as early as 1880 in other historical documents.

By the 1900s, Pando was referred to as a “settlement” and the settlement itself was at the northern end of the Pando Valley. Pando’s main business was the ice harvest, where as much as 40,000 tons of ice could be shipped from the ponds. Ice was shipped to early pioneer communities and also provided cooling for produce shipped out of the valley on ART cars, or American Refrigerator Transit company cars. Many early photographs of train derailments in the area are ice trains coming from Pando and Red Cliff to the towns in the lower valley.

As early as 1910, there are reports in the *Eagle County Blade* (Red Cliff) concerning more construction and development at the town site of Pando. Pando was known for its ice harvests and lettuce crops, but growth and population grew with the construction and operation of Camp Hale, which was a mountain training center for soldiers during World War II. Pando as a town and settlement dwindled with the absence of Camp Hale as more people moved down valley. The area is still open to recreation.

YCL groups began meeting in Eagle County in 1939 in Gypsum and Eagle. The Pando Victory School chapter of Young Citizens League (Y.C.L.) was organized in Pando in 1943 and received its official chapter in 1944. Some contents reflect the wartime attitudes and efforts, with many projects and donations focused on the armed forces abroad.

SCOPE & CONTENT

The scrapbooks were created by Victory School Young Citizens League (Y.C.L.) Chapter. Each book has a homemade, hinged cover and most pages are handwritten and/or hand drawn. There are four scrapbooks total, all created by students and teachers of the school.

Contents include issues of the “Pando Mountain Ear” school newsletter; student photographs and drawings; projects and donations currently in progress; names of leaders and students involved; war bonds; history of Pando and the school; among other topics.

No donation or donor information is available concerning this collection. The yearbooks were grouped together to create an artificial collection because of their similar content.

BOX FD

- 1 “Our School Presented by Victory YCL Pando School” circa 1945
- 2 Scrapbook – “Conservation in Colorado” by Victory YCL Pando School
 Contains photographs of Pando and the Eagle Valley, circa 1950
- 3 Scrapbook – “Conservation Presented by the Victory YCL Pando School” n.d.
 Scrapbook – Pando School Project. Drawings, photographs, n.d.