

of the Craig Empire Aug 30th
An Open Letter to Mr. Boettcher 1916

Mr. Boettcher: You are president of a great railroad company, and as president of that company there are, perhaps, a number of matters along your line of which you probably are not as familiar as you might be. This open letter is to acquaint you with a matter that is of serious import to the citizens of Craig and of those of Moffat county at large.

Do you realize that Craig is one of the fastest growing towns in Northwestern Colorado; that during the last year we have installed a water works system that cost \$53,500; a sewer system just installed at a cost of \$37,000; a \$30,000 county high school, the completion of which will occur within the next two weeks; that the board of trustees of the town of Craig are about to grant a franchise for the installation of a modern electric light plant; that the taxpaying electors of Moffat county will, at the November election, vote upon the question of issuing \$40,000 in bonds for the erection of a county court house and that there is no question but that the bond issue will carry; that during the last year there have been more than fifty new homes erected in Craig and that new ones are being erected every day in the week and every week in each month; that Moffat county is one of the greatest agricultural and stockraising counties in Colorado; that settlers are arriving here on every train with the idea of becoming permanent residents of this county; that C. G. Cowgill, a harness, boot and shoe manufacturer, is just completing a \$10,000 brick building in Craig; that the First National bank corporation has under construction a \$35,000 office and store building; that Homer Heighter & Son have just completed a \$5,000 automobile garage; that John S. Ledford has just erected for the Chamberlain-Gray Drug company a \$5,000 store building; that the many progressive citizens of Craig have and are spending their money in this town for the town's benefit and, Mr. Boettcher, do you realize that the patrons of your road are obliged to tell strangers when they come to this town and county that the only kind of a depot that the Moffat road can afford in this town is a box car of the vintage of the long ago; that a box car depot is a fearful drawback to a town so progressive as Craig; that if you would authorize the erection of a modern, two-story pressed brick depot in Craig the citizens of this town would be happy indeed? Do you realize, Mr. Boettcher, that if we had a decent depot that new people coming in here would have greater faith in our town and would be more willing to invest in Craig and Moffat county real estate?

We need a depot, Mr. Boettcher, and we need it badly. The present depot is a disgrace to the town and the Empire believes that you realize this to be a fact. A great many of the citizens of this town have petitioned to you for a depot, Mr. Boettcher, and the Empire hopes you will not turn a deaf ear to their request. Will you give us a depot, Mr. Boettcher?



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