I have just completed rereading a favorite book that I would like to recommend to all readers of *Soil Survey Horizons*. Perhaps you are familiar with the book *Crisscross Trails* by Macy H. Lapham. Macy published the book in 1949 and recounts his travels and work with the Bureau of Soils as a soil scientist in the western United States from 1899 until his retirement in 1945. In the words of C.E. Kellogg, as written in the foreword of the book:

*Macy writes simply about places and people. Yet, little by little he tells us a lot about soils and the plants that grow on them, and about farms, and mountains, and deserts, and deep forests. Above all, he tells us good stories that involve hundreds of people all the way from camp boys to Secretaries of agriculture, from bindle stiffs to college presidents. The stories are never mean or cynical, but good fun.*

Used copies can be found at very reasonable prices online. The book was published by Willis E. Berg, 1512 Spruce St., Berkeley 9 California and copyrighted by Macy H. Lapham, 1949. The 246-page book follows his travels as a soil surveyor in the western states through the era of Whitney, Marbut, and Kellogg, with interesting and informative insights into the evolution of soil science from the early days through the introduction of soil genesis concepts of Dokuchaev.

Macy describes many personal experiences with Marbut, Hilgard, Kellogg, and many others in the field. There are 32 photos of people, land forms, vegetation, and incidents encountered. Most of all it is a delightful account of the daily experiences of a soil scientist (mapper) in the era of plane tables, horses, mules, trains and model T's as Macy traveled about in mobile surveys and later as an inspector (correlator) in the cities, towns and back country of the west from 1899 to 1945. I'm certain that many soil scientists who today work with computers, GIS, and aerial photos will delight in the personal accounts of field camps, narrow-gauge railroads, flat tires, and buggies as it was in the "old days" so vividly presented via the excellent and entertaining writing of Macy Lapham, truly a field soil scientists' soil scientist.