

# WEST WORD

MAY 1999

## The Florissant Fossil Beds

The May program will be at the History Center and will be a presentation on the Florissant Fossil Beds. The Superintendent of this historic National Monument will present this program. The fossil beds are of great scientific importance. The area was first surveyed by F. V. Hayden's Survey team in 1874. From this survey, it was determined that the fossils were attributed to the Oligocene Epoch, which occurred approximately 40 million years ago. At Florissant, a lake formed when flows of lava dammed a mountain valley. Curved like a crescent, the lake was 12 miles long and two miles wide. Over time, the volcanoes filled the air with volcanic ash. Carried by the wind, some of the ash fell on Lake Florissant, bringing down thousands of insects, killing fish, and burying leaves and wood. All of this became fossilized under nearly ideal conditions, with even the delicate tracery of wings and leaves preserved.

In 1887, geologists spent the entire summer assembling a large collection of fossil insects. This activity attracted world-wide attention due to the discovery of these new

insect fossils. The Denver Post published an article about this event and called it the most remarkable fossil collection in the entire world.

In 1915, there was a movement that urged action by the Federal Government to protect this area for research and future generations to enjoy. It was not until 1969 that safeguards were put into place and at that time it was designated as a National Monument. Unfortunately, over the past 50 years, a significant number of commercial ventures had occurred on the property and many of them did not focus on the importance of preservation. This "damage" has been contained and the Fossil Beds are now protected for present and future generations to enjoy.

Plan now to be present at the May meeting and learn more about this world renowned park. The History Center will open its doors at 10:00 A.M. for visitation and refreshments. Our meeting and election to the Board of Directors will begin at 11:00 A.M. Our program will begin after the voting has been completed.

*April's OCCHS Program*

### Colorado Railroads

*with George M. White*

The April Monthly Meeting & Program was held at the History Center on Friday, April 9th. The guest speaker for the meeting was OCCHS member George M. White, a well-know local historian, who gave a lecture and slide show on the Colorado railroads. Mr. White's presentation focused on each of the railroads that were prevalent in this area over the past 100 years. His talk, supported by slides of original pictures, took the audience on a trip along the route of each railroad. His knowledge about each of the railroads and the history made each of the stories very interesting. The meeting was attended by about 55 members and guests. George has also been gracious to us by allowing us to put his reminenses on video tape during several interview sessions. Thank you, George.

## IMPORTANT

DATED ELECTION  
INFORMATION  
INSIDE THAT WILL  
REQUIRE YOUR  
IMMEDIATE  
ATTENTION!

## Old Colorado City Historical Society

1 South 24th Street Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3319  
(719)636-1225

# WEST WORD

VOLUME 14 May 1999 NUMBER 3

PUBLISHED THE FIRST OF ALMOST EVERY MONTH BY THE  
OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
A NONPROFIT CORPORATION  
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LETTERS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ARTICLES AND STORIES CAN BE DELIVERED TO THE  
OCCHS HISTORY CENTER OR MAILED TO THE EDITOR.

PAUL IDLEMAN c/o OCCHS  
1 South 24th Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3319

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THE 15th DAY OF EACH MONTH.

### MISSION

*The Old Colorado City Historical Society was formed to maintain the memory of Colorado City (1859-1917), to encourage research, preserve pictures, and keep alive the unique culture and spirit of West Side Colorado Springs through education of children and the community and through the eventual establishment of a History Center at One South 24th Street.*

### MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships are welcome at any time. Renewal Memberships are due on the anniversary date of the initial membership. Members receive the *West Word* newsletter, discounts, local meetings and programs.

Annual memberships classifications are as follows:

Individual .....	\$20	Business .....	\$50
Family .....	\$25	Corporate .....	\$250

Funds from a Lifetime Membership are placed into a Perpetuity/Endowment Fund to be used only for projects which have been approved by two-thirds of the membership. Only the interest will be used for current expenses. We welcome gifts to this fund, which will be credited to the donor or as a memorial.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Robert Heinrich .....	448-9001
Vice President	Dave Hughes .....	636-2040
Secretary	Betsy Evans .....	635-4782
Treasurer	Don Kallaus .....	630-0322
	Beverley Discb .....	634-5023
	Jack Ekstrom .....	473-7515
	Gordon Gray .....	630-8238
	Jerry Jekel .....	380-7010
	Agnes Johnson .....	633-8040
	Mel McFarland .....	533-1311
	Jim Travis .....	636-1576

### MEETINGS

OCCHS Monthly Meeting & Program is held at 11:00 a.m. on the second Friday of each month, except during June, July and August. The History Center opens at 10:00 a.m. on the day of each Monthly Meeting & Program for refreshments and visitation. The program will begin at 11:00 a.m. The OCCHS Monthly Meeting & Program is free and open to the public

Next General Meeting  
September 1999  
at the History Center

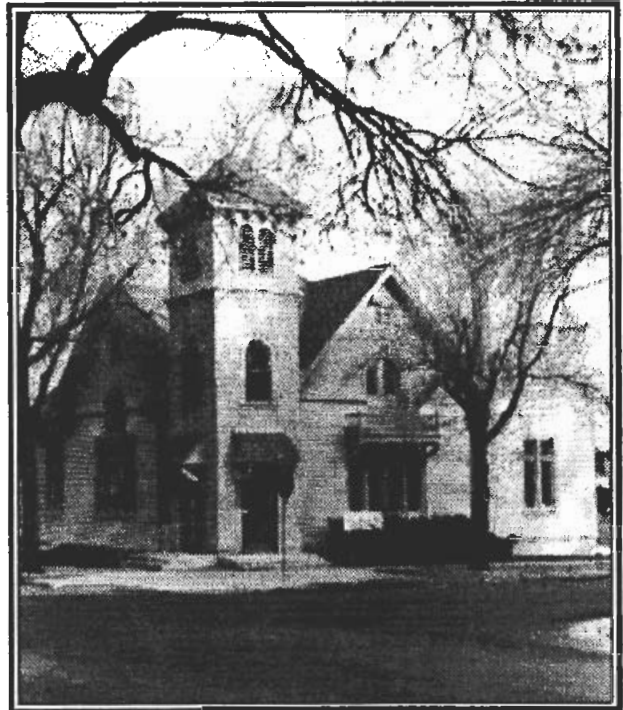


photo by Don Kallaus

Explore the REAL History!

at the

## OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORY CENTER

1 South 24th Street

(the corner of Pikes Peak & 24th Street)

(719)636-1225

### FREE ADMISSION

OPEN TUESDAY THRU SUNDAY

#### Winter Hours

11:00 a.m. TO 4:00 p.m.

CLOSED MONDAYS

Book & Gift Shop

Visit our web site for even more history!

<http://history.oldecolo.com>

stories  
documents  
manuscripts  
photographs  
interviews  
biographies  
events

We're adding more all the time.  
e-mail us at: [history@oldcolo.com](mailto:history@oldcolo.com)

The OCCHS website is co sponsored by  
The National Science Foundation & El Pomar Foundation

# MAILBOX

**Dear OCCHS,**

Some time ago, a friend in Colorado Springs sent me a copy of the November 1995 issue of the *West Word*, Old Colorado City Historical Society. The featured article concerned Jane Root Quinby and ended with the hope of locating present day descendants of Rodney and Jane Root Quinby. I sent the article to Mary Jane Quinby Fonda in Broomfield Hills, Michigan, in hopes that she would contact you. In updating my Quinby file this week, I came across the article again and determined that I must send you Mary Jane's address, just in case she hadn't contacted you. Her great grandfather, Rodney Quinby, was the younger brother of my great grandfather, Ivory Quinby I. The *West Word* article was quite accurate, telling me several things I hadn't known.

The family name of Rodney has been passed down through the generations to today. If I can be of any help in your research, please let me know.

Jane Quinby Lowell

*Thank you, Jane for writing us this letter. Jan Knox, the author of the article you made reference to, was very excited when we showed her your letter. Jan continues to research Jane and Rodney Quinby and will be contacting both you and Mary Jane to exchange information. Jane Root Quinby was the donor of the property for the First Baptist Church of Colorado City, now the home of our History Center.*

**Dear OCCHS,**

I visited your web site today for the first time and was so happy to see some photos of the Ute Pass area.

You did put me in a bit of a panic though. I have been living in Chipita Park for the last three or four years and have spelled it differently than you. I thought that all that time I had been spelling it wrong but after a bit of research the mistake seems to be on your web page.

Tina B.

*Thank you for visiting our web site Tina and also for the information on the correct spelling of Chipita Park. We have passed your e-mail on to the folks that maintain our web site. I am sure they also do some quick research and then make the necessary corrections.*

**Dear OCCHS,**

Hello, my name is Tom Whitsitt. I live in Marysville, Michigan. I was searching for Whitsitts on the internet when I happened across your site. I see a man named Richard Whitsitt was an early settler in your area. I was wondering if I could get any information about him. I was given a ring by my grandmother, who said it had been passed down from past fathers in the Whitsitts from a Whitsitt who went out west for a few years before coming back to Canada where we were from. The ring is gold and

has a letter "R" on it. I was told it was from the 1850's. If I could get any information on this, it would be great.

Tom Whitsitt

*Tom, thank you for your e-mail and we have passed your request onto one of our researchers, who will respond to you. We have an extensive library and I am sure we can find information about your relative.*

**Dear OCCHS,**

I am conducting genealogical research regarding my Great Grandmother, Frona McKnight. My records indicate that she gave birth at the "Bennett Building" in 1919.

Can you tell me anything about this location?

Margo Weiss  
Margo65@aol.com

*Thank you Margo for writing us and we are passing your e-mail on to one of our researchers to respond to you. As you continue your genealogical research, please contact us again. Our library contains a significant amount of history of "Old" Colorado City.*

**Dear OCCHS,**

My great-grandparents were married on September 4, 1891, in the Alamo Hotel. Is it still standing? If so, what does it house now? If not, when was it destroyed, torn down, etc? Also, what address was it located at then (and now if street names and numbers have changed?)

Thank you for whatever information you can give me.

Judy Jenner  
jenr@oregontrail.net

*(Paul Idleman responded: The Alamo Hotel building is still standing. It now houses a steak house restaurant and offices. It is located on Tejon Street just northwest of the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum. Hope this helps answer your question.)*

**Dear OCCHS,**

Hello, I am interested in finding out some information on some photographs that I have. The series is called the Clear Creek Series. On the front of these, it has the name of Collier's Rocky Mountain Scenery. If you have any information regarding these pictures, I would greatly appreciate hearing from you.

Debbie  
lairsinlv@worldnet.att.net

*Debbie, thank you for your e-mail. We have an extensive photograph collection at the Society. Collier's scenery series and many others put out by railroads, hotels and publishing companies gave people back East the yearn to see the wonders of the West. Maybe some of our members can help provide more information about the Clear Creek Series for you.*

## From Our President

### *Building Our Endowment*

We all know that Luther McKnight gave us the necessary funds to purchase our building and start an endowment fund. The fund has grown slowly through the purchase of bricks in the patio and through life memberships. The endowment is now about \$58,200. The interest from the endowment contributes to the operation of the History Center. The endowment itself can be used only with a two-thirds vote of the entire membership. This is as it should be. The endowment should be used solely as an income producer. In order to insure the continued existence of the Center, we must increase income and that means increasing the endowment.

Based on two years experience, the Board estimates that \$20,000 a year would pay for basic operating expenses, including a half-time director. The income from an endowment of \$400,000 would cover our basic needs. How do we make the seemingly giant leap from \$52,200 to \$400,000? We will continue to sell patio bricks at \$100 each. But we need to set our goals higher. I would like to suggest some vehicles the membership can use to help the Society reach the goal of \$400,000.

Monetary donations dedicated to the endowment are an immediate help and are tax deductible. Another way of immediately increasing the fund is by donation of stock. You may be holding stock that has appreciated significantly in value but its sale would result in a stiff capital gains tax. Donation of the stock to the Society will give you a sizable deduction on your income tax. Of course, we will accept any stock regardless of appreciation.

You may mention the Society in your will. Many of us are getting to the age when we start thinking of the final disposition of our assets. If you have had a commitment to the Society you will want to help insure its continuance by willing part of your estate to the endowment.

A charitable remainder trust is another vehicle you might consider. The trust is created immediately by committing a sum of money with a charitable organization as the beneficiary and you will continue to receive the income from the money in the trust with the principal going to the Society when you pass on. Of course, if you do not need it, the income from the trust can go directly into the endowment. Charitable remainder trusts are becoming very popular among those who have done well during these very prosperous times.

If you are at all interested in any or all of the above, I suggest you talk to your financial advisor or attorney. If you prefer, we do have knowledgeable people available to help you on a firm confidential basis. But do think about how you might be able to help the Society reach its goal.

*Bob Heinich*

## For Your Interest

### *Betsy Evans Heads Book & Gift Shop*

OCCHS member Betsy Evans has been selected by the Board of Directors to serve as Manager of the History Center Book & Gift Shop and chairperson for that committee. She takes over the position from Thelma Williams who has decided to leave.

Thelma Williams did an outstanding job as our first manager for over a year. She has gone to buying shows and met with merchandise and book representatives to stock our Book & Gift Shop with a successful line of inventory. She not only succeeded in building a thriving shop, she also was able to turn over \$1600 to our General Fund after her first year of management. Now that the Book & Gift Shop is well-stocked and running smoothly, Thelma has decided to take more time to pursue her many enjoyments. OCCHS owes a great deal of gratitude to Thelma for her hard work and expertise. Thank you, Thelma.

Betsy Evans has been working closely with Thelma for months to prepare for her new duties. She's actually been working double-time since she's also our Secretary on the Board of Directors and our Book Accessioning Chair. Betsy has many plans for the shop.

We always need volunteers to staff our Book & Gift Shop. We are also planning to have a second volunteer to serve as docent during business hours for the summer. If you are able to occasionally or regularly donate a few hours of your time, please call our Volunteer Coordinator, Bev Disch, at 634-5023. We are also working on volunteer training sessions to help our volunteers with knowing our operations and Old Colorado City history.

### *Betty Magninie Crunches Numbers*

OCCHS member Betty Magninie has been appointed by the Board of Directors as our in-house bookkeeper to handle the day-to-day accounting for the History Center. Betty has a great deal of business experience and has volunteered her services. OCCHS has been using Judy Kasten Accounting for our bookkeeping, accounting and tax preparation services since opening the History Center. Betty will now handle our daily accounting and prepare timely reports for the Board of Directors. She will also handle our quarterly sales tax filings.

Our Board of Directors and our Director, Paul Idleman, have closely followed and complied with the yearly budget since opening in 1997. We recently experienced several unexpected repair costs when a furnace motor froze and our main circuit breaker burnt out on our 100-amp electrical system. It also appears that our outside trim paint will need re-painting this summer. While we didn't expect problems this soon after opening, it appears necessary to keep a close watch on our repairs and maintenance budget. With the addition of Betty Magninie's donated time and expertise, our Board will be able closely monitor our finances as emergencies occur. Thank you, Betty, for your wonderful gift to us.

### **Help With Springs 2000**

Beginning December 31, 1999, Colorado Springs will kick off a year long celebration of the new century. All during the year 2000, there will be daily, weekly, and monthly events, which are being planned to include many, if not all, of the citizens of Colorado Springs. The Springs 2000 Commission is organized into 15 sector committees who are working hard to plan this event. Some of these committees are sports, religion, education, arts, parks and recreation, media, and history. OCCHS has submitted a project to the commission for their approval. The project will be called *Celebrate the Millennium* and will consist of three separate events. The first event will be known as *Preserving the Past* and will involve the elementary school children. We plan to have a contest and reward the children for items that are selected to be included in a time capsule to be buried in the OCCHS patio area. The second event will be the *100 Years Ago* exhibit in the museum. This exhibit will depict historic items and will be changed each quarter during 2000. The third event will be a new page on our web site that will be labeled *Reliving the Century* and will consist of pictures and narratives of the 1900s.

We need volunteers to help us plan and design the events for this important project. It is our goal to have exhibits in 2000 that will make us proud to be involved with the Old Colorado City Historical Society. Please call Gordon at 719-630-8238 if you can help in any way. Thanks in Advance for your Support!!!

Gordon Gray

### **Thank You, 59er's**

Old Colorado City Historical Society recently was the recipient of a check for \$100 from the 59er's. The donation represents half of the net proceeds from the 59er's first membership banquet.

The 59er's is an adjunct organization formed to support the Old Colorado City Historical Society in their efforts to preserve the early heritage of the Pikes Peak area and the Pikes Peak Historical Railway Foundation to support their restoration of Colorado Springs & Interurban Railway trolley No. 59 and other historically related projects. The 59er's provides support through educational, social, and financial activities.

There are a total of 100 memberships in the 59er's, which can include immediate family members. Dues are \$100 per year. The 59er's offers quarterly annual meetings with topical speakers, walking tours, excursions, picnics and the opportunity to work on projects furthering the mission of the organization. If you are interested in becoming a member of the 59er's or wish further information, contact Carolyn D'Autremont at 292-1841.

Thank you, 59er's, for your generous support!

### **Don Kallaus' Dedicated Service**

OCCHS Treasurer Don Kallaus has uncovered a financial windfall for the society that will save us over \$170 a month.

Our previous insurance policy covering our building and contents was purchased before the History Center opened with a monthly premium of about \$200. Several months ago, our premium jumped up to about \$250. When Don called our previous company to inquire about the increase, he was told that we had been paying too little from the beginning. They said the new rate was the accurate amount that we should have been paying all along. Our previous policy had been purchased by an OCCHS member who had retired from a career in the insurance field, so we had no reason to question the amount.

Don started checking into other companies and located a highly rated and respected company that is giving us the same coverage with the same deductible, plus a new rider for our computer equipment, for a cost of under \$80 per month. This windfall, along with the recent grant we've received from the Edmondson Foundation insures that our general expenses (utilities, phone, security, etc.) are covered through the Summer of 2000. Without Don's dedication and diligence, this over 300% error might have been discovered much later.

Don is seeking re-election to our Board of Directors. He does not plan to seek the Treasurer's office again, instead devoting more of his time to our Jim Bates Darkroom. Don has been the major force in our acquiring and implementing our darkroom and it is already proving itself to a major benefit to our History Center. Thanks, Don, for your hard work.

### **Garden of Memories**

The 5th Garden of Memories will be planted at Evergreen Cemetery early this Spring. The Garden of Memories is located next to the historic stone chapel just inside the cemetery gates. Each year the Garden is planted with hundreds of annual flowers purchased by citizens in order to honor deceased friends and family.

For only a ten dollar donation proceeds go to plant the garden, be listed in the Memories book, a balloon release and fund historical restorations in the cemeteries. At 1:30 PM on May 30th near the old chapel the annual celebration will feature Linda Womack, a distant relative of Bob Womack and a Colorado native, who will give a presentation on her latest book, **From the Grave, A Roadside Guide to Colorado's Pioneer Cemeteries**. Womack has published several books and written numerous articles about Colorado history. She also helped with the City's Cemetery Book, **Here Lies Colorado Springs**.

### **Educating The Children**

OCCHS has been busy educating the schools and the children. On Tuesday, May 18th, seven volunteers will present a "mini" Fairview Cemetery Crawl for the entire 8th grade at West Middle School. Two classes from Howbert Elementary will tour our museum and get a historic district walking tour from Bev Disch and Jean Christopher on May 20th. Paul Idleman continues to lecture at many schools. Dozens of classes have already held field trips to the History Center.

# WEST SIDE MEMORIES

## TURNING BACK THE CLOCK ON LOCAL EVENTS

compiled by Jan Knox

### ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO Winter 1874

¶ When the addition to the Methodist Church is completed, the building will seat about 100 more persons than formerly. We understand that the additional accommodation is likely to be fully occupied at once. Owing to the work of enlargement, there will be no services there tomorrow  
1/24 *The Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The members of the Chameleon Club advertise a Musical and Dramatic Entertainment for Tuesday evening next, in Wanless Hall, when, in addition to other attractive features, will be presented the laughable farce, "More Blunders than One." The success of the former entertainments leaves no doubt that there will be a crowded house. 2/7 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The Town Tax Collector publishes his "Last Notice." Let all men take heed. 2/7 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ Mr. S. E. Sessions advertises the Lime-stone Quarry and two Lime-Kilns, in Williams' Canon, for sale. This is a valuable property, and offers a good investment. 2/7 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ Mr. Kuhn has taken a Stereoscopic picture of Mr. Glover's Birds-eye View of Colorado Springs. This gives the View in a handy form for sending to distant friends, and Mr. Kuhn will doubtless have a large demand for the pictures. 2/14 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The charter of the "Colorado College" has been filed with the County Recorder during the week. The following are the Trustees: Richard C. Bristol; J. M. Sturtevant, jr.; Edward B. Tuthill; Washington McClintock; Theo. C. Jerome; Wm. S. Jackson; Thomas N. Haskell. 2/21 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ Petty thieving is quite common, and it behooves our citizens to look after their loose property. Hen-roosts are being robbed, workmen's tools carried off, and so forth. We have some people round who are too lazy to work, and yet think that they must live. The calaboose is the proper residence for such folk, and we hope that our Constable will look after the; Chapter XVIII of the Ordinances might be brought to bear on some of them. There are some lads, too, who make a business of prowling round back yards and who should have attention. 2/21 *The Colorado Springs Gazette*

### ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO Winter 1899

¶ Mr. J. P. Hindron has moved his barber shop into the room on Colorado Avenue formerly occupied by Mr. J. J. Guth, who is now engaged in the Cripple Creek district.  
1/12 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ Mr. Isaac Kissell has gone to Cripple Creek to assume the temporary managership of the property known as the school section N. 7, which is leased by a company in this city.  
1/15 *Colorado City Iris*

¶ Mr. Percy Dunn has come home to stay. He enlisted in the Seventh regiment at Fort Logan, when the late war broke out, when to Cuba and endured the hardships of a long and severe campaign and the untold horrors of yellow fever. After the war he came home, but after a furlough, he returned to his regiment now stationed in Michigan. He has since then received a most honorable discharge and returned home to resume the role of a citizen. He brought with him several very interesting relics which he collected during his stay in Cuba. 1/15 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ Messrs. John Gray, C. T. Gleason and James Stewart will leave today for an extensive wolf hunt. They will spend about two days in the vicinity of what is known as Red mountain.  
2/7 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ A delightful surprise party was tendered Miss Katie Guth last Tuesday evening. The event was not a complete surprise but the merry crowd of young people made the most of the occasion and a most enjoyable evening was the outcome. Refreshments were served during the evening. Among those present were: Misses Ethel Allen, Gertrude Musser, Emma Sonnickson, Amelia Madel, Blanche Kendall, Maude Kemp, Eva Prine, Mattie McHargue, Pearl Johnson, Katie Guth, Messrs. Floyd Slutter, Dean Allen, Thos. Case, Robert Schroeder, Ray Jackson, Cecil Slutter, William Brown, and Arthur Langdon.  
2/8 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The Baptist and Methodist churches held union service with the Christian church Sunday evening. Rev. J. P. Lucas preached on the "Four Sad Evils of Our City."  
2/14 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ Yesterday was pay day at the Colorado Midland shops and the Colorado Philadelphia Reduction works. There was some little uneasiness yesterday morning among the railroad shopmen on account of not receiving their checks in the morning as usual. The pay car, which should have arrived in this city in the morning, did not come until afternoon, and consequently the men did not receive their checks at the usual time.  
2/16 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The Liberty band, a popular musical organization of young men of this city are completing the arrangements for the grand ball to be given Thursday evening in Miller hall.  
2/14 *Colorado Springs Gazette*



# WESTSIDE MEMORIES

## SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Winter 1924

¶ Due to the cold weather, the attendance at the watch night service held in the Trinity M.E. church by all West Side churches Monday evening was very small, and all the further union services planned for the week, save a union prayer meeting Wednesday evening, has been indefinitely postponed.

*1/4 Colorado Springs Independent*

¶ Miss Lola Huffman and Mr. George Trichak were quietly married New Year's eve at the Sacred Heart church parsonage by Father L. F. Hagus at 12 o'clock midnight. The ceremony started just a few minutes before the midnight hour, and ended as the whistles and bells announced the New Year. Those present were Miss Eleanor Nichols, Mr. Nels Peterson and the immediate families. The happy couple departed shortly after the ceremony for Chicago, where they will make their home. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Huffman, and has assisted her parents in the Bon Ton Bakery. The groom is a rapidly rising employee of the Western Electric company of Chicago. He grew up in this city.

*1/4 Colorado Springs Independent*

¶ James A. Trout, aged seventy-one years, died at the family home, 713 South Twenty-Fifth street, early Friday morning, after a long illness. The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Sunday in Bethany Baptist church, with burial in Fairview cemetery, in charge of Blunt & Son. Mrs. Trout is the only survivor. "Jim" Trout, as he was well-known, was a pioneer of Colorado City. For over thirty-five years he and Mrs. Trout resided on the south side. For a great many years, he was in the employ of the street department of Colorado City. It is doubtful if any man served the city longer than he.

*1/4 Colorado Springs Independent*

¶ BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH  
Next Sunday evening, we are to have a

rare treat in our church. Dr. Thomas Moody and wife from Africa are to be with us. They are royal entertainers, excellent characters and very able speakers. Be sure to hear them. All seats are free. Next Wednesday evening will occur our annual meeting, which will begin promptly at 6:30, with a chicken supper. All members are urged to be present and answer to the roll call. The pastor wishes to express his appreciation and gratitude to the Ladies' Aid society for the fine turkey which came up for the Christmas dinner of himself and family.

*1/4 Colorado Springs Independent*

## FIFTY YEARS AGO

Winter 1949

¶ When the state highway department rebuilt the West Colorado avenue pavement during last summer, it was the best job to date. This is between the outside cement paving, being where the street car tracks formerly were. For years, the asphalt paving was repaired repeatedly each year. The state highway department has charge of Colorado avenue between the west city limits, near the old standard mill crossing, and the East Manitou Springs city limits. West Colorado avenue is one of the busy thoroughfares of the region. Because of this condition, the pavement should be in good condition, which it has been since the last time it was rebuilt.

*1/6 Colorado Springs Independent*

¶ A committee of the West Side Commercial club is conferring with residents of Manitou Springs, Cascade and Green Mountain Falls to obtain their reaction to its plan to have the right of way of the Midland Terminal railroad, when the railroad is abandoned, taken over, if possible, for an additional highway between Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek. The members of this committee are John Bock, Don O'Regan and M. Crocker. What is desired, if it can be brought about, members of the club said, is to have the state acquire the

right of way and construct a highway on it. This would make a double highway between Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek and what the club wants is one way traffic on each road. It is pointed out that the grades on the railway are as good for automobile traffic as those on the highway, if not better. The club will meet in January and a report from the committee is to be made at that time. How Manitou Springs would feel about the subject is one of the chief points. Highway 24 extends through Manitou Springs on the main street of the town, Manitou Ave. The Midland Terminal right of way is high up on a hill back of the school building.

*1/3 Colorado Springs Independent*

¶ It won't be long now until the toots of the Midland Terminal engine will be heard no more. The closing of the road is set for February 20, the date demolition is planned to start. Then for the first time in over half a century the Cripple Creek mining district will be without a railroad. Formerly there were three, Florence and Cripple Creek narrow gauge, Midland Terminal and Short Line. About 40 years ago, the late Tom Wilson, a regional newspaper man for a great many years, published a paper in Victor. Because the Midland Terminal railroad management would do no advertising in his paper, he called the *Midland Terrible*, which was never really forgotten. Tom published the *Pikes Peak Daily News* on the summit of the historic mountain during the tourist season for many years. He published *Public Opinion* over town several years. He also published a paper in Fowler in the Arkansas Valley.

*1/20 Colorado Springs Independent*

¶ The farewell Midland Terminal railroad passengers train to the Cripple Creek mining district last week was in old hands. The conductor was J. L. O'Connell and engineer, Clyde H. Prosser, the former 40 years with the road and the latter the oldest in point of service with the company since 1908.

*2/3 Colorado Springs Independent*