

FEBRUARY 2000

OUR OWN STORIES

My Family Home on Corley Road

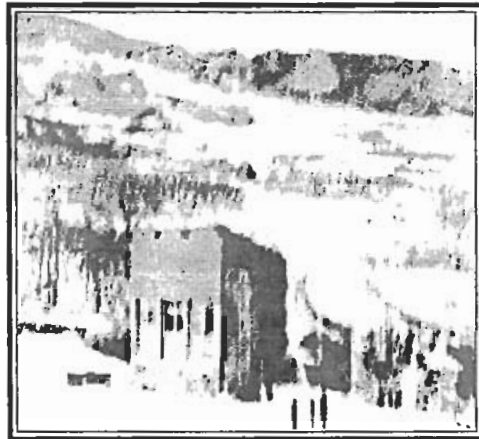
by Don Ellis

It's just possible that I spent more time in the El Paso County Court House than any three year old before or since.

When I was three, we lived in a house at 319 East Caramillo which my uncle Hugh had bought for \$1000 as an investment and was renting to us. My parents wanted to build their own house in the country close to town. So, my mother and I spent a lot of time in the Court House looking at maps of land that the county owned which we might be able to buy. My mother had her maps. I was fascinated by the maps and wanted my own. So, I drew my maps in crayon on the wall at home. Bad idea! Finally, my mother found the right piece of land. It was three acres on the Corley road two miles south of Colorado Avenue by 26th Street.

In April of 1944, the county accepted my parents' bid for the property: "... And whereas, Lucile E. Ellis and William E. Ellis bid for said property \$100., which bid being the highest and best bid for cash and being more than the appraisal value made by the County Assessor of said property for this year, was accepted by the Board of County Commissioners of said County of El Paso".

That summer my father built a small shed for his tools. (I later found that the tool shed also housed a hidden bottle of whiskey.) Then, he bought a "house on wheels", which was a



My father's tool shed - built in 1944.

six foot by twelve foot shingle structure built on a Ford chassis with wooden-spoked wheels. And, we became Westsiders. We had a bunk bed across the south end of the "house", a wood stove in the northeast corner by the front door, and a dining table between. My mother built a shed along the east side of the "house" to store her things.

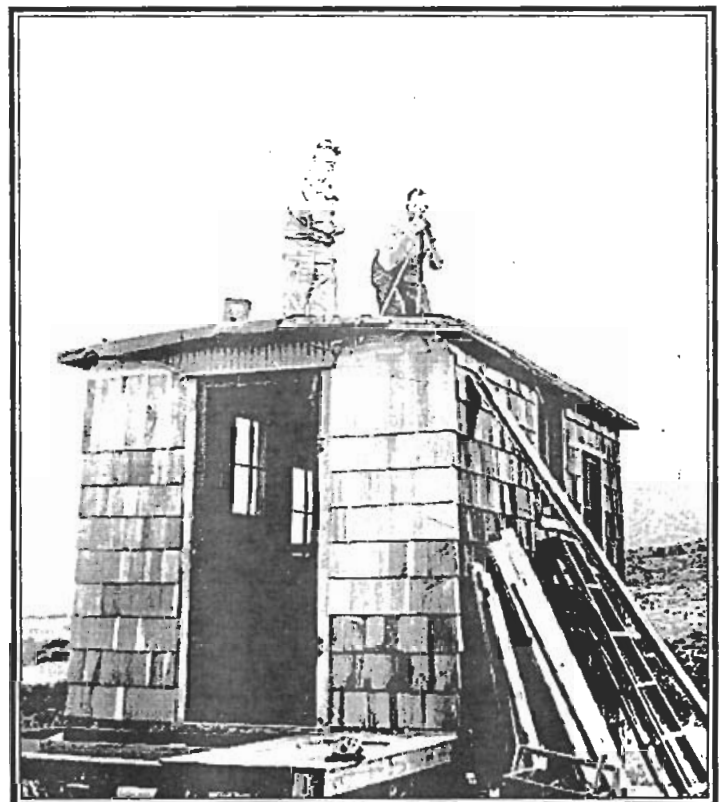
Next came a load of reclaimed bricks which I think may have cost as much as 2 cents apiece, many drawings of the future house, and a building permit. The

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Hedy Lamar

The legendary actress and co-inventor of the technology used by the History Center's website died on January 19th in Orlando, Florida.

See Page 10



Our house on wheels — 1944.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the past month, we experienced something that many of our ancestors never did. Our lives spanned two centuries. Whether or not you believe that the century began on 1-1-2000 or will begin on 1-1-2001, this event was well planned and celebrated worldwide and I cannot imagine that anyone did not know what was occurring. I wonder how the turn of the 20th century was celebrated? It had to be very different without television, communications capabilities, air travel, and many of the other things that we take for granted each day. Did you do something memorable at the turn of the 21st century? Are you making a record of this event for your ancestors to enjoy? Have you created a memory box and put into it a collection of things that were specific to the occasion? Well it isn't too late to start your memory box and put into it a collection of items that will be interesting to future generations. You don't have to bury the box but just keep it somewhere in a safe place. As a historian and genealogist, I have often wished that my ancestors, who were living in 1899-1900, had made a written record of what their lives were like, what they did at the turn of the 20th century, and just what their thoughts were. With this in mind, I am compiling a box full of memorabilia that will be preserved for my family. Hopefully some day my ancestors will enjoy reviewing the events that led up to and began the 21st century. One other note, this is the year of the census and most of it will be done via mail. When you complete your census forms, why not make a copy of this information before you mail it and put it with your important family papers. What a great source document for future generations... they will have information on you before the census is released to the public. Why didn't my grandfather in Missouri think of that before he let the census taker get away? Of course, there were no PCs or copy machines in 1900 but a hand written

note would have been just fine. Maybe, just maybe, I could have made use of this record.

Enough about the turn of the century...I hope that each of you had a good Holiday Season and are looking forward to the events that we are planning for the Society this year. You will see the notice in this newsletter of the upcoming Murder Mystery. This is our first venture into this kind of a fund raising event and from the telephone calls and the ticket sales, it appears it will be a big success. If you haven't purchased tickets yet, call the Center now and reserve them. We hope to have two additional new fund raising events during the year. Stay tuned for more information on them and make your plans to attend.

Our Director, Paul Idleman, will be leaving the Society in February. He has been very instrumental in getting the Society and the History Center to where we are today. I hope that you have read my recent communications to you on why Paul is leaving. If not, it was a tough financial decision that was made by the Board of Directors. We simply could not afford this paid position in 2000. Included in this newsletter to our members, there is a financial insert that outlines the 1999 results and the projected 2000 budget for the Society. If anyone needs a copy of this report, please call the Center (636-1225) and leave a message for me. We hope to be in a much stronger financial position by the end of the year and can budget in 2001 a paid director position.

We are winding down the 1999 annual appeal program. This was our first appeal program and the response has been very positive. Details will be printed in the March *West Word*. It isn't too late to consider making a contribution, and I encourage you to consider adding your financial support.

Until next month, *Gordon*

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

A time capsule is a good way to celebrate the new millennium. People everywhere are putting together time capsules, trying to leave something significant for people in the future to see. We will be putting a time capsule in the middle of our square of commemorative bricks in the east courtyard of our History Center.

Be a part of this centerpiece in our patio. Become a part of the history of our History Center. Reserve your place in history, but also consider a memorial for loved ones, especially those who are no longer with you.

Sign up to donate a commemorative brick today. We have sign up forms available at the Book & Gift Shop for \$100 per brick. This is a good way to remember your children and grandchildren and to support our society. Start the new year and the new millennium by ordering your brick. Don't let this opportunity to benefit and to support our History Center pass by. Sign up today!

Bev Disch
Vice President



FROM THE DIRECTOR

I leave the position of History Center Director with a wide range of emotions. I will certainly miss the challenges and the successes. Mostly I will miss many of the people I have had the opportunity to know and work with. And I also leave with a tremendous amount of pride in what we have accomplished. For me, this has been a labor of love. All of this has been a blast! (Excuse the use of this archaic term ... I am a product of the sixties.)

It's always easier to see things from the outside rather than the middle. Now that I'm able to step outside and look in, I can tell you that being the History Center Director since it opened its doors brought with it every emotion, from the feelings of witnessing the birth of a newborn to the sensation of being pecked to death by 10,000 ducks. In the end it's all been worth it. The History Center is no longer a dream, it is a reality.

To have the honor of working at something I felt so passionate about, knowing that others shared that passion, is something I will always treasure. As Director, I am proud of the lasting accomplishments that established the History Center as a respected and welcome institution in this community. I leave knowing that many of the things I was able to bring to this group will continue to benefit the success of the History Center and the preservation of Old Colorado City's history.

I am grateful to have had the chance to be a part of what the History Center has become. There is no way I can acknowledge all of the people associated with this endeavor who have become very special to me in the short space available in this *West Word* without missing many. But, let me try.

First and foremost, I will always appreciate the support and council given me from Leon Young. When it was decided by the Board to open the center in 1997 and hire a Director, it was Leon who said, "I think Paul can do it". The confidence Leon and past President Bob Heinich had in me was invaluable during those first years.

Also invaluable is Joyce Johns who is always there for me. Thank you, too, Ed & Nancy, George, Mel, Leland, LaRue & Pat, Jack, Jan & Lew, Marge, Ken & Mid, Judith, Alice, Jack & Bev, Cindi, Agnes, Liz & Chuck, Jerry & Helen, Lois, Marilyn, Dave Kosley and especially my good bud, Ray Campbell. Charlie & John have always been there for us, too. I think I discovered my kindred spirit when I got to know Ira Current.

My days will always be brightened by Max & Marge, Werner & Joanne, Claire, Anna, Maloa & Anne, Jim Bates, Maxine, Jean, Anna-Leah, Virginia, Beverley, Mildred, Gene Brent, Georgia, Martha, Marion, Enid, Catherine, Bob & Chris, Thelma, Elinor, Doris & Wilbur, Scott, Jack & Betsy, Harriet, Kay, Doris, Beulah, Albert & Katherine, Jim & Virginia, Patsy, Bob & Julie, Tom & Doris, and Betsy & John.

I received much support and friendship from Jan & Sandy, Pam, Linda, Jim Travis, Dianne, Lee & Lance, Richard (Dick?) & Barb, and Dave Wolverton. Thanks to my good friend of twenty plus years, Don Kallaus. We built the



dream darkroom and relished the history.

My life is richer knowing Betty Magninie. I have never met a kinder, more caring person. To my friend, confidant and co-worker of three years, LaDonna Gunn (from Rifle) – the pleasure has been all mine.

And, finally, to Mary Idleman, Chuck Cobb and Sue Idleman. Nothing would have been possible if I didn't have this family who love me so much. I am blessed with a wife and two children who indulge the old man's dreams and pursuits.

I am proud to have written the original Master Plan and implemented the operating policies that are still in effect. Other accomplishments that will last include the first Cemetery Crawl, the Jim Bates Darkroom, initiating the video interview program with a series of talks with George M. White, and starting the society on programs to continue generating income; such as in-house publishing with the production of Olive Langston's book, **Homesteading In Eastern Colorado** and pursuing the grant that the society has recently received to produce and publish a walking tour guidebook for Old Colorado City. More continuing income will be generated with selling photo copy prints and rights of use for books and videos.

On behalf of the society I have visited and presented programs to scores of schools, civic groups, historical organizations and radio shows. I have heard the feedback that *West Word* has become an excellent society newsletter and is used as a historical resource in school libraries. We send courtesy copies of *West Word* to all school libraries. It has also become the perfect vehicle for Old Colorado City residents to present their own histories and stories, such as the many wonderful first hand reminiscences from Ira Current.

Funding for the Director's salary is the hardest to locate. We had our most successful year in 1999, but that didn't include funding for the Director's position. To get us "over the hump" and well into the black, the eight members of the Board unanimously voted to run the Center entirely with our volunteers. You volunteers are already doing it.

I urge all members to support the OCCHS Board of Directors and their decision. I realize, as do many of you, that this was a difficult decision. Please volunteer and keep the momentum that has been established in place. The History Center was not built by any one person. It was built by all of us and it will exist for generations to come only if we roll up our sleeves and get the work done. The pride that one derives from making this a very special place will insure that success will follow success. I know our volunteers and I know you will continue to get the job done.

I am excited and look forward to resuming my own projects and pursuing new directions. Once I have done so, I hope to see all of you again when I am able to volunteer some time in the Jim Bates darkroom or perhaps serve on the Technology Committee. I wish you all continued success and, as Roy & Dale would say, "Happy Trails".

Paul Idleman

ARENSDALE SCHOOL

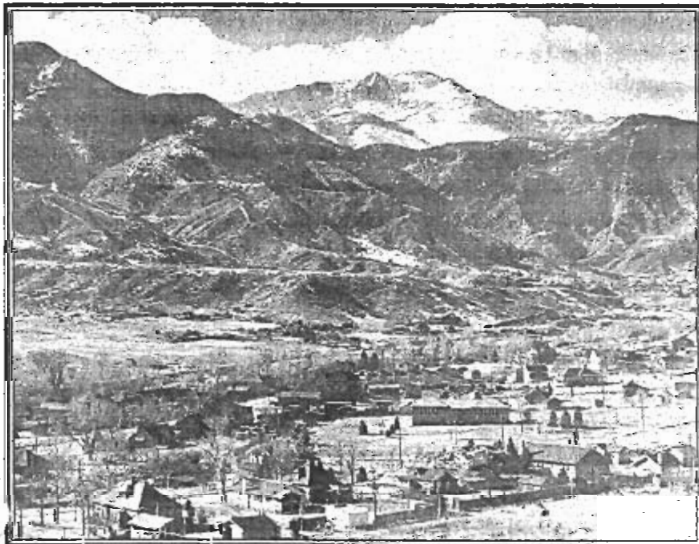
— story & photos by Ira Current

The pride of Colorado City in the years after 1910 was the new Arensdale School built on a knoll where the red sandstone of the Garden of the Gods submerged to rise again as the stone in Red Rock Cañon. The handsome brick school building with a slate roof facing to the east had two tall windowed classrooms on either side of an entry hallway with stalls and hooks for hanging wraps.

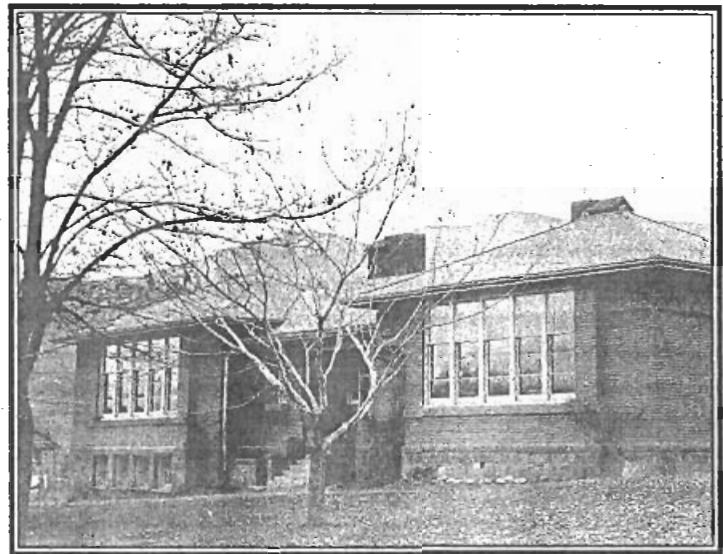
The unused northern room was planned for the future, but was used occasionally for festive occasions. The southernmost room was the one used by teacher of grades one, two and three, Jennie Keiser. On the side opposite the windows was two ventilator shafts fitted with doors that could be raised or left closed, according to climate conditions. These two openings were also used to punish any offenses. The unruly subject would be asked to get in the shaft, and the door pulled down over him.

A janitor took care of the modern coal fired water heating system. He saw that the large lawn sloping down to sand creek was kept green and trimmed. He entranced the young students by sharpening the pencils with a Gem pencil sharpener invented in 1886. It consisted of a device that looked like a hand grindstone, but with sandpaper covered disk. A chuck rotated the pencil as it was pressed against the turning disk, to generate a point for writing.

The boy's toilet was as modern as could be for the time. It had toilets that could be flushed with water. Each one had a spring-loaded seat, which flipped up as soon as the sitter got up, thus flushing automatically. My brother and I, being used to an old-fashioned privy, were afraid we might fall into one of these new-fangled things and be swept to the cesspool and lost. The urinal was a solid piece of slate reaching from floor to ceiling with a trough at the bottom to capture and drain off the urine. The slate was normally dry.



The Arensdale School is right of lower center. The Livingstons lived in the house at lower left. Ben Stewart lived in the small house beneath the left end of the school, and Orrie Stewart lived in the big house over the little bluff just right of the school. 1928.



Arensdale School about 1930.

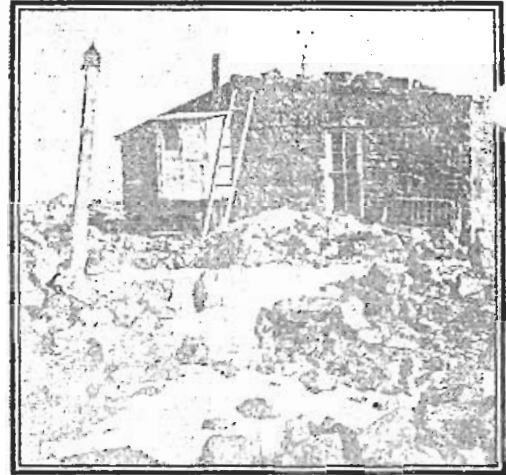
At recess there would be a contest to see who could pee highest on the slate. The all time winner was Billy Sublette who peed higher and higher, until lo! he was on the ceiling, and he became the recipient of his own water. There was a pipe full of holes at the top of the slate, and the janitor could turn a valve to rinse the slate after recess was over.

When I was in the second grade, talking with Harry Plumb, a third grader, I remarked that I thought I was in love with good looking Madeline Livingston, also a year ahead of me. He said, "Why don't you demonstrate your affection by giving her a kiss?" Over I went and gave her a resounding smooch. She seemed surprised, but also seemed to accept the demonstration. Later, in the spring of that year, she had chewed some stalks of poison ivy resulting in great distress to her face and mouth. No smooching after that.

I carried the torch for Mad over the years, helped her with her family dish washing chores, walked together with her in the nearby foothills, Red Rock Cañon and the Garden of the Gods. We climbed the Gray Rock pillar. Rode with her cousin Bill Gress in his Studebaker with a "cutout" in the muffler exhaust pipe that could be opened by means of a wire with a loop in its end to create a roar supposed to improve fuel efficiency. We were separated at college time. She married one of the Morgan boys in 1942 and moved to Mercer Island, Washington where she died in 1990 at 81. My three sisters all sent me a copy of the obituary.

Because Colorado City had been annexed by Colorado Springs, the model Arensdale school was discontinued off and on while students attended classes at the older Whittier School, a mile or so to the east. Classes were resumed off and on. In January 1920, Mrs. Ben Stewart and others addressed the Community Club on the need to have the school reopened. Around 1928 the building was sold to the Shriners organization. Over the years it has had additions to the eastern facade, and the sloping lawn is now a paved parking lot. There is no sign of the wooden bridge that crossed the sand ditch at the foot of the school lawn.

A WINTER'S CLIMB TO THE SUMMIT



OCCHS Archives

AdAmAn commemorated the Year 2000 with a special climbing party of five of their members replicating the original "Frozen Five" climb up the steep and icy route of the Cog Railway tracks. The rest of the climbers hiked the traditional Barr Trail route. Colorado Springs welcomed the year 2000 in style thanks to these hearty devotees of the tradition that was born 78 years ago.

To give our readers a sense of a winter's climb to the summit, West Word presents the following article sent to us by OCCHS member Ivan Brunk, published in *A National Weather Service Publication In Support of The Celebration of American Weather Services...Past, Present and Future*. It comes at the perfect time to thank the Pikes Peak AdAmAn Club for their spectacular climb and fireworks display on New Year's Eve.

This was written by John P. Finley. His April 1876 date is incorrect. According to Ivan, author of *Pikes Peak Pioneers*, Finley did not enter the Signal Service until March 1877. A date of April 1886 is more likely.

Thank you, Ivan, for sharing this with us.

Personal View of John P. Finley

Editor's Note - John P. Finley is well known for the many contributions he made to the field of severe weather forecasting. He was a meticulous researcher, prolific writer, and a focussed individual. He was convinced that tornadoes, like other weather phenomena, could be forecast. He set precedents in weather forecasting which are valid today.

His perfectionist attitude is best depicted in the manner in which he contributed the following material in 1922. John Finley made four separate contributions with the last three opening with the similar phrase - "I am not satisfied with the information provided previously."

In April 1876, I was assigned the task of inspecting the Mountain Meteorological Station on Pikes Peak and the Base Station at Colorado Springs. This was the first full inspection since opening of the station with new buildings in 1876. No reports from the Observer in Charge at the Summit had been received for several months since telegraph lines and trails had been destroyed by fierce storms and heavy snow slides.

There was much excitement throughout the country by press reports that the entire station force of six men had perished from cold and starvation. The Observer at the Base Station had continually reported that it was impossible to reach the Summit. None of the hardy mountaineers could be hired to make the attempt.

I was stopping at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs and it was so located that from the porch of this famous hostelry an excellent view of the upper portion of the Peak could be obtained, in fair weather, but then the

Summit was enshrouded in swirling masses of snow. The men who stood with me viewing the impressive scene said

that this condition had prevailed for weeks, and in their opinion the men on duty at the summit station had perished. In clear weather the station building could be easily distinguished from the Antlers Hotel and that was considered an attractive feature for guests. Notwithstanding all of the arguments presented by the mountaineers I firmly informed them that, as an Army Officer I was under positive military orders to make an inspection of the station at the Peak and ascertain the condition of the Observer in Charge and his assistants. Also I was to take important meteorological observations at the Summit and test out the station instruments. It was plainly to be seen that the Observer at the Base Station, Colorado Springs, was anxiously hoping that I could be induced not to venture the trip to the Summit, as I had informed him that he must accompany me.

My first work was to complete the inspection at the Base, where there was a large amount of Government property to be examined and disposed of. I recall the destruction by fire, on a vacant lot, of a huge pile of unserviceable property that had been accumulating at the Base for years. As fast as inspected I had it removed from storage and piled there. Then the mass was soaked with kerosene and the match applied. The property was guarded until the destruction was complete.

Having cleaned up the Base, I made ready for the trip to the Summit. The mountaineers pointed out the several dangers to be encountered, in the way of mountain lions, hidden trails, difficult stream crossings, narrow ledges, deep snow of a hundred feet or more, the crossing of "Windy Point" where the most destructive snow-slides occurred that swept away all obstacles, even the rocks and trees; the scarcity of oxygen above the 12,000-foot level that make walking next to impossible, the blinding storms at the Summit that would impede progress and hasten exhaustion, and might so hide the trail as to carry the weary wayfarer over a precipice to instant death. When it was found that I was deaf to all of these entreaties the mountaineers gave every assistance to preparing myself and the Observer for the perilous journey.

We were completely sewed up in several layers of gunny sacks, provided with alpine pikes, hunting knives and small revolvers, as well as the instruments I was to

its wooden case with gunny sacking; the thermometers, likewise protected, were carried by the Observer.

We were then helped upon the two white government mules, which had been saddled and equipped for the journey. These animals were thoroughly trained and knew the trails after years of service over them. It was advisable to give them their head at all perilous passages, whether on ledges or at stream crossings. I learned to deeply appreciate the wonderful knowledge of these faithful animals when narrow passages were taken. The mules would test the security of the pathway by the pressure of one foot at a time, and gradually settling the weight upon it. If found firm and unyielding the mule carefully put forward the other foot, and in like manner over all narrow passages. On the broader trail increased speed was taken up without any urging by the rider, and perfectly free reins were given.

The first night was spent at the "Half-Way House" occupied by a mountaineer who lived there with his train of burros. During the open season, the mountaineer supplied the Summit station with fire wood at \$50.00 a cord. The whole season was required to make the delivery. During the winter the wood was collected at the shack for summer delivery. The load for a burro was usually two four-foot sticks, slung to the back.

Our night at the "Half-Way House" was made hideous by the wild antics of huge flying rats, searching for food. They threw down from the shelves and overturned again and again every article of kitchen equipment, and racket of the tins and kettles was deafening, if not altogether terrifying. The Observer and myself occupied a bed together which was covered with buffalo robes and other skins. We were cautioned to cover our heads and hands for protection against the flying rats. Sleep was out of the question while these devils were performing. Between 1 and 2 a.m. they left the shack, having ransacked every quarter in a vain search for more food, after having devoured the waste from the kitchen and table that was placed where they could easily obtain it.

We obtained a little rest, had a fair breakfast and a chance to examine two dead rats, killed by the mountaineer. After an arrangement of our equipment we resumed. Near "Windy Point" the mules were reluctantly abandoned and turned over to our guide, who took them back to the shack to care for until our return trip. We now entered deep snow in which we sank to our arm pits, extending the arms to prevent further descent, and treading the snow to rise sufficiently to advance. We were on the alert constantly for signs

of a snow-slide, by pressure against the body from the uphill side, in which direction we anxiously scanned the seemingly endless sweep of 3000 feet. In the direction of the Summit, the area was covered with a smooth layer of snow estimated at a depth of 125 feet.

We were completely exhausted on crossing the slide area, and there rested on open ground swept of snow by the fierce winds. The remainder of the ascent was made with



The 2000 AdAmAn Club team photographed at the summit house on New Year's Eve by Don Kallaus. That's Don in the back row on the far right. Putting the camera on self-timer and rushing to the end of the line is an old photographer's trick to get in the picture. Don was one of those to light the first few fireworks this year.

great exertions and very slow pace because of the lack of oxygen. When necessary to rest, we had to lean on our sharply-shod alpine pikes and avoid sitting down because of too much exertion to rise, and we were too exhausted to help one another. The winds grew fiercer and the air was filled with pellets of snow, bits of ice and hail that cut our faces and covered them with blood that froze and blinded our sight. The Observer led the way and his last words to me as we neared the crest in a snow swirl of huge flakes; "for God's sake keep on your feet. If you

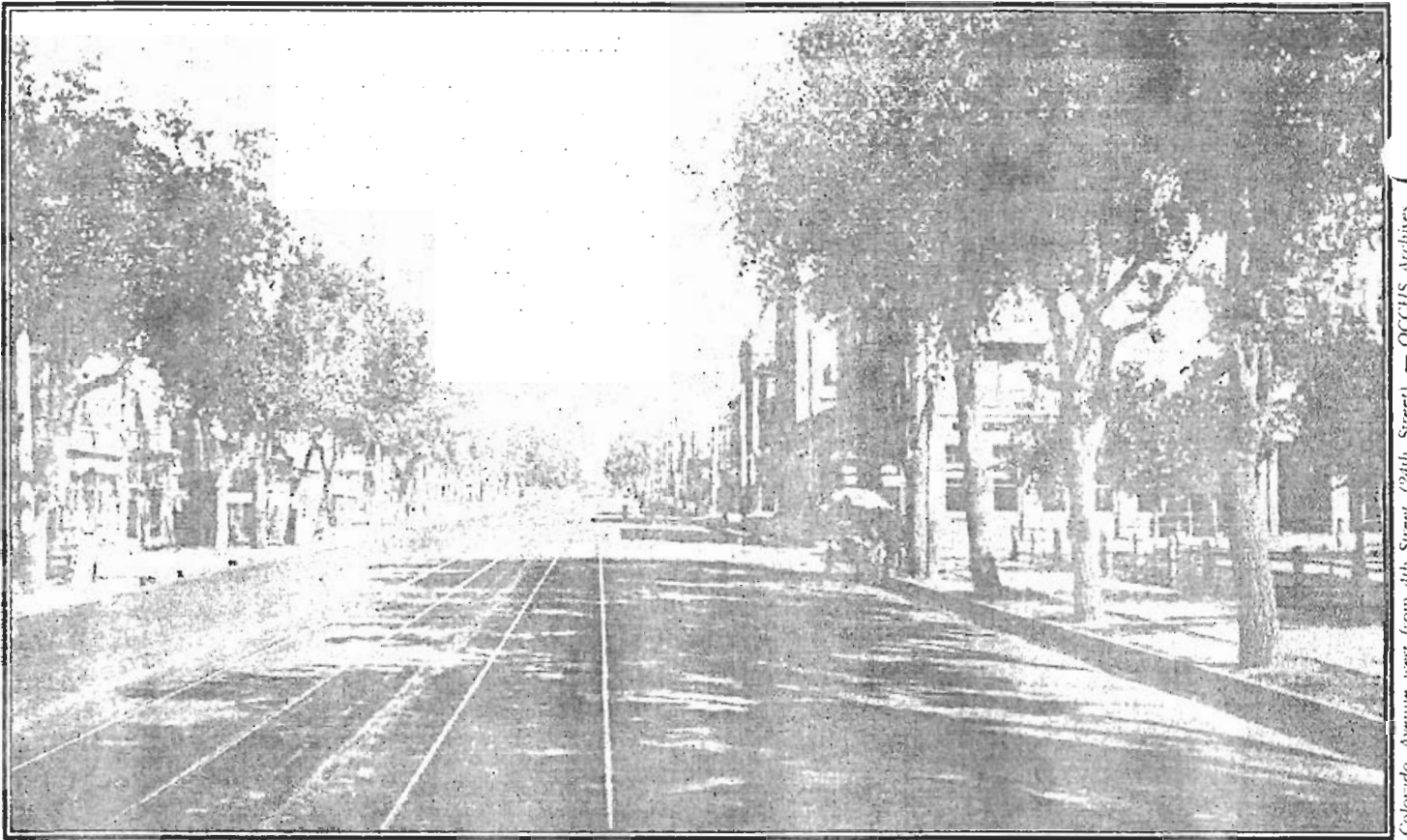
fall, you will be quickly covered with snow and cannot be distinguished from the rocks. You will be lost and freeze to death." I did fall at the crest and the Observer staggered on a few yards to the station, and fell against the door more dead than alive.

The men within rushed to the door to respond to the knock that seemed to come from another world. They had given up all hope of rescue. The Observer barely had sufficient strength to explain about me and that I must have fallen at the crest. All hands rushed out and finally found me in the blinding snow by the upright position of my alpine pike. I was completely covered with snow and looked like the rocks all about me. I was carried to the station and when I regained consciousness, found myself on a big office table, prostrate with men working over me to restore circulation.

We both suffered awhile from mountain sickness, due to rarified air and finally became adjusted to our surroundings and recovered our appetites. In spite of all accidents my instruments were found intact and the necessary observations taken for station use. These observations eventually were used by Prof. Ferrel who was engaged on special work at the Office of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, in connection with the Weather Service.

The station force was found in good health with plenty of food and sufficient firewood to carry them through the winter season. They were greatly surprised to hear of the big excitement of the country as to their alleged desperate situation, and wondered most of all at the successful ven-

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Colorado Avenue west from 4th Street (24th Street) — OCGHS Archives

COLORADO CITY ENTERS THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

As we advance into the 21st Century, we look back at Colorado City's outlook on the future as they entered into the 20th Century as reported by the *Colorado Springs Gazette* on December 31, 1899. Thanks to Jan Knox for abstracting this for us.

RESOURCES OF COLORADO CITY

Growth and Business Enterprise Shown for the Year
FUTURE IS MOST BRIGHT

Manufacturing and Industrial Center of the Section
An Up-to-date, Enterprising, Attractive City

Summary of the Conditions that Have Brought About the
Present State and Future Outlook of the Thriving City

During the past year, Colorado City has experienced a steady and continuous growth and its prospects for far greater success in the future have never been so bright. It is fast becoming one of the most thrifty railroad centers in the west.

The new Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek Short Line which will soon be built will pass through the town and it seems quite probable that its machine shops will be located there. The fact that one of the largest smelters in the world has been located near the town and that a large tract of land adjacent to the township has been purchased for other companies who expect to erect large mills there later, seems to be a most plausible indication that during

the next few years, Colorado City will become a great commercial center. Its excellent location at the mouth of a most magnificent supply of water will doubtless prove a great inducement to manufacturers seeking suitable locations in the west, and it may become a manufacturing as well as a railroad and mill center.

During the year, rapid and substantial growth has been made along almost all lines. Scores of new and comfortable homes have been erected in every part of the city; real estate has been in better demand than for years. Many good business houses have been built; the Midland pay rolls has been largely increased; the population has increased 25 percent, and although the number of dwellings has been increased there is scarcely a vacant residence or business house in the city.

The Colorado-Philadelphia Chlorination mill has been a success in every particular, this proving Colorado City a superior point for the treatment of gold ores. A sewer system which covers all the business and a large portion of the residence part of the town, has been completed without a bond issue, and is practically paid. All this and much more has

come to Colorado City during the past two years, and 1900 promises much more in every direction.

The electric railroad to Cripple Creek will be built, frequent and rapid intercourse will be established between this city and Cripple Creek, ore rates will be reduced and one or more reduction plants will be located at Colorado City. There has been a larger inflow of people into the town during the past several months than during several years past. Men coming to Colorado City scarcely ever find it difficult to secure steady employment and their families are soon removed there for permanent residence. People from all over the country find it a most desirable residence place.

With the progress of Colorado City, its public school system has been developed. It is not many years since one building was sufficient to accommodate all pupils seeking admission to the schools. However, as the years have passed, room after room has been equipped, until at present there are four buildings, including eleven rooms, in which eleven teachers are employed, affording school privileges to more than 600 pupils.

It has been the aim of the management in every department to keep up with the advanced methods of education and to provide thorough and adequate instruction in the course offered so far as the facilities and funds of the district would permit. How well this has been done is attested by the equal and advanced standing taken by pupils who have entered the High schools and academies of the state after completing the course of study offered here.

During the present year, many needed repairs have been made upon the various buildings and rooms, including improvement of the sanitary condition at the Bancroft school.

It is of the highest importance to render the educational facilities the best that can be obtained, because upon these in a great measure depend the ideals, intelligence and advancement of the pupils, and ultimately the ideals of the city itself.

The course of study offered in the Colorado City schools at the present time and the methods employed are practically the same as those of the leading schools of the state. At present the ninth grade is the highest grade maintained, the major part of the work of this grade includes algebra, general history, Latin and rhetoric.

As soon as there is opportunity for it, a tenth grade will be added, having in view the establishment of a complete high school course, thus affording more advanced educational facilities for a greater number of the young people of the district. At present, this seems impossible from the financial standpoint. However, under the able and conscientious management of the board of education, the time is doubtless not far distant when the finances of the district will permit the addition of another grade to the course of study.

The rooms at all four buildings are so crowded that the pupils cannot be comfortably seated, and, as a result of this condition of affairs, the school board is contemplating the erection

of a large new school house during the coming summer. The location for the new building has not been decided upon as yet, but it will probably be erected in the north part of the city.

Mr. L. B. Grafton, formerly county superintendent of schools, is principal of the schools and is heartily co-operating with the board of education in maintaining the standard of the schools. The board is composed of Mr. F. F. Schreiber, Mr. I. S. Nichols and Mr. A. L. Humphrey.

Colorado City now has five churches within its limits, namely, the Methodist, Christian, Baptist, Episcopal and Catholic. All five have large membership enrollments and are in prosperous circumstances financially.

The Methodist church, located on Grand avenue, between Fifth and Sixth street, was organized in 1860, while Colorado was yet a part of the territory of Kansas and in 1867, occupied the first church building in El Paso county. Since that time, the church under various pastors, has grown rapidly and great advances in religious work have been made. Rev. L. C. Powell, formerly of New York, has been the pastor for several years past and the membership at present is about 125.

The Christian church was organized in 1896 by Rev. J. B. Johnson, pastor of the church at Colorado Springs, and the first meetings of the congregation were held in tents put up on Lincoln avenue. In the spring of 1898, however, the members secured money enough to purchase the present site and erect a neat church, which is still being occupied. Rev. J. P. Lucas, who has been the pastor for the past two years, recently resigned and the vacancy was filled by Rev. F. Payne of Denver.

The Baptist church, located on the corner of Lincoln avenue is one of the prettiest buildings in the city. It was organized in 1889 by Rev. Hart. The church has a large membership, and is prosperous financially. Rev. D. Baldwin, formerly of Denver, has been the pastor of the church since November, 1897.

The Episcopal church was organized in 1897, by Rev. A. R. Kieffer, then pastor of the church at Colorado Springs. Regular services were not held at first, but soon afterwards, the members purchased the present site on the corner of Third street and Jefferson avenue and erected a church building. The church is now prospering under the direction of its rector, Rev. J. A. Carpenter.

The Catholic church, located on Main street, south side, is one of the most prosperous churches of the city. It has a large membership and owns its own church property. Father Howlett is wisely conducting the affairs of the church.

The Woods free library occupies a prominent position among the many public institutions of Colorado City. It was organized January 17, 1896, and was the gift of Mrs. Lydia A. Woods.

Upon the shelves in this library will be found a selection of over 1,600 volumes of choice literature, comprising the works of ancient and modern authors, consisting of fiction, juvenile, poetry and drama, travels,

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HEDY LAMARR — Part of Colorado City History

When she was a Viennese teenager with the christened name of Hedwig Kiesler, Hedy Lamarr, was hailed in a press account as "the most beautiful girl in the world". Later she became the raven-haired screen siren known for her exceptional beauty which had been described by the legendary Hollywood columnist Hedda Hopper as "orchidaceous". The Hollywood actress will be remembered mostly for her beauty, but it will be her intelligence that will live on at the Old Colorado City History Center.

Far from stupid, Lamarr and musical composer George Antheil shared a patent issued in 1942 for a technological system they invented called "frequency hopping" that is widely used today in military communications security and cellular phones. It is also the technology we use for the History Center website.

Young Hedwig Kiesler, the daughter of a banker, gained international notice at 17 when she performed some nude scenes in the controversial 1933 Czechoslovakian film *Ecstasy*. The film was banned in American because she was naked in two swimming and lovemaking scenes. Hitler banned the film because he feared Germans would become smitten by a Jewish woman. Lamarr's first husband, Austrian munitions manufacturer Fritz Mandl, unaware she had done the nude scenes, was horrified when the film appeared. Embarrassed, he spent a fortune buying up every available print he could find which, of course, helped make the film a classic.

Weary of being the decorative wife of a Nazi munitions maker, she swapped her jewels in 1937 for passage to New York. At sea, she met MGM's Louis B. Mayer. He promptly signed her to a contract and had her change her name to Hedy Lamarr. Her first American film, *Algiers* with Charles Boyer, established her, in the words of a columnist, "as the No. 1 desert-island choice of the average American male." In her heyday, which ranged from the late 1930s to the early 1950s, she starred in 25 films including *Comrade X* and *Boom Town* with Clark Gable and *Tortilla Flat* with Spencer Tracy and John Garfield. Her greatest commercial success was Cecil B. DeMille's 1949 film, the first ever in Technicolor, *Samson and Delilah* with Victor Mature.

At the height of World War II, Lamarr and her close friend, musician George Antheil, basically invented "spread spectrum" technology. The two stumbled on the new technology — which involves moving radio signals from frequency to frequency in a matter of split-seconds, making it



Hedy Lamarr with co-star, Clark Gable

difficult to jam signals — while both were playing at the piano. Lamarr was following Antheil's lead when the thought occurred to her: "Hey, look, we're talking to each other and we're changing all the time," her son later related to the Associated Press.

Actually, Lamarr was ahead of her time on this one. Although she and Antheil proposed using spread spectrum technology as a way of protecting naval torpedoes from enemy jamming attempts, the Navy rejected it as too cumbersome. Given the technology of the day, it was. But with the development of the transistor, and later the computer chip, spread spectrum technology came into its own. The military

began using it around the time of the Cuban missile crisis in 1962 — three years after the patent taken by Lamarr and Antheil had expired. They never realized a cent from their invention. Today, it's applications are found in both the military and civilian spheres. The Milstar defense communications satellite uses it, and it is widely employed on the Internet and cell phone technology.

Whatever critics said about her acting or the public about her notoriety, her beauty was universally praised. "My face has been my misfortune," she wrote in her 1966 autobiography, *Ecstasy and Me*. "It has attracted six unsuccessful marriage partners. It has attracted all the wrong people into my boudoir and brought me tragedy and heartache for five decades," she wrote. "My face is a mask I cannot remove. I must always live with it. I curse it." Unimpressed with her beauty, Lamarr was often quoted as saying: "Any girl can be glamorous; all you have to do is stand still and look stupid."

Lamarr appeared to live her life on her own terms and without regret. She often joked about flaws such as her inability to choose good scripts. She had turned down the lead in *Casablanca*, for example. In her final years, when she was almost blind and living alone in Florida, she asked strangers, "Would you believe I was once a famous star? It's the truth."

Hedy Lamarr died January 19, 2000 at her home in Orlando at the age of 86. "When I die," Lamarr once told a friend, summing up her devil-may-care life, "I want on my gravestone: 'Thank you very much for a colorful life.'"

Lamarr's photo graces the computer room at the History Center. Her zeal to be part of the Nazi defeat created the technology that allows our little museum to stand apart from others.

A Winter's Climb

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of food and sufficient firewood to carry them through the winter season. They were greatly surprised to hear of the big excitement of the country as to their alleged desperate situation, and wondered most of all at the successful venture we had made to reach them. The trip was looked upon as quite impossible at that season of the year, April being the stormiest month of the period. The return trip was performed under better conditions and in quicker time, but we exercised different body muscles in holding back on the steep down grade and were very sore for several days after reaching the Base.

During the ascent, from the trail entrance at Mineral Springs upward to the "half-way House," (elevation, A.S.L., about 10,000 feet) we passed a succession of severe storms, in the order named, of rain, hail, sleet and snow accompanied with very heavy thunder and terrific flashes of lightning. From "Half-Way House" to the Summit there were frequent alternations of snow, sleet and hail, invariably accompanied with thunder and lightning.

On the return trip to the Base Station at Colorado Springs similar storm conditions were encountered. Difference in elevation, A.S.L. between the Base and Summit stations, 8,100 feet. Distance, about on the same level, between Colorado Springs and Mineral Springs, about three miles. All storms occurring on Pikes Peak, whether at the Summit or on the mountain sides, were accompanied with electrical displays of more or less violence. Between 1873 and 1882, station records at the Summit show that no month of the year is entirely free from violent electrical storms. All station instruments have been damaged by electrical discharges, even including the mercurial barometer. The members of the station force have suffered severely from electric shock and all telegraph instruments were cut out on the approach of a storm, however light in intensity, to reduce liability to injury.

Colorado City Enters 20th Century

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religion, biography, science, history and miscellany.

In addition to this vast choice of literature, there can be found at all times all the leading daily and weekly newspapers of the state and such magazines as Century, Cosmopolitan, North American Review, Ladies Home Journal, and other popular publications. The reference books contained in this library is the most complete to be found anywhere. The Scientific American and Supplement are two valuable publications on file in this library and are quite frequently consulted for the many valuable pointers they contain.

On the walls of the room occupied by this great public institution are hung two large maps of Colorado, both typical and up-to-date, one outlining the counties and prominent cities of the state, and the other giving a concise description of the mountain ranges and prominent camps of the state.

One of the most prominent organizations of which Colorado City is justly proud is the famous Colorado Midland band. It was first organized in June of 1894 and, at that time, its future prospects were not very encouraging. It struggled along, however, and grew better as years came and went and today its name is famous through the country. Its new leader, Mr. Henry Irvine, formerly director of the First Colorado regiment, is one of the finest in the United States, and under his direction, the band is proving more successful and more popular than ever before.

The band now has a membership of 35 men and hardly a day passes but what brings applications for membership from musicians, both east and west. During its organization, it has handled in the neighborhood of \$4,000, has a large library of music of both classic and popular grades, owns over \$500 worth of instruments, and has the finest instrumentation and set of instruments of any band in the United States. In this instrumentation will be

found a complete set of saxophones, including one of four Bb bass saxophones in the world. It was made to order in Paris, France, at a cost of \$310. There are only two other instruments like it in the United States.

The one main object of the organization is the social, moral and musical advancement of its members. Nearly four-fifths of its membership are employed by the various departments of the Midland shops, and when not working for the company they devote their spare time to the interest of the band.

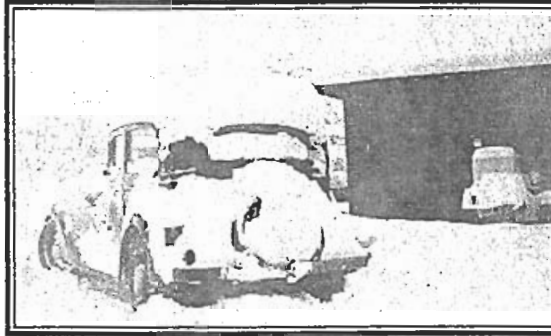
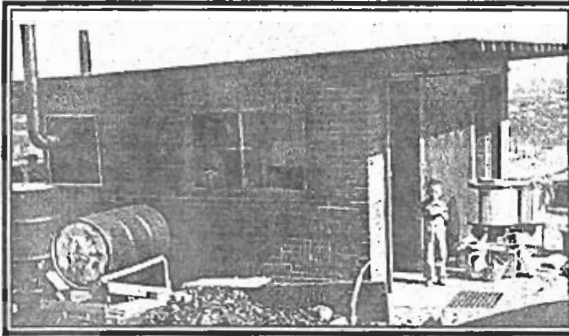
Colorado City now has a right to boast of having within her limits the finest railroad shops in the West. The new Colorado Midland shops were completed ready for use about the 1st of September.

After the fire, which occurred early last spring, in which several of the old frame shops were destroyed, it was feared that they would not be replaced and even that the company might build new shops somewhere else. But the railroad company soon decided to rebuild them and make them the finest in the country.

The new shops are located just south of the railroad tracks, opposite the site of the old frame shops. They are arranged conveniently in a group and are connected by a complete system of tracks and transfer tables. There is also a complete system of waterworks and sewerage connecting all four buildings.

There are four buildings, comprising a machine shop, an erecting shop, a boiler and blacksmith shop and a boiler house. They are fire-proof throughout, being made of the finest grade of iron sheathing, with concrete and cement floors.

There have been numerous improvements and noticeable developments about the town during the past year and its growth has been remarkable, but there is every reason to believe that during the coming year the growth of the place will far surpass all former years.



(top left) The garage as home. Coal pile in foreground. (right) The garage in winter. (Glad we had the coal). (bottom left) The ditch for water — 1/2 of it. (right) In the 50's; a modern home with running water, indoor plumbing, and gas heat!

garage was the first part of the house to be built. It had solid brick walls, two courses thick, on three sides. My father laid the brick. My mother mixed the mortar, and I carried it.

While we were building the garage, the United States was still fighting World War II. Gasoline was rationed, and tourists rode the Corley Road to Cripple Creek in horse drawn wagons. They said, "Look at the hillbillies. Where are all their kids?"

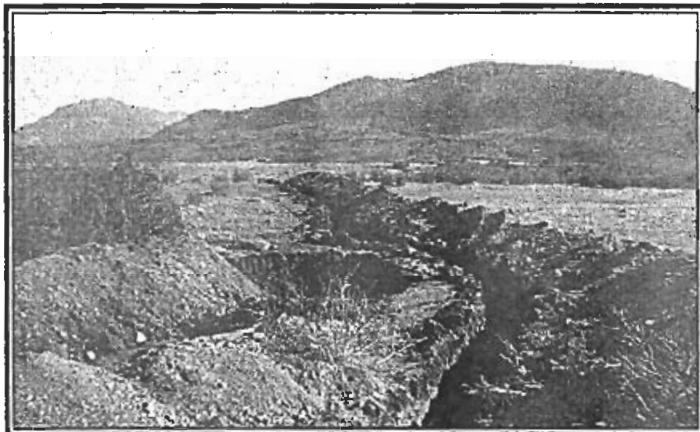
From a sealed bid surplus sale at Camp Carson, we got six 3-1/2 foot wide solid wood doors. Two of these doors were combined in a frame to make each of the two garage doors.

And, the newly built garage became our new home while we continued building the attached house a room at a time. At first our garage home was heated with coal stoves, then with a kerosene stove.

The garage was the only solid brick part of the house. After the garage was done, it was obvious that the brick pile wasn't big enough for a solid brick house. So, the next walls were brick faced concrete block; and the last walls to be finished were concrete block without facing. Laying block was faster than laying brick; and the project speeded up considerably when we were able to get Transit-Mix concrete for foundations and floors.

The city of Colorado Springs wouldn't let us connect to the water main which ran through Bear Creek Canyon, claiming there wasn't enough pressure. So, we hauled all of our water, including the water to mix mortar, from a spring beside Bear Creek a mile up the road. We heated water on the stove and poured it into a galvanized steel wash tub for our weekly baths. Usually, we all bathed in the same tub of water. We dug a twenty foot well, which was a dry hole. We had a well drilled. At forty feet, the well driller said we'd never get water from it.

Finally, in 1950 the city ran a new water main in Bear Creek



OUR OWN STORIES

History as recorded in books and documents is too often like an animal skin, dead and flat, lacking the skeleton to give it form or the flesh to animate it. To a large extent the backbone and the flesh of history lie in the personal stories of the people who lived it.

With this issue of *WEST WORD*, we are beginning a new feature **OUR OWN STORIES** in which members and friends of the Society share their personal stories of West Side life.

We hope that many of you will contribute stories of your personal pride, pain and pranks to make this feature a success.

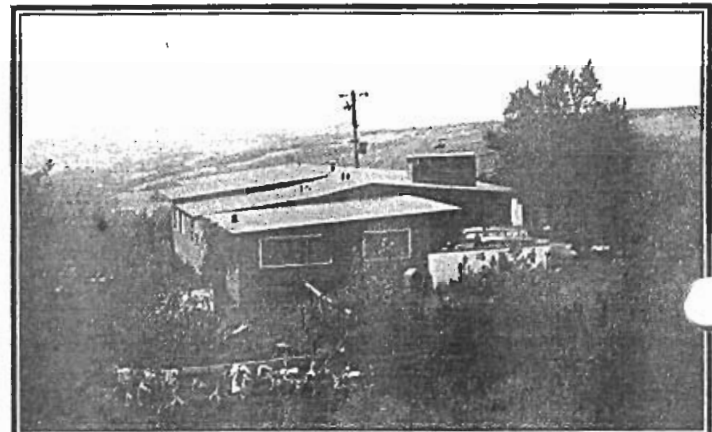
To get this feature underway, we are offering a **PRIZE** of a year's free membership for the best story received by April 1, 2000. So, get out your diaries and albums. Write a story, or arrange for the History Center to tape your story. Remember, our history is an ongoing production. So, your stories can be either recent or old.

Canyon to serve the canyon residents. We were able to hook onto the end of it. From the end of the water main to the house was about 650 feet. A back hoe dug about two thirds of the ditch for our water line; but the other third was a steep hill where the back hoe couldn't work. So, we dug that part by hand.

A few years after we'd gotten water, we installed a septic system replacing the outhouse we'd used for about ten years.

In 1957, we connected to the new gas main the city had installed in Bear Creek Canyon; and we finally had a thoroughly modern house with gas heat, hot and cold running water, and indoor plumbing.

I still like to study maps. Today there's not much chance to find an opportunity like we had by studying maps at the County Court House, though.



OUR GOOD GOOD FRIEND

As we finish this *West Word* and get it ready to copy and mail to you, we have learned that our dear friend, Ray Campbell, lost his battle against cancer last Saturday, January 29th. Ray was a great friend to many of us and he will always be loved and missed.

Before the History Center was even open yet in 1997, Ray stop by to ask if we needed any volunteers. He had moved to Colorado in 1995 after retiring from a career in airline safety management. He didn't want to sit around... he had to be doing something. After seeing some of the photographs in the OCCHS collection, Ray decided that's what he wanted to do — to work with the photographs.

Ray attended accessioning workshops at the Pioneers Museum and Penrose Library to help develop the system we use. He arrived at the Center like clockwork every Wednesday and Friday for two years, and every Wednesday for this last year until a few months ago. He had to be there on Wednesdays because that was LaDonna's day to to work. (Her infectious personality had that effect on many of us). Ray, almost singlehandedly, has cataloged over two thirds of our 20,000 plus photo collection.

This New Yorker with little knowledge of Colorado history or photography immerse himself in learning. The learning challenge was no stranger to Ray. After leaving his position as Safety Manager for TWA in

1983, Ray went back to school to complete his Masters Degree in Labor & Industrial Relations. He operated his own consulting business for five years before retiring in 1995.

Ray studied the old Colorado ghost towns, learning their locations and histories. Luther McKnight had photographed most of the ghost towns and Ray was fascinated with Luther. He felt that going through Luther's photos and papers required a complete understanding and knowledge of McKnight's mind. In the end, Ray had a great bond with Luther McKnight.

About a year after starting at the History Center, Ray was diagnosed with several cancers. The doctor was preparing him for the worst when Ray stopped him by saying, "That's unacceptable." "I can get better odds than that in Las Vegas," Ray told him, "What can we do to better the odds?" This gentle giant of a man with the gift of laughter and humor and caring common sense beat the odds for well over a year.

His pride was evident when he'd bring his children in to show them the History Center whenever they were in town visiting. Ray and Barbara's seven children are living embodiments of their parents and illustrate what truly remarkable people Ray and Barbara are.

The laughs, the talks, the friendship and the caring are gone. They certainly will never be forgotten.

Paul Idleman

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We have some catching up to do since we were unable to mention new members in our last holiday issue. Please welcome our new members, many of whom have already taken an active roll in the operations at the History Center.

Deanna Bowman

Colorado Springs, CO

Betty Rapjack

Colorado Springs, CO

Richard & Barbara Rhodes

Colorado Springs, CO

Rusty & Jan Winters

Colorado Springs, CO

Jackie Kozras

Colorado Springs, CO

Tom & Dianne Hartshorn

Colorado Springs, CO

Jay & Pat Joy

Colorado Springs, CO

Lance & Lee Michels

Colorado Springs, CO

Audrey Topliff

Miami, OK

John Winters & Kathy West

Manitou Springs, CO

Robert C. Miller

Denver, CO

Patricia Steen

Colorado Springs, CO

Deborah Molineau

Coarse Gold, CA

Bryan & Tommie Bishop

Colorado Springs, CO

Allen County Public Library

Fort Wayne, IN

Gene Stokes

Colorado Springs, CO

Jim Scheetz

Colorado Springs, CO



WHO IS THIS OCCHS MEMBER?

This Jim Bates photograph taken about 45 years ago shows a dapper Leland Feitz hard at work at Alexander Film. Leland, author & publisher of many local history books, is completing his next book which will be a pictorial history of Colorado Springs using only photographs from the OCCHS Collection. Leland has been fascinated with our collection and says he has never seen many of these photos before — especially those we have of Colorado Springs, Manitou and Cripple Creek. Paul Idleman is laying out Leland's final production for printing. Leland has selected twenty photos for his book taken by pioneer photographer William E. Hook and in Paul's personal collection. Paul has donated photographic copies of these prints to the History Center to insure that, with only a couple of exceptions, Leland's newest book will be entirely illustrated with photos from the OCCHS Collection. Leland will generously share the proceeds from his new book with the Old Colorado City History Center. Keep watching *West Word* for the new book's release date.

WEST SIDE MEMORIES

TURNING BACK THE CLOCK ON LOCAL EVENTS

compiled by Jan Knox

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO December 1899 - January 1900

¶ At a special business meeting of the Colorado Midland Band held last Friday evening, the following officers were elected for the coming year: C.A. Boguc, president; Earl Sailor, secretary; C. A. Bailey, treasurer; D. C. Ingram, manager. The band is working hard in preparation for the concert to be given on Friday evening, December 22, at the Temple theater in Colorado Springs. An entirely new program of music will be presented. 12/15 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The Jolly Twenty-four club met on Wednesday evening at the home of Mrs. J. F. Faulkner on Jefferson avenue. A large number were present. Cards was the pleasure of the evening and Mrs. Henry Kneller won the first prize and Mr. Charles Morris and Mr. J. G. Faulkner were awarded boobies. The next meeting will be held next Wednesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Grace in La Vergne. 12/15 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The delivery team belong to Messrs. Ott and Newell, the grocers, ran away yesterday morning. They became frightened while standing in front of a house in La Vergne and ran to the barn at the rear of the store, a distance of over a mile. Some packages were thrown from the wagon but no serious damage was done. 12/17 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The Star grocery delivery team ran away on Friday afternoon but no serious damage was done. The horses were standing at the east entrance of the store on Fifth street when they were frightened by some boys coasting down the hill near by. They ran down Fifth street to Washington avenue where they turned and went several blocks before they were caught. 12/17 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ In the district court yesterday, division No. 1, the case of Anna Becker versus Jacob Becker came up for trial and a decree of absolute divorce was granted the plaintiff. Both sides were represented in court but there was practically no defense, introduced by counsel for the defendant. The case, although it has not been in the courts very long, is a celebrated one and is full of interesting details which were not brought out by the trial. The defendant is the well known proprietor of the resort known as Becker's place situated between Colorado City and Manitou. Defendant is known to be very wealthy and the plaintiff, when she filed her suit, secured an injunction to prevent him from disposing of his property or drawing money from the bank. The details of the settlement which was affected, was not made public. Mrs. Becker simply took the stand and told her story to the jury and Judge Harris instructed the six that the plaintiff was entitled to an absolute decree and ordered them to being in a verdict to the effect without leaving their seats. This was done and the interested parties left the court room. 12/15 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The future existence of the *Chronicle*, a well known publication in Colorado City is again in question. Just previous to the last county election, Mr. T. E. Wilson, the owner of the paper, and Mr. W. J. Snider, the editor, entered into a mutual disagreement, and it looked then as if the paper would no longer be published at Colorado City. This was most peaceably settled, however, and Mr. Snider has been issuing the paper each week as usual. A few days ago, Mr. Wilson again decided to take the paper out of Mr. Snider's hands and he is now making arrangements to ship the press, the machinery and type to a newly organized town in Wyoming for the purpose of starting a newspaper there. Mr. Snider was notified of this on Wednesday and as there is no written

contract between the two men, no misunderstanding attests. Mr. Snider immediately decided to purchase a plant of his own, and put in a lot of new machinery, presses and type. He, in company with another well known citizen went to Denver yesterday to investigate the matters needed and the cost of the same. They expect to buy about \$1,500 worth of machines, presses and office fixtures with which to fit up a new newspaper plant. They will probably locate in the present *Chronicle* office, but that part of the new proposition has not been definitely decided on. The name of the new newspaper depends upon what Mr. Wilson decides to do with the subscription list of the *Chronicle*. He has offered it to Mr. Snider and also to Mr. W. P. Epperson of the *Iris*, and the highest bidder will probably get it. If Mr. Snider secures the list he will continue the publication of the *Chronicle*, but if he does not, he will probably make a county publication of his new paper. 12/28 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ Mr. A. L. Humphrey left yesterday morning for Paterson, N.J., where he goes to inspect a new plow recently purchased by the Colorado Midland company. He will look over the new machine and, if satisfied, will have it shipped to this city immediately. It will be used on the road during the winter. 12/28 *Colorado Springs Gazette*

¶ The announcement of progress in regard to the Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek District railroad are coming thick and fast. Yet another was made public yesterday. It is regarding the location of the company's general offices. The officials of the company have taken a long lease on the entire front and part of the east side of the third floor of the Durkee building and will utilize it for the purposes of general offices. The general manager, Mr. Ridgeway, and the secretary and auditor, Mr. Draper, will occupy a considerable portion of this room, the accommoda-

tions for the present being planned only for the departments which will begin active work at once. The rooms included in this section of the building are six in number and will be fitted out especially for the needs of the railroad officials who are to occupy them. The work is now progressing and the company will take possession of its quarters on February 1. *12/30 Colorado Springs Gazette*

☞ **UTE INN BURNED — Popular Summer Hotel at Ute Park was Destroyed by Fire Sunday.** The Ute Park Inn, the beautiful summer hotel at Ute Park, which is about twelve miles west of this city on the Colorado Midland, caught fire Sunday afternoon and was entirely destroyed. The loss of the building and contents is estimated at \$8,000. This is said to be partially covered by insurance. Mr. and Mrs. Severy, who have been living in the hotel since the close of last season, left the house Sunday afternoon about one o'clock and soon afterwards the hotel caught fire. The flames gained great headway and the small number of people in the place soon found that their efforts to save the building were of no avail. It is thought the cause was that of a defective flue. The hotel was managed last summer by Mr. John Mayo, who enjoyed the most successful season. It had thirty-three rooms and was elegantly furnished. *1/1 — Colorado Springs Gazette*

(NOTE: Ute Pass Park is now called Chippita Park. The Ute Pass Inn was designed by Walter Farquhar Douglas, the same architect who designed the church building that is now the Old Colorado City History Center — jan)

☞ **THE DRUGGISTS AND THE LAW —** The Gazette has previously expressed the belief that the blame for the violations of the liquor ordinance rested upon the customers rather than upon the druggists. The great majority of the druggists have been will, and anxious, to enforce the law, but the conditions have made it extremely difficult for them to do so. That this is so has been demonstrated in the action of the Druggists' association. As the result

of a conference held with the mayor and police committee, a resolution has been adopted pledging the members of the association to a strict observance of the ordinance, and we are informed that the association will exercise its full power to secure the observance of this agreement.

If this resolution is faithfully observed, it will go far toward solving a most difficult problem and removing the difficulty that has always confronted the police department. As already remarked, we believe the chief fault lies with the customer rather than with the druggist, but if the customer finds himself treated alike by all the druggists, he can find no ground of fair complaint against anyone of them and will be deprived of his strongest argument in favor of a violation of the law in his individual case.

We most heartily commend the druggists for their action, and the mayor and the police committee for their wise and reasonable effort that has resulted in bring this about. *1/4 Colorado Springs Gazette*

☞ A wiser view is that the suppression of law-breaking or of vice is a good thing at all times. The interests of the city are superior to those of any party, and in exposing the gambling dens, Mayor Robinson is doing precisely the thing that it was expected he would do, when he was elected to office. The evident desire of the Telegraph, that the so called clubs should be kept open three months longer in order to supply it with campaign material ought not to and will not be allowed to stand in the way of the moral interests of the city. *1/3 Colorado Springs Gazette*

☞ Robert Lyons, an engineer on the Midland Terminal, narrowly escaped death last night at Divide. He was carrying a keg which contained about 14 pounds of black powder. A spark from a match fell in the keg and discharged the powder. Lyons escaped with a badly bruised stomach. *1/4 Colorado Springs Gazette*

☞ Some time between noon and 1 o'clock today, in Bear Creek canon at a point below the toll gate, the first

shovel full of dirt will be thrown on the Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek District railway construction. The realization of what has for four years been the dearest dream of Colorado Springs will have been begun. - Contractor Crook, of the firm of Orman and Crook, together with Mr. F. B. Orman, son of ex-mayor J. B. Orman, of Pueblo, who is the senior member of the firm stated last night that he would be at the scene of operations and that the work would certainly start today. - Mr. Orman left the city yesterday for Denver to close up some arrangements in connection with the work and may not be back today until after the work has begun. - It has been noticeable on the streets of Colorado City for several days that a large number of working men were present. It is estimated that there are now in Colorado City several hundred men, who either have been engaged with Orman and Crook elsewhere and are here to go to work or who have come here because it was announced that railroad construction was to be started and who are in hopes of procuring work. It is likely that quite a number of Colorado Springs people will be present at the beginning of the construction this noon. *1/4 Colorado Springs Gazette*

☞ The horseless carriage has made its appearance in this city. There are two automobiles in town at the present time and another is on the road and will be here by the first of next week. One of the vehicles is owned by Mr. W. O. Anthony of No 1810 Lincoln avenue. He constructed it himself, and has been more than a year in completing it. The other automobile which is in the city, was made by the Stanley Automobile Company and is owned by Mr. George D. H. Bonbright. It arrived here Wednesday and was running on the streets yesterday. The carriage which is to arrive will be owned by Mr. J. Morgan Booth of 448 East Dale street. These will soon be followed by other purchasers of automobiles and it will not be long before there are several in the city. *1/5 Colorado Springs Gazette*