

# Early Resident Dies at Age 100

Oscar C. Bernard, one of El Paso's early day photographers and pioneer citizens, died yesterday in a hospital. Mr. Bernard was 100. His home was at 3110 Porter avenue, but in recent years he and his wife had lived in a Valley-rest home.

Mr. Bernard came to El Paso in 1901 and took part in many civic activities, among them being a member of the famous turn-of-the century McGinty Band. He opened a photography shop near the old City Hall building and took pictures of many of El Paso's first citizens.

He was also an inventor and designed a machine which was a forerunner of today's television.

# Pioneer Photographer Is 100 Years Old; Looks at Scrapbooks

Friends Plan  
Birthday Party  
For O. C. Bernard

On Friday a chipper old gentleman with thin white hair will celebrate his 100th birthday. Oscar C. Bernard is looking forward to the event as an important occasion. He's been telling friends for several years that he planned to hit the century mark.

Mr. Bernard, one of El Paso's early day photographers, and his wife are now in retirement at the Valley Community Hospital on Alameda avenue. Mrs. Bernard is 87. Both love to recall their younger days and thumb through a scrapbook filled with pictures, many taken by Mr. Bernard.

A lot can happen in 100 years. When Mr. Bernard was born in 1861, the first rumblings of the Civil War were splitting a young nation in half. There were no cars, no radios, no television — and a couple of brothers named Wright were unknown.

Mr. Bernard came to El Paso in 1900 in time to take part in the gala celebration of the new City Hall. He played cornet in the famous McGinty Band. The City Hall and McGinty's band are gone, but both live brightly in Mr. Bernard's memory.

He opened a photography shop and gained local renown with his



Oscar C. Bernard

invention of a stereopticon machine, which might be called a forerunner of today's television. The machine automatically changed slides while music played at the same time.

Friends plan to help Mr. Bernard mark his birthday. Mrs. Eva Bauer and A. E. Simms are planning to take ice cream and cake to him and they are hoping El Paso will shower him with birthday cards and good wishes.

A niece, Mrs. J. L. McCord of Indianapolis, will drive to El Paso to visit her uncle. Friends wishing to send cards may address them to Oscar C. Bernard, Valley Community Hospital, 6375 Alameda avenue, El Paso.