

PASSWORD



THE EL PASO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XXI, No. 4

EL PASO, TEXAS

WINTER, 1976



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CONREY BRYSON, *Editor*

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HALL OF HONOR BANQUET

The sixteenth annual Hall of Honor Banquet of the El Paso County Historical Society was held Sunday evening, November 21, at the El Paso Country Club. Those honored were the late Mrs. Otto Nordwald and Fred T. Hervey. Florence Cathcart Melby paid tribute to Mrs. Nordwald and H. T. Etheridge, Jr., gave the address honoring Fred Hervey. Their tributes and the Hall of Honor address by President William I. Latham appear in this issue. The plaque honoring Mrs. Nordwald was accepted by her daughter, Ruth Graham.

Mrs. Ellis O. Mayfield was General Chairman for the event, with Mrs. Leonard Goodman, Jr., as her Co-Chairman. Other committee members were: Invitations and Programs, Mrs. Charles Rennick and Mrs. Barry Coleman; Reservations, Mrs. P. A. Loiselle; Decorations, Mrs. Joseph F. Friedkin; Publicity, Mrs. Earl Burns; Hostesses and Guest Books, Mrs. C. W. Wakefield and Mrs. Branch Craige; Hospitality, Mr. and Mrs. Richmond McCarty.

HALL OF HONOR ADDRESS

BICENTENNIAL PRIDE

by WILLIAM I. LATHAM

Recently, while driving on a downtown El Paso street, I saw a dumpster garbage truck which had a legend on the side reading something like this: "Your garbage is picked up with Bicentennial pride."

At first the sign irked me. Why should anyone want to lowrate the Bicentennial by comparing it to picking up garbage? Was that any way to honor the Red, White and Blue in this Bicentennial Year of 1976?

But, on reflection, I began to see another side of the sign. Bicentennial Pride—what is it? Is it flaunting our national history in this year of remembrance as did the casket maker who painted his coffins red, white and blue—or is it taking pride in hard work, in the ability of the American citizen to make his living without government aid, without begging?

In this past year I have visited Valley Forge, the Gettysburg battlefield and parts of four countries in Europe. These visits brought back to mind ideas which had lain dormant for many years—until the Bicentennial year warmed them into being again as the sun matures the cotton balls here in the Rio Grande Valley.

In Europe I was amazed at the land area devoted to churches and their surroundings.

And the castles with their immense gardens and beautiful furnishings.

Then I looked at the tiny town homes in which the poor people lived, with daily toil and tears their meager diet. And I could understand why men from the nations I had visited would want to come to the New World—to America—the United States—and make new lives for themselves—with freedom of speech, freedom to worship as they pleased, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

While the desire for the four freedoms may have brought many to the New World, what formed the mortar that held the pieces of the young republic together? Part of the answer came from my Valley Forge visit—here men braved untold hardship to fight for a freedom dream. And our first President, George Washington, commander of the Revolutionary Army, knelt in the snow and asked the Creator to bless the efforts he and his men were to make.

But add to these—Gettysburg. I saw the spot where the Sons of the South reached the high point of their drive north, I saw where Pickett's men died under the bullets of northern riflemen, I saw the knoll where Gen. Robert E. Lee sat astride his horse and saw the hopes and dreams of the South die.

And added to the hopes that brought men to our America, and a dependency on God to bless their efforts, I realized at Gettysburg that out of a great bloody Civil War, in which brother fought brother, a united nation came into being.

Bicentennial pride? In Europe — at Rothenberg, Salzburg, Vienna, Florence—I sensed pride and a desperate longing by the men who came to our shores. It was there at Valley Forge, a great dream. It was there at Gettysburg—a shattered dream put back together by men who differed in their opinions, fought, forgave and were reunited.

And so, from that garbage pickup truck, I sensed this—there should be Bicentennial pride in all work that builds a nation, that unites a people, that makes our United States, 200 years old, face into its third century.

I am one of those who believe that the Time Capsule, down in City Hall Plaza, will be opened on schedule on July 4, 2076. I don't know what the people who open it will think of the letters and historical objects in it. But I am certain, as I stand here tonight, that they will see us, with our Bicentennial dream, working toward a day when evil will be gone from the land, when hard work again will be the goal for our heirs, when equality of mankind will be a truth and not a phrase and that this nation, as great as it is after 200 years of existence, will be even greater after 300 years.

Nineteen hundred and seventy-six has been our Bicentennial Year. I am glad that it came during my lifetime.

Tonight we, in El Paso County Historical Society, honor two of our fellow El Pasoans — one living and one deceased. They are ordinary people — willing to work for our city, willing to help their fellow man, not asking any special recognition. I am amazed as I glance at the list of the Hall of Honor recipients to realize how humble, how great are the people so honored.

I want to take this opportunity to thank members of our society for electing me to the post of president for the past two years. They have been exciting years. Frankly I didn't accomplish all I had hoped to but I enjoyed trying. Was that my Bicentennial pride?

Always, when I think of El Paso in 1976, I will see again the Cavalry Museum dedication of July 4, 1974 which started our two-year Bicentennial program. I will recall with pride the many outstanding events of this year—the programs at the Civic Center, the re-enactment of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the parade on July 4, the giant flag on the side of the State National Bank in lights, the dedication of the Wilderness Park Museum, the burying of the Time Capsule. And many other events.

Bicentennial pride? I think that today, as 1976 draws to a close, our nation once again feels that pride. I know that Texas does, El Paso County does, the City of El Paso does, you and I do.

Let's hold our heads high and, filled with Bicentennial pride, move confidently down the years toward our Tricentennial in 2076. Thank you.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. OTTO NORDWALD

by FLORENCE CATHCART MELBY

In the Old Testament there is a verse that reads: "Forsake not an old friend, for the new is not comparable unto him. A new friend is as new wine: When it is old thou shalt drink it with pleasure."

Tonight it is with great joy that we will paint for you a memory portrait of a beloved friend, Rose Kronig Nordwald (Mrs. Otto Nordwald).

She was beautiful, witty, cultured, courageous and talented in many fields. To those who knew her, she was a guide, a philosopher and a friend. Her more than forty years of outstanding community service and achievement are truly worthy of recognition. It was said of her that her hands and her heart were dedicated to her City.

Rose was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Kronig of Norwich, Connecticut. Mr. Kronig was the agent for the Hamburg-American Steamship Line and he was able to take Rose, her brother and sister to Europe the three summer months of every year. While in Europe, they toured many countries and much of their time was spent studying in the museums, attending musical affairs and operas. In the winters, she attended the Norwich Art Academy and later won a scholarship to the Boston Art Institute.

She was invited by her room mate at the Boston Art Institute to visit in her home in Guadalajara, Mexico over the spring vacation. En route, they were met at the train in El Paso by Mr. Otto Nordwald, the young son of an old and prominent family of Chihuahua City, who had come to accompany them across the border. Otto had been engaged to Elsie, Rose's room mate, but he later told Rose that he fell in love with her at first sight when she alighted from the train. She "delighted him."

In her Wedding Book, she tells of stopping over in Chihuahua City on her return from Guadalajara, and that Otto invited her to go for a drive. On the outskirts of Chihuahua City, they drove to the Quinta Carolina, one of the estates belonging to General Luis Terrazas, and there Rose saw the ravages of the Revolution and observed how brave the women had been during the siege. She remarked, "Your mother is an awfully good sport," and quite simply, Otto asked, "And how would you like to be her daughter-in-law?" And so it happened!

The wedding took place in May of 1920 in New London, Connecticut and the reception was held at the beautiful Pequot Manor.

Following their marriage and honeymoon at Lake Louise in Canada, Rose and Otto came to El Paso to make their home. Otto managed the El Paso branch of the family furniture and mattress factory. From this marriage were born a daughter, Ruth, in 1921 and a son, Leo, in 1926.

In 1932, Betty Luther, better known as Ann Carroll, wrote in the *El Paso Herald*, "Mrs. Otto Nordwald belongs to nineteen organizations and holds directorships in almost all of them." She was not only a joiner, she became a leader. Her outstanding executive ability brought success to many civic projects.

As Chairman of the Woman's Club Civic Committee, she personally supervised the Soup Kitchens during the Depression, and collected donations from individuals and organizations, and was responsible for more than 20,000 meals being furnished for hungry children in three City schools in the year 1932 alone. In the summer of 1938, she initiated a drive to "adopt" babies of impoverished families in order to feed them through the *El Paso Times* Milk Fund. A quote from the newspaper clipping follows, "Approximately one hundred babies of poverty-stricken families have been adopted. This was announced Sunday by Mrs. Otto Nordwald of the Woman's Club Civic Department. Among those contributing to the care of a baby at the rate of one cent a day were the following: Mrs. C. N. Bassett, Mrs. Robert Holliday, Mrs. John F. Achterberg, Mrs. Albert Ponsford."

Prior to the advent of air-conditioning in El Paso, when ice had to be brought in by train, many babies died from the heat. To alleviate this problem, Mrs. Nordwald was one of the directors of the Cloudcroft Baby Sanitarium, and to help finance the hospital she sold subscriptions to *Parents Magazine*. She had great compassion for the children, for she had just lost her little son, Henry.

In 1940, when she was President of the Woman's Club of El Paso, a proposal to convert the old Turney Mansion into a Mortuary was being considered. Mrs. Nordwald headed a committee which went before the City Council to persuade it to allow the group to raise funds to pay the back taxes and prevent the sale of the property. Through her efforts and the work of her committees, they were successful and as a result the El Paso International Museum was established. Today it is the El Paso Museum of Art. She served as Executive Chairman of the Museum.

While Mrs. Nordwald was Woman's Club President, in 1939 a project was started with Mrs. Neal Grosheider as Chairman, which was a compiling of a guide book called "Know El Paso," sub-titled to tell tourists all, "Where can I find a Museum?" "Where can I board my dog?" "Where are your Missions?" The early history of El Paso is in the first section of the book. It was written by Mrs. Sherod L. Mengel. The book presents most everything one would wish to know about El Paso—everything from music bands to bird baths.

To quote from the *El Paso Times*, "It is the most complete cross-section of all El Paso ever published and sells for 50 cents." The little book is now a collector's item, hard to locate and is expensive.

In 1937 the roof of the Woman's Club began to leak and a newspaper clipping reads: "Mrs. Otto Nordwald, Chairman of the House Committee, is financing the roofing of the Clubhouse on Mesa Avenue by the shingle method—at \$2.00 per shingle or \$1.00 per half shingle. A shimmering copper roof is now being placed on the building. The estimated cost is \$650.00. The roof financing idea was Mrs. Nordwald's."

In September of 1931, the first organized effort to bring Scouting for Girls to El Paso came about when a group of enthusiastic women met in the El Paso Public Library. The first Troop Meeting was organized with Mrs. Nordwald as Chairman and the first Troop Meeting was held in her home. Her daughter, Ruth, who was named for our beloved Ruth Zork, was the first Girl Scout in El Paso. Mrs. Nordwald thereafter served on the Regional Committee of the Cactus Region.

In 1936, she was appointed Supervisor for El Paso County in taking a Child Census. This was the first project of its kind in Texas under the direction of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. She also served as Chairman of the Woman's Division of an organization which was formed to carry out the City's Tax Paying Campaign.

When the El Paso Housing Authority was created, on February 17, 1938, Mrs. Nordwald was appointed as the only woman member. She was re-appointed to serve a second term by Major J. E. Anderson, and was later named Chairman of the Authority, succeeding Frank B. Fletcher, who resigned. She broke ground for El Paso Housing Project No. 1, which was El Paso's first slum clearance. It was named the Alamito Apartments and was located at Third and Virginia Streets. Forty-eight families lived in the duplexes.

She disapproved of sending two of the members of the Housing Authority to Washington, D. C. to gain approval of a loan. A newspaper clipping writes of Mrs. Nordwald, as saying, "I believe it is an exploitation of the Government. There is no need to send both of these men up there, paying for the trip with public funds." And this was said in 1939!

She did not hesitate to speak up for issues, although her voice challenged those in power. Her friends teased her by saying "There is no Rose without its thorns!"

Mrs. Nordwald served as Director of the El Paso Mother's Health Clinic and as Director of the Tuberculosis Society. She was a friend of Margaret Sanger and an advocate of the concept of Planned Parenthood long before this concept became acceptable in the community. She served as Parliamentarian for the Mother's Council for Parents and Teachers, as Secretary of the Council of Jewish Women, and a member of the Open Forum. She actively worked for Bundles for Britain during the Second World War.

In 1945, she resigned her office as Executive Secretary of the Civil

Defense Council to accompany her husband to reside in Chihuahua, Mexico, but prior to her departure, she presented to the El Paso International Museum three valuable "Loan Collections."

The first, started in her childhood and continued for forty-five years, was a collection of over two hundred dolls, gathered from thirty countries. Some of the Nations represented by the dolls were Peru, France, Scotland, Switzerland, Russia, Japan and Guatemala. Among the collection were many rare dolls—a Katy Kruse from Germany, a pair of the famous Italian Lenci dolls, and a three-faced doll over one hundred years old. She often said, "I believe in the immortal souls of marionettes and dolls." The doll collection was shown by invitation at the Annual Doll Exhibit of the Bowers Memorial Museum in Santa Ana, California, where it won a blue ribbon.

The second loan was a notable collection of five hundred War Posters dating from World War I and World War II.

The third was a collection of period costumes of the United States which had much historical significance.

At the time of her departure to live in Mexico, she belonged to nineteen civic organizations, in each of which she held office. She was a leading figure in the work of the Symphony Orchestra Association and twice served as head of the Woman's Division of the Community Chest. Her war service included serving on the Volunteer Civilian Defense Council and Canteen. She was an active member of the Red Cross Gray Ladies.

In addition to her civic activities, she found time to make strawberry jam which was acclaimed in the *New Yorker Magazine* in an article from which I quote: "Woman's Works, 541 Madison Avenue, at 54th Street, has just begun to carry an utterly delicious strawberry jam, like no other strawberry jam you ever tasted, on account of it's made of Mexican strawberries, which are far more fragrant than our own."

While living in Mexico, she took up collecting antiques as a hobby and became quite an authority on the subject. She opened a shop at the Nordwald Hacienda and having so many personal friends among the old families in Chihuahua, and a sincere appreciation of the Latin culture, she was able to buy for her shop and import many beautiful Old World antiques. Many of the exquisite examples of Sevres, Meissen and Dresden porcelain, old brasses, antique furniture and paintings which adorn many El Paso homes came from her shop.

Following the death of her husband in December of 1947, she returned to El Paso to make her home and become active again in many civic projects.

She was twice named Woman of the Week—first in 1958 and later in 1960. At that time her list of achievements included participation in



Mrs. Otto Nordwald
(*portrait by Leola Freeman*)

the Altrusa Club, Parliamentarian for the Council of El Paso Garden Clubs and Hadassah, Director of the International Museum Group and the Planned Parenthood Association, member of the Kern Place Garden Club and of the Sunset Heights Garden Club of which she was elected the first President when it was organized in 1922. This was the first Garden Club in El Paso. Among the early gardeners who kept this group active in the Sunset Heights Neighborhood were Mrs. C. E. Kelly, Mrs. T. A. Thurston, Mrs. H. D. Slater and Mrs. W. D. Howe. This group became the nucleus of the Council of El Paso Garden Clubs.

Mrs. Nordwald had a great love of children and her grandchildren gave her a great deal of pleasure. She established a little school for the children of her daughter, Ruth. The twins were Olivia and Randy (better known as Chip and Chipsie) and their younger brother, Michael Graham. She taught them by the Calvert Method. Their reading was encouraged by the very fine collection of First Edition Children's Books which she had collected over the years. She became a close friend of Mrs. Maud Sullivan, the beloved Librarian of the El Paso Public Library,

and Miss Elizabeth Kelly, the Children's Librarian. She helped with the Story Hour where the doll collection was displayed to the delight of the children.

Like every teacher, Mrs. Nordwald had to put up with a few childish pranks. One day she threatened to send Chipsie to Reform School if she didn't behave. The next day Chip was the offender and Chipsie told him judiciously that if he wasn't a good boy, he would have to "go to Reform School like Mamacita did."

In 1959, at age 70, she declared that her life had just begun. She renewed her interest in Art, which had been her life long ambition after having won a Scholarship to the Boston Institute of Fine Arts as a young girl. She found that her favorite medium was pastels. She studied with Wanda Hermann and was a pupil of Louis Krupp. She also became interested in color photography and this hobby developed into a widely acclaimed speciality. She was a member of the Color Camera Club, the Arts and Crafts Study Club, the Beloved Vagabonds, the El Paso County Historical Society and the El Paso Artists Association, the Business and Professional Group of Hadassah and Temple Mount Sinai.

In June of 1961 she was selected for the Women in Art Series.

In February of 1961 she organized and was Chapter Director of Beta Chapter, Circle A of the Pan American Correspondence Circle, a project which encouraged correspondence between members of the United States and those in Latin American countries to further knowledge and interest between the countries.

On September 2, 1961, after a short illness, she passed away at the age of 73. Her life had only just begun as she had declared in September of 1970 when she was named Woman of the Week for the second time.

Rose Kronig Nordwald truly loved life and loved helping others. A native of New England, she brought to El Paso her love of art and the humanities which she actively pursued throughout her lifetime. She was a devoted wife and mother, and a devoted grandmother. Surely El Paso is a better place to live for Rose Nordwald's having sojourned here and for her dedication to the betterment and progress of our community.

TRIBUTE TO FRED HERVEY

by H. T. ETHERIDGE, JR.

Mr. President, Honored Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen—I am honored to pay tribute to my friend of many years, Mr. Frederick Taylor Hervey. The word “friend” is not quite accurate as applied to our early association, for I still vividly recall my father, a gentle man, announcing to our family that Fred Hervey had again thrown rocks at him as he walked past the Hervey house on his way home from work. Also, one hot summer afternoon when I was about five years old, Fred locked me up alone in his folk’s garage which was built of pine boards full of pitch. The sun shining through glowed red; the heat was intense. And Fred informed me the garage was on fire and I was going to burn up.



Even at that early age, his personality was rapidly developing. So you will understand that I am not totally unbiased as I undertake to outline briefly why his selection by the Historical Society to the Hall of Honor is well deserved.

Except for a short time working for a Mesa, Arizona bank and two years of service in the U. S. Navy during World War II, he has called El Paso home. As a young teen-ager, Fred began his business career with *Woman’s Home Companion* and *Ladies Home Journal* routes. He also set up a curb-side soda pop stand, later expanding during the summer season to his father’s open-air theatre at Five Points. In 1930,

during the Depression, he opened a drive-in root beer stand. His financial statement resembled that of a man hunting rabbits on shares with a borrowed dog.

Many El Pasoans are unaware that, as long ago as 1952, *Fortune* magazine paid tribute to Fred Hervey’s rise from rags to riches. The article which you may read in the January 1952 issue, tells how the young business man’s fortune reached such a low ebb that, when he was unable to repay a loan to a well-known El Paso man, he was induced to pay just one dollar to show his good faith, and then to go back to work. Work he did—and with the help of his mother, who cooked tamales,

beans, pies, etc., all debts were paid and in 1936 a second "Oasis" was built.

Because of Fred's belief in the free enterprise system, years of hard work, a brilliant analytical mind, and the ability to forecast future developments, he has prospered. His success has enabled him to serve both El Paso and the southwestern United States in such a way that all of us have benefited from his efforts.

Twenty-four years ago, his business success was already dazzling to the editors of *Fortune* as they included him in their listing of young men in the United States who had proved that America still offered great opportunities for financial success. A partial listing of his business expansion would today astound them even more: He is the owner of three radio stations in El Paso, Scottsdale, Arizona and Albuquerque, New Mexico. He is Chairman of the Board of the American Bank of Commerce, El Paso and the Bank of Scottsdale, Arizona. He is Chairman of the Board of Circle K Corporation, a grocery chain of over a thousand stores in 12 western states; and Chairman of the Board of Coaches of America Life Insurance Company headquartered in El Paso.

A keen sense of public duty induced Fred Hervey early in life to offer his considerable talents to the people, in the field of government. *Fortune* magazine, however, saw something else as the turning point in his public career. To quote *Fortune* directly:

"In 1950, he got something in the mail that has pretty much changed his whole life. It was a \$287 freight bill (incorrectly sent to him instead of the government) for a carload of potatoes he bought from the U. S. Department of Agriculture for \$150. The government not only made nothing on the deal, but was going to pay \$137 for him to take the potatoes."

The magazine went on to explain that Fred Hervey decided that things needed to be straightened out in the field of government, and he might be able to help accomplish it. He ran for Congress and was defeated in a three-way race, and in 1951, he was persuaded to enter his candidacy as Mayor of El Paso, Texas—and was elected.

I had the honor of serving as an Alderman with Fred during two of the first four years he served as Mayor of El Paso. His record is well known, but some of his accomplishments deserve repeating at this time. He first put an end to the practice of issuing time-warrants, and began to put the City of El Paso on a pay as you go basis, finally establishing a substantial reserve-fund for emergencies, which he left with the City when his two terms were completed. Such sound financial management resulted in an improvement in the City's bond rating so that it might plan substantial future improvements. He took a special interest in El Paso's water supply, and went to Washington to confer with the U. S.

Geological Survey on water resources of the area. Under his leadership, the old City Water Department became a separate agency under the direction of the Public Service Board, with the Mayor as an ex-officio member.

He went to work on the housing situation in south El Paso, and *Fortune* magazine stated, "He has actually *done* something about the city's disgraceful tenement housing, despite the refusal of finance companies to co-operate." He further improved relations with citizens of Mexican descent by improving fire and police employment practices.

His first two terms as Mayor left an impact upon the City of El Paso so well remembered that he was called back to serve another term as Mayor after eighteen years absence from City Hall. His third term as Mayor was distinguished not only by his able administration of city affairs, but for his leadership and generosity in planning for El Paso's future. He was an active founding member of the El Paso Heritage Commission which, during his term of office, laid the plans for some outstanding new civic projects in the Bi-Centennial year of this nation.

Two of these projects are of special interest to the Historical Society. First, there is the Cavalry Museum, devoted to preserving the historical heritage of the El Paso area, with special emphasis on the role played by men on horseback. It is expanding rapidly into a first class historical museum with the assistance of this Society, which is the official supporting organization. Second, the Wilderness Park Museum, dedicated on October 10, this year, and devoted to the natural history, archaeology, and earth sciences of this southwest area. These museums were planned during the Hervey administration, and made possible by gifts of the Hervey Foundation.

In many other ways, Fred Hervey has given of his time, his talents, and his finances to worthy causes in his home city. He has twice been President of the El Paso Chamber of Commerce. He is a board member of St. Joseph's Hospital, President of the El Paso Cancer Radiation Foundation, and is Past Chairman of the Board of Development of the University of Texas at El Paso.

His city has honored him in many ways. He was named Citizen of the Year by the El Paso Board of Realtors, and received the prestigious Human Relations Award of the Conference of Christians and Jews.

On July 28th, 1909, Sarah and Taylor Masters Hervey produced a son, Frederick Taylor Hervey. At that time, El Paso boasted a population of 39,000. In 1976, as its population approaches the 400,000 mark, we can say that by any criteria he ranks among those who have done most for his City's progress. His influence for good to his fellowman and community will be long remembered. I take great pride in hailing his selection by this Society as a member of its Hall of Honor.

HEALTH FOR SALE

by CHRIS P. FOX

EDITOR'S NOTE: Except as indicated, this article is derived from the personal recollections of the author and his multitude of friends. Mr. Fox, a life long resident, has long been popularly known as "Mr. El Paso."

A research of the earliest literary effort of writers and ad men, promoters, etc., of this southwestern area, shows that health, and health-giving qualities of the El Paso southwest stood high on the list of "merchandise to sell." The term "health" comprised more specifically tuberculosis, asthma, bronchitis, and any and all other pulmonary ailments.

One promoter of railroad advertising in the mid-80s boldly set forth that . . . "consumption is the scourge of humanity, one death in every six being to its charge." Later others were using scare phrases such as . . . "when it is remembered that a mighty army of diseases which death marshals against the race, that a sixth of the total was slain from this one disease, the fearfulness of its purpose becomes appalling." Such verbiage as that would put to shame some of the writers of this day.

So it was in El Paso and this southwestern country that the railroad promotional efforts, plus the city directory of ours and other area communities, spent much time and copy in telling of the scourge of "lung trouble" and that the greatest possibility of immediate and permanent relief was to be found in this vast empire that was and is loaded with a health-giving potion of ozone unmatched.

Those who spent a period of years gathering statistics showed that consumption (tuberculosis) was much more prevalent in certain sections of the country than in others. For example, for every 1,000 people Maine had 50 who were afflicted with "TB" and the other New England states averaged 25. The southern states average 6 . . . our Rio Grande valley averaged 3. Those who were writing to build up El Paso, would write to Europe and Great Britain to get quotes from famous physicians such as Dr. Von Leyden of Berlin who was quoted as having said, "so far the only treatment that has given any success is the climatic. My best results have been obtained in the low mountains."

And then followed quotes from able physicians in St. Petersburg, Russia, Monte Carlo on the French Riviera, and others. But to cap it all, they would make reference to Dr. Charles Dennison, president of the American Climatological Association, who would, in laying down the comparative importance of different climatic attributes that might arrest the chronic pulmonary diseases, set them up in the following order . . . dryness as opposed to moisture; coolness or cold preferable to warmth or heat; rarification as opposed to sea level pressure; sunshine as opposed

to cloudiness; and variability of temperature as opposed to equability. So it was that when you made a comparison, the observations of Dr. Dennison represented the big clout and directed the smart ones our way.²

To many, a person "seeking health" was a desirable piece of "merchandise," so much publicity was directed towards that field.³

So they reached further through the offices of an El Pasoan of excellent repute in the field of meteorology, Professor Nathan Lane. They had him prepare the following table which showed that the average rainfall per month in El Paso for an 18 year period . . . 1884-1902 was:

January	— .53	July	— 2.08
February	— .52	August	— 1.08
March	— .40	September	— 1.11
April	— .15	October	— .92
May	— .49	November	— .50
June	— .39	December	— .54

This showed that the normal yearly rainfall was 9.33 inches . . . with 4.99 inches, or one-half of the total annual rainfall coming during the months of July, August and September. The writers would give our altitude, which is 3,764 feet downtown, as being *just right* to secure the best results for most invalids. Reportedly a lower altitude would hasten a destruction of lung tissue, while the higher would subject a patient to other serious complications . . . the "old boys" had it all figured out that they could tell the whole world that the healthiest spot to be found was this City of the Pass to the North.

The figures submitted by the "experts" and the honest and catchy words used, sent the good word of El Paso to the far reaches of the United States. This was mainly so, with the coming of the railroads in 1881-82. Reports went out of the many full recoveries made here, and the number of well-arrested cases. These "soldiers of the pen" told a story that was believed . . . and a story that was supportable . . . and equally so a story that brought to El Paso thousands and thousands of people who formed the stout plank in the springboard of community success. With all of that there were many trials and tribulations for those who did come to El Paso because of their tubercular conditions; they were not always met with open arms . . . far from it! But with the passing of time, hearts of understanding softened and people generally became more tolerant of those to whom fate had not been kind.⁴

Dr. William Yandell, while City Health Physician, (he came here in 1888), compiled over the years from U. S. Army Signal Corps reports, that from September to May, the El Paso mean relative humidity was 48%, the same for Santa Fe, New Mexico—Prescott, Arizona, was 52%; Denver, 51%; New York 70%; Chicago, 72%; New Orleans, 71%; San Antonio, 70%; and Jacksonville, Florida, 72%. So, from the fore-

going, which to an extent is somewhat laborious, you can see that there was a time when pulmonary diseases were looked upon as the scourge of the world; and our dry and wonderful southwestern climate provided the greatest opportunities for health improvement.⁵

Anyhow, we've had enough of the statistics, observations and recommendations so let us get on with the cold, hard facts of life that existed at that time and to which the poor sufferer of tuberculosis had to contend . . . if he were to survive and recover and/or come out with an arrested case, or if nothing worked his way . . . he would be a death statistic. El Paso is widely recognized as being a friendly and hospitable place . . . a place which always welcomes the new folks who come our way, "round the mountain." But, during the heyday of the western movement of "TB" infected people, the rooming housekeeper, the hotel man and also real estate dealers were ever-circumspect at first about a newcomer. The newcomer sitting in San Jacinto Plaza would find himself surrounded by warning signs which read, "No Spitting" . . . on the street curbs were others admonishing people not to "spit" . . . they did not use the word "expectorate"; they didn't think it was forceful enough. The maligned and widely discussed spittoons, which were found in banks, hotels, cigar stands and saloon lobbies, were always of sizeable stature and well-polished to make their presence easily noticed! The sand box around stoves was emptied each day by the store owners, and because of their violent fears, they would *bury* the sand! Often when a person applied to rent a room in a private home, he had to give more personal and health credentials than a Texan attempting to cash a check in California. If the landlord did unwittingly take in a tubercular as a tenant, means were devised to see that he was promptly ousted and the health department would have the room and contents sealed-off and fumigated for more than 24 hours. The family that came here with a member having tuberculosis could usually rent a small cottage if they had the where-with-all. Even their children were well-scrutinized at school by the classroom teacher and the principal and later on a doctor's certificate was required.

Prior to the coming of the then "modern sanitorium," which gave almost the equivalent of hospital care to the individual tubercular, many families simply "took to the hills," particularly the sunny eastern and southern slopes of Mt. Franklin . . . there were times when that area of the mountain was veritably covered with white canvas topped wall tents, the size depending upon the number in the family. Yes, those tents could and did become bitter cold in the winter time.

You may have been wondering how in the world they would be able to keep those tents upright on the mountain side during our spring breezes and not have them blow into the next county. Well, the answer

to that is rather simple, it was a matter of "know-how" because most of those people had come from places where living in tents was not unusual and they knew how to "make a tent" and to snug it down. Those tents had floors and sides of wood, as well as generous numbers of guyropes and stake loops. The canvas skirts of the tents were well made, so they could be tightly staked through the rock and caliche. The warming Sibley stove was as always placed in the center of the tent so that the chimney would go out to the side of the centerpole. Some of the people would build outdoor fireplaces which made clothes boiling and cooking less difficult. The stoves burned mesquite wood brought to the tents on the backs of burros.

Water was a problem too, as there were only a few spigots in the area, with some being quite far from the user. This, however, was helped a bit because the youngsters on their way to school in the morning, would set a roped five-gallon can and pole at the spigot . . . and upon coming home from school, would fill the can, and with a youngster on either end of the pole, they would laboriously tote the heavy can of water up the hills. The same, more or less, held for groceries and other items of life. Yes, it can truly be said that life was earnest, real and brutally hard.

As the years moved on, the famous Highland Park Streetcar Line was constructed and it brought a great deal of relief to people living in that area and particularly those on the mountain. Speaking of streetcars, one would be safe in saying that practically every motorman and conductor of streetcars were here in El Paso and operating them "because of his health" or that of a member of his family . . . the same held true for the postal carriers and those in the delivery business in general or who worked outside at a job that was not too hard on them and their weakened condition. We will give more detail later on this streetcar story as it "changed everything," and for the better.

Some recall that the possessor of a deep or bad cold was shunted aside by society . . . indeed no one wanted to "take any chances" with the "TB" bug. People were just deathly afraid of getting it, but later as previously stated, and with able physicians moving into the arena, things calmed down. They were qualified in the field of tuberculosis because of not only a solid background in medicine, but also in that thing called experience . . . They calmed the waters quite a bit and brought sympathy and understanding on the stage of living. We mentioned a "sanitorium" previously . . . there were a number of them built after the turn of the century, some large, some small, some well and properly operated while others were not. Be that as it may, one or two of the structures remain today serving good medical purposes.

Out of all of this welter of misery and confusion, El Paso was, in a way, blessed because of this illness of others . . . "TB." This disease plus

asthma brought good and competent people to El Paso, people who possessed talents of all imaginable kinds. There were craftsmen of every field, artists with the brush also . . . engineers of various qualifications and experiences. Then there were educators and physicians and attorneys . . . you might say the whole spectrum of professional and business life and many equipped with the highest in talent . . . progeny of many still live among us here in El Paso having built creditable careers and families. Having all of this talent put us well ahead of other southwestern communities and brought us great rewards, not only was it just these people and their capabilities, but also just for them, themselves . . . builders and solid citizens all!⁹

In retrospect it seems that most of the children who went to Lamar School, (and if they went to school, they went to Lamar or EPHS) whose parents were tent-dwellers were about the same age, so I speculate that said parents were relatively young folks who had children ranging in ages from 9 to 12 or maybe 13. Strangely, these children when they would first come to school would be somewhat clannish, more or less set themselves aside from the rest of us. Clannish yes, but not rude. Maybe the family adversity caused them to feel that because the "lunger" was more or less separated from society that they also fell into that category. They were brought together, we assume, because their lives had up to then been dominated by that hard word "tuberculosis." But as time moved on they would move out into the "lifestream" of the school and participated fully and happily in its affairs. Of course, in that day and time the school faculty and management didn't spend much time trying to "find something for the children to do" in order to "keep them happy" . . . They had full courses of reading and writing and arithmetic with manual training and domestic science filling the gaps; they were at the end of the day, as were the teachers, all happy and equally tired. Then for many started that long trek back home with scuffed shoes kicking through the sand and rock with arms filled with books and writing pads and long since emptied lunch buckets . . . and conversations that revolved around being president of the United States, some day.

In that day and time, it was highly recommended that tubercular patients drink milk and a lot of it, so it was not unusual to find that many an El Paso back yard had a well-fed cow. It was punctually milked every morning shortly after sunrise, and in the evening as the sun was setting in the nighttime sky. Boys on their bicycles wheeling around with tin milk cans to pick up a few extra coins was not an uncommon sight. Those who lived in an area that would not support bicycle travel usually could be found riding a pony or a burro, or maybe it was just plain "shanks mare." To give a better service, the person buying the milk got his in the morning . . . the family owning the cow would get theirs from

the night milking; yes indeed, then as now "the customer came first."

Following along the dietary side, it was about 1907 or 8 that the word got out to the effect that a prominent El Paso "TB" physician had said that squabs were high on the list of food items for tubercular people. I refer to pigeon squabs, when they were big and fat and full of corn and about ready to leave the nest . . . that's what the tubercular people needed said the doctor with much emphasis. The physician's remarks got to the younger generation, in fact it travelled like the proverbial wild-fire in a Kansas wheat field, and we got into the pigeon business somehow or another. Though we didn't have many of the pests here at that time, it wasn't long before there was a pigeon pen in many back yards. Some went into the business on a more expansive scale than others, and found that the best producer of the right kind of squab was the Barred Blue Plymouth; the Jersey Meadow Red was a good bird also for production.

As many people had horses for riding or buggy-pulling at that time, their stables, plus livery stables, represented the most desirable spots to seek forage for the pigeons. Tragically, there were only two places in town where you could sell pigeon-squabs; one was Melvin's Market on North Stanton Street and the other was the J. H. Nations Meat Market on Mesa Street. Mrs. Melvin drove a very hard bargain and Mrs. Nichols over at Nations' was not far behind. Considering the times, tides and the general ups and downs of life, the sale of squabs faded away except at Hotel Dieu where they kept a big flock for themselves for a number of years.

It must be remembered and with much compassion too, that many of the "lungers" and their families who lived in the tents out on the slopes of Mt. Franklin couldn't be too choosy about their diet and many of their children came to Lamar School each morning with skimpy brown bags or only partially-filled lunch baskets. This may be irrelevant to what we're talking about, but it's interesting just the same . . . most of the boys from the mountain side were better marble players than those of us down in the flatland . . . indeed more proficient and could even give Henry Wooldridge and George Biefer a hard game. They usually won hands down and knuckle-tight. Playing marbles was not to the delight of the average mother because she had to patch the knees of the knickerbockers that were worn at that time.

It is not generally known, but the Highland Park area, if you look at it today, is still made up of many, many small homes. Many were built and owned by some of the tubercular people of another day. They had sufficient funds to build a house and stay away from the rigors of tent living. With the building of the Highland Park streetcar Line, the building of these homes was greatly accelerated. Someday while driving over Scenic Drive on the East side, look off to your right and you will see

some of these smaller houses, and many have been remodeled and snug-gle right up to the side of the mountain, almost to Scenic Drive.

About 1901-02 the El Paso Electric Railway Company formed El Paso as a community, pretty well tied down to an area that could be comfortably reached by walking, riding a bicycle or horse, driving a buggy or within the scope of old Mandy as she toted her mule street car out San Antonio Street to Cotton, and Cotton to Myrtle Avenue, making a loop. There was another mule car loop to Juarez. El Paso was growing, but then as now it wasn't going to go anywhere of consequence without "mass transportation," so you can see that the advent of the El Paso Electric Railway Company was a tremendous boost to the community and made its rapid and continuing growth possible.

At the height of our street car transportation system, it was among the finest in the country and reached every "nook and cranny" of the community and did a good job in Juarez also. We will not go into the details at this time but will give a background of the system insofar as it affected Highland Park. Among other lines one went from the San Jacinto Plaza up North Oregon Street and out Boulevard Street (Yandell today) to Austin Street, now Langtry. It had to go as far as Austin Street, because on that corner a city alderman lived . . . something which no smart person looking for a franchise would overlook. Shortly afterwards the line was extended to Cotton, to start rails northward on Cotton into Highland Park to help those poor folks who sorely needed transportation. So it was in 1904 that the good people of Highland Park had them a street car line, one of the more "twistingist" in the country. Here is why: It went up Cotton to Erie, now Murchison, and then right to Ohio, and north to Tremont, right to Indiana and north to Portland and right to Dakota, north to Copper and right to Kentucky and north to Lebanon and right to Alabama and stopping at New Orleans Street, now known as Altura. Yes, it was a twister and from miles away you could hear the squealing wheels, despite the street car company's effort to keep curves and switches well oiled. With all of that it brought great relief to many most deserving and future solid citizens of the community. As a matter of information, prior to the advent of the Highland Park Line, if a person wanted to go to El Paso High School which was then on Arizona and Campbell Streets, he or she could only get there by a lot walking. When the Highland Park Line came in, a person could get on and ride it to Campbell Street, and then walk four blocks north to El Paso High. Later, one could ride all the way into the San Jacinto Plaza and transfer to an Arizona Street car, taking them to the high school. But any way you take it, up until 1915 or 20, getting to any El Paso school might require time and much travel.

Among the early-day business and religious structures in Highland

Park, there was the Tremont Grocery on that street and the Highland Grocery and Market on Dakota Street; the old Baptist Church, now the All Saints Church, still stands on the corner of Gold and Dakota Streets. A real pioneer, H. L. Ilfrey, had his store 1100 North Cotton. Today each of those buildings still stands and some bear the original name. Though time in Highland Park has marched on, it has not taken heavy toll, because the structures both residential and business were well-put-together by craftsmen with an honest heart and a steady hand.

In 1906, a Miss Lena Heep was principal of what she called the Highland Park School at Copper and Dakota. It could have been a private school. The Lamar School was built in 1907 on the block surrounded by Lee, Montana, Dallas and Boulevard (Yandell). Miss Alice Fitzpatrick was the first principal. In 1908 an El Paso Public School named the Highland Park School was built at the corner of Alabama and San Jose and the principal was Miss Olga Pool. In 1909 the Highland Park Methodist Church built at 2522 Kentucky and nearby, the Ragsdale Drug Store, at 2524 Kentucky and the Highland Grocery at 2123 Kentucky were all serving a great purpose by saving a lot of shoe leather.

By this time to the east of Cotton, the streetcar lines had been extended and double-tracked from Oregon to Piedras Street, and then single tracks to Ft. Bliss, Beaumont, Government Hill, Piedras Street and Richmond Street Lines. During that same period of time, they were building street car lines all over El Paso . . . all of which served well as they went their way, with a recovering tubercular often at the controls.

In making references to the tent cottages on the mountain, one should also spend some time in telling about the several Class I sanitoriums that came into being in El Paso after the turn of the century. But to do a good job of that would call for much space and perhaps result in duplications and maybe some hurt feelings here or there. So right now and for the next few paragraphs, I'm going to write about what was looked upon as the "Main one." This was of permanent nature and was built on Grandview Street circa 1907, carrying a very prestigious name . . . the Albert Baldwin Health Resort. The Baldwin family had come up from New Orleans country and strangely Mr. Baldwin was not a medical man. It was a beautiful structure too with all the modern and finer health devices available at the time, and peopled with an excellent staff. Obviously, Mr. Albert Baldwin was a man of considerable means, and the Baldwin family moved into the social and scholastic life of our community without losing stride between New Orleans and El Paso. But unfortunately things didn't work out exactly as anticipated, and after 3 years operations the sanitorium was sold to Dr. Robert B. Homan, Sr., an outstanding physician-citizen, who limited his practice to diseases of

the lungs. That same year the El Paso Sanitorium was built at 1109-1111 N. Cotton, with Mrs. M. A. Walsh as Superintendent.

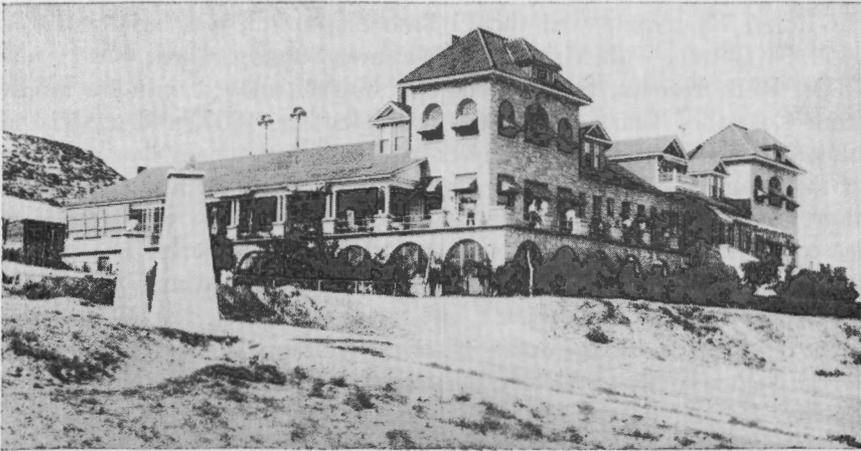
Dr. R. B. Homan, Sr., a tubercular himself, moved with his family from Colorado, Texas, to El Paso in September, 1907, and established his practice and office in the Caples Building, a practically new structure at that time. It is a coincidence, in a way, that he built his home only a short distance from the Albert B. Baldwin Sanitorium which he later leased in 1910. The following year, Dr. John C. Crimen became his partner, and it developed into an association that lasted many profitable and generally rewarding years.

At one time during the operation of the Albert B. Baldwin Sanitorium, a relative newcomer to the city, Dr. Charles M. Hendricks, was employed by Mr. Baldwin to run the Sanitorium as superintendent and medical director. This association, however, only lasted about a year. Dr. Hendricks is well-remembered as one of the community's greater boosters and spent many hours in the Chamber of Commerce working on tourist development programs. In later years, he was co-founder of the Southwestern Sun Carnival Association and for several years was its Executive Director.

Several years later, circa 1914-15, Drs. Hendricks and J. W. Laws built a sizeable sanitorium in Government Hill. The subdivision was so named because of its proximity to Fort Bliss. This sanitorium operated successfully for a number of years and later was sold to the Catholic order as a Seminary. I must add that both Doctors Hendricks and Laws were also very prominent in treating those afflicted with tuberculosis. Dr. Homan was looked upon as being outstanding in this field and also for his contributions in advancing the knowledge of chest surgery. His son, Dr. Robert B. Homan, Jr., followed in his footsteps in the field of medicine and specializing in diseases of the chest and surgery.

So you can see that the word "tuberculosis" has been a part of the El Paso jargon for many years, though you seldom hear it used any more, and for that we are indebted to the fine and dedicated physicians and nurses who labored long and hard toward the eradication and control of tuberculosis, as did those men and women of the U. S. Public Health Service, City-County Health Department, and society in general.

The broad mention of the family Homan is not intended to slight others. It is simply a case of an unusual family that gave much as it moved into our lives in the field of medicine, dentistry, salesmanship, engineering, and overall deep community interests and participation. Yes, we have come a long way since the "tents on the mountain" days, but we must continue to remain alert to the dread potentialities of "TB" and be ever grateful to those venturing pioneers whose strength and fortitude, pain and sometimes despair, paved the way for better days.



*Albert Baldwin Sanatorium, (circa 1908), West End of Grandview Avenue. Later became Homan's Sanatorium and then St. Joseph's.
(M. G. McKinney Collection)*

REFERENCES

1. *El Paso, Texas and Paso del Norte, Mexico. Business Directory 1885.* (Albuquerque, New Mexico, Ratcliff and Wailey, 1885).
2. *Ibid.*
3. *General Directory of the City of El Paso, 1885-87.* (Dallas, G. A. Gould and Company, 1887).
4. *El Paso City Directory, 1888.* (El Paso, El Paso Times, 1888).
5. See "No Dark and Cold and Dreary Days, El Paso as a Health Resort," by Eugene O. Porter, *PASSWORD IV*, 71-78.
6. From personal knowledge and consultation with other knowledgeable old timers the author has compiled the following partial list of prominent citizens who came to El Paso for their health—asthma, tuberculosis, bronchitis or other respiratory diseases. They stayed here, and all were competent in their fields when they recovered sufficiently to engage in their various professions and businesses.
 - W. Launcelot Brown, MD, general practitioner and physician and surgeon for the E. P. and S. W. Railway.
 - Herbert L. Potter, Proprietor, Potter and White Confectioners and Florists.
 - Harwood J. Simmons, General Manager and President El Paso and Southwestern Railway.
 - E. Hewitt Rodgers, President, El Paso Brick Company.
 - John W. Wyatt, business, banking and politics.
 - Charles A. Kinne, Secretary El Paso Chamber of Commerce, real-estate and man about town.
 - Robert B. Homan, Sr., MD, owner of Homan Sanitarium; physician, specializing in diseases of the lungs.
 - Walter Stockwell, Engineer and Secretary of City Plan Commission.
 - D. Storms, attorney—founder of Stormsville, now Rim Road.
 - Ed D. Strong, MD, active in American Legion and first man to take interest in developing eastern slopes of Mount Franklin.
 - D. C. Crowell, Sr., Insurance.
 - Walker Morrow, attorney, President of El Paso School Board.
 - Percy R. Price, Attorney, Judge 41st District Court.
 - Hugh S. White, MD, general practitioner, City and County Health Director. He was the man who brought the Pasteur Treatment to El Paso.
 - J. H. McBroom, Attorney, President of El Paso School Board.
 - W. H. Fryer, Attorney, at one time Secretary of the U. S. Court.
 - Wyndham Kemp, Sr., Attorney, original founder of El Paso's present law firm of Kemp, Smith, White, Duncan and Hammond.
 - C. E. Kelly, 3-term Mayor of El Paso.

BICENTENNIAL EL PASO

Edited by W. H. TIMMONS

Excerpts relating to El Paso from Fray Juan Agustín de Morfi's
Geographical Description of New Mexico—1782.

Spanish-born Fray Juan Agustín de Morfi (originally Murphy), the author of the accompanying document, was one of the most prolific writers on Spain's northern frontier in the late eighteenth century. He came to Mexico in the 1750's as a layman in search of fame and fortune, but failing to find quick riches, he joined the Franciscan order, was duly ordained, and soon established a reputation as a preacher and theologian. With the establishment of the new frontier administrative jurisdiction known as the Provincias Internas and the appointment of Teodoro de Croix in 1776 as commandant-general, Fray Morfi was ordered to accompany Croix as chaplain on a tour of inspection of the new jurisdiction.

During 1777 and early 1778 Morfi traveled two thousand miles, visited hundreds of outposts, missions, and ranches along the frontier, saw the wild Indians of the north, and gained a first-hand acquaintance with social and economic conditions along the northern frontier of the Viceroyalty of New Spain. He kept a diary of the expedition, noting day by day the distances traveled, the direction of the march, the nature of the country traversed, and the conditions that prevailed in the various cities, towns, villages, and ranches. "In each place where the expedition halted," says historian Carlos Castaneda, who has edited Morfi's *History of Texas*, "he quickly but systematically searched the local archives for data concerning the history of that place, so that his diary is a mine of information for all the important cities visited by him."

Morfi's Geographical Description of New Mexico was first published by Professor Alfred B. Thomas in his *Forgotten Frontiers*. The University of Oklahoma Press has graciously permitted PASSWORD to reprint the passages from the document dealing with the El Paso settlements. Although the date 1782 appears on the title, the discourse was probably written three or four years before.

GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF NEW MEXICO

by FRAY JUAN AGUSTÍN DE MORFI

The pueblos which compose the jurisdiction of the Paso del Río del Norte are also included in the government of New Mexico. Although the pueblo at the junction of the rivers Norte and Conchos was dependent upon New Mexico and those missions upon those of the Custody, today the junction is comprehended in New Vizcaya and its pueblos no

longer exist. Notwithstanding this, a separate account of them will be given at an appropriate place.

The jurisdiction of El Paso included at its origin eleven settlements, some of Spaniards, others of Indians many of whom, not wishing to bear arms, from necessity or fear of different nations when the Spaniards fled from New Mexico because of the general Revolt of the year of '80, came out with the Spaniards. All fled to El Paso and that land not being adequate to avoid the disorders which could result from the Indians and Spaniards being together in his pueblo and observing that the land should be cultivated so that they could be sustained, the Father Custodian, Fray Nicolas Lopez, had erected various settlements besides that of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe of El Paso such as that of La Socorro of Piro Indians; San Francisco of Sumas Indians; Sacramento of the Tiguas; San Antonio Senecú, Piro and Tompiros Indians; Santa Gertrudis Sumas Indians; Soledad, Janos Indians; San Lorenzo Real and *villa jurada*, Spanish; San Pedro Alcántara, Spanish; San José, Spanish; El Pueblo Viejo de la Ysleta, Spanish.

In 1707 Santa María Magdalena was erected for Yumas who were beginning to congregate.

Afterwards Santa María de las Caldás mission was erected in Curato and its Indians were dispersed.

Of these only El Paso del Río del Norte remains. This mission Father Fray García de San Francisco founded under the protection of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, as will be stated in its place, with Indians from the Mansos nation to whom were added some Piro and more recently some families of Tanos. Some families of Spaniards have been added to them and because of the facility of irrigation, the village pushed down to the river so that today the place occupies two leagues of maiz, beans and vegetables, especially grapes, which the owners pick and, having made wine, sell profitably in Chiguagua and Sonora. They have the usual church and convent where two religious function. One of them is always the custodian of New Mexico or its vice-custodian. In 1744 it had fifty families of Indians and one hundred and eight Spanish settlers; in 1765 in the Visit of Señor Tamarón three hundred and fifty-four families of Spaniards including the presidio, with two thousand four hundred and seventy-nine persons and twenty-seven families of Indians with two hundred and ninety-four souls.

San Lorenzo

The Real of San Lorenzo at one and one half leagues east of El Paso, Sumas Indians, which Father Alvarez calls a *Villa jurada*, was erected when the revolt of New Mexico occurred as a Plaza de Armas where the settlers and those who came from the outside were collected to serve in the Reconquest. Afterwards some Sumas Indians were added to it. In

1744 it had more than fifty families of Indians and ten of Spaniards, and in 1765, twenty-one families of Indians with fifty-eight persons, and thirty-two of Spaniards with one hundred and ninety-two souls.

Senecú

Senecú is the mission at two leagues east of El Paso founded with Piros Indians who fled in the year of '80 with the Spaniards. It is about one half a league from the Rio Grande. In 1744 it had seventy families of Indians and five of Spaniards. In 1746 it had three hundred and eighty-four of Indians and one hundred and two of Spaniards; and in 1765, one hundred and eleven families with four hundred and twenty-five persons, and twelve families of Sumas who were fifty-two persons; Spanish families, twenty-nine with one hundred and forty-one souls.

Ysleta Corpus Christi

This mission is placed at about one league from the Rio Grande and at three from El Paso east. It was settled with Tiguas Indians who fled from the kingdom in the year of '680. In 1744 it had seventy families with four hundred and ninety-eight Indians and fifty-four Spanish persons; in 1765, eighty families with four hundred and twenty-nine persons, and eighteen families of settlers with one hundred and thirty-one souls.

Socorro

The mission of Nuestra Señora de Socorro situated one half a league from the Rio del Norte and to the south, and five from El Paso, east, was founded with Piros Indians to whom were added some Sumas. In 1744 it had sixty families of Indians, six of Spaniards, in 1765, forty-six families of Indians with one hundred and eighty-two persons; settlers, eighty-two families with four hundred and forty-four souls.

In the neighborhood of El Paso there were various haciendas and ranches because of the possibilities which the Rio Grande and other different arroyos and springs offered. Don Alonzo Vitares Rubin de Celis, Captain of the Royal Presidio of El Paso, founded the hacienda of cultivated fields La Ranchería at a distance of seven leagues from El Paso, which in 1744 had for tilling of lands and raising of herds twenty families of Spaniards and some of Indians.

Caldás

The mission of Santa María de las Caldás has been composed of different nations of Indians who in 1744 reached sixty families, but was depopulated unhappily for reasons which we shall see in history.

The ranch called Carrizal de Piedra, today Presidio, subject to the government of Vizcaya and its former jurisdiction and Ojo Caliente teemed with extensive cultivation and remarkable sheep raising was carried on there. In 1744 more than twenty Spanish families and some Indians were living there. The climate is generally cold and dry, the seasons of the year well distinguished, a benign and pleasant springtime,

summer hot, fall cold and winter very rigorous, except in some pueblos or canyons which because of their situation enjoy some shelter. But this, which is an advantage in the winter, increases fatigue in the summer.

The abundance of snows which fall annually impregnate the mountains and plains, which are almost always covered, the former with different woods and the latter with many and rich pasture lands.

On the terrain which enjoys the irrigation from the rivers one reaps in abundance wheat, maiz, frijol, chick-peas, *garbanzo*, beans, cotton, melons, water-melons, calabashes, chile and all kinds of garden stuff and vegetables. There are also varieties of vines which indicate the quality of the terrain for this class of crop. Various fruits are grown and all would grow if there were a market, and if more were expended with greater application in their cultivation.

In the places where irrigation is wanting and the crops of which depend absolutely upon the season, they are frequently lost because the failure of rains makes the country dry.

Herds of all kinds are grown and the region is appropriate for them. When the kingdom was not so infested with enemies the plenitude which it had was astonishing and each year great quantities of mutton were provided for provinces outside.

(From *Forgotten Frontiers*, by Alfred Barnaby Thomas. Copyright 1932 by the University of Oklahoma Press).

The last of the Old West railroad robberies, and one of the most sensational, was the Great Gold Special Holdup of 1923. The robbery was perpetrated and carried out by the three dastardly DeAutremont boys. They jumped aboard the Southern Pacific train, blew it up, incinerating a mail clerk and gunning down three other trainmen.

One of the brothers is still alive and well today in Eugene, Oregon, where he attends church regularly, is custodian at the University of Oregon, reads philosophy and quotes Shakespeare, a reminder of the human spirit's capacity to grow and change.

Doug Spangler in
Parade Magazine, (no date available)

HERITAGE HOMES OF EL PASO

THE LEA HOME

by HARRIOT HOWZE JONES

The pleasant and comfortable house at 1400 East Nevada Avenue was built in 1916 by Trost and Trost for Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Callo-way Lea. Nevada Street (as it was then) comes to an end a few houses down from the Lea house, where Golden Hill, popularly known as "Pill Hill" rises.

The house has sturdy rectangular lines. It has two stories and a base-ment, and is stuccoed in an off-white color. The pitched roof is of green shingles, with a wide overhang. Massive square columns uphold the roof of the porch. There is a screened porch off the kitchen, and a large screened porch which extends all across the back of the house at second story level. This was the popular sleeping porch found in most houses of that era.

On entering the house, any one who knows anything about the designs of Henry Trost would recognize that this is one of his creations. The walls have creamy-white plaster panels divided by dark wood. There is a six-inch wide band of dark wood at the top of the walls and this extends, with the same width, along the ceiling. The living room is very large, the full width of the house. At one end there is a fireplace with dark wood mantel and frame, there are cream color tiles around the opening. Attached to the mantel is a bronze plaque, with raised letters reading:

IN RECOGNITION OF ALMIGHTY GOD
THIS HOME IS DEDICATED
TO FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

Henry Trost often refrained from building walls between rooms, and there are only shoulder high columns of plaster, with dark wood tops, between the living and dining rooms. The dining room walls have the same plaster and wood treatment as the living room. There is a built-in buffet with glassed upper portion for china or silver. Trost was fond of built-in furniture. A window seat extends below the three windows, and in this there are drawers for storage. A plate rail, at eye level is along one wall. Over the dining table hangs a Tiffany type chandelier of colored glass. Behind the dining room is the kitchen, and off of that is a small breakfast room.

Beside the staircase leading to the second floor from the living room, there is a door into a den which has a fireplace in one corner. Two walls are lined with bookshelves, one wall consists of double French

doors, and the fourth wall consists entirely of glass cases with sliding doors. Here Mr. Lea kept his gun collection. Upstairs there are three bedrooms, a large dressing-room, a sewing room and the aforementioned sleeping porch.

Tom Lea, as he was always called, with Western informality, was born in Independence, Missouri in 1877. He came to El Paso in 1900. The young lawyer intended to go to Grand Junction, Colorado, but he lost his wallet with all his cash during a stage stop near Alamogordo. It was not in vain that he was known as "The Silver-tongued Orator." He persuaded a rail-road conductor into giving him a ride to El Paso without a ticket! In El Paso he soon found a job, and later met and married Miss Zola Mae Utt.

The rising young attorney decided in 1915 to oppose the incumbent C. E. Kelly for the office of mayor of El Paso. One of his first moves, after he was elected, was to try to clean up vice in the city. He was not wholly successful in this; but there was improvement and more control. He also worked to ensure honesty and fair dealing in municipal matters. Dr. C. L. Sonnichsen, in his book *PASS OF THE NORTH* described Tom Lea as "One of the great characters in our history, an exceptional trial lawyer, he combined a fine oratorical talent with deep emotional involvement in whatever cause he was working for."

In the *El Paso Herald* of August 8, 1915, appeared this item.

"Mayor Lea, when advised that General Villa had posed for photographs this morning in El Paso said: 'You may say that if this happens again I will stop it, if it takes the whole police force of El Paso. If that bandit comes here again the police have orders to throw him in jail, and will do so'."

For many years Tom Lea was in the law firm of Lea, McGrady, Thomason and Edwards.

In 1906 Tom Lea was married to Zola Mae Utt. They had three sons, who were reared in the house on Nevada Street. These were Thomas Calloway, Jr., Joseph Edward and Richard Calvin.

The most famous of the Lea sons, and one may say one of the most famous sons of El Paso, is Tom Lea, Jr. He was inducted into the El Paso County Historical Society's Hall of Honor in 1975. (See *PASSWORD*, Vol. XX, No. 4, Winter, 1975).

Tom Lea, Jr. is an internationally known artist and writer. His talent manifested itself when he was in High School. He studied at the Art Institute in Chicago, 1924-26 and then was apprentice and assistant to muralist John Norton from 1927 to 1930. Some of his first work was in murals, and those painted by him may be seen in Court houses, museums, libraries, Post Offices and other public buildings. He has written several books, among them: *The Brave Bulls*, *The Wonderful Coun-*

try, *The King Ranch*, *The Hands of Cantu* and *The Primal Yoke*. All of these books are illustrated by the author. During World War II Lea was commissioned by LIFE magazine to go to the several theaters of war and to paint what he saw. The result was a fantastic series of paintings and drawings of action of Army, Navy, Marine and Air Corps, showing the hideous and the beautiful, the triumphant and the tragic phases of warfare. These were published in LIFE and are now housed in the Pentagon in Washington. Tom Lea works in several media: oil, water color, fresco and black and white (wash drawings and pen and ink). His drawings of horses and cattle in action are remarkable. He seldom does portraits, and when he does it is usually of his friends, and he gives them to the subjects. He is a realist, and works with great emotional involvement.

In 1968 Little Brown and Co. published *Picture Gallery—Tom Lea*. This was in two volumes contained in a box slip-cover. Volume I was 9 x 11 inches, 160 pages, text by Tom Lea, who declared that this was not autobiography, but it is almost that, as he described the circumstances that inspired every work of his pencil and brush. There are 96 reproductions in black and white. Volume II is larger, 11 x 15¼ inches and consists of thirty-six reproductions of his paintings, suitable for framing. Twelve of these are in full color. This handsome production sold for \$50.00 in 1968, when inflation was not as rampant as now, but it sold extremely well. (One wonders what it would cost today?) Tom Lea is married to the former Sarah Dighton, they have one son.

The second Lea son, Joseph Edward, always known as Joe, was in the army during World War II. For fifteen years he was associated with C. H. Leavell Co. as a construction engineer. He is married to the former Marjorie Johnson. They have two sons.

Richard (Dick) Lea went to West Point as a cadet, but had to leave, due to ill health. This was a great disappointment to him. He entered Texas A & M and graduated with a B.S. in Aeronautics Engineering. For some years he was with Martin Aircraft. He is married to the former Margaret Jaquez. They have two sons, and live in Colorado.

Zola Mae Utt Lea died in 1936. Tom Lea Sr. was married to Mrs. O. L. Archer in 1939. Only the immediate families were present at the ceremony: Tom Lea, Jr. and his wife, Richard Lea (Joe Lea could not be present because of illness), Mrs. Archer's daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Schaer.

Tom Lea, Sr. died in 1945. Mrs. Schaer was living in the house with him and her mother at the time, as her husband was in the service, overseas. When Mr. Schaer returned from the service they sold their own house and lived from then on with Mrs. Lea, Sr. Mrs. Lea died in 1970 and the Schaers still live in the house. Mr. Schaer was in the automobile



The Lea Home
(Photograph by M. G. McKinney)

business, first with the H. D. Fulwiler Company and later with Kemp Ford. He is semi-retired now.

There are many interesting things to be seen in the house: collections of porcelain, carved wood, brass, and many interesting pictures. At least half of these are drawings, prints and paintings by Tom Lea, Jr. A quite fascinating small mural is painted on the wall of the breakfast room. Tom Lea has been acclaimed as a genius by critics, so it is amusing to see what is probably his very first mural, done when he was a youth, living in the house. The drawing is good, the colors clean, the outlines crisp, but one is reminded of the naive yet charming paintings of Grandma Moses, because so much is *happening* in the painting: an Indian stands on a bluff, peering across the desert and plain to the distant hills; on a steep hill a cowboy on horse-back is trying to rope a steer which is tearing down the precipitous slope with the cowboy in hot pursuit; Indian women are painting pottery in front of a pueblo, while another woman is coming up the hill with a large olla balanced on her head; an Indian brave is taking a rabbit he has killed into the hogan, while another, on foot, is running frantically after a deer attempting to shoot it with bow and arrow; a road-runner is about to attack a coiled-up rattlesnake; there is even a small skunk shown, but it is not doing anything.

This is an interesting house, full of interesting things, and it has been lived in by interesting people.

SOUTHWEST ARCHIVES ON COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

by BUD NEWMAN, *Guest Editor*

During recent years the words "archives" and "archivists" have gained in popularity. In the course of becoming popular, the words have also been touched by controversy, taking on different meanings for different people.

"Archives" is derived from the Greek *archeion*, meaning public office; and from this narrow definition (not without its vociferous partisans), it can be interpreted to mean exclusively those records, documents and muniments generated by a public institution in the course of its daily business.

In a much broader sense, and as it is most often used today, "archives" has come to mean any record of intrinsic interest and research value that is not a book or periodical and is not an artifact, although any and all of these may under special circumstances find their way into an archival collection. To avoid the word and to call these generalized groupings by the name of "manuscript collection" is an equal misnomer. In the last analysis and in a practical sense, "archives" has truly come to mean almost any document, public or private, that a librarian cannot classify with a Dewey Decimal or Library of Congress number and is therefore unequipped to handle. In this manner a dormant profession woke up and began to multiply—that of "archivist," "manuscript curator," or "records manager." Suddenly every public and college library in the country wanted the services of an archivist to take care of and catalog all the pieces of paper that nobody knew what to do with except to relegate them to the vertical files in the reference department. Once the files had been cleaned out, however, archivists began a campaign to establish themselves more firmly. Encouraged by historians and social scientists, the battle of the archives was begun, with archivists running hither and yon, armed with money, convincing arguments and tax write-offs, urging individuals to part with their important papers. And in their enthusiasm, they often brought back material of little or no research potential. In all this there has been much that was good and in the natural order of development for any new endeavor: hidden within the immense dross, a goodly supply of real historical documents was usually to be found. Yet, in their frenetic collecting activities, archivists have often stepped on each other's toes and gone too far afield to "bring home the bacon." This is particularly true of university libraries, where one institution would gather records that might better have served the research needs of another.

The time has come to step back and put into perspective the material already on hand; to organize and weed it, to index it, and if possible to make reasonable trades with other institutions. Indeed, it should not be necessary to trade in the sense of bartering or bidding or working through a central clearing house; instead, ethical policies should be established whereby if an institution in Texas, say, were offered a collection that might better serve research in a neighbor state, the potential donor would be steered to the most suitable depository. This is far preferable to an attitude of snatching material for one's own institution simply because it is available for the asking.

The problem is: what to do about the collections on hand that are owned by the wrong institution? Should one trade the material off under the table and risk being jailed for wrongly disposing of state or institutional property? The solution here would rather seem to be for our legislators to enact laws to permit public institutions to dispose of unwanted archives, either by discarding them altogether (the only answer in some cases!) or by sending them to another institution where they are needed and will be appreciated. Next, there should be a code of ethics adopted by regional associations of archivists for the purpose of defining and refining collection development practices and of educating potential donors without regard to the ambitions of the glory-seekers in the field who collect anything and everything in the hope of making themselves and their archives famous. This kind of fame no institution needs. Rather it should seek excellence by finding its own identity in the particular area and among the people which it directly serves. In that manner, each collecting institution becomes an important piece of the whole picture.

These are over-simplified answers to complex problems that are beginning to cry out for a solution. If a search for such answers is not begun soon, the paper explosion will inundate us all, and nobody will know where to go to find anything.

The opinions expressed here are those of the guest editor and not necessarily those of the University of Texas at El Paso.

The American hobo, who travels by boxcar and wears his home on his back, has reached the end of the line. A wanderlust tradition that originated after the Civil War and peaked during "the Depression" now is going the way of the buffalo hunter and the gold prospector.

Hood River Blackie, one of the 200 remaining "old time" hoboes estimates that only a dozen perhaps still "ride the rails." According to Blackie the American hobo tradition was started shortly after the Civil War by discharged Confederate soldiers who returned to the South only to find their homesteads burned and their wives and children gone. The railroads unofficially gave them free passage to look for their families and find new jobs out West.

During World War II prisoner-of-war camps were established in nearly every one of the United States. Texas, however, had approximately twice as many prisoner camps as any other state. By August, 1943, there were twelve camps in Texas, and by June 1, 1944, there were thirty three.

BOOK REVIEWS

CHRONICLES OF THE BIG BEND: A PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMOIR OF LIFE ON THE BORDER

by W. D. SMITHERS

(Madrona Press, \$11.95)

The Big Bend has always seemed mysterious and fascinating, due no doubt to its remoteness, its elemental landscape, and (until recently) the dearth of printed literature about it. Here is a book which explains some of the mystery while making it apparent that a lot can never be explained.

W. D. Smithers lived a large portion of his life in the Big Bend. He first saw it in 1916 as a mule teamster, and was immediately fascinated by the country and the people. He made frequent visits until he settled there in 1929. It was his intention from the beginning to record as much as possible of the prevailing way of life there, in both photographs and words.

He writes of ranchers and traders, of bandits and soldiers, of chino grass gatherers, and of *avisos and curanderas*. He relates in detail two instances in which he was treated successfully by *curanderas*, once for jaundice and once for sunstroke. He describes the Johnson ranch and the Lajitas trading post, as well as goat herders and a candelilla wax factory. His point of view is always personal, but objectively so. His interest in his subjects and the knowledge of them he has acquired are apparent throughout the book. The result is a charming narrative which communicates to the reader this man's fascination with the Big Bend.

The many photographs alone would be worth the price of this book. Smithers' entire collection, now at the University of Texas Humanities Research Center, has been called one of the greatest regional collections in existence. A copy of the index to this collection is in the El Paso Public Library.

As Smithers was astute enough to realize would happen, the way of life he observed in the 20's and 30's has now disappeared. Much of the territory he writes of is now within the boundaries of the Big Bend National Park, and even the buildings are gone, making this gathering of impressions of another time doubly valuable. Smithers, who now lives in El Paso, is working on another manuscript based on his observations and experiences. We wish him many more years and many more books as fine as this one.

El Paso, Texas

—MARY A. SARBER

THE SHOOTERS

by LEON CLAIRE METZ

(El Paso, Mangan Publications \$14.95)

In his latest book, "The Shooters," Leon Metz puts the oldtime gunman in his proper perspective.

Mr. Metz' aggressive and meticulous research has given the lie to many legends surrounding the gunmen of the west.

For example, the term "gunfighter" and "gun-slinger" were invented by Hollywood. These men were actually called "shooters" or "gunmen," and they carried their guns tucked inside a belt, in a shoulder holster or high on a hip. The "fast draw" was unknown, the shooter biding his time and shooting his opponent when he had an advantage.

True, many "shoot-outs" occurred but they were between cowhands, farmers, drifters and men usually under the influence of liquor and not professional gunmen.

"The Shooters" is the true and historically accurate story of notorious gunmen and the reader meets again such famous names in the annals of the west as Billy the Kid (The Enduring Legend); Black Jack Ketchum (a True Loser); the Dalton Gang (Brothers on the Prowl); Clay Allison (Wild Wolf of the Washita) and dozens of others.

In a fascinating chapter entitled simply "Texas Rangers" Mr. Metz explains that the Texas Rangers were organized principally to fight Indians and Mexicans; that the name "ranger" in the early days referred to a person who ranged across a broad expanse of land and who could fight at a moment's notice. They thought of themselves as militia, mounted volunteers, spies and mounted gunmen.

"The Shooters" is Mr. Metz' fourth book and establishes him as one of the finest and most prolific writers on the era of the western gunman.

The book was published by Frank Mangan, his first fine effort in the publishing field. It is beautifully put together, with many photographs and an impressive bibliography. This reviewer looks forward to more of his publications.

El Paso, Texas

—MARY ELLEN B. PORTER

JOURNEY FROM IGNORANT RIDGE:

Stories and Pictures of Texas Schools in the 1800's. (Austin, Texas, 1976. Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers, 165 pages)

JOURNEY FROM IGNORANT RIDGE is an unusual and lively history of education in Texas in the 1800's. Told through a collection of stories, many of them in the words of the people who lived through the early school days, and illustrated by many magnificent early photographs, this history unfolds the drama of Texas colonists who were determined against all odds to give their children the best education possible.

While the stories in the collection mostly reflect memories of rural school life, the introductory articles have a more historical aspect. An interesting one describes the difficulties that Stephen F. Austin's colonists had in establishing schools in Coahuila-Texas after their arrival in 1821, one factor in the split between the Anglo colonists and the Mexican Government which culminated in independence in 1836. Others tell of the founding of famous Texas colleges and name prominent early educators. All of this material is loosely placed in context through miniature "history lessons."

Of special interest to El Pasoans in the article entitled "Olivas Villanueva Aoy," introducing our early El Paso area schools. The article was researched by Mrs. Louis Foght and Mrs. Gordon Moore from Conrey Bryson's *THE LAND WHERE WE LIVE*, Cleofas Calleros' *EL PASO—THEN AND NOW*, and C. L. Sonnichsen's *PASS OF THE NORTH*.

The authors describe the founding of early schools from the mission school of Ysleta in 1760 and Parson Tays' mission school of 1870, to the opening of our first genuine schoolhouse, Central School, in 1885; Mesa School, in 1875; and finally our first high school organized in 1885 and installed in a new building in 1902.

The article also describes "a most unusual and devoted character," Olivas Villanueva Aoy, who conducted a school for Mexican children after 1887.

Besides the ordinary subjects, he taught his pupils "music, calisthenics, politeness, patriotism and reverence for God," helped them find jobs, and listened to their troubles. Deeply mourned upon his death in 1895, he was honored by the naming of a permanent school in 1899. A picture of Aoy School is included.

The article is prefaced by large photographs of Mrs. Ernest Kohlberg and Reverend Joseph Wilkin Tays. The caption describes Mrs. Kohlberg as the founder in 1899 of what was probably the first kindergarten in Texas.

A contemporary El Pasoan is recognized in a vignette, "Mr. John Oechsner remembers school in 1898-99." Mr. Oechsner, now 84 years of age, is a native-born El Pasoan and still resides in this city.

The book is lavish with pictures, about 150 of them. I asked PASSWORD's picture consultant, Millard G. McKinney, to comment on them.

"This book is greatly enhanced by an outstanding collection of pictures, some of which pre-date Civil War times, and which will be a delight to photography 'buffs.' However, with better use of size and spacing, the editors could have included an appreciable amount of additional narrative without detracting from the impact of the historical photos."

This book is the official bicentennial project of the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers. Its intriguing title came from the "Ignorant Ridge" school, more formally named Pleasant Hill School, located in Hansford County in the Panhandle area. As the Panhandle was the last part of Texas to be settled, its first schools were the latest founded in Texas. Ignorant Ridge school was opened in 1896, with eight pupils. Its one room and meager furnishings were typical of schools of that period, as was the determination of the people to do the best they could with what they had. The editors, Mary Ley and Mike Bryan, liked the name "Ignorant Ridge" for a book about the early schools in Texas because it showed "the perspective of a people confronted with hardship and filled with vision."

This is not a book to be picked up and read straight through, for it lacks continuity. Its multiplicity of materials, filling the pages and margins, is distracting. It is unified only by the fact that it all deals with education and life in the past century. A reader who likes to browse will find the effort rewarding. One seeking systematic analysis of education in the 1800's will have to look elsewhere.

—WINIFRED M. MIDDAGH

The Great Salt Lake of Utah is an 1800 square mile upland lake three times the size of Israel's Dead Sea and eight times saltier than the ocean. It was first discovered by trapper Jim Bridger in 1824 and explored by Scout Kit Carson in 1843.

ACTIVITIES OF YOUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OCTOBER QUARTERLY MEETING

The annual October membership meeting of the El Paso County Historical Society was held Saturday, October 30, at the Cavalry Museum. Featured speaker for the program was Dr. Oscar J. Martinez, in charge of the oral history project of the University of Texas at El Paso. The report of the Nominating Committee was accepted, electing the following officers and directors for 1977:

President.....	James M. Peak
First Vice President.....	Patrick Rand
Second Vice President.....	Thomas D. Westfall
Third Vice President.....	Miss Gertrude Goodman
Recording Secretary.....	Mrs. Freeman Harris
Corresponding Secretary.....	Mrs. Albert R. Haag
Treasurer & Membership Secretary.....	Mrs. Gordon Frost
Curator.....	William I. Latham
Historian.....	Mrs. Barry Coleman

DIRECTORS—1977-1980

Mrs. William Burgett	Frank Mangan
Mrs. Joseph F. Friedkin	Mrs. Arthur Ortiz
Mrs. Robert Given	Judge W. E. Ward
William P. Hughes	

The Society has accepted, with regret, the resignation of Fred W. Bailey as Curator. Over a period of many years he has served capably as Director, President and Curator.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Directors of the Society have voted to upgrade its participation in the National Trust by changing its membership from Associate Member to Contributing Member.

HISTORICAL MEMORIES CONTEST

October 15 was the deadline for submission to the second annual Historical Memories Contest. Contest Chairman Leonard Goodman, Senior, announced that 32 entries have been submitted to the judges, and announcement of the winners, together with winning entries will be published in the Spring 1977 issue of *PASSWORD*.

EUGENE O. PORTER MEMORIAL AWARD

Again, for the year 1976, the Society will award \$100 for the best article published in *PASSWORD* this year—the Eugene O. Porter Memorial Award. The winner will be announced in the spring issue. Funds for this award are given from contributions in memory of the late Dr. Porter, who edited *PASSWORD* for the first 19 years of its history. Further contributions are invited from members wishing to perpetuate Dr. Porter's memory.

HISTORICAL TOURS

Leon Metz, Chairman of the Historical Bus Tours project, reported a loss of \$350 on this summer venture. Historically and culturally, the venture was a success, but greater support from members and their friends is needed if the program is to continue.

HISTORICAL DRAMA

Patrick Rand, Program Chairman, reported 204 members attended the

historical Drama, *El Paso del Norte*, held in McKelligon Canyon August 19. It is projected that the drama be an annual summer feature.

CAVALRY MUSEUM

An admission charge is now in effect for El Paso's Cavalry Museum. As members of the supporting agency for this historical museum, Historical Society members will be admitted upon presentation of their membership cards or other evidence of membership. Members are also invited to serve regularly as docents (guides) for the Cavalry Museum. Those interested in entering the docent training program are invited to consult Mrs. Dodson, Chairman of the Docent Program.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

The annual membership campaign for 1977 is now under way, and it is projected that a membership list will be complete by the close of 1976. Frank Gorman, Jr. is membership chairman. Annual dues are \$10 (individual or family). Life memberships at \$150 are also invited.

CORRESPONDENCE

(Robert N. Mullin, former El Paso City Alderman in the R. E. Thomason administration, now lives in California. He is an outstanding southwest historian and a valued contributor to *PASSWORD*.)

South Laguna, Calif.

Editor, *PASSWORD*:

I usually read *PASSWORD* from cover to cover and must say that the current issue for Fall is the most interesting issue I have seen in a long time.

The Breck "Mechanical Horses" recalled my first automobile, a 1912 Ford. I remember Clarence and Florence North who used to live on Mesa Avenue, and I shared some of Clarence's tire changing experiences.

I particularly appreciated the tribute to Dick Dudley. I admired, respected and particularly liked Dick Dudley, as did everyone else who knew him well. I wish that the author had concluded her tribute by quoting James Whitcomb Riley's poem "Just Away." After Dudley's death, his family mailed a copy of the poem to one of the local newspapers with the message "this is the way the family feels." Because of my affection for Dick Dudley I clipped the poem from the newspaper and still have it in my scrapbook.

I could go on with favorable comments concerning almost everything else in this issue, but have already said enough.

Sincerely,

BOB MULLIN

Riley's famous poem follows:

I cannot say, and I will not say
That he is dead. He is just away.
With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand,
He has wandered into an unknown land
And left us dreaming how very fair
It needs must be, since he lingers there.
And you—oh, you, who the wildest yearn
For an old time step, and the glad return,
Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of There as the love of Here.
Think of him still as the same, I say,
He is not dead—he is just away.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

WILLIAM I. LATHAM is completing his second term as President of the El Paso County Historical Society and has been named its Curator for 1977. He recently completed a distinguished career in journalism with his retirement as Editor of *El Paso Times*.

FLORENCE CATHCART MELBY is a Life Member of the Society and has served as Co-Chairman and on various committees of Hall of Honor Banquets. Her service in many El Paso civic affairs gave her a special insight into the life of Mrs. Nordwald.

H. T. ETHERIDGE, JR., is a prominent El Paso Life Underwriter, a life long resident, and a former City Alderman.

CHRIS P. FOX, "Mr. El Paso" to thousands, is a former El Paso County Sheriff and served as both Manager and President of the Chamber of Commerce. He is past Treasurer, Program Chairman, and present Director of the Society.

W. H. TIMMONS, Professor of History at the University of Texas at El Paso, is an avid researcher into Latin-American history, and here completes a series of bicentennial documents on the El Paso Southwest.

HARRIOT HOWZE JONES is a Director of the Society, and edited its 1973 publication, *El Paso, a Centennial Portrait*.

BUD NEWMAN, editor of the Society's news-letter *El Conquistador*, is a grandson of pioneer editor Simeon H. Newman, to whom he paid tribute in *PASSWORD*, XIV, 13.

MARY A. SARBER is Head of the Southwest Reference Department, El Paso Public Library. A graduate of the University of New Mexico and University of Arizona, she has a long standing interest in the literature of the southwest.

MARY ELLEN B. PORTER is a Director of the Society and a member of *PASSWORD*'s editorial board. She is a frequent reviewer for the publication and author of important articles. (*PASSWORD*, XI, 134; XIV, 25).

WINIFRED M. MIDDAGH, a graduate of U-T El Paso, is an instructor in the Secretarial Sciences Department of El Paso Community College. She is the widow of John J. Middagh, who was honored, with Virgil Hicks, by the inauguration of the annual Hicks-Middagh award to outstanding journalism-radio graduates of U.T. El Paso. The first award went to Sam Donaldson, ABC newsman, in October 1976.

BOOK NOTES

Texas Western Press has announced that the winners of the C. L. Sonnichsen Publication Award for the best manuscript dealing with Southwestern History, Art, or Culture is Conrey Bryson for his book, *Down Went McGinty, El Paso in the Wonderful Nineties*. Dr. E. H. Antone, Director of Texas Western Press, announced that the editorial board also approved the book for publication in 1977.

A Historical Atlas of Texas. By William C. Pool. Maps by Edward Triggs and Lance Wren. Austin: The Encino Press, 1975. \$15.00.

Comanches: The Destruction of a People. By T. R. Fehrenbach, New York: Alfred A. Knopf 1974. Illustrations, Index, Bibliography. \$12.50.

The People Called Apache. By Thomas E. Mails. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, Inc. Bibliography, Index, Notes. \$25.00.

The Presidio: Bastion of the Spanish Borderlands. By Max L. Moorhead. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1975. \$9.95.

Storms Brewed in Other Men's Worlds. The Confrontation of Indians, Spanish and French in the Southwest, 1540-1795. By Elizabeth A. H. John. College Station: Texas A & M University Press, 1975. \$18.50.

Papers of the Texas Revolution, 1835-1836, Edited by John H. Jenkins. Austin: Presidial Press. 10 Volumes. \$115.00. All of the known letters, papers and documents of the Texas Revolution.

The Civil War in the Indian Territory. By Lary G. Rampp and Donald L. Rampp. Austin: Presidial Press. \$9.95. A full treatment of the Civil War in the Indian Territory 1861-1865. The events personalities, battles and actions that made up an isolated but significant theater of operations which has been long ignored and little examined.

The Comanche Indians and their red brothers the Lipan Apaches, were a scourge to the western plains. Plunder and raids were a way of life to them. Laredo, Texas, which lay across the Comanche Trail, suffered more than other settlements. The severity of most of these raids caused the Alcalde of Laredo, Basilio Benavides, to seriously consider abandoning the town.

Military History of Texas and the Southwest
Volume XIII, Number 1

George Catlin, who paints and writes of early American expeditions in the west, wrote that the Comanches were the most extraordinary horsemen that he had ever seen. "They are heavy and ungraceful; and on their feet, one of the most unattractive and slovenly looking races of Indians that I have ever seen; but the moment they mount their horses, they seem at once metamorphosed, and surprise the spectator with the ease and elegance of their movements. A Comanche on his feet is out of his element, but the moment he lays his hand upon his horse, his face even becomes handsome, and he gracefully flies away like a different being."

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