Newspaper archives preserve first-hand accounts of historic trail

Marc Simmons

New Mexico Scrapbook

The back files of early frontier newspapers are a splendid source for Southwest history. In digging into New Mexico's past, I often consult 100-year-old issues of papers published in Albuquerque, El Paso, Santa Fe and Silver City.

Another periodical, rich in information, was the old Missouri Intelligencer, a simple four-page sheet founded in 1819 in Franklin, Mo.

Franklin, in the center of the state, won fame in 1821 when one of its citizens, William Becknell, led a mule train to New Mexico and thereby opened the historic Santa Fe Trail. News from the Southwest then poured in and was reported on the pages of the Intelligencer.

Recently, I went browsing through some of the paper's oldest issues, noting a number of the most exciting and significant stories of the day.

The April 22, 1823, issue, for example, printed the complete journal of Becknell, describing the hardships and perils he and his five companions faced in crossing the plains.

The original journal is lost, so had it not appeared in the pages of the Intelligencer, we would not have the first-hand story available today.

Later the same year, the paper announced the return to Franklin of another trading party that had followed Becknell to Santa Fe: "We congratulate the expedition on its safe arrival. It met no disaster except the robbery of its horses on the Arkansas River by Little Osage Indians."

The report also mentioned the traders had brought back 400 donkeys and mules, beaver pelts and considerable Mexican coin. Breeding donkeys, driven over the trail from New Mexico and Chihuahua, helped launch the raising of the renowned Missouri mule.

March 1, 1825, the Intelligencer carried a headline that read: Road from Missouri to Mexico.

The story told of passage by the U.S. Senate of a bill to survey the Santa Fe Trail and the appropriation of money to arrange treaties with Indians living along the route.

The most celebrated item ever to grace a page in the Intelligencer greeted readers in October 1826. Saddle and harness-maker David Workman published a notice about the flight of his apprentice, age 16, named Christopher Carson.

Workman offered a reward of one penny to anyone who apprehended and returned the lad to his shop. But no one even tried. The boy had joined a wagon train going to Santa Fe and El Paso. So far as we know, this marked the first time Kit Carson's name appeared in print.

As a service to men engaged in the overland trade, the Franklin newspaper regularly published decrees from Mexico that regulated international commerce.

For instance, the Mexican government over the years issued several lists of specific goods Americans were prohibited from importing into the territory. The intention was to protect home industries, which were not eager for competition.

One of these lists showed up in the Intelligencer Aug. 25, 1825. It included such items as chile peppers, bear hams, artichokes, aprons, cloaks for monks, saddle girths, curtains, ruffled shirts, colored goat skins and underdrawers.

In those days, the boundary of the Republic of Mexico extended to southwestern Kansas. When the great ox caravans from the United States crossed to the south bank of the Arkansas River, near present-day Dodge City, they were in Mexican territory.

Upon arriving at the Santa Fe plaza, the freight wagons submitted to inspection by customs officials and the merchants paid their tariffs.

Back in Missouri, Franklin, perched on the flood plain of the Missouri River, lost the county seat to the new town of Fayette, a few miles north on higher ground. In 1826, the owners of the Intelligencer loaded their press onto a wagon and moved the newspaper to Fayette.

It proved a wise decision. A few years later the river overflowed its banks and carried Franklin away.

In 1919 the Missouri Press Association put up a large stone monument commemorating the Intelligencer, near the site of the original newspaper office. But, unhappily, during the summer floods of 1993 claimed it. I'm told the river scooped a large hole where the monument once stood.

Marc Simmons is a New Mexico author and historian who lives in Cerrillos. His column appears each week in the Sunday Times.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

Prepared by the

TEXAS DAILY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

No chapter in the exciting history of America is more colorful or more closely tied to our nation's struggle for freedom in the early days of our nation, or more closely tied to its growth and progress than the story of the American newspaper.

That story began in Boston in 1689 -- long before the American Revolution -- with the first printed news report. It was titled: "The Present State of New English Affairs." And it is interesting to note that the headline on that first publication read: "This Is Published to Prevent False Reports."

Because that has been the role of the American newspaper ever since; to give Americans the truth about the affairs of their nation, their state, their city and their neighbors. Even today the newspaper and its printed word is the basic means of communicating the news and the truth.

That first publication, however, could hardly be called a newspaper as we know them today. It was just a single sheet of paper, crudely printed.

The first real newspaper in America was called the Boston News-Letter and it first appeared on April 24, 1704. Its editor and publisher was a Scotchman, John Campbell, the postmaster of Boston, and it was delivered by post boys -- the boys who delivered the mail -- and they became the first newsboys of America.

The content of the Boston News-Letter was essentially a report of the gossip heard in the postoffice as people came to get their mail. Foreign news came from the seamen who sailed into Boston harbor and told of happenings in far-away places.

The first daily newspaper made its appearance in Philadelphia in 1784. It was the Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser.

And the first real newspaper editor in America was James Franklin, the older brother of Ben Franklin.

And both the newspaper, The New England Courant, and Franklin's career as editor, were born out of anger.

When the founder of that first newspaper, John Campbell, lost his job as postmaster at Boston he refused to give up his newspaper. This made his successor, William Brooker, so angry that Brooker started his own paper, the Boston Gazette and hired Franklin as his printer.

In less than a year Brooker had lost his job and when his successor, Phillip Musgrave, fired Franklin as his printer, Franklin got so mad he started his own newspaper, the New England Courant.

The first published writings of Benjamin Franklin appeared in his brother's newspaper, but not over the name of Ben Franklin.

Knowing that brother James probably wouldn't print his letter if he put his real name on it, Ben signed a letter to the editor with the name of "Silence Dogood" and the letter was printed.

There were, of course, many newspapers established in the country during those early years, most of them weeklies, as the colonies began to flex their muscles and become more and more resentful of their domination and harsh rule by England.

On November 5, 1773, the New York Journal was founded and while it was just one of many new papers to be published in New York, it became famous because it played a key role in establishing the freedom of the press as we know it in America today.

The story is long and involved but it all centered around Governor William Cosby of New York a corrupt and oppressive governor.

During Cosby's regime a German immigrant printer, John Peter Zenger, arrived in New York and became embroiled in the battle between the newspaper supporting Cosby, The New York Gazette, and the New York Weekly Journal, which opposed Cosby.

Zenger became editor of the Journal and bitterly attacked Cosby.

Governor Cosby and his henchmen used every device possible, both legal and illegal, to suppress the attacks of Zenger. Finally, they charged him with criminal libel and had him arrested.

Benjamin Franklin took up Zenger's cause, defending his right to print what he thought should be printed. Franklin persuaded Andrew Hamilton, one of America's great lawyers of the time, to defend Zenger.

In a passionate plea to the jury, Hamilton argued before the court that the great issue at stake in the trial of John Peter Zenger was "The cause of liberty... the right -- the liberty -- both of exposing and opposing arbitrary power by speaking and writing the truth."

The jury freed John Peter Zenger and the right of freedom of the press and speech was first established in America.

During the American Revolution, which soon followed, the freedom of the press established by John Peter Zenger's case, gave the newspapers of America the strength to fill a vital role in uniting the colonies to fight the oppression of the English. History is full of the courage of the men who edited those newspapers, risking their lives and their fortunes, as did all the patriots of those days, to gain American independence.

It is interesting to learn that the newspaper then, as it is today, was often bitterly attacked by those high in government.

It may surprise many of us to know that George Washington was one of the harshest critics of the press. And he was joined by such others as James Madison and John Quincy Adams. And the historians tell us that Washington felt at times that the newspapers should be controlled in what they printed, especially during those early days of stress after America had won her independence.

But through the efforts and the expressions of men like Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton the newspapers were allowed to continue to print news and opinion no matter how critical either may have been of the government and its leaders.

It was Jefferson who best expressed the role of the American newspaper and its right to print the truth when he wrote:

> "The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive those papers, and be capable of reading them."

Jefferson himself, incidentally, was a newspaper editor at one time, editing the National Intelligencer and Washington Advertiser.

And another famous American of that day, Noah Webster, edited the American Minerva.

Alexander Hamilton founded the New York Post, still publishing today, in November, 1801 and used it to carry on his feud with Thomas Jefferson.

There were 512 newspapers in the nation in 1820. 24 daily newspapers, 66 semi-weeklies and 422 weeklies. But few of them had circulations of more than 1500, except for the newspapers in New York and Washington.

The two great news gathering organizations, the Associated Press and the United Press were founded.

In 1880 there were 850 newspapers in the country and by 1900 there were 1967.

The American newspaper had reached full stature. In every city and town the newspaper had become the major force for informing and influencing people.

While there have been a great many changes in the methods of producing newspapers and the role of the newspaper has changed from one of serving the interests of its individual publisher -- as they did in the days of Horace Greeley and James Gordon Bennett --- The American newspaper today is still the basic means of communicating the news of our government or our neighbors.

In 1966 there are 1800 daily newspapers in America with a total circulation of more than 60 million.

And we might close with a brief historical note on Texas newspapers.

The first actual newspaper published in Texas was printed in Nacogdoches on August 14, 1819. It was the Texas Republican.

One of the earliest Texas newspapers was the Telegraph and Texas Register, published for the first time on October 10, 1835 by Gail Borden, who later discovered condensed milk and whose name is still a household byword.

The oldest daily newspaper in Texas tdoay is the Galveston News (now the Galveston News-Sun), established in 1842 while Texas was still a Republic. And the oldest business establishment is the A. H. Belo Corporation, which owned The Galveston News in its early days, now publishers of the Dallas Morning News.

Texas now has 114 daily newspapers with a total circulation of 3,300,000.

And in Texas, as all over America, the newspaper is the source to which we look most for the news, for facts, for opinion.

So that in 1967, as in 1689, the newspaper still "...is published to prevent false reports".

Distributed
December, 1966.

-30-

As America and her newspapers began to grow the great need became better methods of producing them; better machinery to set the type and print the papers.

In 1822 the first power press was invented. It was operated by one horsepower -- a real horse. In 1823 the first steam-powered press was introduced.

Then, in 1825, the first cylinder press was introduced by Robert Hoe. And in 1847 Robert Hoe's son, Richard, developed the first true cylinder press which was installed at the Philadelphia Public Ledger into which four boys fed the paper. It printed 8000 sheets an hour, printed on one side and it revolutionized the newspaper business.

The cylinder newspaper press and the invention of the Linotype typesetting machine both joined to create a new era of growth for newspapers.

So, in the early years of the 19th century, American newspapers grew larger in size, in circulation and in influence.

Some of the giants of American journalism -- both newspapers and editors -- were born in those years.

On April 10, 1831 the New York Tribune was founded by Horace Greeley, the great editor who became a legend, remembered today for having said "Go West, Young Man." Greeley was the first of what has become known as the "personal" journalists and his newspaper became the first true national newspaper in America.

Greeley was closely followed by James Gordon Bennett, who founded the New York Herald and became Greeley's major contemporary.

Many of the great literary figures of American history were newspaper editors or writers. Mark Twain and O'Henry both worked as newspaper reporters.

And another famous writer, whose theories caused much of the strife in the world today, Karl Marx, was the London correspondent for Horace Greeley's New York Tribune. Marx was working for a salary of $10 per week.

When Greeley cut his salary to $5 a week Marx quit. And later it became known that Marx was using his pay from the Tribune to support him while he wrote his book, "Das Kapital", which became the main source of teachings for world Communism.

All thru the era prior to and during the great Civil War or the War Between the States, newspapers and newspaper editors in both North and South played prominent roles in the war.

Scrapbooks describe trave

Mary Margaret Davis

Good Company

History walked into the El Paso Times this week.

Dolores Braun Warner McMahan was the bearer of two very old scrapbooks filled with very well-ordered clippings.

Her gift to the Times was put together by the late Hughes de-Courcy "Cap" Slater, for 31 years editor and publisher of the the El Paso Times and also of the El Paso Herald (a forebearer of the El Paso Herald-Post).

...d this sketch of the McMahan home

...not close. During World War II, ... series of I think the son worked on the Norden bombsight.

"Toward the end, in 1958 when Slater was dying, we knew that his son had done something important about the Nautilus submarine, something that enabled it to pass under the polar ice cap.

"One day, his son called him and, although he was unable to talk, I held the phone up to his ear and he listened while his son told him about the submarine. He was so proud.

"We had that day's newspaper, and across the top on the front page, it told about the Nautilus sailing under the North Pole. As he listened to his son, his tears fell on my hand."

In addition to knowing people famous in El Paso's past, McMahan lives in a house filled with history.

At 1101 Montana at Octavia, her mammoth Queen Anne brick home is an architectural gem, with a round cupola tower room and wide dormers with inset windows. The roof and deep overhang above the wide porch are covered with broad shingles.

The house was built in 1903 by the family of Hallie and Judge James Edward Bowen of Reeves County, Texas. Their daughter, Nellie Mae Bowen, was prominent in El Paso society.

"Nellie Mae was a member of The MacDowell Club (the music branch of The Woman's Club of El Paso) and so am I," McMahan said. "I play the violin, and every week, at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays, some of my friends from the El Paso Symphony Orchestra and I play chamber music at the house.

"I have clippings about the Bowens and the house that I photocopied from a scrapbook their son had," she said. "The second owners were the J.K. McKay family from Waco, Texas." McMahan's parents, the Reinhart A. Brauns, were the third owners. At their deaths, McMahan inherited the home and has lived there 36 years. For much of that time, McMahan operated the residence as a rooming house.

Except for the addition of air conditioning units, nothing has been changed in the old house. Rooms are just as they have always been. The woodwork and light fixtures are original, and many furnishings that were made for the house are still in use.

But the owner's life is changing. Her husband, UTEP Professor Emeritus Oscar H. McMahan, died last summer, and she says she must sell the historic house.

"I'm going to sell it because I can't rent rooms any longer, and I can't live there alone. I have an offer to sell it to be developed

El Paso vacation at a fund-raiser for AIDS research and the Long Beach Civic Light Opera.

The idea of "Viva El Paso!" designer Don Pasco, also of Long Beach, the trip included plane fare, three nights at Camino Real Paso del Norte, dinners at Jaxon's and Wyngs 'n' Spirit and the barbecue dinner at a performance of the McKelligon Canyon amphitheater show.

● El Paso women artists of yesteryear are featured in a traveling exhibition, "Women Artists of Texas, 1850-1950," opening soon at the Forsyth Gallery of Texas A&M University in College Station.

Arranged by the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, Texas, where it debuted, the show is funded in part by the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society, The Summerlee Foundation, Bill and Mary Cheek, United Pawn and The Dozier Foundation.

Works by the three border artists include an undated, untitled picture of an adobe house by Berla Ione Emeree (whose studio perched on the edge of Rim Road in the '50s — I recall seeing her hand painted sign by the roadside). The oil on board painting is from the collection of Dr. Mary and Dr. Michael Arno.

Leola Freeman, who did portraits of many famous El Pasoans and children of her friends, is represented by an undated, untitled landscape with stream. The oil on canvas is from the collection of Bobbe and Jim Baker.

...for the 47th edition of Marquis Who's Who in America.

The professor speaks five languages relatively fluently, and reads several others.

● Kacy Spivack of the El Paso Chapter of Hadassah is a winner of the 1993 Hadassah National Leadership Award.

Spivack will receive the award at the local chapter's annual membership luncheon in September. Vice president of the chapter, she was honored for her work in the El Paso and Jewish communities and for Hadassah.

● Winners in the four categories of the Leon Denny Moses Summer Contest have been announced by the El Paso Manuscript Club.

Short stories: John White, first; Deen Underwood, second; and Cynthia Rupel, third.

Poetry: Clara Aguirre, first; Vivian Martinetz, second; Betty Evans, third.

Articles: Dan Pickens, first, Margaret Roper, second; Evans, third.

Short prose: Rupel, first and second; White, third.

Information: Pickens, 584-2658.

Community leaders

Mary Lou Moreno, Mary Trejo and Leslie Gosling will fill one-year terms on the board ... the El Paso YWCA.

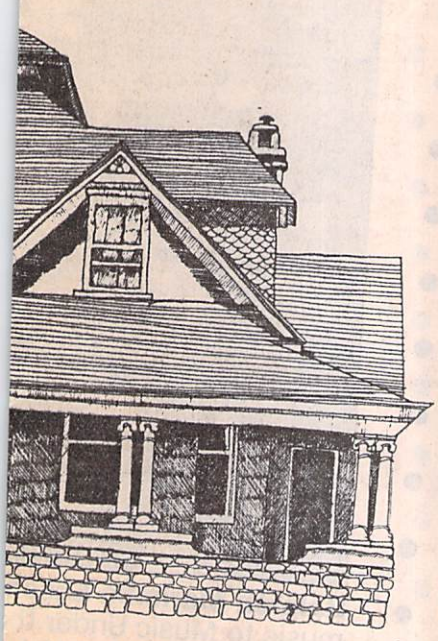
Other new directors elec... recently are Cecilia Lang... Cora Viescas to two-year t... and Kay Burrell, for a ... year term.

El Paso Times
Sunday, Aug. 22, 1993

els of former Times editor

El Paso Times

Dolores McMahan opens three-volume scrapbook made by early El Paso Times and Herald editor, H.D. Slater.



, a historical Queen Anne

The board urges everyone to sign petitions to encourage President Clinton to emphasize the early detection of breast cancer.

Those petitions are available at all YWCA branches in El Paso. **Information:** 533-2311.

● New officers of American Legion Paso del Norte Post 58, the largest post in the city, are Commander Norman Rader, Vice Commanders Willeoran Mason, Paul Vigneault and Rensslar Keagle, Adjutant Ron Heim, Chaplain Don Patterson, Sergeant-at-Arms Cliff Tipton and Historian Robert Cadena.

On the post's executive committee are Charlie Webster, Robert Grady, John Fielder, Robert Armendariz, Harry White, Helena Babykcq and Carel Wagner. **Information:** 751-6900.

● Doris Cadena, 16th District President of the American Legion Auxiliary, is the new president of Paso del Norte Post 58 Auxiliary.

Her officers are Vice Presidents Ina Gormley and Sara Ned, Secretary Trudy Ketcherside, Treasurer Rebecca Fielder, Chaplain Dianna Jablonski and Sergeant-at-Arms Ann Morrow.

Members of the auxiliary's executive committee are Virginia Weiscopf, Amy Aaronson and Mary Czapla. **Information:** 751-6900.

Good Company appears Sundays in the Living section. Send all community news, at least two weeks in advance, to Mary Margaret Davis, community news editor, El Paso Times, Box 20, El Paso, Texas 79999 or fax it to her at 546-6415. **Information:** 546-NEWS (6397).

tertain, why not invite speakers who can offer practical information to help children cope with life?

Every city has authorities who would be happy to speak to the students on special topics, if invited.

I agree it's a crying shame that the schools should have to pinch-hit for parents, but when parents fail, it's the kids who lose, and society pays the price.

The next letter says a mouthful. It's from a 13-year-old:

Dear Ann Landers: I am in the eighth grade and have already learned in school some of the things that person was talking about.

Our teachers have helped us understand what cigarettes, alcohol and — lives. They have talked about anger and fear and guilt and jealousy and how they can make people mentally sick.

I know that reading, writing and arithmetic are important, and so are history, geography and spelling, but these other subjects are *more* important when you get right down to it, and I'm glad I go to school in — Reno, Nev.

Dear Reno: Thanks for a letter plugging a city whose name has been synonymous with divorce and gambling. How refreshing!

Dear Ann Landers: Do you think it is decent for the male vice principal of a school to walk into the girls' bathroom whenever he feels like it just to us change clothes ... room, and it's pretty darned embarrassing to have the vice principal walk in when we are half-dressed.

What do you think about this? — Innocent Bystander

Dear Bystander: It seems to me that the vice principal could ask a female faculty member to check the girls' bathroom. If this alternative hasn't occurred to him, someone (a parent) ought to suggest it.

Write Ann Landers, El Paso Times, Creator's Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, Calif. 90045.

WORD SLEUTH • OCEAN VOYAGE

X L I E A X T Q N J G C Z W T
W Q N J G D A X U R O L J G D
A A X V P S P N K I F C A X V
S Q V O U L D C N J H E C A X
L I N E R V T R I R P N S L J
H F S A S N D B A T Y X T E V
T R P T E I I O T W N W O G G
M K I G R C U B P K E A R A E
D B Z X W O O R A R C T M Y U
T R Q O N L P J C C I E S O G
F D C A Y S D N A L S I D V R

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

unlisted clue hint: TROPIC –

Cabin	Deck	Ports	Storms
Captain	Games	Purser	Voyage
Crew	Liner	Romantic	Waves
Cruise	Ocean	Steward	

Word Sleuth answer is on Page 6F.

JUMBLE® THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold

Unscramble these six Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form six ordinary words.

DARNBY

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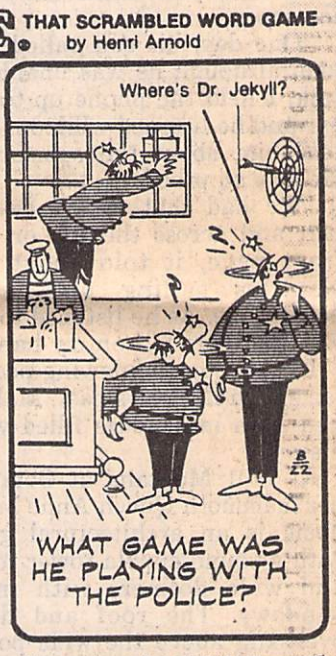
KRODEF

SHRUPE

DANCEN

DOAGIA

ENBATE



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

" ○○○○ ○○○ ○○○○ "

Jumble answer is on Page 6F.

Cryptoquip

R H I D D O

R A X G L A

Z Y E R H U A

out the puzzle. Single letters, al and error.

deeply and ask for what you want. Spend the afternoon with friends. Tonight: Use that animal magnetism!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★ Lie back and consider what makes a boss tick. You might need to take more dramatic action concerning work. Don't focus on a change in plans. Tonight: Make it an early night.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Be clear as to your choices and needs. Discuss the real issue at hand: money. Gather the family for a picnic. Tonight: Be your happy self.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ Be more in tune with what is happening with a loved one. Accept responsibility and do your own investigating. Examine your motives. Tonight: Go for a close encounter.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Use your intellect to resolve a difference of opinion. Another is amazed at your versatility. Take a loved one on a drive in the country. Tonight: Go by the book.

The El Paso Times runs this horoscope column for entertainment purposes only.

El Paso's First Newsletter Resurrected

"El Sabio Sembrador," a hand-written and illustrated newsletter written in 1854 and missing for 110 years, has been resurrected and published in true facsimile by the Texas Western Press of U.T. El Paso. The book, "El Paso in 1854," by Rex W. Strickland, will be available in a limited edition of 500 copies next week in area bookstores.

Dr. Strickland, professor emeritus of History at the University, was notified of the existence of the newsletter in 1964 by the manuscript librarian of Stanford University and was permitted to make full-color copies of the 29-page manuscript and its five full-page drawings, map and secondary illustrations. In a remarkable piece of detective work, Dr. Strickland began piecing together the history of the priceless document, its authorship and the author's own story. The result of his work is the handsome new, 12¼ x 8¼ volume, edited and designed by E. H. Antone and Carl Hertzog and published at $12.50 a copy by the Texas Western Press.

In his preface to the book, Dr. Strickland points out that the discovery of the newsletter is especially significant in that 1854 was a year of "more than ordinary activity in the Pass community; Ft. Bliss was established and named; a dozen cattle herds destined for California plodded through the area;

DR. REX STRICKLAND

Andrew B. Gray's survey party came and went, mapping the 32nd parallel route for the Texas Western Railroad; Julius Froebel came to El Paso with a wagon train en route to California; the repercussions of James W. Magoffin's invasion of New Mexico in December, 1853, was a topic of more than passing interest; Santa Anna, the Mexican dictator, closed the border to foreign trade; Indian depredations occupied the attention of the Pasenos; Henry Skillman lost his mail contract to George Giddings."

And, Dr. Strickland writes, "Frederic Augustus Percy edited, illustrated and published 'El Sabio Sembrador.' As the latest discovery of the original sources dealing with El Paso in the year under study, its origin, its preservation and its worth as a historical document all need further comment."

REALLY PIONEER

As truly "El Paso's Pioneer Newspaper," Dr. Strickland gives a comprehensive account of how he came to determine that Percy was the author, illustrator and publisher of "El Sabio," how the newsletter (apparently the only one to survive although there are indications he 'published' other numbers) wound its way to the Stanford Library, and how Percy himself became an El Pasoan.

Among Percy's illustrations in "El Sabio," the most remarkable are his watercolor Indian portraits, his color drawing of Ft. Bliss, "late Magoffinsville," (earliest known drawing of the post), and his map of the Valley of the Rio Grande, dated Oct. 31, 1853. All color illustrations are reprinted in full color in Dr. Strickland's book.

Dr. Strickland, who retired in July, 1967, after 31 years

born in Bells, Tex., in 1897, received his BA degree from Austin College, his M.A. at Southern Methodist, and his Ph.D. in history at U.T. Austin in 1937. After a distinguished career as a country school teacher, principal and superintendent of public schools in Bells and Van Horn, Tex., he became assistant professor of history The College of Mines in 19 He has taught all courses American history as well ancient, medieval, mode European and English his ry. His first love and spec ty is the history of the tra Mississippi West, particula the Southwest, in which the Southwest, in which f

El Paso H

News Letter Antedat

Copy Found of First E.P.

By MARSHALL HAIL

A copy of what was undoubtedly El Paso's first news letter — a publication heretofore unknown to local historians — has been brought to light by Dr. Rex W. Strickland, history professor at the University of Texas at El Paso.

The handwritten English language news letter, titled El Sabio Sembrador (The Wise Sower), was issued in 1854, when El Paso was a dusty village containing only a few Anglo-Americans.

IT ANTEDATES the handwritten Montezuma Times issued in 1868 by Capt. Albert French. Previously the French manuscript was believed to be the first news letter in El Paso, forerunner of the town's first printed newspaper, the El Paso Sentinel (1872-74).

Dr. Strickland has obtained from Stanford University the original of Vol. 1, No. 3, of El Sabio Sembrador, dated June 1854. The front page states that it is "A monthly journal devoted to its own business. Price per number one fanega (1.60 bushels) of frijoles and one string of chili.

"Editor: Pete Whistler, Esq. Publisher: Tom Tugs, Esq. Artist: The Ancent Briton."

DR. STRICKLAND has identified "the Ancient Briton," who illustrated the news letter in water colors, as an Englishman named Frederick Augustus Percy, who came to El Paso as a wagon master for Benjamin Franklin Coons, one of the town's founders, in 1850.

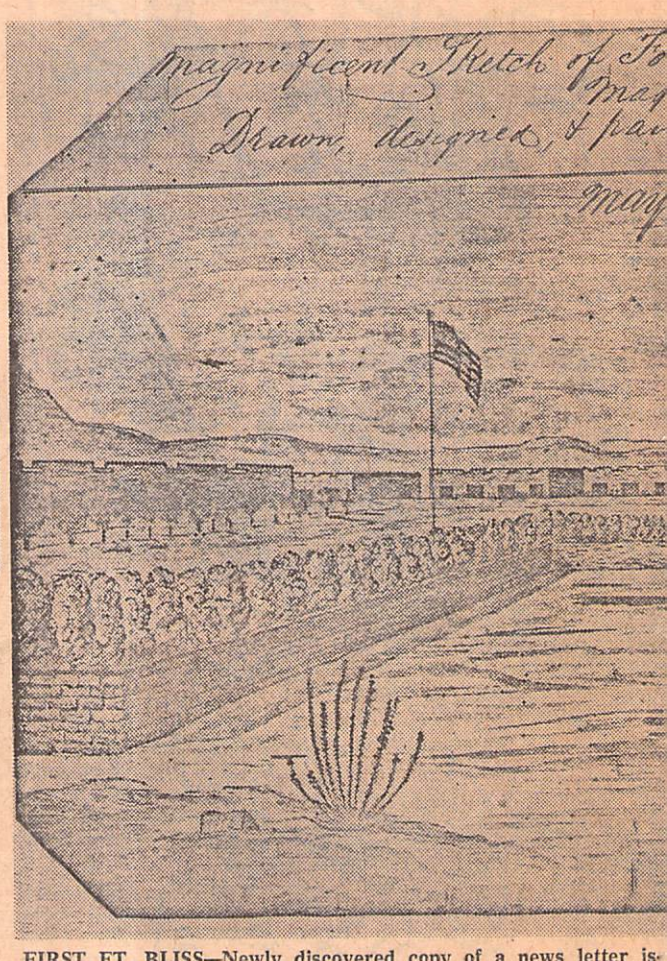
Whistler and Tugs are whimsical pseudonyms, Dr. Strickland is convinced. He thinks Percy might have doubled as Publisher Tugs, while Whistler could have been Henry Dexter, Samuel Magoffin Jr., or David Diffenderfer. Or, he says, Percy might even have been Whistler also.

DR. REX W. STRICKLAND

Percy served as a justice of peace. He married Leonora Stephenson, daughter of Hugh Stephenson of Concordia, who was perhaps the first Anglo settler in El Paso. He died in Mexico.

HERE'S HOW the manuscript of El Sabio, after a century or more of absence, got back to El Paso. Last spring Ralph Hansen, keeper of manuscripts at Stanford, asked Dr. Strickland if he knew anything about El Sabio Sembrador. Dr. Strickland replied that he would like to look it over. To his surprise, the issue was 29 pages long, with illustrations.

It turned out that a Mrs. Charles Spencer of California had obtained the news letter from the effects of her grandfather, Hugh Birchhead Van de Venter, a pioneer resident of San Antonio. How Van de Venter got the copy is not known but he apparently took it with him to Roslyn, Long Island, N.Y., in 1863, where it remained for more than a century. Mrs. Spencer gave it to Stanford last fall.



FIRST FT. BLISS—Newly discovered copy of a news letter issued at El Paso in 1854 contains this illustration of Ft. Bliss at Magoffinsville. Drawing is dated May 31, 1854, and was done

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in water color by "the Ancient Briton" for handwritten publication called El Sabio Sembrador.

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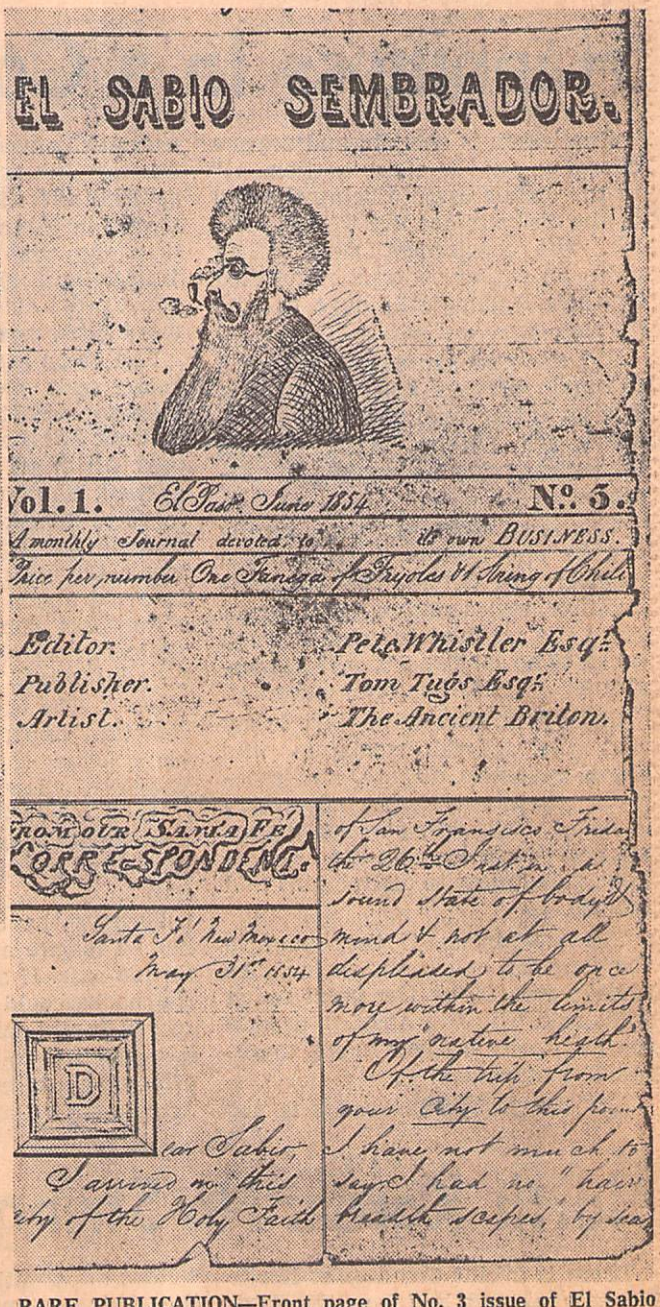

EL SABIO SEMBRADOR.

Vol. 1. El Paso June 1854 No. 3.

A monthly Journal devoted to its own BUSINESS.

Price per number One Fandago of Bryales & String of Chili

Editor. Pete Whistler Esqr.
Publisher. Tom Tugs Esqr.
Artist. The Ancient Briton.

FROM OUR SANTA FE CORRESPONDENT.

Santa Fe New Mexico May 31st 1854

Dear Sabio,

I arrived in this city of the Holy Faith

of San Francisco Friday the 26th Inst. in a sound state of body & mind & not at all displeased to be once more within the limits of my native heath.

Of the trip from your city to this point I have not much to say. I had no "hair breadth escapes," by sea

RARE PUBLICATION—Front page of No. 3 issue of El Sabio Sembrador, 1854 El Paso news letter that has come into hands of Dr. Rex Strickland of University of Texas at El Paso. Bearded man at top is "the Ancient Briton," a 27-year-old Englishman who illustrated the pioneer "newspaper."

El Paso H
News Letter Antedate

Copy Found of First E.P.

By MARSHALL HAIL

A copy of what was undoubtedly El Paso's first news letter — a publication heretofore unknown to local historians — has been brought to light by Dr. Rex W. Strickland, history professor at the University of Texas at El Paso.

The handwritten English language news letter, titled El Sabio Sembrador (The Wise Sower), was issued in 1854, when El Paso was a dusty village containing only a few Anglo-Americans.

IT ANTEDATES the handwritten Montezuma Times issued in 1868 by Capt. Albert French. Previously the French manuscript was believed to be the first news letter in El Paso, forerunner of the town's first printed newspaper, the El Paso Sentinel (1872-74).

Dr. Strickland has obtained from Stanford University the original of Vol. 1, No. 3, of El Sabio Sembrador, dated June 1854. The front page states that it is "A monthly journal devoted to its own business. Price per number one fanega (1.60 bushels) of frijoles and one string of chili.

"Editor: Pete Whistler, Esq. Publisher: Tom Tugs, Esq. Artist: The Ancent Briton."

DR. STRICKLAND has identified "the Ancient Briton," who illustrated the news letter in water colors, as an Englishman named Frederick Augustus Percy, who came to El Paso as a wagon master for Benjamin Franklin Coons, one of the town's founders, in 1850.

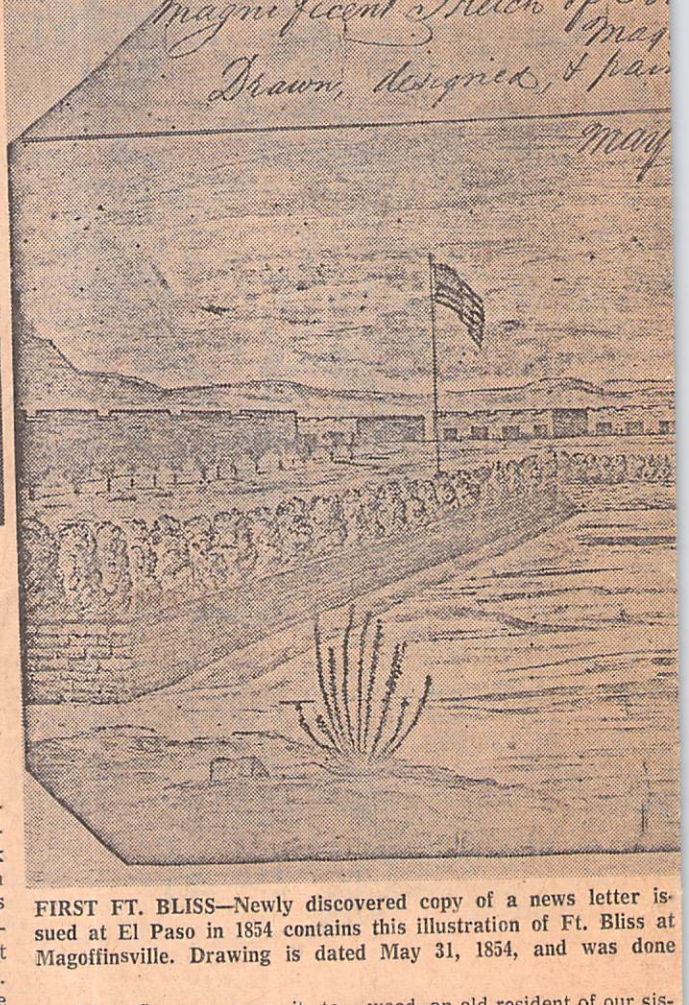
Whistler and Tugs are whimsical pseudonyms, Dr. Strickland is convinced. He thinks Percy might have doubled as Publisher Tugs, while Whistler could have been Henry Dexter, Samuel Magoffin Jr., or David Diffenderfer. Or, he says, Percy might even have been Whistler also.

DR. REX W. STRICKLAND

Percy served as a justice of peace. He married Leonora Stephenson, daughter of Hugh Stephenson of Concordia, who was perhaps the first Anglo settler in El Paso. He died in Mexico.

HERE'S HOW the manuscript of El Sabio, after a century or more of absence, got back to El Paso. Last spring Ralph Hansen, keeper of manuscripts at Stanford, asked Dr. Strickland if he knew anything about El Sabio Sembrador. Dr. Strickland replied that he would like to look it over. To his surprise, the issue was 29 pages long, with illustrations.

It turned out that a Mrs. Charles Spencer of California had obtained the news letter from the effects of her grandfather, Hugh Birchhead Van de Venter, a pioneer resident of San Antonio. How Van de Venter got the copy is not known but he apparently took it with him to Roslyn, Long Island, N.Y., in 1863, where it remained for more than a century. Mrs. Spencer gave it to Stanford last fall.



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"THE TRAIN belonging to Col. James W. Magoffin will leave early in the present

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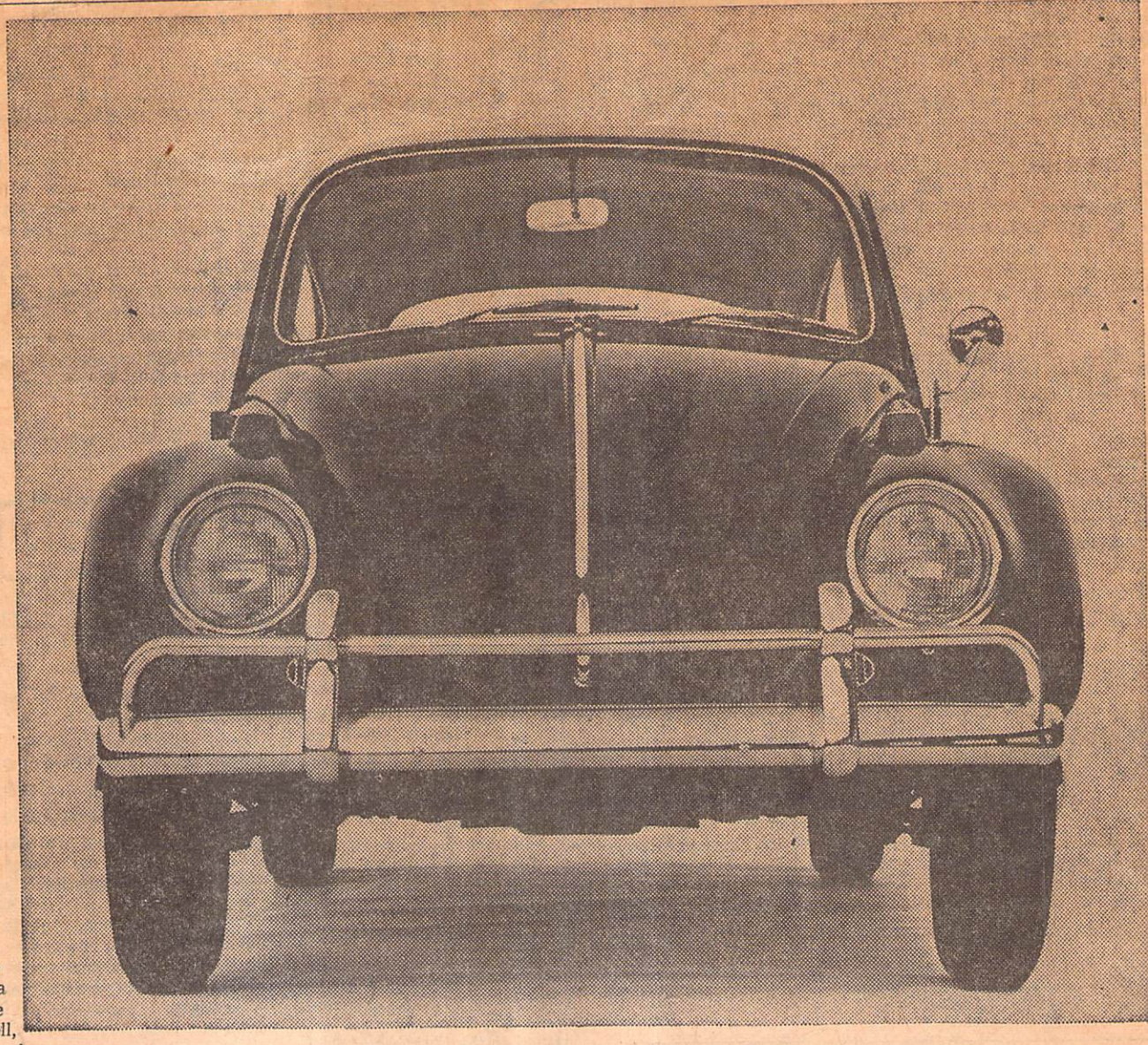

Pretend it's a used car.

Many people wouldn't think of buying a new car. Too expensive, they say.

Instead they buy a good used car. "Transportation, not status," they explain. And they go on: A used car costs far less. And because someone else has paid for the first year or two, depreciation is a lot less.

They are right as rain.

But take this thinking further.

Take initial cost: it doesn't take much to buy a new Volkswagen. (Think of it, a new Volkswagen actually costs less than many good used cars.)

Take depreciation: a Volkswagen doesn't depreciate wildly the minute you take it off the showroom floor. (Check the used car ads in this paper, 5-year-old VWs actually sell for more than 5-year-old other cars that cost twice as much to begin with.)

But a used something else won't give you Volkswagen's 29 miles to a gallon. Or 40,000 miles to a set of tires. Or Volkswagen's small maintenance bills.

For people who wouldn't think of buying a new car, we offer this money-saving do-it-yourself thought:

Buy a new Volkswagen.

And use it.

Kuper Volkswagen, Inc.

720 Trowbridge in El Paso

AUTHORIZED DEALER

Las Cruces - George Kuper Volkswagen - 1115 South Truck By-Pass

ONLY Authorized Volkswagen Dealers in the El Paso / Las Cruces area

erald-Post

es Montezuma Times

Publication Dated 1854

Editorials–Sports–Comics
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Having a wonderful time . . . Thanks to our vacation savings account!

Vacations are precious and to enjoy them to the fullest, plan ahead with a vacation *Savings Account*. That extra money will make your next vacation truly one to remember.

EL PASO NATIONAL BANK
MAIN AT MESA MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

FULL SERVICE BANK

erald-Post

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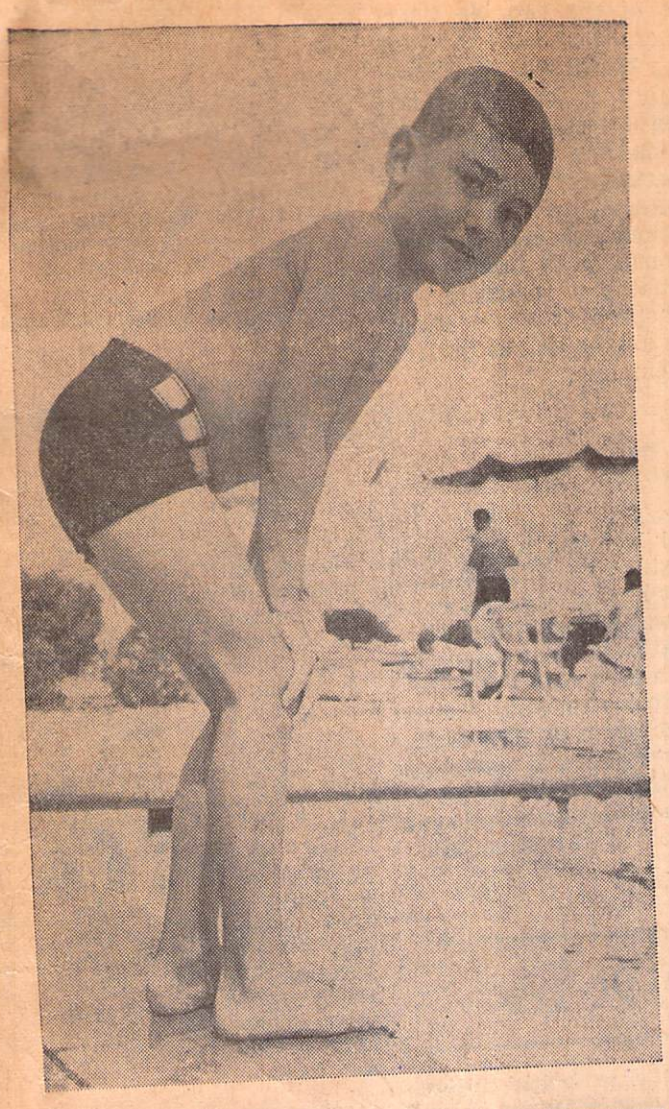

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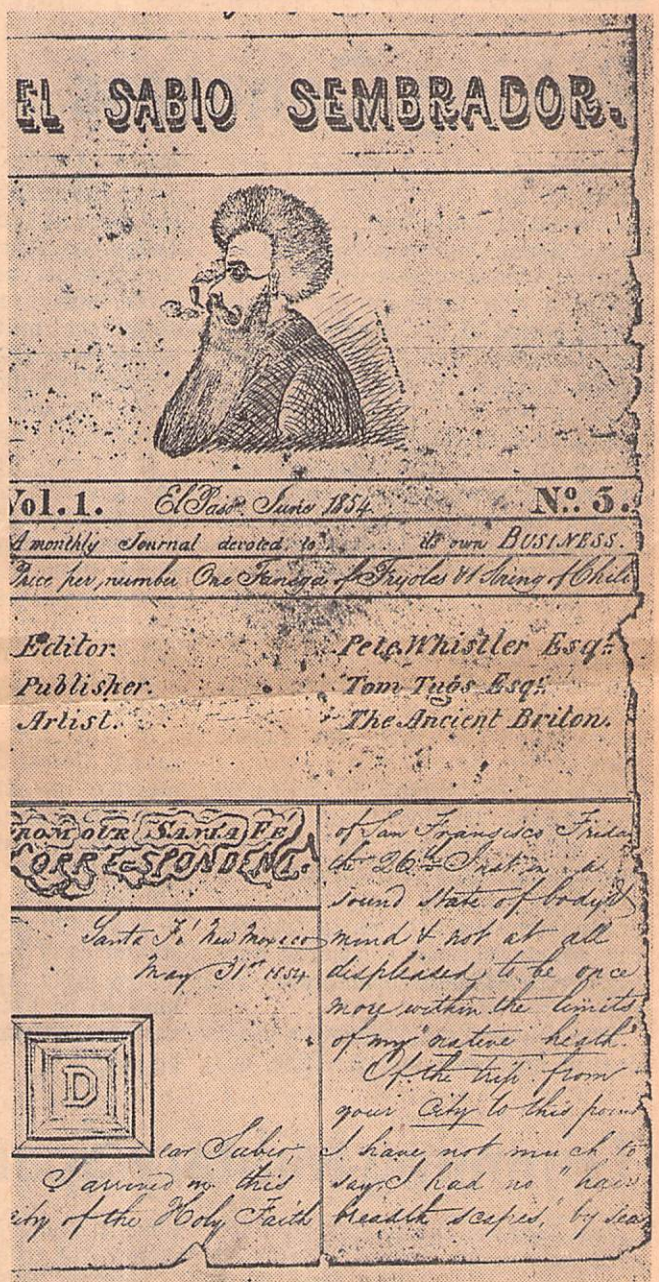
lerald-Post

Editorial
News

ee Fictitious Names

y of First El Paso Editor

FIRST E.P. JOURNALIST — Old photo shows Frederic A. Percy, a Briton, who issued El Paso's first newsletter in 1854, with his young son, Federic Jr. Percy was a son-in-law of pioneer Hugh Stephenson.



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Vol. 1. El Paso June 1854. No. 5.

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Publisher. Tom Tugs Esqr.

Artist. The Ancient Briton.

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Santa Fe New Mexico May 31st 1854

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COVER PAGE — Rare copy of El Sabio Sembrador (The Wise Sower), handwritten newsletter published 115 years ago, lists editor, publisher and artist as "Pete Whistler," "Tom Tugs," and "The Ancient Briton" respectively. But all three, Dr. Strickland shows, were the same man, Frederic A. Percy.

old presidio in ruins. A map refers to El Paso as "Smith's Ranch or Franklin."

IN THE CENSUS of 1860, El Paso's first, Percy is listed as a resident of Concordia, and a merchant by profession. He was living with his wife, Leonor, who was the daughter of pioneer Hugh Stephenson and Juana Ascarate. They had one son, Frederic Jr., then eight months old. A daughter was born later.

While here Percy became a U.S. citizen. Little else is known of his career. In 1866 he deeded his share of the common property to his wife and disappeared into Mexico. Tradition has it that he died there in 1868.

DR. STRICKLAND explains how the Percy newsletter survived. It was carried to San Antonio, where it fell into the hands of Dr. Hugh B. Van der Venter, who had emigrated to Texas from New York. He returned to Roslyn, a suburb of Brookyn, before the Civil War. In 1963 his granddaughter, Mrs. Charles Spencer, took the manuscript to California and gave it to Standford University.

Dr. Strickland, who retired two years ago, was born in Bells, Texas, in 1897. He obtained his bachelor's degree at Austin College and his master's at Southern Methodist. He came to the Texas College of Mines in 1936, and got his Ph. D. at the University of Texas in 1937. He became full professor of history at TWC in 1949 and head of the department in 1957, a position he held until 1962, when he received the college's first research professorship.

El Paso H

Pioneer Used Thre

Author Solves Mystery

By MARSHALL HAIL

The first El Paso news letter, forerunner of the modern newspaper, was published in El Paso 115 years ago. It was the work of a mysterious pioneer who used three names all fictitious.

Until a few years ago, present-day El Pasoans did not know that such a "newspaper" ever had been issued or that it was still in existence, much less the identity of its editor and publisher.

The man who brought the valuable old journal to light, who identified its editor and publisher, and who now is author of a book that reproduces the newsletter for the first time, is Dr. Rex W. Strickland, retired history professor at the University of Texas at El Paso.

THE BOOK, just off the Texas Western Press, is titled "El Paso in 1854 — El Sabio Sembrador."

It contains a reproduction of the original 30-page newsletter, "El Sabio Sembrador" (The Wise Sower) in exact facsimile with watercolors and map. It will be available in book stores in a limited edition of 500 copies at $12.50 each.

The attractive volume was edited and designed by E. H. Antone of the U.T. El Paso English department and Carl Hertzog of the Texas Western Press. The original watercolors are reproduced in four colors. Hertzog, whose Press has issued many notable works, is the "engineer" who supervises editing and production.

Dr. Strickland's pursuit of the identity of the newsletter reads like a detective story which got its start by "chance, coincidence or serendipity."

IN NOVEMBER of 1964 Ralph Hansen, manuscript librarian of Stanford University, asked Dr. Strickland what he knew about El Sabio Sembrador, which he identified as a newsletter written in El Paso in the summer of 1854. Dr. Strickland asked for photostats of the newsletter and later borrowed the original.

Then Dr. Strickland began his literary sleuthing. "The identify of the author of the manuscript was a mystery wrapped up in an enigma," he said. "The motives that prompted him in its production were baffling."

El Sabio Sembrador supposedly is the joint effort of three persons who concealed their identities as "Pete Whistler, editor," "Tom Tugs, publisher," and "The Ancient Briton, Artist."

"In reality, the editor, publisher and artist were one man masquerading under three different tag names," Dr. Strickland said. "A reading of the text reveals subtle hints concerning the purported co-workers that make this conclusion certain."

NEXT, DR. STRICKLAND compared the script of the newsetter as handwritten by "Pete Whistler, editor," with that of a manuscript memorial of 1852 concerning Indian depredations and murders in El Paso. The memorial was known to have been written by one Frederic Augustus Percy, and his handwriting matched that of El Sabio Sembrador. Thus Percy was editor.

As for "Tom Tugs, publisher," the newsletter itself describes Tugs as a "devil-may-care, queen-loving, Russia-hating, son of old England." There was no Englishman in El Paso in 1854 except Percy; thus he had to be Tugs.

From various other clues, Dr. Strickland established that "the Ancient Briton, artist," also was none other than Percy.

Dr. Strickland has been able to corral many facts about the pioneer journalist,

DR. REX W. STRICKLAND

though much is still a mystery. Percy was born in England in 1826, possibly the scion of a prestigious family of Northumberland. He was educated, wrote a legible hand, and quoted the English classics, notably Shakespeare. He illustrated W. W. H. Davis' "El Gringo," published in 1857. His newsletter contains a water color of Ft. Bliss as it looked in 1854.

PERCY ENTERED local history in 1850, when members of the U.S. Boundary Commission found him stranded, as wagon master for one of Ben Coons' wagon trains, near the Salt Lakes 100 miles east of El Paso. Dr. Strickland doubts that he engaged in freighting thereafter, but probably was employed as a clerk in a commercial house here.

In 1854, perhaps for his own amusement, Percy composed El Sabio Sembrador. The only known copy is designated Vol. 1, Number 3, so there may have been other issues.

The newsletter describes itself as "a monthly journal devoted to its own business. Price per number, one fanega of frijoles and a string of chili." It contains scattered news items, a dispatch from "our Santa Fe correspondent" telling of Indian troubles, a short piece of fiction, and an account of an outing to San Elizario, where he found the

PRESENTING CHECK to Robert Stern, Goodwill Executive Director and fellow Rotarian, is Andy Anderson, Downtown Rotary Club Drive Chairman. From left: Marvin Fulkerson, Job Placement Director at Goodwill Industries, Anderson, Stern, and Clyde Wafer, Ysleta Independent School District. The Downtown Rotary Club is sponsoring a clothing drive in the El Paso and Ysleta school districts. Empty bags were distributed to all students and trucks will pick them up on April 15. Each bag of clothing represents three hours of work for the handicapped. Sale of the repaired materials results in wages for the handicapped. Rotary President Jim Stewart appointed W. K. "Andy" Anderson as School Drive Chairman. The club donated $200 to Goodwill for purchase of 60,000 school clothing day bags used in the drive.

F. C. Pew, Dealer in Fine Shoes, El Paso, Texas.

YET THEY COME,

We have just received one more carload of

Folding Beds and Bookcases,

which must be sold at once, to make room for other goods, which are coming

tive of this state tried and sentenced me without according me that which the laws of our land accord the vilest criminal, "the right of defense." Were I an employe of yours your right to perpetrate this act of injustice might depend upon your inclination, as it is I recognized the fact that I am an employe of the state, accountable as much to the people of this state for my official record and for them, as well as myself, I demand a statement and investigation of the charges preferred against me that I may have an opportunity to concede the manifest justice of your decree or defend myself from the imputation of hireling politicians.

Faithfully yours,

MARY E. LEASE,

President of the board of state trustees, of the state charitable institutions.

Mrs. Lease, it will be noted, intentionally signs her double official title.

DEATH BY HANGING.

Assassin Prendergast Sentenced For the Murder of Mayor Harrison.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29—Attorney Trude resumed his closing argument for the prosecution in the Prendergast trial today. He paid particular attention in the opening to the religious disposition shown by the prisoner and showed the contrast between his protestations of Christianity and his cruelty to boys smaller than himself. Judge Brentano began his charge to the jury at one o'clock.

Patrick Eugene Prendergast was found guilty this afternoon of the murder of Mayor Carter Harrison on October 28, and the penalty fixed at death by hanging. As soon as the verdict was announced the bailiffs grabbed the miserable trembling prisoner and started to rush him back to his cell in murderers row. Judge Brentano ordered them to stop. "Let the prisoner remain while the jury is polled," he said. Prendergast took his stand before the chair in which he had jerked and squirmed during the progress of his trial and nervously clutched the back.

When Judge Brentano solemnly put to each juror the question: "Was this, and is this now your verdict?" Calmly but decisively each of the twelve jurors answered in the affirmative and each reply added more and more to the pitiful, despairing look in the trembling prisoners face. When the last juror had made his answer Prendergast's

A BIG REVOLT.

Fifty Soldiers Killed and a Number Wounded and Captured.

CONVICTS ENTRENCHED.

Agents of Admiral de Mello Have Landed on the Island of Fernando de Noronha Guards Were Corrupted and Convicts Given Arms—A Government Torpedo Boat has Been Dispatched to the Island Another Crank.

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El Paso Times

INTERNATIONAL DAILY

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The government seems determined to make an effort to prevent Chinese entering this country. In order to this it has determined on a strict construction of the law requiring the registration of every Celestial who desires to stay in America.

Senator White of California, who has given close attention to the Chinese question in all its phases, expressed the opinion that Chinese residents of the country will accept the opportunity to register under the new law extending the Geary act, and says that many of the Chinese have so assured him. They assured him that the only thing that stood in the way of their registering before the time of registration was extended by the present congress was the opposition of the Six Companies, which made the fight against the constitutionality of the enactment, and meantime prevented the Chinese from complying with the law.

Now that the supreme court of the United States has decided upon the constitutional points and has confirmed the right of congress to legislate in the matter, and in view of the fact that this government has shown a disposition to act leniently with the Chinese already here, it is supposed that the Six Companies will withdraw their opposition to registration and permit compliance with the law, especially as they have been warned that refusal will result in a wholesale deportation, which would be ruinous to their interests. Furthermore it is understood that some of the managers of the Six Companies have expressed their acquiescence in the law. It is stated that the Chinese government will make

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tive of this state tried and sentenced me without according me that which the laws of our land accord the vilest criminal, "the right of defense." Were I an employe of yours your right to perpetrate this act of injustice might depend upon your inclination, as it is I recognized the fact that I am an employe of the state, accountable as much to the people of this state for my official record and for them, as well as myself, I demand a statement and investigation of the charges preferred against me that I may have an opportunity to concede the manifest justice of your decree or defend myself from the imputation of hireling politicians.

Faithfully yours,
MARY F LEASE.

President of the board of state trustees, of the state charitable institutions.

Mrs. Lease, it will be noted, intentionally signs her double official title.

DEATH BY HANGING.

Assassin Prendergast Sentenced For the Murder of Mayor Harrison.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Attorney Trude resumed his closing argument for the prosecution in the Prendergast trial today. He paid particular attention in the opening to the religious disposition shown by the prisoner and showed the contrast between his protestations of Christianity and his cruelty to boys smaller than himself. Judge Brentano began his charge to the jury at one o'clock.

Patrick Eugene Prendergast was found guilty this afternoon of the murder of Mayor Carter Harrison on October 28, and the penalty fixed at death by hanging. As soon as the verdict was announced the bailiffs grabbed the miserable trembling prisoner and started to rush him back to his cell in murderers row. Judge Brentano ordered them to stop. "Let the prisoner remain while the jury is polled," he said. Prendergast took his stand before the chair in which he had jerked and squirmed during the progress of his trial and nervously clutched the back.

When Judge Brentano solemnly put to each juror the question: "Was this, and is this now your verdict?" Calmly but decisively each of the twelve jurors answered in the affirmative and each reply added more and more to the pitiful, despairing look in the trembling prisoners face. When the last juror had made his answer Prendergast's

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Folding Beds and Bookcases,

which must be sold at once, to make room for other goods, which are coming.

tive of this state tried and sentenced me without according me that which the laws of our land accord the vilest criminal, "the right of defense." Were I an employe of yours your right to perpetrate this act of injustice might depend upon your inclination, as it is I recognized the fact that I am an employe of the state, accountable as much to the people of this state for my official record and for them, as well as myself, I demand a statement and investigation of the charges preferred against me that I may have an opportunity to concede the manifest justice of your decree or defend myself from the imputation of hireling politicians.

Faithfully yours,
MARY F LEASE,
President of the board of state trustees, of the state charitable institutions.

Mrs. Lease, it will be noted, intentionally signs her double official title.

DEATH BY HANGING.

Assassin Prendergast Sentenced For the Murder of Mayor Harrison.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29—Attorney Trude resumed his closing argument for the prosecution in the Prendergast trial today. He paid particular attention in the opening to the religious disposition shown by the prisoner and showed the contrast between his protestations of Christianity and his cruelty to boys smaller than himself. Judge Brentano began his charge to the jury at one o'clock.

Patrick Eugene Prendergast was found guilty this afternoon of the murder of Mayor Carter Harrison on October 28, and the penalty fixed at death by hanging. As soon as the verdict was announced the bailiffs grabbed the miserable trembling prisoner and started to rush him back to his cell in murderers row. Judge Brentano ordered them to stop. "Let the prisoner remain while the jury is polled," he said. Prendergast took his stand before the chair in which he had jerked and squirmed during the progress of his trial and nervously clutched the back.

When Judge Brentano solemnly put to each juror the question: "Was this, and is this now your verdict?" Calmly but decisively each of the twelve jurors answered in the affirmative and each reply added more and more to the pitiful, despairing look in the trembling prisoners face. When the last juror had made his answer Prendergast's

A BIG REVOLT.

Fifty Soldiers Killed and a Number Wounded and Captured.

CONVICTS ENTRENCHED.

Agents of Admiral de Mello Have Landed on the Island of Fernando de Noronha Guards Were Corrupted and Convicts Given Arms—A Government Torpedo Boat has Been Dispatched to the Island Another Crank.

Copyrighted 1893 by the Associated Press.

ST. VINCENT, Dec. 29—A dispatch from Pernambuco, dated December 22, and apparently delayed, says there was serious fighting at Aguas Bellas, in the interior, yesterday (probably meaning December 21, unless date December 22 is an error). According to this dispatch fifty soldiers were killed and a number wounded and captured while making an attempt to arrest Senor Constantin Rogoberto, who had sought refuge in a house on a hill, and which he had fortified in a very effective manner. From the number of soldiers killed, it is believed that Senor Rogoberto succeeded in keeping off the forces sent to attack his house. Senor Jose Maria, editor of the Provincia, a newspaper which was recently suppressed at Pernambuco owing to its bold utterances upon the topics of the day, publicly charges the governor of Lima with being an accomplice of the persons who instigated the attempted revolt of the national guard and other troops in September last.

As the dispatch was sent from Pernambuco, a report had reached there of a serious revolt on the island of Fernando de Noronha, convict settlement and place of banishment. It was asserted that agents of Admiral de Mello had succeeded in landing upon the islands and had corrupted some of the guards with the result that a number of the exiles and convicts obtained arms and the latter had entrenched themselves in a secure position and

leaves forty per cent of the force unemployed. Over half the woolen manufacturers are idle and excepting a brief recovery in November have been ever since new wool came in. The price of fleece has fallen 20 per cent, to the lowest point ever known. Sales of cotton goods are fully a quarter below the usual quantity. Shipments of boots and shoes from Boston are 24 per cent less than the past year in December. Not only manufactured goods as a whole, but the most important farm

THREE DRIVERS SELECTED.

Fire Department Directors Select D[illegible] For the New Teams

There was a full meeting of the directors of the fire department last night to consider questions connected with the recent re organization of the department. The two questions to settle were: "Which hose company shall be awarded a team?" and "who shall drive the three teams?"

The first question was settled by a vote of fifteen to seven in favor of Hose company No. 2. The question of drivers was settled as follows, and without any great trouble: Driver for steamer team, Frank Herbert; for hose cart No. 2, Thomas Miller; for hook and ladder, James Sullivan.

The directors tendered to Alderman Badger a vote of thanks for the intelligent interest he had shown in the department and its equipment. The organization of the steamer, hook and ladder companies and hose company No. 2, is as follows:

Steamer Company—J. B. Badger, President; H. M. Patterson, vice president; Z. F. Merrill, foreman; J. J. H. Stein, assistant foreman; H. E. Stephenson, secretary; A. T. Hemworth, treasurer.

The hook and ladder elected for president, W. H. Long; vice president, H. A. Tyne, foreman; John D. Sauna, assistant foreman; J. S. Palmerlee, treasurer, A. Hills; secretary, M. C. Edwards.

Fire Police—C. W. Fassett, J. D. Ponder, P. E. Kern.

Hose Company No. 2—President, R. C. Lightbody; vice president, Doctor W. M. Yandell; foreman, P. J. Woods; assistant foreman, W. H. Fox; treasurer, C. O. Kelfer; secretary, E. A. Cudesill.

OFF FOR THE GOLD DIGGINGS.

Prospectors and Others Moving to This Eldorado.

There seems to be a general movement towards the Black Mountain gold diggings and it looks likely that a good deal of El Paso population who are able to go up to the New Eldorado are on the move. Some have money and others are obtaining "grub stakes" while others who have neither money nor grub stakes are striking out on foot with their blankets on their back, but as the distance is only fifty miles and can be made easily in three days,

performed with skill and good taste by Misses Katie Moore, Carrie and Belle Schutz and Prof. Koch. When they arose from their seats it was to be greeted by the vociferous applause of a delighted audience.

The ninth number, a quartette for two violins, viola and violincello was rendered by Messrs. A. Plessing, A. Schutz, E V. Berrien and Prof. Koch. They deservedly attained the commendation of the house.

The selection from Lucia de Lammermoor rendered by Mrs. Pettis of Las Cruces so affected the audience that she was urged to appear again, when she sang the Kiss Waltz by Arditi. This she rendered also in a taking manner. The piano duo, La "Marche Triomphale" was played in nice style by Miss Carrie Schutz and Prof. Koch. It still further added to the laurels won by the professor and his pupils during the evening. The concert closed with the gem of the evening the overture of Stradella by the symphony orchestra. The entire audience will join with the writer when he says that Flotow's creation was never executed with more good taste and expression than upon this occasion by Prof. Koch's orchestra is composed exclusively of amateurs. This concert will establish the reputation of Prof. Koch in this community. A listener said last night.

"The Symphony orchestra is a startling surprise to me and is no doubt to the entire community. It can go any where, in any city in the west and play before any audience. Professor Koch and the gentlemen who constitute the Symphony orchestra are entitled to no end of credit for the manner in which they rendered the conceptions of the masters of the art of music."

The concert was a financial success and a musical triumph.

No Difference.

A good story is told of a Pennsylvania judge who, before his promotion to the supreme bench of that state, once had a number of Irishmen before him in one of the interior counties, indicted for a riot on the canal. All their names were included in the one indictment, and the jury found them all guilty, though one of them, Pat Murphy, clearly proved an alibi. They were all brought into court to be sentenced, and Pat was directed to stand up with the others. Pat protested vehemently and reminded the judge that it was clearly proved on the trial that he was at the time sick in bed and at a considerable distance from the scene of the riot.

"Stand up, Pat," said the judge. "Stand up. You're just as guilty as any of them. You know you would have been there if you could!"—Green Bag.

A Maine Stage Line.

There is a cross country stage line from Abbott Village, Me., on the Piscataquis river, to Bingham, on the Ken-

The Letter is [illegible] will submit to this [illegible] and the present marshal of southern California is so entirely convinced [illegible] that he has established a photograph gallery at Los Angeles for the especial purpose of [illegible] the Chinaman who [illegible] the rush shall begin.

The office of the collector of customs at this port has been strengthened in this particular by the arrival of Mr. Joe O. Miller, of New York, who has been appointed to duty under Collector Davis. Mr. Miller arrived yesterday and was at once assigned to duty, and office room with Immigrant Inspector Giles.

Finest line of dolls and toys at Harper's.

Drs. C. C. and A. E. Brown, dentists, Sheldon block.

Pew's is the place for Fine Shoes

Chicago Wheat Market.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28—May wheat started ¼ off at 6⅝. It fluctuated between that figure and 61½ for a time and then began to slide down. Later shorts began to take offerings freely and May closed but ¼ cent from the top figures of the day.

The Bicycle Match.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28—At 1 o'clock this morning in the bicycle match the score stood: Schock, 1237; Walter, 1220; Martin, 1103; Albert, 1127; Hosmer, 940; Meixel, 1029; Van Emburg, 1021; Golden, 948; Forster, 907; Barton, 763; Ashinger, 812

A Firm Foundation.

The lady has implied a doubt as to the statement of the dairyman.

"Madam," he said indignantly, "my reputation rests upon my butter."

"Well," she replied testily, "you needn't get ugly about it. The foundation is strong enough to keep it up for ever."—Detroit Free Press.

Information For Fugitives.

The points of the compass can be told from trees by the following simple observations: The side of the tree on which the most of the moss is found is the north. If the tree is exposed to the sun, the heaviest and longest limbs will be on the south side.

Then She Was.

Miss Newed Why, Mary! Wh what—how dare you! Aren't you ashamed to wear my hat!

Mary No, ma'am. Not until I went to the park, and my sister told me it was last year's style. Brooklyn Life.

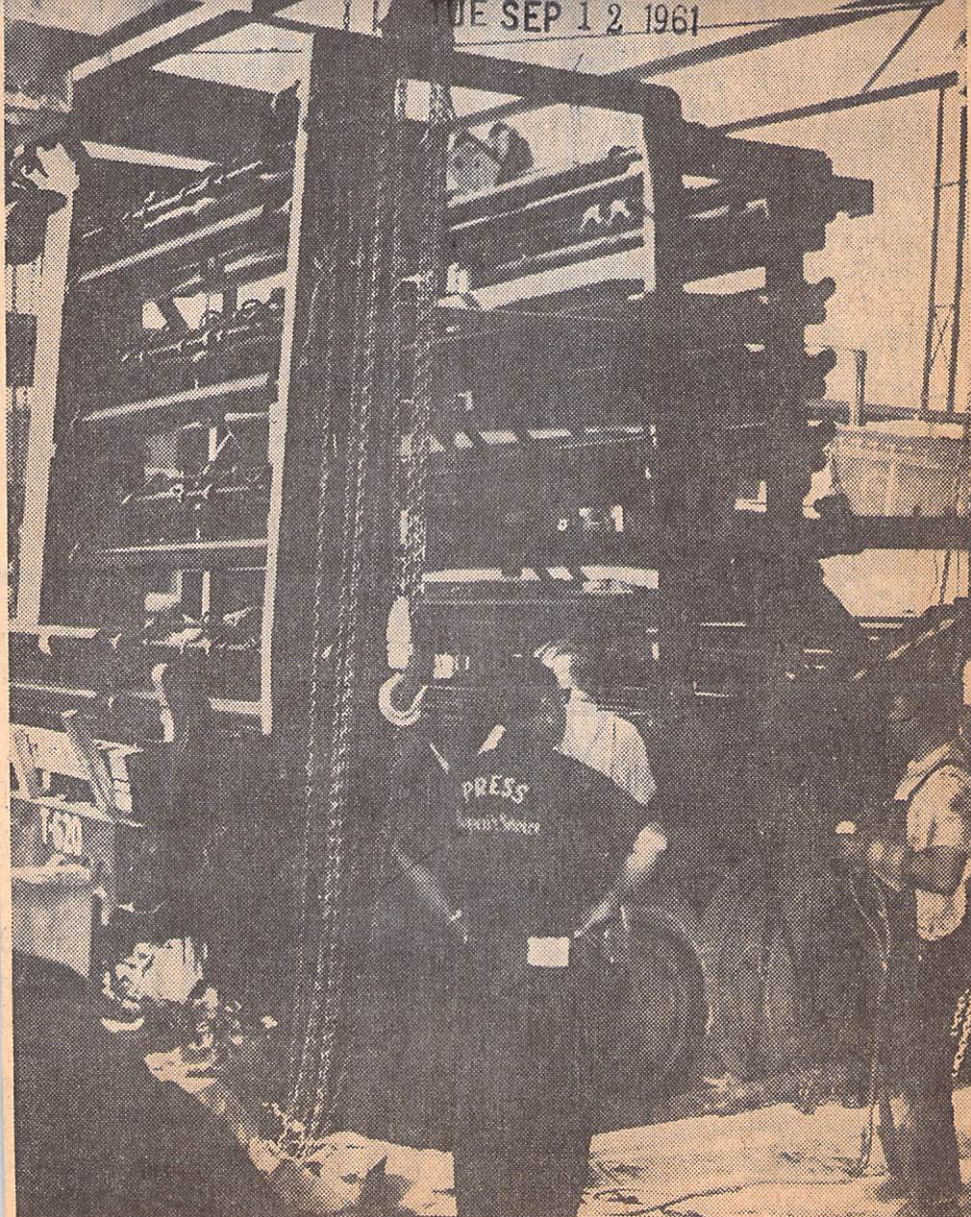
Fifty-six Hours to New York via the Wabash.

Leave Denver, Pueblo and Colorado Springs, Monday evening.

Arrive Kansas City, Tuesday, 5 p. m.

Arrive Toledo (Wabash Short Line) Wednesday, 4:30 p. m

TUE SEP 12 1961



MORE PRESS PARTS—*Casey Sawicke, foreground, owner of the Press Repair Service, in charge of the installation of the new Hoe Colormatic presses in the Newspaper Building, watches two of his workmen as they prepare to unload a top rail section of the new presses Monday. Installation work on the new machinery is about two thirds completed.* —*(Times Staff Photo)*

Now hear this: Plaque to honor era of the news tree

By Steven Almond
El Paso Times

11 Apr 89

Long before the news came packaged in daily papers and 30-second TV segments, El Pasoans used to rely on something far simpler for pertinent information: the Newspaper Tree.

In the now-defunct Pioneer Plaza, the venerated ash tree served as old El Paso's foremost forum for ideological exchange.

"Back when we were just a little sleepy adobe town with one dusty road, people used to post news on the tree," said James Ward, markers chairman for the El Paso County Historical Commission.

"They'd put posters up like 'so and so hasn't paid his hotel bill,' or 'John Brown's a rotten, stinking liar.' It wasn't exactly like today's news."

Still, the commission has decided to honor El Paso's first media source — as well as the tree-lined plaza that once was a center of public activity — with a marker that will be dedicated at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at El Paso and Mills streets.

Mayor Jonathon Rogers and members of the County Commissioners Court will be on hand to witness the unveiling of the 18- by 28-inch aluminum marker and to hear a keynote speech by historian Leon Metz.

The plaque itself will provide a brief history of the plaza, including highlights such as the appearance of President William Taft and Mexican President Porfirio Diaz in 1909.

Plans for the marker, which will rest on a slanted, rectangular stone base, were hatched three years ago. But final approval from the Austin-based Texas Historical Commission came only a month ago after extensive research, Ward said.

The plaque was paid for by the Historical and Charitable Trust of the Woman's Club of El Paso.

"This is the part of El Paso where history passed through," said Blanche Foster, board of trustees chairwoman.

Owing to the construction of San Jacinto Plaza, all that remains of Pioneer Plaza is a few flower beds.

But Ward and Foster hope that placement of the plaque will help rekindle interest in the era of the Newspaper Tree.

"We were so isolated here before the railroads came," Ward said. "There wasn't much news around, so people depended on the tree."

Newspaper Tree dedication

- **What:** Dedication of an El Paso County Historical Commission marker, commemorating the Newspaper Tree and Pioneer Plaza
- **When:** 10:30 a.m. Wednesday
- **Where:** Mills and El Paso streets, Downtown El Paso
- **How much:** free
- **Information:** 565-4983

The Press in El Paso: From "Newspaper Tree" to VDTs

by Robert W. (Pete) Lee

For a city which traces its roots back 400 years in time, El Paso seems to have been remarkably slow in providing a means of recording its history on a daily basis.

To be fair about it, no one would expect El Paso to have developed a newspaper when the first Spaniards crossed the Rio Grande in these parts four centuries ago, nor in the next couple of hundred years when nothing much occurred on the north bank of the river save for the establishment of Ponce de Leon's ranch. But it does seem remarkable that in later years, when Texas won its independence from Mexico, and when it won admission to the Union, no enterprising jackleg printer-editor turned up to begin publishing a daily, or even a weekly, periodical.

It wasn't that there were no newsworthy goings-on in the town in the middle 1800s. There was plenty stirring. But it wasn't reported save in private journals, letters, and in such later recordings as W.W. Mills' "Forty Years in El Paso," which is about the only available record of those turbulent times. It is, as Rex Strickland noted in his introduction to the book, "significant as much for its omissions as for the events that it records."

It wasn't that El Pasoans didn't communicate in those days. They did. As Mills notes in his book, when he arrived here in 1858: "At the head of El Paso near the little plaza (now Pioneer Plaza) where the main *acequia* (canal) ran, there were several large ash and cottonwood trees...to one of these trees some enterprising citizen had nailed a plank, which for years served as a bulletin board."

This was El Paso's famed "Newspaper Tree," where Mrs. Mary Gillock, hotel keeper, posted notices when her

Robert W. (Pete) Lee has spent 48 years in newspaper work. He came to El Paso in 1962 as executive editor of The Herald-Post *and became editor in 1963. Lee retired as editor in March 1981. He is president of the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Development Association and United Way and chairman of the 4 Centuries '81 Commission.*

"This was El Paso's famed 'Newspaper Tree,' where Mrs. Mary Gillock, hotel keeper, posted notices when her boarders failed to pay their bills, and where Mills himself, and others, nailed bulletins calling one another liars and so on."

Those were the days of the Great Depression, and soon both of El Paso's daily newspapers were hurting. On Aug. 30, 1936, it was announced that the two newspapers, though still separately owned and operated, would move under one roof, and through a new corporation, the Newspaper Printing Corporation, would jointly print, sell and distribute their product. It was as though Ford and Chevrolet, though maintaining their separate identity, would henceforth share production and sales facilities. It was the second such joint operating setup in the nation, but by no means the last. And it worked. Both papers survived the Depression years, and continue now under the same joint operation, though *The Times* was sold in the mid-70s to the Gannett Newspapers.

The editorial departments of the two newspapers remain completely independent of one another, but production, advertising and circulation departments are shared.

Space here is too short to recount the various events the two newspapers have covered in their joint century of existence, or the battles they fought.

But it should be noted that while ownership and editorship of the two changed through the years, so did the means of their publication.

In the beginning, stories were written in longhand, and set in type by printers who laboriously picked each letter of the story from a font of type. Then typewriters were introduced, and Linotypes — big machines which set a full line of type on a single slug, at a much faster pace than the old type-picking method.

Hand presses were discarded in favor of electrically operated rotary presses. Pages were made up in type in "forms"--steel frames -- and then an impression of the full page of type was made on sheets of heavy mat paper. A lead cast of each page was made from the mats, in semicircular form. These plates were attached to the presses, to be automatically inked as the "web" of newsprint flowed through the press.

Next came the introduction of perforated tape. "Punchers" operated a machine, copying reporters' stories onto a tape in the form of perforations, the tape then was fed into the Linotypes, with an electric eye reading each story and directing the Linotype how to set the type.

Later, the lead plates were discarded in favor of the sheets of metal on which the pages of type were photographically etched. At the same time, the Linotypes were phased out, the perforated tapes were being fed, instead, into machines which photographed the type, story by story. Each photograph then was pasted onto a page in its proper place.

Cold type, this was called, in contrast to the old "hot metal" method of production.

And finally, in the last couple of years, the electronic revolution hit the news rooms of *The Herald-Post* and *The Times,* with the introduction of VDTs--Visual Display Terminals, which consist basically of a TV tube and a set of typewriter keys (with a few special keys added).

Reporters now type their stories not on paper but on the TV screen. Special keys provide for corrections, deletions, or what have you. The machine automatically adjusts stories to the proper column width. Each story is stored in a computer's memory, and can, at the touch of a key, be set in type photographically.

It's a far, far cry from that time, a century ago, when *The Herald* and *The Times* were born. But it's only the beginning. Who knows what the next century will bring?

Indian from Ysleta, born Juana Marquez, daughter of *cacique* or tribal leader. Their household reflected the blending of Spanish, Indian and Kentucky cultures.

Women in religious orders also had an impact on education. Five Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross opened the first parochial school in the area, St. Joseph's Academy, at San Elizario in 1879. The school moved to El Paso in 1892, where it remained for many years. The still-thriving Loretto Academy started in 1923. Not far from it is the private Radford School, which opened in 1910 as the El Paso School for Girls. It also accepts boys now.

Members of the Woman's Club of El Paso were instrumental in getting the public schools to establish the state's first public kindergarten in 1893. They also answered the request for help of Miss Mary I. Stanton, public school teacher, who wanted to start a public library. Starting by loaning her personal collection to her students, she and the club members brought into being the El Paso Public Library Association in 1895, then obtained a site and funds from Andrew Carnegie to build a library which opened in 1904.

Another religious order of women was responsible for opening the city's first and still a major hospital, Hotel Dieu. It was founded in 1892 by four Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, and the original building opened in 1894. Out of that hospital came a nursing school which graduated its first class in 1902. The Hotel Dieu Nursing School was taken into the University of Texas System in 1973, and in 1976 was made a college of the University of Texas at El Paso.

Mrs. J. D. Porter became the town's first postmistress in 1881, the year the railroads brought about a change that saw the population increasing year after year. Besides teachers and nurses, El Paso drew other professional women: Dr. Isabella Welsh Hoenes, who came in 1903 and stayed to practice dentistry for 40 years; Dr. Mattie I. Hill, who arrived in 1902 as the first woman surgeon and second woman physician; and Edith W. Locke, first woman lawyer in town, admitted to practice in 1902.

The City Directory of 1886-87 reflected opportunities open to ambitious women: "Female domestics are in great demand. From 50 to 100 good girls or women could obtain employment at once from wages ranging from $15 to $25 a month."

Many women were not content to confine themselves to household duties, however, Mrs. Mary S. Price started Price's Creameries in 1906.

Others who made their mark early in the 20th century include Mrs. Callie Fairley, first woman detective in the El Paso Police Department, who retired in 1951 after 30 years' service; Miss Sara E. Freese, who came to El Paso in 1920 and entered business in 1928, becoming the first woman to head a brokerage firm west of the Mississippi; Hazel Barner, whose farmhouse kitchen business, started in 1925, became one of the Southwest's best known candy factories.

With the coming of World War II, El Pasoan Charlee Kelly became one of the first members of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps, signing up in 1942 when it was just two months old. She quickly became one of the earliest women officers in the Army.

It was not until postwar years that women made much of a splash in politics. One of the most remarkable of them was Mrs. Lydia Stark. After retiring from a long career as a public school teacher, she ran for the post of county superintendent of schools with the purpose of abolishing the job, since there were no longer any county schools to superintend. She took office on Jan. 2, 1963, and closed the office on Feb. 13, tacking a notice on the door: "I kept my promise."

The first woman elected to City Council was Arlene Quenon in 1975, thus starting the questions of title—alderwoman? alderperson? Polly Harris, who completed her aldermanic service this spring, introduced the term "alderbroad."

Many famous women were born in El Paso—Debbie Reynolds, Vikki Carr and Belen Amparan of the entertainment world; Suzy Knickerbocker, internationally famous columnist; Margaret Varner, world champion in badminton and national champion in squash.

Many women now hold top executive positions in the city, after many years of relative obscurity for their sex in the business world. The city's development, however, rests on foundations laid by the pioneering women of the 19th century. As Owen White, author of *Out of the Desert*, put it:

"El Paso with its wild, uncouth, uncivilized and un-Christian ways, was not a place in which those women dared to rear and educate their children. What the town needed, and what it received from these mothers, was the touch of a woman's hand; and the story of their accomplishment is one that every mother in El Paso — even the mothers of today — should read with a feeling of gratitude and appreciation."

"(Mrs. Lydia Stark) ran for the post of county superintendent of schools with the purpose of abolishing the job, since there were no longer any county schools to superintend. She took office on Jan. 2, 1963, and closed the office on Feb. 13, tacking a notice on the door: "I kept my promise.'"

EL PASO TIMES, INC.

401 MILLS (915)546-6100

Two separately owned and operated news organizations use a single facility for printing and business functions such as circulation, advertising and bookkeeping! El Paso Times Inc. is publisher's agent for El Paso Times, Gannett Group Newspaper, and El Paso Herald-Post, Scripps-Howard Newspaper, both serving the El Paso Southwest for over a century.

El Paso Times Inc., is one of the pioneers of this type of operation - a jointly owned paper publication company. Similar plans have been adopted by many newspapers in other cities. The arrangement has made it possible to achieve efficiency, and economy which benefit both readers and advertisers.

El Paso Times Inc. takes pride in keeping pace with El Paso's growth and progress, providing the city with one of the finest production and printing establishments to be found anywhere.

Neither newspaper by itself could support the battery of 12 Hoe Colormatic press units that are in use both day and night. The composing room is keeping pace with the electronic age, utilizing video display terminals, computerized typesetting, processing and advertising makeup which prepares advertisements practically camera-ready on the screen on the Advantage Compugraphic terminals. Editorial material is also set and edited via video display terminals in the Editorial Departments of both newspapers. The Classified Adv. pages are also prepared by these terminals.

Other departments throughout the building reflect this electronic progress. The mechanical departments, photography, and Data Processing Department are all computerized.

This type of operation - sharing the facilities and services of a jointly owned operating company has preserved the views of two different editorial voices and has resulted in a better product and more complete services to readers/advertisers.

El Paso Times Inc. employs approximately 450 persons, and has a multi-million dollar payroll. This is exclusive of independent contractors, carriers, etc., as well as employees of the editorial departments of the two newspapers. Thus, it is immediately apparent that El Paso Times Inc. plays an important role in El Paso's civic and industrial communities.

Dorrance D. Roderick served as president of El Paso Times, Inc., known as Newspaper Printing Corp. until 1986 , from its founding early in 1936 until 1975, when he retired. Succeeding him as President and General Manager was Frank Feuille, III, previously Business Manager of NPC.

In 1982, Harold E. Burdick succeeded Frank Feuille as Publisher of the Times and General Manager and President of the Newspaper Printing Corporation. Since 1975, El Paso Times Inc. has been served by 3 Presidents and General Managers. Frank Feuille III, from 1975-1982 Harold E. Burdick 1982-1986. In Dec. 1986 Thomas Fenton, assumed the helm as Editor and Publisher of the Company.

1936

El Paso Times

401 Mills Street **546-6100**

1881

Marcellus Washington Carrico founded the Times when he came to El Paso in 1881.

With the help of James Marr, a resident eager for a newspaper, Carrico financed the newspaper by selling stock.

The newspaper's one printing press stamped out the first edition in a two-storied adobe building that housed a boot seller and the Mexican Consulate. The first home of the Times was across the street from San Jacinto Plaza.

But within a year, Carrico realized that running a newspaper required more work than he wanted. The Herald, which started the same day as the Times, The Lone Star and the Daily Independent presented stiff competition.

By 1882, the Times had grown from a weekly publication to a daily afternoon paper. Many residents saw promise in the feisty four-page Times and its hard line against crime.

One such resident was the Rev. J. W. Tays, an Episcopal rector who founded St. Clement's Church in El Paso. He and his backers bought the Times from Carrico in 1882. After a couple of years under Tays' ownership, the struggling newspaper was sold to J. H. Bate and Juan Hart Nov. 24, 1884.

Hart was a prominent El Pasoan whose father had owned and published one of the first newspapers in El Paso, The Sentinel, from 1872 until his death in 1874.

Hart was determined to make the Times successful. First, he resumed getting Associated Press news off the telegraph wire. Then he turned the Times into a morning paper and beefed up local news.

Hart was the first person to promote border ties with Mexico, giving The Times the subtitle, "The International Link".

He also began pushing for community improvements, such as better water and fewer criminals, to better El Pasoans' quality of life.

Hart vacated the editor's chair in 1900 to return to engineering. He leased the Times to a group of Coloradoans, and W. B. McKinney was named editor and general manager.

The Coloradoans tried to dazzle El Paso readers, adding colorful writing to the bolder looking pages. But it didn't impress readers, and 10 months later Hart bought back the lease. He released the paper to Charles W. Kindrick, Dr. H.H. Stark and his old friend, J. D. Ponder, who became editor.

Ponder improved the newspaper and, moved from E.Overland St. to a new building at 223 S. Oregon St.

In 1908 Hart announced a syndicate of unnamed businessmen would be taking over along with him. Ponder became managing editor and Hart kept the editor's title. The name became El Paso Morning Times.

During this time another new press was installed at The Times and the era saw the excitement of the Mexican Revolution, followed closely by Times' reporters and editors.

In 1913, the Times began printing a page of news and advertisements in Spanish to boost circulation. Rumors that the owners of The Times were ready to call it quits came true in November 1925 when Herald owner H. D. Slater bought The Times.

Slater kept both newspapers in their separate buildings and maintained the editorial differences. In 1927 Slater decided to sell the Herald building and moved its editorial operation in with The Times. The Times offices were in the Plaza where Como's restaurant and the Plaza Theatre now stand.

On Dec. 15, 1928, two young men from the Panhandle came into Slater's office and offered to buy his operation.

J. Lindsay Nunn and Dorrance D. Roderick became the new owners Feb. 1, 1929, the eve of the Great Depression.

On April 3, 1931, a major change took place in El Paso newspapering. Scripps-Howard bought the Herald and merged it with the Post. Roderick, wanting to stay in El Paso newspapering, took full title to The Times and became its president and publisher, a post he would keep for more than 40 years.

Under Roderick's full control, Times' circulation increased and by 1934 was up to 20,000. In 1938, the Times passed the Herald-Post in circulation and never looked back.

In 1936, another change took place when The Times and Herald-Post joined in a publishing agreement to cut operating costs. The Times, the leader in circulation moved into the Post's new building at 401 Mills and all printing, advertising and business functions were combined. The two newsrooms maintained separate editorial offices and continued to battle as before.

El Paso began to flourish after World War II, and The Times kept pace.

The Times, home-owned since 1931, was sold to the Gannett Co., March 5, 1972. Bill Latham, who had succeeded W.J. Hooten as editor, remained in that position. Roderick continued as publisher of The Times and president of Newspaper Printing Corp. until Dec. 31, 1974, when he retired.

Gannett named Frank Feuille,III, who had been business manager of NPC and Vice President of The Times since March 2,1970, to succeed Roderick as publisher and president of The Times and president and general manager of NPC.

Robert Bentley was named executive editor on July 30, 1975, and became editor when Latham retired July 5, 1976. Bentley was succeeded by Barclay Jameson in January 1979 and he was succeeded by Barbara Funkhouser on June 1, 1980.

Harold E. Burdick became publisher of The Times and president and general manager of NPC on Sept. 8, 1982. Feuille retired as president of the Times.March 31, 1983, and was succeeded by Burdick. NPC was reorganized in January 1986 and its name was changed to El Paso Times, Inc.

In October of 1986, Thomas Fenton became editor of the Times and on Dec. 1, 1986, he was named president and publisher of the Times to succeed Burdick, who retired effective Jan. 1, 1987. Before coming to the Times, Fenton was chief of bureau and general manager of The Associated Press' West German subsidiary.

The Times publishes two editions daily, the 1st for southern N.M. and the 2nd for El Paso County and West Texas.

Adventurous reporter took in 'Wild West'

1859 expedition remembered in dusty book

Marc Simmons

New Mexico Scrapbook

Newspaperman Albert D. Richardson led an exciting life and suffered a tragic death. A century ago, most Americans knew his name mainly because of the three books he wrote.

Today he is all but forgotten and his writings, never reprinted, gather dust in their old bindings on a few library shelves.

A native of Massachusetts, Richardson was born with a love of adventure and travel. Journalism became his chosen career, and from a position on a succession of Eastern papers he angled several reporting trips that allowed him to visit the far corners of the Wild West.

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El Paso Tim
LIV

'Hand to Hand' not bound by borders

Mexican and U.S. young adults will take part in the "Mano a Mano Sin Fronteras / Hand to Hand Without Borders Program" July 8-Aug. 7 in El Paso. The project is sponsored by the YMCAs in both countries and mainly funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Participants will attend four-day development education conferences in Juarez and in El Paso then do three weeks of volunteer community work. The final conference will be in El Paso. Information: project director Roberto E. Aguirre, 533-3941.

'Miss Saigon' gets a snub of sorts

NEW YORK – The Drama Desk Monday did

Are you one of the 18 El Paso Morning Times newsboys who lined up across a dusty street sometime after the turn of the century? Do you have a picture like this one? It was taken 70 to 83 years ago because the Morning Times was the name of this newspaper from 1908 to 1921. Where was the picture taken? What company made the truck (in background) and when? Any readers with answers?

Old photo piques Times' curiosity of past

By Mary Margaret Davis
El Paso Times 30apr91

Clutching their newspapers, 18 newsboys stand in a line across a dusty, unpaved street.

In the background, with its side curtains rolled up, is a truck with "El Paso Morning Times" painted on the side. The words in the same Old English type can be seen across the papers.

Long ago, the youngsters posed for some unidentified cameraman. But the resultant photograph (shown above), made sometime between 1908 and 1921, has come to light just as the city's oldest newspaper is about to relocate to a new home.

Sometime at the end of this year, the Times expects to move from 401 Mills at Kansas to a new El Paso Times Building now under construction at Mills and Campbell.

Can any readers out there identify any of the newsboys or the location? What year and make was the truck? Send your information to Mary Margaret Davis, Times community news editor, at Box 20, El Paso, Texas 79999 or call her at 546-6397.

The old photo came from Gladys Shipp of Tow, in Llano County, Texas — far outside the Times's circulation area. She wrote a letter addressed to "El Paso Morning Times, El Paso, Texas" to tell us about the strip of history she had.

"I wondered if you might want this old photograph," Shipp wrote before sending the picture to the Times. "My husband's cousin had a used furniture store in Garland, Texas, near Dallas. He bought a houseful of furniture there and the picture was in a chest of drawers. The people didn't empty any of the drawers.

"I don't know how long I've had it, must be 15 years or so. It's been rolled up and flattened and it's broken (cracked) in several places. Probably it will have to be restored but I think it's interesting, especially because of the way the boys were dressed.

Please see **Photo / 2D**

Help wanted

Do you have early photos or other keepsakes and mementoes that might be important to the history of the 110-year-old El Paso Times?

If so, the Times would appreciate any contributions.

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Continued from 1D

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"I'm 80 and I had a brother just older than I am and I can remember him looking just like those boys."

In the stained photo, many of the youngsters appear to be dressed in their Sunday best — neckties knotted in four-in-hand style, caps perched squarely atop their heads. A few wear long pants, a sign of having come of age, or perhaps that was all they had to wear. But the others, much-younger looking, sport knickers and knee-length stockings.

The picture had to have been made between Dec. 10, 1908, and Jan. 6, 1921. According to "Frontier Newspaper: The El Paso Times" by the late John Middagh, that was the only period during which the paper was called the "El Paso Morning Times."

The newspaper had been founded in 1881 by Marcellus Washington Carrico, who christened his weekly "The El Paso Times." The title became "El Paso Daily Times" in 1882, when founder Carrico acquired the El Paso Link, bought from editor Juan Hart after it had been in publication only one month.

Dec. 10, 1908, according to Middagh, the paper's nameplate was changed to read "El Paso Morning Times," a substitution of the word "morning" for "daily."

Middagh says the Times was located at 223 S. Oregon from 1901 until 1919. The building housed the Labor Advocate after 1919, when the Times moved to what became The Times Building at 200 San Francisco at Santa Fe. In the '50s, that building was known as the Merchandise Mart and it was leveled for the construction of the civic center.

So the picture probably was taken at one of those two addresses. Because of the absence of paving, the frame building, the time period of the truck and the boys' garb, the earlier South Oregon address is the more likely site.

To bring the Times's wanderings up to date, Middagh wrote that with the establishment of the Newspaper Printing Corp. in the fall of 1936, the paper moved to its present location at 401 Mills.

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Times Takes National Honors For Top Hijacking Coverage

Coverage of the attempted hijacking of a jet airliner at International Airport reaped a national citation for The El Paso Times at the annual convention of The Associated Press Managing Editors Association which opened in Dallas Wednesday.

Bill Latham, managing editor of The Times, accepted the letter and citation for the newspaper which read as follows:

"From minutes after the hijacking of a jet airliner became known until far into the night, executives and staffers of The El Paso Times worked closely with The Associated Press in coverage of an extremely difficult and unusual story."

The incident occurred August 3 when Leon Bearden, 38, and his son, Cody, tried to force the crew of a Continental jet, which landed at El Paso at 2 a.m., to fly on to Cuba.

Times newsmen arrived at the scene almost immediately and stayed at the airport for nearly 10 hours while the drama was unfolding. Then, they worked late into the night cleaning up the feature angles, photographs and stories connected with the hijacking.

The Times newsroom was the focal point of activity for writers and photographers from such places as New York, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles and Phoenix who needed telephones, darkrooms, wire photo transmitting equipment and teletype machines to get the news of the incident

THE TIMES CITATION — *Frank J. Starzel, right, general manager of The Associated Press, presents to Bill Latham, center, managing editor of The El Paso Times, a national APME citation for outstanding coverage of the attempted airplane hijacking incident in El Paso. Bill Richardson, chief of the bureau of The Associated Press for New Mexico, who came to El Paso during the long drama which made the biggest headlines in the country that day, is at left.*

—(AP Wirephoto)

Adventurous reporter took in 'Wild West'

1859 expedition remembered in dusty book

Marc Simmons

New Mexico Scrapbook

Newspaperman Albert D. Richardson led an exciting life and suffered a tragic death. A century ago, most Americans knew his name mainly because of the three books he wrote.

Today he is all but forgotten and his writings, never reprinted, gather dust in their old bindings on a few library shelves.

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