

SCENE TO BE REPEATED ONCE MORE — This was the scene at the Salida depot of the D&RGW Railroad at 9 a.m. today as the next to the last passenger train left Salida on its run through the Royal Gorge to Denver. Note the two passenger coaches on this train. Local train officials said two coaches have been run for the past few days, with three on the Sunday run. Trains Nos. 1 and 2 will be discontinued after their runs Thursday, July 27, according to a PUC ruling which gave the D&RGW this permission on July 7. One more train will leave Salida, at 9 a.m. Thursday, and after this afternoon's train comes in, only one more will come in from Denver on the passenger run. It will leave later as a part of a freight.

Mountain Mail Photo

## Last trains run here Thursday

Thursday, July 27, will be the final day for Passenger Trains Nos. 1 and 2 to run in and out of Salida. The world-famed "Royal Gorge Route" of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad is being discontinued.

Earlier this year the D&RGW asked permission of the Public Utilities Commission to discontinue the run, which brought the only passenger trains into or out of Salida. After holding public hearings in Denver, Pueblo and Salida, and finding only token opposition from two of the three places—Pueblo being the only place that really protested the change—the PUC granted permission to discontinue the runs.

Train Nos. 1 and 2 will, therefore, make their final runs Thursday. The train will leave Salida on schedule at 9 a. m. on Thursday and the other will come in at 3 p. m., but it will not go out again as a passenger train.

Local D&RGW officials said they have been running two coaches for the past few days because of the interest in "riding it for the last time" on the part of many area residents. Sunday, there were three coaches on the run that normally carried only one.

## New you know

By United Press International Michigan's state tree is the white pine.

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TAKING LAST RIDE - A. E. Sewell is taking the last ride on D&RGW passenger train No. 2 and is shown here bidding farewell to F. O. Wilkinson. Both men are old railroad men with 40 years service each in Oklahoma City. In Salida for the hot baths, Sewell decided to take the last run on No. 2, which left Salida, with standing room only, for Denver on its last run. Sewell first came to Salida on the train in 1935. As the train pulled out, a little girl standing nearby started to cry. Another onlooker, a Salidan, said "That's how we all feel." The crew of the last run included: Russell Harrison, conductor; J. V. Shugard, engineer; A. L. Lawhead and George Naples, trainmen, R. L. Leffler and Albert White, crewmen.

Mountain Mail Photo