

SALIDA VOLUNTEER

FIRE

DEPARTMENT

Historian

Robert Joseph

Kidwell

"1965"

Overheated Cord Causes FD Call

An overheated cord turned the home of the Larry Delongchamps into "company" house for a time Saturday.

A loose wire on a wall plug created a high resistance when the appliance was plugged in causing the cord to heat. Mrs. Delongchamps noticed the heat and called the fire department with firemen Myers, Henderson and Kidwell answering the call. The Public Service was called and they, in turn, suggested that an electrician be called.

No damage was done, and the cord is now okay.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1965

Jan. 8, 1955

Firemen answered a total of 120 calls during the year 1954 in the city, South Arkansas fire district, and county, according to the report submitted by Fire Chief Tom Bergman.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1965

Firemen Answer Call

Salida firemen answered a call Saturday afternoon at the Club Reo on F Street, when the compressor motor in the basement became too hot and started smoking. An electrician told firemen over the phone that he would take care of the motor and Mr. Orr said he would watch the motor closely until the electrician arrived. Only minor damage was done to the motor.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1965

Fire Caused By Cigarette

Salida firemen Myers, Culp and Nelson answered a call at 5:40 p.m. Tuesday at the football field.

According to Firechief Milton Myers, the fire was caused by someone dropping a cigarette in a pile of sawdust in a storage shed at the west end of the football bleachers.

Only minor damage was done to the shed.

In City, District, County

Total 1964 Fire Loss Amounted To \$26,102

Salida firemen, headed by Chief Milton G. Myers, had a relatively good year in 1964 and Chief Myers was enthusiastic in his praise of Salida and Chaffee County residents for their good sense in recognizing and eliminating fire hazards.

With a total exposure (property value) of \$327,829 in 1964, the total loss was only \$26,102 in the City, District and County. This compares to a total exposure of \$250,050 in 1963, with a loss of \$15,968.

For the entire area, the firemen answered 122 calls in 1964 as against 135 in 1963.

In the City of Salida, 83 calls were answered in 1964 and the estimated value of property exposed was \$153,910, with a loss of only \$2,005, or a loss per cent of 1.3. The estimated value of property exposed in 1963 was \$230,000 and the loss at \$15,738 within the city limits of Salida.

A breakdown of the calls answered shows the following: 7 calls to commercial-business places; 8 calls to residents; 4 vehicle fire calls; 7 rescue-first aid calls; 5 grass fire calls; 10 calls to investigate smoke-gas-wiring troubles; 1 call to overheated oil furnace; 2 calls to give standby protection; 2 calls for unauthorized burning in fire zone 1; 3 calls to wash down oil-gasoline spills; 1 call to destroy hornets; 3 false alarms; and 20 calls of a non-emergency miscellaneous nature.

With 23 calls in the South Arkansas Fire Protection District, the breakdown is as follows: 5 to commercial-business places; 1 call to residence; 3 calls to vehicle fires; 2 rescue-first aid calls; and 11 grass fire calls. Total value of property exposed in the district in 1964 was \$25,919, with the loss set at \$589.

In Chaffee County there were 15 calls broken down to 3 to commercial-business places, 3 to re-

sidents, 2 vehicles and 7 grass fires. Estimated value of property exposed was \$148,000 and the loss was \$23,508.

Nine classes in firemanship training were held and three classes were given by instructors from the Colorado State Board for Vocational Education.

Alley and yard inspections were made by the fire department during the Clean-Up campaign in May with good results, according to Chief Myers, who said that many potentially dangerous and unsightly conditions were cleaned up.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1965

Firemen Answer Two Calls Here

Salida firemen answered two calls Monday, with one being something of a false alarm and the other being caused by a smell.

Smoke hanging in the air on H Street near the railroad tracks, led firemen to investigate. They found a fire in a blanket and a fire in a bed. The fire in the blanket was caused by a person sleeping in a blanket. The fire in the bed was caused by a person sleeping in a bed. The fire in the blanket was caused by a person sleeping in a blanket. The fire in the bed was caused by a person sleeping in a bed.

At the home of Mrs. Izora Patterson an oil heating stove was gassing up the house and the firemen were called. Firemen Henderson and Sovine answered the call, turned off the stove and advised that it be cleaned. Mrs. C. H. Dunagan was looking after the house while Mrs. Patterson is in the hospital.

Firemen Answer 'Gas Odor' Call

Firemen answered a call Wednesday evening to the home of Bob Muir at 331 Oak Street after the Muirs had noticed an odor coming from a gas panel ray heater.

Firemen Henderson and Sovine checked the heater, then called an employee of Salida Gas Co., who checked further and found one side "carboned." The Muirs were instructed not to re-ignite that side until it was cleaned.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 1965

Early Morning Fire Causes Heavy Damage

There was no personal injury as a result of a fire at the Main Bar building on F Street early today, but property damage and loss was estimated by firechief Milton Myers at between \$10,000 and \$12,000.

The alarm was turned in by police at 2:05 a. m. and when firemen arrived at the scene five minutes later the fire was burning both up stairs and downstairs. Firechief Myers stated that evidence pointed toward the fact that the fire started upstairs and dropped downstairs into the kitchen area of the building. The cause of the fire was undetermined at press time.

Residents of the Shavano Hotel, next door, were alerted, but were not evacuated, although one resident there, John O'Connor, was given oxygen at his request and later removed to the Salida Hospital.

The owner of the building, Ray Strickland, was asleep in his apartment upstairs when firemen arrived, but was able to make his way to safety unharmed.

When firemen arrived the fire was going strong in the kitchen area, Myers said, but apparently had dropped, by way of an old airwell, from a storage area

above. Many books, papers and several mattresses were in the storage area.

It took Myers, Jack Henderson, Charles Culp, Riley Sovine and Jim Nelson from about 2:10 a. m. until 5:15 a. m. to bring the fire under control to the point where the two trucks could leave. At 6 a. m. Myers was still on the scene making an investigation and watching for smoldering spots.

A tin roof was credited to Myers with preventing the fire from spreading.

The resident of one of the two apartments upstairs, had moved out Sunday, so Strickland was alone in the building at the time of the fire. A mattress fire was brought under control about a month ago in the apartment now vacant.

Firemen Answer Frozen Pipes, Water Calls

Firemen answered three calls Saturday, one on frozen pipes, one caused by frozen water, and another to assist the Poncha Springs fire department.

At noon Saturday firemen Myers and Henderson were called to the Maude Woodhead home following an explosion which ripped her kitchen apart. According to the firemen's report, water in the front of the coal range had frozen and when the fire was started, steam formed causing the explosion.

The stove was drecked, a kitchen window was blown out, and stove fragments were thrown into the ceiling by the blast. Soot, smoke and fragments damaged the kitchen extensively. The firemen shut off the water to the stove, plugged the pipes and cleaned up some of the mess.

At 2:23 p.m. Saturday firemen were called to the Francis Deluca home where frozen water pipes had broken and flooded the porch. Firemen Myers and Henderson answered the call and tried to crimp the pipe, but were unable to do so, and called a plumber to take care of the situation, according to the report.

At 10:56 Saturday night, firemen Henderson and Nelson answered a call to the H. J. Henderson home west of Poncha Springs where a barn and two sheds were burning. The Poncha Springs fire department was on hand and had things under control, with no danger of spreading, according to the report, so the local firemen returned to Salida.

The barn and a grain shed next to it burned to the ground and is reported to still be smoldering.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1965

Firemen Called For Smoking TV

Firemen Myers, Henderson and Sovine answered a fire call to 233 East First Street at 5 p. m. Thursday only to find the situation under control.

Anegla Pinkston, who resides at that address, had a TV repairman working on her TV when the set started smoking. The firemen were called, but by the time they arrived the set had been disconnected and the situation under control.



CLOSED FOR REPAIRS—The above photo shows the Atomic Bar entrance, boarded shut following the Sunday morning fire that damaged the interior to the extent of \$4,000 to \$5,000. Firemen said the only possible explanation for the fire, which apparently started in a pasteboard box used as a trash container, was that a live cigarette butt had been thrown into the trash container.

Mountain Mail Photo

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1965

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1965

Firemen Called Because Of Smoke

Firemen Myers and Nelson answered a call to 13th and E Streets yesterday to investigate a complaint from Mrs. Caughman, who lives across 13th Street from the Mountain States Telephone Garage, about smoke from burning wire in a trash barrel at the garage.

The firemen talked with employees of the MST and with Mrs. Caughman, according to their report, and will try to get something done to help the situation.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1965

Firemen Answer Smoke Call Here

Salida firemen answered a call Monday at 8:09 a.m. to Ben's Cafe at 113 Sackett Ave., when someone called to say smoke was pouring out of the cafe, owned by Benjamin Maes. Kitchen, apparently causing an unusual amount of smoke from the flue.

Firemen Answer Call Here Today

Firemen answered a call to 318 Dodge, the Dick Tuttle home, at 8:10 a.m. today and found what was, according to the report, a defective gas furnace.

The report stated that apparently the gas furnace was not working properly, causing soot to form. The soot ignited and scorched the floor under the furnace.

Firemen called the gas company to come and check the furnace.

Firemen answering the call were Henderson, Culp and Nelson.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1965

Shorted Cord Brings Firemen

Firemen Culp and Nelson answered a call this morning at the George Wood home at 536 I Street.

They found an electric cord on an electric heater had shorted out and burnt the end off the cord.

No damage was done to the home.

MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1965

Chimney Fire Brings Firemen

Firemen answered a call to 840 G Street, the home of Charles Eloffson, Friday at 8:40 p.m. after soot in the chimney at that address had caught fire and was burning.

Firemen Myers, Culp and Nelson cleaned out the excess soot. They also tried to locate the source of a gas odor in the house and yard. They decided that the odor may have originated in a clogged sewer in the neighborhood or from hot burning material in the chimney.

Faulty Wiring Nets Fire Call

Firemen Myers, Henderson and Sovine answered a fire call at 1 p.m. Tuesday to 129 I Street, the home of Mrs. Jennie Paitsel, and found faulty wiring had shorted out, according to their report.

The firemen advised Mrs. L. Mazzota, the owner of the house, to have an electrician check out the complete wiring in the house.

MONDAY, APRIL 5, 1965

Firemen Answer Car Fire Call

Firemen answered a call Saturday to the Y & R lot in the 300 block of F Street, where a 1957 Mercury belonging to Veva Young caught fire as mechanics were working on it.

The mechanics had primed the carburetor with gas and then used a jumper cable to try and start the car. A spark from the cable apparently ignited the gas in the carburetor. One of the mechanics put the fire out with dirt and when firemen Myers, Culp and Nelson arrived they checked to see if everything was in good order.

No damage was reported to the car.

MONDAY, APRIL 19, 1965

Firemen Answer Two Calls Sunday

Firemen answered two calls Sunday, one on a fire and the other to try to render aid to a heart attack victim.

They were called to the A. A. Braswell home Sunday when Mrs. Braswell, who was raking leaves in her yard, apparently suffered a heart attack. Firemen gave artificial respiration and resuscitation, but were unable to restore breathing or pulse.

At 2:30 p.m., they were called to the M. C. Winfield home at 16th and L Streets where Robert Winfield had been burning weeds and the wind caught the fire and carried it into a nearby fence and loading chute. The firemen extinguished the fire.

April 26, 1915

Last Saturday night about 9 p. m. fire was discovered in the immense warehouse of the Holcomb Feed & Implement Co., on West Third Street, and when the firemen finally succeeded in getting the flames under control, the building and contents were a total loss.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1965

Odor Brings Firemen

Firemen answered a call to the Patterson Hardware at 126 F Street Tuesday about 1 p.m. when employees noticed an odor coming from the fluorescent lights. The firemen contacted Public Service Company and they said the lights would be repaired.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1965

Firemen Here Put Out Blaze In Car

Firemen answered a fire call to the Circle R Motel on Highway 50 Wednesday afternoon where they extinguished a fire that had started in a car owned by Stacey Bustos.

The car, a 1957 Ford station wagon, received only about \$20 damage according to Firechief Milton Myers, who said the firemen used carbon dioxide extinguishers in putting out the small blaze. The blaze centered in the area around the carburetor.

Monday May 3rd 1965

Firemen Answer Two Calls Here

Firemen were called out twice over the weekend, with the first fire Friday afternoon and the second Sunday afternoon.

Friday at 4:30 p.m., firemen answered a call to Miss Lila Stika's residence at 615 D Street. Hot ashes had been placed in a tub which was sitting on a pile of boards. The tub had a hole in it and some of the ashes fell through starting a fire in the boards, and this spread to the rear wall and door.

By the time firemen arrived most of the fire had been extinguished by neighbors and visitors. Only minor damage resulted.

Sunday at 1:47 p.m. firemen were called to the city property on Highway 50 west of Salida at the site of the old reservoir where someone had been burning grass and weeds from the ditch and it had gotten out of control and spread to some bushes and trees. They extinguished the blaze.

Thursday May 6th

Donahoo Hired As New Fireman Here

Darrell Donahoo, 21, has been hired by the Salida fire department and will begin work May 16 as a fireman. For the past year Donahoo has been active as a volunteer fireman. He has been hired to fill a vacancy in the department created when Riley Sovine resigned recently to accept employment with a local automotive firm as a salesman. At the present time Donahoo is employed at Climax.

Donahoo, a graduate of Salida high, is married to the former Rosemary Williams and they are the parents of son, Troy. The Donahoes live at 246 Palmer.

Friday May 7th 1965

Firemen Work On Sewer

Firemen Thursday afternoon pumped a total of 700 gallons of water in a sewer manhole at the corner of 9th and J Streets in an effort to unplug a sewer line. They assisted the city crew in making the effort, unsuccessfully.

Monday May 17th 1965

Firemen Answer Weekend Calls

Firemen answered two fire calls this weekend with neither fire doing too much damage.

At 4 p. m. Saturday, firemen went to 1414 F Street, the Leadville Transit Company, to put out a fire that caused minor damage. A pan of volatile flammable liquid was apparently accidentally knocked to the floor and a spark from the compressor ignited the vapors. The fluid was used to wash parts in the garage.

At 4 p. m. Sunday they put out a small grass and brush fire in the 600 Block of West Third St. No damage was done and the cause of the fire was unknown.

Wednesday May 26th 1965

Olden Days

May 26, 1891

Last night at ten minutes before two o'clock, fire was discovered in the old Gessert Building and swept up to the alley across from Gillet & Whitehurst's grocery store, then down to Front Street, sweeping everything, Alrington Hotel and all. The fire department was promptly on hand and did efficient work in preventing the flames from spreading and doing greater damage.

Monday May 24th 1965

Firemen Answer Call To Laundry

Firemen answered a call at 5:30 p.m. Saturday at the Norge Laundry and Dry Cleaning Village in the 100 block of West Rainbow Blvd.

According to the firemen's report, a coil in the water heater unit apparently broke and spread water on the gas burners which caused a quantity of steam and smoke. Also, some of the gas was forced outside the jacket of the water heater and burned there, discoloring the jacket.

When firemen arrived the gas had been turned off. Tom C. Toole is the tenant of the building and it is owned by Porter Whitcomb.



INSPECTION TIME — Clean-up time for most Salidans is inspection time for Firechief Milton Myers. He is shown here as he inspects a building used for storage. The pile of wood on the right was one of the things the Firechief would love to have removed. This is the type thing, he said, that people do without thinking that it can become a real fire hazard. Clean-up time ends May 30 in Salida. Mountain Mail Photo

Thursday May 27th 1965

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1965

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1965

Friday June 4th 1965

May 27, 1955

Salida's Volunteer Fire Department won three trophies in the annual San Luis Valley Firemen's field day, here here. The local firemen were first place winners in the Y hose race, motor replacement, and over-all efficiency contests. Monte Vista won the state award with a 96.66.

MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1965

Firemen Hold Big Field Day

Monte Vista's Volunteer firemen walked off with top honors at the 16th annual Field Day of the San Luis Valley Firemen's Association held in Salida Sunday. Monte Vista's firemen took three firsts and a third in the five-event Field Day tournament.

Del Norte placed second with one first place, two seconds and a third. Salida, with three seconds, and Alamosa with a first, two thirds and a fourth, finished in a tie for third with Pagosa Springs, with four fourths and a third, rounding out the top five.

Trophies were presented at the banquet held at 7 p. m. at St. Joseph school gymnasium. Edward Toubert was master of ceremonies and Versch Robb, tournament chairman, presented the trophies.

In the six-man motor replacement Monte Vista placed first, Salida second and Del Norte third. In the six-man "we" hose race, Del Norte placed first, Salida second and Alamosa third.

The four-man reverse layout race saw Monte Vista taking first, Del Norte second and Alamosa third. Alamosa took first in the three-man 2½ to 1½ changeover race, with Salida second and Monte Vista third. In the six-man stationary appliance contest, Monte Vista placed first, Del Norte second and Pagosa Springs third.

The field day events were held near the Scout Hut on East Sackett with a nice turnout of local residents to watch the contests.

Firemen's Group Plans Field Day Here On June 6

Plans are nearing completion for the 16th annual Field Day of the San Luis Valley Firemen's Association to be held this year on Sunday, June 6, in Salida.

The program will start at 9 a.m. with registration at the Boy Scout Hut. Free coffee and donuts will be available. At 10 a.m. a short business meeting will be held.

The big competitive Field Day events will start near the Boy Scout Hut at 1 p.m. Trophies are awarded in five events: six-man motor replacement, six-man "we" hose race, four-man reverse layout, three-man 2½ to 1½ change-over, and six-man stationary approach contest.

Versch Robb is the tournament chairman and Earl Rice is president of the Association.

Following the field events, at 7 p.m., at the St. Joseph school gymnasium a banquet will be held with Mayor Edward Toubert as master of ceremonies. At the banquet, Robb will present the trophies.

Firemen Answer Call

Firemen answered a call to 131 F Street Wednesday at 2:45 p.m., but found the fire extinguished when they arrived. Someone, according to the firemen's report, apparently dropped a match or cigarette into a cellar filled with trash which started to burn. Ben Maestas, who owns an adjoining place, extinguished the fire with a garden hose.

Small Fire Reported

Salida firemen answered a call to the Poncha Lodge at Poncha Springs, but the small kitchen fire had been extinguished by the time the firemen arrived. *JUNE 4th*

Firemen Plan Big Field Day

Firemen from 16 towns will hold their 16th annual Field Day Sunday, June 6, in Salida with a business meeting, registering and tournament events, topped off with a banquet Sunday night at St. Joseph's.

Towns that will send their firemen to Salida for the event include Alamosa, Monte Vista, Del Norte, Saguache, Center, Pagosa Springs, South Fork, Hooper-Mosca, Antonito, San Luis, Blanca, Romeo, Sanford, La Jara, Creed and Salida. All are members of the San Luis Valley Firemen's Association.

The tournament events will be held in the riverside park and are expected to draw a large crowd as the fire crews race to complete five different events, all of which draws on all the skill and speed available to the firemen.

At the banquet trophies will be awarded to the winners in the different events and the top team in the Field Day tournament.

Salida and Firechief Milton Myers will host the day. Alamosa was the host last year.

JUNE 8th



ON YOUR MARK — These Salida volunteer firemen line up for the start of one segment of the Field Day tournament held in Salida by the San Luis Valley Firemen Sunday. Salida tied for third in the Field Day. Mountain Mail Photo

Thursday May 27th 1965

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Last Friday of the Farmers charged with the \$1,500 robbery McPherson, Kan. College, was more than a week ago from Pope, who graduated Little pel, Neb. were to be filed today at Chap- alert for Pope. Murder charges ligation issued a nationwide The Federal Bureau of Invest- one's book.

small college football here and Duane Pope, 22, a clarinet-play Federal bank robbery charge tense game of cat-and-mouse tod wanted for the bloodiest bank r NORTH PLATTE, Neb. (UP

Suspect Sou

Bank Robber

Called "Fine Person"

ed third in the Bowling Belles and Shirley Williams; back ro Shown above, front row, from

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1965

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Tuesday June 8th



ON YOUR MARK — These Salida volunteer firemen line up for the start of one segment of the Field Day tournament held in Salida by the San Luis Valley Firemen Sunday. Salida tied for third in the Field Day.

Mountain Mail Photo

Thursday June 17th 1965



GOING TO STATE FIREMAN'S FIELD DAY — These young volunteer firemen will represent the Salida Fire Department at the State Firemen's Association meeting Field Day in Cortez on June 18. Participating in the three-man team event will be, from left to right above, Ronnie Hassell, Dennis Henderson and Norman Williams. Mountain Mail Photo

TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 1965

Firemen's Team Places Third In State Meeting

Salida's firemen attended the four-day State Firemen's convention at Cortez this past weekend, and the three-man team entered in the three-man event in the Field Day placed third in the state. They were captained by Jack Henderson. Those on the team were Norman Williams, Ronnie Hassell, and Dennis Henderson.

All firemen attended the session, but on different days so that the home front had continued and full fire protection all during the convention.

Firechief Milton Myers reported on the convention at the Council meeting Monday night.

Monday June 28th 1965

Days Gone By . . .



FIREMEN OF OLD — The fire department posed proudly for this picture, little knowing the pleasure they would give future generations in looking at the fire equipment and the uniforms of the firemen. A look in the background and on the extreme left will also reveal curious onlookers of that day. This picture is from the Mountain Mail files.

Monday July 5th 1965

Hornets Bring Firemen Out

Hornets brought Salida firemen out on two calls to the same residence over the week-end with another call made because of an electrical short.

Local firemen went to 1043 F Street at 10 a.m. Friday to answer a call from Mrs. Harriet Alexander. They burned out a hornet's nest. At 12 p.m. next day they returned to the scene because the hornets had also. This time they used fire and an insect spray to kill or move the reluctant hornets.

At 4:45 p.m. on July 4, firemen answered a call to 845 I Street, the home of Robert Counter. They found that the wind had blown an electric drop from the pole to the house together and they had shorted out. Public Service was called to make the repairs.

TUESDAY, JULY 27, 1965

Firemen Go To Car Fire

Firemen answered a call to the 200 block of E Street Monday but found the car fire already extinguished by a station attendant at Jasper's Service Station. The car of Mrs. Jo Ann Hickel, Garfield Star Route, had been slow in starting and the fumes, apparently ignited by a spark or backfire, had burst into flames. The station attendant used a foam extinguisher to put out the blaze.

Firemen Fight Fire At Home West Of Town

Firemen reported today that children playing with matches apparently caused a fire that almost completely destroyed the home of U. G. Ramey a mile west of town off Highway 291. The house is owned by Bud McCoy.

Mrs. Ramey, according to the firemen's report, saw the fire in the garage which joins the house. She called firemen, but by the time she called and firemen arrived the entire inside of the house and garage were on fire, the firemen said.

July 6, 1915

A fire Sunday morning in Granite destroyed an entire business block. All buildings were unoccupied. The loss is estimated at \$2,500. It is known that several tramps slept in one building and Granite residents believed they may have caused the conflagration.

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1965



LADIES FIGHT A FIRE — These ladies grabbed the fire extinguishers and in short order put out the fires lighted for the special fire drill put on by the Salida Fire Department at the Salida Hospital. All members of the hospital staff took part in the drill which was held in the drive just east of the hospital. Ladies shown here are Lorraine Gruenler, Mildred Kearby and Leota Jackson.

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1965

MONDAY, JULY 12, 1965

Fight Grass Fire

Salida firemen Sunday about 1 p.m. extinguished a grass fire behind the home of Bill Adams at 600 I Street which had also begun to burn a small shed. The cause of the fire was not known.

Firemen Answer Call

Firemen answered a call to 223 Blake Street, the home of Cyril Granzella, at 8 p.m. July 21 when a burning trash barrel in the back yard ignited a pile of boards and slabs near the south property fence. Firemen extinguished the blaze.

Two Firemen Will Attend Lectures

Two members of the Salida Fire Department will attend a special fire department instructor's conference where Emmet Cox will give the lectures on August 11 and 12.

Jim Nelson and Darrell Donahoo will make the trip from Salida. The lectures will be held in Denver and Nelson and Donahoo will stay at Denver's number one fire station while in Denver for the conference, according to Firechief Milton Myers.

Firemen Free Cat

Firemen answered a call about 11:30 Friday morning to 128 C Street, the home of James O. Couch. A cat had its head stuck in a hole on the bottom of the kitchen range. The firemen enlarged the hole and freed the cat with no damage to either the cat or the range.

Friday Aug 13th

Firemen Investigate Smoke

Firemen were called to investigate smoke at the home of Cecil Brandt at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. The caller said they thought the Brandt children were playing with fire. Firemen went to the scene and warned the youngsters, according to their report.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1965

Fire Destroys Vehicle

A 1965 Scout, owned by Bob Mikels and driven by Pierre LaMont of Poncha Springs, was completely destroyed by fire a mile and a half east of Salida about 3 a.m. today. Cause of the fire was not known, according to the report of investigating Patrolman Art Tuck. The Scout had apparently become stuck off the side of the road. Salida firemen went to the scene after receiving a call from city police, but when they arrived it was completely on fire they reported.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1965

Fire Chief Milton Myers Issues Warning

Salida Fire Chief Milton Myers has requested that all property owners cut down the weeds which are growing near sheds and fences and buildings, before the weeds dry up and become a fire hazard.

He noted that with the unusual amount of rain this year, we also have an exceptionally tall crop of weeds in vacant lots and near buildings.

These will become quite dangerous after they dry out and if they are cut now they may save serious fire loss in the future.

Firemen Answer Calls

Firemen answered three calls Monday. One call, at 12:30 p. m., was to remove a ferret from under the porch at 945 I Street, the home of Nestor Trujillo. The ferret was owned by Ted Kerndt and was returned home. At 1:50 p. m., they went across the street to put out a no-damage fire at 121 E Street, the home of E. C. McBride. The McBride boys were using gasoline to clean a tar brush and one lighted a cigarette, which caught the fumes on fire. Then, at 5:28 p. m., they went to the H. L. Billingsle home at 747 C Street, to remove a hornets nest from an apple tree. Altogether, a busy Labor Day.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1965

Fire Department Gives First Aid

The Salida Fire Department was called out about 12:15 p. m. Monday to give first aid to a man who had fainted at 331 H Street.

Fire Chief Milton Myers, said the man, Eddie Myers, an employee of the Monarch Dairy, fainted and then fell and struck his head on the floor. Eddie Myers, who is not related to the fire chief, was revived by firemen with an inhalator.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1965

Hornets Routed

Hornets nesting at 222 E Street were routed about 10:40 a. m. Tuesday by Salida firemen.

The hornets were reported to have been infiltrating the apartment of Leslie Kerndt from a nest on the second story of the office and apartment building. Firemen routed the hornets by spraying them with insecticide and then tearing down their nest.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1965



EXAMINES FIRE HAZARDS—Salida Fire Chief Milton Myers is pictured examining some of the fire hazards his department is trying to eliminate in the city. The high weeds and discarded waste paper are in a yard close to the downtown area. Chief Myers, noting that this is National Fire Prevention week, issued an appeal to all residents of the community to help eliminate conditions that tend to breed fires.

Mountain Mail Photo

Fire Along Tracks

A fire along the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad tracks in Poncha Springs was reported shortly before 4 p. m. Wednesday, but the blaze had been put out by the time firemen arrived on the scene. There was no report of damage from the fire or how it had started.

Oct. 11, 1955

Fire Prevention Week got off to a good start here Sunday evening, with the first call being to the residence of fire chief Tom Bergman. Trash burning in a barrel at the rear of Bergman's residence set fire to a shed. Bergman's mother called the firemen at 9:16 p. m. Estimated damage is \$100.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1965

Firemen Called

Firemen were called out at 11:36 a. m. Sunday when a horn relay apparently short circuited in an automobile in the 100 block of East Sackett Avenue, causing the horn to blow continuously. However, the horn had stopped blowing by the time firemen arrived on the scene, according to Fire Chief Milton Myers. There was no fire.

Hornet Call

Firemen responded to a call about 2:30 p. m. Tuesday for trouble caused by hornets at the Shellabarger Chevrolet-Olds at 148 E Street. Fire Chief Milton Myers said the hornets were routed with insecticide.

Firemen Called Out For Grass, Heater Blazes

Firemen were called out for two blazes in Salida in less than 24 hours early this week.

According to Fire Chief Milton Myers, the first call was at 1:30 p. m. Monday for a grass fire at 11th and E Street. Firemen found on their arrival at the scene, however, that the blaze was under control.

The second fire was reported at 7:45 a. m. Tuesday at the La & K Trailer Ranch at Ninth and J Streets where an oil heater in the trailer of Leland McFarland was reported to have malfunctioned. Chief Myers said the blaze set the heater on fire. The blaze was put by firemen.

The chief reported, some smoke damage to the trailer and that there was minor damage to the heater from the fire.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1965

Stove Overheats

Firemen were called out at 7:40 a. m. Thursday for an overheated oil stove at the William Cline Upholstery Shop, 102½ E. First Street. The stove was cooled down by firemen with carbon dioxide.



FIRE GUTS HOME—A blaze which firemen are shown fighting above gutted the home of Duane Nall early Thursday afternoon at 702 E Street. Fire Chief Milton Myers said the blaze apparently resulted from a malfunction in the motor of an electric washing machine or the wiring connecting the appliance to a wall plug. The chief estimated damage to the house at approximately \$3,000 and to the contents at \$2,000. No one was in the dwelling at the time of the fire.
Mountain Mail Photos

Monday Nov 8th

Fire Burns Hay

Salida firemen responded to a call about 12:25 p.m. Saturday for a blaze in some hay at the sale barn of the Salida Livestock Commission Company about a mile east of Salida. Fire Chief Milton Myers said a small stack of hay was burned before the blaze was extinguished. The origin of the fire was undetermined.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1965

Firemen Called

Firemen were called out at 9:25 a. m. Monday to Everybody's Store, 222 F Street, where the ballast in a fluorescent light was reported to have gone bad and caused an odor. There was no fire, but firemen advised store clerks to keep the light turned off until repairs were made.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1965

Curtain Afire

Salida firemen were called out about 1:15 p.m. Thursday after a curtain caught fire in the home of Tony Ciancio at 709 West Second Street. Fire Chief Milton Myers said the upper part of a window sill was also burning when firemen arrived. Damage from the blaze was estimated at \$25. The cause was undetermined.

Loss Estimated At \$60,000

Midnight Fire Levels Angelo's Shavano Restaurant At Poncha

A \$60,000 fire struck Angelo's Shavano Restaurant and Lounge on U.S. Highway 50 at Poncha Springs about midnight Sunday.

The blaze virtually levelled the restaurant which was operated by Joe Coffee, who had leased the building from Albert Spino of Salida. Spino said that contents destroyed could boost the loss to \$80,000-\$85,000.

Poncha Springs Fire Chief Lawrence Bender said the cause of the blaze was undetermined.

Mrs. Alice Holman, Poncha Springs correspondent for the Mountain Mail, reported the fire

siren sounded just at midnight for the blaze. Seven volunteer firemen and Chief Bender responded.

The blaze was discovered by Ernie Watts, an operator at the Public Service Company substation, who notified firemen. At that time, the roof of the restaurant was already caving in, and firemen had difficulty keeping the flames from spreading to the nearby Standard Service Station. A call was then put to the South Arkansas Fire Protection District in Salida for assistance.

According to witnesses, the

fire was so hot, with the wind blowing in the direction of the station, that three large windows were broken out of the station. However, the broken windows were the only loss of consequence indicated at the service station.

Poncha Springs firemen remained at the scene until 3:25 a.m. Monday.

Chief Bender told the Mountain Mail that there was no one inside the restaurant at the time of the fire and that he understood the establishment had been closed since early in the evening.

Firemen Called

Firemen were called to the L. R. Glenn home at 919 E Street about 5:35 a. m. Saturday when a valve on a gas furnace failed to operate, according to Fire Chief Milton Myers. The chief said the failure of the valve caused the furnace to overheat, filling the house with smoke. Firemen contacted a representative of the Salida Gas Service Company who replaced the valve.

Auto Fire

Salida firemen responded to a call at 3:30 p. m. Tuesday for a fire in the engine compartment of an automobile which was parked near the city swimming pool. The occupant of the car was listed as Linda Bishop. Firemen reported the blaze was out before they could reach the scene.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1965

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1965

Firemen Called To Two Blazes Within 5 Hours

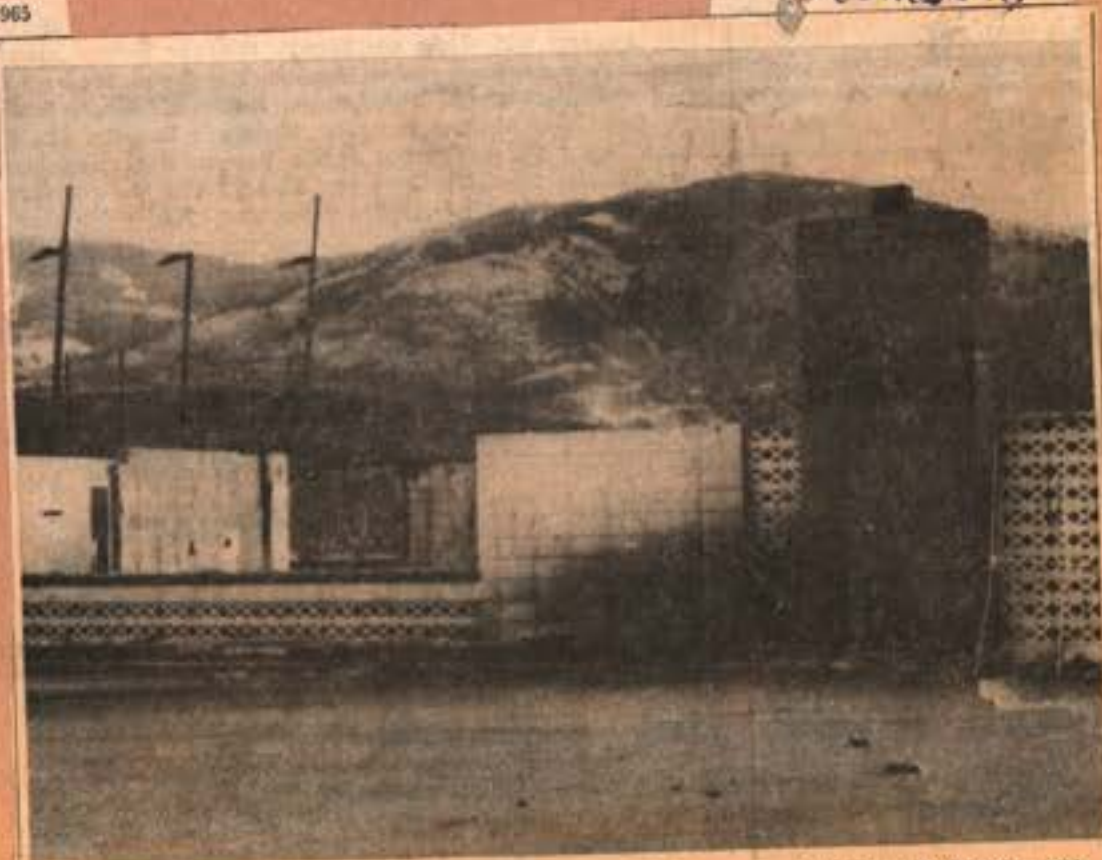
Firemen were called to two blazes in Salida on Monday.

The first call was received at 11:14 a. m. for a fire in the wooden wainscoting of the home of Rose De Nova, 616 West Sackett Avenue.

Fire Chief Milton Myers reported the wainscoting around the flue was set afire by a stove pipe from a coal heater in the living room. Damage was estimated at approximately \$50.

The second call, which was received at 3:48 p. m. involved a tractor which caught fire at 601 Scott Street where James Freeman was leveling ground.

Chief Meyers said that the blade arm of a bulldozer being used with the tractor was believed to have contacted a hot wire from a battery, causing sparking which, in turn, ignited gasoline fumes from a leaking gasoline line between the tank and the carburetor. Estimated damage was set at about \$75.



ALL THAT REMAINS — The picture above shows all that remains following the Sunday midnight fire at Angelo's Shavano Restaurant and Lounge at Poncha Springs. Only the bare walls were left standing by the blaze which was of undetermined origin. Overall loss from the fire was estimated at between \$60,000 and \$85,000, including contents of the restaurant.

Mountain Mail Photo

Friday November 26th 1965

Car Driven By Local Youth Destroyed After Running Into Butane Gas Tank

Three teen-age Salida youths were burned Thursday night after the car in which they were riding struck a butane gas tank and burned.

According to police, the accident occurred about 9 p. m. on West First Street near N Street. The fire rendered the automobile a total loss. Local firemen responded to a call to the scene.

The driver of the car was identified as Louis Frank Struna, 16, who had two passengers in the vehicle. They were listed as John Michael Berndt, 17, and Kenneth Richard Berndt, 15.

Authorities reported Struna was driving west on First Street at a high rate of speed when he lost control of the auto on a curve. Police said the car then slid 150 feet across the road, knocked down a fence, hit the thousand-gallon butane gas tank, and kept going, dragging the gas tank with it, before striking the Salida Motel and setting the tank on fire.

In addition to the destruction of the automobile, three units of the motel were damaged.

Struna was cited on a reckless driving charge.



FIRE-RAVAGED CAR — A car reported driven by Louis Frank Struna in an accident Wednesday night on West First Street is shown above after being ravaged by flames which also damaged three units of the Salida Motel. The auto had been dragging a butane gas tank, also shown in the picture, after hitting it a short time earlier. Struna and two passengers in his car were burned in the fire.
Mountain Mail Photo

Said To Be Mrs. Mary Morrison

Woman's Body Found After Shanty Blaze

The body of a woman was found following a fire at 515 Poncha Boulevard Sunday evening.

County Coroner Joe Stewart said the body was identified as that of Mrs. Mary Morrison, wife of Norman Morrison.

Fire Chief Milton Myers reported a call for the blaze was received at 6:44 p. m. from Louis Coutu who had seen the blaze from the L K Trailer Ranch.

The blaze, the fire chief noted, was in a railroad switch shanty used for tool storage. The building was badly damaged by the flames. The cause of the fire was listed as undetermined.

Myers said that the firemen tried to get into the shanty through the smoke after one of the firemen noticed something unusual inside. The firemen then discovered the body that was later identified as being that of Mrs. Morrison. The body was found to have been badly burned.

An investigation of the death is continuing.

Funeral services for Mrs. Morrison will be held at 2 p. m. Wednesday at the First Christian Church of Salida. Burial will be in the Fairview Cemetery.

Tuesday Nov 30th

Firemen Put Out Blaze In Brush 1965

The South Arkansas District Fire Department was called out at 7:54 p. m. Monday to put out a fire in brush and grass along U. S. Highway 50 about a quarter of a mile west of the Salida city limits.

Fire Chief Milton Myers said workmen had been clearing the land in the area for a new building by burning the brush and grass, but they had then left the fire unattended. A neighboring land owner became concerned about possible damage to his property and called the fire department.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1965

Fire In Jail

There was a fire in the city jail in Salida about 12:10 a.m. Tuesday when a mattress being used by Wilfred Trajillo caught fire.

Firemen Jack Henderson investigated after he smelled smoke in the upstairs firemen's quarters in the municipal building. Fire Chief Milton Myers said that firemen who then went into the jail found it filled with smoke. They took the smoking mattress to the sidewalk outside the building and extinguished the fire.

Wednesday Dec. 29th

Car Catches Fire

The South Arkansas District Fire Department was called out at 10:10 p.m. Tuesday for a fire in an automobile on the Smeltertown Road. The blaze was in a car listed as being owned by Bill Armstrong. Fire Chief Milton Myers said the carburetor of the vehicle flooded and the engine compartment then caught fire. The blaze was nearly out when firemen reached the scene. 1965

Leaves On Fire

The Salida Fire Department was called out at 11:35 p.m. Friday to extinguish a blaze in leaves in an alley behind 541 F Street. Fire Chief Milton Myers said the fire was probably caused by a discarded cigarette. There was no damage reported from the blaze.

Monday Jan. 10th

Fight TB and RD
With Christmas Seals

Tuesday January 18th 1966

Losses From Fires Up In Salida During 1965

Losses from fires rose in Salida during 1965 as compared to 1964, according to a report submitted at Monday evening's meeting of the Salida City Council by Fire Chief Milton Myers.

The chief said that while fire losses in 1964 were placed at \$2,005 they increased to \$36,050 in 1965.

Fire calls answered in the city, fire protection district, and county were down from 122 in 1964 to 100 last year, Myers said.

The 84 calls answered in Salida in 1965 included the following:

Commercial-business establishments, 15; residential property, 9; burning vehicles, 7; first aid and rescue, 6; grass fires, 4; investigations of smoke, gas, or wiring troubles, 19; overheated oil furnace, 1; non-emergency and miscellaneous, 22; and false alarm, 1.

Chief Myers said that in the South Arkansas Fire Protection District estimated losses from fires amounted to \$589 in 1964 and \$500 in 1965.

The nine calls in the district included:

Commercial-business establishments, 1; residential property, 2; burning vehicles, 3;

grass fire, 1; and investigations of smoke in buildings, 2.

In the county, the chief reported, estimated losses from fires were \$23,508 in 1964 and \$59,875 in 1965.

There were seven fire calls in (Continued to Page 2)

Losses...

(Continued from Page 1) the county for 1965. They included:

Commercial-business establishments, 5; residential property, 1; and vehicle fire, 1.

In his report, Chief Myers also told the council:

"Seven classes in fireman-ship training were held . . . during 1965 involving both regular and volunteer firemen.

"All fire department equipment is in normal operating condition. The city fire truck was repainted in 1965 and other than this no major repairs were required on any of the pieces of equipment. It is suggested that more thought be given to replacing this piece of fire equipment. It is now entering its 24th year of service and gives evidence of wear."

Station Wagon Fire

The Salida Fire Department was called out at 1:30 p.m. Monday to extinguish a fire in a station wagon at the corner of Second and F Streets. Fire Chief Milton Myers said the vehicle belonged to John Deviney of California and had backfired. The backfire, he reported, set the carburetor ablaze. Damage, which was confined to the hood of the station wagon, was estimated at \$20.

Thursday Jan. 20th 1966

Flurry Of False Alarms Phoned To Local Firemen

A flurry of telephoned false alarms plagued the Salida Fire Department Wednesday afternoon.

Fire Chief Milton Myers said the calls came from children, all probably under 10 years old, judging from the sound of their voices. The youngsters apparently regarded the false alarms as a kind of game, the chief reported.

The calls tied up the fire department telephone and could have prevented firemen from receiving calls on actual fires or other emergencies, the chief emphasized in urging that parents explain to their children the hazards involved in false alarms.

Time is of the essence in bringing a fire under control, Myers noted, and even a slight delay in getting a report on a blaze could mean the difference between a major fire and a minor one.

There is also the danger to people and motor vehicles as fire apparatus attempts to reach the scene of a reported fire in the minimum period of time, the fire chief explained.

Proper instruction and supervision by parents could reduce appreciably the number of telephoned false alarms by children, Myers said.

Monday Jan 31st 1966

Loss Estimated At \$10,000

Morning Fire Guts L. L. Branom Home

A morning fire completely gutted the home of Lawrence L. Branom at 13th and K Streets on Sunday.

Loss from the blaze was estimated at \$7,000 to the house and \$3,000 to its contents.

The blaze, for which the first call was received at 7:55 a. m., was fought by both the South Arkansas Fire Protection District and Salida Fire Department. Firemen remained at the scene until nearly 2:30 p. m.

Fire Chief Milton Myers said

that the fire may have started in a partition between the kitchen and the bathroom, but the exact cause was not immediately determined.

The Branoms had gone to Lamar Friday night, and no one was in the house at the time of the blaze. The Branoms were expected to return home sometime Monday.

The house, owned by H. W. Read, was the former Luke Gilligan residence, an area show place at the turn of the century. Gilligan was superintendent of the Orient Mine in the San Luis Valley.

The structure was basically stone construction covered over with stucco.

Chief Myers said Sunday's fire had spread from the utility room of the house to the upstairs and into the attic before firemen arrived.

There were also other fires here Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

On Friday, the fire department was called out about 3 p. m. for a fire resulting from an overheated oil stove at the home of Delfi Zeleznikar at 909 West Second Street. The blaze was brought under control with no damage reported except for some possible smoke contamination.

About 11 a. m. Saturday, there was a fire in the rest house on the golf course where some leaves were being burned. Damage from the fire was estimated at approximately \$20.

About 1 p. m. Sunday, the fire

department was called to the city reservoir on U. S. Highway 50 where a city crew had been burning leaves several days earlier. Myers said some of the trees there were still burning, and the flames had to be extinguished by firemen.

Picture on next page

Tuesday Feb 15 1966



FIGHT LOSING BATTLE — Local firemen are pictured above as they fought a losing battle Sunday against a fire in the home of Lawrence L. Brantom at 13th and K Streets. The fire had apparently been burning for some time before firemen were called. Fire Chief Milton Myers estimated loss from the blaze at \$7,000 to the house and \$3,000 to the contents.

Mountain Mail Photo

FEBRUARY 7, 1966

Friday Feb 4

Brush Fire

The South Arkansas Fire Protection District Fire Department was called out at 11:45 a. m. Thursday for a brush fire on Colorado Game, Fish, and Parks Department property about a mile northwest of Salida where employees of the state agency had been burning the brush but had lost control of the fire. The blaze was extinguished by the firemen.

Monday Feb. 21

Firemen Called

Firemen received a call about 4:40 p. m. Friday after a passerby noticed smoke coming from behind the county garage about a mile west of Salida. Investigation by firemen showed that a county crew had been burning logs to thaw out an underground pipe. No further action was required by firemen.

Firemen Called Out To Extinguish Four Blazes In Area Over Weekend

Firemen were called out to extinguish four blazes over the weekend.

The first fire was logged at 11:50 a.m. Saturday at 322 West Sackett Avenue where Joe Linza had been burning weeds on the bank of the Arkansas River. When the blaze got out of control, he called the city fire department for help. Firemen put out the blaze.

The county fire department responded to a call at 3 p.m. Saturday for a fire in the Fairview Cemetery where cemetery personnel had been burning weeds. When a wind came up, the fire was whipped out of control, and firemen were called to put out the blaze.

Two fires were reported on

Sunday, both within a few minutes of each other.

The first was at 12:05 p.m. Harry Knapp was said to have been cleaning his car at 148 West First Street when he noticed the front seat of his car was on fire. He put water on the blaze and then drove the auto to the fire station where firemen put out the fire.

At 12:15 p.m. Sunday, the South Arkansas Fire Protection District firemen were called by Mrs. M. C. Winfield for a fire in her backyard at 16th and L Streets. Firemen extinguished the blaze which was blamed on weeds that had been burned the previous day.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1966

Rock Shop Fire

Firemen were called out at 9:15 a.m. Thursday to extinguish a rock shop fire at 748 Illinois Street. Fire Chief Milton Myers said the blaze started where a stovepipe went through the ceiling. Estimated damage of \$300 was caused by the fire to the ceiling and back wall of the building.

Trash Fire

Firemen received a call at 2:10 p.m. Saturday for a trash fire at the Joe White residence at 514 Poncha Boulevard. Fire Chief Milton Myers said trash was being burned in a barrel but had spilled over, setting the grass on fire. The blaze was mostly out on the arrival of firemen, but they completed the job of extinguishing it.

Feb. 7, 1956

Fire caused an estimated \$500 damages to the roof of the Frank Pasquale residence at 12.30 p. m. Saturday. Firemen said that apparently sparks from the chimney had set the roof afire.

Pueblo Physician Has Fatal Attack At Monarch

Dr. James Rucker Williams, 42, of Pueblo died at the Monarch Ski Area Monday afternoon, after suffering an apparent heart attack. He had just entered the restaurant after making a ski run, when he collapsed.

The Salida Fire Department was called at 2:55 p.m. and sent James Nelson with a resuscitator to the area. He was taken to the scene by Colorado State Patrolman Herbert Luoma. However, the fireman reported that the Pueblo physician had already been dead for an estimated 20 to 30 minutes before he, Nelson, arrived.

Earlier, mouth-to-mouth resuscitation had been given the stricken man without success by Gerald Berry, while his brother, William Berry, gave closed chest cardiac massage. The Berrys are owners of the ski area, and members of the ski patrol.

Dr. Williams was Pueblo's only neurosurgeon and had practiced in Pueblo for the past seven years.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by T. G. McCarthy Funeral Home of Pueblo.

Wall Catches Fire

A wall fire at the home of Dominic Porco, 631 West First Street, resulted in a call for the Salida Fire Department at 8:17 p. m. Sunday. Firemen said an overheated coal heater caused the wall around the house chimney to catch fire. The blaze was extinguished by firemen after causing damage estimated at \$20.

Volunteer Firemen Class Is Conducted

A class for volunteer firemen was held in Salida Monday night with Capt. Gene Smith of the Pueblo Fire Department as instructor.

Smith, who came here under the auspices of the state vocational education board, gave instruction on closed chest cardiac massage and use of the resuscitator.

Monday March 14 1966

Monday March 21

Firemen Called

Firemen responded to a call at 8:50 a. m. Monday after a gasoline truck spilled several gallons of gasoline on the driveway in front of Shellabarger Chevrolet-Olds at First and E Streets. The firemen flushed the gasoline down the gutter with water.

Tuesday March 15th

Gasoline Leaks

Firemen were called out at 3:25 p.m. Monday after a small amount of gasoline was reported to have leaked out of an automobile parked at the curb on Lower F Street. By the time firemen arrived, most of the gasoline had disappeared.

Friday March 25

No Fire Found

Firemen received a report of a fire Thursday but were unable to find one. According to the fire department log, a child called at 3:40 p.m. to say there was a fire at the Longfellow School. Firemen investigated but reported no fire was evident at the school. They listed the call as a false alarm.

Loss From Residential Fire Here On Saturday Estimated At \$4,000

Loss from a residential fire in Salida on Saturday afternoon has been estimated by firemen at \$4,000, including both the house and contents.

Firemen received the call for the blaze at the Raymond Smith residence 317 West Second Street, at 4:38 p.m. On their arrival at the scene, firemen found the entire attic of the house was aflame.

Although the fire was confined to the attic, the downstairs portion of the residence was heavily

damaged by water. No one was injured in the blaze which firemen said was probably caused by faulty wiring.

Earlier in the weekend, at 9:03 p.m. Friday, firemen were called to Salida Hospital when a compressor motor on a kitchen cooler developed a short circuit and started a fire.

Firemen cooled off the motor and had the hospital repairman take it outside the building.

Damage from the blaze was estimated at \$65.

Thursday Mar. 31st

Area Hit By Two Fires Wednesday

The Salida-Chaffee County area was hit by two fires on Wednesday.

The first, logged at 10:59 a.m., was a call for city firemen for a fire at 449 West 12th Street where Earl Dougherty had been burning weeds. The blaze got out of control and firemen were summoned. They extinguished the blaze with no reported damage.

Sheriff Harold Thonhoff, who is also the county fire warden, said county equipment was called out about 3:30 p.m. Wednesday for a fire on the R. R. Morris place in Browns Canon where a grass fire had spread into some cedar trees. Firemen put out the fire. The only damage indicated was to the trees.

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 1966

Firemen Supervise

About 5 p.m. Friday the local Fire Department was called by A&W Root Beer to come and stand by as they burned grass and weeds off vacant lots. The firemen responded and advised and assisted in the operation.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1966

Firemen Answer Calls

Salida firemen answered two calls Tuesday, with the first coming at 9:30 a.m. when they were called to North F Street. Gasoline was spilling out of the filler neck of a truck and firemen had the truck moved and flushed the street. The second call was to the bowling alley at 8:40 p.m. when James Brownrigg apparently suffered a heart attack. When they arrived a Climax employee was administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and the firemen used their resuscitator, but to no avail. Dr. R. A. Hoover pronounced Mr. Brownrigg as dead.

Monday April 11th 1966

Three Reported Fires Cause Little Damage

Two local fires and one at Centerville were extinguished over the weekend with no loss damage reported at any of the three.

Locally, the Salida Fire Department answered a call at 10 a.m. Saturday to extinguish a blaze at the Jelinek storage lot at 235 West Sackett. The fire was caused, the report stated, by a cutting torch while a man was cutting an old auto body. The entire body of the car caught fire and was put out by the firemen when they arrived on the scene.

At 7 p.m. the same day, the firemen went to the old Longfellow school building to extinguish the embers of a trash fire.

The Centerville fire brought out more firemen, but still caused little or no damage. About 30 volunteer firemen from Buena Vista as well as two men from Salida with the county "pumper" arrived on the scene and dumped about 550 gallons of water on a fire in an old insulage pit. Frank Newberry, caretaker of the property, had burned his field Saturday afternoon and the insulage pit fire was not noticed until 10:15 p.m. Sunday.

Mrs. Walter Paquette called the Sheriff's office and Deputy Robert Willcox and Gene Scull took the county pumper to the scene and the Buena Vista firemen responded with their equipment.

Gene Taylor, who had spotted the flames from the highway, drove down to the scene and stood by to see that the blaze did not reach a nearby haystack.

Tuesday April 12th

Firemen Called Monday

Firemen answered two calls Monday inside Salida. The first call was at 9:40 a.m. when Mrs. Porter at 235 West Third discovered that a car had leaked gasoline into the gutter. The firemen washed the gasoline down the drain. At 5:45 p.m., the firemen went to the residence of Tom Vodapich at 1230 I Street in answer to a call. They found that Vodapich was burning old trash and lumber in a safe and orderly manner.

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1966

Two Backfires Cause Car Fires

Two backfires caused two separate car fires Monday within a time period of about 20 minutes. They, of course, were completely unrelated.

At 3:40 p.m. a backfire set the carburetor of a 1964 Plymouth owned by Paul B. Brown of Colorado Springs, on fire and caused slight damage to the motor wiring. The fire was out when firemen arrived at the scene at 223 E Street.

Then, at 4 p.m. in the 100 block of West First Street, a 1964 GMC panel owned by Best Laundry backfired and set the carburetor on fire. The driver smothered this one with a sack and had it out when firemen arrived.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1966

Firemen Put Out Trash Fire Here

Salida firemen were called to a trash fire Thursday about 7 p.m. which they extinguished and hosed down the surrounding area. They also asked police to check the area later that night.

The fire was located just off Highway 391 about a half mile west of Salida at the State Game, Fish and Parks Department property. Firemen said department employees had apparently been burning trash and left it burning.

Monday May 16th

Backfire, Boiler Explosion Bring Out Fire Fighters

Two fire calls were answered over the weekend with the first being a repeat of a call made two weeks ago.

The second call, made at 7:59 p.m. Sunday was to 508 F Street, Mountain States Telephone, where a gas boiler had exploded. The explosion caused an estimated \$1,000 damage as it blew parts off the boiler jacket, parts of the stack and did extensive damage to the boiler room door and lock.

Further investigation into the cause and results of the explosion were to be made by telephone employees Monday.

The first call was made Saturday at 3:40 p.m. when the Best Laundry truck backfired and set the carburetor afire. This was the second time this has happened to this truck. Frank Craig put out the carburetor fire before any appreciable damage could be done.

OVER

MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1966

Local Resident, James Brownrigg, Dies Suddenly

James K. Brownrigg, 55, of 524 Poncha Blvd., collapsed Thursday night at the bowling alley in Salida and died of an apparent heart attack.

Firemen were called and upon their arrival an unidentified Climax worker was applying mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, to no avail. Firemen applied the resuscitator but Dr. Hoover pronounced Mr. Brownrigg dead.

Born Oct. 22, 1910 in Starksville, Colo., he had been employed by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Corp. since 1928 in the offices. He began work in the Frederick Mine office and was there from 1928 until 1951, then the Allen Mine from 1951 to 1961, and the office in Weston warehouse from 1961 until 1965. He was the bookkeeper at the CF&I Quarry at the time of his death.

Mr. Brownrigg married Margaret Harenberg in Trinidad on June 24, 1934. He was very active in Masonic work, being a past master of the AF&AM 28 Las Animas Lodge; a member of the Rocky Mountain Chapter RAM 23, Oriental Commander; 18, Knights Templar and the Rocky Mountain Council No. 2, R & SM. He also was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church in Trinidad.

Survivors include his widow Margaret of Salida; his mother Mrs. Florence Brownrigg of Trinidad; two sons, James K. Jr., of Anaheim, Calif., and Stuart Neil of Vickburg, Miss.; two sisters, Mrs. Jean (Ben) Mauney of Trinidad and Mrs. Margaret (James) Clark of Trinidad. His father died Feb. 11, 1966.

Funeral arrangements will be handled by Campbell-Lewis Mortuary in Trinidad and burial will be in the Masonic Cemetery in that city.

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1966

Firemen Answer Calls

Two calls caused the fire department to "roll out" Thursday. One was to try and flush out a manhole where the sewer apparently clogged at 15th Street back of the A&W, and the other was to 730 West Third Street at 1:35 p.m. when someone was apparently burning an old car and the fire caught a pile of lumber and a fence on fire. The firemen extinguished the blaze.

Two Calls For Firemen

Firemen answered two calls over the weekend, one small fire occurring Saturday and another small one on Sunday. Saturday at 1:40 p.m., firemen went to 730 F Street when an alley fence caught fire from trash burning in a trash barrel and Sunday, the firemen went to 7th Street at the railroad crossing when sparks from a cutting torch ignited grass which burned up to a building. The fire was almost out when firemen arrived.

Call Firemen Sunday

Firemen were called to Salida Hospital Sunday about 3:45 a.m. when hospital personnel thought they detected a strange odor, possibly smoke, in a corridor. The firemen inspected the hospital and found nothing to indicate abnormal conditions according to their report. They were at the hospital for one hour.

Firemen Rout Hornets

Firemen answered a call at 108 Park Place Tuesday and found a hornets nest under the eave of the house. The firemen used an insecticide to kill the "big stingers."

Fire Danger Noted

Drying weeds located in alleys and along back houses and fences pose a definite fire danger, according to Fire Chief Milton Myers. Myers warned homeowners today that this is the time of year when grass and weed fires can whip and jump with the wind and as a result are a danger not only to the property on which they are located, but on adjoining property as well. He urged everyone to take immediate action to eliminate this hazardous condition.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1966

Salida Firemen Hold School Meet

Salida firemen this week held a regular meeting with Dick Booth from the Colorado Vocational Training section of the Department of Education present to instruct them in various phases of fire fighting.

Eight firemen were present for the school which included outside work and practice in hose layout and ladder technique.

Firemen To Rescue

John Pasquale, while working in a manhole near Riverside Park, was overcome by carbon dioxide from dry ice being used to freeze a water line. The city crew pulled him out and local firemen, responding to a call, administered oxygen. This occurred about 4:45 p.m. Thursday.

Car Interior Burns

While parked at 124 Rainbow Blvd., the car of Joe Leyba caught fire on the front seat and four extinguishers owned by businesses in the area were used before firemen arrived and finished putting out the blaze with water. Firemen noted that the car was totally burned on the inside. The fire occurred about 11:15 a.m. Thursday.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1966

Firemen Credit Quick Call With Blaze Control

Salida firemen answered two calls Thursday to extinguish grass fires. The first was a small blaze which covered approximately one acre of land.

The second call involved three hours of work on the part of the city men, the county pumper, and many private citizens. A summer home belonging to a Donald Mackenzie was threatened by the blaze but escaped damage through the efforts of the fire fighters.

Sheriff Harold Thonhoff credited the efforts of Bert Myer, who called in the alarm, along with many of the near neighbors, and passersby with holding the fire to its grass and tree burning path of destruction.

Location of the first fire was one mile west of Salida on Highway 59. The second blaze was ten miles north on Highway 285.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CALL

The Salida fire department answered a call shortly after midnight last night to extinguish a fire at a Poncha Springs service station. A truck had encountered blazing tires which damaged some of the wood paneling on the trailer portion. No damage was reported to the cargo.



SALIDA FIREMEN WIN TROPHIES — This team of Salida firemen placed third in the overall rankings at Monte Vista Sunday in the annual San Luis Valley Firemen's Association tournament. Monte Vista placed first and Del Norte, second. About 30 Salidans were down to watch the tourney and held a group picnic before the action. Shown above are: left to right, Cyril Granzella, Bob Kidwell, Darrell Donahoo, Jim Nelson, Bob Freeman and team captain Jack Henderson. One member of the team, Dennis Henderson, was not present for the picture. Nelson and Freeman are holding the second and third place trophies won by Salida's six-man team which included Jim Nelson, Dennis Henderson, Darrell Donahoo, Cyril Granzella, Bob Freeman and Bob Kidwell. Donahoo is holding the four-man trophy (third place) won by the four-man team of Nelson, Donahoo, Henderson and Granzella and Kidwell is holding the third place trophy won by the three man team of Nelson, Donahoo and Henderson.

Mountain Mail Photo

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1966

Fire In Kitchen Of Salida Inn; Damage Unknown

A fire in the kitchen of the Salida Inn temporarily suspended operations at that popular restaurant today. Fire Chief Milton Myers said the fire apparently started in the french fry unit. Damage estimates were not possible at this writing.

Employees who were preparing the noon menu called the owner, L. G. Osborne at 10 a. m. to report the french fry unit was smoking badly. Flames developed later and the fire department was called.

Osborne said the greatest damage would probably be from smoke although fans were being installed as rapidly as possible by employees and the dining room was virtually free of smoke by 11:30.

A wedding reception scheduled for 1:30 today, was the most immediate problem, Osborne said. The wedding cake and other special foods were in the restaurant at the time of the blaze. Osborne said operation would resume as soon as possible.

Salida Firemen Battle \$2,500 Blaze Tuesday

Salida firemen spent almost two hours putting out a fire at the apartments at 829½ West First Street Tuesday night and in their report estimated damage at \$2,500 to the apartments.

According to Firechief Milton Myers the fire "probably" had an electric origin since the electrical circuits to the vacant apartment were the only "live" services in the apartment.

Another reason they suspect the fire, to which they were called at 8:26 p.m. and returned from at 10:10 p.m., was of electric origin is that an occupant of the next door apartment said he smelled smoke and then in about 25 minutes the lights in his apartment went out.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1966

Minor Fire Damage

A Christmas Eve fire at the home of Mrs. Hazel Beauregard, 516 Park Ave., caused about \$300 damage, according to the report of the Salida firemen, who controlled the fire. The firemen listed an overloaded circuit in the bedroom as the cause of the fire that burned two mattresses and assorted bed clothes. Smoke was very dense in the house. The fire started about 5 p. m. and the firemen left the scene at 5:45 p. m.

Firemen hold school meeting

Fire Chief Milton Myers reported today that 13 members of the Salida Volunteer Fire Department attended the regular monthly school meeting at the fire hall Monday night.

Myers said the instructor Monday was Gene Smith, member of the Pueblo Fire Department and also a member of the state's vocational education department.

Fire At Marquis Home Causes \$1,000 Damage

Salida firemen answered a call about 8 a. m. Sunday at the home of the Pete Marquis family at 430 Teller Street where a "defective flu on a trash burning stove" had caused a fire to start where the flu entered the wall, then moved between the walls into the attic.

Damage, from fire, smoke and water was held to \$1,000 by the alert firemen.

Fire Chief Myers said today the flue was in the process of being repaired as far as he could determine and that this probably led to the fire.

Monday Jan 30th 1967

Tuesday Feb 14th 1967

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1967

Explosion, fire guts home here

Fire gutted the Frank Morgan home at 416 Palmer about 10:25 a. m. today following an explosion in the basement of the home.

Mrs. Morgan, who was in the house watching television at the time of the explosion, was not hurt, although she reported that the explosion lifted the floor about a foot or so. Fire raced swiftly through the house and Mrs. Morgan was escorted to safety by Olin Bridges, Public Service Company employe, who was working in the alley back of the house at the time.

Bridges and other PSCo employes rushed to the house and aided firemen in putting out the blaze, but by the time the fire-fighters arrived the blaze had a good start and completely ruined much of the interior of the house.

Firemen and PSCo workers were still at the scene at 11:15 a. m., but the fire was out and they were busy putting water on smoldering timbers.

The explosion jammed the entrance door and ripped one of the outer doors off its hinges.

Damage estimates and further information on the cause of the explosion may be carried in Friday's Mountain Mail.



TROPHIES NO LONGER HIDDEN — This trophy case rests in the city hall auditorium and contains many of the trophies won by the local firemen in competition with firemen of other cities. John Smith, newest member of the local department is shown here standing by the case which was built at a cost of only \$14 to the city. All other money and all work was donated by members of the regular department and by the volunteers. Not only can the firemen now display their trophies, but it is a good addition to city hall.

Mountain Mail Photo

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1967

Small fire causes slight damage at Spa Restaurant

Fire Chief Milton Myers reported today that a small explosion and fire did more smoke damage at the Spa Restaurant than any other kind of damage. The Spa has been closed for renovations for the past week or so. The fire occurred about 10:45 a.m. today.

According to Myers, a crew using an acetylene tank torch to heat tile for removing in the kitchen of the Spa, laid aside the torch for a moment and gas apparently accumulated back of some of the equipment caused a minor, muffled explosion.

The only actual fire damage appeared to be a two-foot area of the floor that was scarred by the blaze before it was extinguished.

Damage in the other parts of the building was limited to smoke damage.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1967



SEEKING THE SOURCE — Fire Chief Milton Myers, foreground, watches as fireman Fred Smith used an axe to chop into the home of Frank Morgan Thursday morning to find the smoke which still came from the home after most of the fire had been extinguished. The metal door, at right, may be seen hanging askew just as it was thrown back by the explosion which preceded the fire at the Morgan home.

Mountain Mail Photo

Smoke does most of damage at fire

According to the report of Salida firemen, the damage at a small fire at 904 West Second Street at 10 a.m. Thursday consisted mostly of smoke damage.

Firemen said the fire, at the John Hershberger residence, was apparently started when someone dropped a cigarette in a bucket of paper and wood chips. Heavy smoke damage resulted, firemen stated and also noted that the fire was out when they arrived.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1967

Fireman injured in area blaze

Salida's fire department answered a call to the Smelter at 7:15 p. m. Wednesday. The offices of Alpine Industries were destroyed by a blaze causing an estimated \$3,000 or more.

Two units of the local department spent an hour and one-half at the scene battling the blaze. Louis Larcum received an injury to one hand during the time of the fire-fighting. He was treated and released from Salida hospital.



WHERE THERE'S SMOKE — Dense smoke almost hides the home of Frank Morgan at 416 Palmer Street in Salida during the fire that swept through the house Thursday morning doing an estimated \$10,000 damage. The only casualty in the fire was the family dog, which was found dead in the front bedroom, apparently killed by the explosion which preceded the fire. The explosion was apparently caused by a gas leak, with the gas accumulating under the front room floor. When it ignited and exploded, it did considerable damage to the structure even before the fire began. Mountain Mail Photo

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1967

Warehouse is total loss in Saturday fire

Saturday morning, the Salida Fire Department answered a call on the city dump road. The warehouse, valued between three and five thousand dollars with contents, was a total loss.

Kenneth Hooker, owner, had been burning weeds around the place when the wind somehow got the fire started in the warehouse. Two trucks answered the call and pumped 500 gallons of water onto the embers to no avail over a period of an hour.

Friday afternoon, a fire behind the Redwood Lodge got out of control from the irrigation ditch where Lester Trujillo was burning weeds. Firefighters on the scene had the blaze under control by the time the firemen arrived.

MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1967

Fire causes \$1,500 damage here early today

Fire Chief Milton Myers estimated damage at \$1,500 from a fire which destroyed the sheds in the rear of 525-527 H Street about 3 a.m. today.

Myers said the sheds were completely destroyed as were most of the contents, mostly used furniture. He could not say what caused the fire. A garage directly across the alley, belonging to Carl Bloomquist and containing a 1951 Cadillac, was heavily damaged as was the car, Myers reported.

Firemen were called at 3 a.m. and left the scene about 5 a.m. The night duty city policeman spotted the fire from the Mesa and called in the first report. He then went to the scene and called in the exact location.

Fire Chief Myers said the sheds were burning fiercely when the firemen arrived.

Monday April 24 1967 Cigarette said cause of fire

Considerable damage by smoke was done to Jess Purdy's apartment in the Bateman Apartments at 117½ F Street about 11:15 a. m. Sunday and firefighters had to put out the fire in a rug and overstuffed chair that was apparently caused by a cigarette left burning, the firemen's report stated.

Firemen were at the scene for 45 minutes as the overstuffed chair was destroyed and a hole burned in a rug. The only other damage was smoke caused.

Monday June 5th 1967 Firemen take part in Field Day at Pagosa Springs

Members of the Salida Fire Department's team participated in the San Luis Valley Field Day at Pagosa Springs Sunday and won several honors.

Team members are, Chuck Culp, Capt., Fred Smith, Darrell Donahoe, Jim Gray, Bob Kidwell, Bob Freeman and Babes Granzella. The team won second place in the stationary apparatus event; third place in the motor replacement, also in the 2½ to 1½ change over events, and fourth place in the reverse layout event.

Towns competing in the events were Pagosa Springs, Alamosa, Monte Vista, Del Norte, Mosca-Hooper and Salida.

In addition to the seven local regular and volunteer firemen who make up the Salida team, 11 guests from Salida also attended.



THEY PLACED THIRD — Salida's firemen placed in four events at the San Luis Valley Firemen's Association Field Day Sunday at Pagosa Springs. In this event, the motor replacement race, the team placed third. Here Jim Gray may be seen on the street after the 180-pound pressure put him there. Babe Granzella is shown coming up to help, with Bob Freeman also on the way. In the background, partly hidden by the spray, are Darrell Donahoe, Bob Kidwell and Fred Smith.

Firemen route hornets Tuesday

Salida firemen did battle with some more hornets Tuesday and, again, won the battle.

The local firemen were called to the Ted McDowell residence at 340 E Street where the hornets were becoming bothersome. They removed the hornets.

Firemen find shorted burner in Salida home

Firemen answering a call to the Asa Davis residence at 16th & I Streets Wednesday found that the problem had already been located.

The Davis', who moved into the Matt Neises house about two weeks ago were using the kitchen range when a back burner shorted out, but did not throw the breaker. The continuing sparks did about \$25 damage, before the switch was thrown cutting off the electricity.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1967

Firemen put out fire in trailer

Firemen surmised Tuesday that children playing with matches caused a fire in a stock trailer belonging to, and parked at, Salida Transfer at Oak St., and the city limits.

Local firemen answered the call at 8 a. m. June 27 and put out the blaze that had burned a hole about two square feet through the floor of the trailer.

Two empty paper match books were found on the floor near the fire.

Hornets bring firemen out

Salida firemen answered another hornet call Monday. The firemen went to 318 Dodge, the Dick Tuttle residence, about 10:20 a. m. to destroy some hornets that were nesting under the driveway planking in front of the house.

Firemen destroy hornet's nest here

City firemen answered a call at 309 Blake Street Sunday and ended things for a group of hornets there.

The hornets, nesting under the eave of the garage room, were interfering with some work of the owner, Ernest Criswell was doing. Local firemen destroyed the nest.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1967

Firemen answer three hornet calls

Hornets caused three calls to be made to the Salida Fire Department over the weekend.

According to their reports, the firemen first went to the swimming pool at 4 p.m. Friday where they destroyed a hornets' nest in a tree, then at 10 a.m. Sept. 2, they went to 914 D Street, the Anthony Barbiero residence, to destroy a hornets' nest in a shed, and at 4 p.m. Labor Day, went to 321 Wood Avenue, Mrs. Phil Bolger residence, to burn a nest out of an apple tree.

Firemen answer call to Furphy's

When the fluorescent light ballast burned out in the light above the cash register at Furphy's on Rainbow Blvd., about 9 a.m. Wednesday, the Salida Firemen were called and when they arrived they checked out the damage, which was estimated at about \$25.

The firemen also recommended that spacers be put between fixtures and the ceiling at the cafe.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1967

Firemen answer two calls Friday

Firemen answered two calls Friday, one to rid a place of hornets and the other to a fire that was under control and had men standing by.

According to the firemen's report, they went to the residence of Mrs. Chella Armstrong at 247 East Fifth to chase some hornets on a front porch at 10 a.m., and at 3:15 p.m., were called to a fire that Frank Hale and another man was standing by watching. They were burning an old old shed on the Frank Hale property on West Seventh Street.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1967

Smoke in cellar caused by handle of screwdriver

Firemen answered a call at 7:30 a.m. Thursday to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam M. DeLeo to find the cause of the smoke in the basement of their home.

The firemen went into the basement and found a screwdriver lying on top of the furnace. It had become hot enough for the plastic handle of the screwdriver to burn, causing all the smoke.

Salida firemen rescue kittens

Firemen are often referred to as "smoke-eaters," but their jobs includes a great deal more than just fighting fires.

All summer long the firemen have been destroying hornets, wasps, etc., and at 10:50 a.m. Wednesday, they were called to the unoccupied residence at 130 West First Street, owned by Mrs. Diana Davis, to remove two kittens that had gotten in between the walls and couldn't get out.

The firemen removed the mop board in the house and removed the kittens to outside the building. Then, they called the dog-catcher to tell him of the, apparently, orphaned kitties.

Robert Freeman now a fireman

Robert Freeman has been named probationary fireman in the Salida fire department, according to Fire Chief Milton Myers.

Myers said Freeman replaces Darrell Donahoo, who moved to Denver recently.

Straw backstops burn Saturday

Children playing with matches i. thought to be the cause of a straw fire south of the high school on school district property Saturday about 3:30 p. m. Firemen controlled the blaze and only about \$10 damage was done.

All the damage was confined to the straw which had been used as the backstop to archery targets, and a tree.

Firemen stayed at the scene until after 5 p. m.



FIREMEN ON THE JOB — This is Fire Prevention Week, and these are Salida's fire protection men. The truck in the picture was purchased new in 1942 by the city for its fire department which has been in existence as a paid firemen department since 1903. Shown above are: on the left, Fire Chief Milton Myers, who has been chief since 1961 and with the department since 1949; in the driver's seat of the truck is Charlie Culp, who has been with the department since 1955; standing on the right is Jack Henderson, who has been a member since 1953; on Henderson's right is Fred Smith, with the department since June 1966; and on his right is Bob Freeman, a probationary fireman who joined the department in September 1967.

Mountain Mail Photo

Fire here destroys trailer

Fire, started apparently by defective heater wire used under the sink to prevent freezing, totally destroyed a trailer owned by Gordon Hinton and occupied by Mrs. Condie Gagliardi, sometime around midnight Monday.

The fire department responded to a call at 11:25 p.m. and left the scene at 2:30 a.m. today. They reported the trailer was No. 5 in Hinton's Trailer Court.

Mrs. Gagliardi and her children apparently left the trailer about 10 p.m. The fire was reported by Mrs. Denver Keller.

The trailer and all its contents were listed as destroyed by the fire.

Wednesday, Dec 6th 1967



SALIDA'S FIRE PROTECTION — This is the truck which the Mountain States Inspection Bureau inspector "frowned upon" during his inspection here. It is a 1942 International K-8, six-cylinder, 120 hp. More information may be found in the news story also on this page. Shown with the truck are Salida's firemen, Chief Milton Myers, Charles Culp, Fred Smith, Bobby Freeman and Jack Henderson.

On reclassification threat

Fire truck situation discussed in detail

Monday night the City Council heard a report from the Mountain States Inspection Bureau which recommended the purchase of a new pumper by the city for its Fire Department.

The Mountain Mail has asked a few questions and come up with the following answers, all of which are related to this subject.

First, there was the implied threat that if Salida didn't purchase a new pumper, or at least different pumper, the city would be "downgraded" from class 7 to class 8. What does this mean to Salidans paying insurance? According to a local insurer, the difference in rates from class 7 to class 8 is absolutely nothing. His words were: "It is exactly the same premium per \$1,000 for a class 7 town as for a class 8 town."

What about the pumper? A look at the records shows that the current pumper is a 1942 model International K-8, with 120

horsepower motor and that it was bought in the fall of 1941. The pump is a 500-gallon per minute (gpm) rotary pump by Waterous with a Howe hose body. The recommendation was for a 750 gpm pump on a newer truck, although they would still accept a 500 gpm pump if it operated at full capacity.

The present pump does not operate at its full gpm rating because of a by-pass line put on the pump after an accident in 1959 when the pump blew up on being filled without the inside pressure having a way to escape. The by-pass was placed on the pump to forestall a recurrence of this type accident, which it does, but it also cuts down on the gallons per minute the pump can produce.

As a sidelight, it is interesting to note that when Salida decided to get rid of the horse-drawn cart that provided the fire protection, they purchased a brand new 1911 Kissel truck in 1911. This Kissel they kept in operation until 1942 when the truck currently in use was put into operation for the first time. It was also bought new.

What would a new fire truck cost? The bare minimum figure is around \$15,000, but a fully equipped pumper truck would cost somewhere between \$25,000 and \$30,000. As an example, Leadville bought one less than two years ago and it cost \$26,000.

What are the ratings of the towns around us? The Bureau of

Protection classification for towns in Colorado, shows the following: classes 1 to 4 include Denver, Pueblo and Colorado Springs; classes 5 and 6 include Ft. Collins, Trinidad, Durango and Grand Junction; class 7 includes Del Norte, Gunnison, Alamosa, Montrose, Climax, Canon City, and Salida; class 8 includes Fairplay, Buena Vista and Leadville; class 9 includes Poncha Springs, Saguache, Minturn and the South Arkansas Fire Protection District; and class 10 includes all other towns in the state.

To go a step further, in class 8, Leadville has a new truck, a paid fire crew while Buena Vista, also in class 8, has a volunteer department and one truck; in class 7, Alamosa has a paid fire chief and a couple of paid drivers, good equipment, but all other fire fighters are volunteers. Canon City has good equipment and all paid fire fighters.

How does a town get "classified"? Several things are considered. Among these are the availability of a good high-pressure water supply; good equipment and men, the condition of the town, such as frame structures mainly as against mostly brick structures, etc., and several other factors of lesser importance.

Those are the questions the Mountain Mail asked and those are the answers received on the present fire department situation.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 1968

Firemen handle Saturday call

Salida firemen answered a call to the Sands Motel Saturday at 3:18 p. m. with one unit of equipment. The firemen were out one hour and sixteen minutes.

A fire started in the coal bin from an unextinguished fire left from the night before. Firemen moved debris and coal and put out the fire. No damage reported other than a small amount of coal lost.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1967

Local couple overcome by Butane fumes

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Vandaveer, who live on the old river road, were overcome by Butane gas fumes at their home late on the evening of Dec. 18, and were revived by firemen who administered oxygen and by two attending physicians.

The Vandaveers were alone when Mrs. Vandaveer just dropped off to sleep and Mr. Vandaveer found himself getting groggy. Feeling that something was wrong, he called some friends, who called the Sheriff's Office, where they immediately called the firemen.

Drs. Leo Leonardi and Tom Sandell arrived shortly after to give medical aid to the couple.

Firemen advised the Vandaveers to have their lines, appliances, etc., checked for leaks.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1968

Firemen answer first '68 calls this weekend

Firemen answered their first and second calls of 1968 this weekend, with the first coming at 11 p.m. Friday and involving a 1963 Chevrolet pickup on US 50 just west of town.

According to the firemen's report, the pickup had run out of gas and in priming it, the driver had apparently spilled some on the motor and when the truck was started, a spark ignited the spilled gasoline. Damage was estimated at \$100.

Saturday at 5 p.m., firemen went to the home of Mickey Linza at 535 West First Street. Mrs. Linza reported an odor of hot, burning wire. Firemen found an apparently defective plug and all appliances there were unplugged, and Mrs. Linza advised not to use the plug until it was checked by an electrician.

For 1967

Report of Salida Fire Department shows total number of calls down

In a report of fire calls and activities of the Salida Fire Department for the year of 1967, Fire Chief Milton Myers noted that the total number of fire calls in the city, district and county in 1967 was 97 as compared to 124 in 1966. The estimated total loss in 1967 was \$26,845.00.

In the City of Salida there were three calls to commercial-business establishments, 14 calls to residential property, one call to vehicle fire, 10 calls to grass fires, nine first aid-resuscitator calls, two calls to trash fires, four calls to investigate smoke in building, two calls to investigate gas odor in building, one to dispose of explosives, ten calls of miscellaneous nature, 2 false alarms, 15 calls to destroy hornets and rescue cats. This gives a total of 73 calls in the city of Salida during 1967.

Chief Myers states that in the South Arkansas Fire Protection District there were 20 calls showing an increase over the 1966 total of 12.

In the district, eight calls were made to commercial-business establishments, one call to residential property, two calls to vehicle fires, three calls to grass fires, two first-aid resuscitator calls, two calls to investigate smoke in building, two false alarms.

In Chaffee County, there was one call to standby at burnin-storage building, one call to vehicle fire at city dump, two calls to grass fires for a total of four calls handled in Chaffee County in 1967.

The Salida Volunteer Fire Department held 26 meetings in 1967 with an average attendance of 10 members. According to Chief Myers, response to emergency calls has been very good. The Volunteer Fire Department has 13 members at the present time including members of the Regular Fire Department. These are all active members subject to call at any time.

In 1967, Colorado State Board for Vocational Education held eight class sessions of Firemanship Training for both volunteers

and regular men, according to Myers.

All the regular firemen and many of the volunteers attended the Colorado State Firemen's Convention, Tournament and Fire School held in Loveland, last June. Also, both regular and volunteer firemen participated in the San Luis Valley Fireman's Annual Field Day competition which was held in Pagosa Springs. Salida placed well in these events and won several trophies.

Approximately 25 people received Standard and Advanced First Aid cards in classes held in the Salida municipal building and sponsored by the Chaffee County Red Cross and the Salida Fire Department.

All emergency equipment is in acceptable condition according to Chief Myers with the exception of fire pump on the city fire truck. The pump and the fire truck have had 25 years of service in the fire department and according to Chief Myers should be replaced by newer

and more efficient equipment. Thought and effort is being given to locating and procuring satisfactory replacement equipment.

Fireman rescue cat from roof

Everyone has heard of the modern "Cat on a hot tin roof," but about 4:45 p.m. Thursday, local firemen found out about a "cat on a cold roof."

Someway a cat managed to get on the roof at Morris Photo Studio and firemen were called to rescue the adventurous feline which they did, although it took them about 30 minutes.

Firemen answer gas odor call

An odor of gas in the house caused the Salida Firemen to be called to the home of Mike Hileman at 541 E. Street early today.

According to the firemen's report, Hileman thought he smelled gas and was unable to light a gas heater. Firemen called the Salida Gas Company after they arrived and a representative came out, checked things out, lighted the heater and pronounced everything okay.

Firemen answer call in Salida

Firemen answered a call to 307 East First Street at 4:45 p.m. Wednesday and put out a fire that had started behind the siding of the residence there.

According to the firemen's report, the fire was at the home of Billy Stephenson, and occurred when Mrs. Stephenson was burning trash in an ash pit, which is built against the building. The fire started from the ash pit fire.

Damage was estimated at \$50.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1968

Wind puts spark from incinerator onto garage roof

Wind apparently blew a spark from trash burning in an incinerator onto the garage roof at Mrs. Veva Jean Cain's residence, 1040 F Street, and firemen were called to the resulting fire.

Firemen reported that the blaze had almost been extinguished by the time they arrived on the scene.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1968

Put out car fire

Firemen were called out at 5:20 a.m. today to extinguish a smoldering fire in the back seat of a 1966 sedan parked at 229 E. Street. They reported that the blaze had been extinguished and the seat removed from the car.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1968

Firemen called to fence fire

Firemen answered a call at 6 p.m. Thursday to put out a fire on a fence at the Harry Billingsley residence at 747 C Street.

Firemen said the fire apparently started from burning trash in an ash pit.

Firemen called to extinguish fire on roof

Firemen extinguished a blaze on the roof of Julia Popish's residence in Smeltertown about 9 a.m. Saturday, March 23. They reported that it did about \$100 damage.

The firemen said the fire was confined to the shingles on the roof in an area about one square yard in size. They stated that it probably started from sparks from the chimney.

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1968

Cigarette causes front seat fire in car in Salida

Salida firemen were called to the corner of East Second Street and E Street about 4:07 p.m. Saturday to extinguish a fire in a 1954 sedan owned by T. J. Stapleton.

According to the firemen, a cigarette was apparently dropped and left burning on the front seat cushion. They said about a square foot of the cushion was burned.

MONDAY, APRIL 22, 1968

Firemen called to "soot" fire

Soot caught fire in the flue at the residence of the Lowell Mooneys at 525 Poncha Blvd. about 8:50 a.m. Sunday and firemen were called to extinguish the blaze.

Firemen reported they took the fire from the fireplace and cautioned the Mooneys to have some cracks in the mortar repaired before using the fireplace again.

Burning ties cause fire call

Firemen were called to a fire at 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, but when they arrived at the location, on the west end of the D and RGW Railroad property here, they found burning ties with railroad employees watching the fire.

The firemen returned to the fire hall after discovering that it was a controlled fire.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1968

Firemen put out two grass fires

Bang! Bang! Just like that Salida firemen were hit with two weed and grass fire calls Tuesday afternoon. The first occurred at 4:15 p. m. and the second at 4:35 p. m.

According to the firemen's report, both were on empty lots, the first in the 500 block of I Street with the fire being between the railroad tracks and I Street, and the second being in the 800 block on West First Street.

Both were controlled without damage by the firemen.

Trash burning leads to shed burning down

Arthur Zamarripa, 1134 F Street, was burning trash in an open barrel early today when the nearby sheds caught fire.

Firemen extinguished the blaze, but not before one of the buildings was destroyed, according to the firemen's report.

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1968

Firemen answer three calls

Salida Fire Department personnel answered two calls Saturday and one call Sunday in weekend activity.

A Seattle, Washington woman received oxygen Saturday after fainting. She continued on her way without benefit of a doctor. Smoke odor at Main Liquor Saturday prompted the second call. It was found that a 50 amp fuse had burned out, causing the odor.

Sunday, Kenny Wickham called the firemen to extinguish a blaze in the garage behind his house. The fire was caused either by spontaneous combustion or by a grass fire behind the garage, according to the report.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 1968

Two fire runs

Firemen answered two calls in Salida Monday. The first, at 10:03 a. m., was at the Salida Locker Plant where a refrigeration compressor had developed a leak. The building was filled with ammonia fumes.

The second call, at 11:00 a. m. was for the removal of a hornet's nest from the eaves of a house near the back door. The call came from William Van Williams, 514 Poncha Boulevard.

July 9, 1968

Salida firemen were called at 6:03 p. m. Monday to extinguish a blaze in the D&RGW railroad yards.

MONDAY, JULY 1, 1968

Salida firemen answer two calls

Salida firemen answered a call to the 203 block of East First Street to extinguish an automobile fire at 12:10 p. m. Saturday. The blaze was credited to a spark from a worn ignition wire catching the carburetor on fire. David Filmore of Leadville was the car owner.

At 5:10 p. m., they were called on to extinguish a blaze at Salida Livestock Commission Company. Damage to fences and pens amounted to approximately \$200 from the fire caused either from a lighted cigarette or spontaneous combustion.

Cause unknown

Fire ravages Salida Drug early Saturday

Some time between 1:30 a.m. and 1:55 a.m. Saturday, fire broke out in Salida Drug, causing the store to temporarily close its doors, according to owner Riley Bartley. Stock loss was total.

A boy and a girl had stopped at the window to look at the lighted clock at 1:30 a. m. They saw no evidence of fire. The clock stopped at 1:55 a. m., the result of a loss of electricity. A city policeman turned in the alarm at about the same time.

By the time Bartley could arrive on the scene at 2:10 a. m. the Salida Fire Department had the blaze under control.

That short span of time was all that was needed for the hot blaze in the stock and file room to melt the cover off an adding machine, effect a total loss to prescription and other stock, and damage all the fixtures in the building. No estimate is available to date on damages, dollar-wise.

Bartley managed to save the current prescription file. Alexander's Pharmacy is filling the needs of those people until Bartley can reopen.

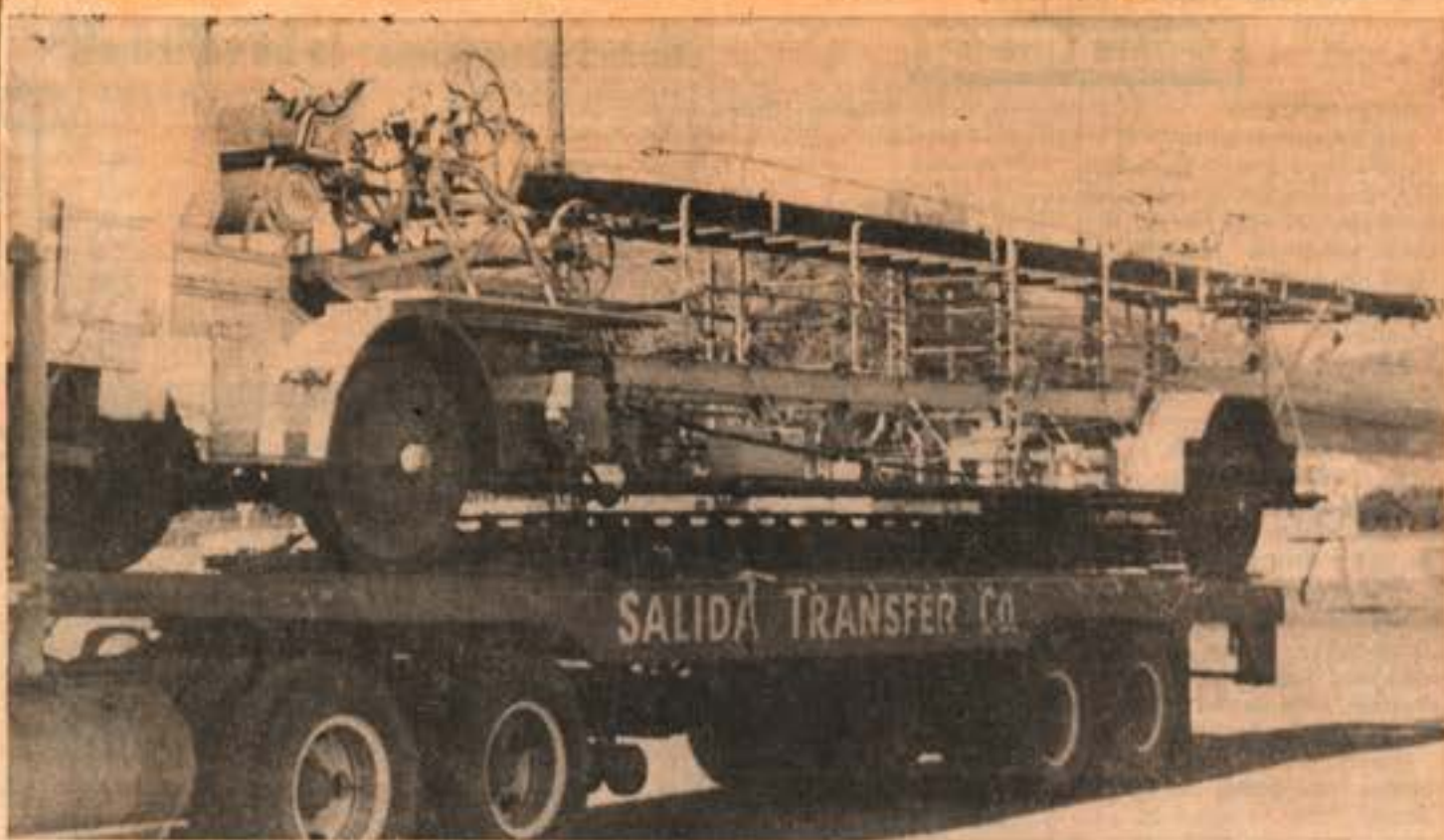
"I'll be back in business as soon as possible", Bartley said Monday morning. He has arrangements lined up for emergency stock and can be open for business as soon as the building is ready. Out-of-town men were due to arrive in Salida today to assist him in getting the new arrangements made.

Stock and fixtures were to be moved from the building today,

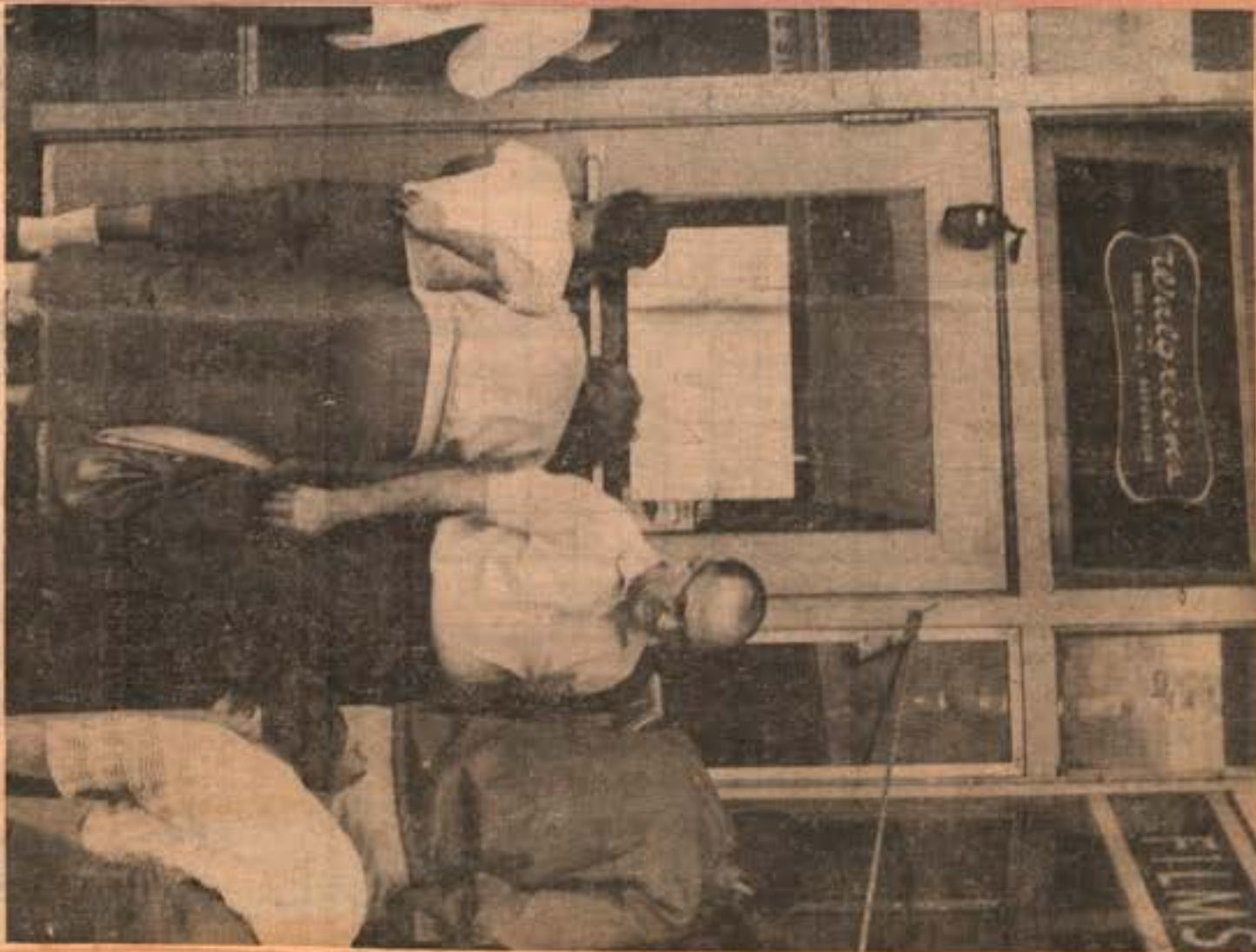
involved.

Bartley was high in his praise for those friends and acquaintances who had offered assistance in various ways during the course of the weekend. "To them I wish to direct my thanks", he said. "I'm not about to quit business, either. I'll be open just as soon as possible".

Monday Aug 12th 1968



TO BE IN PARADE — This 1928 American LaFrance hook and ladder wagon was recently purchased for \$600 by 14 members of the Volunteer Fire Department. The vehicle is 52 feet long and steers from both front and back. The ladder reaches 65 feet into the air. It will be mostly for show but is workable if need ed. The 1911 Kissel Kar, first motor driven fire truck purchased in Salida and now owned by the Volunteers, will also be in the Saturday parade. (Mountain Mail Photo)



NOT ALL WERE LOOKERS — Salida Drug owner Riley Bartley showed the damage he had Saturday morning over the damages from the fire which occurred in the early morning hours Saturday. Stock loss was total and all the fixtures were damaged to some degree in the fire which put the drug store out of business, "only temporarily." Workmen boarded up the windows to avoid falling glass damage to passers-by. The store's electric clock stopped at 1:55 a.m. and the Salida Fire Department had the blaze under control at 2:10 a.m. (Mountain Mail Photo)

Monday Aug 12th

Firemen answer local fire call

Fire in the MonArk Shrine Building at 129 W. Sackett at 4:50 a. m. Sunday did an estimated \$5,000 to \$7,000 damage. Members of the Salida Fire Department were on the scene to extinguish the blaze.

Probable cause of the fire has been laid to a fire being started in a waste basket or some combustible material on the floor behind the soda fountain-bar in the back of the building.

The back door had been forced open and was open at the time of the fire.

Firemen responding to the call were Chief Milton Myers and Charles Culp who were on duty at the time. Other regular firemen responding were Jack Henderson, Fred Smith and Bob Freeman. Volunteers Dennis Henderson, Bill Smith and James Gray, also aided in the fire-fight.

Chief Milton Myers expressed his pleasure at having such a heavy turnout to assist in the effort.

Department gets fire call Monday

Salida Fire Department personnel answered a call Monday at 8:44 p.m. to the home of Herbert Baumgardner of 730 W. Third. Damage from the blaze was estimated to be \$500.

A coal stoker-matic in the basement of the house blew its front door open and set fire to a bed and chair located nearby. A possible stopped flu was given as the cause for the front door of the stoker-matic being blown open.

Salida volunteer firemen conduct officer elections

Larry Brown was elected president of the Salida Volunteer Fire Department at elections conducted Monday evening. Named to serve with him for the coming year were Milton Meyers, II, vice-president; Fred Smith, secretary; and Robert Freeman, treasurer.

Robert Kidwell was named as historian. Selected as trustees for the year were Roy Hurley, Jack Henderson and Charles Culp.

The action came two days after the volunteers picnic, held Saturday night. Twenty-three members and wives played bingo and other games after having enjoyed a dinner cooked by Ted Judge.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1969

Fire call

Members of the Salida Fire Department answered a call to 600 I Street at 3:19 p.m. Monday to extinguish a fire which did \$200 damage.

A combination shed-garage belonging to J. C. Pool was reportedly engulfed in flames when the department arrived on the scene. Wind conditions threatened a home on the front of the lot with subsequent threat to the Standard Oil Bulk Plant a short distance away.

Firemen remained on the scene for one hour and seven minutes to make certain the blaze was completely extinguished.

81201, MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1968

Howard hit by blaze on Friday

Fire destroyed three buildings in Howard Friday and left damages estimated at \$100,000 to the Arkansas Valley Building Supply, Inc.

The blaze started at about 10 a. m. in the building supply company's warehouse, according to Arnold Dittmar, manager and part owner of the firm.

A strong wind threatened the nearby homes in Howard as the flames quickly consumed the 150,000 square foot building.

Volunteer fire department units from Salida, Howard, and Cotopaxi were aided by a pumper from Fremont County Sheriff's Department in containing the blaze primarily to the warehouse area.

Danger of an explosion from a 1,000-gallon butane tank in the area caused the Colorado State Patrol to halt on traffic on Highway 50. It was ascertained that, if the butane tank had exploded, the flames would have covered the highway.

Two additional buildings besides the warehouse were also consumed in the blaze as were a new bulldozer, saws, motors, and other equipment.

Possible cause of the fire was a butane explosion.

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1969

Damage light in fire at school

Students at Salida High School were evacuated Monday morning when there existed the possibility of a damaging fire in a store room off the auditorium stage. School personnel had the fire put out before firemen arrived.

According to Superintendent of School Bill Andreas, only one set of earphones was lost in the minor blaze.

No cause for the fire had been found by 2:30 p. m. The blaze was discovered at 10 a. m. and the school was evacuated as a precaution.



Larry Brown

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1969

Fire Calls

City firemen answered a call to Salida High School Monday to check out the alarm system.

Superintendent of Schools Bill Andreas requested the check. Firemen got Bob Pinkston to remove the heat detector, leaving the rest of the system operative. The request followed a small fire in which a pair of earphones were burned Monday morning.

The County fire truck was dispatched Monday morning to extinguish a grass fire between Highway 291 and the railroad tracks about two and one-half miles north of Salida. A patch of grass about 40 x 75 feet burned.

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1969

Fire kills five calves

Fire destroyed a shed, some equipment and tools and claimed the lives of five calves Sunday afternoon. The scene of the blaze was the Virgil Houle property located at the intersection of County Roads 31 and 7.

Origin of the fire was not known by Monday morning. Local firemen were called to the scene Sunday night to complete the extinguishing of the blaze. It was then determined that a total \$1,000 damage was done by the blaze. A horse kept on the property was not harmed in the fire.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1969

Fire call

Members of the Salida Fire Department answered a call at 1 p. m. Wednesday to extinguish a blaze at 3000 Blake Street, on the property of Adolph Floryansic, Jr.

Trash burning in a barrel had set fire to a shed. A gas meter was ruptured and burning. Firemen shut off the gas meter, put out the fire, and returned to the station within 25 minutes. Damage was reported to be light to the shed and its contents.

MONDAY, JUNE 9, 1969

Firemen best at Del Norte

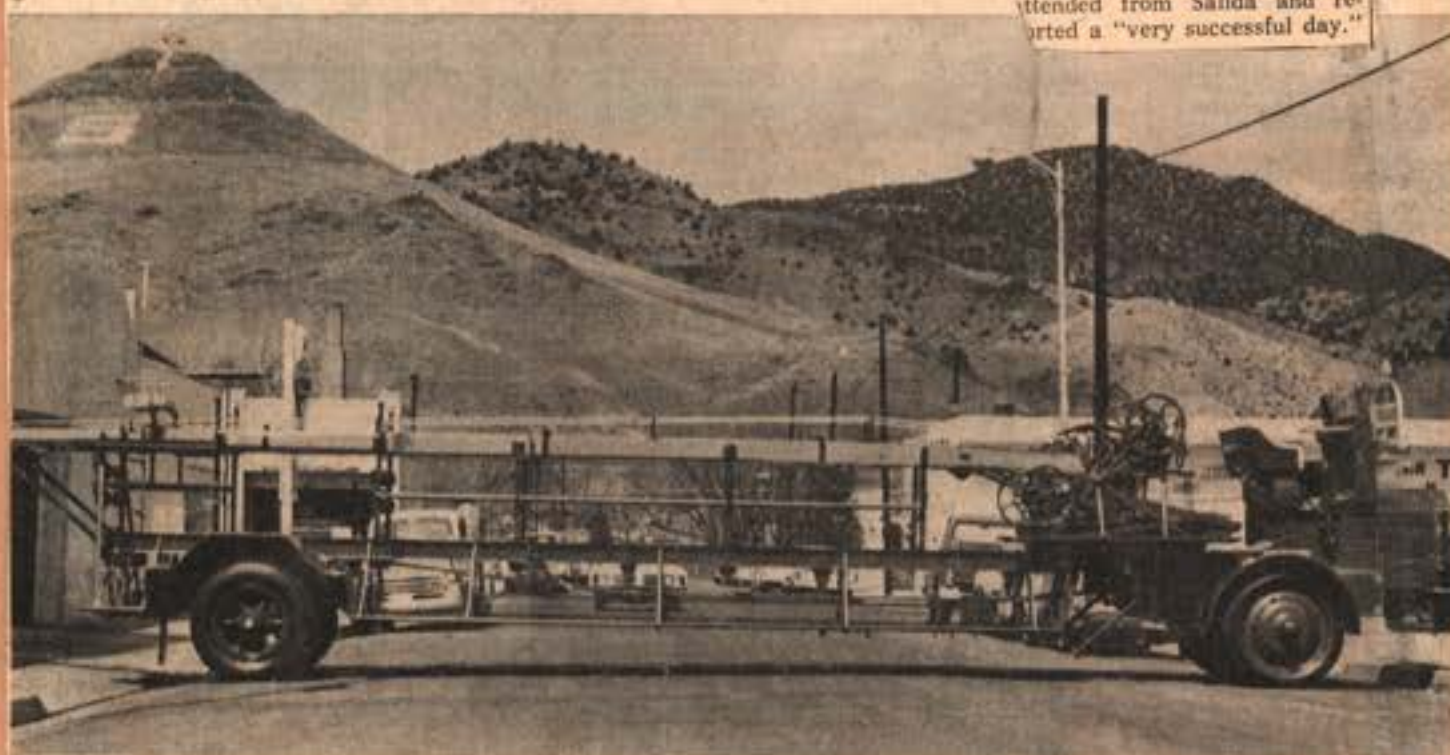
Members of the Salida Volunteer Fire Department won four honors Sunday at the San Luis Valley Firemen's Field Day at Del Norte. Fred Smith was captain of the team with members being Bill Smith, Jim Gray, Wes Wagner, Jerry Wood and Bud Myers.

Local men took first place in reserve lay, stationary apparatus, wye hose, and two and one-half to one and one-half inch changeover competition.

Battling with the Salida contingent for the best times in activities normally encountered in fire-fighting duty were teams from Alamosa, Del Norte, La Jara, Monte Vista, Mosca-Hooper, Pagosa Springs and Center.

Ten firemen with 20 guests attended from Salida and reported a "very successful day."

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1969



BLOSSOM BOUND — This 1928 American-LaFrance and Foamite Corporation 65 foot aerial ladder fire truck owned by the Salida Volunteer Fire Department will be entered in the May 4 Blossom Festival Parade in Canon City. Members of the Volunteer Fire Department purchased the antique truck and put a "wad" of money into repairing and painting it and will be driving it one week from Sunday promoting Salida. They would appreciate donations to assist payment of expenses in repairing the vehicle which they will make available if ever needed for multiple-story building burning in Salida.

MOUNTAIN MAIL PHOTO

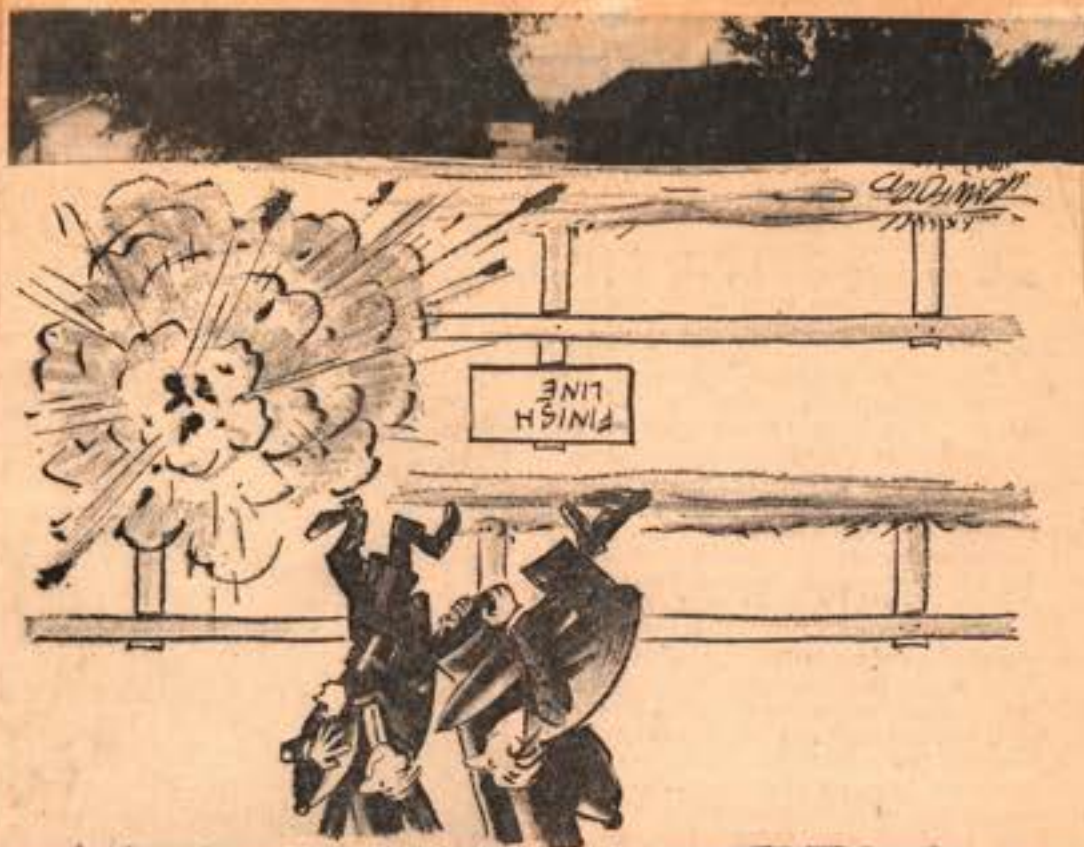
FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 1969

MONDAY, JULY 7, 1969

Salida firemen compete at convention

Salida's entry in the three-man inline lay team at the Colorado State Firemen's Association Convention at Vail Thursday missed a fourth place trophy by six-tenths of one second as Deer Trail recorded a time of 18.7 seconds for the spot. Martin Missile won the event with Akron and Florence getting second and third.

Fred Smith, Jim Gray and Bill Smith were the competitors Thursday. They were accompanied to the convention by Larry Brown and Phil Sterling. Competing today were Bud Myers, Bob Freeman and Denny Henderson.



FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 1969



DEMONSTRATOR — For a good part of the day Wednesday, this demonstrator model was in Salida for the local firemen to get a good look at. It is the heaviest duty fire truck made by John Bean Fire Apparatus Company, successful bidder on a new truck to be delivered to Salida in the future. This model costs \$47,000 but the model which Salida will receive is less

sophisticated. It costs only between \$28 and \$29 thousand. Charles Rosso, John Bean representative for this area, brought the demonstrator to Salida and said that there are currently 12 such machines on tour of the United States.

MOUNTAIN MAIL PHOTO

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1969

Fire hits Mehos Home on Monday

A toaster in the kitchen at Dr. William Mehos' residence at 805 Poncha Blvd., caused an estimated \$800 to \$1,000 damage Monday at 5:25 p. m.

Salida firemen spent 38 minutes on the scene extinguishing the blaze and removing smoke from the house after the toaster had set fire to some papers. The burning papers had in turn set fire to window draperies and cabinets.

Visitor helps fire fighters

Earl Jennings from El Paso, Texas, was visiting in the Frank Butala home Monday when fire hit the home of Dr. William Mehos.

Jennings reportedly had the fire under control when firemen arrived, leaving them only the job of winding up the process and filing the report.

Had it not have been for Jennings' presence at the neighboring home, damage to the Mehos home could well have exceeded the estimated \$800 to \$1,000, according to reports from residents in the

Volunteers elect Woods president

Jerry Woods was elected recently to serve as president of the Salida Volunteers Fire Department for 1970.

To serve with Woods will be Jim Gray, vice president; Bud Myers, secretary; and Bob Freeman, treasurer. Bob Kidwell was appointed historian.

The group held its annual banquet last Saturday evening with 33 present, including volunteers, wives and dates.

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Two escape burning van...

BY HOLLY ENGLERT

Two Salida youths were uninjured Thursday at 1 p. m. when a van, complete with a fireworks display which they were attending, caught on fire in front of Oxford's Market.

The boys, Kerry Swift, 12, and Kim Swift, 11, were selling fireworks when another youth reportedly threw a smoke bomb inside of the vehicle setting off the full stock of fireworks and burning the Dodge van.

"I just knew I had to get out," stated Kerry who was in the front of the van at the time the smoke bomb was thrown. He immediately jumped out and notified the Salida Fire Department.

Kim also hauled out and stood by as an unidentified man tried in vain to extinguish the blaze. The entire stock of fireworks was a total loss and the van belonging to Swift News Agency also sustained considerable damage as a result of the fire. Fortunately there was no explosion nor injuries.

"I was more surprised than anything," Kim who was in the back, declared. The side doors were open in order to display the fireworks thus affording him an escape. Both Swift boys later admitted they were disappointed after their weeks of planning and effort that went into the project.

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MOUNTAIN MAIL PHOTO

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Volunteer fire fighters study Monday evening

Salida Volunteer Fire Department members, 19-strong, met Monday evening. During the course of the regular meeting night, local firemen participated in a special training class.

Captain Gene Smith, Pueblo Fire Department and a member of Colorado State Board for Vocational Education, directed the study in ropes, knots, fireman-ship training, and use of life-lines in rescue.

SALIDA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Milton Myers and Jack Henderson were presented with 20-year pins for service in the Volunteer Fire Department at the regular meeting of the Salida Volunteer Fire Dept. Monday evening.

Friday unlucky for New Mexico owner of car

The Salida Fire Department was called out at 10:10 p. m. on Friday, March 13, to the 500 block on F Street where a vehicle was reportedly burning. The car, with New Mexico license plates, was near the Meyler Gibbs home.

The firemen reported that the headlight wires were shorted and burning, but they were extinguished by the time the fire department arrived on the scene.

Nearby home saved

Fire destroys large building and garage

Fireworks marked the scene and it was touch-and-go for a while Thursday night to save a nearby house as a precious metals research building and a garage went up in flames. Firemen fought the blaze and icy hands at the same time in the face of a 20-mile-per-hour wind. The nearby home of Vincent J. Piekenbrock was threatened but saved through fire-fighting efforts.

Two volunteer firemen were injured in the battle to contain the main fire and save the residence from going up in the fire. Bob Kidwell, sustained a small cut on his ~~finger~~ while moving some tin. Bud Myers received injury to his feet when an acid bottle tipped over. He reportedly has one blister about the size of a quarter.

The building, constructed in 1930 for use as storage space by Ed Cole, was wood with tin siding. First flames visible were spotted near the center of the roof with fire then spreading both directions from that point, according to Fire Chief Milton Myers. Myers lives at Teller and James and could see the burning building from his home.

Danny Granzella, 417 Blake, was the first to call the fire department. He called the report in before flames were visible but within minutes the entire roof was a solid mass of fire.

Easterly winds fanned the flames from the larger building to ignite a garage used by Piekenbrock. The garage was leveled in the inferno.

The Piekenbrock home, about 15 to 20 feet to the west, was so hot from the burning garage that, on several occasions, it was smoking. Firemen managed to keep it cooled enough to avoid further spread of the flames.

So intense was the heat that at least one window in the Piekenbrock residence was cracked.

Family members and volun-

teers moved furnishings from the home to avoid that possible loss and Friday morning the move back in was consummated.

Inside the large building which was demolished in the blaze were at least three kinds of acid: nitric, hydrochloric, and sulfuric. These containers exploding in the intense heat provided part of the fireworks while danger of losing a power pole was creating anxiety on another front.

(Continued on Page 6)

Fire

(Continued from Page 1)

for firemen.

The power line carried 4,000 volts of electricity and firemen were constantly on guard to keep spectators from under the line, in case it should fall.

Mining equipment stored inside the enclosure fence around the property was partially consumed.

The call was answered by the South Arkansas Fire District which reported the building to be totally on fire when they received the call.

Firemen and volunteer firemen on the scene were Fire Chief Milton Myers, Jack Henderson, Charles Culp, Fred Smith, Bob Freeman, Jack Ogden, John Tessadri, Jay Wood, Bud Myers, Brian Carter, Bill Smith, Bob Kidwell, Louie Larcom, James Gray, Larry Brown, Phil Sterle, Wes Wagner, Tim Butala, and Al Clanton.

The chill wind caused ice to form rapidly on firemen's clothing. They alternated in using the Chief's home to thaw out.

Pictures

on

preceding

Page



TOTAL LOSS — This two-level structure at Illinois and Blake Streets sustained damages roughly estimated at \$50,000 with the possibility of variance by as much as \$25,000 in figures available early Friday. The fire was reported at 6:30 p. m.

Thursday and firemen fought it for four hours. The building contained three kinds of acid used in precious metals research by Vincent J. Piekenbrock.

MOUNTAIN MAIL PHOTO



AND IT SPREAD — With an assist from a 20-mile per hour wind, fire from this building spread to a garage to the west, demolishing it along with this research and storage facility. On

several occasions, a house near the garage became so hot it was smoking and furnishings were moved out. Firemen saved the house from the fire but smoke damage was considerable.

MOUNTAIN MAIL PHOTO



WRECKED REMAINS — This is the scene early Friday morning following the fire which destroyed this building at Illinois and Blake. Consumption was complete to both this building

and a nearby garage. Only valiant efforts from fire-fighters kept the blaze from spreading to a nearby residence.

MOUNTAIN MAIL PHOTO

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1970

Firemen answer three fire calls

The Salida Fire Department was called out Friday noon to the Crestone Apartments where a grass fire was burning reportedly as a result of an overturned trash barrel in which trash was being burned. The firemen extinguished the fire and estimated that no damage had been done.

At noon on Saturday the fire crew was on the 100 block of West First street where a car parked at the curb in front of the Rocket Bar was leaking gasoline. The firemen flushed gas from the street and left word for the car owner to get the gasoline tank filled.

Sunday morning at 3 a.m. a citizen called the fire department to report that the timbers at Illinois and Blake streets, the scene of a spectacular fire a few days beforehand, were burning. The firemen went to the site and extinguished the flames.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1970

Two fire calls are answered

The Salida Fire Department received two calls at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday from the Poncha Blvd. area. The first fire report states Firemen Myers, Henderson, and Smith responded to a call at 237 Ouray Ave. C. W. Graebing, 224 Poncha Blvd. was reportedly burning trash in a barrel. Due to the gusty winds, sparks caught the grass and wood pile on fire. The ten minute call resulted in no damage.

An estimated \$50 damage was done Tuesday afternoon to the Gene Tuttle residence at

801 Poncha Blvd. Again a barrel with burning trash was cited as the source of sparks that caught a wood pile on fire. The wood pile was by the side of the Tuttle home. Myers, Henderson, and Smith spent 20 minutes putting out the fire.

It Pays To Advertise

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Salida Fire Department answered a call April 18 at 5:20 p.m. Laura Wickers of Dodge St. called the firemen because an oil stove was overheated due to accumulated fuel in the fire pot of the stove. Firemen Myers and Henderson stood by while the excess fuel burned out. They spent 18 minutes on the call.

Two fire calls made Thursday

Firemen Myers and Henderson were called at 10 a.m. Thursday by Don Starbuck to Sackett and B streets. According to the fire report, Starbuck wanted to burn trash on the old Poreo place. The firemen laid out 400 feet of hose from the hydrant at First and "B" streets to protect adjacent property and extinguish the fire. The firemen were on the call two hours.

At 12:50 p.m. Thursday afternoon Myers and Henderson answered a call at 634 W. Sackett. The property, which is owned by Rosalee Archuleta, was vacant, but a neighbor, Mrs. Bernice Arellano of 632 W. Sackett called to report a grass fire. The firemen returned from the call at 1:13 p.m.

Monday April 20th

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1970



Fire Chief Milton Myers

Fire Chief

Milton Myers is retiring

Milton Myers, 57, is retiring from the office of Chief of the Salida Fire Department. Effective date of the retirement will be June 1. Myers made the formal announcement at Monday evening's City Council meeting.

Myers became a member of the local fire-fighting organization in June, 1949. He was elevated to the position of Fire Chief in April, 1961, and has held the post since that time. His home is 564 Jones Avenue in Salida.

He was born July 20, 1912, in Yates Center, Kansas. His father and mother moved to Granite when he was three years old. They later lived in Glenwood Springs before moving to Salida in the spring of 1920, before his eighth birthday. Myers graduated from Salida High School in 1934.

The genial Fire Chief recalls many experiences involving older school and other public buildings no longer standing. At the time of his early acquaintance with Salida, the population was about the same as it is now, but there was much more railroad activity.

He is the First Baptist Church organist and choir director. He is frequently found singing at weddings or funerals in the area. Red Cross and Salvation

Army activities occupy much of his time.

After retirement, he plans to build up a business in piano and organ tuning and repair. He also plans to teach organ classes.

Myers plans to have more time after retirement to devote to his hobbies of rock prospecting, hunting, fishing and hiking.

The first thing in the future, however, is a cataract operation. The operation will be performed in Parkview Hospital in Pueblo in the near future.

Myers and his wife Velma have eight children. Mrs. Richard (Frances) Roberts lives in Westminster. Next is Mrs. Gene (Edith) Beauregard of Salida (Gene is in the Air Force in Vietnam). Mrs. Jerry (Joyce) Criswell also lives in Salida.

One son, Milton Gene Myers II, is also a resident of Salida. Robert Allen Myers is serving in the Army in Vietnam. Mrs. Fred (Judith) Smith and Mrs. Jack (Mary Elizabeth) Ryan both live in Salida. (Jack is serving with the Marines in Vietnam). David Myers is a student at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Myers notice of resignation was accepted reluctantly by the Salida City Council.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1970

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Firemen Myers, Henderson and Smith responded to a call at 7:35 p.m. Friday which reported leaking gasoline from a car at 350 West 7th street. The 1955 Pontiac, owned by J. C. Rogers, was leaking gas from a broken tank. The firemen spoke to the owner about moving the car and removing the pan of gasoline to a safer area.

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 1970

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Salida Fire Department was called Sunday, May 3, to burn weeds and grass between the granite shed and the railroad tracks on Fifth Street. Firemen Henderson, Culp and Smith burned the area for two and a half hours as a safety measure.

Thursday May 7th 70

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Salida Fire Department was called out Wednesday, May 6, at 8:30 p.m. to County Road 35 near the smelter. Jim Randolph called because a grass fire was approaching his garage. The firemen extinguished the fire during the half hour call. The estimated value of the property exposed is \$1,000, but no damage was incurred. According to the fire report, the owner and occupant of the property is Tom Green.

Monday May 4th 1970

Fire Department rolls three times

The Salida Fire Department was busy over the weekend with daily calls. The first, on Friday May 1 at 6:30 p. m. was to the home of Johnny Valdez on Blake Street. Mrs. Valdez suffered an attack and had fall. Firemen Culp and Smith responded and reportedly used the resuscitator during the call. A doctor was summoned and remained on the scene after the firemen had left.

A call on Saturday was to the Angel Ranch west of the airport. The occupant had logs and had the fire department to be on weeds on fire and had request hand to keep the fire under control. Firemen Smith and Henderson responded at 4 p.m. to the half hour call.

Ken Clark called upon the firemen Sunday at noon to water the edges of a burned area near the city dump road. Firemen Culp and Smith were on the call one hour.

Monday May 11th 1970

Fire call

During the noon hour Monday, firemen were called to the Ma-Bel Hardware location on Hwy 50 to extinguish a blaze. Estimates range from \$4,000 to (Continued on Page 2)

Fire call

Continued from page 1
\$6,000 loss in plastic pipe in the blaze. Some smoke damage appeared to have been sustained by the Dana Champlin residence immediately east of the site of the fire.

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1970

Fire department

The Salida Fire Department responded to a fire call Monday during the noon hour to the Ma-Bel Hardware Store on Highway 50, across from Oxford's Market. According to the firemen, a workman was using a cutting torch on plastic creosote pipe when the pipe caught on fire. The blaze destroyed the Ma-Bel Hardware shed and contents at an estimated damage of four to six thousand dollars. A 1959 Ford station wagon was also damaged as was the Dean Champlin's home next door to the extent of an estimated \$2,000.

The firemen used approximately 1,000 gallons of water in an attempt to extinguish the blaze. Those responding to the call included firemen Henderson, Culp, Smith, Freeman, B. Myers, P. Sterle, R. Kidwell, R. Hurley and V. Gustafson.

Pictures on next Page



NEW FIRE TRUCK — Acting Fire Chief Jack Henderson stepped up on the running board of Salida's new \$28,000 fire truck which arrived in town at 1 p. m. Wednesday. Payment of \$18,000 leaves a balance of \$10,000 to be paid off on the in-

stallment plan. In the picture with Henderson are fireman Fred Smith and volunteer Bill Smith. Jack McCullough, a Jim Beam employee, drove the truck the 1,284 miles from Tipton, Indiana, leaving that point at 1 p. m. Monday.

MOUNTAIN MAIL PHOTO



SALIDA FIREMEN IN 1906 — Only four of the 12 firemen are known. Austin Bailey, fire chief, is seated with two unknown boys at each side. Frank Wickers is the fireman at the left. Third fireman is Ralph Lang and the fourth one is Bill Jones.

The others are unidentified. The fire department was headquartered in the same building then as the present one. Note the old horse-drawn vehicle partially visible in the doorway.

COPY BY A. E. PHOTO

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 1970

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Salida Fire Department was called out at 9:15 p.m. Saturday to the residence at 320 West Grand Avenue where there was a grass fire. Firemen Culp and Smith extinguished the fire which resulted in no damage.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Salida Fire Department was called out Sunday at 8:15 p.m. to the home of George Chavez at 208 Crestone Ave. Mrs. Chavez was cooking and

apparently some grease splashed onto a burner, causing the fire. The blaze, which did an estimated damage of \$25, burned the wires in the stove. Firemen Culp and Smith, along with Jerry Wood and Bud Myers,

spent twenty minutes on the call.

Monday May 1st 1970



MONDAY FIRE — In the scene above, billowing smoke was cause for concern to the passersby on Hwy 50 during the noon hour Monday. When the fire was brought under control, as shown below, the damages to plastic pipe and fittings came to somewhere between \$4,000 and \$5,000 at the Ma-Bel irrigation pipe yard. Considerable damage was sustained to the

roof of the residence and shop just east of the fire area. Dana Champlin has no estimate available on the dollars involved on that roof. Heat broke out some of the windows in both the Champlin home and the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lively, owners of Ma-Bel Hardware.



Tuesday June 2nd
Approval was given for the hiring of Jerry Henderson, 37, brother of the new chief, as the fifth man in the fire department. Effective date of duty is June 1. Henderson is a former volunteer in the local department. He moved here from Kansas at the age of six and has spent four years in the U. S. Navy. He resides at 1104 F Street.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 1970

FIRE DEPARTMENT

One Salida fireman got to go home legally while on duty in a most unusual way. Fred Smith and Charles Culp were on duty last evening when a call came in at 10 p. m. from 348 Palmer Ave. The reason for the call was the breakage of a gas line during the altercation. After retrieving equipment discarded

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Wednesday June 10th
The Salida Fire Department was called out Tuesday at 3 p. m. to Floyd E. Martin's residence at 1200 "J" Street, the scene of an engulfing fire Monday morning. Martin called to report that insulation was smoldering in the roof. Firemen Jack Henderson, Jerry Henderson, Fred Smith, and Bob Freeman spent 30 minutes putting out the smoldering insulation



Jack Henderson

Jack Henderson new Fire Chief

Jack Henderson is Salida's new Fire Chief. The official action was taken Monday night at the regular meeting of the City Council.

Henderson, 46, has filled the position of Acting Fire Chief for the past month. During that period of time, former Fire Chief Milton Myers had been on vacation and sick leave while receiving special medical attention to his eye sight. Myers' formal date of retirement was June 1, in accord with his request at an earlier meeting of the Council.

The new Fire Chief was born in Coldwater, Kansas on De-

cember 1, 1923. At the age of 16, he moved to Salida and has spent the entire time here with the exception of six years in the U. S. Navy during World War II. During that naval service, Henderson was involved in 11 major battles in the Pacific.

Henderson now has 17 years with the Salida Fire Department. His career began May 1, 1953. For the past nine years, since April of 1961, he has been Assistant Fire Chief.

Two of his brothers, Bob and Joe, are members of the fire department at the Air Force Academy near Colorado Springs.

Virginia, Jack's wife, is a bookkeeper for Drs. Leonardi, Mehos and Sandell. Their children include a son, Dennis, 22, now serving in Vietnam and a daughter, Janet, 18, a senior at Salida High School. Janet will enter nurses training after graduation from high school.

The Hendersons, who reside at 617 D Street, have one grandson, the child of Dennis and Barbara (formerly Kurtz). Grandson David is four months old.

Henderson lists hobbies as fishing, coin collecting and collecting among his

Tuesday June 16th

Salida firemen plan to attend Gunnison meet

Each of the five members of the Salida Fire Department will attend two days of the four-day State Fire Convention, according to Fire Chief Jack Henderson.

The Convention will be conducted in Gunnison this week. It begins Wednesday and concludes Saturday.

Assistant Fire Chief Charlie Culp, Fred Smith and Jerry Henderson will attend Wednesday and Thursday. Chief Henderson and Bob Freeman will attend Friday and Saturday.

According to Chief Henderson, Salida will have two teams competing with other towns and cities throughout the state on each of the days of Thursday and Friday. These two teams will also feature special schooling in new techniques of fire-fighting.

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1970

Firemen answer two calls

The Salida Fire Department was called out on two consecutive fire calls early Sunday morning at Shearer Motor Company and 233 Teller Ave. When firemen Culp and Jerry Henderson arrived at 4 a.m. at Shearer Moto Company on east Highway 50, a late model Ford Fairlane on the used car lot was afire. The firemen noted that the interior of the car was completely on fire as well as the vinyl roof. The interior was completely destroyed to an estimated extent of \$500, and the cause of the blaze is unknown. Forty-five minutes was spent on the fire call during which another call came in from the home of Ron Luster at 233 Teller Ave.

According to the fire report, apparently Mr. Luster was smoking in bed and fell asleep which set the bedding and mattress on fire. When Culp and Henderson arrived at 4:45 a.m., Luster had the bedding outside, and he was putting out the fire on the mattress with a garden hose. Damage was estimated at \$150.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 1970

Firemen act fast

Quick action by the Salida Fire Department paid off today for the owner of the building at 236 "D" Street. The firemen received the call that a garage was afire this morning, and according to Glen Ayers, Municipal Judge, the lightfooted city employees were on their way in eight seconds.

\$1500 worth of the structure was exposed to the flames, but fast action by the fire fighters resulted in no damage.

Fire Chief Jack Henderson was upstairs cleaning the council room when the call came in. Bob Freeman was sweeping out the City Hall, and both were on the truck leaving in a reported eight seconds.

Ayers pointed out that a volunteer fire department would have made it to the station house in three or four minutes, if they made good time.

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 1970

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Salida Fire Department was called out at 4:15 p. m. to the parking lot of Safeway supermarket where a 1962 Mercury belonging to Tom Donkle was afire. According to the fire report, possibly a dragging brake caught a tire on fire. The tire was completely destroyed as well as some damage to the wiring of the car. Firemen Henderson, Culp, and Henderson answered the half hour call. Damage to the vehicle was estimated at \$80.

Local firemen win big trophy

A trophy was awarded to the team of Fred Smith, Bill Smith and Jim Gray after they won third place in the three-man inline lay event at the Colorado State Firemen's Convention held in Gunnison last week. The Salida team also came home with a fifth place in the three-man optional race in competition with twenty other teams from throughout the state.

The fifty teams contesting at the convention could be entered in three man or six man teams in the seven events. The Adams County team was named as the over all six man team.

Morning fire razes residence

MONDAY, JULY 6, 1970

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Bob Freeman and Jerry Henderson were called to the Unique Theater July 5 at 11:51 a. m. where a painter was painting the front of the theater while hanging on a rope suspended from a window. His partner couldn't pull him back up again and the firemen were called to assist.

At 6:27 p.m. July 3, the firemen were called to Tenderfoot Court on West First to the apartment of Barbara Egnor where lightning had apparently followed a power line into the house to the refrigerator, catching papers behind the refrigerator on fire. The fire was out when the firemen arrived. Damage to the apartment at Tenderfoot Court owned by Renold Kaess was estimated at \$150.00.

Severe damage in the estimated amount of \$8,000 was dealt to the home of Floyd Martin this morning in a spectacular early-morning blaze. The house is at the corner of 12th and "J" Streets. Martin was asleep in his bedroom when he heard a crackling noise in the kitchen.

When Martin opened the kitchen door, it was apparent that the room was afire. A fire extinguisher was used, but when it became obvious that the extinguisher could not control the blaze, Martin broke the bedroom window with the extinguisher and went to the neighbors to call the fire department. Salida firemen received the call at 6 a.m., but upon arrival the fire was completely out of control.

The firemen concentrated on containing the fire to the Martin building, so there was no damage to the property surrounding the structure. Three hours and fifteen minutes were spent on the call. The cause of the fire is not known.

Damage in the amount of \$200 was incurred to the residence at 730 "F" Street Sunday. The Salida Fire Department was called at 11:25 a.m. and remained on the call two hours and five minutes. The building belongs to Frank Cummins.

According to the fire report, burning trash in a barrel in back of a shed caught the shed afire. In addition to the damage to the shed, extensive damage was reported to the telephone trunk lines.

MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 1970

FIRE DEPARTMENT

First aid was administered by the Salida Fire Department Saturday, 9:15 a.m. at 413 West Second Street.

John Bearden was changing the oil in his car when the vehicle slipped off the jack. Neighbors had him out from under the car when firemen arrived at the scene.

Alert Ambulance transported him to the hospital for a check up for possible broken ribs and bruises.

Monday June 8th 1970



RUDE AWAKENING — Lloyd Jack Martin, 1200 J Street, awoke in a hurry today at 6 a. m. The fire, which apparently started in the vicinity of the kitchen, was beyond the capability of the fire extinguisher Martin manned initially in the

attempt to put it out. Martin climbed out the window to fresh air before the fire department arrived. The house was estimated at a value of \$8,000 and was a total loss.

Tuesday June 23rd



THIRD IN STATE — Salida firemen Bill Smith and Jim Gray finished third in the three-man in-line lay event at the Colorado

State Firemen's Convention in Gunnison last weekend. A total of fifty teams were present at the meet. **MOUNTAIN MAIL PHOTO**

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1970

Donkey baseball to be July 17

Marvin Field (Ball Park) in Salida will be the scene of a fun-filled donkey baseball game on Friday, July 17th, at 7:30 p.m.

The Salida Volunteer Fire Department, nine will be playing at the gate. The money will be members of the Rodeo Association used for the purchase of fire fighting equipment.

MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 1970

Street Flushin' Kid strikes Salida

Police and firemen today are seeking the Street Flushin' Kid. Three times within four days he somehow, has released fire hydrants around town.

The Kid, not armed with a 44 but a hydrant wrench, visited the corner of 16th and K Streets Friday night.

Police noticed the flash flood and notified the fire department. Firemen left for the scene at 10:55 and shut off the water.

Then Friday at 11:55 at Ouray and Pitkin it happened again. And again, today at 7:09 a. m. at 7th and I Streets.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Salida Fire Department was called out Monday at 1:45 a. m. to the 200 block of "E" Street where Firemen Culp and Henderson spent 15 minutes flushing oil off the street.

Monday Aug 24th 1970

Fire calls

Firemen were called out to the Salida Inn Saturday at 8:43 a. m. where they spent nearly an hour checking the cooling unit of a walk-in freezer which had overheated.

No fire was found so the firemen disconnected the unit.

Twelve tons of hay was damaged in a fire Saturday afternoon at 315 Poncha Blvd., the residence of C. V. Williams.

Firemen attribute the cause of the fire to spontaneous combustion.

The eighteen firemen called to the scene extinguished the blaze and removed the hay stack to extinguish hot spots.

Friday Sept 4th 1970

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Firemen were called out on Thursday at 8:16 p. m. to 919 E Street where a car was afire, according to the Salida Fire Department. Don Glenn backed out of the garage and the fuel line broke spraying gas over the engine which caught fire.

Firemen spent about 25 minutes extinguishing the blaze.

TONIGHT

DONKEY BASEBALL

"The World's Most Hilarious Sport"

Salida Volunteer Firemen

— VS —

Salida Rodeo Association

7:30 p. m. — Marvin Field
Adults \$1.50 — Children 75c

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1970

Fire out

Firemen were called to the 100 block of East Sackett Street last night, but they missed the fire.

A passerby had extinguished the fire in a '63 Falcon when the firemen arrived.

A gas line in the car had broken, starting the blaze.

Damage to the car was estimated at \$50.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1970

Volunteer firemen

Fire chief Jack Henderson showed the Volunteer Fire Department how to use a pry-axe at the department's regular meeting Monday night.

Bob Freeman showed some slides on a house burned at the annual Command and Fire School held in Ft. Collins.

The group decided to hold a dance at the VFW Hall in Sand Park Oct. 3 from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. The Moonlighters will provide music. Admission is \$1.50 a couple, \$1.00, single.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1971

\$500 fire noted

An estimated \$500 damage was the result of an afternoon fire Saturday at 13th and I Streets.

Firemen reported that Tony Dominguez, owner of the unoccupied property, was taking out water pipes in the bathroom with a torch.

After the pipes were taken out, Dominguez left the torch lit to keep the pipes warm while he was having coffee. The torch caught some rags afire and spread into a partition causing the damage.

Later that afternoon, firemen were called to 16th and L Streets to check an overheated oil stove.

Another overheated oil stove was the subject of a fire call to 627 D St. at 11:10 Monday night. Firemen reported no damage, although the tank was glowing red hot.

COUNTRY WESTERN

DANCE

VFW HALL

Sand Park

Sat., October 3

9 p. m. to 2 a. m.

Admission Prices

\$1.50 Couples — \$1.00 Stag

Music By The

MOONLIGHTERS

SPONSORED BY
SALIDA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1970

FIREMEN

Firemen were dispatched Wednesday at 11 a. m. to the home of Connie Perea, 627 C St.

A fuel oil heater flooded when it was lighted, and became over-heated, according to Fire Chief Jack Henderson.

No damage was reported.



FOUR FIRE TRUCKS and one truck from Argys Plumbing were used to extinguish the fire at the Ted Riley home one mile south of Salida. Firemen were first summoned to the blaze at 7:10 p. m., according to the dispatcher at the sheriff's office. The last fire truck left at 10:14 p. m. but was recalled at 11:37 p. m. when the fire rekindled. Fire trucks returned to the station at 1:03 a. m.

Morris Photo

Fire partially destroys \$40,000 Riley house

By Carol Bozeman
and Helly Leewaye

The \$40,000 home south of Salida of Dr. Ted M. Riley was partially destroyed by a fire which apparently started in a trash can Thursday night — the day after Riley had increased his fire insurance \$10,000 to cover the complete value of the home and its contents. No one was injured in the blaze which gutted the southern end of the house.

Fire Chief Jack Henderson said the fire apparently started in a trash can, next to the south side of the house, spread to a woodpile and then to the garage, attached to the house. Pat Riley said the woodpile was about six feet tall, and today nothing remains.

The garage, master bedroom, dressing room, closet, bath, utility room and kitchen were destroyed, she said. But the family, living room, two downstairs bedrooms, and a shop, storeroom and bathroom in the basement were intact — though smoke singed the walls and it was impossible to tell how the insulation, wiring and pipes were affected by the blaze.

Firemen were called out a second time at 11:37 p. m. Thursday when Public Service Co. repairmen working on a transformer near Riley's home observed the new blaze. That blaze started when an ember in the insulation of an outside wall on the eastern side of the house rekindled. Fire Chief Henderson said. No further damage resulted from the second fire, he said.

A Public Service Co. official from the local office said that electrical power was out for about three and one half hours starting at around 7:30 p. m. in the U. S. 50 area. He said that all buildings on the highway from Rainbow Lanes and west of Saldia in addition to the area south of Little River from County Road 110 ("Bonny Lane") to Jake Heinz' home south of Little River Motel were without power during the evening period. It was not certain whether the Riley fire caused the power outage, the official said. Ted Riley was on the section that suffered the shortage.

The Rileys were drinking coffee and watching television about 7 p. m. when Lee Bowden 18 years old, knocked at the door

and asked Dr. Riley, "Do you know your house is on fire?" Bowden had spotted the blaze from his car on U. S. 50.

The Rileys rushed out to the southern part of the house, where the windows of the garage, attached to the house, were already breaking, Mrs. Riley recalls.

They drove the jeep and Mercury Cougar out of the garage, before the roof collapsed.

Before the blaze started, Riley had gone out to the southern end of the house once to empty trash and twice to bring in wood, Mrs. Riley said.

Four fire trucks and about 20

volunteer firemen worked feverishly for three hours until 10:14 p. m. to extinguish the blaze. Firemen were called at 7:10 p. m.

A massive traffic problem had developed by 7:30 p. m., as cars, jeeps and trucks lined county road 110 up to the winding dirt road leading down to the Riley home.

Henderson said the first truck had no difficulty getting to the scene, but trucks going back for water did encounter a traffic problem.

At the scene, friends assisted Riley in breaking a window on

(Continued on Page 3)



DR. TED RILEY picks up an earthenware mug, one of the belongings he salvaged after the fire had been extinguished Thursday night. Mrs. Riley said some antique plates and furniture were saved. Mountain Mail Photo



FRIENDS quickly gathered Thursday night at the Riley home to assist the optometrist and his wife in salvaging some of their clothes, furniture and other property and in finding shelter for the night. The front door on the east side is intact. The Rileys are staying at the home of Rep. Harold Koster. Mountain Mail Photo

the northern side of the house and hauling out ammunition, wine and champagne bottles, furniture, antique plates, books, clocks, lamps, makeup and clothes.

It was an eerie scene as friends standing in snow peered into the picture window on the north side of the house and saw Riley and friends, illuminated by the fire south of them, carrying out the valuable.

"Come on, Ted, there's nothing left."

"Don't go any further, Ted," friends called.

Water occasionally sprayed persons standing at the east side of the house. The piercing strong wind was cold, and the fire from the house was hot. Smoke stung the eyes and brought tears.

Riley and his wife entered the house after the blaze had been extinguished and gathered belongings they were afraid might be stolen.

This morning about a dozen friends helped them carry out valuables and begin cleaning up the debris.

Mrs. Riley said her husband had decided to increase the insurance after a disquieting experience the other night. They were driving up the highway and spotted a blaze, which they thought was their house. It turned out to be Bud Kane burning

slack to soften the ground for nearby construction, she said.

Mrs. Riley said she and her husband had not decided whether they could repair the damage or not. They have lived in the house four and one-half years and in Salida 23 years. She is director of nurses at Salida Hospital and he is an optometrist.

They are storing their belongings at the old telephone company office, 122 W. 2nd St., and are temporarily living at Rep. Harold Koster's, 120 D St., since he is in Denver at the legislative session. Koster's son, Wallace is their insurance agent.

The Riley's children Gail, Greg and Jeff are no longer living with their parents.

Henderson said firemen used five trucks: the 1,600-gallon district tanker, the old city International, which holds 200 gallons and was filled twice; the district fire truck which holds 300 gallons and was filled twice; and the volunteer fireman's protective truck, with 25-gallon capacity and a pump — also filled twice; the big tanker from Argys Plumbing which holds 2,000 gallons.

Henderson said when firemen arrived at the fire, it was already in the main part of the house. "I didn't think we were going to be able to put it out," he said.

Rest of Pictures
ON Following
Page



MORNING AFTER — The southern end of the Ted Riley home was gutted by fire, which destroyed the garage, the master bedroom, a dressing room, closet, bathroom, utility room and kitchen. Still intact though damaged by the fire, were the family and living rooms, two downstairs bedrooms, and a shop, storeroom and bathroom downstairs. Friends worked this morning to clear the house of valuables.

JAN. 16th Morris Studio



KITCHEN at the Ted Riley home was destroyed by the blaze. The stove, the refrigerator and the oven were ruined by the fire. Black icicles hung from the ceiling.

JAN. 16th Mountain Mail Photo



LEE BOWDEN, right, came to the Riley home about 7 p. m. Thursday night and asked Dr. Ted Riley if he knew his house was afire. The Rileys, unaware of the blaze, had been watching television and drinking coffee.

Lee, 18 years old, spotted the blaze while he was driving his car on U. S. 50. It took three hours for firemen to douse the fire, which rekindled again around 11:30 p. m.

JAN. 15th Morris Photo

Friday Jan. 22nd

Fire causes 1771 no damage

Firemen quenched a fire burning tires and trash near an ashpit at 205 G St. Thursday evening and no damage was reported.

Firemen were called to the house of Denver Keller at 5:45 p. m. Thursday. They found the tires and trash burning near a trash barrel which was afire.

Ten gallons of water were used to quell the blaze.

Monday Jan. 25

Minor fire quenched Friday

Firemen doused a blaze Friday afternoon in the ashpit and woodpile at the residence of Perry Lewis, 711 F St.

A tire, trash and fence near the trash barrel there were afire, according to firemen, who responded to a call at 4:40 p. m. A total of 175 gallons of water was pumped for eight minutes to extinguish the blaze.

Estimated damage was \$10, firemen said.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1971

Fire guts local home

Two-thirds of a house valued at an estimated \$3,000 was destroyed, according to firemen's report of a Wednesday morning blaze at 448 Hunt St. The house's owner and occupant is Ernest Covert.

Fire Chief Jack Henderson reported the apparent cause of the blaze was faulty chimney flue.

When a woman called to report the fire, she failed to give the location, and firemen had to wait eight to nine minutes before a caller phoned again with the address.

Fourteen firemen were called to the scene at 9:50 a.m. and when they arrived fire was coming from the windows and door.

The firemen spent an hour and 20 minutes covering the call.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1971

Fire department called out twice

The Salida Fire Department removed the burning couch from the house before firemen arrived.

The call took 20 minutes.

Tuesday afternoon the crew spent half an hour extinguishing a grass fire near the railroad tracks between Third and Fourth Streets, which caused no damage.

Thirty dollars was the only estimated property damage Monday at 10:30 p.m. when the fire department was called to the home of James Poole at 600 I St.

According to the fire report the Poole children had set a couch afire, but Mrs. Poole had

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1971

Fire destroys barn and coral

A barn and coral belong to Sam and Pete Alloy was gutted by fire early this morning seven and a half miles west of Salida, firemen said.

The firemen were summoned to the scene at 5:10 a.m. The barn is three quarters of a mile north of U. S. 50 on a private road.

Fire chief Jack Henderson estimates the value of the destroyed structure at about \$200. Livestock was removed from the barn before it collapsed. No cause for the fire was apparent.

The district tanker was taken to the scene.

Meanwhile firemen who stood by at the station were summoned to First and J Streets where an unidentified man was burning some limbs from a tree he had cut down. The firemen stood by until the pile had burned down to watch for spreading.

Sunday firemen were called to Tony Martellaro's residence on Little River Road at 2:10 p.m. for a grass fire.

Firemen said someone apparently tossed a cigarette into the grass along the fence and started a fire which burned across about two acres of grass land and fence posts.

Another grass fire was fought

Saturday at 4:15 p.m. at the Starbuck Dairy.

Larry Houle reportedly driving through a field feeding cows when the truck backfired several times causing the fire.

Broken electric wire blamed as cause of fire at Howard

A broken electric wire is blamed as the cause of grass fire in Howard Tuesday afternoon, Fire Chief Jack Henderson said.

Henderson said a Rural Electric Association highline crew was working on the wires at about 2:30 p.m. near the Last Resort Cabin area two miles east of Howard on U.S. 50 when a wire broke, hit the ground, and started the grass fire.

About 20 volunteers from the Cotopaxi and Howard Volunteer Fire Departments and three Salida firemen fought the fire which burned up to the foundations of one cabin.

Henderson said there were no occupants as they were in Texas.

The fire burned an area about three blocks long and half a block wide, Henderson added. Meadowland was the site of the

blaze touched a few cottonwood trees. The blaze was right along the riverbank, and some volunteers used the river water to hose the fire. The Salida Fire Department used the water from the district tanker which holds 1,500 gallons.

Henderson said the blaze caused no damage.

MONDAY, APRIL 12, 1971

Firemen douse blaze Sunday

Local firemen doused a blaze started in a trash can Sunday afternoon at the home of C. D. Kennedy, 702 F St.

Firemen reported that the fire from the trash can spread to a nearby fence. Damage was estimated at \$100.

It took four firemen ten minutes to extinguish the blaze. Thirty gallons of water was used.

Denver Post Friday June 4 Apartment Fire Fatal in Salida

SALIDA, Colo. — Wayne Beauregard, 49, of Salida, died Wednesday in a fire at his apartment here, the Salida Fire Department reported.

A spokesman said Beauregard apparently died of suffocation in the blaze, which was reported by neighbors about 3:30 p.m.

Careless smoking was blamed for the fire, which caused an estimated \$500 damage.



Fire chief enters loft

Jack Henderson, Salida fire chief, put on a gas mask and took a fire hose into the loft of a garage at 1108 H St. home of Mr. and Mrs. William Beauregard where authorities found the body of Wayne Beauregard, 49, who

apparently suffocated in the fire. Henderson said he found the body on the floor between two beds. Beauregard was lying on his side partially covered by fallen wall lining. Cause of the fire is listed as "unknown."

FIRE Man perishes

By Holly Leeway
Staff writer

A Salida man, Wayne Beauregard, 49, apparently suffocated in a fire Wednesday afternoon in the loft of a garage at 1108 H St., fire chief Jack Henderson said.

Beauregard was found on the floor lying on his side between two beds by Henderson and his brother, Jerry, another fireman. Time of death has not been established by the coroner, Joe Stewart.

Henderson said he has listed the cause of the fire as "unknown." He would not confirm the rumor that the fire was started from a lighted cigarette; he said that the fire was apparently started in the bed because of the extensive damage to the mattress.

Police said Beauregard was a smoker.

The fire department received the call at 3:34 p.m. from Beauregard's wife who told them at that time that Beauregard was in the burning loft above the garage behind his parents' home.

Firemen entered the loft as soon as the smoke cleared slightly, but found that Beauregard had already expired. Some fallen wall lining covered part of the body.

Authorities said burns to Beauregard's body were not ex-

tensive except on his left hand and left leg. He apparently died of suffocation when the fire consumed the oxygen in the loft, firemen said. His clothes were not burned off his body.

No first aid was administered to Beauregard when he was discovered, Henderson said. County Coroner Stewart was summoned by authorities and Beauregard was pronounced dead at the scene.

Henderson said that it was not apparent that Beauregard had attempted to flee the burning building. He noted that the extensive smoke was a result of the smoldering mattresses.

Damage to the building was not heavy except to the roof which might have to be reshingled, Henderson said. The structure is still sound.

The lining of the walls apparently fell after the roof was hosed down, Henderson reported. He explained that the mattresses will smoulder for some time, building up the heat, before a fire breaks out. The pressure of the water from the hoses hitting the burning material will cause it to fall, he said.

Firemen were on the scene until 4:34 p. m. A car was still in the garage when firemen first arrived, but it was moved by authorities, and no damage was reported to the car.

Firemen returned later with a city workman to haul the debris of the burned mattresses to the dump.

Beauregard was born May 9, 1922 in Salida. He was a cement contractor in the area and resided at 1040 F Street at the time of his death.

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Beauregard was born May 9, 1922 in Salida. He was a cement contractor in the area and resided at 1040 F Street at the time of his death.

Beauregard is survived by his wife, a son, Ron of Denver, his parents, two sisters, Mrs. Edna Gray of Johnston, Co'o., and Mrs. Marion Ritchie of Dumas, Texas, a brother, William Beauregard, Jr., of Norman, Okla., a step-daughter, Donna Jean Cain of Tucson, Ariz., and several nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles in the Salida area.

He was a veteran of World War Two having served in the Seventh Air Force in the Asiatic-Pacific area. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and the Ray Lines Post of the American Legion.

Rosary will be Friday at 7 p. m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church and mass Saturday at 10 a. m. followed by interment in Fairview Cemetery with American Legion military services.

Beauregard's cousin, George, 60, was found dead in his apartment at 140 1/2 West First Street Monday morning of natural causes.

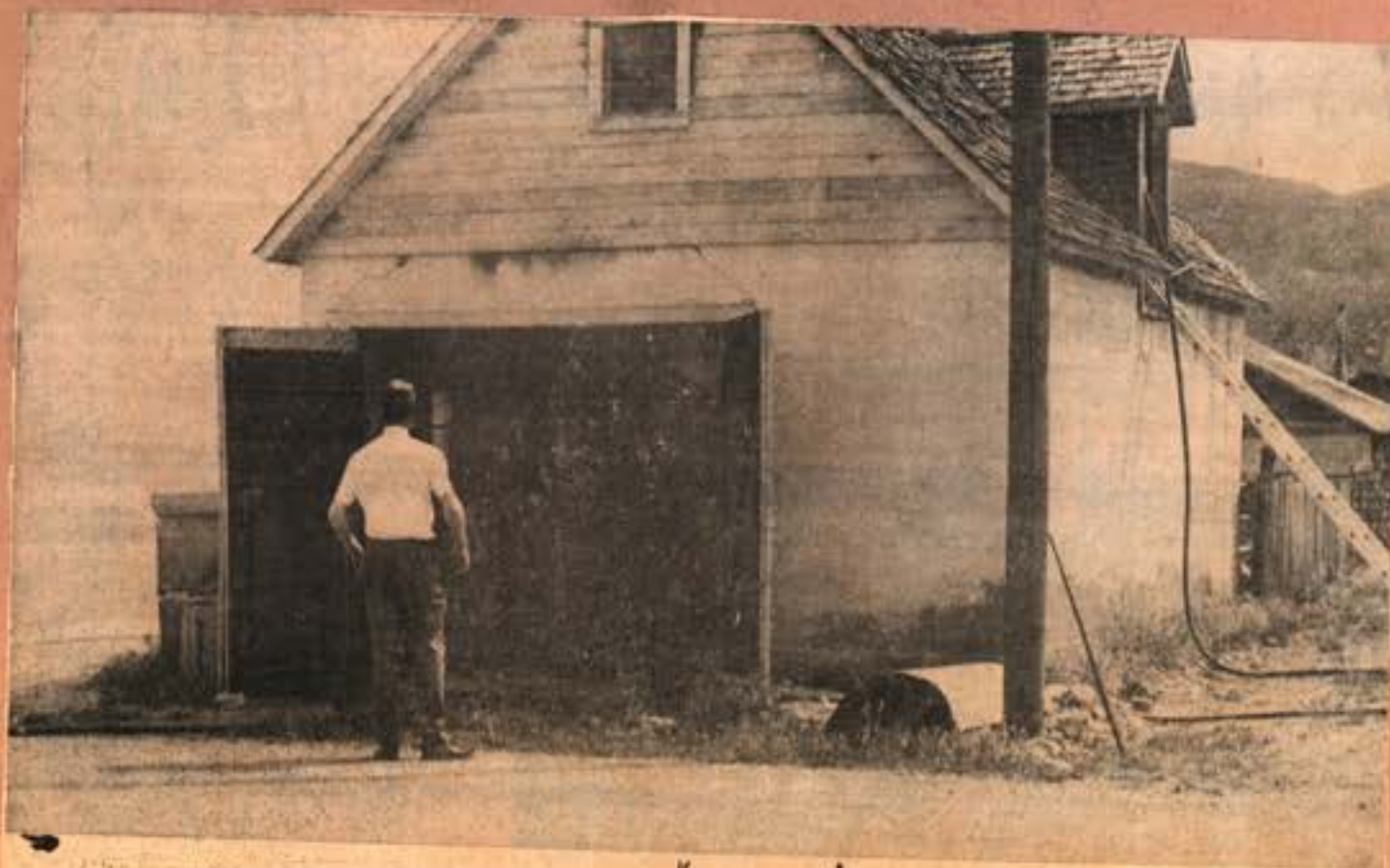


Body removed from garage

Police are carrying the body of Wayne Beauregard, 49, who apparently suffocated in a fire in the room on his parents' property where he reportedly was sleeping. Beauregard was discovered by firemen in the loft of a garage at 1108 H Street about 4 p. m. Wednesday. Fire chief Jack Henderson

said the cause of the fire is unknown. From left are city policeman Darwin Hibbs, Sheriff C. E. Berry, deputy Marvin Warren, deputy Ken Christison, Eadres Glenn, and Lee Bowden.

Mountain Mail Photos by Holly Leeway



Police chief surveys damage

Harry Cable, Salida police chief, assisted firemen Wednesday afternoon at 1108 H St. where authorities said a fire took the life of Wayne Beauregard, 49, and damaged the loft of a garage. Firemen said that authorities were on hand at the

scene immediately to help control the crowds and help the fire fighters. No first aid was administered to Beauregard at the scene before the coroner was summoned.

Mountain Mail Photo

Friday JUNE 4th

Firemen rally here Sunday

Firemen from 17 towns in the San Luis Valley and surrounding areas gather here Sunday to compete in the 22nd annual San Luis Valley Fireman's Association Field Day.

Fire departments will be from Salida, Alamosa, Antonito, Blanca, Center, Creede, Del Norte, Mosca-Hooper, La Jara, Monte Vista, Pagosa Springs, Romeo, South Fork, Sanford, San Luis, Manassa and Karmel.

The firemen will register at 9 a. m. at the Scout Hut on Sackett Street.

A business meeting will pre-

cede the contests which begin at 12:30 p. m. at the Scout Hut in Riverside Park.

The firemen will compete in five events derived from important procedures in fire fighting. There are motor replacement race, wye hose race, hose change-over, stationary apparatus, and three-man in line.

Trophies are awarded to the first four places in each race.

A banquet at the St. Joseph Gym is set for 6:30 p. m.

The Salida Field Day is preparatory to the state volunteer firemen's convention June 23-26 at Pueblo.

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1971



Switch-over

The local volunteer fire department has been practicing recently for a field day June 6 in Riverside Park when they will compete in events related to fire-fighting. Here they are preparing for the motor replacement event which simu-

lates the emergency change of a section of damaged fire hose. The object is to make the switch-over quickly and efficiently. Jim Gray, captain of the Salida team, is in the foreground.

Mountain Mail Photo

house is a popular summer stop for local golfers who course regularly. The men's golf league has already got evenings. Women have also been playing golf on a reg-

Thursday, May 20th 1971



Shut it off!

Rich Boyer, a volunteer fireman, shuts off a water hydrant during exercises Wednesday evening in preparation for the San Luis Valley Volunteer Firemen's Assn. Field Day planned June 6 at the Riverside Park. Fifteen fire departments from the San Luis Valley and Pagosa Springs are expected to participate in three six-men events and two three-men events. A banquet will be held that evening at 8:30 p. m. at St. Joseph's for the men present.

Monday June 21st

Firemen inhale dangerous gas, are hospitalized

Three Salida firemen were admitted to Salida Hospital after they inhaled chlorine gas at the city water filter plant Sunday.

Authorities said that Bob Freeman, a regular fireman, Wes Wagner and Vaughn Gustafson, volunteers, were called to the plant located about two miles west of Salida on county road 120 at 3:30 p.m.

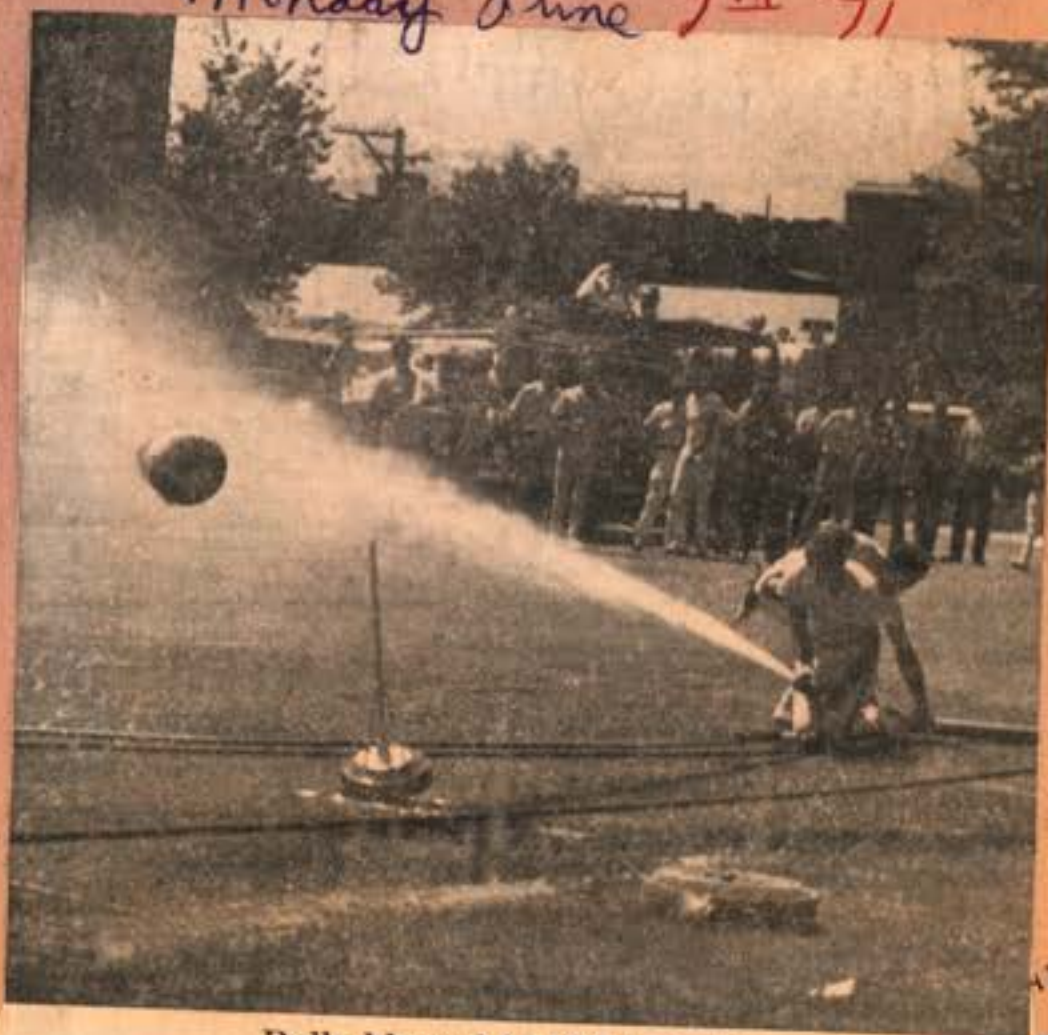
The men were affected by the gas which causes a burning sensation in the throat and lungs.

Fire Chief Jack Henderson said that repairmen at the plant had apparently accidentally caused the leak through a breakage.

Although the gas is not explosive, the firemen were summoned to the scene since they are equipped with oxygen masks.

The three went to the hospital by themselves where they were reported in good condition this morning.

Monday June 21st '71



Balls blasted in 18.4 seconds

Salida firemen Jim Gray and Rich Bowyer, in back blast balls off their stands during the two-and-one-half inch to one-and-one-half inch changeover of hose. Salida took first in the event, and the first in the wye hose race, stationary apparatus and three men in line. In the latter race, Salida accomplished the event

in 15.1 seconds—a district record. A total of 180 persons—firemen and their families—registered for the field day here Sunday. On June 24-25, Salida and South Arkansas Fire District firemen will compete in statewide competition at the Colorado State Firemen's Convention in Pueblo.

June 7th

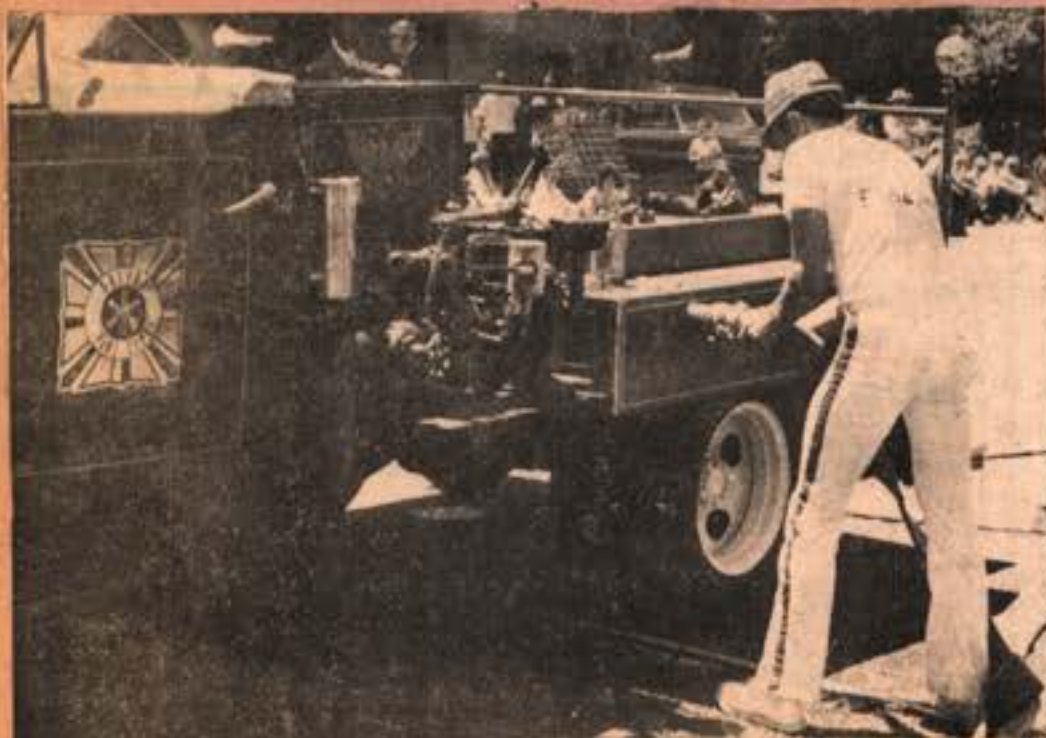


Salida firemen take top trophy

The San Luis Valley Firemen's Association awarded Salida firemen first place for their performance in five events at a field day Sunday in front of the Scout Hut and Riverside Park. Salida was first with 18 points; Alamosa had 12 points; Monte Vista had 11; Del Norte 9 and La Jara 1. Mosca-Hooper won sportsmanship award. Here from left, Jim Gray,

team captain, Fred Smith and Jerry Wood, president of the local volunteer firemen's association, run to hook up the hose in the meter replacement race simulating conditions where a hose is broken. Salida took third in that event, and first in the other four events.

Mountain Mail Photos by Carol Bozeman



District record—15.1 seconds

Salida fireman Jerry Wood, president of the volunteer association, participated in the three man in line event Sunday at the annual district firemen's field day. Salida set a district record in the event. Here to see the

field day were 180 persons from Alamosa, Antonito, Center, Creede, Del Norte, Mosca-Hooper, La Jara, Monte Vista, Pagosa Springs, Salida and South Fork.

Mountain Mail Photo

MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1971

Firemen bring home trophy

The South Arkansas volunteer fire department from the Salida area brought home an over-all grand champion trophy with seven points from the state firemen's convention held Thursday and Friday in Pueblo.

The grand champions who took the honor from Fowler are Jim Gray, captain, and Fred and Bill Smith.

Those on the Salida team are Jerry Wood captain, Rich Boyer, and Wes Wagner.

All the men rode in the firemen's parade Saturday with the ladder truck which was the third judges' choice, the 1911 Kissel pumper truck which took the oldest truck trophy, the practice truck and the hose car.

Most of the firemen from the Salida department and some volunteer firemen were on hand in Pueblo for the meeting.

The South Arkansas team will retain the state championship for the three-man team until the title is contended next year.

In second place was Southwest Adams County near Denver with six points, Fowler was third with three, and the Salida team ranked fourth with two.

On Friday the South Arkansas team was first in the option event with a time of 12:01 after they had taken second in the inline event with 15.8, just one tenth of a second behind the winner. The Salida team took fourth in that event with 16.4.

There are two events in the three-man competition in which 19 teams were entered. The six-man teams could enter six events.

The convention is held annually in the middle of June—usually in conflict with the Boat Races.

Wed. June 30th

Two fires doused

A camper was demolished and a shed destroyed in two separate fires Tuesday evening, according to the fire department. Causes of the fires are undetermined.

Firemen were called to 1130 G St., home of Darrell Green, at 7 p. m. where a pickup with a home-made camper valued at \$200 was parked. The camper was destroyed and the bed of the truck scorched.

Nine firemen worked an hour extinguishing a fire in a shed on the alley near Boys Market, on the 300 block of F Street.

The shed valued at \$75 was destroyed between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 19, 1971

Fire reported at 15th and I

The Salida Fire Department was called out once over the weekend, early this morning, and the Forest Service received no calls, apparently because of the drenching rain.

The fire department extinguished an early morning fire at a house at 15th and I Streets, reportedly owned by C. R. Sheeley.

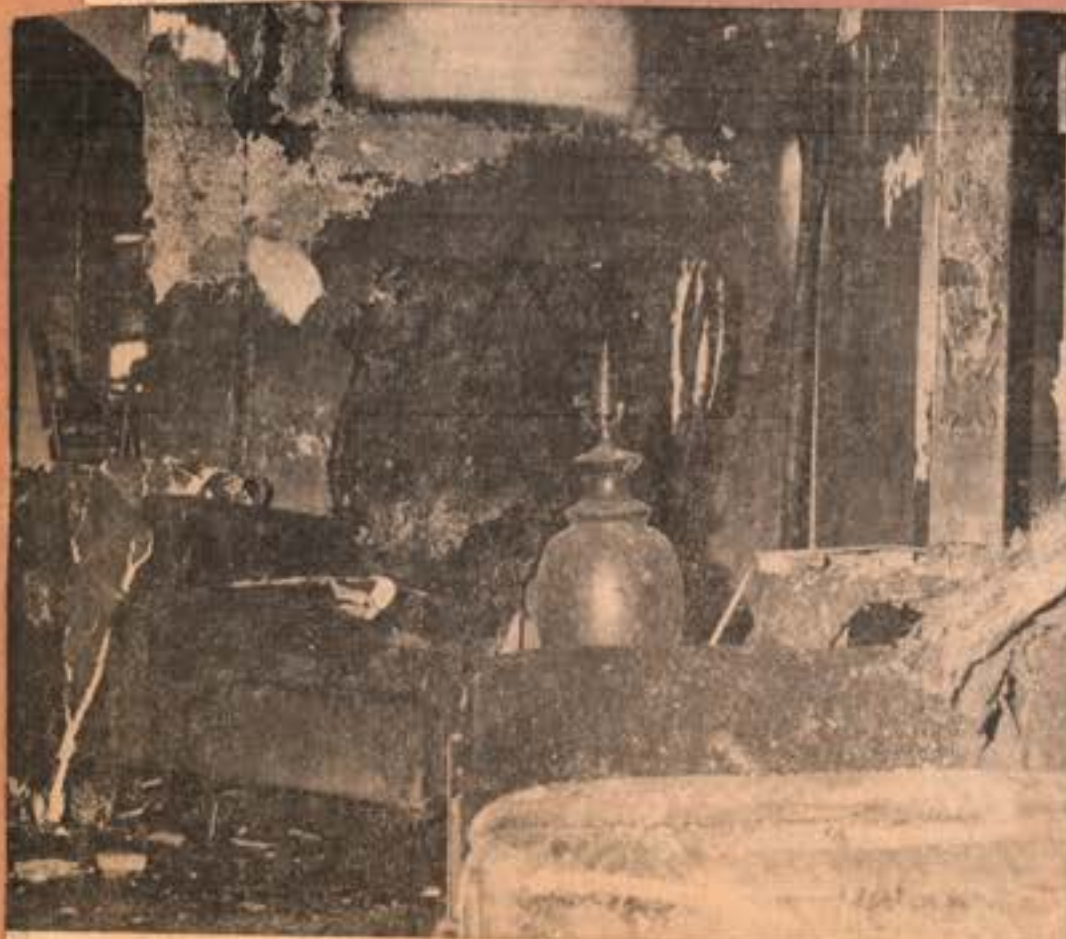
Seven volunteers and four regular firemen fought the blaze for over an hour and a half between 3 and 5 a. m.

Firemen said that it appeared that the blaze had started in the kitchen. No injuries were reported.

To date four ashpit fires have been extinguished by the fire department since the anti-burning regulation went into effect.

It has been noted by Salida residents also, that some parties have been apparently burning trash after nightfall.

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1971



Charred remains of living room

The Calvin Sheeley family of 1511 I St. escaped injury but suffered the loss of all their personal belongings in an early morning fire this week. Anyone wishing to may contribute to the Cal-

vin Sheeley fire fund at the bank here. Also, the family could use clothes, especially for children, appliances, or furniture.

Mountain Mail Photo

FRIDAY MARCH 16, 1973

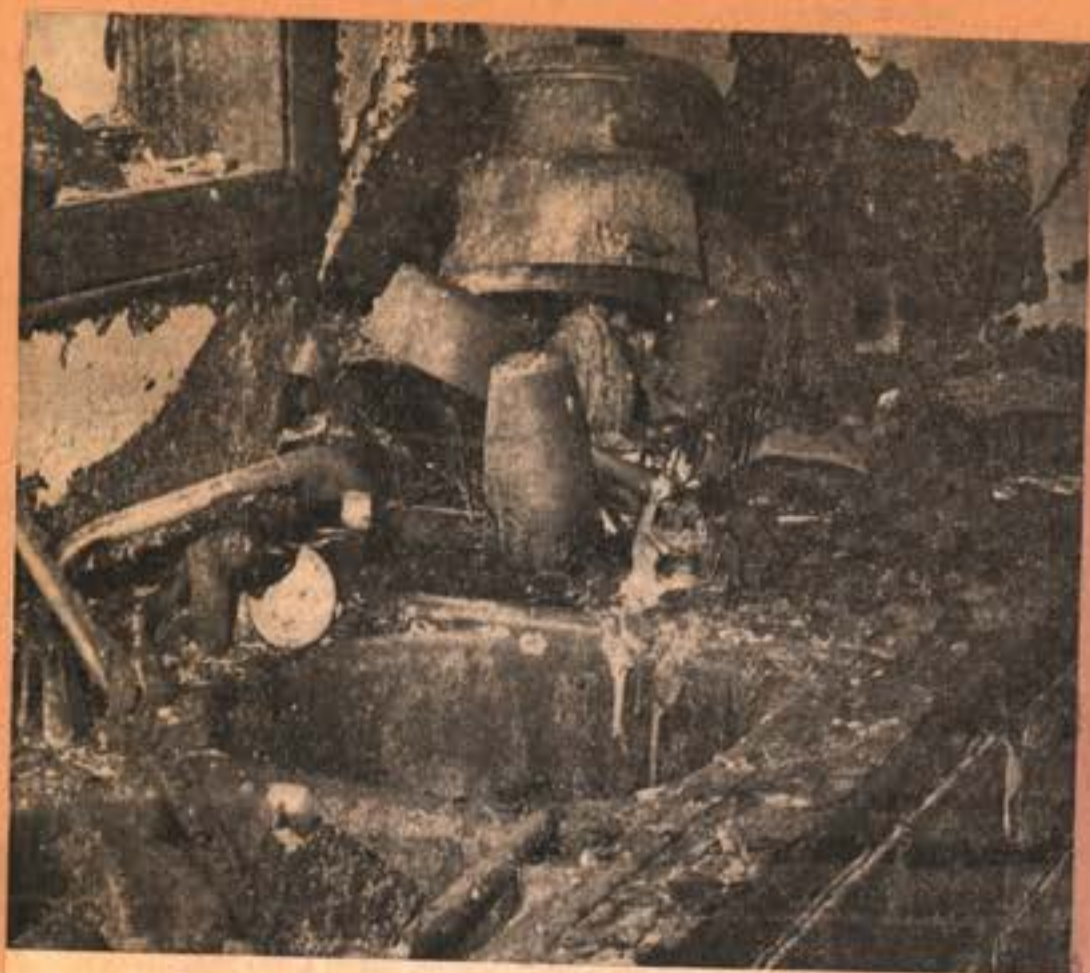
Candle starts fire

Salida firemen responded to a call at 8:05 Thursday, to extinguish a minor blaze started by a candle on a table, at the Carolyn Welch residence, at 113 E. Sackett.

The fire started when a candle, left burning by one of the Welch children, ignited some towels. The towels then caught the wall afire. A nearby resident named Jones, according to the fire report, nearly had the fire out when the Salida department arrived.

No one was reported injured in the fire. Damage was not known at presstime today. The apartment is reportedly owned by Ben Maestas.

The nine firemen and two trucks which answered the call were on the scene for about an hour.



Several thousand dollars damage

The home of Calvin Sheeley at 15th and I Streets was gutted this week by fire caused by faulty electrical wiring. The suddenness of the tragedy is marked by these charred dishes still piled on the kitchen drainboard. Sheeley has four children ranging in age from three to seven. A fire fund has been set up for the

Sheeleys at the First National Bank by concerned neighbors to which anyone may contribute. The Sheeleys lost virtually everything by fire, but there were no injuries since Calvin Sheeley was the only member of the household at home at the time. He escaped through a window. See related photo page 6.

THURS. SEPT. 30, 1971

Fire not at Cables

Firemen extinguished a trash barrel fire Saturday at the home of Archie Costello at 648 D St. rather than the home of Harry Cable at 156 E. Sixth, a block away, according to firemen.

Firemen had given the address as the home of Harry Cable.

The party at 647 E St. apparently reported the trash barrel fire.

Piano burned

About \$500 damage to a piano and floor was reported after a fire at 119 Park Ave. shortly before 8 a.m. Sunday.

The house is owned by St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Firemen found that a piano was on fire, no cause of the fire is listed.

A trash barrel fire was extinguished at 647 E St., home of Harry Cable shortly before 10 a.m. Saturday. Another fire in an ashpit was extinguished near there in the 500 block of E Street.

Monday

Sept. 27, 1971

Goodwill box fire put out

A 12-year-old Salida boy was turned over to Fire Chief Jack Henderson after he reportedly set fire to the Goodwill donation box at the Safeway parking lot in Salida.

At 11:10 a.m. Sunday, Safeway manager Murray Gammill reported that the interior of the box was on fire.

Apparently, the boy ignited the fire by throwing a fire cracker into the box.

The fire was extinguished by the fire department.



Fire regulations discussed

Fire chief Jack Henderson, at left, explains to Sunnie Waggoner, administrator of Colorado Mountain College branch at the old post office here, about the fire laws governing the building. Henderson came to inspect the building Thursday

afternoon. Here they are reviewing locations for fire extinguishers. Note the coal-powered furnace in the background. Mrs. Waggoner said that plans now call for start of classes Oct. 4.

Mountain Mail Photos

TUES. OCT. 26, 1971

Local firemen awarded plaque

The Salida volunteer and regular firemen were awarded an efficiency plaque Monday night by A. A. Pisciotto, Denver, who is in charge of firemen training for the Colorado State Board for community colleges and occupational education.

The plaque was awarded to the Salida firemen for their sportsmanship and winning more points in competitive events this past year.

Salida firemen belong to Colorado district six which includes all of southwest Colorado.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24, 1972

To sponsor dance for heliport fund

The city volunteer firemen will sponsor a dance scheduled at 9 p. m. Saturday evening at the V. F. W. hall on Sand Park. Smokey Len and the Travelers will provide the music. The proceeds will be added to the heliport fund at the hospital.

Friday Feb. 25th

DANCE

Saturday, Feb. 26...9 P.M.

VFW HALL
Sand Park

Smokey Len and his
Travelers

Sponsored by
Salida Volunteer Fireman

Proceeds go to the
Nesbit Heliport

WEDNESDAY JUNE 28, 1972

Firemen called twice

Salida firemen were called out twice Tuesday to extinguish what turned out to be minor fires in each case.

The first call came at 12:05 p.m. Grass and weeds in the field immediately behind Salida High School football field were burning. Firemen said the blaze apparently was started by a carelessly tossed cigarette or perhaps by fireworks.

Then at 6:45 last evening police called for assistance in checking a blaze at 11th and I.

Children, playing in a vacant house, apparently started a fire and abandoned it. Neighbors, alerted by the smoke, made a preliminary effort to extinguish it. On the arrival of firemen a couch was found to still be smoldering and it was put out.

Damage was estimated at about \$50.

Friday May 5th 1972

Barn destroyed by fire

Fire completely destroyed a barn on the outskirts of Salida shortly before 11 o'clock last night.

The structure, belonging to Dewey Baker, was completely involved when firemen arrived. Salida Fire Chief Jack Henderson said the roof had already collapsed when fire trucks reached the scene. He

said his men were unable to get a truck up to the barn because of ditches nearby. A portable pump was put into service and 350 feet of hose strung out to aid in dousing the blaze.

The regular fire crew was assisted by about 15 volunteers.

Henderson said the structure, which was once used as a

slaughter house, was of undetermined value.

No cause was apparent although Henderson didn't completely rule out the possibility of arson. "No one was seen in the area before the fire," the Chief said, "but it's a possibility."

Firemen remained at the scene until about 4 this morning.



TREES ARE STARKLY outlined by the light from flames which completely engulfed a barn on the outskirts of Salida late

Thursday evening. The structure was completely destroyed. (See story left) Photo Image Studio

FRIDAY MAY 19, 1972

Fire damage minor

Dick Martin, owner of Salida Motors today said a preliminary check of damage caused by a blaze at his establishment late Wednesday night apparently isn't too severe.

He added, however, that if the fire hadn't been discovered when it was, the entire building could have been involved in a very short time. Martin was working late and waited to permit a Colorado State Patrol car to be put away for the night. As he locked-up he discovered the flames and

notified the Salida Fire Department.

Fire Chief Jack Henderson said his men were on the scene for an hour and 15 minutes.

Henderson was unable to pinpoint the cause although he said a welding torch had been in use earlier in the day and possibly a spark lodged in a pile of trash which smoldered unnoticed until Martin's discovery.

Henderson said the greatest amount of damage was caused by smoke involving several autos in the garage at the time.

July 2, 1962

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Culp, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ogden, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. John Tessadri, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rout, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Myers and Robert Kidwell attended the four-state volunteer firemen's convention in Glenwood Springs.

MONDAY MAY 22, 1972

Salida firemen will compete at Montrose

Two three-man teams representing Salida Fire Department and the South Arkansas Fire Protection District will compete in Montrose June 21 through June 24 against other teams of firemen from throughout Colorado.

The competition is being held in conjunction with the 55th annual Colorado State Firemen's Convention. In addition to the tournament, business meetings, a workshop and a parade are scheduled.

The South Arkansas team from Salida is defending state

champion in the three-man category. Members of the team include: Jim Gray, Fred Smith and Bill Smith. The Salida city team will be composed of Jerry Wood, Wes Wagner and Rich Boyer. All with the exception of Gray are volunteers.

Fulltime members of the fire department will attend on a staggered basis with two men attending the first two days and the other two taking in the final two days. In that way, according to Chief Jack Henderson, the station will have a normal force on duty at all times, although those

remaining in Salida will work 48 hours shifts rather than the customary 24.

Salida firemen are also scheduled to attend the District Field Day of the Colorado Firemen's Association at La Jara on June 4.

Among the tourney events scheduled in Montrose are: motor apparatus wet tests, a coupling contest, a wet hose race, a 3-man in-line race, a replacement race and a stationary apparatus race.

Tournament winners will be announced at a closing banquet June 24.

Fast action prevents major fire

Quick action by Salida firemen at mid-evening Friday averted what could have been a major blaze in the lower downtown portion of the city.

The department was notified that the reflection of flames could be seen through the windows of the now-abandoned Sullivan Building in the 100 block of North F.

When the city pumper arrived it was discovered the fire was still confined to a small dugout-type cellar below the first floor. Firemen dragged hoses into the confined space and soon had the blaze extinguished.

Had the fire gone unnoticed for only a few minutes more, according to Fire Chief Jack Henderson, the tinder dry wooden floor would soon have been involved, spreading quickly to the other wooden portions of the multi-storied structure. Had that occurred, Henderson said, it is doubtful anything could have been saved, and nearby buildings could have been threatened.

He said it is likely either youngsters playing in the building or some transient seeking a little warmth crawled into the hole and used loose floor timbers to start the fire.

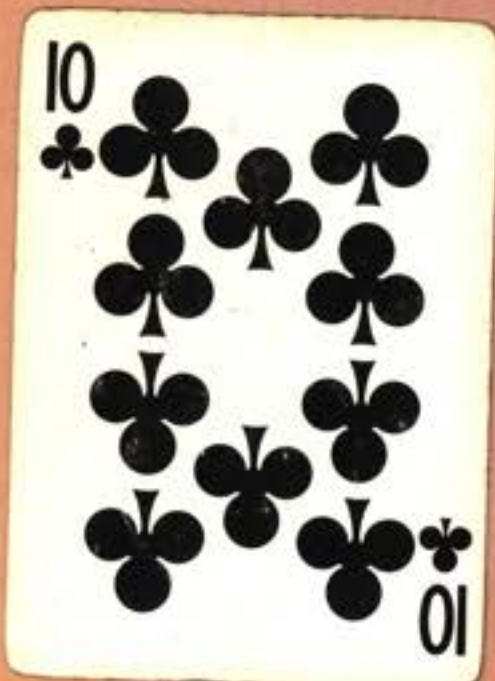
FRIDAY JUNE 9, 1972



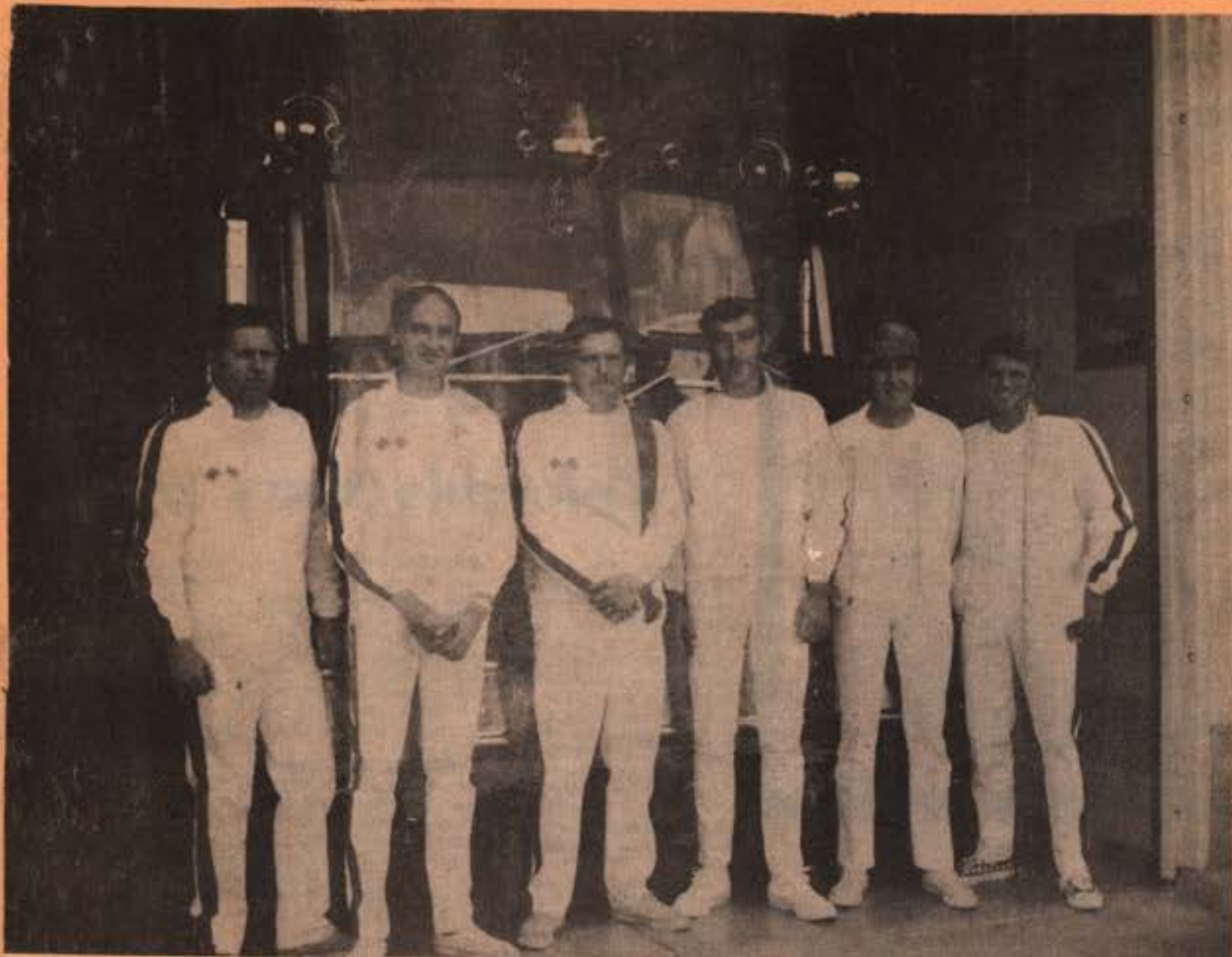
trophies brought home by the local smoke eaters during competitions against other departments.

Mountain Mail photo

THIS HANDSOME trophy case graces the living quarters of the Salida Fire Department on the second floor of City Hall. It was constructed entirely by firemen during their off-duty hours. It contains the many



FRIDAY JUNE 2, 1972



TWO TEAMS of Salida firemen leave soon for Montrose where they'll compete in the three-man contests in connection with the convention of the Colorado State Firemen's Association. Attired in

striking white uniforms with purple piping are (l. to r.) Bill Smith, team captain Jim Gray, Fred Smith, Wes Wagner, Jerry Woods and Rich Boyer.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 1972

Fire damage is confined to attic

A fire at the residence of William C. Lambert, 1425 F Street, last night caused quite a bit of smoke and water damage, but was mostly confined to the attic.

The Lambert family did not realize there was a fire at first.

"We were down in the kitchen, and my wife was getting supper ready, when Phil Campbell of the A and W stand knocked on the door. He said we'd better get out because our

house was on fire," Lambert said.

"My daughter was on the second floor studying--she didn't realize it either," he said.

Three trucks from the fire department answered the call at 6:38, and the fire was put out by 7:45. It started in the attic, apparently from faulty wiring.

Damage from the fire has not been estimated yet. No one was injured.

Salida Volunteer Fire Dept.

*Thank You for remembering
us at this happy time
in our lives.
The candy is delicious.
We really appreciate your
thoughtfulness.
Richard Sherry + Kimberly Kay
Brouwer*

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 1972



A FIRE FANNED BY THE WINDS yesterday resulted in the calling of two Salida fire trucks to extinguish the blaze, after flames got out of hand. The fire was set purposely to burn weeds and leaves, according to Jim Gray, of the

Salida Fire Dept. The site was behind the high school football field. Firemen responded to the call at 5:00 p.m. and were finished by 5:50.

TUESDAY JANUARY 2, 1973

THANKS
WE ARE
MIGHTY GRATEFUL
AND PROUD
of the SALIDA
FIRE DEPARTMENT
MIKE and MILDRED TYPER



Salida Fire Department
124 E. St.
Salida
Colorado
81201



Salida Volunteer Fire Dept
Salida,
Colo
81201

Dist. Truck



Little Salina Volunteer
Fire Dept

Thank you so much
for the lovely place
it really is beautiful
and I appreciate
it very much.

Thank you for your
thoughtfulness.

Sincerely

Marie Jessadin

Dear Firemen: Since I was
in the hospital at the time
of the fire in M Carpenter's
shed next to my garage,
I couldn't thank you in
person. But I want you
to know I am very grateful
for keeping my garage and
beautiful car from burning
and I do thank you very
very much.

It is nice to have a very
good Fire Dept.

Sincerely

Margaret Hardin

Volunteer Fire Department





*It only takes a moment
To send you "thanks" —
but then*

*Your thoughtfulness
will come to mind*

*Time and time again!
Thank you for the lovely plant.
Verna*

MONDAY JANUARY 29, 1973

FRIDAY JANUARY 26, 1973

Overheated flue blamed for blaze

The Salida Fire Department made a chilly early fire run yesterday, to the home of Al Garcia, 503 W. 2nd St., to extinguish a fire in the bedroom and attic.

Ten firemen responded to the call at 4:20 a.m., in eight degree weather. The fire was caused by an overheating chimney flue, firemen reported.

The one truck used returned to the station house at 5:20 a.m. Damage was estimated between \$100-150.



photo by Miles Porter

CONVERSION WORK at Salida's Municipal Building is now moving after a weather-caused delay. A wall has been knocked out to allow access to the space

formerly occupied by the city jail. The area will now be used for the storage of fire fighting equipment.

Feb. 12th 1973



GREAT COLUMNS OF SMOKE billow from a truck which caught fire two miles west of Garfield on U.S. Highway 50 Sunday. The State Patrol estimated

damage to the truck and cargo at \$40,000. The driver, from Salt Lake City, escaped uninjured.

Ted Judge at Annual Dinner



JAN. 20th 1973

MONDAY FEBRUARY 26, 1973

Cause unknown in motel fire

A motel room at the Ball Park Motel on west First, was heavily damaged in an early morning fire followed by a gas explosion, Saturday, according to a report by the Salida Fire Department.

The resident of the motel, said he thought he heard a knock at his door, he opened

the door and went outside. Finding no one, he turned back to the room which had suddenly burst into flames. He was unable to retrieve his belongings because of the intense heat.

Fourteen firemen responded to the 4 a.m. call with two trucks and fought the blaze,

which was contained to the one unit, for two hours. The explosions occurred as firemen had nearly extinguished the flames. No one was injured in the fire or the explosion which followed.

The property is owned by Sam Post. Cause or extent of damage is unknown.

MONDAY APRIL 2, 1973

Grass fire burns-over acre plot

The Salida Fire Department responded to a call at the Fred Griffith residence to extinguish a blaze that burned one acre of grass, Sunday.

The fire started when fiery contents of a trash barrel escaped due to the windy conditions, at the Griffith place at 8334 County Road 140.

Seven firemen and two trucks answered the call which took 45 minutes to put out the fire.

An estimate of the damage was not reported.

FRIDAY MAY 25, 1973

New fire units due to arrive tomorrow

Three new pieces of fire fighting apparatus are expected to arrive in Salida tomorrow.

One unit is the property of the fire protection district and the other two have been purchased by the county.

Fire Chief Jack Henderson, along with firemen Fred Smith, Jerry Henderson and James M. Gray, recently completed a two day operation and maintenance training school at the John Bean Division of FMC Corporation in Tipton, Indiana.

All three of the new units were built at the Tipton plant.

According to Wayne Stetler, instructor, the fire apparatus course given the Salida men included classroom work, field exercises and basic and advanced apparatus operation and maintenance.



JACK HENDERSON

The prime unit presently in service at the Salida Fire Department is also John Bean built.

MONDAY JUNE 11, 1973

Fires mark weekend

The Salida Fire Department had a busy weekend having to respond to four calls on Saturday and Sunday.

The largest and most serious fire occurred Sunday, at 2:35 p.m., in the home of Vic Veltri, 216 E St., as fire caused damage estimated at \$3,000.

The blaze was reportedly started by faulty electrical wiring. Firemen were on the scene one and one-half hours.

Veltri suffered a cut hand when he rescued his two cats by breaking a window.

Damage was extensive in the front and dining rooms, with

smoke damage to the entire building. The building is owned by Paul Martin, of Lakeland, Fla.

A second fire Sunday, at the Minit Market's new addition on Highway 50 and Teller St., caused \$20 damage, after a wire shorted out.

The department responded to two calls to extinguish fires at the city dump, south of Salida.

The first fire occurred Saturday night at 9:50 and the second at 4:20 Sunday morning, neither caused any damage.

WEDNESDAY MAY 30, 1973



FASTER, MORE EFFECTIVE firefighting, particularly in rural areas, will be possible with the addition of three new units in Chaffee County. Two, such as the one above, will remain in Salida and the third is headquartered at Buena Vista. Two belong to the county while another is the property of the South Arkansas Fire Protection District. One of the major features is a second motor independent

of the main power train. It drives the pumps. That will permit firemen to continue moving while battling scattered blazes such as brush and grass fires. Fireman Jerry Henderson, who was among those who took special training at the factory in Indiana before bringing the units home, says each of the 4-wheel drive machines is equipped with the latest high pressure fog devices.

MONDAY JUNE 25, 1973

First won by Salida fire team

Twelve members of the Salida Fire Department attended the Colorado State Fireman's Convention, held June 21 through 23 in Snowmass-at-Aspen.

The Salida organization entered two teams in the three-man team event competition. One of the teams placed first in the event and the other team placed fifth.

Jack Henderson, fire chief, explained that the contest was timed maneuver in which the team starts from a line and runs 25 feet to a point where they connect two lengths of hose together using special connections. Then this hose is connected to a hydrant and stretched out to its full length of 100 feet and a target located 125 feet from the hydrant is knocked off.

The team placing first accomplished this task in 12.04 seconds, to bring home the trophy on display in the City Clerk's office. They beat the second place team by over a full second. The Salida team which placed fifth was only a whisper of a second behind the third and fourth place teams.

Friday June 29th 1973

Volunteer Firemen to raise fireworks fund

The Salida Volunteer Firemen will launch a campaign Monday, July 2, to finance the July 4 fireworks display at the Heart of the Rockies Recreation Association Arena.

This is a joint attempt by the HRRRA, Volunteer Firemen, Spoke Busters Motorcycle Club, Isaac Walton League and

Hylton Lumber Co. as a community service.

Fire trucks will go through the city with sirens operating. Volunteers will be on the sidewalks to pick up donations from townspeople willing to contribute. Any amount will be appreciated.

People are asked to bring their donation out to their porch.

TUESDAY JULY 3, 1973

Fire near Maysville extinguished

Fire broke out yesterday at mile post 230, where the power lines cross the Rio Grande tracks, near the hydro plant above Maysville.

Vince Sprouse, agent at the depot, reported the fire at 2:25 p.m. on Monday.

The fire started on railroad property and spread onto adjoining forest service land.

It was extinguished through the combined efforts of the Monarch train crew, a forest service crew and the Chaffee County fire truck from Salida.

THURSDAY JULY 5, 1973

Fire damages auto heavily

Salida Fire Department was called out at 11:25 Wednesday night to extinguish a car fire.

Department records indicate owner of the car is Mattie Castoe. The 1966 Dodge was found on fire at 725 D Street. Value of the car was estimated at \$600 and the total damage, according to department records was estimated at \$400.

Firemen were out on the call for only 20 minutes.

MONDAY JULY 9, 1973

Playhouse destroyed

Saturday afternoon play resulted in a fire at 627 H Street. Salida Fire Department responded to a call at 5:00 p.m. at the Jimmie Swisher residence.

According to department records the children's playhouse was on fire. When they arrived, a sofa in the house was completely burned and the fire had spread over one wall of the building and into the roof.

The cause of the fire is unknown, and the damage has not been officially appraised at this time.

MONDAY JULY 16, 1973

Flooding blamed in auto fire

The Salida Fire Department was called Friday at 8:26 p.m. to the scene of a car fire.

The car was on fire at the Salida Transfer Company on Oak Street. It belonged to O.W. Jackson who resides at 532 Poncha Blvd.

According to department records there was \$200 damage to the 1969 Plymouth with estimated value of \$1,000.

It is thought that the car flooded and as a result of this, caught fire. Firemen were out on the call a total of 14 minutes.

MONDAY JULY 23, 1973

Total loss in car fire

Salida Fire Department was called to the scene of a car fire at 401 West First Street at 2:52 this morning.

Fire Department records show the car as the property of Sam Aluisse. Records also reveal the 1952 Chevrolet was a total loss and the cause of the fire is unknown.

Fireman were out on the call for a total of 24 minutes.

FRIDAY AUGUST 10, 1973

Firemen buzzzzzzzz Thursday

The Salida Fire Department doesn't just take care of fires it appears.

On Thursday afternoon at 1:00 the department responded to a call to destroy a hornet's nest. The nest was located in a tree at 735 C Street. Within 10 minutes the firemen had successfully destroyed the nest and returned to the station.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1973

Garage is damaged in blaze

At 1:55 p.m. on Wednesday the Salida Fire Department responded to a fire call at a garage at 71 Poncha Blvd.

The fire, according to fire department records, was probably started when gasoline stored in a plastic container in the garage became heated from the exhaust of a lawn mower. The garage where the fire occurred belongs to Mack Witty and is valued at \$2500.

There was approximately \$50 damage estimated after the blaze was extinguished. The number one fire truck and firemen were out for 10 minutes on the call.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 1973

No bat; how about that?

Yesterday morning at 6:20 a.m. firemen on duty at the Salida fire department responded to a call to the Salida Public Library, at 405 E. Street.

The librarian reported that she had seen a bat and would like to have it removed. After a 40 minute search the firemen gave up their search and no bat was found.

August 21, 1924

A new siren was installed Saturday on the city fire engine. J. A. McKinney is attending the American Railway Association Safety Section convention in Salt Lake City. Paul

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1973

Salida's Fire Department was called to extinguish a truck fire 4.8 miles west of Poncha Springs around 2:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 6. Michael Hayes, 25, of Crown Point, Indiana was driving a 1972 International tractor trailer, belonging to Continental Contract Carriers of City of Industry, Calif. According to sheriff department records

Overheated brakes cause fire

somewhere between Gunnison and the top of Monarch Pass the brakes of the trailer locked and the driver disconnected them and backed off the trailer brakes. He then proceeded down grade in fourth gear with only tractor brakes. Near Maysville, the driver noticed that the brakes and the tires on the trailer had ignited. He pulled over to the right shoulder of the road and tried to extinguish the fire with dirt.

The driver of a passing truck reported the incident to the sheriff's office and the Salida Fire Department was called and responded.

Fire Department records show that the four rear tires on the left rear of the trailer were on fire. The value of the tractor was estimated at \$20,000 and the trailer and cargo were valued at \$50,000. Damage to the trailer was approximately \$1,000. The Fire Department was on the call for an hour and ten minutes.

August 23, 1964

The Rev. and Mrs. Nelson Engelbrecht and son, John, are home from a vacation in the northwest. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gratz and children, Jim and Marjorie of Sepulveda, Calif., are visiting their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Price. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Smith of Kansas City, Missouri; are building a cabin at Alpine. Firemen closed the exit of a hornet's nest in the foundation at the home of Mrs. W.R. Berry.

Small forest fire extinguished

A small forest fire at the base of Mount Shavano was reported to the Chaffee County Sheriff's Department at 7:12 p.m. on Saturday, September 22.

The fire was reported by Merle Entz, fixed base operator at Harriet Alexander Field. He advised that lightning had struck at the location and started a blaze.

The Forest Service was

informed of the fire by the sheriff's department and according to Forest Service officials the fire was located on land belonging to the Bureau of Land Management.

Salida Fire Department responded to the alarm at 8:30 p.m. and according to their records the fire was located five miles north and west of Poncha Springs.

Some dead trees and ap-

proximately 400 square feet of grass were involved. Both Forest Service personnel and Salida firemen worked together to extinguish the flames that were termed

"small." Salida Fire Department was out for four and one half hours on the call.

Resulting damage from the fire was about one half acre of totally destroyed land.

Salida firemen kept busy

A total of 37 minutes, out on two calls constituted the action seen by the Salida Fire Department on Sunday, September 30.

At 8:55 a.m. firemen responded to a call in the 100 block of East Second Street. A 1955 Chevrolet, belonging to Kim Orr had backfired causing a blaze in the engine compartment. When firemen arrived on the scene the fire had been extinguished. Damage was estimated at \$50 and the call took seven minutes.

Firemen responded to a call at the stockyards at 3:00 p.m. Apparently some ashes had been thrown into the corner of a shed at the yards and had caught the corner of the building on fire.

Firemen responded to a call

at the stockyards at 3:00 p.m. Apparently some ashes had been thrown into the corner of a shed at the yards and had caught the corner of the building on fire. The fire was put out in a matter of a few minutes and damage to the \$100 building was estimated at \$5.

This call took 30 minutes.

As a routine part of the department's duties they stood by for a helicopter take off from the Salida Hospital heliport in the early hours Monday morning. (See story on page 8)

Fires thought deliberately set

Salida Fire Department was called at 4:50 p.m. on Wednesday, October 24 to extinguish fires burning in the 400 block of East Fourth Street.

Upon arrival they discovered that three separate fires were burning in the grass and leaves that had accumulated there. Within 15 minutes they had been put out, it is thought these fires were probably set deliberately by someone walking down the street. No damage was done to property.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1973

Two homes damaged by fire

Two Salida area homes were extensively damaged in separate fires over the past weekend.

In each case origin of the blaze is undetermined.

Sunday afternoon a log home owned by Joe Lionelle and occupied by Dr. Victor Veltrie and his family on County Road

220 five miles west of Poncha Springs caught fire.

According to Chief Jack Henderson approximately 14 volunteers, two regular firemen and two members of the Chaffee County Sheriff's Department battled for more than two hours to control the flames.

Roof of the home was completely destroyed and considerable other damage was also involved.

Henderson said the alarm was received about 2 Sunday afternoon and it was about 5 p.m. when units returned to the station.

No dollar estimate of the damage was immediately available.

Just before 3 p.m. on Saturday firemen were summoned to a trailer home in the Shangli-La Trailer Park. There a blaze which started in a child's room in a mobile home inflicted heavy damage on the room and destroyed most of the contents.

The unit was owned by John Cowan.

While firemen were still at that blaze they were alerted to an ash pit fire in the 200 block of East Second Street. The latter required only six minutes to extinguish and no damage was listed.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1973

Chief Jack L. Henderson killed in auto smash up

Salida Fire Chief Jack L. Henderson died at 1:10 p.m. Friday in St. Joseph Hospital at Florence as the result of injuries received a half-hour earlier in a two-car head-on auto crash on Highway 115 in Penrose.

Henderson's wife, Virginia Lee, received head and internal injuries in the crash in which she was thrown from the vehicle. She was hospitalized at Florence and by early Monday her condition had improved sufficiently that her transfer to Salida Hospital was scheduled today.

According to the accident report of Colorado State Patrolmen Steve McCandless and Phil Tipton, the Henderson vehicle collided with a car driven by Mary Jane Marble, 20, of Colorado Springs. The officers said the Marble car moved into the wrong lane and collided with the northbound Henderson auto. The impact caused the car to roll over onto its tip after the initial crash and it was at that point that Mrs. Henderson was thrown



JACK HENDERSON

out. The patrolmen said none of the occupants of either car were wearing seat belts.

The Marble woman sustained neck and possible back injuries.

A veteran of more than twenty years on the Salida Fire Department, Henderson was named to the chief's post in July of 1970 to succeed the

retiring Milton Myers.

Jack Leroy Henderson, who would have been 50 years old on the day following his death, was born in Coldwater, Kansas.

He was veteran of World War II and a member of Ray Lines American Legion Post in addition to belonging to various profession organizations.

He is survived by his widow whom he married March 3, 1945; a son, Jack D. Henderson of the Air Force Academy; a daughter, Mrs. Roy (Janet) Friend of Denver; a grandson, David Henderson; his mother, Mrs. Margaret Henderson of Salida; four brothers, Jerry and Kenneth of Salida and Robert and Joe of Colorado Springs. Two sisters survive, Mrs. John (Marie) Tessadri of Salida and Mrs. William Nelson of Buena Vista.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 in the First Baptist Church of Salida. Graveside services at Fairview Cemetery will be conducted by the local American Legion post.

Tuesday Dec. 4th 1973

Opinion

Jack Henderson

The unexpected and tragic loss of Jack Henderson is going to be felt in this community far beyond the wide circle of personal friends and professional associates who knew the fire chief well.

Jack's work, heading what we consider to be one of the finest small city departments in the entire state, touched the lives, or had the potential of touching the lives of all in Salida and the surrounding area.

The spotless department, impressive array of sophisticated equipment and cadre of trained firefighters Jack leaves behind speaks well of his devotion to his job.

But he leaves behind far more than these. In the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing Jack Henderson at the personal level there will be the indelible memory of sparkling eyes, easy smile and wry wit which always made it a pleasure to be around him.

Any fire chief's job—especially in small communities where budgets are constantly stretched—is never an easy one. It is an unending battle to keep equipment, facilities and training levels at the optimum point against that day everyone hopes will never come. Jack Henderson went about that job in an easygoing, friendly fashion but with a deep and earnest understanding of what serious business it really was. And he was able to convey that to others.

That he did his job skillfully and with dedication can be found in the records compiled by the department under his leadership and in facility he leaves behind.

That to our way of thinking is a far more fitting memorial than mere words, whether printed or spoken.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1973

Jack Henderson rites held Tuesday afternoon

Final rites for Jack Leroy Henderson, who lost his life in an auto accident Friday near Penrose, were held Tuesday afternoon in the First Baptist church. The Rev. Robert Myers was the officiating clergyman.

John Heid sang two sacred selections, "In the Garden" and "The Old Rugged Cross" accompanied by Miss Margaret Dunkhorst on the organ.

Active pallbearers were Larry Brown, Charles Culp, Robert Freeman, Anthony Gentile, James Gray and Jerry Wood.

Honorary escorts were Robert J. Brazil, Riley Bartley, Tom Bergman, Dan Johnson, Theodore J. Judge, Dr. L.J. Leonardi, Robert Kidwell, Amos Rout, Clarence Rout and Leo Sams.

Members of Ray Lines Post No. 64 of the American Legion, conducted services at the graveside in Fairview

cemetery.

Born December 1, 1923 at Coldwater, Kansas; he came to Salida in 1939 and attended Salida High School. He served in the Navy during World War II and was affiliated with Ray Lines Post of the American Legion and various profession organizations.

He had been with the local fire department since 1953 and had served as chief since July, 1970.

Survivors are the widow, Virginia, whom he married March 3, 1945 in Salida, a son, Jack D. Henderson of the Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs; a daughter, Mrs. Roy (Janet) Friend, Denver; a grandson, David Henderson, his mother, Mrs. Margaret Henderson, Salida; four brothers, Jerry and Kenneth, Salida; Robert and Joe, Colorado Springs; two sisters, Mrs. John (Marie) Tessadri, Salida; and Mrs. William Nelson, Buena Vista.

Culp named temporary chief

Salida City Council last night designated Charles R. Culp as temporary Salida Fire Chief pending study and action on a permanent replacement for Chief Jack L. Henderson who was killed Friday in a head-on auto crash in the town of Penrose.

The fire and police committee will go over selection of a chief, the matter an additional fireman and recom-

mend salary adjustments at a later date and report back to the full council.

Apart from Culp's appointment, the council dealt wholly with routine matters during their first regular December session.

Bills in the amount of \$28,576.22 were approved for the month of November and application for renewal of a liquor license was approved for

the Atomic Bar. Most of the other renewals gained approval at the last council meeting.

Chairman Ed Bradbury of the recreation committee reported his group is still working to hammer out a master plan for improvements at Salida Hot Springs Pool. At the previous meeting a discussion of priorities for the projects took place.

Friday Dec. 7th 1973

Relatives, friends attend Henderson rites

Relatives and friends from out of town and state here Tuesday for the funeral of Jack Leroy Henderson, were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Vance, Coldwater, Kansas; Mr. and Mrs. Dave Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Vance, Sedalia, Colorado; Mrs. Bonnie Bond, Brigham City, Utah; Mrs. Barbara Hall, Hutchinson, Kansas; Brad Siegel, Pueblo;

Mr. and Mrs. Jude Goodale, Colorado Springs; Mrs. Hazel Gates and Mrs. Maxine Smith, Coldwater, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Henderson, Dodge City, Kansas; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Simpson, Golden; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Taylor, Colorado Springs; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Harrow, Mrs. Don

Henderson, and family, Canon City. Also present were his brothers, Joe and Bob Henderson and families of Colorado Springs; his sister, Mrs. Bill (Nancy) Nelson, her husband and son, Steven of Buena Vista. Four friends from the air academy fire department, and 10 from the Air force, Colorado Springs; were also present.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1973

Henderson memorial established

One of the great prides of Jack Henderson's life was the collection of antique firefighting equipment which had been acquired and was kept in mint condition by the Salida Fire Department.

In recognition of the late fire chief's love of the collection, a memorial fund has been established in the hope that sufficient donations can be collected to finance construction of a special room on the projected Salida Memorial Museum to house these momentos of a more glamorous era, so that they can be enjoyed by the public on a year around basis.

Salida grocer Dan Johnson Tuesday announced establishment of the Jack Henderson Memorial Fund and invited all who cared to contribute to the project.

Johnson said a special account has been opened at the First National Bank of Salida and that donations may be sent there or they may be dropped off at Salida City Hall.

Johnson said he had been in touch with officials of the museum association and had received their endorsement of the project.

Henderson was killed November 30 in a head-on crash near Penrose. He would have been 50 years old the day following his death. A 20-year veteran of the Salida department, Henderson had served as chief since July of 1970.

Should the Henderson Memorial Wing become a reality, it would house some of the rarest firefighting relics still in existence in Colorado.

Included are an antique hose cart of uncertain vintage which

saw service in Salida's pioneer days; a 1911 Kissel pumper truck which answered city fire calls from 1911 until 1942; a huge 1928 American-LaFrance ladder truck which was acquired from the Pueblo Fire Department and a 1942 International pumper which was in local service until 1971.

The equipment is presently stored at the Chaffee County Courthouse and is not available for public display except on rare occasions when it is pulled out to take part in a parade.

In addition to the rolling stock, fund sponsors hope to also include photographs of famous fires in the past and other memorabilia relating to the department.

Johnson said at this early stage it is not known how much will have to be raised to bring the project to reality.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1974

Henderson Fund progress reported

Dan Johnson, Salida businessman who is spearheading a drive to raise funds for a memorial to the late Jack Henderson, said today \$221.56 has been collected so far.

When the drive was kicked off shortly after the sudden death of the veteran fire chief, backers said it was their hope that enough could be raised to permit construction of a special room on the proposed new Salida Museum. If that goal is reached the room would be used to house the community's collection of antique firefighting equipment. At the present time three old fire engines and a hose cart make up the collection but they cannot be placed on permanent display for lack of an adequate structure to house them. With the exception of rare occasions such as parades, they are

stored at the Chaffee County Courthouse.

Johnson said today no time limit has been set for the fund drive. "We plan to allow it to extend over quite a period of time", he said.

No cost estimate has been

obtained for the memorial wing as yet since sponsors don't know at present what form the museum is to take or where it is to be located.

Henderson died in an auto accident at Penrose late in 1973.

Blaze destroys duplex

More than \$20,000 damage was reported Sunday to a duplex apartment building at the Frontier Ranch on County Road 322 five miles south of Nathrop. The alarm was turned into the Salida Fire Department at 4:50 p.m. Sunday but by the time firemen reached the scene the structure had burned to the ground.

The apartment is owned by the Young Life organization and had been rented for the

week end. The renters had apparently left the building around 2:00 p.m. and the fire started sometime after their departure.

A total of 27 firemen responded to the call including members of the Salida, Buena Vista, St. Elmo and State Reformatory departments. Five pieces of equipment were brought to the scene.

Fire officials have yet to determine the cause.

Tuesday Jan. 8th 1974

Fire razes ranch home

A Monday afternoon fire destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Russell, located on the Gumm Ranch 12 miles south of Buena Vista on County Road 270.

Firefighting units from Buena Vista, the Colorado State Reformatory, Salida, Hartsel and Alma responded to the blaze that had razed the structure's roof before units could arrive. The Buena Vista Volunteer Fire Department was the first unit to respond to the call that came in a 3:15 p.m. but the fire, strengthened

by high winds, raged out of control. Firefighters, hampered by freezing weather conditions and high winds, were unable to contain the blaze which completely leveled the home within an hour. Adjacent buildings were watered down in an effort to keep the high winds from spreading the flames.

A water truck from the Chalk Creek Fish Hatchery, in addition to units from Salida, the Colorado State Reformatory, Hartsel and Alma responded to the call bringing extra fire-

fighters and much needed water. The fire was brought under control by 4:30 p.m. but firemen remained at the scene until 6:30 p.m. mopping up.

The log home was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Gumm of Sun City, Arizona.

According to Buena Vista Volunteer Fire Chief Bill Pauley no immediate cause of the fire is known. The Russells were out of town when the fire started but arrived at the scene while the structure was still burning.



SMOKE AND STEAM rise from the flame engulfed structure known locally as the Gumm Ranch. High winds and freezing weather hampered firefighters attempts to thwart the blaze Monday afternoon. Units from Buena Vista the Colorado State Reformatory, Salida,

Hartsel and Alma responded to the fire. The structure, home of Mr. and Mrs. William Russell, is 12 miles south of Buena Vista. (Additional photo on page 8.)

Mountain Mail photo by Jan Johnson

Thurs. Feb. 7th 1974

Henderson Memorial Fund account is set up by Gentile

In keeping with an authorization voted by the Salida City Council Monday evening, City Clerk Anthony Gentile today announced establishment of a special Jack Henderson Memorial Fund account at Salida Building and Loan Association.

The Henderson fund is for the purpose of gathering donations in memory of the late fire chief and will eventually be used for construction of a wing of the proposed Salida museum to

house the city's large collection of antique firefighting equipment and memorabilia. Sponsors of the project asked the city to officially establish the account so that gifts donated could qualify for income tax deductions.

Gentile said those wishing to contribute may address donations to him in care of City Hall or may drop them by there during regular business hours.

The man for whom the fund is named was killed in an auto accident late in 1973.



BUENA VISTA FIRE CHIEF BILL PAULEY attempts in vain to save the William Russell home south of Buena Vista. Approximately 30 firefighters responded to the call Monday afternoon

that brought units from as far away as Hartsel and Salida. The home was destroyed by the blaze in an hour. (Story and additional photo on page one.)



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1974



ALL THAT REMAINS of a 12' x 65' mobile home belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Brasselero is a pile of rubble. Fire destroyed the home, located 9 miles north of Buena Vista

Monday morning. No one was home at the time of the blaze.

Story
OK!
Next Page

Tuesday Feb 19th

Home destroyed in Monday blaze

A Monday morning fire destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Brasselero located nine miles north of Buena Vista on Highway 24.

The blaze completely destroyed the 12' x 65' mobile home and a 12' x 30' "A" frame building adjacent to the mobile home. The Chaffee

firemen were able to extinguish the blaze in the "A" frame but the fire had already reached the rafters, making the fire virtually impossible to extinguish. Firemen were able to keep the blaze from County Fire Department was notified at 9:30 a.m. but the mobile home was leveled by the time units arrived. Firemen attempted to ex-

tinguish the blaze in the "A" frame but the fire had already reached the rafters, making the fire virtually impossible to extinguish. Firemen were able to keep the blaze from County Fire Department was notified at 9:30 a.m. but the mobile home was leveled by the time units arrived. Firemen attempted to ex-

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1974

Home is destroyed by blaze

Sparks from a wood stove apparently started a fire that completely destroyed the Paul Williams home on County Road 260 early today.

According to a Salida Fire Department spokesman the alarm was received at 2:45 a.m. but by the time men and equipment reached the scene the structure was a total loss. Seven men and three trucks responded to the fire including two units and two firemen from Salida and five men and a truck from the State Reformatory.

Sparks from the stove apparently entered the attic of the home from a pipe to the roof, starting the fire. A damage estimate of \$12,000 was placed on the blaze by authorities. No injuries were reported.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1974

Roundhouse fire in 1892 cost \$400,000



One of the most disastrous fires in Salida's history struck at 5:45 a.m. on a Sunday morning Dec. 11, 1892. Before the blaze was extinguished the Denver and Rio Grande roundhouse, shops and 17 locomotives had been burned. Loss was estimated at \$400,000.

After the fire, townspeople did a lot of worrying that the community would be losing a large railroad payroll. Instead, the railroad immediately rebuilt the layout.

There was slight discrepancy between the Salida Mail account and a letter to the editor which appeared in the following issue, from M. M. Smith.

Smith wrote that at 5:45 a.m. H. T. Lytle, an engine watchman passing through the roundhouse, saw flames shooting up in the cab of the 174. At once he blew his whistle

of the 529, next to the burning locomotive. All hands in the roundhouse tried to extinguish the flames but couldn't find the hose nozzle in the darkness.

Within two minutes it was impossible to stay in the flaming roundhouse. R. B. Holland, C. E. Gilman, George Hardy, Charles Ayen and William Rankin narrowly escaped while trying to subdue the flames by breaking out windows.

Smith continued that a crowd gathered and assisted in removing locomotives from the roundhouse and circle. Both hostlers, two or three engineers and firemen kept the turntable in operation, so that 20 locomotives were removed.

Smith stated the engine that caught fire was newly painted and highly combustible. He believed the cause of the

disaster was spontaneous combustion.

The Mail reporter said that the fire companies were slow in getting around and the fire got off to a good start. They connected a hose at the plug at Front and D Streets, crossing the suspension bridge. Besides that, they found their hose was partially frozen.

The large stationary engine that supplied the shops with power was saved by the railroad hose company. The town company confined its attention to the roundhouse, succeeding in checking the fire at the 14th stall. The offices, store room and blacksmith shop, some distance away, were not damaged.

Much of the loss was covered by insurance, the stories indicated.

Wed. March 6th 1974

March 6, 1899

The fire department extinguished a fire Monday at Davenport's barn that could have had serious results if the wind had been blowing. The new building and stock of the Whittenberger Mercantile Company at St. Elmo was destroyed by fire yesterday. The building was erected after the big fire there a year ago. Miss Pearl Hollenbeck and Robert Gough were married Tuesday evening by the Rev. L.A. Betchel. The home of her parents was decorated with flowers and vines sent by relatives in California.

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1974

Sertoma to sponsor tourney

The Salida Sertoma Club will sponsor a mixed scotch doubles benefit bowling tournament on Sunday April 7 at the Super Bowl. Proceeds from the one day event will go to the Jack Henderson Memorial Fund to help build a special historical firefighting wing on the new Salida Museum.

Each team entered will consist of a man and woman alternating rolls in three games. Two five pound boneless hams will be awarded for every eight teams entered. Entry fees are \$3.00 per person.

To enter the event check with the bowling alley or contact Nick Cinocco, Tad Hascall or Dick Smith. Entry deadline is Sunday, March 31.

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 1974



VINTAGE FIRE ENGINES belonging to the Salida Fire Department and once the pride and joy of the late Chief Jack Henderson are part of the firefighting memorabilia which will be housed in a special wing at the proposed Salida Museum if sponsors are able to raise the necessary construction funds. A cam-

paign for the project continues. Called the Jack Henderson Memorial Fund, it is being administered by the city and donations may be mailed or dropped off at City Hall. The upper photo shows a 1912 Kissel and the lower is an American La France unit built in the 1920's.



Building gutted by blaze

Sparks from a wood burning stove apparently was the cause of a blaze Thursday evening that gutted a building next to the Don Christenson home at 7000 County Road 110.

Firemen received the call at 7:10 p.m. Thursday but by the time they reached the scene flames had penetrated the roof of the building and by the time the fire was out only the walls were left standing. Eight firemen with two trucks battled the blaze for more than an hour.

Several children had apparently been playing in the building and the wood stove ignited shingles on the roof to start the blaze. Linda Mae Taylor was listed as owner of the building, which sustained approximately \$3,000 damage.

No injuries were reported.



ENSON is evident from the expression of Salida fireman Jerry Henderson as he hoses down the interior of a flaming structure at 7000 County Road 110 Thursday evening. Winds and chill temperatures compounded the

problems of the firefighters as they battled for more than an hour to bring the blaze under control. The building was gutted and damage was listed at \$3,000. (See additional photo below)





WATCHING FIREMEN BATTLE a fire, which gutted a building belonging to her, is Linda Mae Taylor. There was no injuries although the damage was

estimated at \$3,000. Authorities think the fire may have been started by children playing in the structure. (Story above)



First fire alarm sounded when Salida was a tent city

Salida's first fire was reported when the town was just a few weeks old. The story in the first issue of the Mountain Mail, June 5, 1880, related that the previous Tuesday the town had its first fire alarm. A tent near the depot caught fire from the stove pipe. A man passing with a bucket of water extinguished the flames before much damage was done inside the property.

Early files of the Mountain Mail are missing, but undoubtedly in a town of tents and frame buildings, without a water system, fires were frequent.

One of the town houses of ill repute went up in flames on March 8, 1882. The fire started in the kitchen and got underway in such a hurry that inmates were able to get out with only small portions of their wardrobe. One man left in such a hurry that he lost \$200 he had in a pocket of his trousers, and cut one foot badly in kicking out the window. The house belonged to Lizzie Landon and her loss, including a \$500 piano, was around \$800.

A.T. Ryan, who operated a livery stable, should have received the prize for hard luck champion in 1883. Ryan had two fires, both of which were total, uninsured losses.

The first fire broke out about 2 a.m. on January 22. The Knights of Pythias, in full dress uniform, were having a ball. Most of the Knights also were hose company members, so they were really dressed for the occasion when the alarm sounded. They found the fire was 800 feet from a plug, which reduced the pressure in the hose. The weather was intensely cold and the firemen had a rough night. Furious winds fanned the flames. Loss included six horses, several buggies and carriages, in addition to the building and the feed.

J.P. Pierce, one of the fire boys, who was not at the K. of P. hall, heard the alarm while in his tent at the Ohmert and Gill stone quarry two miles from town, near Dead Horse gulch. The Mail reported that he tore into town like a quarter horse.

Ryan's next fire was on September 5 of the same year. The blaze was at the inferno stage when discovered, but when the flames had subsided someone rushed into the harness room and saved some saddles, harness and other equipment. Included in the lost were the \$1300 building, Ryan's prize mare, Amanda, buggies and carriages.

Craig's opera house caught fire on February 25, 1884, but the fire ladders reached there before it was too late. Some water damage was sustained at the next building. The fire apparently caught near the chimney between the roof and ceiling, but how was a mystery since there hadn't been a fire in the upstairs stoves for two days.

The editor favored lynching the fellow who apparently started the fire at Mrs. Hanley's millinery store in November, 1884. "Mrs. Hanley has had a difficult struggle and the loss will be heavy" he wrote. Mrs. Hanley lost her entire stock of goods, clothing, and numerous other items, all valued at \$1800, with insurance covering \$750. About \$500 in insurance had been cancelled a few days before by threats against her property.



BRUSH FIRE—The Salida Fire Department answered an alarm yesterday to fight a brush fire on the banks of the Arkansas River just off of County Road 163 north of town. Eight firemen and two trucks

spent two hours at the blaze which became complicated after sparks from the original fire were blown across the river igniting the opposite bank. About 10,000 square feet of brush and timber was burned.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1974

Grange hears fire safety program

A covered dish dinner preceded the Monday evening meeting of the Poncha Springs Grange meeting held at the Grange Hall with Master Ralph Post presiding.

Bob Freeman, of the Salida Fire Department gave a very good talk on fire safety and prevention. He explained the use of chemicals in fighting fires as well as other suggestions for safe fire-fighting.

During the meeting, reports of the committees were given.

There will be an entry from the Poncha Springs Grange in the craft contest to be held at Pleasant Valley Grange at Howard April 17.

About 26 members were present for an enjoyable evening.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1974

\$250,000 loss

Fire destroys Hi-Way House

By JON JOHNSON

Mountain Mail Staff Writer

Units from Salida, Poncha Springs and Buena Vista responded to an early morning fire Friday which destroyed the Hi-Way House Restaurant and Lounge located four miles south of Salida on Highway 50.

The fire leveled the restaurant and lounge and the connecting motel units and apartments. The loss was estimated at \$250,000 and was partially covered by insurance.

According to Salida Fire Chief Charles Culp, five fire trucks and members of the Salida Fire Department answered the alarm which sounded at 1:30 a.m. Approximately twenty volunteer fire fighters arrived at 2 a.m.

along with units from Buena Vista and Poncha Springs. Forty firemen fought the five-hour blaze which was brought under control and extinguished by 6:30 a.m.

Culp reported that the fire originated in the kitchen area but an exact cause has not yet been determined. Flames were breaking through the structure's roof by the time the units arrived at the scene. The fire spread from the restaurant to the lounge and then to the connecting 11 motel units and three apartment units.

Moderately high winds and lack of a water source hampered firemen and threatened a laundromat and trailer park before the fire was brought under control. The blaze

narrowly missed overhead powerlines which supplied electricity as far south as the Bear Creek area.

Approximately 7,000 gallons of water was used to fight the fire. All of the water had to be supplied by the trucks because no fire hydrants were available to the units.

The structure, owned by Bill Armstrong, was vacated at the time of the fire with the exception of a number of employees who reported the fire. The lounge had closed 15 minutes before the fire started. No injuries were reported.

Friday's fire was the seventeenth such blaze in Chaffee County since the first of the year.

Pictures on next
page



Mountain Mail photo by Randy Ledermann

SMOLDERING WALLS were about all that remained at complex east of the city on U.S. 50. Fire units from Salida, Buena Vista and Poncha Springs responded to the early morning alarm. (Additional photo below)



VOLUNTEER FIREMEN Dallas Lane (left) and Scott Glenn (right) mop up under the watchful eye of Salida Fire Chief Harry Culp in the aftermath of a blaze which destroyed the Hi-Way House. The

flames first broke out in the kitchen area although the exact origin is not known at this time. There was partial insurance coverage.





WIND-WHIPPED BLAZE

Brisk winds kept firemen from Salida,

Poncha Springs and Buena Vista busy for five hours Friday before a motel fire could be brought under control. Damage

to the Hi-Way House motel has been estimated at \$200,000. — Photo by Dick Dixon

Salida fire razes Hi-Way House motel

By DICK DIXON

SALIDA (C-SJ) — Damage has been estimated at \$200,000 in the fire which destroyed the 11-unit Hi-Way House motel 1.5 miles east of Salida early Friday morning.

Seven pieces of fire equipment and 22 firemen battled more than five hours to bring the wind-whipped flames under control.

Mop up operations kept crews on the scene another two hours.

Five fire units and 15 men from Salida responded to the 1:30 a.m. call and were soon joined by five men and a

truck from Poncha Springs. Buena Vista sent a truck and two more firemen to assist.

The motel is owned by Mr. and Mrs. William F. Armstrong, who gave this version of the fire:

The lounge closed about 1 p.m. and the bartender, Linda Williams, smelled no smoke as she left the building. She went to her room at the rear of the building and soon smelled smoke. She came outside and saw fire coming through the roof.

The only other residents of the motel for the night were William Williams and Dave Mark, who were awakened.

They, in turn, awakened the Armstrongs, who live in a nearby trailer park.

Billy Armstrong Jr. attempted to use two different telephones in the area to report the fire, but both were already disabled by flames.

He drove about 1.5 miles to the edge of Salida, where he used a pay phone to report the fire.

Salida Fire Chief Charles Culp said the fire looked serious, but controllable as the first units arrived. However, flames broke through the roof again and were quickly fanned by moderately strong winds into a blaze of major proportion.

Culp said it became apparent about 2:30 a.m. that the building could not be saved and firemen began concentrating on protecting surrounding properties.

They saved several small structures located close to the main building and prevented fire from reaching a nearby gas station, laundromat, trailer park and overhead high lines.

Firemen also were hampered by a lack of water, since all of the more than 7,000 gallons used had to be trucked to the scene.

Poncha Springs and Buena Vista units left the motel

about dawn, while Salida crews remained until about 8:30 a.m. mopping up.

Armstrong pointed out the kitchen area, where the fire apparently started. It was adjacent to the office area, where a cigarette machine was melted into a shapeless mass by the heat. Coins in the office change drawer had melted into crusty, black lumps.

No injuries were reported in the blaze and exact cause has not been determined.

Armstrong said his initial \$200,000 damage estimate might be low and said he thought he was insured for only about half that amount.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 1974

Stubborn grass fire on Mesa

A stubborn grass fire which began early Saturday afternoon occupied the Salida fire department for more than seven hours over the weekend.

The blaze burned over nearly five acres in the vicinity of the waterworks, destroying a number of trees and a quantity of brush. A brisk wind made the firefighting difficult.

The department had to make three additional runs Sunday to finally extinguish it. There was no known property damage to any homes or buildings in the area.

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1974

Fire causes heavy damage

Fire of an unknown origin heavily damaged a home belonging to S. G. Post late Thursday afternoon.

Firefighters from the Salida Fire Department were summoned to the residence at 401 Ouray at 4:08 p.m. They were on the scene two hours and 22 minutes, returning to the station at 6:30.

According to the department log, firemen observed heavy smoke inside the house and coming through the eaves upon their arrival but no flames were visible.

The report says a short time later the flames vented through the roof of the structure enabling the firemen to get at the blaze and eventually bring it under control.

Although the structure suffered severe fire and water damage, some furnishings were removed before they were destroyed.

The home was unoccupied at the time.

The fire report indicates the estimated value of the house at \$30,000 but no immediate determination of the exact

valuation of damage was available.

The home was insured.

The call was the 79th recorded by the city department this year and one of the most severe blazes in Salida in recent months.

A total of four regular firemen and 15 volunteers were involved in the effort.

Actual pumping time, which approximates the period between the time of arrival and the time the blaze was fully controlled was one hour and 15 minutes.

Thursday May 23 1974



The second high school to serve Salida students as it looked when completed in 1910. A \$34,000 bond issue was floated in 1909 to build the structure on 10 acres purchased in 1904, on which the Presbyterian Academy stood. The class of 1911 was the first to graduate in the new building. Edgar Kesner was

superintendent and Clarence Tanton was principal. The academy in the rear, (not visible) was used for the manual training shop until 1922 when it was razed to make room for a new shop building. Fire destroyed the high school April 14, 1962, and a third high school stands on the site today.

June 2, 1964

James Nelson has replaced Robert Willcox as city fireman. Parking revenue and overtime parking fines total \$832.83. Charles Berry is named Chaffee County undersheriff. Miss Theresa Ryan, owner of the Golden Rule store for many years, died today. Petitions are circulated to annex area bordering Salida.

Friday June 7

It was a slight case of exaggeration when someone called the Salida Fire Department last night and reported the rodeo arena was on fire, but he probably felt it was better to be safe than sorry.

It turned out to be a routine trash burning.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1974

Fight dump fire

Salida firemen spent about 45 minutes last night containing a fire at the city dump, they reported. It was the only firefighting action reported for the day.

Pueblo, Colo., Monday, June 17, 1974

Leadville man wins pickup

SALIDA (C-SJ) — Gerald Franklin of Leadville won the 1934 Studebaker pickup truck given by the Salida Volunteer Fire Department Sunday during the Boat Race awards presentation.

The fire department spokesman said the organization raised about \$1,180 on the sale of the pickup, donated by Mrs. Jack Henderson, widow of a former fire chief.

The money will be added to the Jack Henderson Memorial Fund for the addition of a wing onto Salida Museum for display of antique fire equipment.



In an effort to raise money for the Jack Henderson memorial museum this sharp 1952 1/2 ton pickup truck will be given away to the lucky ticket holder on June 16. Shown with the truck is Fire Chief Charles Culp. Tickets

are now on sale by members of the Salida Fire Department, with participants now numbering nearly 300. The truck is on display at D & L Conoco, Third and F Streets.

Pueblo Chief TAY, Thurs. JUNE 20th 1974

Fire ruins garage containing antiques

SALIDA (C-SJ) — Fire Wednesday afternoon destroyed a 20-by-30 foot two-story garage owned by Mr. and Mrs. Jon Bedford on County Road 126 west of Salida while they were attending a Little League baseball game in town.

Fire department officials reported the structure fully involved when the district tanker and fire truck arrived at the scene.

The side of the house nearby was smoldering, a junk car was burning, the propane tank was extremely hot, a pile of lumber stacked east of the building was burning and over an acre of pasture was involved.

Bedford, a Salida teacher, said damage would amount

to \$8,000 to \$9,000. He said he is insured, but this will not replace many antiques stored in the garage.

Firemen said they were hampered by moderate winds, lack of water and explosions of oxygen in acetylene tanks in the building.

Heat from the fire also scorched another nearby car.

Two paid firemen and five volunteers poured more than 4,400 gallons of water on the blaze and were on the scene two hours.

No one was home at the time and no injuries were reported.

A neighbor, Beth Hazel, reported the fire. Cause of the blaze has not been determined.

Fire destroys garage, antiques

Fire destroyed a 20 by 30 foot garage and a number of antiques belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Jon Bedford, County Road 126 west of Salida, Wednesday afternoon.

The Bedfords were not at home, attending a ballgame in Salida, at the time of the blaze. Bedford estimated the loss at approximately \$8,000 to \$9,000.

Firemen reported the building was completely engulfed in flames when they arrived.

Explosions of acetylene tanks containing oxygen stored in the building contributed to the difficulty in bringing the blaze under control.

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1974

Salida Firemen Cop Top Honors

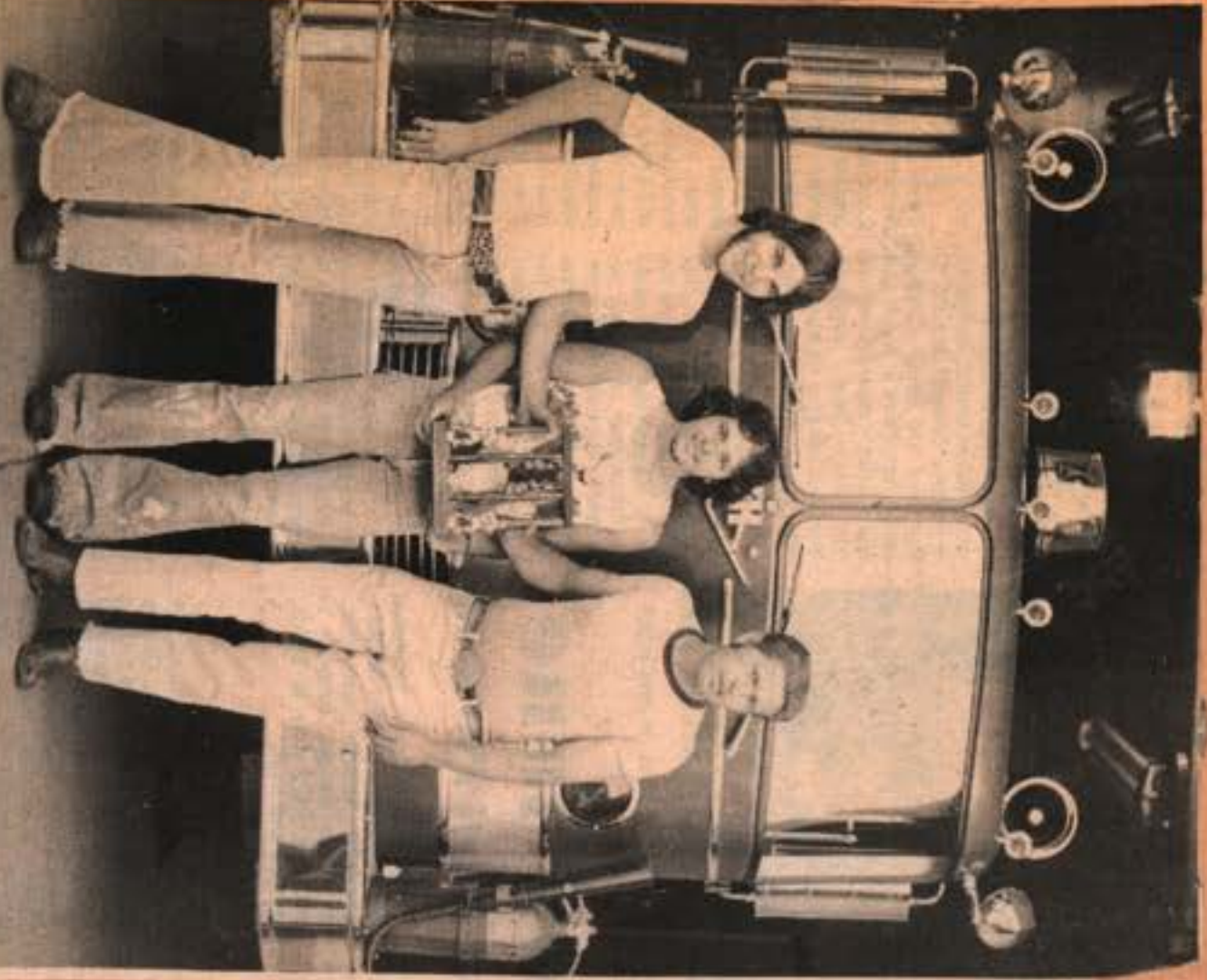
Salida firemen, both those representing the South Arkansas Fire Protection District, and those representing the city, grabbed off honors over the weekend at the fire-fighting races held in Cortez.

Winning the state championship was the district team, with a record breaking time of 11.8 seconds in three man option competition. Team members were Jim Gray, Fred Smith, and Wes Wagner, which had earlier taken second in the

in-line lay competition. The combination of excellent showings gave them the overall title.

While the SAFFPD team was copping the overall, the city team, represented by Bill Smith, Tim Nelson, and Ken McCormick grabbed top honors in the in-line lay competition.

Twenty five teams ran against the two Salida teams, with all teams competing using equipment of the Cortez Fire Department.



SALIDA WINNERS — Top honors in the in-line lay competition among state firefighters was captured by the three-man team shown above, representing

the Solida Fire Department. Left to right are Ken McCormick, Tim Nelson, and Bill Smith.



STATE CHAMPS — South Arkansas Fire Protection District grabbed the overall state title by combining a first place option win in a record breaking 11.8

seconds with a second place in the 3-man in-line lay. Left to right are Fred Smith, Jim Gray, and Wes Wagner.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1974



The city hall and fire department as it looked about 60 years ago. Shown at the left is Howard H. Parker, city clerk. C.W. (Brownie) Wickers is the fireman at the right. The fireman with the white dog may be Allen Wickers. The motorized firetruck replacing a horse-drawn

firewagon, had just been in use a short time. The three men in the picture are deceased. The city hall and firehouse have undergone remodeling several times since that era. Courtesy Pearl Lunnon.

FRIDAY, JULY 5, 1974



GARAGE FIRE — A fire in the 400 block of G Street did approximately \$250 damage to the building and contents Thursday night, according to firemen.

The property belongs to Robert Cunningham, and the residence is occupied by Sonia Medrana. Dallas Lane, one of the firefighters, is shown in action.

MONDAY, JULY 22, 1974

Open hydrants during night

The latest night-time pastime is opening fire hydrants and letting the water gush out into the street, according to the fire department.

"Not only is such an act illegal," Fire Chief Charles Culp said today, "it is also dangerous in that it drastically reduces water pressure we may need in an emergency."

According to firemen, seven plugs were opened over the weekend.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1974

Firemen check report of gas

Firemen were called out to the 1500 block of G Street last night when persons in the neighborhood complained of smelling gas in the area.

Investigation failed to uncover any problem.

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 1974

Salida F. D. hosts "fun day"

The Salida Fire Department were hosts to members of the Gunnison Fire Department during the annual "fun day" picnic held Sunday afternoon at Riverside park. Events practiced between the two departments included motor replacement, the in-line-lay, the Y hose hookup, and the

three man option. Along with practicing their fire department skills the Salida Fire Department presented the Gunnison department with a traveling trophy. Twenty-five persons attended the event, which was concluded with a barbeque.

Fire damages Mountaineer

A fire heavily damaged the Mountaineer Drive-In Restaurant on Highway 50 early this morning. The blaze resulted from an apparent short circuit in the deep fryer machine in the restaurant's kitchen. The kitchen area sustained the heaviest fire damage, as the rest of the building sustained heavy smoke and water damage.

An estimated \$30-40,000 in damage resulted. The restaurant, which is owned by George McFarland is insured for the loss.

The Salida Fire Department responded to the call at 1:48 a.m., and returned to the station at 2:55 a.m. this morning.

Hazardous materials course

A 3-day workshop course in the handling of hazardous materials has been conducted this week at the Salida High School under the direction of local authorities and the Colorado Committee on Hazardous Materials Safety.

Cooperating were the police and fire departments of Salida, the sheriff's department, and the Colorado State Patrol.

Approximately 40 persons from government and industry attended the workshop for training in the proper way to deal with fires, explosions, and the safe transporting, identifying and handling of hazardous materials.

How to handle such things as spills, for example, was one of the specific items dealt with.

Emphasis was put on identification of various types of chemicals, poisons radioactive materials, and gases at the scene of an accident and how to handle the various problems.



Members of the Salida F.D. await the arrival of the St. Joseph Flight for Life helicopter into Salida from Denver shortly after noon yesterday. The chopper and the role it plays in transporting injured in hazardous chemical disasters was the topic of discussion

during yesterday's seminar held at the high school. Several members of the Salida Fire Department are participating in the three day seminar dealing with the handling of emergencies between state and local authorities in the event of a chemical disaster or explosion.

MOUNTAINEER
FIRE

#1

#8





LIGHTNING EMERGENCY—Lightning struck and ruptured a gas line at the residence of Adolph Floryancic, 307 Blake, during Friday afternoon's storm,

causing a fire in the oven. Salida firemen rushed to the scene to prevent a major accident. electric service was also temporarily interrupted. AUG-12TH



LIFESAVERS Pilot Bill Malo and critical care nurse Carol Wickman of the Denver St. Joseph's Flight for Life helicopter emergency service discuss the various functions that their service provides. The French-built Alouette was purchased for the St. Joseph squad because of its ability to handle high altitude rescues in Colorado and Wyoming. The chopper is one of three craft used to transport accident victims from the scene directly to a hospital, providing life-saving time for critically injured persons. The craft was viewed by local and state authorities during the seminar being held at the high school for firemen, policemen, and other emergency

personnel. The main topic of the seminar is the handling of emergencies as a cooperative effort on the part of the Colorado State Patrol, along with local fire and police departments, when hazardous materials are involved at the scene of an accident, be it by truck or rail. Nearly forty persons representing the Chaffee County Sheriff's Department, Salida F.D., Salida Police Department, and law enforcement and fire department authorities from Summit, Lake, Fremont, and Pueblo counties, joined in learning how to handle situations involving dangerous chemicals, explosives, and other materials.





FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 1974

Salida woman treated for smoke inhalation

SALIDA (C-SJ) — Mrs. Daniel Stotler of Salida was treated for smoke inhalation as fire caused an estimated \$4,000 to her home Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Stotler was treated and released by a local physician.

Salida firemen received the call during the height of a locally fierce lightning storm. A city fire-truck, district tanker and nine men responded and were on the scene almost an hour.

Fire department records attribute cause of the blaze to faulty wiring in a closet near the rear of the house.

Neighbors said the house was struck by lightning.

Smoke from fire overcomes woman

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Stotler, 936 H Street, was struck by fire early yesterday afternoon and Mrs. Stotler was overcome by smoke and led to safety by an unidentified neighbor, according to Salida firemen, who administered first aid at the scene and then had her hospitalized for smoke inhalation.

Firemen said that Mrs. Stotler apparently was taking a nap when faulty wiring in a bedroom closet caused the blaze. The family parakeet perished in the smoke. Damage to the building was estimated at approximately \$4,000.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1974

Fire destroys outbuilding on Mt. Methodist

Salida firemen were called out Sunday evening when an outbuilding on Methodist Mountain caught fire and was destroyed.

Report of the incident listed the damage as minimal.

The county pumper and the tanker belonging to the South Arkansas Fire Protection District were the two units which responded to the call.

September 6, 1924

A badger came to town Wednesday, climbed to the roof of the Ahern Garage and was roped by Fireman C. W. Wickers. Miss Frances Merten has accepted private

Monday Oct. 7, 1974



LIVESTOCK YARD FIRE — A fire at the Salida Livestock Sales, Inc., yards at 5005 Highway 50 Saturday night destroyed approximately 125 feet of wooden pens and loading docks. The

cause of the fire is not known. Firemen were called at 9:25 and fought the blaze for two hours. The fire was in the area next to the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad tracks.

Smelter Town fire

A fire caused approximately \$5,000 damage to a house on County Road 150 last night.

The Salida Fire Department responded to the call at 7:45 p.m. When they arrived at the scene they found the attic was completely engulfed in flames.

The firemen had the fire under control after 20 minutes. Faith Matthieson is listed as

the occupant of the house. The fire started in the attic of the two-story structure. Firemen believe the cause was an exposed flu pipe running through the attic.

While the fire was confined to the attic, there was smoke and water damage to the entire house.



A fire at a house on County Road 150 last night caused about \$5,000 damage.

The Salida Fire Department had the fire under control after 20 minutes.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1974



SALIDA FIREMEN shine pumpers. Pictured are John Henderson, Fred Smith and Chief Charley Culp with his least favorable profile to the camera. If you look real

close you may also spot Wes Wagoner's toe to the left of the rear tire on the first truck.

OCT. 9, 1974
FALSE ALARM
The Salida Fire Department was called to extinguish a fire at Les Koch's Wrecking Yard. When firemen arrived at the scene at Hunt and Illinois Streets in Salida they found Koch burning trash.

November 4, 1924

The home of John Predovich on the lower Mesa was partially destroyed Wednesday night by fire.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1975

Fire at dump still smolders

The Salida Fire Department fought for over three hours Sunday against a fire in one of the dump pits at the county's sanitary land fill near Nathrop.

The trash fire had 1,700 gallons of water pumped on it before it subsided into a smoldering mass. According to the department the fire is not out and will probably continue to smolder for months to come. However, it is not expected to break out again nor threaten the area with brush fires.

November 11, 1899

The W.A. Jones residence on Dodge Street was destroyed by fire Sunday noon. The blaze spread to the house next door owned by J.H. Gray, and was entirely consumed. T.M. and William Haley have sold their business in Greeley and have returned to Salida to remain for the winter. The Jasper mine at Turret, owned by Don Hartwick and Emil Becker, is producing a high grade of gold and copper.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1974



MINOR FIRE—A fire at Nancy's Laundry on E Street did minor damage to the floor under the water heater yesterday.

The Salida Fire Department responded to the call.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1975

Old home destroyed

GARFIELD—A pre-dawn fire razed the old Ed Gimlet house this morning. The landmark, one of the first homes built in Garfield, was a total loss.

The fire raged for over four and a half hours, through cold, snowy weather.

According to the report by the Salida Fire Department, the blaze apparently started from an electrical short in the basement. The fire had reached the roof by the time the firemen responded to the alarm.

According to George MacKeen, a next-door-

neighbor, the house was "pretty well gone" when firemen arrived, and therefore the firemen conserved their water to save adjoining buildings. After using one tanker, the firemen realized that another tanker would be wasted on the ruined building.

The old Ed Gimlet house is currently owned by Mrs. Joe Hergert. The house was rented out to three Monarch ski employees. All three escaped unharmed, but lost many possessions in the blaze. Fire officials estimated the value of the house at \$20,000. The house was located on Garfield's Main Street.



FIREMEN scale a ladder to reach the roof of home, hauling up a hose with which to fight

Blaze damages residence near Poncha Springs

PONCHA SPRINGS (C-SJ) — Fire extensively damaged the old Vorwald home south of U.S. 50 about 5 miles west of here Tuesday as Salida firemen battled freezing temperatures to fight the blaze.

The home was occupied by Mrs. Earnie Smith and her daughter. They were not at home when the fire started.

Salida firemen said the blaze may have started near a propane gas furnace in the living room. Ten firemen took two pieces of equipment and fought the blaze from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Smoke was thick within the single-story dwelling, but the blaze did not go through the metal-covered roof. Personnel at the Safari Campground, on the north side of the highway, reported the fire.

Firemen responded to a second call to the same location about 8:55 p.m. Tuesday when Mrs. Smith reported the fire still was smoldering in a section of the ceiling.

A damage estimate was not available Tuesday night.

December 30, 1924

A fire Saturday afternoon ruined much of the stock in the Alexander Drug and Jewelry Store on F Street.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1975

Fire lasts 4 hours at Maysville house

MAYSVILLE—The Salida Fire Department responded Tuesday to fire 12 miles west of Salida which gutted a \$20,000 residence owned by Ron Hunter.

According to the fire report, the blaze apparently started around a floor furnace. The fire then spread to the walls.

Ernie Smith, the resident of the house, escaped unharmed. He turned in the alarm, shortly

after 4 p.m.

By the time the firemen arrived the house was enveloped in flames and smoke.

The fire department fought the blaze for four hours, expending 1500 gallons of water. Firemen left when the fire appeared to be dead, only to return a few minutes later when the ruins began smoldering.

Sweltering Crowds Whoop Their Encouragement as Firemen Race Clock

By DON DONATO

"Warm enough for you?" quickly became a horrible remark during the afternoon Thursday as 28 teams of firemen from all over the state competed in four contests at the State Fairgrounds during the first phase of the firemen's convention in Pueblo.

The temperature was announced as 103 degrees at 1:30 p.m. when the contests were begun and dropped only to 101 as the events ended about 6 p.m.

The firefighting skills tournament is the highlight of the four-day 54th Annual Convention, Tournament and Fire School of the Colorado Firemen's Association. The gathering of about 2,000 professional and volunteer firemen began Wednesday and ends Saturday.

Skills were tested Thursday in the motor apparatus wet tests; the hose coupling contest; the wye hose race and the three-man inline race.

About 3,000 enthusiastic persons watched the fire teams working against the clock, the heat and each other during most of the afternoon. As supper time

approached, however, the audience thinned and left a crowd consisting mainly of wives and children of the firemen.

The tournament events at 1:30 p.m. today again will be open to the public.

Although trash barrels were few and far between, litter from picnic lunches and refreshment stand purchases was not strewn on the ground. In fact, it seemed that most persons took the extra effort to stack their trash in neat piles off the law area.

An explanation of the contest events:

Hose coupling — Two short sections of hose are coupled together and placed on a line about 25 feet from the starting line; the contestant carries a fire nozzle from the starting line (as fast as he can run), uncouples the hose sections; puts the nozzle on one section, and runs across the finish line. The man makes three runs in this event and his best time is counted.

Three-man inline race — The men ride the back of a truck to the starting line; leap from the truck; one man attaches a hose

to a fire hydrant; a second man attaches the other end of the hose to a pipe which crosses the back of the truck; and the third man attaches another hose on the other side of the pipe, puts a nozzle on the hose, runs forward and shoots a stream of water to knock a large rubber ball from a post.

Wye hose race — The team begins this race with several hose sections rolled into "donuts." At the starting gun the men attach one hose end to fire plug, attach a "Y" coupling to the hose, attach two smaller hoses to the "Y" and put nozzles on the small hoses as they run forward and knock balls off stands with streams of water.

Motor apparatus wet test — The team rides a truck at 15 miles an hour across a starting line; one man catches the plug with a hose end; other men

spread out the hose; one man climbs a ladder with the nozzle and hooks it over the top of the ladder just before a stream of water comes out.

When the contests began the sports fans were warning each other not to get too close to the activities because, "You'll get soaked."

As the afternoon progressed the comments changed to things like, "Don't be so stingy with the water! Turn the hose over here!"

Heat or no heat, the contestants put forth efforts that amazed the crowd, which responded with cheers and yells of encouragement.

Partial results of Thursday's events:

Three-man inline race — (The record is held by South West Adams County, 14.83 seconds, set in 1970). 1. South West

Adams County, 15.7 seconds; 2. is held by Denver, 3.9 seconds, South Arkansas, 15.8; 3. Straton set in 1961). 1. Arvada, 4.30 seconds; 2. Fort Morgan, 4.33; 3. Meadows, 16.2; and 4. Salida, 16.4. Lafayette, 4.52; and 4. South Adams County, 4.60.



EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL

**THE SAN LUIS VALLEY
FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

FIELD DAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 1967

Pagosa Springs, Colorado

"HOME OF THE RED RYDER ROUNDUP"



PROGRAM

9:00 A. M.	Registration at Fire House
10:00 A. M.	Business Meeting
11:00 A. M.	Team Captain's Meeting
1:00 P. M.	Tournament Events
7 P. M.	Banquet

NO. 1	6 Man Motor Replacement
NO. 2	6 man "Wye" Hse Race
NO. 3	4 Man Reverse Loyal
NO. 4	3 Man 2½ to 1½ Changeover
NO. 5	6 Man Stationary Apparatus Contest

A HEARTY WELCOME--

From the town of Pagosa Springs and the Pagosa Springs Volunteer Fire Department. We are glad that you came.

OFFICERS

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Harry Larson, Creede	President
Vernon Rush, Center	First Vice President
Reno Lucero, Antonito	Second Vice President
Fred Olme, Monte Vista	Third Vice President
Bill Cooper, La Jara	Fourth Vice President
Leonard Gustafson, Creede	Secretary

MEMBER DEPARTMENTS AND CHIEFS

ALAMOGA	Herb Bertsch
ANTONITO	Reno Lucero
BLANCA	Chester Peoples
CAPULIN	Eloy Archuleta
CENTER	Hubert Lewis
CREEDE	Bobby Wardell
DEL NORTE	Alva Moore
MONTE VISTA	Walter Firkins
MOSCA-HOOPER	Kenneth Heide
PAGOSA SPRINGS	Richard DeVore
ROMEO	Rudy Roybal
SALIDA	Milton J. Meyers
SANFORD	Ralph Neilson
SAN LUIS	J. A. Olivus
SOUTH FORK	Eugene Crowley
LA JARA	George Skinner

Tournament Event Times



FINE FORM, but not fine enough. Capt. O. D. "Ozzie" Hyndman, Pueblo Fire Department, sprints toward the coupled hose sections in the foreground of the left photo. He was the Pueblo racer in the hose coup-



ling contest Thursday during the firemen's tournament at the fairgrounds. In the middle photo he frantically fits a nozzle on an uncoupled section. In the right photo the nozzle clanks to the ground and rolls



away behind Hyndman's flashing feet. The Puebloan's time was 5.48 seconds. The event was won by the Arvada Fire Department, represented by George Lea-

vitt, who posted a time of 4.30 seconds. Hyndman did not place in the event. — Staff photos by David Roscover

SALIDA WIPE OUT AT STATE CONVENTION!

Mayor Dedicates Town Hall, Gives Long, Boring Speech

Mayor Bert (Moneybags) Bullsetter gave another one of his windy speeches the other night when he dedicated the new town hall.

"My fellow citizens," he said, as he always says on such occasions, "we are very proud and happy on this glorious occasion. We who came here years and years ago know how much it means, especially to the women-folk and the young 'uns, to have our own town hall, where all of us can get together and run this town in the democratic way that we all love so well."

He went on like that for close to an hour while everybody was getting pretty impatient to get on home. Mayor Bullsetter told us everything everybody already knew about "our fair city," destined to be a center of commerce and culture in the Golden West of the future, which may come to pass if the whole town doesn't blow up in the next big mine explosion.

Mayor Bullsetter's own wind-

town hall. Maverick wants the distillery atop the mountain so that he can get plenty of publicity for his whiskey, and Mayor Bullsetter wants to be his publicity agent.

Some Citizens of Estes Park are hoping that Mayor Bullsetter devotes his whole time to publicity business so that maybe we can get another Mayor in our fair town.

Eventually the town hall was dedicated the other night, and the building is available for public meetings and such except on the nights when Mayor Bullsetter is using it for "official business," which means that he'll be playing poker with his cronies and other crooks.

Western Playground; Rocky Mountain National Park

Large hall never did mention how much the town hall cost, but the ever vigilant Estes Park Times has learned from a reliable source that Pete (Swindler) Maverick, the Mayor's brother-in-law and building contractor, is financing his own distillery on top of Sandia Mountain with the profit from his work on the

Last National Bank Held Up Again; Banker Quits

The Last National Bank was held up yesterday for the last time.

"This is the last Last National Bank I'll ever have," declared banker Richard Almanac. "They've cleaned me out. I haven't got a penny in the world."

He mentioned something about wishing that somebody would set up a federal deposit insurance corporation, but nobody could figure out what he meant. Most folks figure poor Richard Almanac will end up in an asylum if the poorhouse doesn't get him first.

The three men who robbed the bank got away with \$14.56, which was all that was left after the robbery that happened the day before that. Nobody got hurt.

The Last National Bank was set up just a couple of weeks ago to compete with Honest John's Moneyhouse because some folks said Honest John wasn't honest at all. The Last National had been robbed six times since it opened.

Honest John's Moneyhouse ("For rich or poor, for sick and healthy, No matter who, we'll make you wealthy") continues to prosper, with deposits this week totaling \$14.56.

The proprietor, John Golden-silver, said today he was so sorry for banker Almanac that he would lend him (at only ten pct. interest) enough money to get back to Dallas. Some folks in town were so impressed by Golden-silver's generosity that they told him not to bother to pay them the one pct. interest compounded biennially on their deposits.

Golden-silver said he wouldn't think of it, but maybe he would hold off raising the monthly charge on deposits from \$1 to \$2 per \$100.

"That Golden-silver sure is generous," one old lady told The Estes Park Times. "It's a wonder he has any money at all."



Here is a photograph of a typical morning in the village of Estes Park. Tourists are arriving while the townspeople line the streets to gawk. Most tourists arrive in the village in the modern vehicles shown here dressed in the fashions of the day. The less fortunate vacationer is forced to sneak into town the back way, over Longs Peak.

WINNER IN POKER GAME MURDERED! LOSER FINDS BODY IN STREET

Frank Filcher was shot in the back the other night just as he was walking out of the Red Bull Saloon, where he had won \$4560 in a poker game.

Sam (The Dude) Maulerson, the big loser in the game, found

Filcher lying in the middle of the street. Maulerson told the sheriff that Filcher mumbled the name of somebody just before he died, but Maulerson couldn't hear him.

All of Filcher's money had been stolen. Friends said he was going to use it to pay his way back to Chicago, where he came from and where everybody in town says he should have stayed. No trace of the money was found.

Maulerson was called out of town unexpectedly right after the shooting. He said he just got a telegram telling him his mother was deathly ill. He didn't say when he would be back, but the sheriff says he would like to talk to him a little more about the shooting. The sheriff is wondering how Maulerson got the telegram, seeing as how there's no telegraph office in Estes Park. Filcher got a decent burial.

Gunslinger Gets Comeuppance From Mob

Jack (Brushhead) Badman, notorious gunslinger, was run out of town last night by an irate mob after he started some of his usual antics in the downtown area.

Badman started slinging guns all over the Grubstake Cafe, and several young ladies complained that the flying firearms almost hit them.

The gunslinger had walked into the cafe a few minutes earlier with his arms loaded with pistols and rifles. Old-timers knew what he was up to, and quickly fled. Several strangers, including the young ladies, remained in the cafe and were quite startled when the gun-slinging started.

The sheriff was too late to prevent a mob from hauling Badman off to the edge of town, where other gunslingers took charge of him. All the gunslingers then reportedly had a contest, described by one of their number as "a real fling."

The town settled down to normal, with everyone glad that Badman and his companions were out of town for the night.

each afternoon during the summer season at the museum in Moraine Park.

Rocky Mountain National Park is open to travel the entire year. However, because of heavy snows, the Trail Ridge Road is normally closed to transmountain travel by about October 25. It is not open again until May 30 or later. Winter travel over the road is possible to the upper end of Hidden Valley on the eastern slope, and to Beaver Creek, 11 miles inside the Grand Lake Entrance. Accommodation for winter visitors are available in the villages of Estes Park and Grand Lake.

TOURISTS RUSH TO ESTES PARK; MECCA FOR MILLIONS IN ROCKIES

In 1859 there was a great rush to the Colorado Rocky Mountains. The rush was for riches and the cry heard across the land was, "That's gold in them thar hills."

In May of every year since then another rush starts to the Colorado Rocky Mountains, and continues at a feverish pace until the middle of October. The rush is now made by people who have their riches and the cry that echoes across the land is, "It's cool in them thar hills."

They come from every walk of life and in every conceivable conveyance. There are rich-men, poor-men, teen-agers, old-folks, just about everybody comes to cool off in the air-conditioned mountains of Colorado.

And where do most of these happy people called vacationers and tourists come most often? A little village called Estes Park, located in the heart of the Rockies.

And why do they come to Estes Park? We'll give you a partial answer.

They come to Estes Park to fish for the famous fighting rainbow trout found in abundance in the streams and glacial lakes within walking distance of the heart of the village. They come to climb the glorious 14,000-foot peaks that completely surround the village. One of the toughest is Longs Peak, which has claimed many lives since it was first scaled.

People come to Estes Park to take pictures of the scenery that is unrivaled anywhere in the world. The scenic splendor around Estes Park will fire the imagination of even the most placid tourist.

Vacationers come to do just that . . . vacation, and relax in

the cool, refreshing air of the Colorado Rockies. They go horseback riding, they play a round or two of golf, take a walk or a motor trip in the high country, and then perhaps take in some of the fine musical festivals that are held almost nightly in the Estes Park area.

People come to Estes Park because it is the entrance to the most popular National Park in America, the famous Rocky Mountain National Park. Here they find mountain peaks, hidden lakes, snow fields two miles high and in the middle of July.

Yankee Arrives With Absurd Scheme

A Yankee arrived in town the other night with the preposterous idea of setting up a store where people could drink sarsaparilla and other things besides liquor.

Don D. Kola, who says he is from New Hampshire, claims that there are such places back East. He thinks he could make a lot of money with a store like that in Estes Park. Some of the stuff he wants to sell is called pop.

We hope that he takes that ridiculous idea with him when he returns to New Hampshire. No honest man could possibly make a living in what Mr. Kola calls "the soft drink business." We suspect Mr. Kola of being a city slicker out to make a fast dollar from us hicks.

Sarsaparilla indeed! And pop! A man might as well drink water.

They walk the trails once used by Indians on hunting parties and see a multitude of wild-life in its natural habitat.

They take a drive through Rocky Mountain National Park on the Trail Ridge Road. Often called the Peak-to-Peak highway, Trail Ridge Road is opened from Memorial Day to mid-October, and is the highest highway in the world.

In Estes Park you can take in a Broadway Play at the Community Playhouse or see a rip-roarin' wild west rodeo at the rodeo grounds. Yes, in Estes Park you can do just about anything you want to do in the coolest, most colorful climate in the world.

Why do people come to Estes Park? Because it is a mecca . . . a paradise on Earth.

If you are looking for a perfect vacation spot where beauty abounds, where the fish are jumping, where the days are cool and the nights chilly, where you forget everything as time stands still . . . then you are looking for Estes Park, Colorado.

Horse Thief Hanged After Fast Trial, No Tomfoolery

Jackson Beacon, known from here to British Columbia as the meanest horse thief in the West, was hanged after a fair and square trial in the thriving metropolis of Estes Park.

The jury took only 30 seconds to decide his fate. The jury would have acted quicker, but some of the jurymen stuttered.

Some observers noted that all 12 men had accused Beacon of stealing horses from them, and Judge Torequemada Arnold himself blamed Beacon for rustling some of his horses.

The trial ended as soon as three witnesses, including a couple of jurymen, testified that they had seen Beacon steal their horses. Judge Arnold refused to listen when Beacon tried to put in a word for himself.

"We ain't got time to hear from the ornery likes of you," the judge declared. "Everybody knows what a low-down thief you are."

All the people in the courtroom applauded the words of the eminent judge, and by the time the applause had died down the jury announced its verdict.

Beacon was then promptly hanged. He was given a decent burial.

Judge Arnold said he would personally see that all the horses stolen by Beacon would be returned to their owners. The judge is an expert on horses, being the owner of a herd of some 1,000 of the best mounts hereabouts. He has acquired most of them in the last few weeks.

Beacon was the tenth horse thief to be hanged after a trial in Judge Arnold's court in the last few weeks. Each of the thieves had a collection of about 100 of the best mounts hereabouts.

Judge Arnold announced that this should serve as a warning to any other horse thieves hereabout that he means business. We are led to believe that Judge Arnold is retiring from the bench next week to go into business for himself. No announcement was forthcoming as to the nature of his business venture, but reliable sources claim the Judge is going into the horse trading business.



Refreshing and Relaxing: That's the story of a vacation in the spectacular mountains of Cool Colorful Colorado. These visitors are soaking in the magnificent beauty of gem-like Loch Vale, against the breath-taking backdrop of Taylor Peak in Rocky Mountain National Park. This bit of scenic splendor is only a few minutes drive from the heart of Estes Park Village.

DISASTER!



At 4:46 p.m. yesterday Merle Entz of Salida Flying Service placed a phone call to the Chaffee County sheriffs office. "A large plane has crashed out here," Entz said, "we have alot of people seriously injured and need help right away." He repeated the call to the Salida Fire Department and Salida Ambulance Co.

Out on the runway black smoke filled the air already heavy with misery and destruction. Thirty five moaning victims of the disaster were strewn in every direction.

In the distance sirens started to wail as help rushed to the scene. Exactly six minutes after Entz had sounded his alert the first emergency vehicle, a sheriff's car, arrived. Within ten minutes a fire truck, two ambulances, a pair of State Patrol units and an additional sheriffs car had come to the rescue.

No, Salida won't be in the headlines today describing a major air crash. All the activity was a put on; part of an exercise to test the capabilities of local medical and law enforcement personell in the event the real thing did happen someday.

Thirty five Salida high school students were recruited by the Sheriff's office to play the part of the survivors. Deputies, equipped with grotesque looking plastic wounds and make up supplied the students with their "injuries", then positioned them near the runway to create the crash site.

Medical personell treated the "injured" students as they would a person who actually had been hurt. Salida hospital admitted them to the emergency room, doctors examined their wounds and prescribed treatment.

Officials termed the exercise a success. Salida hospital administrator Brian Gilbert said today that "overall the event went well. We at the hospital discovered some shortcomings we were not aware of, especially in the areas of communications and man power. Anytime an operation like this points out those things, it can be termed a success."

The exercise was marred however by an accident involving a sheriff's department patrol car and a pickup truck at 7th and Poncha Blvd. The car was shuttling crash victims to the hospital when it struck the pick up and deputy Ed Guffey and Salida high school student Sherill Miller received minor injuries. The driver of the truck, Timothy Naccarato was issued a citation for failing to yeild to an emergency vehicle.

Photos by Jim Kelley





Once the Pride of Pueblo . . .

Photo courtesy George F. Lowe



Now the Pride of Salida.

Photo by Eleanor Perry

Salidans Restore Former Pueblo Hook and Ladder

By ELEANOR A. PERRY

Old fire engines never die, they just come back to serve again. And so it is with the aerial ladder truck now in service with the Salida Fire Department.

Early in July 1968 the regular and volunteer firemen of Salida made a loan to acquire the truck from Central States Roofing of Pueblo.

The aerial fire engine, a six-cylinder American - La France, was originally purchased by the City of Pueblo Fire Department in 1928 at a cost of \$15,846.13. It weighed 17,840 pounds. Although solid tires were on all four wheels of the truck, it was modified in 1937 by putting pneumatic tires on the tiller wheels. Three years later a windshield was added to the truck.

In 1953 the truck was replaced in first line service, but remained with the Pueblo Fire Department as reserve equipment until October 1958, when it was sold to the Central States Roofing Co.

The aerial fire engine saw active duty in several major fires in the Pueblo area. They include: on Nov. 25, 1931, Mountain Ice and Coal Co. at Seventh and Craig, estimated fire damage, \$56,000.00; Jan. 15, 1953, Colorado Supply Liquidation at Evans and Bay State, loss, \$294,000.00, and, perhaps the largest fire, on Aug. 29, 1953, Central Block at Second and Main, estimated fire loss, \$1,000,000.

At Central States Roofing Co. the truck's main duty was its original duty — get to the roof.

When the Salida firemen acquired the truck late in July 1968 their plans were to repair, repaint and refurbish, make it available for parades, and, as a last resort, use it in case of fire.

The fire engine had come a long way since its original purchase in 1928 and the firemen of Salida found there was a great deal of repair work to do. But with enthusiasm they started by sandblasting off the original white paint. Carefully a prime coat of paint was applied and even more carefully the firemen applied the final coat of International Red — better known as fire engine red paint.

Five wooden rungs in the 65-foot aerial ladders were replaced with 1/4-inch steel pipe making them stronger than before. The ladders were then sanded and painted with four coats of buff colored paint.

Approximately \$965 has been spent in buying and reconditioning the faithful 40-year-old fire truck. Several Salida merchants have donated money but, for the most part, the firemen themselves have contributed from their own pockets and their spare time to bring the truck back to working and show condition.

Although badly in need of repair, the aerial truck was proudly shown to Salidans shortly after its purchase in 1968 in the Heart of the Rockies

Rodeo Parade. Through the winter months the firemen worked diligently and when it again appeared before the public for the Blossom Day Parade at Canon City in 1969 it looked like a new fire engine.

Early this spring a reservation was made to use the truck in the Fib Ark Boat Parade in June 1969 at Salida, and no doubt it will be proudly displayed again in this year's Rodeo Parade.

Fortunately, the aerial fire truck has not been called upon to perform any fire duties, but Jack Henderson, assistant fire chief of Salida, says it is ready and the ladders will reach the roof of any of Salida's business buildings.

Prior to purchasing the truck, when there was a major fire in a multi-storied building, the Salida firemen had to go through the sky light of a neighboring building to get to the roof of the burning building. This will no longer be necessary with the aerial ladder truck.

George F. Lowe, former chief, Pueblo Fire Department, loaned the Salida Fire Department several old pictures of the aerial truck. With a magnifying glass, Henderson and Bob Freeman, Salida fireman, went over each picture scrutinizing every detail of "their" fire truck to see how much more work is to be done.

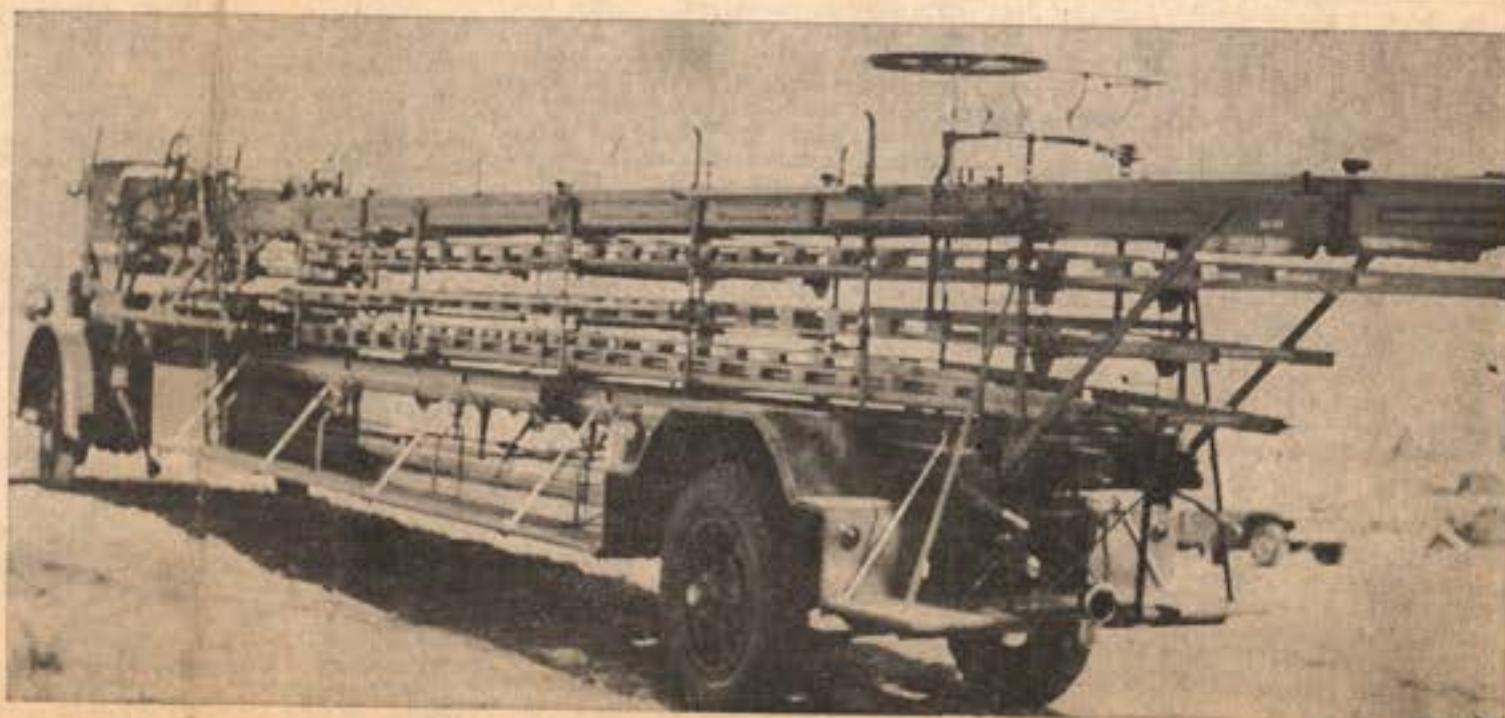
They were pleased to find the truck is nearly up to its original condition, except for one major and necessary item. They have no fire engine bell!

PUEBLO STAR-JOURNAL and Sunday Chieftain

Sec. C

Sunday, July 20, 1969

Pueblo, Colorado



Truck's ladder can reach any Salida roof.

Photo by Eleanor Perry

President of V.F.D.



Bud Henderson

MAYOR



Ed Touber

M. Myers



Ret. Fire Chief



