

Edgewater's
Golden Anniversary
1901 - 1951

Souvenir History Edition

DEDICATION

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Price 50c

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This brief history is dedicated to the people of Edgewater who are now living within her boundaries and who in the past layed the foundation for the present structure.

It is especially dedicated to the pioneers and the town officials who for fifty years gave their lives to the building of a dream; this dream, the building of a community where children and families might grow into useful and worthwhile citizens.

It is also dedicated to the present Town Administration and the committee who worked unceasingly in compiling this brief history.

I wish to give special acknowledgement to my wife, Helen Tautfest and my mother, Hesther Tautfest, also Earl Tomlin for the tremendous amount of work they contributed to this history.

L. T. (Toddy) Tautfest.

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PIONEERS

"They builded better than they knew."———

The following group of narratives are the stories of nine Edgewater pioneers who have resided in the town more than fifty years and have watched the town grow from a tiny hamlet into the now fair city of Edgewater.

There also lives in Edgewater three men, Anton G. Noll, William (Bill) Kirk and Joseph (Joe) Kirk, who have resided here more than fifty years but lack of time and space prevents a personal story included in this short history. I offer my sincere apology for this omission and hope they will not feel offended.

MRS. GEORGE FRASER

It is only fitting and proper that the first story concerning our pioneers should begin with Mrs. George Fraser. As far as it is possible to find out she is the only living pioneer who first settled in Edgewater and brought her family with her. She will be ninety-two years old September 13, 1951. She is still quite active and keeps busy from morning until night with her crocheting and has, in recent years, crocheted more than two hundred edgings on pillow slips for friends and relatives.

Mrs. George Fraser was born in Scotland, September 13, 1859 and came to Edgewater June 3, 1891. Mr. George Fraser was a stone cutter.

They first lived on Depew Street near West 26th Avenue; neighbors to the Tomlins and the Kirks. In 1910 they built a home at 2595 Eaton Street where they lived for many years. There was born to this family thirteen children. They are George, Bill, Robb, Ada (Mrs. Thomas Menzies), Jake, Elizabeth (Mrs. Alva Powers), Kate, Adam, Charlie and Donald.

There are descended from this couple, twenty-seven grand children, forty-seven great grand children and eleven great, great grand children.

Mr. George Fraser was very active in community life. He was a member of the first board of Trustees and took part in community affairs until his death November 30, 1925. Mrs. George Fraser was very active in church, P.T.A., and community affairs. She is a Daughter of Scotia; has been for many years and still takes active part.

Mrs. Alva Powers relates this favorite story told by her mother. During the early days all the people were poor and not able to donate as much as they would like for church affairs. This day a church group came to Mrs. Fraser asking for a donation of a cake. She told them if the old hen layed an egg she would bake a cake for them. Sure enough the old hen layed the egg and the church received the cake.

ADA MENZIES

After sixty years of residence in Edgewater Ada Menzies still thinks its the most wonderful place in the world to live. "While the people of Edgewater suffer from the usual human frailties, in the time of need they are always on hand to help their neighbors and I would not desire to live any place but Edgewater."

Ada Fraser Menzies was born October 2, 1887 in Edgewater and has lived here ever since. She went to school in the little red school house that still stands at West 24th Avenue and Eaton Street and graduated from the eighth grade. There were four in this class of graduates;

Billy Cormack, Emma Eberle, Ada Fraser and Kitsey Osborne.

On December 31, 1907, Ada was married to Tom Menzies by the Rev. Mr. Winship in the old Methodist Church which still stands at West 26th Avenue and Depew Street. They have lived at 2591 Eaton for forty years.

There were six children born to the Menzies; Elizabeth, Ada Jean, Bonnie, Andrew, Robert and George. They all attended grade school in Edgewater. The three girls attended Wheatridge High School and the three boys were graduated from Edgewater High School.

There are eleven grand children and one great grand child.

Like many other pioneers the Menzies have lived their own quiet life and helped build Edgewater into the present fine community and raised their children to follow in their footsteps.

Mrs. Menzies states that the things she remembers most of the early days are the fine times the young people had skating on old Sloan's Lake where she and her chums, Ethel Anderson, Frankie Kirk and Nell Brinkley spent the winter days skating and standing around a bonfire to keep warm.

EARL TOMLIN

Earl Tomlin is the son of Samuel B. Tomlin and Lillian Burr Tomlin who were married in Crystal Springs, Kansas. They came to Denver in 1888 and moved to Edgewater in 1891. They built a small two room house on the rear of the lots at 2573 Depew Street. In 1905 they built their new home on the front of these same lots, a two story frame house which still stands and was the home of Mrs. Lillian Tomlin until her death December 25, 1950, Mr. Sam Tomlin having passed away in 1912. The Tomlin home was the seventeenth home built after incorporation of Edgewater.

Mr. Samuel Tomlin was very active in town politics, being a member of the first Board of Trustees and serving in this capacity until 1908. He also took a very active part in the church life of the community. He was a member of the old Edgewater Methodist Church even before the incorporation of the town. His wife, Lillian, was very active in church and school affairs.

There were born to this couple five children; two boys and three girls. Earl, born October 28, 1889; Ina May, July 2, 1892; Paul James, February 26, 1894, Mildred Lillian, September 8, 1900 and Ruth Namoa, April 29, 1904. All these children were born and educated in Edgewater. There are twelve grand children and fifteen great grand children.

Earl Tomlin was married on August 1, 1913 at Golden to Eva Alice Ward. They have one son, Harry Lawrence Tomlin, who was educated in Edgewater. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Tomlin have two grand children.

Earl has many memories of early Edgewater but the thing he remembers best is when he was a small child, herding cattle up near West 24th Avenue and Brown Avenue where there was a fine spring and sand bar. Here with friends and boyhood chums they swam and lay in the sun and told stories. Sometimes they went as far as the swamp near 20th Avenue and Harlan Boulevard where ducks stayed all summer and in the spring and fall geese alighted on their journey north and south. He reports that an occasional deer came here to drink.

Another of his favorite stories is about the time they were skating on Sloan's Lake, January 1, 1904. There was a large crowd of

young men and boys, playing "shinny" on the ice, near the place where the boat house now stands. In this part of the lake were several springs, one quite large which flowed warm water, and when the rest of the lake was frozen solid, there would be a large hole open above the spring.

Earl and Paul were chasing Felix Powers who had the puck and was skating rapidly across the ice, and, in the excitement, plunged thru the hole. Earl, who was unable to stop, caught his skate and fell part way into the hole. Paul, his brother who was behind them was able to stop and pulled Earl back from the hole and used his "shinny" stick as a rescue pole to pull Felix from the water although Felix was partly submerged under the water.

MATILDA SMITH

There stands at 2461 Ames Street a fine old home, the first permanent house built in Edgewater. This was built by Mr. and Mrs. George A. Noll in 1890 and was the home of this fine old couple for many years. Here they lived and raised a family of six children; Mary, Matilda, Anton G., Adeline, Leonard, and Philip. These children all grew up in the community and attended school here.

Matilda was born in Denver in 1894. The original Noll home was built in 1890 but George Noll and his family moved back to Denver, then returned to Edgewater in 1894.

In 1901 Matilda started to school in Edgewater and attended there through the sixth grade.

On May 22, 1920 Matilda Noll married John Smith in the parsonage of the Methodist Church. They were married by Rev. Roy H. McVicker, a long time minister in this community. After her marriage she moved to 2586 Depew Street where she has made her home for thirty-one years. There were born to this couple three children; Mary, Ina Belle and Della May. These children were educated in Edgewater schools. John Smith passed away in 1939. Two of the girls have married and there are two grandchildren.

Mrs. Smith has been a resident of Edgewater fifty-seven years and has found this a very fine community to live in and raise a family. She has found the people friendly and neighborly.

Matilda has many memories of early Edgewater. Her father owned and operated one of the first grocery stores in Edgewater, and as a girl, she was employed at Manhattan Beach. She remembers the Theatre well and the people who were actresses and actors there. Many of these people boarded at the Noll home during the summer season.

One of her favorite stories is about the only Eskimo child born in Colorado. There was a concession at old Manhattan Beach run by John Smith (no relation of Matilda Smith) who had an Eskimo wife. Their concession was a dog sled with wheels attached and pulled by four dogs, driven by the Eskimo children. There was born at Manhattan Beach, a son of this couple named Oscar Denver Hintze Smith—Oscar, his given name, Denver for the place he was born, and Hintze for the manager of the park at that time. So among the other tales of Manhattan Beach is the story of the only Eskimo born in Colorado.

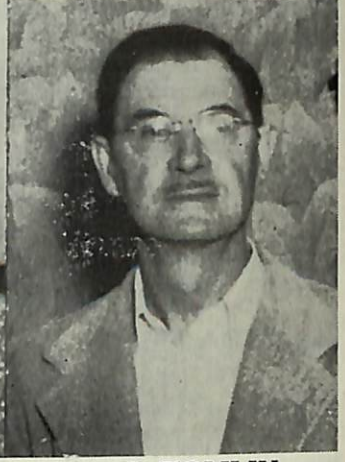
Her other favorite story was that of Bill Carsten who made balloon ascensions in Edgewater in 1915. His balloon was a large bag filled with hot air and smoke and the ascensions were always made without a parachute. Mrs. Smith relates on one occasion he filled the balloon, between West 25th Avenue and West 26th Avenue on Sheridan Boulevard



AGNES PUTNAM



MRS. GEO. FRASER



EARL TOMLIN



MATILDA SMITH



EMMA SCHMIDT



ADA MENZIES



FRED GORRINGE



ETHEL KIRK

and in the process one of the ropes which held the wooden seat on which Mr. Carsten rode was nearly burned in two and when the balloon had gone up several feet, it broke and he fell flat on his face. The gathered crowd gave a shout of despair and many feared that he had been killed but after being given artificial respiration and a little liquid refreshment, he got to his feet and was able to make plans for the next ascension which took place the next week, near the ball diamonds at West 22nd Avenue and Harlan Boulevard. This next ascension was more successful and he sailed thru the air, carried by a high wind over to a hay field near the J.C.R.S. In spite of the high wind he was able to land in a haystack. The Denver Post commented on his far-sightedness in being able to pick such a soft spot to land.

AGNES PUTNAM

In 1898 there came to Edgewater the family of David and Jane Gemmel, who made their residence at 2403 Sheridan Boulevard. Mr. Gemmel came here to help his mother, Mrs. Gibson, operate a restaurant and tavern. This building was built in 1885, even before Manhattan Beach. It was used as a stage coach station and inn where people spent the night and the stage drivers changed horses for their journey west.

Dave Gemmel was very active in town affairs; having been Marshall, Mayor, a member of the Board of Trustees and later, a member of the school board.

There were five daughters in this family; Ellen, Agnes, Zella, Margaret and Dorothy. All these children were educated in Edgewater school. Agnes graduated from the eighth grade, there being only two in the graduating class that year, Mazie Irvine and Agnes Gemmel. Mrs. Jane Gemmel passed away in 1911.

Agnes Gemmel married Dean Putnam, June 23, 1920. They motored to Golden in Eddie George's model T Ford at the terrific speed of twenty miles per hour. They have made their home in Edgewater ever since. Their present home is 2501 Fenton Street. They have two children; Jack Dale and Nadine Iris and one grandchild. Jack and Nadine were christened and later married at the altar of the Edgewater Community Church.

In her fifty-three years of residence in Edgewater the thing she likes to remember most was the constant growth of the community. She remembers when the streets were just narrow lanes and were impassable in bad weather. Wagons would become bogged down and have to wait for days until they could be pulled out.

The first electric lights made a very deep impression on her and she remembers the following poem used at that time:

Seeing Edgewater's lights is my delight

Either by day or else by night.

Out with your girlie

Your dear little pearlie

On the board walks as on your flight

From George Noli's corner to Heller's Hill

The sights that you see, sets your heart in a thrill

The lights were so bright

They made day out of night

On West 25th Avenue.

Coming of the water and the sewer were also things that thrilled her greatly. Mrs. Putnam thinks that Edgewater has always been a

fine place to live because of the neighborliness of the people and the community spirit which has always existed here.

The early days of Edgewater were not all serene and tranquil. When the saloons and the gay life of Manhattan Beach were in full swing many unpleasant incidents occurred here. Mrs. Putnam tells this story concerning her father when he was town Marshall. On July 4, 1905, the entire family were at home having dinner. They were dressed in their Sunday best. A woman came screaming down Sheridan Boulevard pursued by a man. Dave Gemmel rushed from his home into the street, without taking time to get his gun and star. He tried to separate these people. A spectator, not knowing he was the Marshall, hit him over the head with a gun, causing a large scalp wound, which bled profusely. He fell to the street. Zella Gemmel, Agnes' sister who had followed her father, dropped to her knees and held his head in her lap, causing large blood stains on her clothing. By this time Mrs. Gemmel had arrived, viewing this startling scene, she fell over in a fainting spell. However, with the aid of friends and spectators order was soon restored. This climaxed a most trying holiday afternoon for the pioneer Gemmel family.

Earl Tomlin tells this story concerning Dean Putnam and Paul Tomlin. After World War I, when James Hopkins was Mayor of Edgewater, they had a celebration in honor of the returning military men and presented them with a medal in honor of their services in the Armed Forces. He also, had a contest in which the men marched around the town lot for the choosing of the finest looking soldier or sailor present. After the elimination there remained only two men, Paul Tomlin and Dean Putnam. Finally Paul Tomlin was eliminated, leaving Dean Putnam the winner.

ETHEL KIRK

The Kirk family came to Edgewater in April of 1901 from Iowa. William Frank Kirk and his wife, Nancy Weeks Kirk, settled in Edgewater and brought a large family with them. There were ten children but only Maude was born in Edgewater. She was born July 10, 1906.

The children were Tom, Clyde, Frankie, Bill, Sam, Ethel, Joe, George and Maude. There are twelve grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. The family lived first with Mrs. Kirk's sister, Mrs. Duncan, on Eaton Street, near West 26th Avenue. By 1902 or 1903 they moved to their present home at 2556 Depew Street. This house had already been built and the family has made its residence there ever since.

The thing that has impressed Ethel Kirk most about Edgewater is the growth and development of the town, and she thinks it is still a fine place to live. However, her brother, Bill, who lives at the same address is not of this opinion. He thinks that the old Edgewater was better because the people then were more friendly and neighborly and a man could find room to move around.

Ethel's favorite story is about how the people who lived in Edgewater in 1901 went to the springs near West 26th Avenue and Gray Street for water. Here in the evening nearly all the families came with their children to get water for home use. The older folks talked and exchanged gossip of the day and the children played games and had fun in general. This is a story as old as time, where people gathered at the source of the water supply and exchanged ideas. This is one of the reasons the early people became such good friends and neighbors.

This gathering at the spring was not an unmixed blessing, for in September 1903, as a result of drinking this spring water, there broke

out in Edgewater an epidemic of typhoid fever. The Kirk family had six ill at one time and many other families were victims of this dreaded epidemic.

I. S. T. GREGG

It is by special request of Mr. Gregg, himself, that limited recognition be given him. He has played a large part in the growth and development of Edgewater. Mr. Gregg and his family came to Edgewater in April 1901 and has lived in the same residence, 5320 West 26th Avenue, for fifty years. Mr. Gregg is now in his ninetieth year. He was eighty-nine last January 30, 1951. His wife Clara Viola passed away in recent years.

In this home his daughter, Irene, grew up. She was educated in the Edgewater school through the eighth grade and graduated from Wheatridge High School.

Mrs. Gregg was very active in the early days of the P.T.A. and church life of the community.

Mr. Gregg's greatest contribution to the community is the laying of the present water system in 1915. Mr. Gregg and Mr. Fisher contracted to lay the present water system for \$29,800.00 and on a little forced account due to unusual hazards on West 26th Avenue, the total amount just exceeded \$30,000.00. The standard wage was \$2.00 per day but the year the pipe line was layed, it was a wet, rainy summer and made working conditions extremely muddy and bad. To help offset these harsh conditions Mr. Gregg paid his help \$2.25 per day.

The present pipe line system is from West 29th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard; this part of the system is an eight inch main with three and one-half pounds of lead at each joint plus the packing. The line then goes west on West 26th Avenue to Lamar Street, then south on Lamar Street to West 23rd Avenue, down West 23rd Avenue to Harlan Boulevard, over to West 22nd Avenue, down West 22nd Avenue to Depew Street, down Depew Street to West 24th Avenue, down West 24th Avenue to Sheridan Boulevard then back to West 26th Avenue. This outline main is all six inch pipe and the cross laterals are four inch pipe.

This system is all four and one-half feet deep except on West 26th Avenue where it is seven and one-half feet deep. The reason this was necessary was because the county commissioners were to lower West 26th Avenue three feet, but this has never been done. Instead, surfacing has been added and the lines might now be as much as eight feet deep.

This system was so well constructed that there has never been a leak on Sheridan Boulevard and very few throughout the town. Mr. Perry, the present town clerk, reports that when taps are made to the present mains, he finds them, in general, in as good condition as the day they were layed. A tribute to the men who did the work.

Mr. Gregg believes that Edgewater is one of the finest towns in the world, and by his own choice has continued to live here for fifty years.

He thinks one of the things Edgewater should be proud of is the lack of juvenile delinquents, there having been no real juvenile problems in the town. This is due to the good women of the community guiding the children in their homes, through the work of the P.T.A. and church groups.

FRED GORRINGE

There are in our community pioneers who go about their daily life so quiet and unobtrusive that few people observe them. This is the case of Fred Gorringer. He is the son of Philip Gorringer and Mary Collier Gorringer who first came to Edgewater in 1891 and has made his home here since that time. There were two children in the Gorringer family. Fred was born in Three Rivers, Michigan in 1877 and his sister, Sadie was born in the same town in 1886. They came west to Denver in 1890, following their father, a miner, who had come here in 1879.

They settled in Edgewater in a small two room house near West 26th Avenue and Depew Street and were neighbors of the Tomlins and Frasers. Fred did not go to school in Edgewater but went to the old Ashland School on West 29th Avenue in Denver. He was married in 1918 to Mabel Chase. There were four children; Bert, Lillian, Philip and Fred. These children were all educated in Edgewater schools and now make their homes elsewhere. He has nine grandchildren.

Fred now resides at 2532 Eaton Street. He was a carpet and linoleum layer until he retired.

The thing he remembers most about the early days was his hunting expeditions into the open country, west of Edgewater. This was about 1893. He reports that there was excellent dove shooting on the hill near West 25th Avenue and Lamar Street, also, rabbits and other small game were plentiful. He made a hobby of rifles and shooting and was quite a famous marksman in the early days. In 1910 he joined the Denver Rifle Club, who had their club house on the present location of Camp George West. Here he made the acquaintance of such famous marksmen as Albert G. Bitterly, who was the finest off-hand shot of his day, also, Mr. Peterson, a famous gunsmith in Denver. Another member of this club was Captain Hardy, world famous trick and fancy shot. His most famous exploit was shooting glass balls, dropped from an aeroplane, with a rifle.

Shooting against such top notch competition Fred Gorringer won the Coors Cup for two hundred yard off-hand shooting and many other awards.

Mr. Gorringer has been a resident of Edgewater for more than sixty years and hopes to spend many more happy years in this community.

EMMA SCHMIDT (ORUM)

In 1891 there moved to Edgewater the family of Frank Schmidt who with his wife, Elsie Rink Schmidt, built a home at West 22nd Avenue and Ames Street. This home was reported to have been the second permanent house built in Edgewater. Some people even claim it was the first. This home was located on a fifty acre farm tract and here were born Emma, in 1893 and Louis, in 1894. Emma Schmidt moved to her present home, 2444 Depew Street in 1910, and has resided there ever since.

Frank Schmidt was a commercial fisherman, who made his living by seining fish in lakes throughout Colorado and selling them in his own store on West Colfax Avenue and to wholesale houses. He made his fishing trips with horse and wagon, often being gone for weeks at a time. On these occasions the fish were shipped back by train.

Mrs. Elsie Schmidt was a very fine net maker, she made and repaired all the nets used by her husband. Later Emma helped make nets.

Emma and Louis Schmidt were educated through the sixth grade in the Edgewater school. Emma has been a resident of Edgewater

for fifty-eight years and has these memories of the early days. While they were yet small children it was their job to herd the cattle west of Edgewater and help with the outdoor chores.

She tells this tale of the early days of Edgewater. In about 1900 Mrs. Schmidt sent Emma and Louis to the store for groceries late in the evening. They were to go to the grocery store located at West 25th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard but when they arrived there it was closed and they had to go to West 26th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard to another store. In the meantime a high wind came up and the sky became overcast and when the children started to return home they lost their way because there were no streets or street lights and only a few dim lights from houses.

They wandered all night suffering from fear and cold until they came to a stream on the east side of what was then known as Cooper's Lake where they stayed until daylight, huddling under the bank to keep warm. At dawn they made their way to a porch of a home located near St. Anthony's Hospital where they were found the next morning by George Fraser, who had searched the area on horseback all night with other Edgewater residents. When rescued they still had the groceries clutched in their hands, untouched.

Emma tells this story about her brother Louis Schmidt. He was a volunteer fireman in Edgewater. In 1920 there was a fire at West 24th Avenue and Depew Street. The Edgewater volunteer Fire Department answered the alarm. Louis was one of the volunteers and helped fight the fire. There seemed to be a persistent blaze in the attic and Louis climbed to the roof to help bring this part of the fire under control. He was overcome with heat and smoke and, trying to get off the roof before it collapsed, he fell and broke his ankle. He was confined to bed for some time. Louis was the first volunteer fireman in Edgewater to sustain a serious injury while fighting a fire and is emblematic of the spirit of the Edgewater volunteer Fire Department who risk life and limb, without thought of reward or pay to protect their neighbors property.

EDGEWATER CHURCHES

These are the very Houses of God.——

The church has played a very active part in Edgewater and was here even before the town. There are now four churches serving the community; providing spiritual guidance for the people of Edgewater. They are the Edgewater Community Church, Edgewater Christian Church, St. Mary Magdalene Church (Catholic) and the Edgewater Baptist Church.

EDGEWATER COMMUNITY CHURCH

The background for the Edgewater Community Church was formed in 1890 when Rev. Woods came to Edgewater and established a mission for the Methodist Church. This mission was in a tent near West 26th Avenue and Depew Street but regular meetings were not held. By 1895 the Rev. John Collins held meetings in a tent on what is now Chase Street. The tent got into such a state of disrepair that they were forced to build board walls to keep it from falling to pieces. This was considered the first permanent church in Edgewater. Rev. Collins attracted a large congregation for that time. He had an average attendance of thirty-nine and there were fifty-three members on the church roll. The Sunday School

attendance averaged about fifty. However, in 1897 Rev. Collins left for a new church and the men who filled his pulpit were unable to hold the congregation. They were mostly students from Liff School of Theology. The mission was then moved to Lakeside, an addition just north of West 26th Avenue and Depew Street, because of lack of interest. Here a wooden structure was built and services were held until November 24, 1902.

June 9, 1901, Rev. L. W. Bell came to Edgewater as the minister. He was a young man of only twenty-two years and was educated in Divinity Schools in England and had only been in this country six months. He immediately set to work to build a new church and was able to raise \$500.00 from the people of Edgewater. His goal for material was \$1,600.00 and the labor was to be furnished by members of the congregation.

On April 22, the following year, construction started. They were still short of funds. Will Fraser tells the following story. He drove Rev. Bell, in a horse and buggy, to Golden to see Adolph Coors, Senior, and was able to obtain a generous contribution toward the church fund.

The building committee was Postmaster Judge Frank Miller, Secretary; Louis B. Dallas, Mr. Locke, Mr. McLellan, Albert Heller, Fred Anderson, Mr. Morrison and Samuel Tomlin. The church was dedicated on November 24, 1902 by Chancellor Buchtel of the University of Denver (for whom Buchtel Boulevard in Denver is named). The structure cost \$1,160.52 and at the time of dedication it was free of debt. This building was built at West 26th Avenue and Depew Street and still stands.

It was used as a place of worship until 1921 when the Edgewater Methodist Church moved to their new church at West 25th Avenue and Fenton Street, changing its name to Edgewater Community Church. The old building was sold to the Parish of St. Mary Magdalene Church as a recreation hall.

The new Edgewater Community Church at West 25th Avenue and Fenton Street was built under the guidance of Rev. Roy H. McVicker at a cost of \$27,500.00 and in 1944, when Rev. Ruben Standiforth was minister the mortgage was burned leaving the property clear. In 1949 a new organ was purchased by the church under the ministry of Rev. W. O. Risinger.

The following is a list of the ministers who served the Edgewater Methodist Church; 1892, Rev. Woods, R. H. Rhoades, John Collins and Allen. In 1896, Rev. Wheatley and Johnston. 1900, Rev. Ammeron. 1902, Rev. L. W. Bell, L. L. Gaither and Stauffer. 1903, Rev. Johnson and Winterbourne. 1907, Rev. Winship who stayed until 1911. 1911, Rev. Jones and Pepper. 1912 to 1917, Rev. Flynt, 1917, Rev. French, Rev. Roy H. McVicker served the Edgewater Methodist Church from April 1917 to 1921 then moving to the new church which became the Edgewater Community Church where he served as pastor until September 1928. The following is a list of the ministers who have served in the Edgewater Community Church: Rev. French, Rev. Llye L. Gaither, Rev. Francis Brush, Rev. Charles Brown, Rev. Roy Williams, Rev. Rubin Standiforth and the present minister Rev. W. O. Risinger.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH

The first church service of the Catholic Church was held in the home of Mrs. Burns on Ames Street. In August of 1907, the church that now stands at West 26th Avenue and Depew Street was built. The first Parish Priest was Father James N. Desautiners who served from 1907

McVicker 1917-28

F. C. Jager 1934-5

Geo. Goodenham 1935-7

E. C. Epper 1931-2

to 1918. The first child baptized was Raymond Wieland and he is still a member of the Parish. Father Desautiniers was followed by Father Mark W. Lappen from 1918 to 1923. The next priest was Father William J. Omalley, 1923 to 1926. Father James P. Flannagan came in 1926 and is still serving the Parish, after twenty-five years. He came to Edgewater three years after being ordained. In October 1949 he was elevated to Monsignor.

Sunday March 2, 1941 two additional Masses were added to the Sunday services; through arrangements with Regis College, West 50th and Lowell Boulevard, a Priest from the college assisted every Sunday. This arrangement was made necessary by the increase in the population in this area. Where two services seemed sufficient each Sunday, four are conducted each Sunday at the present time. Church services were transferred to the new Parish Building at West 28th Avenue and Zenobia Street on Friday, February 2nd and the first Sunday services were held on Sunday February 4, 1951. The Parish serves the territory bounded on the East by Stuart Street and the North by 35th Avenue and the West on 32nd Avenue to Olivet Road. The South line is West Colfax Avenue from Stuart Street, West to Teller Street and North on Teller Street to West 20th Avenue, and West on West 20th Avenue to Whitfield or Mt. Olivet Road.

The Blessing of the new building at West 28th Avenue and Zenobia Street took place on Monday, February 26, 1951 at 10 a.m. The Most Rev. Urban J. Vehr, Archbishop of Denver, conducted the services. The building at West 26th Avenue and Depew Street has been converted into an activities building and provides a larger auditorium than the building used so many years as a Social Center. The Parish Rectory of Priest's House is still at the site of 5529 West 26th Avenue.

EDGEWATER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The first Christian Church was built in Edgewater where the Town Hall is now located, by Rev. T. T. Thompson, who built the church himself with the help of interested towns people. Most of the material being donated by a friend of Rev. Thompson, who had become interested in the earnestness of Rev. Thompson. Then living at the Y.M.C.A., a pastor without a church, a Christian Socialist, he found a place in Edgewater and there his church which was never completely finished but had four walls, a roof and an altar.

The building was built in 1912 and 1913. He was pastor to a small congregation until illness compelled him to retire. The Christian Mission then sent Rev. Wilkerson to the Church. After Rev. Wilkerson came Rev. James Cotrell. Then came Rev. Robert Lowden. After his ministry there was no regular minister, but Mr. Houchens took over the services, held Sunday School and had a good Young People's service which is well remembered by the Edgewater residents of that time.

Then came Rev. E. M. Carr, a well beloved and public spirited minister. During his ministry the new Church was built at West 25th Avenue and Chase Street. The corner stone was laid in 1923 and the first services were held there with Rev. Carr as minister. The next ministers in order were Rev. Ralph Bixel, Rev. Fred H. Hanger, Rev. F. W. Henry, Rev. John Able, Rev. H. E. Wilhite, Rev. A. R. Bemis, Rev. Verlin H. Stump and the present minister Rev. J. L. Schuler. The Christian Church is now a fine structure and its influence for good is felt throughout the town and near-by area.

THE EDGEWATER BAPTIST CHURCH

The Edgewater Baptist Church began as a mission work of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Denver in June 1948. Rev. Elmon Huddlestun and J. R. Huddlestun, his brother, assumed the responsibility of conducting Sunday School and worship services. The Oddfellows Hall at West 25th Avenue and Eaton Street was rented and services begun. Only one person was in attendance at the first service, but the months which followed were marked by a steady rise in attendance.

In October of 1949, Mr. Huddlestun left to procure advanced theological training. Rev. Burt R. Poole, of Denver, was called as pastor of the yet unorganized group. On May 3rd, 1950 the church was organized and became affiliated with the Baptist General Conference of America which conference has its headquarters in Chicago, Illinois.

Now, with crowded quarters for worship, the necessity of having mid-week services in the homes of church members, and a Sunday School enrollment of 135, the need for a church building is being realized. Building lots have been purchased on the corner of West 22nd Avenue and Jay Street in the anticipation of the erection of a \$35,000.00 church building in the near future. The financing of the proposed new building is being done by the sale of bonds and by the free-will donations of interested persons.

EDGEWATER LODGES

They seek to improve men.———

EDGEWATER LODGE NO. 159, A. F. & A. M.

The first thought that came to the Committee on History was "and a little child shall lead them". This quotation particularly applies to our Lodge, when one stops to consider that in a sense, children were really responsible for the origin of this Lodge. Edgewater Lodge had its inception in the "Little Red School House" on the hill. Several good and true men of this community were attending a P.T.A. meeting at the school house one evening. No doubt they were there as a result of their childrens efforts, and while meditating upon their sins and the sins of their children, one of them suddenly had a brilliant idea. "Say Fellows why wouldn't this room make a good place to hold a Masonic Lodge"? And thus occurred the birth of Edgewater Lodge.

The idea was received with great enthusiasm. It was decided by the small group present that proper steps should be taken at once to organize a Masonic Lodge in Edgewater. They accordingly proposed that a meeting should be held within the next few days in order that plans might be made.

On the night of December 27, 1923, the following Brethren, Leslie D. Bruce, William W. Cormack, Frank H. Gates, Anton G. E. Noll, Albert T. Carpenter, Otto Whithauer, James H. Hopkins, Charles W. Soloman, Stephen A. Higgs, Zeno P. Flick, Floyd E. Sanders, Roy H. McVicker and Elliott A. Ransom met at the home of James H. Hopkins, 2403 Gray Street, Edgewater, Colorado. A committee consisting of Leslie D. Bruce, William W. Cormack and James H. Hopkins was appointed to call on Brother William W. Cooper, Grand Secretary, of the Grand Lodge, and report back at a later meeting as to the proper steps necessary to organize a new lodge.

Report was duly made at the next meeting held January 24, 1924, at the School House and it was determined to ask the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Colorado for a dispensation to form a new lodge.

Application was then made to Most Worshipful Brother Jesse C. Wiley, Grand Master, for a dispensation to form a new Lodge in Edgewater, to be known as Edgewater Lodge U. D. In anticipation of the dispensation being granted the Brethren present selected Brother Leslie D. Bruce, Henry J. Gast, Albert T. Carpenter, Elliott A. Ransom, and James H. Hopkins, to serve under dispensation as Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

On April 8, 1924 the petition was filed with Brother William W. Cooper. It was signed by thirty-four Master Masons and bore the recommendation of Golden City Lodge No. 1, Weston Lodge No. 22 of Littleton, Colorado, and Arvada Lodge No. 141. The dispensation was granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master on April 9, 1924.

The first Regular meeting of Edgewater Lodge U. D. was held at the Edgewater School House on April 18, 1924. Thirty members and thirty-three visitors being present.

The Lodge met in the red brick School House at West 24th Avenue and Eaton Street until March 4, 1932 and in the Odd Fellows Building at West 25th Avenue and Eaton Street from that date until June 22, 1950. Due to the increase in membership and in keeping with the times and growth of the community on July 13, 1949 the Lodge started construction of its \$80,000.00 Masonic Temple located on West 25th Avenue between Eaton Street and Fenton Street. The first meeting was held in its new Masonic Temple on September 14, 1950.

The Past Masters are: Leslie D. Bruce, Henry J. Gast, Albert T. Carpenter, William W. Cormack, Charles C. Kniffen, Floyd E. Sanders, Melville W. Lindsey, Milton A. Mattick, Louis J. Buehler, Walter M. Vogeler, Clarence E. Roper, Thomas N. Wayne, Merle L. White, Earl S. Tomlin, Schuyler L. Greeno, Clayton B. Wilcoxson, Frank H. Lumberg, Clarence R. Jacobson, Frederick H. Loose, John Krieger, Christian D. Stoner, Charles A. Dawson, William C. Proctor, Harry Craven, Elgie F. Shinn, Robert C. Templeton, Anton G. E. Noll, Herman J. Hillbrand, (affil.), Honorary Master, C. Wheeler Barnes, M. W. G. M. and Karl J. Loose present Master.

EASTERN STAR

The Evening Star Chapter No. 142 of Edgewater was chartered June 19, 1950. A Bethel of Jobs Daughters was installed in 1951.

I. O. O. F. Lodge No. 25

The I.O.O.F. No. 25 was instituted in Edgewater in December 1924. The first Noble Grand was Billy Kroll. They held their first meetings in the basement of the Christian Church and later moved to the Community Church. In 1930 they purchased the building at West 25th Avenue and Eaton Street and moved in in March 1931. All the labor in the remodeling of this building was donated by members of the Lodge. The I.O.O.F. is purely a Fraternal Lodge and has continued its operation until present time.

In the years between 1925 and 1931 it was the home of a famous drill team, having drilled in thirty-seven different lodges throughout the State including the Grand Lodge. The present Noble Grand is Harry Mott.

THE EDGEWATER REBEKAH LODGE NO. 9

The Edgewater Rebekah Lodge No. 9 was instituted September 30, 1925. Mrs. Laura Flick was the first Noble Grand. They also had a famous drill team and they are still in operation.

WORLD WAR I

They held the torch of Freedom high.——

It is the custom of the men of Edgewater, when a job is to be done, to assume their responsibility and go quietly and efficiently about the task. This was true when on April 6, 1917 the flames of war threatened to envelop the world, the men of Edgewater took up their guns and without fanfare or thought of glory went quietly to do the job at hand. While all the men were hero's a few little incidents should be mentioned. First is the story of Mudge Ransom who joined the Canadian Army at the start of the war in 1914, he was with the famous Princess Pat division which was practically destroyed. He was then returned to Canada and received his discharge because he was an American citizen. He then returned to Edgewater and attempted to enlist in the Army. He was unable to do this so he re-enlisted in the British Coast Guard and later because he was an American citizen was able to transfer back into the United States Coast Guard.

There is also the story of C. W. Francis, who was the oldest volunteer from Edgewater in World War I and Ray Spicer who enlisted with a recruiting officer in the Edgewater Pool Hall when the very first call for volunteers was made in 1916. Many other Edgewater men volunteered at this time, and from this town of less than seven hundred population, sixty men answered the call to the colors, and while all returned, Paul Tomlin and Ray Spicer died as a direct result of war.

The people at home felt their responsibility and did their share to help. In 1917 they held a Bond drive on old Town Hall lot. This drive was headed by Mrs. Mamby. Sam Gates walked the high wire to help make the drive a success.

The heroes who went away in the first War are as follows:

Paul Armstrong (Navy)	Herman Heller (Army)	Frank Steinhammer (Navy)
Carl Augustine (Army)	Bill Irvine (Marines)	Ted Seibold (Army)
Ralph Augustine (Army)	Joe Kirk (Navy)	Oscar Seawright (Army)
John Brophy (Navy)	Bill Kirk (Navy)	Albert Steinmiller (Army)
Harry Boyd (Navy)	Emerson Kent (Army)	Fred Simpson (Army)
Joe Brophy (Army)	Sam Kirk (Army)	Ben Simpson (Army)
Green Bickett (Army)	George Lyons (Army)	Roland Sahn (Army)
Wayne Bob Burns (Army)	Bernard Lyons (Army)	Al Spreng (Army)
Ike Bell (Army)	Al Mattick (Army)	Al Shipman (Army)
Henry Bentz (Army)	Jock Mamby (Army)	Louis Schmidt (Army)
Floyd Bickett (Army)	John Osborne (Navy)	Ray Spicer (Army)
Sam Carsten (Army)	Everett Offield (Army)	Paul Tomlin (Army)
Ollie Everhardt (Navy)	Alva Powers (Navy)	Bob Vogler (Army)
John Francis (Navy)	George Patsey (Navy)	Jim Wilson (Navy)
C. W. Francis (Army)	Dean Putnam (Army)	Walt Walbrook (Navy)
James Gordon (Army)	Ralph Quickenstead (Army)	Ray Wilder (Army)
Joe George (Army)	Tony Reichert (Marines)	Bill Wheeler (Army)
Eddie George (Army)	Mudge A. Ransom (BCG)	John Wheeler (Army)
Carrol W. Gilmore (Army)	Fred Rickel (Army)	Rudolph Witthauer (Army)
Ed Heller (Army)	Leslie O. Risley (Army)	Otto Witthauer (Army)

WORLD WAR II

Without thought of Glory——

On December 7, 1941, out of the Pacific, the bombs dropping on Pearl Harbor, lighted a flame that was seen burning around the world and the smoke and pall covered our fair land. It was then that the men and women of Edgewater remembered the heroic deeds of their Fathers. In the same quiet and efficient manner as those who had gone before them, they took up their arms and marched away. This time they went to all corners of the earth and into every branch of the Service.

Following in the footsteps of the Heroes of World War I they emulated them with heroic actions and deeds. This time many of the boys did not return and there hang in the homes of Edgewater twelve gold stars to commemorate the memories of those who died that others might live in a world of freedom and light.

On the corner of West 25th Avenue and Gray Street there stands a monument to those men and women who went away in World War II; and though this monument is weathered and cracked and some of the names are fading, their names and deeds will never fade but always have a bright place in the hearts of a grateful community and nation.

Those who gave their life for their country are as follows:

*Charles L. Barton
*Robert H. Clark
*Robert F. Downing
*Glen D. Hill

*James C. Irvine
*Warren Jacobsen
*Kieth W. Johnson
*Bernard F. Mumper

*Gale E. Palmer
*William J. Rose
*Gordon B. Rutherford, Jr.
*Gilbert Walcher, Jr.

Those who served with Honor and without thought of Glory:

Leland Allen
Ben Arkin
William M. Arnold
Robert T. Adams
Leslie Agan
Loren E. Abel
John D. Ahern
Jean K. Benson
Gerald H. Boles
Leonard Boring
John Bradbury
James Brundidge
Mitchell Bowers
Dillard Bishop
Charles M. Bjork
William P. Brown
Wayne E. Benson
Robert Boyd
Paul B. Basko
Leonard M. Brown
Roy W. Boles
Donald Brauch
Donald Bradbury
Moyné Bowen
Norman N. Boring
H. Edward Beauch
Charles R. Bottinelli
Robert Brauch
Thomas Brauch
Rev. Charles E. Brown
Richard Coven
Gilland W. Corbitt
William W. Cormack
Albert S. Coven
Charles Clark

Wayne M. Case
Tyler S. Craig
Donald L. Collard
Duane L. Case
Ernest A. Craig
Virgil Cook
Carl V. Carlson
Frank E. Copeland
George Chadwick
Charles Carroll
Wesley J. Case
Paul R. Cribari
Walter Carnahan, Jr.
Eugene P. Carlson
Kenneth I. Craig
Frank N. Chadwick
Ronald Carroll
Ralph C. Causey
Samuel G. Carlson
Robert E. Copeland
James H. Coin
Ralph F. Case
Lewis Cribari
Thomas Clark
Claude E. Corbitt
Melvin G. Calvin
Lorraine M. Cohen
Elmer Christopherson
Morgan H. Chadwick
Kenneth R. Clymer
Paul Copeland
John L. Crotty
Elmer Coven
Alfred Christopherson
Lawrence Cagle

Robert B. Cormack
Doyle Downing
Harold Dickey
Paul V. Downes
Roy E. Danklefsen
James L. Downes
Ben Dervage
Virgil Downing
Holbert A. Downes
Minor Dervage
Carl J. Dickey
Charles DeMarco
Emmet Martin
Edwin B. Duckworth
James E. Dora
Robert V. Downing
C. N. Dow
Dale Dickenson
Henry Daykin
W. W. Evers
Dean E. Francis
Hugh J. Foster
Doy L. Francis
Olive Felderman
James M. Ferguson
Dennis Francis
John B. Ferguson
Michael Giba III
Robert R. Guy
Clarence E. Graham
Bert Gorringer
Harold W. Gardner
James B. Griffin
Samuel H. Grossman
Sidney C. Groves

Albert Grider
 Frank W. Gates
 Robert B. Glaister
 Arthur Greene
 Charles E. Gallagher
 Ray Garrison
 Dean Gelvin
 Ray Graham
 Philip Gorringer
 Merle C. Hogan
 Jack Hefner
 Donald M. Hill
 Donald E. Holland
 Charles Head
 Harold L. Hefner
 Dennis P. Hallinan
 Harris Hirsch
 Glenn T. Horlbeck
 Jerome Hurieneck
 Cecil Hale
 Carl Hirsch
 George Harkins
 Chester W. Hering
 Adolph Hirsch
 Earl N. Horlbeck
 Earl Harkins
 George B. Hopkins
 Jacob C. Hunter, Jr.
 Jacob R. Hirsch
 Loren Higgs
 Donald R. Hirsch
 Benjamin Holloway
 Russell Hatfield
 Helen R. Hess
 Elmo S. Hefner, Jr.
 Frank E. Hansen
 Ernest Harkins
 Gordon A. Haley
 Lisle Higgs
 Milton Hoyt
 Samuel D. Irvine
 Melvin Johnson
 Herman Jost
 Frank H. Johnson
 Boyd Jeffries
 Monta Jeffries
 Carl L. Johnson
 Max L. Johnson
 Thomas Johnson
 Lewis Johnson
 Stanley Johnson
 Raymond Johnson
 Robert H. Kitzman
 Elmer Kennedy
 George Klocker
 Edward Karpen
 Eugene E. Kingery
 Jerry Kitzman
 Herman Kramer
 Philip W. Kocotes
 Richard G. Kortum
 Fred A. Kaysen
 Cecil W. Lingg
 Benny L. LaBella
 Glenn H. Lancaster
 Samuel Loose
 Earl Leinhart
 Paul Luper

Ralph Leinert
 Edward Lowe
 Henry Leuer
 Gerald Leyen
 Robert Leyen
 Leo B. Larew
 Harry F. Mills
 Richard H. Morris
 Calvin Mills
 Doyle M. Morris
 Roger Meinke
 Roy Charles Mills, Jr.
 Keith Mayo
 Robert Mumper
 Jack W. Morton
 Monroe Mayo
 Lyle L. Miller
 Lewis B. Messervy
 Theodore Mason
 Herbert F. Martins
 Lawrence D. Minor
 Andrew Menzies
 Harry Miller
 Harlan Mienke
 Robert E. Menzies
 John A. Murray
 William J. Money
 Arthur J. McDonald
 Howard McGirk
 Robert D. McVay
 James B. McDonald
 James B. McLaughlin
 Robert McGirk
 Clayton McLeod
 George McLeod
 William McGirk
 W. C. McGirk
 Edgerton S. Nugent, Jr.
 Frank Nicholey
 Fred Nix
 Carl Newman
 John Norby
 Arthur Nickoley
 Roy H. Nox
 Leonard Nickoley
 Timothy O'Connell
 Gordon L. Odell
 Dan L. Pugh
 Francis C. Patsey
 Jack A. Parsons
 Robert J. Pepping
 Francis L. Pierce
 Jack D. Putnam
 Nicholas Pepping
 Kenneth H. Perry
 Michael O. Peterson
 Charles H. Parrill
 Clarence G. Parrill
 John R. Poindexter, Jr.
 Donald T. Petrie
 Melville Pike
 Walter E. Penn
 Clarence N. Perry, Jr.
 William J. Patsey
 William J. Perry
 William G. Patsey
 Pascal Quackenbush
 Herbert H. Rogalla

Morris Riley
 Norman H. Rockwell
 Rack A. Ramsdell
 Fack A. Rinn
 Frederick R. Rudman
 Clifford E. Roten
 Don Rishel
 Glen P. Rogers
 Walter J. Rogalla
 Perry A. Rogers
 Millard A. Ramsdell
 Arthur W. Riddle
 Chester A. Riley
 Charles Richard
 Vernon A. Roggon
 Albert J. Rudman
 Harold K. Smith
 Marion S. Simons
 Raymond V. Seely
 Lewis H. Stoddard
 Melvin E. Sutton
 Kenneth R. Sommer
 Reed Shackelford
 George Springston
 Eugene Schmitz
 Jack Stanton
 Robert M. Sapper
 Harold Symank
 Franklin L. Strohmeier
 Vern Strait
 Ronald Schoenfelder
 Ronald C. Sarsfield
 Carl Strohmeier
 Ernest R. Sena
 William E. Sage
 Harry E. Swanson
 LeRoy E. Stitt
 James W. Swan
 Howard Sutton
 Paul Strohmeier
 Joseph L. Sena
 W. O. Seifert
 Pat Schooley
 Stanley S. Slacks
 Roy F. Sanderson
 Hollis Stout
 Russell Stryker
 Fremont Shell
 Allen F. Shipman
 Vernon Sanderson
 Bernice Sutton
 James S. Stage
 Philip Strohmeier
 Lisle Schiemann
 Carl Sarno
 James Switzer
 Anthony Spaneretti
 Kenneth L. Seidel
 Harris Stoll
 Charles Stark
 Larry Schumacher
 John G. Spahn
 Thomas Servos
 Bill Shumate
 Irving Singer
 Edward G. Stoddard
 Edwin Sutton
 Herbert L. Sylvester

Eugene V. Tautfest
 Serana R. Tait
 Lawrence Tomlin
 James A. Taylor, Jr.
 Lonton T. Tautfest
 Alfred P. Tilton
 Dale S. Thomas
 Marvin E. Tucker
 Kenneth W. Utecht
 Richard F. Vogel
 James R. Vandervort
 Kendall F. White
 Samuel L. Wilson
 Donald Walcher
 John O. White
 Lloyd Weygint

Harry H. Weber
 Kenneth L. White
 Robert H. Wilson
 Warren Woogart
 John M. Wagner
 Llyn E. Williams
 Calvin F. Warner, Jr.
 Lemuel H. Walker
 Elijah S. Williams
 Kenneth Whitten
 Ira W. Williams
 Clair Walther
 Johnnie B. Wise
 Russell L. West
 William O. Wilson
 Alexander H. Wolfe

Robert W. Wilmont
 Floyd Willoughby
 Frank E. Wright
 Clark Weaver
 Duane Wilson
 William H. Wilson
 Louis Williams
 Richard K. Walters
 Joseph W. Wind
 David Wisenborn
 Raymond B. Wilson
 Delmar Winning
 H. J. Wood
 Gerald B. Weygint
 Dale Zigler

INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN

A ship of State is launched.—

The story behind the incorporation of the town of Edgewater is not as pleasant as it might have been, but if it were not for the background, there very likely would have been no town of Edgewater, but only an area similiar to Lakewood or Mountair, called Edgewater, or perhaps Manhattan.

October 14, 1892 in the saloon of Mr. Steinke, near Sheridan Boulevard and Emerald Street (West 25th Avenue), a meeting was called and nearly a hundred persons were present, representing saloon keepers and citizens. It was the purpose of this meeting to persuade the people to incorporate into a town. The saloon owners offered to pay all expenses in connection with the incorporation and the expenses of running the town, in order that they be out from under the jurisdiction of Denver and the Ashland police. They not only wanted to incorporate what is now Edgewater but also extend into Denver, north of Manhattan Beach. The people were so alarmed at this proposal that they refused to have anything to do with it, fearing that the unsavory element connected with the saloons, liquor and gambling interests would make Edgewater a gangsters paradise.

It was at this time that the temperance group started to bring its influence to bear in this part of the county and by 1899 when a new Company wanted to put a saloon near what is now West 25th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard, they circulated a petition and presented it to the County Commissioners in Golden, who had the authority to issue a liquor license outside of incorporated towns. When this petition was presented to the County Commissioners, they refused to issue the license and many citizens came forward to congratulate them on their action.

Conditions became so bad in Edgewater by 1900 that it became evident that something must be done. It was reported that there were six saloons in the area close to West 25th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard, also wide-open gambling and houses of prostitution. One reason conditions were so bad was because when Denver and Arapahoe County, which was just south of Colfax Avenue, made an effort to control conditions, this unsavory element came to Edgewater, where there were no closing hours and no Sunday controls. Early citizens report that on Saturdays and Sundays it was almost impossible to cross Sheridan Boulevard because of the drunks and bums.

In 1899, in spite of this, there was circulated a petition of incorporation and a committee of judges was selected to be sure that the names on the petition for incorporation were legal voters. The judges were

John Reichert, Fred Gunther, Louis Noll, Frank Osborne and James Dugal. Fifty-four ballots were cast and there was elected the first Board of Trustees which consisted of J. B. Westhaver, Frank Osborne, Samuel Tomlin, George Fraser, Robert Brinkley and Hugh McCartney. After the incorporation on August 18, 1901 they were elected the first Board of Trustees.

This was an unofficial Board of Trustees and had no authority but were authorized by the citizens at that time to hold an official election on the question of incorporation pursuant to the petition of incorporation that had been circulated and was on file in Golden and later with the State. On August 18, 1901 when the vote for incorporation was actually placed before the people there was a very hot election. There were two factions. Those opposed to incorporation and commonly called the temperance group. This group was headed by Wallace Ogilvie who opposed Westhaver. A very strenuous campaign was held with much mud slinging and even street corner orations.

Those opposing Westhaver and his group came forth with this campaign argument. If the town was incorporated there would be no way to control the saloons and called those people in favor of incorporation "rummies." They stated that the Town Board and Town Marshall would not be a sufficient police force to control the lawless element surrounding the saloons. They even went further and stated that a \$500.00 license fee charged to operate a saloon would not offset the evil that would eventually overcome the town, for they remembered back to 1892 when the saloon element offered to pay the expenses of incorporation and feared this group would soon have control of the town. Many claimed even if the fee was \$2,500.00 it would not offset the evil which would come out of incorporation.

In spite of this by a close vote of 45 to 41 the town was incorporated and struck out into a new world of endeavor and the Board of Trustees were able to overcome the influence of the saloon element and lay the foundations for the present town of Edgewater. While there is no list of the registered voters at this early date, an early petition lists this group of people and it cannot be far wrong to assume that this was the first group of registered voters in Edgewater who launched the ship of State and steered it on its course: Mrs. Schwartzlander, Arthur A. Morris, A. Schwartzlander, Mrs. Bergon, Mr. Bergon, Mr. Swena, Mrs. Swena, Mr. Kramer, Mr. Casey, Mrs. Casey, Mr. Vallerchamp, Mr. Johnstone, William Johnstone, Mrs. Johnstone, Mr. George, Mrs. George, Mrs. Heller, Mr. Heller, Mrs. Seitzer, John Westhaver, Mr. Rodespil, Mrs. Rodespil, Chas. Schwartzlander, Mrs. Dugall, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Koch, Mr. Koch, Mrs. L. Noll, Mrs. Witthauer, Mr. Witthauer, Mrs. Coins, Mr. Coins, Mr. George Noll, Mrs. Wallace Ogilvie, Mr. Wallace Ogilvie, Mr. Small.

Mrs. Berran, Mr. Reichert, Mrs. Elehard, Mrs. Paterson, Mr. Louis Noll, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Helin, Mr. Edgler, Mr. Duckett, Mrs. Randle, Mr. W. H. Randle, Mr. E. E. Thomas, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Nolan, Mrs. Gibson, Mr. Paterson, Mr. Pegg, Mr. Teague, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Duckett, Mrs. Holm, Mr. Randle, Mr. Thomas, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Barrows, Mr. Rittenhouse, Mr. Wikstrum, Mrs. Tomlin, Mr. H. Westhaver, Mrs. B. Westhaver, Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. Oatman, Mrs. Jones, Mr. McCartney, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Burnes, Mrs. Rittenhouse, Mrs. Wikstrum, Mrs. Barbour, Mr. Tomlin, Mr. George Westhaver, Mrs. John Westhaver, Mr. Kirk, Mr. Ashdill, Mrs. Eisnor, Mr. Eisnor, Mr. Osborne, Mrs. Osborne, Mrs. McCartney, Mrs. Wenger, Mr. Wenger, Mr. Puddicombe and Mrs. George Noll.

STREETS

Where the race of men go by.—

There is a romance in the naming of the streets of Edgewater and it goes back before there was a town, nobody knows how the first names came into existence or why the present street names were chosen, except that they do run in alphabetical order.

The original names of the Streets seem to have been named after presidents with the exception of Calhoun Street. These names existed up until the time of incorporation.

On February 6, 1902 for the purpose of easy identification the Streets were not named but lettered, A through P.

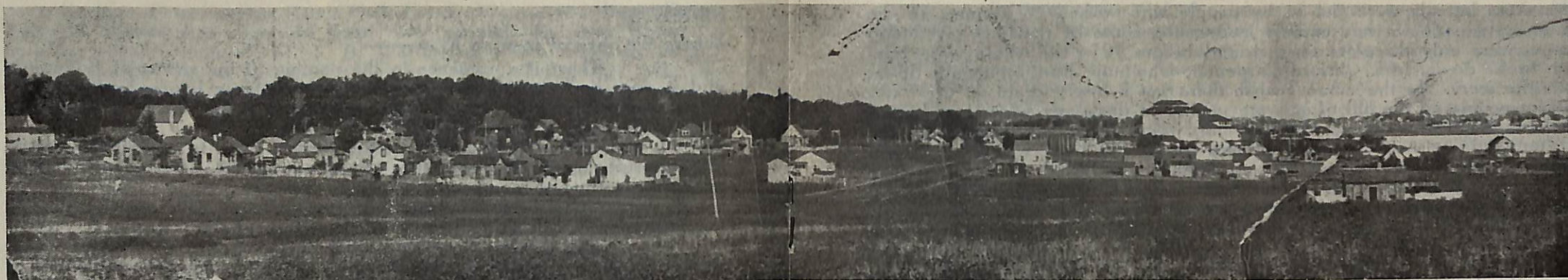
This system of Streets did not please the residents of Edgewater and so a committee was appointed to investigate the re-naming of the Streets and they reported that no better names could be found and recommended that the Streets be re-named to their original names.

March 24, 1906, Denver re-numbered the Avenues running east and west and it became necessary for Edgewater to re-name the east and west Avenues to coincide with Denver, and also, to establish a numbering system for Streets and Avenues. At this time the present names of the Streets were adopted and the present numbering of Streets and Avenues established.

The first block west of Sheridan Boulevard was to begin with 5200, with the odd numbers on the north and the even numbers on the south. Fifty numbers were allotted to each block on the avenue, east to west; the Streets north and south are numbered with the odd numbers on the west side and the even numbers on the east side, north of the Avenue in which the house was located, i.e. the houses north of 25th Avenue and south of 26th Avenue should be known as the 2500 block and the same between all blocks. It was the town clerks duty to provide suitable numbers for all the homes and duty of all citizens to procure new numbers. This system is still followed in the town.

STREET NAMES

Original Names Before 1901	Letter Names Feb. 6, 1902	Streets Re-named Dec. 10, 1904	Present Names Mar. 24, 1906
Washington St. (Sheridan Blvd.)	Washington St. (Sheridan Blvd.)	Washington Street (Sheridan Blvd.)	Sheridan Blvd.
Adams Street	A	Adams Street	Ames Street
Jefferson Street	B	Jefferson Street	Benton Street
Madison Street	C	Madison Street	Chase Street
Monroe Street	D	Monroe Street	Depew Street
Jackson Street	E	Jackson Street	Eaton Street
VanBuren Street	F	Van Buren Street	Fenton Street
Calhoun Street	G	Calhoun Street	Gray Street
Harrison Street	H	Harrison Street	Harlan Blvd.
Tyler Street	I	Tyler Street	Ingalls Street
Polk Street	J	Polk Street	Jay Street
Taylor Street	K	Taylor Street	Kendall Street
Fillmore Street	L	Fillmore Street	Lamar Street
Pierce Street	M	Pierce Street	Marshall Street
Lincoln Street	N	Lincoln Street	Newland Street
Grant Street	O	Grant Street	Otis Street
Garfield Street	P	Garfield Street	Pierce Street



This is the way Edgewater looked in 1903.

Marshall, Newland, Otis and Pierce Streets were only north of West 26th Avenue in 1906.

The Avenues were named as follows: West 17th Avenue was known as Ellsworth, West 19th Avenue known as Chicago, West 20th Avenue as Edgewater Boulevard. West 21st Avenue known as Pearl Street, no name for West 22nd Avenue, West 23rd Avenue was Agate, no name for West 24th Avenue, West 25th Avenue was known as Emerald, West 26th Avenue as Highlands Avenue and West 29th Avenue was known as Ashland Avenue.

WATER SUPPLY

"Unless there be sufficient water to reach the roots, the entire plant will wither."———

When the first pioneers came to Edgewater they had one thought in mind and that was to make permanent homes and raise families. Water was the first most vital necessity. There was no constant supply available, and some families tried to supply themselves by means of wells but these shallow wells were of such high alkali content that they were unfit for human consumption, and many went dry, leaving these families without any water.

It became necessary that a good source of fresh, sweet water be available for domestic use and so the springs located at West 26th Avenue and Gray Street became the center of community water supply. It was here in the evenings that the town gathered for the purpose of filling their water utensils for cooking and drinking. This supply was not constant, and in the fall of the year these springs became low and stagnant, and became the breeding place of diphtheria and typhoid, and, in fact, in 1903 an epidemic of typhoid fever broke out in the fledgling community with disastrous results.

Some of the people living along Sheridan Boulevard were able to get enough water for domestic use from the business establishments near West 25th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard, who received their supply from Manhattan Beach and were even able to maintain a horse-trough in front of the saloons located there.

Some water was available from peddlers who brought water into Edgewater by horse and wagon. They sold it in barrel lots to the people. This water came from an artesian well near West 29th Avenue

and Federal Boulevard.

In about 1900 there was a group of people living in the area of what is now Edgewater who banded together and organized the Edgewater Mutual Pipe Line Company and made a contract with the Denver Union Water Company to connect with their main on Sheridan Boulevard and buy water to bring into Edgewater for their own use and sale to other people. This company was headed by Wallace Ogilvie, President; Frank Miller, Secretary, John Reichert, Treasurer. They built a two inch main, two feet deep, west on West 25th Avenue to Depew Street and connected with their homes and places of business. There were twenty stock holders in this original company.

When the town was incorporated in 1901 the most urgent need was, as in the past, a water supply and this became the most pressing problem of the Board of Trustees. Their first thought was to buy the Edgewater Mutual Pipe Line Company and they began negotiations at once. It became evident that the Stockholders of the Mutual Pipe Line were not too anxious to sell as they wished to make a good profit on their investment. The town officials then were determined to build their own system and went to the Denver Union Water Company to investigate the possibilities of building their own system.

The Denver Union Water Company stated that a new water system should have four inch mains and should be buried at least four feet under the ground with proper shut-off valves placed at regular intervals along the line. However, they further stated that, even though Edgewater built a system, they would not furnish water, because they were already under contract with the Edgewater Mutual Pipe Line Company.

On September 19, 1902 they purchased from the Edgewater Mutual Pipe Line Company the water system for \$584.79, paying \$100.00 down and issuing bonds for the balance redeemable within six months. Those bonds not retired in six months were to bear four and one-half percent interest.

After the purchase of the Edgewater Mutual Pipe Line Company they were able to negotiate with the Denver Union Water Company and were allowed to buy water to supply the town, using this inadequate system.

They at once began to lay mains, west on 25th Avenue, eventually as far as Lamar Street, but it was a haphazard affair, some of this line was as small as one inch and all the cross laterals were one inch.

The cross laterals were put in by people who wished to connect to the water system. These were entirely inadequate, some of the lines layed into homes were only three-quarter inch and before 1914 the whole water system broke down. Mrs. Clifford Carpenter, who now lives on Ingalls Street tells this story. "In the summer when there was a heavy drain on the water system people on the hill often were unable to draw any water for domestic use. Mrs. Carpenter, in the morning, would place a bucket under the hydrant, turning it on full force, hoping by evening there would be enough water in the bucket for cooking and drinking purposes."

June 26, 1907 a four inch main was layed along West 26th Avenue from Sheridan Boulevard to Depew Street at a cost of \$1,414.75. The work was done by Peter O'Brien. On August 19, 1907 a two inch main was layed down Depew Street from West 26th Avenue to West 25th Avenue at a cost of \$260.00. The reason for this two inch main was to serve the heaviest populated street in Edgewater at this time. The work was done by Gill Plumbing Company.

In 1914 under Mayor Eugene Bootz the town attempted to float a bond issue of \$40,000.00 to build a water plant. Not only was it necessary, because of the need of a sufficient water supply, but there was a dire need of a sanitation system. Many homes had cess pools and all homes had out-houses and the unsanitary conditions arising from these were a definite menace to the health of the community. Without a good water supply a sewer system was impossible. However, this first bond issue did not pass, but on September 2, 1915 they did pass a \$40,000.00 bond issue and in that year Mr. Gregg and Fisher began work on the present system, it was completed in 1916. It has supplied the town of Edgewater to the present time with a good supply of water and with a large source of income through the sale of water.

EDGEWATER FIRE DEPARTMENT

When the alarm sounded, they responded.——



This picture shows some of the charter members of the first Edgewater Fire Department. The picture was taken in 1927.

In September 1915 the town of Edgewater began to realize the need of a fire fighting organization, and, so under Mayor Franklin E. Carringer, at the request of many citizens, plans were layed to organize the first Fire Department. Frank Gates was appointed Chief; Sam Gates, Assistant Chief of Company No. 1; Les Bruce, 2nd Assistant Chief of Company No. 2, and they proceeded to organize the Fire Department. They held an election and elected the following men to office. Captain of Company No. 1, W. W. Cormack; Captain of Company No. 2, Alva Powers, Secretary, O. J. Witthauer; Treasurer, Harry Preston. Trustees, Elliot Ransom, Ernie Spicer and Clair Francis.

In April 1916 the town passed an ordinance giving the Chief of the Department authority and privileges necessary to fight fires.

The first five equipment purchased by the town and by solicitations from the people of the community consisted of two hand drawn two-wheeled carts. They were placed: Company No. 1, at the old Town Hall on West 25th Avenue and Benton Street in a sheet iron building and Company No. 2 in a sheet iron building on the corner of West 24th Avenue and Gray Street. Later a hook and ladder cart was added to the Department and was stationed in the same building as hose cart No. 1. The first fire alarm was a large bell suspended high in the air at Company No. 1, and the old curfew bell, taken from the Town Hall, was placed on a frame at Company No. 2.

Among the most thrilling sights in early days of the Fire Department was the fire drills. These took place nearly every Sunday morning and sometimes at night, but not often, because it was too dangerous to take the fire carts onto the streets after dark. These carts were drawn by man power; an ideal crew was ten men to a cart; two men on the tongue and six men pulling on a rope extending beyond the tongue. At the rear of the cart were two more men; one was known as a plug man and the other as a reel man. It was the duty of these men, as the fire cart passed the plug where the hook-up was to be made, to unfasten the hose, spin the reel in such a manner as to procure enough slack in the hose to allow a connection with the fire plug and start to open the plug, so that when the cry for water came from the nozzle man, who was one of the men on the tongue, they would be ready to send the water coursing through the hose.

On Sunday mornings when drills were to take place the men assigned to each Company would rush from their homes at the sound of the fire bell, drag the carts from the fire houses and charge pell-mell down the street to extinguish a bonfire lighted for the occasion. It was always a race to see which Company could get water on the fire first. The sight of the flying fire carts, racing over the streets of Edgewater was indeed a thrilling spectacle for young and old.

Sometimes the drills took the form of races, down West 25th Avenue. The men of each Company would race from a standing start to a fire plug designated by the Chief. It was the purpose of these races to see which Company could hit the plug first and get water to the nozzle; and it might well be said here that these same firemen responded with the same dash and enthusiasm when a midnight fire threatened the homes and property of their neighbors.

In 1927 the Fire Department became motorized and bought a Dodge truck at the cost of about \$2,500.00, \$750.00 of this was raised by popular subscription by the men of the Fire Department. In 1942 the International Truck was purchased by the Fire Department, and both trucks are in service.

The Edgewater Fire Department No. 13 has always been one of the most efficient departments in Colorado. It has been responsible for low fire insurance rates in Edgewater and saved the people thousands of Dollars in insurance premiums. It's quick and efficient response, at all times, has prevented any major fire disasters in Edgewater. The reason the Department has functioned so effectively is due to the high caliber of the men in charge. From the first Chief, Frank Gates to the present Chief, Eric Dillner, they have worked unceasingly to build a greater Fire Department.

There are still in the Department many men who were there at the time of organization and, although they are life members, they still take an active part. The charter members remaining are: Nick Stief, Ernie Spicer, Steve Higgs, Dean Putnam, Elliot Ransom, Anton Noll, Sam Gates, Frank Gates, Harry Preston and Clair Francis.

The Fire Department, while it has been partly supported by the town, has always helped sustain itself by, the payment of dues, entertainments and contributions. It has always taken an active part in community affairs and stood ready in time of disaster and need to help protect the property of Edgewater.

SCHOOLS

"As the twig is bent, so grows the tree."———

Edgewater has always had a good school system and while it has not always kept pace with the population it has always provided the best in education. The principle reason for this is the people on the School Board have always been outstanding citizens and they in turn have hired fine teachers. There has always been a fine Parent-Teachers group which has always worked with the schools and it made little difference by what name they operated, they always did a fine job.

The first school was built "in the hollow," over near where the J.C.R.S. is now located. This school was in operation in 1891 when the first people came to Edgewater and, while this school seems to have had no official name, it was known as School District No. 21. There graduated from here in 1899 the first class but no diplomas were presented.

In 1901 there was built in Edgewater at West 24th Avenue and Eaton Street a two room brick school house which faced West 24th Avenue and had a belfrey with a bell that called the children to school. There were four grades in each room and the first two teachers were sisters, named Hansen. A third sister of this family had taught in "the school in the hollow."

In 1907 this school was enlarged to four rooms and the entrance changed to face Eaton Street and was technically named the Edgewater High School. In this year the Edgewater Mothers Circle was organized.

In 1912 an upper story was built on the original building. This provided two more rooms and an assembly hall and served as the only school facilities until 1924. A new building was built on the hill south of the original school. This building was built at the cost of \$13,000.00 and provided an additional two rooms and a full basement. The assembly hall in the old building was divided into class rooms and the basement of the new building was used as an assembly hall.

In 1937 there were added to this new building a gymnasium-auditorium, school office, and classrooms. This allowed the basement to be used as a dressing room and class rooms. In 1949 it became necessary

to expand and a grade school was built at West 24th Avenue and Depew Street, providing additional facilities.

There was also added in 1945 an athletic field and playground at West 20th Avenue and Depew Street. While the school facilities of Edgewater are not altogether adequate they are all well planned and built and will soon catch up to the needs of the town.

It is with deepest regret that time and space do not allow for the inclusion of teachers and School Board members in this brief history, but it must be said that their work has always been well done.

PAST MAYORS OF EDGEWATER

They steered the ship of State with a true compass and kept their eyes on the stars.—

The following group of stories concern four past mayors of Edgewater who still live in the town. They are Stephen Higgs, Jarrett J. Benson, Alfred Tilton and Michael Giba, Jr.

STEPHEN HIGGS

Stephen Higgs first came to Edgewater on July 10, 1909, two years after his marriage on February 5, 1907, to Edith Walker. They made their home at West 22nd Avenue and Depew Street and he still lives at this address, his wife having passed away January 26, 1951. Mr. Higgs will be seventy-three years old on his next birthday, and has only been retired from public life since 1949.

Here were born two sons, Loren, August 27, 1908 and Lyle, October 11, 1917. They were educated through the eighth grade in the Edgewater school. Loren completed his education at Opportunity School in Denver and Colorado School of Mines. Lyle attended Wheatridge High School until he graduated.

Mr. Higgs at once became interested in local politics and civic activities. He is the oldest living Mayor, being first elected to the office of Mayor, April 15, 1912 and again in April, 1919 to his second term as Mayor. These terms were not consecutive. He served on the School Board for more than twenty years, was town clerk for ten years, and took an active part in the organization of the Fire Department and the Masonic Lodge.

Politics in Edgewater are usually a calm affair. Candidates are elected without too much fanfare. But in 1912 when Steve Higgs first ran for Mayor an unusual situation developed.

In 1912 there appeared on the American political scene a very outstanding man, Eugene V. Debs, who so captured the imagination of the working people that he was able to organize the Socialist Party into a threat to the established political parties of the nation. There was organized in Jefferson County, as a result of this, a strong Socialist Party, with a vigorous branch in Edgewater. This was probably the first time that a national party appeared on the town ballot. Mr. Stephen Higgs was candidate for Mayor on this ticket and was easily elected, but many people in the town were bitterly opposed to the Socialists, and, even though they were duly elected, refused to turn over the city government to the elected Mayor and Trustees.

It was necessary for the elected candidates to go to Golden and procure a Writ of Mandamus, from Judge Harry Class, County Judge

of Jefferson County, who ordered that the proper implements of government be surrendered to the newly elected Board of Trustees.

While this may seem strange to the present citizens, a series of events made this unusual situation possible. In those days elections were held yearly and the Mayor and three Trustees were elected, and three Trustees carried over from the previous year. This policy was followed until 1929 when by order of the Board of Trustees, a new system was instituted and elections were held every two years, and the Mayor and entire Board were elected at one time. This was an economy move to eliminate one election and save the town money. This is our present system.

The Mayor preceding Stephen Higgs was George M. Wilson who was elected for two terms, in April, 1910 and again in April, 1911, but before he completed his second term he organized a company to homestead land in Eastern Colorado and persuaded the three hold over Trustees, Wesebaum, Lewark and Fisher to accompany him. The newly elected Trustees, Kirkman, Sanders and Kent with Stephen Higgs were duly qualified and prepared to take office in May but between April 15th and the meeting date in May certain elements in the town persuaded Wesebaum, Lewark and Fisher to resign and leave for Eastern Colorado, thus leaving the town without any government. In the May meeting, Mayor protem, Ed Amos, called the meeting to order and C. E. Spicer who was town clerk made a motion that since there was no quorum present they adjourn. Mr. Higgs refused to adjourn and took the chair and declared that he and newly elected Trustees were a majority and therefore a quorum did exist, and they proceeded to appoint S. L. Tautfest, Harry Schultz and Christian Scholl to the Board of Trustees and prepared to do business. They then appointed Mrs. Hesther L. Tautfest as town clerk. Mr. Spicer who was Justice of the Peace at that time refused to swear them in and they were forced to go to the town of Lakeside to be sworn in. Sam Marine, Town Marshall and J. W. Sanders, Treasurer were also forced to go to Lakeside to be sworn in. An element in the town at this time threatened to bring legal action to depose the Board but Judge Harry Class ruled that it was a clear case of intended fraud and, therefore, the present administration should stand.

JARRETT J. BENSON

Jarrett J. Benson was Mayor of Edgewater from May, 1920 until May, 1923 and is the second oldest living Mayor now residing in Edgewater. He came to Edgewater on November 18, 1918 and has resided here ever since. He was married to Margaret Benson in Roberts, Florida, March 30, 1902. Mrs. Benson passed away in 1939. He married Bertha McNabb on June 15, 1941 and they reside in Edgewater and maintain a Real Estate and Insurance business on West 25th Avenue and Ames Street. There was no particular political upheaval in connection with Mr. Benson's election to Mayor and he served his two terms in his quiet and efficient way.

His most important contribution to Edgewater while Mayor was improvement of streets and alleys. He served as police magistrate for ten years and was district Justice of the Peace for six years and is now retired from active political life.

Mr. Benson believes that Edgewater is the best place in the United States. It has a great future and has expanded greatly in the last thirty years. It is a city of hospitality with fine people and churches.

ALFRED TILTON

Alfred Tilton is the third of the group of past Mayors still living in Edgewater. He came to Edgewater in May 1923 and made his home at 2295 Fenton Street, where he still resides.

He was born August 19, 1890 in Somerville, Massachusetts and married Clara Brown, November 22, 1911 in Durham, Maine. They came to Denver in July, 1912. He has been employed at Public Service Company of Denver for thirty-seven years.

They have two children, Gladys, born May 12, 1914 and Alfred, Jr. born September 26, 1923. Both are married and there are seven grand children.

Mrs. Tilton taught music for several years; retiring in 1949. She is very active in school, church and community affairs.

Alfred Tilton was first elected Mayor in May of 1929 and later in May of 1945. He was Mayor for four years until May 1948, serving altogether five years. He was Fire Chief in 1944 and served on the Town Board for many years.

He considers his most important service to the community, the acquiring of the acreage from West 24th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard to West 20th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard, west on West 20th Avenue to Depew Street and from West 20th Avenue and Depew Street to West 24th Avenue and Depew Street, then east on West 24th Avenue to Sheridan Boulevard.

This property was acquired at a small cash outlay to the town for tax title. This tract was divided between the school and the town and is the present site of the new school house and baseball field.

MICHAEL GIBA, JR.

Michael Giba, Jr. is the fourth oldest living Mayor in Edgewater. He first came here in 1920 and went to work for Mr. Egerer in the grocery store which he now owns and manages. He was married to Clara Moore, February 28, 1923 and then opened his own grocery business and has lived here ever since. He has two children, Clarice, born March 17, 1926 and Michael III, born January 20, 1925. Both children were educated in Edgewater schools and both are married and the Gibas' have two grand daughters.

Mike Giba, Jr. has an unusual record as Mayor of the town. He was Mayor for ten years; eight elected years and two years as Mayor pro-tem under the administration of E. B. Elder who became ill and could not serve out his elected term. He was also Fire Chief at the time he was acting Mayor.

He was Mayor during the depression years, starting in 1935 and carried over into the years of World War II and for such a young man was able to do a remarkable job. He spent much time and money of his own and neglected his business to procure W.P.A. projects for the town. During his administration many sidewalks were put in, the streets were curbed, ditches rip-rapped and covered. Streets were cut down and made ready for oiling. He remodeled the Town Hall and built the Town Shops. He laid some storm sewers and helped procure funds for road projects bordering Edgewater. In January 1942 he was put in charge of, and organized, the Municipal Defense Council in conjunction with Federal and State programs. This program included organization of Air Raid Wardens and medical supplies to be used in case of emergency.

This is indeed a record to be proud of both by the people who elected this able man and Mr. Giba who served so long and well.

HIGH SCHOOL ESSAYS

This is the way it was told.———

There has never been a history written of Edgewater. In 1929 there was a movement to write a history of the town but there were no funds available to sponsor the project so the interest soon waned and was dropped.

In 1937 two public spirited citizens, Haydee and Lou Zeitlin sponsored an essay contest on the history of Edgewater. This contest was limited to students of the Edgewater High School. First prize was won by Andrew Menzies, a senior and the second prize by Mary Smith, a ninth grade student.

ANDREW MENZIES

1st Prize———

Andrew Menzies was born in Edgewater at 2591 Eaton Street the son of Tom and Ada Menzies. He was born May 30, 1920 and has lived here until the present time. He attended Edgewater schools, graduating from Edgewater High School in the first High School class to complete four years of High School work in the new High School.

He married Mary Baker and has four children, Mary Helen, Kathy Joan, Thomas Andrew and Ada Jean.

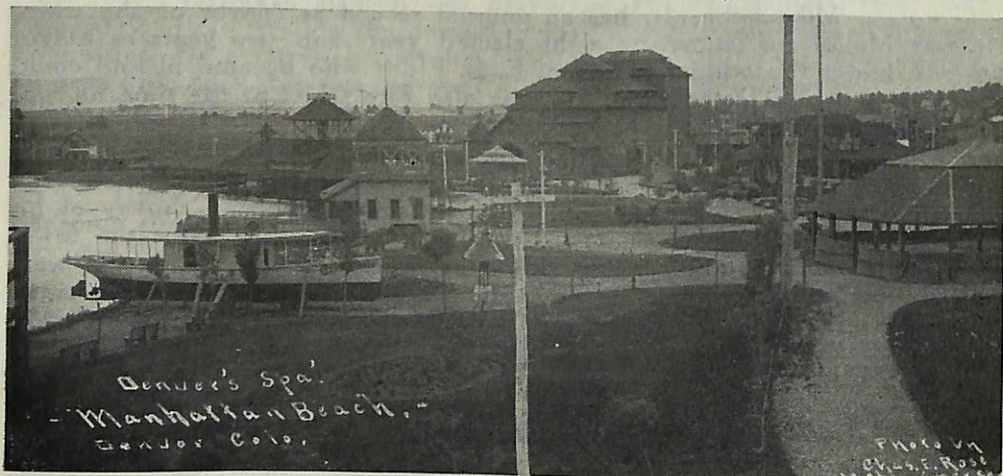
The following is a reproduction of his prize winning essay.

"EDGEWATER, OUR CITY"

Edgewater, a tiny world in itself, where life and death has taken place since 1885, where many good and helpful deeds have been accomplished, is a city where the "good neighbor" spirit is ever present.

In "Our City" we find an excellent school with plans for further bettering, several churches, furnishing a house of worship for every one, stores and shops to fulfill the needs of all, and a governing power that every citizen may well be proud of.

But of the many things that go into the making of a city, life, death, joy, and tragedy, let us look back over the years and recall what took place in the early history of Edgewater.



In the year of 1887 Sloan's Lake had a dance pavilion by it near the Edgewater line and on the east was a fishing resort where many people came for pleasure. At this time the only residents of Edgewater were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith. Their home was where the Edgewater dump is at present.

About 1889 Strenke, Schrott, and Graff operated an ice plant on Sloan's Lake. This park was completed in 1890 and soon became known as the largest amusement park west of the Mississippi River. It was called Manhattan Beach. During this same year a large zoo was brought in—bears, elephants, tigers, lions, etc., and proved to be a great attraction. Concessions of all kinds filled the park and gambling was free and open to all.

An old timer tells that on one Sunday the crowds from Denver and near by cities were so large that it took thirty-four street cars to accommodate all the people which numbered between ten and twenty thousand.

For special features they had parachute jumpers who were released over the park and allowed to descend where ever they might fall. Another feature was shooting a lady through the air at a terrific speed by means of a cannon.

Another familiar character of this period was "Soapy" Smith, who operated a gambling table in the middle of the street at West 25th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard. Many took part in his "Shell" game; some going away richer and others considerably wiser.

Later between 1887 and 1890 to accommodate the needs of the pleasure seekers by Sloan's Lake, Mr. Meskew built a saloon and dance hall where now stands our one and very reliable drug store. Soon six more saloons came into existence between 24th and 26th on the west side of Sheridan. Mr. McIntosh was owner of one and a woman called "Scotch Maggie" owned another.

About 1889 a hotel was built on the northeast corner of 25th and Sheridan. This was owned by Mr. Streinke, a brother of the promoter of Manhattan Beach. On the southeast corner was a tiny depot, a two story building that served as a shelter house for the three car services of that time.

One street car came out Ashland Avenue, now known as West 29th and down Yates to Byron Place, there west to Sheridan. A second car service was out 23rd Avenue then around the lake to Sheridan. The third car was known as the West End Electric. This car ran between Colfax and 38th Avenue on Sheridan. These three car services were to accommodate the many people who visited the Sloan's Lake attractions.

Between the years 1889 and 1891 the tiny city of Edgewater grew until it had fourteen houses in the summer of 1891.

Among the pioneers of Edgewater by 1891 were Anderson's, Humphrey's, Noll's, Ogilvie's, McCartney's, McIntosh's, Westhaver's, Goringe's, Tomlin's, Fraser's, Alsups, West's, Valachamp's and Smith's.

The first post office was at Mrs. Humphrey's, a widow, between 25th and 26th on Ames.

The first dairy in Edgewater was the Ogilvie Brothers on 24th and 25th on Chase.

The first slaughter house was that of August Leinheart between 24th and 25th on Chase.

In 1891 the first school "In the Hollow", which is just north of the J.C.R.S. Sanitorium. It was a small one-roomed building with several

small desks and a large stove at the back of the room. The water for the school was carried in buckets by Robert and Will Fraser, from the reservoir on 29th Avenue. The first teacher of this small school was Miss Emma Hansen. Mr. Dallas and Mr. Pattee were on the first school board. The first class graduated in 1899 but no diplomas were given.

In 1891 a peddler, by horse and wagon, sold artesian water, used for drinking purposes, which was brought from Denver.

In 1892 the first big fire occurred when the hotel and the depot were burned.

In 1893 a band of robbers had the people terrorized. The robbers lived in a cave out near the end of 26th. They stole cattle, chickens, and many other valuable things. In 1894, the following year, they suddenly disappeared. No one ever knew from where they came or where they went.

About 1893 a board sidewalk was built on the south side of 25th Avenue that ran from Sheridan to Harlan.

In 1895 the post office was moved from Mrs. Humphrey's to Mrs. Miller's on Sheridan just north of the hotel. And also during this same year the first Sunday School was established; first in a house on 25th and Benton; later in 1898 it moved to Chase in a tent. The following winter the tent was boarded because of the difficulty of heating the structure.

The first ordinance was drawn up on October 7, 1901. Following this the town was incorporated, layed out in blocks and roads were put under construction. J. A. Eisnor was elected the first clerk and James B. Westover elected the first Mayor of Edgewater.

Edgewater seemed to grow in leaps and bounds. Store after store was established, houses were being built, and the population increased.

In 1901 the Methodist church was moved from Chase to Depew on 26th.

In 1903 the school was moved to 24th and Eaton. First it was only two large rooms, then later was added to.

In 1907 the Catholic church was established on 26th and Depew on the Denver side.

In 1910 the first doctor came to our city. He was Dr. Deerman.

In 1914 the post office was moved from Mrs. Miller's to 25th and Ames and was completed in 1914. E. P. Spicer was the first postmaster in the new building, being appointed by the president, Woodrow Wilson. This rated it as one of the best third class post offices in Colorado.

In 1917 came the call to arms. Thirty-nine Edgewater boys answered. All did splendid service and returned at the close of the war. Since that time, however, Paul Tomlin and Ray Spicer have passed away. A memorial has been erected to commemorate the deaths of these soldiers.

In 1921 the Methodist church changed its name and was moved to 25th and Fenton.

In 1927, having before this used a push cart and a large bell on a pole, the town purchased a fire truck at a cost of \$2,700. This new method of combating fire greatly reduced fire insurance rates in our city. So efficient is the new fire apparatus that water may be applied within two to four minutes with a pressure to throw water 100 feet.

The town now has its own water mains, sewerage system, and electricity. The water is supplied from Denver, coming to us through a meter, at 20c a thousand gallons and retailed to the people of Edgewater at 36c per thousand gallons.

And the very latest improvement at the present is the new curbings which will help beautify our city. The United States furnishes the labor and materials at approximately the cost of \$49,000. Our city furnishes tools and forms. Men are employed for 22 days and six hours a day for \$55.00. Foremen for the same amount of time receive \$100. The assessment to cover the town's share of the cost is \$5.00 a lot.

Our city of Edgewater is a business center now, that every citizen may boast.

The few pioneers that are still with us have watched the city grow from a tiny city of a few houses to what it is now, Edgewater "Our City."

For the above information I am very grateful to the following people:

Mrs. K. Fraser of 38th Avenue and Federal.

Mr. G. Noll of 25th Avenue and Ames.

Mr. E. Spicer of 25th Avenue and Chase.

Mrs. C. Cline of 26th Avenue and Sheridan.

Mr. F. Petticrew of 25th Avenue and Eaton.

Andrew Menzies.

MARY SMITH (SEIFERT)

2nd Prize

Mary Smith is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith. She was born in Edgewater at their home, 2586 Depew Street, February 26, 1923. She was educated in Edgewater schools, completing twelve grades, graduating from Edgewater High School in 1941.

Mary is now married and lives in Englewood, Colorado. The following is a reproduction of her essay.

HISTORY OF EDGEWATER

By Mary Smith

This story relates back to the year of 1890. Edgewater was just a little settlement on the edge of Denver. There were no houses at all. The first building in Edgewater was a dance hall on the corner of West 24th Avenue and Sheridan.

The first house built in Edgewater was the house of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Noll on Ames Street, then called Adams Street. It was built late in the year of 1890.

There were hardly any trees at all, except apple trees on West 26th Avenue. There were a few shrubs of trees.

There was no grass or flowers because water was not available for watering them. The ground was white with alkali and would not permit things to grow.

There was no water. The water had to be obtained from an irrigation ditch on W. 24th Avenue. Later the water could be obtained from a well on 26th Avenue and Ames Street. The water was put in barrels and taken to the homes. The first water that was piped to Edgewater came from the Denver Union Water Company. It was just to Adams Street at that time.

The first electric lights were installed on Adams Street.

The names of the streets were changed after the electric lights were installed.

The first grocery store was owned by a Mr. and Mrs. George Meyer. Then they sold out to a Mr. W. Walbrook. There was a store own-

ed by a Mr. and Mrs. F. Keck where Mr. Earl Tomlin's garage is now located on West 26th Avenue and Sheridan. Mr. Parson owned a grocery store where Mr. Shield's now has his Real Estate Office. Mr. Augustine owned a store in the building where Mr. Shields has his office. Mrs. Eager owned the first dry goods store in Edgewater. It was located on 25th and Ames Street.

The first post office in Edgewater was on Sheridan Boulevard for many years where the Lakeview Creamery is now located. A woman by the name of Mrs. Humphrey was the postmistress. In the year of 1894 Mr. Frank Miller took over the post office, and had it for many years until the new post office was built on 25th and Ames Street. The new one was built in the year of 1914. The first postmaster in the new building was Mr. C. E. Spicer, second, Mrs. Neiquett, then Mr. Wayne.

The first church in Edgewater was on West 26th Avenue and Depew Street. It was a Methodist Church built in the year about 1905. The second church built in Edgewater was a Christian Church on the site where the present Edgewater Fire Department and Town Hall is located. The Christian Church people later built a new church on the corner of 25th and Chase in the year of 1923. The Methodist Community Church then built a new church on 25th Avenue and Fenton Street in the year of 1921. The old Community Church was later purchased by the Catholic people of Edgewater, who have a church just across from it. They now use it as an amusement hall.

The first doctor in Edgewater was Dr. Deerman who had an office in the building where Mrs. Eager later opened a dry goods store. Dr. Floyd was the dentist in the same building with Dr. Deerman. There was a Dr. Spear in the terrace connected to the Edgewater Drug Store. There was a doctor Conroy who had charge of the sanitarium on the corner of 26th and Sheridan. There was a Dr. Brant who had charge of an Insane Asylum located between 27th and 28th Avenue on Chase Street.

The first drug store was located on West 25th Avenue and Sheridan on the site where the Golden Gate Hotel stood before it was burned. The druggist was Mr. Ellis. He then moved across the street where the present Edgewater Drug Store is now located. He then sold out to Mr. Lewark. Mr. Lewark sold out to Mr. Billy Heiser. Mr. Heiser sold out to Mr. Cox, who then sold out to Mr. Harold Cammon. Mr. and Mrs. Zeitlin are the present owners of the drug store.

At this time, 1935, Edgewater had three lodges, Masonic, Odd Fellows, and Rebeccas. Their lodge building is at 25th and Eaton Streets.

Edgewater has two schools; the one was built in sections in 1905 and 1916. The new school was built in the year of 1922, and it cost \$13,000.

Some of the old timers of Edgewater who saw Edgewater grow are Mr. C. D. Shields, who was in the nursery business and sold some of the trees that still exist in Edgewater, is now in the Real Estate business; Mr. Sisler who was the conductor and motorman on the west end electric tramway car that ran on Sheridan Boulevard; Mr. Gorringer who lives at 27th Avenue and Eaton Street, was the first marshall of Edgewater; Mr. Spicer was the first dry mayor in the state of Colorado. Edgewater was the first town to vote dry in the state of Colorado. It voted dry on April 7, 1908. He is next to the oldest man in Edgewater. The oldest man in Edgewater, on record is Mr. Starbuck who lives on 22nd Avenue and Fenton Street. He is a little older than Mr. Spicer who will be 87 or 88 on December 28.

Edgewater has several actors and actresses, five circus perform-

ers, a radio singer, a stage actress, a daredevil tight rope walker, who walked across the canyon at Eldorado Springs, 500 feet in the air, and two druggists.

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Noll who built the first house in Edgewater still live in the same house. Mr. Noll was born in the month of June 7, 1858, in Germany near Frankfort on the Rhine. Mrs. Noll was born in Denver, Colorado, on June 4, 1872. They saw Edgewater grow to its present population of about 1500 people. They also were the first family in Edgewater to take the Denver Post.

I wish to thank the following people who furnished me with information for my essay:

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Noll

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Spicer

—Mary Smith.

HISTORY OF EDGEWATER

From 1901 to 1951

A more or less factual and chronological report.

On August 18th, 1901, when the election for incorporation was over, the following men were duly elected and sworn into office: Mayor, James B. Westhaver, Trustees, Frank J. Osborne, Robert Brinkley, George Fraser, Hugh McCartney, Jno. H. Reichert, Samuel Tomlin. They wasted very little time going about the business of organizing and launching the government of the Town of Edgewater. On the 24th of September 1901 they called the first meeting of the Board of Trustees, and without further preliminary, they started to do what was necessary for the setting of the town government.

They proceeded to lay out the rules for the order of business, adopted a Town Seal, set up the standing committees, and at once launched into the business of appointing a Town Marshall, who was Patrick Casey. They selected a Town Clerk, who was J. A. Eisnor, and a Police Magistrate, John Johnstone. They elected a City Attorney, G. J. Taylor, and with this able administration, they soon had the Town of Edgewater a going concern.

1901. James B. Westhaver was Mayor of the Town of Edgewater, elected August 18, 1901 to serve until April, 1902. (The first Mayors and three Trustees were only elected for one year and three Trustees carried over. This was a rule of the Town until 1930.) Meetings of the Board of Trustees were held in private homes until the Town Hall was built, December 7, 1905. The population of Edgewater, including the precinct of Manhattan, was 311.

On December 5, 1901 the first board walks were built in Edgewater on the south side of West 25th Avenue, from Sheridan Boulevard to Eaton Street at a cost of \$237.00, including labor and material. The first school was built in Edgewater, a two-room building, at West 24th and Eaton Street. Mr. Frank Miller was Postmaster and the Post Office stood at 2409 Sheridan Boulevard and was run in connection with his grocery store. The mail was brought to Edgewater by street car and hauled from the street car line by push cart.

1902. James B. Westhaver was re-elected Mayor from April 1902 to 1903. On November 7, 1901 the first mill levy was made. It was ten mills, (this mill levy was actually made November 7, 1901 but money coming to the Town from this levy was not collected until 1902, therefore, mill levy shown is always for the year preceding which it appears). R. S.

Brinkley, Mayor pro-tem, served most of this term, Mayor James B. Westhaver having gone to Germany on an extended trip.

January 2, 1902 the Telephone Company received its first franchise for twenty years. February 1, 1902, the Board of Trustees asked the Tramway Company to bring its Electric Car Line into Edgewater, they were not successful. September 19, 1902, the Town of Edgewater purchased the Edgewater Mutual Pipe Line Company for \$584.79. Edgewater Mutual Pipe Line Company was represented by Wallace Ogilvie, Frank Miller and Jno. Reichert. The first permanent church was built in Edgewater. It was the Edgewater Methodist Church, L. W. Bell, Minister.

1903. R. S. Brinkley, Mayor, Ten mill tax levy, November 6, 1902.

1904. Wallace Ogilvie, Mayor. November 5, 1904, the Certificate of Incorporation issued. Ten mill levy, November 5, 1903.

1905. Wallace Ogilvie, Mayor. May 22, 1905, purchased site of the Town Hall on West 25th Avenue between Benton and Chase Streets, for \$448.75. December 7, 1905, first meeting of the Town Board of Trustees in new Town Hall, newly completed, erected by Frank Osborne at the cost of \$330.55 plus \$46.80 for furniture. Twelve mill levy for taxes in 1904.

1906. Wallace Ogilvie was Mayor. January 20, 1906, Light Company was given franchise and three arc lights were erected at Jefferson, Jackson, and Harrison Streets at the cost of operation of ninety dollars per year. January 4, 1906, addition was made to the Town Hall, also jail cells, and safe purchased. Cost of addition, \$390.00. Cost of jail cell, \$68.55. Cost of safe \$53.00. October 4, 1906, Town Pound and sheds constructed at the cost of \$172.00. (Before this impounded animals were kept in yards of Public Officials, they were allowed \$5.00 per year, rental, plus pound fees). Twelve mills tax levy for 1905.

1907. David Gemmel was Mayor. Tax levy was twelve mills for 1906. July 8, 1907 established Datum Planum for elevation and surveys, 153 feet 4 inches above the low level of the Platte River at 15th Street. Point set at the northwest corner of West 25th Avenue. September 5, 1907, street lights extended West to Lamar Street.

St. Mary Magdalene Church built at West 26th Avenue and Depew Street. Father James N. Desautiners in charge of the Parish. Edgewater Mother's Circle organized, Mr. C. O. Secrest, President.

1908. C. E. Spicer, Mayor. Tax levy was twelve mills for November 7, 1907. November 5, 1908, curfew law was established. Two rooms were added to the school house. Mrs. C. M. Augustine, President of the Mother's Circle.

April 7, 1908 local option adopted by Edgewater; for 133, against 89. Mr. C. E. Spicer was the first dry Mayor in Colorado and Edgewater was the first dry city.

1909. Hugh McCartney was Mayor. Tax levy was twelve mills for December 3, 1908. July 8, 1909, first cement sidewalks were layed. First traffic ordinance was passed, prohibiting speed in excess of ten miles per hour. Mrs. C. M. Augustine, President of the Mother's Circle.

1910 Hugh McCartney was Mayor. Mill levy was twelve mills, November 4, 1909. The assessed value of property in Edgewater was \$108,590.00 and the amount of money received was \$1,303.08. The population had increased to 712. Local option came up for vote again and Edgewater voted dry 176 to 94. August 4, 1910, Board of Trustees



This is the Edgewater band in 1915 during a celebration at Golden.



Here is the championship Edgewater baseball team in 1915.

prohibited sanitoriums and hospitals in Edgewater. Mrs. C. M. Augustine, President of the Mother's Circle.

1911. George M. Wilson, Mayor. Tax levy was twelve mills November 9, 1910. The assessed value of property was \$112,015.00 and the amount of money received was \$1,344.18. July 6, 1911, prohibited tent houses. Mrs. C. M. Augustine, President of the Mother's Circle.

1912. George M. Wilson was Mayor. Ed Amos, Mayor pro-tem. Tax levy was twelve mills, September 25, 1911. Assessed value, \$120,015.00. Amount received \$1,800.24. Upper story added to school house. First Christian church built, Rev. T. T. Thompson, Pastor. Mrs. I.S.T. Gregg, President of the Mother's Circle.

1913. Stephen Higgs was Mayor. Tax levy was fifteen mills; twelve for general, three for streets, November 4, 1912. Assessed value \$421,410.00. Amount received \$2,317.76. Extensive sidewalk improvements. Mrs. I.S.T. Gregg, President of the Mother's Circle.

1914. Eugene Bootz was Mayor. Mill levy 5.5. Assessed value \$420,880.00. Amount received \$2,314.85. Extensive sidewalk improvements. Post Office built at West 25th and Ames Street. C. E. Spicer, Postmaster until 1922. Mrs. M. L. Francis, President of the Mother's Circle.

1915. Franklin Carringer was Mayor. Mill levy 5.5. Assessed value \$422,750.00. Amount received \$2,325.13. September 2, 1915, water bonds issued; October 13, 1915, first sewer bonds issued. I. S. T. Gregg built water system. Mother's Circle became P.T.A., Mrs. A. C. Pattee, President. Fire Department organized, Frank Gates, Chief, Sam Gates, Assistant Chief.

1916. C. W. Solomon was Mayor. Mill levy 5.5. Assessed value \$418,790.00. Amount received \$3,769.11. Ordinance passed April 1, 1916 giving Fire Department authority to fight fires. Established water rates, May 27, 1916. Mrs. J. S. Fraser, President of the P.T.A.

1917. Franklin E. Carringer was Mayor. Mill levy 9 mills. Assessed value \$421,030.00. Amount received \$4,420.81. Frank Gates, Fire Chief; Sam Gates Assistant Fire Chief until 1924. Mrs. G. F. Strobeck, President of P.T.A.

1918. Franklin E. Carringer was Mayor, Elliott Ransom, Mayor pro-tem. Mill levy 10.5 mills. Assessed value \$424,550.00. Amount received \$5,519.15. New traffic ordinance, limiting speed to 17 miles per hour. Mrs. J. H. Hopkins, President of P.T.A.

1919. James A. Hopkins, Mayor. Mill levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$414,500.00. Amount received \$5,388.50. Mrs. J. H. Hopkins, President of the P.T.A.

1920. Stephen Higgs was Mayor. Mill levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$421,470.00. Amount received \$6,322.06. Population has increased to 664. Paul Tomlin Legion created in memory of Paul Tomlin who lost his life as the result of World War I. Mrs. George Wales, President of P.T.A.

1921. Jarrett Jerald Benson was Mayor. Mill levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$434,640.00. Amount received \$6,519.60. Improvement of streets and alleys. Edgewater Community Church built, Rev. Roy H. McVicker, Pastor. Mrs. Sam Gates, President of the P.T.A.

1922. Jarrett Jerald Benson was Mayor, Albert T. Carpenter, Mayor pro-tem. Mill levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$438,320.00. Amount received was \$46,574.80. Revised building code. Mrs. Sam W. Gates, President of the P.T.A. Mrs. Jean Neiquett, Postmaster.

1923. William W. Cormack, Mayor. Mill levy 15 mills.

Assessed value \$489,460.00. Amount received was \$7,314.00. New Christian Church was built, Rev. E. N. Carr, Pastor.

1924. William W. Cormack was Mayor. Mill levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$495,030.00. Amount received was \$7,425.45. Revised traffic regulations. Issued sewer bonds. I.O.O.F. Lodge No. 25 organized. Masonic Lodge, No. 159, chartered. New school building built Thomas R. Wayne appointed Postmaster, served until 1934. P.T.A. changed to Congress of Parents and Teachers. Mrs. L. D. Bruce, President. Boy Scout, Troop No. 63 organized in April, Claude Bingaman, Scout Master.

1925. James R. Wyatt was Mayor. Mill levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$505,945.00. Amount received was \$7,589.18. Sam Gates, Fire Chief. Leslie Bruce, Assistant Fire Chief. Rebekah Lodge No. 9 organized. Mrs. W. W. Cormack, President of P.T.A. Jewel Shives, Scout Master.

1926. James R. Wyatt was Mayor. Mill levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$511,205.00. Amount received was \$7,668.08. Nick Stief, Fire Chief. Ernie Spicer, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. W. W. Cormack, President of P.T.A. Walter Simpson, Scout Master until 1934.

1927. James R. Wyatt was Mayor. W. W. Cormack, Mayor pro-tem. Tax levy 15 mills. Assessed value was \$549,845.00. Amount received was \$8,247.67. Nick Stief, Fire Chief. Ernie Spicer, Assistant Fire Chief. Fire Department became motorized. Mrs. J. B. Camman, President of P.T.A.

1928. William W. Cormack was Mayor. Tax levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$560,690.00. Amount received was \$8,410.35. Ernie Spicer was Fire Chief. Dean Putnam was Assistant Chief. Mrs. J. B. Camman, President of P.T.A.

1929. Alfred Tilton was Mayor. Tax levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$604,645.00. Amount received was \$8,465.03. Ernie Spicer was Fire Chief. Dean Putnam was Assistant Fire Chief. July 2, 1929, Public Service was granted a gas franchise and gas was brought into the town. Mrs. G. C. Walcher was President of the P.T.A.



This is the first Methodist Church in 1900.

1930. E. B. Elder was Mayor. Tax levy 14 mills. Assessed value \$648,010.00. Amount received was \$9,027.14. Population had increased to 1473. Ernie Spicer was Fire Chief. Louis Coven, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. A. H. Tilton, President of the P.T.A.

1931. E. B. Elder was Mayor. Tax levy 14 mills. Assessed value \$616,525.00. Amount received was \$8,014.83. Ernie Spicer was Fire Chief. Joe Lindsay, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. A. H. Tilton, President of the P.T.A.

1932. E. B. Elder was Mayor. Tax levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$529,233.00. Amount received was \$6,880.02. Lou Coven, Fire Chief, Joe Lindsay, Assistant Fire Chief. Fire Department moved into the new building at West 25th Avenue and Gray Street. Mrs. J. A. Downes, President of the P.T.A.

1933. E. B. Elder was Mayor. Tax levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$423,310.00. Amount received was \$5,503.02. This year assessed valuations were reduced 20% straight across the board by order of the State Tax Commission. Herman Schieman, Fire Chief. Mike Giba, Jr., Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. J. A. Downes, President of the P.T.A. "W" Club organized by Helen Brush.

1934. E. B. Elder was Mayor. Tax levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$428,255.00. Amount received was \$5,567.32. Herman Schieman, Fire Chief. Mike Giba, Jr. Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Charles O'Connell, President of the P.T.A. Charles Brundige was Scout Master. Harry Bender was appointed Postmaster and served until 1937.

1935. E. B. Elder was Mayor. Mike Giba, Mayor pro-tem. Tax levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$444,190.00. Amount received was \$5,774.47. Mike Giba, Jr. was Fire Chief. Dean Putnam, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Gage Odell was President of the P.T.A. C. J. Slattery, Boy Scout Master. Mrs. J. J. Benson Organized Semper Discipuli, a woman's club, in 1935.

1936. Mike Giba, Jr. Mayor pro-tem appointed Mayor to fill the unexpired term of E. B. Elder who resigned because of ill health. Tax levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$446,660.00. Amount received was \$5,806.58. Mike Giba, Jr. was Fire Chief. Dean Putnam was assistant. Mrs. Gage O'Dell, President of the P.T.A. C. J. Slattery, Scout Master. Beginning of W.P.A. Projects in Edgewater.

1937. Mike Giba, Jr. was Mayor. Tax levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$424,175.00. Amount received was \$5,514.28. Dean Putnam, Fire Chief. William Patsey, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Louis Coven, President of the P.T.A. Fred Prathers, Scout Master. April 16, 1937, the Edgewater Post Office became a Branch of Denver and now employs 10 carriers, 5 clerks, 2 rural carriers and serves approximately 16,000 people. Harry Bender was made Superintendent of the Edgewater Branch. Gymnasium and class rooms added to the High School Building. From 1935 to 1941, under the leadership of Mike Giba, Jr. there were many projects under the W.P.A. Space does not permit a complete account of all this work. A few of the outstanding were: curbing, sidewalks, cutting down and grading the streets, remodeling of Town Hall and building the Town Shops.

1938. Mike Giba, Jr. was Mayor. Tax levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$430,455.00. Amount received was \$5,595.92. Dean Putnam, Fire Chief, Bill Patsey, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Louis Coven, President of the P.T.A. Fred Prathers, Scout Master. Many sewer bonds were retired.

1939. Mike Giba, Jr. was Mayor. Tax levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$430,900.00. Amount received was \$4,739.00. Bill Patsey, Fire

Chief. Arthur Downes, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Anna Frank, President of the P.T.A. Robert B. DeCamp was Scout Master. May 2, 1939, prohibited the sale and firing of fireworks in the city of Edgewater.

1940. Mike Giba, Jr. was Mayor. Tax levy 11 mills. Assessed value \$445,535.00. Amount received was \$4,901.98. The population has increased to 1648. Bill Patsey, Fire Chief. Arthur Downes, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Anna Frank, President of the P.T.A. Rev. Chas. E. Brown, Scout Master.

1941. Mike Giba, Jr. was Mayor. Tax levy 11 mills. Assessed value \$457,970.00. Amount received was \$5,037.67. Arthur Downes, Fire Chief. Anton Noll, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Gordon Haley, President of the P.T.A. Rev. Chas. E. Brown, Scout Master.

1942 Mike Giba, Jr. was Mayor. Tax levy 11 mills. Assessed value \$494,615.00. Amount received was \$5,440.77. Arthur Downes, Fire Chief. Assistant Fire Chief was Anton Noll. This year a new International Fire Truck was purchased. Mrs. B. Browner, President of the P.T.A. Albert T. Shaw, Scout Master. January 6, 1942, created a Municipal Defense Council in conjunction with National and State programs.

1943. Mike Giba, Jr. was Mayor. Tax levy 11 mills. Assessed value \$511,570.00. Amount received was \$5,627.27. Anton Noll, Fire Chief. Chris Kocontes, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Arthur Hess and Mrs. John Dillingham were Presidents of the P.T.A. L. Boring was Scout Master.

1944. Mike Giba, Jr. was Mayor. Tax levy 11 mills. Assessed value \$514,330.00. Amount received was \$6,171.96. Alfred Tilton, Fire Chief. Chris Kocontes, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Sarah Gottschalk, President of the P.T.A. Leonard Boring, Scout Master.

1945. A. H. Tilton was Mayor. Tax levy 12 mills. Assessed value \$540,870.00. Amount received was \$7,031.31. Chris Kocontes was Fire Chief. William Martin, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Roy Cole, President of the P.T.A. W. E. Wilmington, Scout Master.

1946. A. H. Tilton, Mayor. Tax levy 13 mills. Assessed value \$630,155.00. Amount received was \$9,452.33. Chris Kocontes was Fire Chief. William Martin, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. L. E. Richards, President P.T.A. W. E. Wilmington, Scout Master. 40 acre tract, between Sheridan Boulevard and Depew Street, between West 20th Avenue and West 24th Avenue, acquired and divided equally between Town and School.

1947. A. H. Tilton, Mayor. Tax levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$745,230.00. Amount received \$11,178.45. William Martin was Fire Chief. Roy Mills was Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. R. L. Galbraith, President of the P.T.A. W. E. Wilmington, Scout Master. Robert Downing Post No. 17 organized in August 1947. 25 charter members and the First Commander was Monta Jeffries. Has a present membership of 196.

1948. A. H. Tilton was Mayor. Tax levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$844,540.00. Amount received \$12,668.10. William Martin, Fire Chief. Roy Mills, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Olaf Slostad, President of the P.T.A. John Eyer was Scout Master. Mr. M. Shorter, Commander, Robert Downing Post No. 17. March 13, 1948 lots on West 25th Avenue, between Eaton and Fenton Streets were sold to the Masons for \$4,500.00. Dec. 8, 1948, Public Service given franchise for twenty years.

1949. Ross Graham, Mayor. Paul Schmidt, Mayor pro-tem. Tax levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$914,420.00. Amount received \$13,716.30. Roy Mills, Fire Chief. Virgil Frank, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. M. H. Thomas, President of the P.T.A. W. E. Willington, Scout Master. Jack

Voigt was Commander, Robert Downing Post No. 17. Auxiliary to Robert Downing was chartered with 19 charter members. 60 present membership. Mrs. Joan Rewinkle, First President. Lions Club organized. New grade school was built at West 24th Avenue and Depew Street. Streets were oiled, partly by the town and partly by the citizens. Police car was purchased and operated with two-way radio controls to Sheriff's Office in Golden. In this year a mild political upheaval occurred in Edgewater, when the entire new administration was elected by a write-in ballot. This included Mayor Ross Graham, Paul Schmidt, George Drake, Emil Gaudiot, Frank H. Lumberg, Clair Francis, and Eric Dillner.

1950. Ross Graham, Mayor. Frank Lumberg, Mayor pro-tem. Tax levy 15 mills. Assessed value \$977,300.00. Amount received \$14,659.50. Roy Mills, Fire Chief. Virgil Frank, Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Harry Highland, President P.T.A. W. E. Wilmington, Scout Master. Kenneth White, Commander of the Robert Downing Post No. 17. June 19, 1950, Evening Star Chapter No. 142, Order of the Eastern Star, chartered. Garden Club organized. 1950 the population has increased to 2590, an increase of 57.2 percent over 1940.

1951. Jack Voigt, Mayor. Resigned in July and L. J. Doherty appointed Mayor to fill the unexpired term. Tax levy 15 mills. In 1951 when the assessed value of property is made it will be well in excess of \$1,000,000.00. Eric Dillner, Fire Chief. Virgil Frank, Assistant Chief. Mrs. Don Stugart, President of the P.T.A. W. E. Wilmington, Scout Master, and there is at present an active group of Cubs, Brownies and Girl Scouts. Mel Pasley, Commander of the Robert Downing Post No. 17. Mrs. Annabe Paisley, President of the Auxiliary of the Robert Downing Post No. 17. Bethel of Jobs Daughters organized. February 26, 1951 St. Mary Magdalene Church built a new church. Lots purchased by Edgewater Baptist Church for new building.

There is at present in Edgewater four police officers; Harold Williams, Frank Taylor, Irvin Molholm and Don Allen. A municipally employed librarian, Mrs. Erdine Bell. There are also employed three town men: Mr. Clarence Perry, Mr. Emmett Willard and Dean Putnam. Dean has been employed by the town for twenty-two years. Frank Lumberg, Police Magistrate. J. A. Marshall, Town Treasurer. Everett Small, City Attorney.

The first people who came to Edgewater were people who came with their families. They came to escape the crowded conditions of Denver, to escape the heavy taxes of Denver and because building restrictions made it impossible for them to build homes they could afford. They stayed to build one of the finest communities in the world. Edgewater of today is much the same as it was fifty years ago—a community of home owners and local merchants. They are a friendly, neighborly people and have but one object; to build and maintain a city that carries the tradition of the American way of life.

The End.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

They gave their help and knowledge willingly.————

All the Town Officials

J. J. Benson

Walter G. Brown, Jefferson County
Treasurer

Monsignor James P. Flannagan

Mrs. George Fraser

Will Fraser

I. S. T. Gregg

Fred Gorringer

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gates

Mike Giba, Jr.

Alma Graves

Stephen Higgs

Monta Jeffries

Ethel, Bill and Joe Kirk

Frank H. Lumberg

Karl Loose

Mrs. Ada Menzies

Andrew Menzies

Helen Munhollen

Rev. Roy H. McVicker

Mrs. Emma Schmidt Orum

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Putnam

Mr. and Mrs. Alva Powers

Rev. Burt Poole

Public Library (Denver)

Elliott Ransom

Rev. W. O. Risinger

Matilda Smith

Mary Smith (Seifert)

Al Spreng

Harry Bender

Nick Stief

Ernie Spicer

Earl Tomlin

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Tilton

Hesther Tautfest

Clayton Wilcoxsen

Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Tautfest

