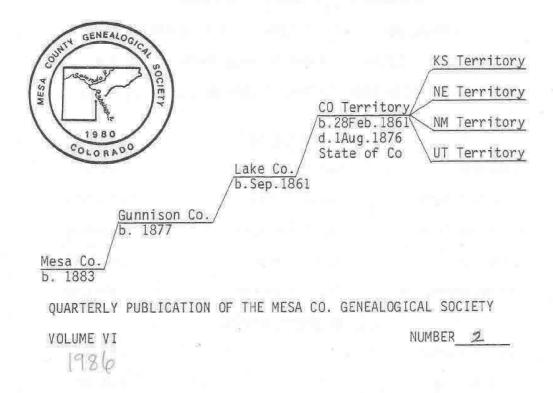
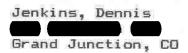
Mesa Dwellers



Mesa Co. Genealogical Society P. O. Box 1506 Grand Junction, Colorado 81502



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SOCIETY ESTABLISHED 1980

MEMBERSHIP YEAR MARCH 1 TO MARCH 1

ANNUAL DUES: \$10.00 SINGLE, \$12.00 FAMILY

MEETINGS: SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH - 7:00 P.M.

HELD: E. L. BACON ROOM, INTRAWEST BANK BUILDING, 359 MAIN

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QUARTERLY PUBLISHED

APRIL, JULY, OCT & JAN. 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the last Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies meeting, I received information about a Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) recommendation requiring urgent action. The FGS Board of Directors feels that Dr. Donald Wilson of the Gerald Ford Presidential Library best qualifies for appointment as the National Archivist. They feel that he is competent in archival management and also is sympathetic to the genealogical community. More specifically the FGS is opposed to President Reagan's nominee -- John Agresto. The FGS feels he is merely a political appointee and that he is neither competent in archival management nor is he sympathetic to the genealogical community. If you feel strongly enough about this appointment, I urge you to communicate your feelings to your Senators, Congressmen and the President.

Dennis R. Jenkins



NEW GENEALOGICAL BOOKS AVAILABLE

Hinsdale County Cemetary Records - Book will be ready soon Contact Grant Houston, Drawer S, Lake City, Colorado 81235



Burials of Chaffee County, Colorado
Contact Mrs. June Shaputis, P. O. Box 2008, Buena Vista, Colorado
81211. Copy Costs run between \$30.00 and \$40.00 and only complete
copies will be run. Write to her only if you are prepared to pay
this cost.

Cemeteries of Dolores County, Colorado
Pauline Patten Lyday and Lawrence Russel Kern of the Ouray Genealogical
Society have compiled a comprehensive book including tombstone
inscriptions, newspaper obituaries and death notices along with material
from other identified sources. Cost is \$8.00 per copy - postpaid.
Checks should be made payable to: St. Francis, P. O. Box 2434
Estes Park, Colorado 80517



GENEALOGICAL FAIR

The Foothills Genealogical Society is holding a "Family Fair" October 18, 1986 at the WestLand Mall - 10785 W. Colfax - Denver, Colorado. Contact Dennis Jenkins for more information if you might be able to attend.



SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS'

Later in this quarterly is a early day biography of Richard E. Tope, a superintendent for Grand Junction District Number 1 and for whom Tope Elementary School was names.

Here is a partial listing of some of the Superintendents and the years served. The County Superintendent of Schools' records for Mesa County, Colorado, date back to 1892. The County Superintendents and their terms of office are as follows:

| 1892 | - | 1895 | Edward T. Fisher |
|------|----------------|------|---------------------|
| 1896 |) (| 1899 | Elizabeth A. Walker |
| 1900 | 54 | 1906 | Z. B. McClure |
| 1907 | - | 1908 | Mrs. D. D. Breeze |
| 1909 | | 1912 | C. G. Sargent |
| 1913 | | 1915 | A. Lee Hampton |
| 1915 | | 1924 | Elizabeth Hinton |
| 1925 | = | 1932 | Rose Bishop |
| 1933 | = | 1936 | Frank N. Nisley |
| 1937 | 0 | 1938 | Rose Bishop Pedigo |
| 1939 | *** | 1946 | Sadie E. Hogsett |
| 1947 | - | 1948 | Dale Lundy |
| 1949 | | 1962 | Lucille Mahannah |
| 1963 | - | | Basil T. Knight |
| | | | |

Grand Junction District No. 1 Superintendents - District No. 51 after 1951

| 1911 - | 1912 | J. Henry Allen | |
|--------------|------|---|-----|
| 1918 - | 1919 | Richard E. Tope | |
| 1938 - to | 1939 | J. Fred Essig Richard E. Tope, Supt. Emeri | tus |
| 1943 - | 1944 | I. K. Boltz | |
| 1962 - | 1963 | Richard G. Ayers | |
| 1970 - | 1971 | Donald L. Oglesby | |
| 1979 - | 1982 | Robert McCormick | |



HISTORY OF COLORADO

Wilbur Fisk Stone The S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., Chicago 1918

Richard E. Tope

Richard E. Tope, superintendent of the city schools at Grand Junction, was born in Lincoln, Ohio, December 19, 1875, and his parents, Richard and Rebecca (Irvin) Tope were also natives of that state. The father now follows farming in Gallia county, Ohio, where he purchased and improved an excellent tract of land. He had to clear it of the timber and brush but in the course of years brought it under a high state of cultivation and annually gathers there from rich and abundant harvest. His wife died in the spring of 1889.

Richard E. Tope pursued his education in the schools of Lincoln, Ohio, and in the National Normal University and the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, before entering Providence University at Oak Hill, Ohio, where he completed his course. Taking up the profession of teaching, he was principal of the schools at Thurman, Ohio, for two years, also superintendent at Oak Hill for six years and at Ponca, Oklahoma for six years. In 1911 he came to Grand Junction, Colorado, where he accepted the position of principal of the high school. He continued to act in that capacity until 1918, when he was elected superintendent of the city schools. He has made rapid progress in his professional career. He possesses the ability of imparting readily and clearly to others the knowledge that he has acquired and he holds to high professional standards. He is constantly seeking out new methods which will render his work of greater value to the young as a preparation for life's practical and responsible duties. While serving as principal of the high school of Grand Junction the new high school was erected containing twenty three rooms. It is a splendid structure with thoroughly modern equipment and the building is indicative of the progressive spirit which Mr. Tope manifested in connection with instruction there in given. He has not only made for himself an enviable place in educational circles but has become well known in other business connections. He is a stockholder in the Bank of Grand Junction, a stockholder in the Daily Sentinel Publishing Company of Grand Junction and owns valuable residence property in the city. He is likewise a stockholder with four others in the Copeco Farms Company, operating a two hundred and fifty acre farm devoted to the raising of fruit, livestock and to general farming. This is a splendidly improved place. It has upon it a very large barn and three residences and the buildings and equipment of the ranch are indicative of the progress that has been made in agricultural methods in recent years.

On the 30th of December, 1903, Mr. Tope was married to Miss Elizabeth Jones and to them have been born six children: Donald E., William Kenneth, Mary Elizabeth, Richard E., Thomas Walter and Dwight Harold.

Mr. Tope is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree. He belongs to the Woodmen of the World and he is a prominent and active member of the Presbyterian church, in which he is serving a elder, while for the past six years he has also been superintendent of the Sunday school. He has filled all of the offices in the various Masonic bodies to which he belongs and in fact has been called to positions of leadership in many connections by reason of his native talents and acquired abilitys. He is a director of the Young Men's Christian Association and of the Chamber of Commerce, is a director of the City Library and has served as president of the Western Division of the State Teachers Association for three years and is still the incumbent in the office. For six years he has been the instructor in education and sociology in the summer school of the Colorado State Normal School at Gunnison. Upon all vital public questions he is well informed and he keeps abreast with the best thinking men of the age concerning the political, sociological and economic questions of the day. He studies broadly, thinks deeply and association with him means expansion and elevation.

The preceeding article is the first in a new segment of the quarterly. We plan to feature an early Mesa County resident each quarter. If any of you have someone you would like to see featured, please let us know. We hope you enjoy this article as much as we did.



PROVE YOUR COLORADO ANCESTRY

Are you a descendant of an early Colorado family? Can you prove it? If you can, the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies will issue you a certificate signed by the Governor of Colorado, stating this fact. The Colorado Family Recognition Program provides the oportunity for you to have your ancestral Colorado Family lineage verified and certified, and receive an attractive certificate to display proudly in your home or office. You need not reside in Colorado now to apply. The application fee is \$10.00 for each certificate with three categories of certificates offered:

First Family -Ancestor must have been born in or settled in the land area of what is now Colorado before February 28, 1861

Territorial Family - Ancestor must have been born in or settled in Colorado Territory between February 28, 1861 & August 1, 1876.

Centennial Family - Ancestor must have been born in or settled in Colorado at least 100 years prior to the date of application.

More information - write the Family Recognition Program, Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies, P. O. Box 24379 - Denver, Colorado 80224-0379

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