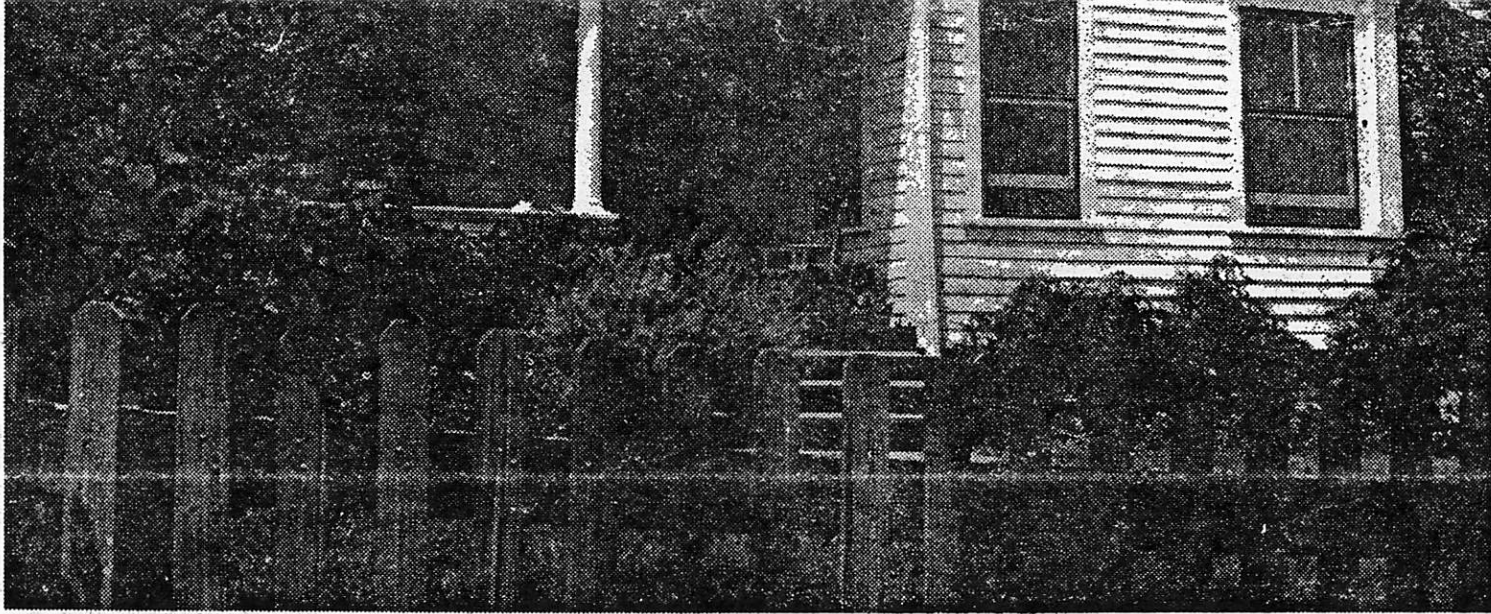


*Focus on Homes*







*THE COULEHAN HOUSE*, at 701 Spruce, was probably built in 1889. Present owners are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene H. Smith.

## *A Place to Work, Play, and Entertain*

Text

By **JANE BARKER**  
Focus Special Writer

Photos

By **JERRY CLEVELAND**  
Daily Camera Staff

**T**HE SUNNY yellow paint on the exterior of the house at 701 Spruce Street gives an accurate preview of the feeling which one has when visiting this home. The rooms are light and are decorated in bright, cheerful colors. The people who live here are pleasant and hospitable.

As Foreign Student Advisor at the University of Colorado, Eugene Smith and his wife, Phyllis, entertain frequently and thoroughly enjoy sharing their home not only with Boulder friends, but also with University's foreign students and their families. Each year the Smiths invite some seventy students and local host families to their home at Christmas time, and a similar number to a party in the spring. They also have smaller groups of students in (approximately 20 or 30 at a time) for fireside chats or for casual evenings of conversation.

The Smiths enjoy their home, and like the way it adapts to their family's activities. They are also very much interested in learning about the history of property. Phyllis has spent many hours perusing old records and newspaper files finding out about the previous owners. (She has spent almost as much time digging into the past as she and Eugene have spent stripping woodwork and peeling off layers of old wallpaper.)

The land, part of the original Tourtellot & Squires Addition and later the J. Alden Smith Subdivision, was purchased by George Edward Wales and his wife, Georgiana, in August 1889. Shortly after purchasing the lots they built a house on the property. In January of 1901 the Wales sold to Charles E. and Clarissa Coulehan.

Following purchase by the Coulehans the evaluation of the property increased

from \$1350 to \$2300. It would, therefore, appear that the Coulehans either added onto the house at that time or built some of the outlying buildings. It is also possible that they might have torn down the original house and built a new one at that time.

Charles E. Coulehan was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and came to Boulder in the late 1870's. In 1882 he married Nellie F. Barker, daughter of Andrew Barker, an early Boulder stone mason. The Barkers came to Boulder County in 1862, settling first in Valmont, and later moving to Boulder. Barker helped to build the original Congregation Church which stood on the present site of the Parks and Recreation Department on Pine Street.

Nellie Coulehan died in 1887, leaving a two-year-old daughter Ann. In 1889

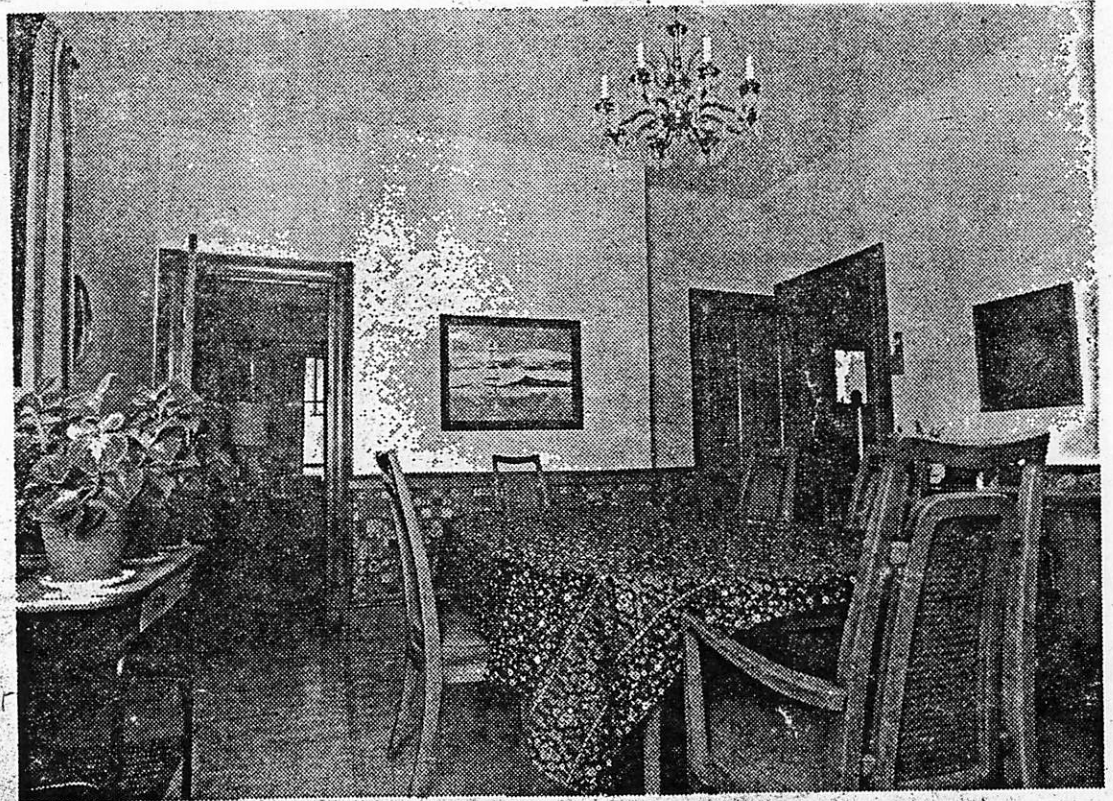


THE USE of warm, rich-toned wall paper enhances the old-fashioned woodwork and the handsome parquet flooring in the dining room.

Charles married Clarissa Graves a native of Weld County, Colorado. The Graves family lived in Magnolia for a number of years while Clarissa's father worked in the mines. Clarissa attended school in Magnolia. Later, at the age of 16, she began teaching school in the community of Hygiene, southwest of Longmont. She held that position until her marriage to Coulehan.

Charles Coulehan, and his brother James, were pioneer Boulder hay and grain merchants. Their business establishment was located at approximately the present site of the Boulder City Bakery. Charles Coulehan died in 1924.

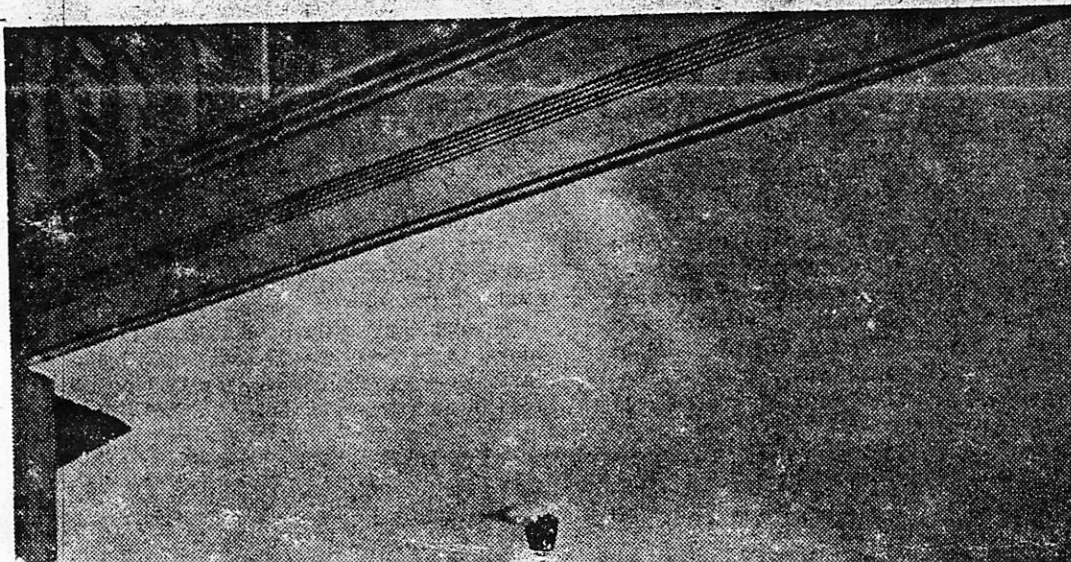
In October of 1925 Anne Coulehan, (Charles' daughter) married George Andrus, a writer and journalist whom she had met while visiting friends in New York. Until Andrus' death in 1935 the couple made their home with Mrs. Clarissa Coulehan.



### The Historical View

At the time of Andrus' death "Gov." Paddock, editor of the Camera, wrote, "George Andrus, whose life was devoted to doing acts of kindness and sending messages of encouragement and cheer to friends died yesterday afternoon.... During his residence here he spent his time in gardening, in exchanging flowers, plants and bulbs with friends; in writing; in collecting stamps, post marks, and postal cards from all over the world. Hobbies, he frequently declared, were a great blessing . . . He brought quotations and clippings to the Camera, (where he) also picked up (newspaper) exchanges that were not regularly read by members of the staff and from which he culled many articles that found their way into the paper."

For many years Anne Andrus was the editor of the radio column for the Camera. She continued to make her home







←  
**FOCAL POINTS** of the entry hall include the urn-shaped carvings on the newell posts and the handsome brass filigree chandelier. The living room, to the right of the front door features an attractive fireplace faced with tiles, and elaborate parquet flooring.

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For many years Anne Andrus was the editor of the radio column for the Camera. She continued to make her home with her stepmother until the latter's death in 1945. In her will Mrs. Coulehan provided a lifetime trust for her stepdaughter with the stipulation that upon Anne's death the residue of the estate would go to the City of Boulder to help maintain the city's public parks. This was the first instance in which a citizen left such a bequest to the City of Boulder.

Mrs. Andrus sold the Spruce Street home in 1964 to Warren and Allene Cash. In 1969 the Smiths moved to Boulder and purchased the property. Since that time the Smiths have re-papered or re-painted walls, refinished woodwork, and have completed numerous other tasks of restoration.

According to Phyllis Smith, Gene is "in charge of wallpaper removal." In some rooms this job has entailed removal of up to seven layers, and in one instance Gene found an old bed sheet pasted to the wall beneath the paper.

Phyllis has spent many hours re-doing the attractive woodwork of doors and doorways, stairway, and fireplace. In addition to being adept at refinishing woodwork Phyllis is a proficient artist, and some of her paintings decorate the

*Wales*  
*Jan K-*  
*1901-*  
*Charles Christensen*  
*conductor-*  
*#90006493*  
*Andrus-*  
*Coulehan-*  
*Rec - deed*  
*Deed*  
*rec. # Quitclaim*  
*# 90765923*  
*Rec # Quitclaim*  
*#47 warranty*  
*deed - 1*  
*Feb-1969-*  
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GENE SMITH'S study doubles as Sarah's and Rachel's "studio." Here Sarah works on a drawing project.



walls of the home. The Smiths' two daughters, Sarah (who will be in 3rd grade next year) and Rachel (who will be a 2nd grader) seem to have inherited their mother's artistic ability. Their pictures also are displayed.

One of the most important aspects of the Smiths' property, as far as the girls are concerned, is the playhouse which their father made for them from the old chicken coop in the back yard. Another building in the back yard is the carriage house, now used for storage and workshop. Here, says

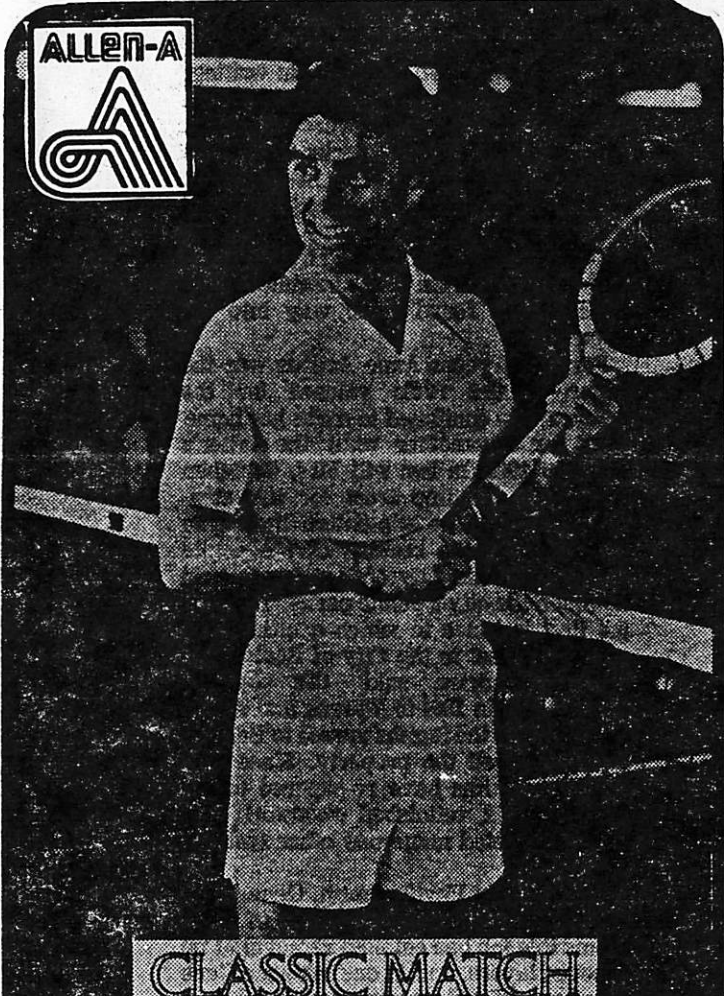
Phyllis, on rainy days one can still catch the faint aroma of horses.

The most distinctive item of their landscaping is the huge Norway Spruce in the southeast corner of the front yard. The Smiths have no idea who tagged the tree, or why it was done, but a conspicuous metal plate attached to the tree bears the name "Picea Abies."

The four Smiths have found that this home, with its yard and outlying buildings, is a perfect place to work, play, and entertain their friends. ■







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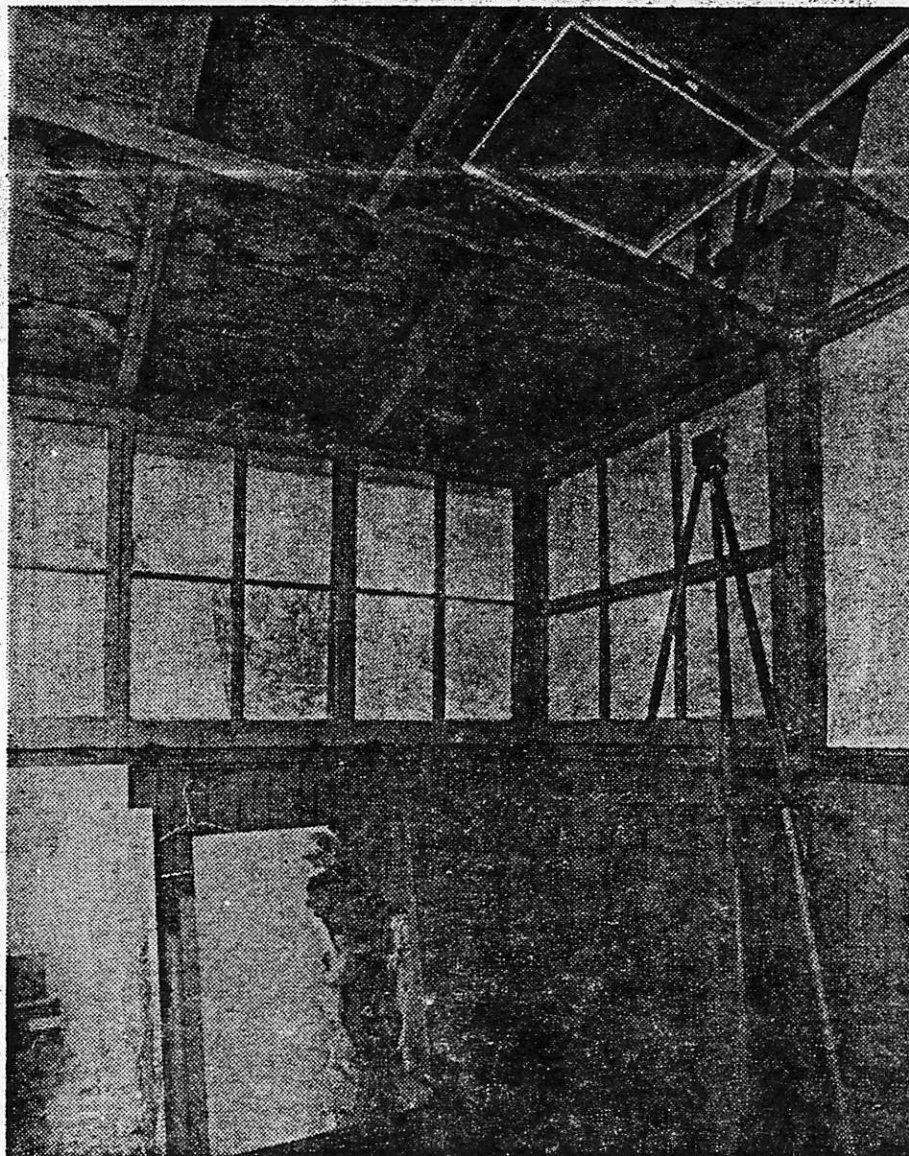
# Sport Chalet

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THE OLD-FASHIONED sleeping porch serves as a studio for Phyllis Smith.