

Elvie Renshaw's  
1953 Diary



*Elvie Bailey circa 1910*

## Cast of Characters in Elvie's 1953 Diary

**Elvie Renshaw:** married to **Louis Renshaw**, **Donna Renshaw:** their daughter.

**Rex Marsh** married to **Donna Renshaw Marsh** and children, **Janet Eileen**, **Elvie Joan**, **Mary Elaine**, **John Louis**, and **Donna Kathleen**.

**Lorene:** a sister living in Los Angeles, California; married to **Charles Clayton** who died in 1952; children, **Raymond** and **Mary**. Mary married **Vernon Jorgensen** with son **Lynn**. Raymond married to **Miriam Jensen** with daughter **Carol**.

**Sue:** a sister living in Burbank, California; married to **Al Hoglund** who died in 1948. Their children are **Elaine**, **Bette**, and **Shirley**. **Ernie Vandergrift** married to **Elaine Hoglund**, children **Ann**, **Carol Sue** and **Michael**. **Ray Haddock** married to **Bette Hoglund** and sons **Jerry**, **Bradley**, and **Ricky**. **Shirley** married to **Ken Bird** with son **Steven** and daughter **Karen**.

**Annie:** a sister living in Los Angeles, California; married to **Bill Andersen**. Their children are **Beverly**, **Glen**, and **Dale**. **Glen** married to **Irene** and they have a son, **David**.

**Owen James Bailey:** a brother living in Salt Lake City, Utah; married to **Lydia Hoglund** (Al's sister). Their children are **Mildred**, **Bobbie**, **Billie**, and **Jimmy**. **Mildred "Mickey"** married **Vernon Olson**.

**Violet:** a sister living in Cedar City, Utah; married to **Otto Fife**; daughters **Dolores** and **Yvonne**. **Dolores** is married to **Bevan Jones** with son **Ronny** and daughter **Nadine**.

**The Marsh family:** parents **John** and **Florence**, children **Lewis**, **Rex**, **Florence** and **Ruth**. **Florence** married to **Ernie Oates**: their children are **Ernie**, **Elaine**, **Irene** and **Diane**. **Lewis Marsh** is married to **Miriam Chandler** they have three daughters, **Robin**, **Miriam**, and **Judy**. **Ruth Marsh** married **Richard Deal** and their daughters are **Kay**, **Barbara**, and **Linda**.

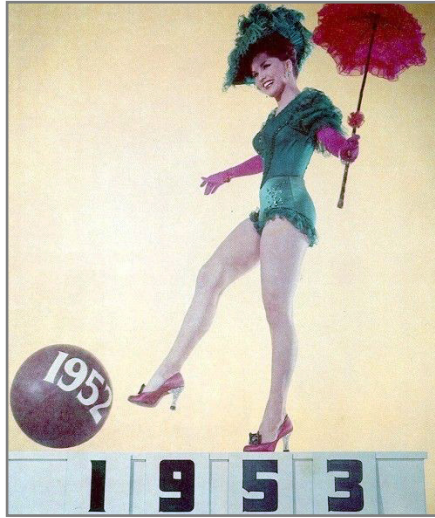


### January 1, Thursday— New Year's Day

Welcome 1953. If we do as well in 1953 as we did in 1952, we'll be happy indeed. The Lord was very kind to us last year, not much money, but good health considering all things. Lou cooked breakfast for us. I was his helper. People started to park their cars on our street before 7 a.m. Lou left our car parked overnight on Sierra Madre Boulevard. Bev and Norma Hardy parked Norma's car in our backyard and they walked over to our car with the folks this morning. Donna and children came here. Donna and Kathy stayed here with me, we saw the Rose Parade over the television. Kathy had a nice nap on my bed. Janet, Joan, Mary, Virginia DeBry, and Johnny went with Lou, Doyle, and Lenore Lewis over to our car. Rex took some friends up to the parade after parking their car in our yard. I cooked a leg of lamb, mashed potatoes, green peas, and hot rolls. I used my new Christmas electric mixer to whip the potatoes and the Jello salad; it surely is a treat after the old way. The folks were hungry when they arrived about 2 p.m. The traffic was terrific. After dinner Donna took us with her to take Mary, Virginia, and Kathy home. Mary was tired out from her late hours celebrating last night at the late show with Daddy, Johnny, and Virginia. They all rested while Donna, Lenore, and I went to see the beautiful floats in the parking place arranged for them. More traffic! It took an hour to make a 15-minute drive. Donna parked her car in Warnick's driveway. Lou and Joan did all the dishes; bless 'em. Rex, Doyle, and Johnny watched the Rose Bowl ball game. Janet slept on the couch. She and Warnie went out tonight. Doyle and Lenore left for Los Angeles this evening. No one was hungry enough to eat. They had reservations in the lovely new Statler Hotel. Lou and I were tired so we didn't stay up very late tonight.



Doyle and Lenore Lewis circa 1924. Lenore was a cousin to Elvie.  
Lenore's father was Samuel Bailey who was a brother to Elvie's father.



### January 2, Friday

Well, here we are in the second day of our new year. Joan phoned this morning to get Melv Renshaw's address for Pearl Redborg. Pearl told Joan to tell us that Gordon's brother, Tom Hodges, died last night. Lou was working on our new church today, so I phoned Gordon to express our sympathy. He said that he and Ruby would leave in the morning for Oakland, California to attend Tom's funeral. Donna, Kathy, and Johnny called in to see me about noon, they had been to take some lunch to Rex where he was working. Mary went to visit with Virginia DeBry overnight. They went to Pasadena town, it is Mary's first time to go alone on the bus, I believe? I spent my

day taking down the Christmas decorations and vacuuming up the mess. Our baby Kathy is a cute sight with her darling face all broken out in chicken pox. Oh, I surely hope she will not have any ugly scars left. Johnny has one pox mark on his forehead.

### January 3, Saturday

Lou intended to work on the church building again today, but Champ Cuff phoned him this morning early, he wanted him to do a carpenter job for him, making a workbench in his garage or something, so Lou met him and got some material at the lumberyard. He worked all day there. I was just about to get ready to go uptown when Doyle and Lenore Lewis and their friends Irene and daughter came. Doyle had persuaded Lenore to stay in California for a while longer to see if her heart condition would improve. I invited her to stay with us. She was afraid she would be imposing too much on us. They went to look at a motel, no vacancy today, but one expected tomorrow. I talked her into staying here awhile. Doyle said he'd send one of her sisters down, if he could get them to come and stay in the motel with her. Lenore and I went uptown. I took care of my deposit in the bank and the Mutual Savings. Lenore bought two cute house dresses in the Mode O'Day Shop. One was a better dress, both real pretty. She bought some shoes in Mather's Department Store. We ate lunch when we got home. Donna and Johnny went to Andersen's this morning at nine o'clock; Bev gave Donna a home permanent wave. Aunt Annie gave Donna a bottle of her homemade mincemeat. Donna sent a pie home with Daddy. Joan made the pie crust; it was a delicious pie. Lenore bought lamb chops, Hubbard squash, cottage cheese, and lettuce in the market on our way home from town. Donna was disappointed when Inis phoned to say the boys couldn't come to sing for her Mutual program. Sorry my Johnny boy was disappointed about coming to stay overnight with me. I'll make it up to him.

### January 4, Sunday

It is Glen Andersen's birthday; I forgot to mail his card, sorry. Irene had Andersens out to eat dinner with them today. It was such a beautiful morning, lovely and warm all day long. We went to Sunday School. I introduced

Lenore to our Sunday School class. She was the only visitor this morning; we had a lot of visitors last Sunday. The fast meeting was very fine, as always. Lenore treated Lou and me to a delicious dinner in the Crown Cafeteria. We went to Highland Park to Lorene's, she was eating her lunch. Ray was just leaving to take his family and the Jensens out to eat their dinner. Miriam's parents came down to spend the holidays with them. I talked to Br. and Sr. Jensen before they left to go to dinner with Ray out at the car. We took Lorene with us to Burbank to see Sue. We had a nice visit with Sue. Ray Haddock told us that the Hollywood Ward Choir was singing in their ward tonight, so we took Sue and went to the Studio City Ward and we surely enjoyed the meeting. We were happy to see Josephine Howells and Kay Gordon in the choir, the music was grand and both speakers were good; (Marc Sessions and Arthur Mortensen). They have both just been set apart to work in the bishopric of the Studio City Ward. Sue insisted that we come in her home after church and eat a sandwich. It tasted so darned good, baked ham, and French apple pie, potato chips and a good drink, cider and 7 Up. We watched television for a while, and then came home, after taking Lorene home. This has been a very happy day. I saw my sweet grandchildren in Sunday School.

### January 5, Monday

Another real summer day. Lenore got up before Lou left this morning. We are surely enjoying her visit, I'm so happy to have the chance to get better acquainted with this sweet cousin. Our children are all back in school. Lenore did a little hand washing after her bath, we went uptown after lunch, transferred at Lake Street to South Lake Street bus, went to Bullock's Store, enjoyed looking through that lovely store. Lenore bought some hand lotion and a cologne stick. We stopped in the Shopping Bag Market on our way home, bought some groceries. Lenore paid half the bill. I can't do a thing with that generous gal. I talked to Donna on the phone, she had a busy day, washing, housework, and last minute brushing up on her Relief Society lesson for tomorrow. She puts a lot of work into her lesson work, but it is well worth her effort, as everyone enjoys her lessons so much and she is acquiring a lot of precious knowledge about the Book of Mormon. I'm surely enjoying Lenore and her helpful suggestions on ways to prepare foods. We had a good dinner tonight with her help. Gordon Hodges and Ruby are up in Oakland to his brother Tom's funeral. Lou stays at the shop until 5 p.m. when Gordon is away. A Mrs. Lee phoned this evening to ask Lou about a carpenter job she wants done. He gets these little extra jobs through other people he has done work for. We enjoyed our television programs tonight as usual. I do hope that Lenore will feel happy and not get too lonesome for her family. We are enjoying her. She put on her pretty new gold and black dress this afternoon. She looks very nice in it.



Edith Ann Bailey Spackman,  
Lenore's sister.

### January 6, Tuesday

I was surprised to hear it raining in the night, as it was such a beautiful sunny day yesterday. I had a restless night, as did Lou and Lenore. It was my fault for serving fruit cake and apple cider at bedtime. My heart hurt for two hours. Lenore

and I finished reading our Relief Society lesson this morning, she read the first half last evening aloud and I read the last part aloud this morning. It is Donna's Theology lesson #12, Lehi's Later Exhortations, from 1 Nephi. Donna took Kathy over to Aunt Florence's while she gave her lesson. Bonna Gordon came for us at 11:35. Marie Doezie was with her; it was raining. We sat in the visiting teachers meeting and enjoyed Sr. Waugman's lesson. Donna's lesson was very lovely; we surely enjoyed it and the testimonies that followed. Several of us got up to express our thanks to God for His blessings. Marie Doezie's testimony was so humble, as it always is, I was happy when my sweet Donna commented on Marie's sweet humble spirit as soon as Marie sat down. Several others mentioned it, also. Donna took Lenore and me with her to Florence's to get Kathy, she was asleep, had been asleep most of the time. Aunt Florence fed her lunch. Donna and Kathy came in for a few minutes, then Donna left, she was going to see if she could pick Joan up at her school at 3:30. Donna ate a lamb sandwich here. Lenore cooked some eggplant for us with grated cheese on; it was so good. I'm surely enjoying her and her helpful suggestions. She is a sweet girl. We ate the carrot pudding that Florence Marsh gave us, delicious!

### January 7, Wednesday

Lenore and I had another nice visit at our breakfast table; I am enjoying her a lot. We got into politics, and we are on opposite sides, but it was fun as we do agree on many subjects. Donna phoned this morning, Melba Kunz wants her to write a tribute to Marie Doezie for next Tuesday when they crown Marie "Queen for the Day" in Relief Society. Lenore shampooed her hair this morning. Champ Cuff phoned, I gave him the shop number. Lou went up to finish the carpenter job for Cuff's this evening after dinner. Lenore and I walked up to the Shopping Bag Market this evening to buy some groceries. I threw things in the basket and to my embarrassment Lenore insisted on paying the bill, almost \$5.00 worth. I'm not used to our guests paying for the food we eat. It was raining when we came out, but we enjoyed the walk home in it. Lenore had her umbrella; we had scarfs on our heads. I was tempted to bring a cart home to carry our two big bags of groceries in, someone left it out by the cars. I put the groceries in the cart, but my nerve failed, so I took them out again. We each carried a bag. I didn't like to keep the cart overnight. We spent the evening looking at television programs; the "Arthur Godfrey Program" and "This is Your Life." Doyle phoned Lenore from Salt Lake, she was delighted to talk to him and her son Keith but I'm afraid it made our sweet guest a little homesick. Doyle said maybe Edith [Edith Ann Bailey Spackman] would come down and stay a week or two with Lenore. He will know in the morning then he'll let Lenore know. I hope Edith can come, I'd like to see her and I'm sure the trip here will do her a lot of good. I was sorry to learn that Aunt Lide is ill, Uncle Sam has been ill since Lenore came down here. Lenore is worried about her folks since Doyle told her they are not as well as when she left home.

### January 8, Thursday

It was nice to see the sunshine this afternoon. I made some beef stew and a Jello salad this morning; our dinner was



prepared then. Lenore ironed her pretty lavender blouse. Donna brought Kathy about noon; we were eating our lunch. I gave Kathy her lunch; Donna brought a can of baby food and banana. I gave her some cottage cheese. Donna went to someone's home to a luncheon in honor of Idell Bird. Idell was released from her Relief Society stake work to go on a mission for our church. Donna feels badly about not having her for her instructor in the union meetings now. She came home today with a pretty orchid corsage, baby gold colored orchids. She said the lunch was lovely, it was too bad the ladies didn't all go. I think only three of them ate. Kathy had a nice nap on my bed after lunch. Lenore took a walk; I got my scrapbook out for ideas of a tribute to Sr. Marie Doezie. I had one composed by the time Lenore got home. Donna said it was lovely, she took it home to type and give to Sister Kunz. We enjoyed our stew dinner. Lou cut our rose bushes back this evening. We have our cousin visiting us from Utah and how do we entertain her? You guessed it; by letting her go out with us in the yard and watch Lou cut the rose bushes back. Ah me!

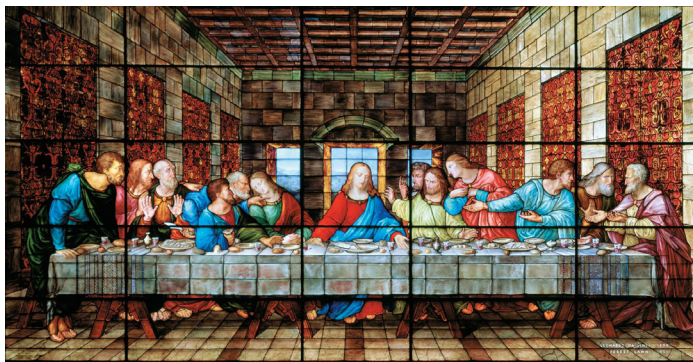
### January 9, Friday

Oh, it was a lovely sunny day, like spring time. The grass is such a pretty green. It is hard to believe that some parts of our country are having ice, snow, and blizzards. Lenore and I had another nice visit today. I'm so happy to have this chance to become better acquainted with my cousin; she is a very interesting and nice person. We dusted up in the house a little. Donna phoned and said that Melba Kunz thought our tribute to Marie Doezie was lovely. Donna added the last verse after she got home. Lenore gave her the thought for a good ending. Lenore and I walked up to our little shopping center on Colorado Street. She tried on some dresses in the Mode O'Day Store; she didn't buy. I had rubber heels put on my shoes. 50¢, at the same shoe shop that she had hers done yesterday. Lenore bought a jar of Colonial Dames cleansing cream for me; it was on sale for \$1.25 a jar, half price. I can't keep the little "so and so" from spending her money on us! She bought a Papermate Pen for herself. We went in the flower or gift shop to look at some lovely fiber-wood flower arrangements. We also stopped in the porcelain ware store to look at the lovely display they had of dolls and plaques and etcetera. We sat in the cabana swing when we got home and enjoyed the lovely afternoon, the birds were singing to entertain us. When Lou came he got dressed up and we went to Bob's eating-place in Eagle Rock. We sat up to the counter and ate hamburger sandwiches, French fried potatoes and lettuce salad. Lou had chili and beans, he had pie and we had a hot fudge sundae. We went to Andersen's from Bob's place. We went by way of the hill to look at the lights below in cities. We had a nice visit with Annie, Bill, Bev, and

Dale. They treated us to popcorn, ice cream, and cookies. Bev bought a shower gift tonight at Ivers Store to take to Beth Bywater's stork shower. Bishop and Beth Bywater adopted a baby boy; name is Kenneth Russell Bywater.

### January 10, Saturday

It was a bright, sunny, warm day; it reached 80 degrees. Lou had a carpenter job to do for a Mrs. Lee today. Donna came for Lenore and me about 11 a.m. She had Mary and Johnny with her. Janet stayed home to take care of Kathy. One of Janet's girlfriends stayed all night with her, she was with her today. Joan went uptown I believe, with one of her friends. Donna took us to the Forest Lawn Cemetery to see the beautiful huge painting of "The Crucifixion." We were a little early, so we enjoyed some of the lovely places in the park such as the lake and graceful swans, the little church, "Wee Kirk o' the Heather." They had some trouble making the record work in the magnificent building of The Crucifixion. We began to wonder if we'd see the marvelous painting? Happy



*The Last Supper at Forest Lawn*

to say we did. We wanted to see the lovely statuary in the "Court of David," but a service was in session, so we had to pass that up. We did enjoy the interesting new museum on our way out of the Crucifixion Building. I bought Mary a picture, in color, of "The Last Supper" to put in her scrapbook. We all enjoyed a nice lunch in Van de Kamp's restaurant,

the children had the deluxe hamburger plate, and we ate chicken pie. I wanted to pay the check, but my cousin Lenore wouldn't let me. You never saw such independence. I bought some of Van de Kamp's chocolate mints and the cream butter mints. No mail to let us know if Edith is coming. Lenore got a letter from her daughter, Alaire Johnson. Tonight Lou took Lenore and me to see Little Mexico in Los Angeles. She bought gifts to take home, metal belts, and leather wallets. We walked around in China Town, also. We each bought a pair of salt and pepper shakers there. They are outhouses, P and S, but cute. We saw Harold and Lydia Smith



*Elvie's salt and pepper shakers disappeared over the years much to her grand-children's dismay. This photo is from the web.*

in Little Old Mexico. Florence Oates phoned this afternoon and invited me to go to a stork shower for Beth Bywater and new infant son next Monday night. Our building fund dinner is next Thursday night at Robinson's home. She wants me to bring a cake or pie. Oh oh!

### January 11, Sunday

Another lovely day, some clouds, but pretty. Don Rowberry's wife had a baby boy this morning. He wasn't there to teach our Sunday School class. Br. Bob Austin took the class for Don; it was interesting as Bob is an excellent teacher. Lenore, Lou, and I ate in the Crown Cafeteria afterwards. She wanted to pay, but she didn't get her way this time. We



drove to Highland Park and picked up Lorene, then to get Annie, and we picked Sue up at 26th and Figueroa. Bette and Ray brought her to this point. We then drove to Walnut Park to Hazel Andersen's home. Aunt Ray has a very nice little cottage in the rear. She was sitting up in her wheelchair, she was glad to see us. We were happy to find Esther and husband, Eldred Graham, there, also. We met Hazel's two sons and daughter-in-law later, in Hazel's house. George was home, too. A friend, Esther Williams, came to see Aunt Ray, she lived in South Gate when we did, went to Home Garden's Ward, also. Aunt Ray is in a bad condition and can't walk since her fall. She is hard to help because of her weight, but she is still sweet looking with beautiful white curly hair. We called at Aunt Dell's home on the way back, but she wasn't at home; we were disappointed not to see her. We all went to Andersen's and Annie fixed a nice lunch for us with Beverly's help. We went to Garvanza Ward to church. It was nice greeting old friends again. Harold and Evelyn Gunn and son Terry, were there. Harold was the speaker of the evening; he gave a good talk. John and Florence Marsh came to Garvanza meeting tonight. Ray and Br. Jensen took Lorene home; Ray was the speaker at the fireside chat after church. We took Sue home to Burbank; it was very foggy in spots. Beverly spent the evening with Norma Hardy. Janet went out last night with Warnie's boyfriend, a "lover's quarrel," history repeats, ah me!



Queen "Marie Doezie"

A tribute to you, Marie Doezie,  
Your mission is surely divine,  
An angel of mercy here on earth  
With loving devotion sublime.

Mere words can't express the gratitude  
We feel in our hearts this day,  
For your sincere and loving friendship  
And faithful service along the way.

His work you tackle with a smile,  
A prayer is in your heart.  
Cheerfully you serve the Lord,  
So willing to do your part.

With your gentle, gracious manner,  
Each sister's love you've won.  
We cherish your loving friendship,  
We're grateful for the good you've done.

So, with loving appreciation,  
We say, "may God bless you",  
And keep you loyal and humble,  
True friends like you are few.

Marie, you know that we love you,  
There is so much more we could say,  
But we'll now conclude our little verse,  
And crown you "Queen for a Day"!

Poem written by Elvie with help from Donna  
and Lenore, from the East Pasadena Ward Relief  
Society Scrapbook.

## January 13, Tuesday

Donna picked Lenore and I up at 9:45 this morning. Mary stayed home with Kathy; she felt a little upset in her stomach so Donna let her stay out of school. Lenore and I started to quilt as soon as we arrived in Relief Society. It was a very pretty quilt; our Society is doing it for Sister Lillian Neal. We had a nice lesson while we quilted; Clarice Warnick gave it. It was on "home management."

Donna gave the tribute honoring Marie Doezie, she was crowned Queen for the day. The Relief Society gave Queen Marie a lovely pink camellia corsage and some pretty blue material to make a dress. The sweet little queen was almost overcome with all the honor. I composed the little verses that Donna read, all but the last verse, which Donna and Lenore whipped up. The Relief Society served a

very nice lunch. Donna brought Lenore and me home after lunch. Br. Kunz's brother died in Idaho last evening, they are leaving in the morning. Melba Kunz invited Lenore to go as far as Salt Lake with them. She is going if it can be arranged, as she is worrying about her mother and father. They are at Vera's now [another sister, Vera Bailey Lubeck]. I fried a chicken for dinner. Melba phoned tonight to tell us they would pick Lenore up in the morning at six o'clock. We phoned Andersens to tell them because Beverly had planned to take Lenore and me out tomorrow evening with Annie and

## January 12, Monday

It was a damp cloudy morning, but cleared in the afternoon. I did the washing, Lenore hung 'em out, she shampooed her hair while I was getting the washing started. Lenore ironed half the things when we brought them from the lines. Lou's white shirts are about all left to do. Donna phoned, everyone is fine at the Marshes' in Sierra Madre. Janet and Warnie have patched up the sweetheart quarrel, he went to church with her last night, cute kids. This evening Beverly phoned, she said she would come over Wednesday evening and take Lenore and me out sight seeing. Aunt Lorene and Annie would go with us, nice eh? Doyle phoned from Salt Lake tonight, he has to go to Elko, Nevada over the weekend, so he thought Lenore would like to stay here a week longer so he'd be home when she arrives there. She may stay until next Monday. I hope she does, she is very good company for me. Tonight Lenore and I took a walk in our neighborhood, to get some fresh air in our lungs. It was a lovely night, but chilly. We started down one street, but a big, noisy, barking dog changed our course to another street, ha ha!

Lorene. We enjoyed our television this evening. Melba Kunz asked me to compose a tribute for our Queen each month, oh me! The ward building fund dinners are tonight, we go Thursday to Robinson's, cause he works on Tuesday nights.

## January 14, Wednesday

Lou got up a few minutes past five o'clock this morning, he cooked breakfast for Lenore and me, and the three of us ate together. Br. Kunz came for Lenore at 6:10 a.m. They went back to pick Melba up. It looked like it would be a nice day. I hope they have a grand trip, I know Lenore was happy to have someone to go back with. I'm going to miss her; it was fun having her here. Lou rested on the couch until time to go to work. I wrote in my diary. The sun was shining brightly at 7 a.m. I'm glad they have a nice day to start their trip. I talked to Donna on the phone; they had a nice time at the building fund dinner last evening at Eric Smith's home. Donna took scalloped potatoes. Joan was excited today; she was running for an office at school, "Hospitality Leader" or something

of the sort? Joan and Richard Berger are not “going steady” any more, just friends. He wrote her a nice letter. Warnie answered his uncle’s letter about the Mormon religion; his uncle is concerned about Warnie going to the L.D.S. church with Janet. I phoned Dolores and had a nice visit with her, she read Violet’s letter to me. Dr. LaMoyne Hickman [LaMoyne Whitworth Hickman] sent Yvonne a stuffed lion three feet tall, his name is Boris Jr. Dody said that Yvonne is just crazy about the lion; she says it’s just darling. I phoned Sr. Robinson to talk about the building fund dinner at her home. She said it had been called off because no one but Campbell’s could come that night. Annie phoned to ask if Lenore got away okay. I wanted to answer letters, but didn’t get to it. I composed a silly little rhyme for fun, same idea I used in the last one, only put in different thought lines. Lou walked to the drug store to get some Va-tro-nol nose drops and some Merthiolate for me. When he got home he found the girl had given him Vick’s Vapor Rub instead of nose drops. He walked back; mad! The drug store was closed, so he had to walk to the other drug store on Santa Anita.

### January 15, Thursday

I slept well considering this head and throat cold. Lou told me to stay in bed until the house warmed up. I got up at 9 a.m., a lovely sunny morning. I had a nice visit with Donna over the phone, she read me a letter Warnie’s uncle wrote him about our religion, a nice letter, one can tell he is a fine person. She also read Warnie’s answer, which was full of good gospel reasoning; Rex helped Warnie answer some of the accusations. Joan has been invited to go with Don Lee Jorgenson and some of the young people from Garvanza Ward up to Oateses’ cabin in the snow at Mt. Baldy, on Saturday. I hope that Lenore will enjoy her trip to Salt Lake with Br. and Sr. Kunz. I miss her charming company this day. I spent all afternoon answering letters. I wrote to Violet, Ethel, N., Eloise B., and Mary Stead. I got a letter started to Louise Pearce but had to start dinner and couldn’t finish it. Donna went out Relief Society visiting teaching this afternoon. I expected my teachers yesterday and today, but they didn’t show up. I’m so happy to see my little neighbor Marion Barnes, able to walk around outside her home. She was in the hospital with poliomyelitis in November. She has a slight limp, but it will leave her soon the doctor says. Lou polished his car this evening. I watched him working out there in his shirt sleeves and thought, how many states, or cities, could



Bud Callyer the host of Beat the Clock from 1950 to 1958.



*"Lou polished his car this evening. I watched him working out there in his shirt sleeves and thought, how many states, or cities, could find such lovely evenings in January? It seems like God's country to me."* —Elvie Renshaw, January 15, 1953

find such lovely evenings in January? It seems like God’s country to me. Joan and another girl at school out of the six that ran for office will have a second election to see who gets the office of Hospitality and Thrift Leader.

### January 16, Friday

It was a lovely sunny day. Lou told me to stay in bed again this morning, bless him. I got up at 9 a.m. I believe my cold is better, my lungs hurt a little in the night, but I took a sip of lemon juice and got relief. I do hope I can keep this cold from going to my lungs. They are my weak spot. I had some severe heart pains on Wednesday, but none yesterday or today so far. I finished the letter I started to Louise last evening and took all of them to our corner mailbox. Lenore had an airmail letter from Doyle; I sent it back to her. Donna phoned and said she was coming down this afternoon to do some machine sewing. My voice still sounds like a croaking frog. I received a dear little note from Marie Doezie thanking Donna and me for the tribute I composed and Donna read to her last Tuesday when our Relief Society crowned her “Queen for the Day.” Donna brought Johnny and Kathy with her, but

it was too late to do any sewing. She left the box of clothes with me, says she’ll try and get down another day. John stayed with me to watch a “hootin’ tootin’” cowboy picture on T.V. Donna met Joan at school, they took Kathy and went to town to buy some Levis or blue jeans for Joan to wear up in the snow tomorrow. Joan was busy at school today selling candied apples to get money for their Y Teens Club. Lou went to the market after dinner. I defrosted the icebox and did dishes while he was away. We enjoyed our television programs as usual, Lawrence Welk is one of our favorite programs, Beat the Clock is on Friday night, too, and it is fun.

### January 17, Saturday

Lou got up early and went to work on our new church building at 7 a.m. This is a donation day. I stayed in bed until 9 a.m. I’m still battling this miserable head cold, trying to keep it from going to my lungs. I used the salt-water syringe in my nose again this morning. I get better relief from that than from nose drops. I talked to Janet on the phone at noon; she said Donna had gone over to the church building lot with a huge pan full of hot chocolate, to help with the lunch. The Sunday School of our ward is serving the men today. Joan went up to Mt. Baldy with Don Lee Jorgenson and a group of the young folks from Garvanza Ward. Aunt Florence and Diane went up earlier to get the cabin warm. I hope they have a grand time in the snow, this Grama is happy at home by the



Yule log fire. Of course at my Joan's age it was different, eh? Janet said she and Warnie saw a good show last night at the United Artists Theater, Esther Williams in "Million Dollar Mermaid." Donna, Johnny, and Mary went to see an operetta at the church the Bush family go to, their little play friends Dody and Smokey Bush were in the operetta last night. I phoned this evening, Joan answered. She had a lovely time up in the mountains, but there wasn't much snow, she was babysitting for Mother tonight. Rex, Donna, Johnny, and Mary had gone to a show. Janet and Warnie went to a party. I spent most of my day mending clothes for Donna's kiddies. She brought a carton full yesterday, she said she would try and get down soon to mend them on my machine. I like to help, it is about the only way I can help my Donna.

### January 18, Sunday

My cold is very much improved. I stayed home from Sunday School because I wanted Lou to go to his priesthood meeting. He does not have time to come back for me and go to his Sunday School prayer meeting, too. It made me happy to have him go to his meeting and pay his tithing again. I have five blocks to walk to a bus, they do not run as often on Sundays, so sometimes the wait is long in the cold air. I had a nice dinner ready for Lou when he got home. He went to Las Flores Ward this afternoon to the stake Sunday School union meeting. Rex and Donna went, also. Janet did the dishes at home, Johnny helped her do them, and so she brought him and Kathy down to my house in their car. Someone called to take Rex and Donna to their meeting. Janet left the kiddies with me and went to a girlfriend's house to get a scarf. I enjoyed my two darlings. Johnny enjoyed the television; the baby enjoyed everything she could get her baby hands on, ha ha! She got real excited when she saw the cottage cheese package; she loves it and started pulling a chair up to the table to have her cottage cheese. I set her on two pillows to make her high enough. She feeds herself so darn cute. If the spoon seems a bit too slow, she takes a handful now and then, cutie. Joan spent the day with Diane DeBry. Mary was with the little Cummings girl. We all went to church tonight. Jack Jones was our speaker; he gave an interesting talk. Marilyn Jones gave a short talk, also another young girl from the Las Flores Ward. Truman Fisher's wife sang a lovely solo. Bob Ashby was released last



Kathy Marsh in 1953



week, put on the stake high council. Al Rowbotham was put in as Sunday School Superintendent. Rex went to a Sunday School meeting at Ovena Mayo's after church. Janet and Warnie went to a fireside chat after church. Bob Hamson brought Joan to our house. Donna and children had a sandwich and ice cream here with us; Donna picked Rex up later at Ovena's. John Ellsworth and Elaine Oates came home to Oateses' over the weekend from B.Y.U. in Provo, Utah.

### January 19, Monday

It was damp and foggy this morning but cleared by noon. I tried to phone Marie Doezie this morning to thank her for the nice little thank you letter she wrote me, but no answer. She is a lovely person. I got ready and went uptown on the 11 a.m. bus, and made a deposit to our checking account in Bank of America, \$30.00. I went in Parker Typewriter Company near the bank, and paid \$16.65 on the typewriter Lou is buying for Donna. I went in Owl Drug for my "One-A-Day"

vitamins, then in Hertel's Department Store and bought Lou two pair of spun nylon socks, \$1.00 each and a pair of suspenders, \$1.75. His birthday is January 23. I bought a jar of my favorite face cream on sale, half price, "Colonial Dames," \$1.55, some hair nets, and pins in Kress, some **coconut bars** in Grants, money about gone, so I came home. I stopped in the market for a loaf of bread and some Roquefort cheese. Lenore introduced me to this tasty cheese when she was visiting us, I've been wanting some more ever since, and I surely enjoyed it on some rye toast when I got home. I expected to hear from Lenore today, I hope she arrived home safe and sound. Donna went with Clarice Warnick to visit a sick lady on Clarice's district; she just got home from the hospital a few days ago. Her name is Carol Gottfredson. Donna phoned this evening to tell me the sad news, that our old friend, Karl F. Romig

dropped dead from a heart attack today while digging a ditch at the site of our new L.D.S. church at 770 Sierra Madre Villa Avenue. It was a shock to all of us, I talked to him in church last evening, he was the picture of good health. We watched the Lucille Ball, Desi Arnez T.V. show, "I Love Lucy." "It's a boy!" yelled the vivacious star at the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital at 8 a.m. The Cuban actor shouted, "I know it's a boy, now we have everything!"







*Inauguration of Dwight David Eisenhower.*

### **January 20, Tuesday**

It was very foggy this morning, damp and raw, cold all day. I watched General Dwight David Eisenhower take the oath of office as the Nation's 34th President, over our television this morning. I saw them parade to the capitol, saw Vice President elect, Richard M. Nixon, take the oath of office before Ike did. I listened to his inaugural address; it was very fine. Ex-Presidents Harry Truman and Herbert Hoover could be seen in the picture most of the time, as was Mrs. Eisenhower, Mrs. Truman and Margaret T. at times. It was interesting to see the big dignitaries of our nation, the house and senate members and etcetera. Donna was listening on her radio, sorry she wasn't here to see as well as hear it. Bonna Gordon and Marie Doezie came for me at 12:15. The Relief Society room was like an ice room. There was something wrong with the furnace. Helen Palmer turned the ovens on in the kitchen to start our meeting. It warmed up in the recreation hall later, so we finished up our meeting there to get away from the stuffy kitchen. Donna got the baby and herself ready for the meeting, she was going to pick up Clarice Warnick's mother, but she couldn't get their car started so had to stay home. In a way, I was glad she didn't bring Kathy down, as the nursery room was so dreadfully cold. Sr. Dorothy Mortenson gave a very interesting lesson in literature, "Lord Byron" of England. Rex and Donna had a correlation Sunday School officers meeting tonight, they left Mary and Johnny off here to watch T.V. with us. They left Joan at Diane DeBrys for rehearsal of some stunt for school. Janet was home with the baby. Our ward teachers came tonight, two new teachers, a Dr. Jessel and young Lynn Rowbotham.

### **January 21, Wednesday**

It was pleasant to see the sunshine this morning after such a cold damp day yesterday. I phoned Florence Marsh and Annie to tell them about Karl Romig's funeral tomorrow morning. Florence told me that young Ernie Oates was operated on yesterday for a hernia; he is getting along nicely. Donna was busy baking a pie and a cake; she was expecting the Vandergrift family to dinner this evening. Ernie V. is going to give a lecture on narcotics in our Mutual tonight. Rex and Donna have charge of the next two Mutual programs for the special interest class. I'd like to go if I can

talk my Lou into taking me? I finished up the last of Donna's mending and darning this afternoon. I received a nice letter from Louise Keller Pearce; she sent a snapshot picture of her daughter little Diana Louise Lindsay and one of her son, Steven Burkman Pearce and a picture of the new home at 4030 E. Wilshire Drive, in Phoenix, Arizona. I'm sorry that Lillian feels so dreadful over her mother's death, she died July 5, 1950, it will be three years in July, yet Lillian can't find the comfort that she should feel from membership in this wonderful gospel of Jesus Christ. I know Mother Renshaw's happiness would be complete if only Lillian would not mourn and lament her passing all the while. I wish I could do or

say something to help the dear soul to have a more cheerful view of life here as well as here after. We received a letter from Lenore telling about her trip home with the Kunz's. They went on through to Salt Lake, lots of snow after they left Cedar City. Kunz's stayed overnight with them in Salt Lake City. Lou took me to Mutual tonight, we enjoyed Ernie's lecture. Carol Sue was the only one to come with Elaine and Ernie. Ernie brought pictures and objects to illustrate his lecture. Lou received a cute birthday card from Ethel Newbold.

### **January 22, Thursday**

Lenore sent several clippings yesterday of the record snowfall in Salt Lake last Wednesday. It snowed 18 hours without stopping, damage was done to many trees, and some roofs collapsed from the heavy load. She says, "Why, oh why, did I leave California?" ha ha! Lou received two more nice birthday cards, one from John and Florence Marsh and one from my sister Sue. Donna left Kathy with Clarice Tanner while we went to Karl Romig's funeral this morning at 11:30 a.m. Lou took his suit to work so he could come over from work. We drove in the Turner and Stevens parking lot back of Miriam Clayton's car; she brought Annie and Lorene over. We sat together. Lou sat with Russell Fowler; there was a nice big turn out of friends. Bishop Summerhays conducted, and gave a nice talk. Don Rowberry gave a nice talk, George Wride gave prayers, opening and closing. Elinor Ramish sang two lovely solos. Interment will be in Salt Lake. Lou took Donna and me to lunch in the Pasadena Cafeteria, nice, eh? Donna brought me home; she bought two pounds of See's chocolates for Daddy's birthday tomorrow while we were in town. I did a little weeding in our front garden this afternoon and watered the hanging basket plants. Donna took Kathy up to school with her to hear John's oral report from his teacher. He's doing all right, she says, no written report cards in his grade. Our little friend Elinor Ramish made the headlines with two pictures in the newspaper this morning. A bandit tried to hold up the Bank of America where she is a teller. She read his note asking for "bills only." It said he had a gun on her, she looked him in the eye and said, "That thing doesn't work, it doesn't took real to me," he said, "It's real all right!" The newspaper said, she tossed her head and declared pertly,

"I still don't think it's real!" He stared at her, and then she ducked down and let out a shriek. The bandit got away in a stolen car, which they found abandoned an hour later. Rex and Donna went out to dinner this evening; they are eating in South Pasadena at the Weatherspoon's home. It's a seventies party, Rex is one of the seven presidents of seventies.

### January 23, Friday

Today is my darling's birthday; he is 63 today. I phoned Marie Kendrick for Donna, she got a home number and address for Donna, a Sister Thost, at 609 Date Street in Alhambra. Donna phoned and made an appointment to go to her home this afternoon. This lady has a hobby of collecting subjects relating to the Book of Mormon and Bible. She has three large glass cases in her living room with objects she's made or collected. Donna took me over to her house this afternoon. We had Johnny and Kathy along. I took a walk with the children while Donna talked to her. I gave Johnny a nickel to spend in the little store nearby. Donna brought home a wooden likeness of the "Sword of Laban" to show her class next lesson. Johnny bought licorice. Lou received six nice birthday cards, Ethel, Marshes, Sue, Bev, Will and Flora, and L.V. [Elvie]. We ate a sandwich and pie in Snyder's Café, and then bought our groceries in the Shopping Bag Market. We got dressed up and went up to call for Rex, Donna, and Joan. We had ice cream and birthday cake (coconut cupcakes). We took the ice cream over to Donna's; Donna made the delicious cakes. Janet stayed with the baby tonight. Joan went with us to Garvanza Ward to the Gay 90s party. Mary stayed at Bush's. The men were all given handle bar mustaches to wear at the party, it looked funny, was a cute party. Donna and family gave Daddy a two pound box of See's chocolates and a nice pair of garden gloves and the birthday cake. Donna composed a poem on Daddy's box of chocolates, cute!

### January 24, Saturday

We had a very nice time in Garvanza Ward last night. It was a really well planned party, card tables with candle lights and a floor show in the center of the hall. Most of the workers dressed in the costume of the "Gay 90s" period. Some acts and skits on the stage, Irene Oates and Dale Andersen were in a cute comedy skit, she was extremely dramatic, kept us all laughing, cute kids. Diane Oates was in a cute "Can Can" dance; she is a beauty. Annie introduced us to Elaine Thurgood, a nice young woman from Phoenix, Arizona. She is a good friend of Louise and Shirley. I met her husband, her aunt, and a cousin. Elaine told Donna that Franklin was married again to a Catholic girl. Dear little Shirley is working in San Francisco to support her three little children, bless her heart. I'm so sorry this unhappiness came to such a lovely little person; she also worked to support Franklin through his dental school. What a man, eh? Today Mary went to a little girl friend's home to help make a spaghetti dish of some kind, a Girl Scout project; they made cookies last week at Donna's home. Warnie M. bought a '40 Ford today, so he and Janet

are happy. Lou put in a big days work in our yard today, cut lawns, dug up around the flowers and moved a big pile of old lumber in neighbor's yard, back of us. Mr. Edgecomb helped move the wood away from our back fence. It's up off the ground now. It was a breeding place for rodents and lizards before they moved it. We went up to Donna's this evening, I took Joan's purple jumper dress back, seams were coming apart. I sewed them up on machine; she went to the stake dance tonight with Don Lee Jorgensen (our stake). Lou fixed Donna's broken bed and two chairs. Rex plowed up his front lawn, he bought new seed and fertilizer, he hired a gasoline plow. I rode with Rex, Johnny, and Kathy to take the plow back to the yard. Lou enjoyed his new birthday garden gloves, today. He received a card from his sister Lillian.

### January 25, Sunday

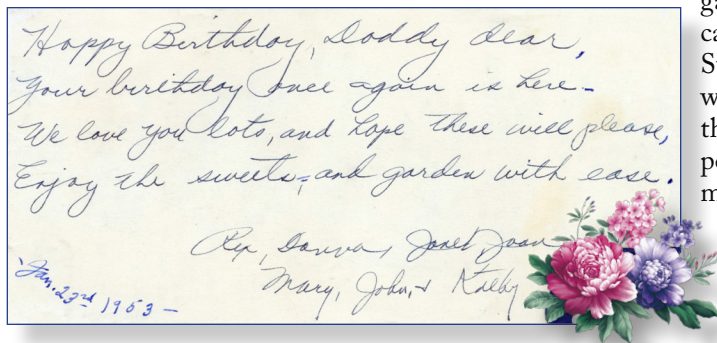
It was a lovely sunny morning. Lou went to his priesthood meeting. I got up first for a change, cooked his breakfast, fried a chicken, and cooked potatoes. I left the house at 10 a.m., walked down Blanche Street to Santa Anita, then up to Colorado Boulevard. I enjoyed walking in the balmy air. I walked slowly; Lou picked me up at Greenwood Street. He was surprised to find me so far west. I was glad to sit down in the car. Sr. Fox has gone up north to take care of her daughter's new infant. I took care of the class greeting for her. We had two visitors this a.m. Br. Rowberry's lesson was interesting as always. Lou and I enjoyed our chicken dinner at home. After the kitchen was put in order, we took a ride. We looked at two houses listed for sale in our paper. We went inside one home, not interested. My dear little Johnny

gave me a pretty red colored camellia this morning before Sunday School, baby Kathy was back to Sunday School, the nursery class, the chicken pox all gone. I do love to see my dear little Marshes each Sunday morning. Janet sat in our car with me until time to go into Sunday School. Johnny, Mary, Virginia DeBry, and baby Kathy

were in and out of the car a few times. Lou enjoyed a short nap this afternoon until I turned the television on to hear the Jack Benny Show at 4:30 p.m. We went to church tonight, it was a nice meeting. Our choir sang a nice number. The speakers were a young couple recently moved into our ward, a Br. and Sr. Mosley, each gave a nice talk. Warnie had his new '40 Ford, he and Janet are happy to have their own transportation to come and go without asking for Dad's car. Grama is happy for them, too. Joan went to Las Flores Ward tonight with Charlene Barnhart, Richard Jones, and a boyfriend of Richard's. Janet did some typing for boyfriend Warnie's schoolwork. Donna came to the rescue tonight after church, with the finished project.

### January 26, Monday

I composed a tribute in rhyme to our next "Queen for a Day," in Relief Society next month, February 10. Melba Kunz asked me to write up another tribute; this time it is for Bonna





Gordon, she is our secretary. I received a nice letter from Violet, I'm glad she is feeling better. She said she got a kick out of the silly rhyme I sent her, she also said she'd been looking in her cedar chest the day before she wrote and she ran across some letters I'd sent her in rhyme, back in 1919, 1922, 1923, ah me! Have I been writing in rhyme all those years? She answered me in rhyme, too, and she'd saved some of her writings. It runs in the family, Mildred and I wrote some letters to each other in rhyme over 30 years ago. I had a rather large ironing this afternoon, several shirts for my darling Lou, I hate to iron shirts! I had extra pieces, doilies, and etcetera. I was glad to rest after said ironing. I cooked an eggplant and cut it too thick, it looked a mess by the time it was ready to eat, but tasted okay. The rice, meat, tomato, and cheese casserole looked and tasted good. We enjoyed our T.V. programs tonight. I've been thinking of Al and Sue today. His birthday was today; he would have been 60 years old.



*Sue and Al Hoglund on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. Al would have been sixty years old on January 26, 1953.*

## January 28, Wednesday

'Tis like summer today, almost too warm for comfort. I shampooed my hair this morning. I planted some ivy plants along the back wire fence after lunch. I'd had the cuttings in water until they got some roots on, so I'm sure they'll take hold okay. My Relief Society visiting teachers came this afternoon, Ruby Andersen and Clarice Warnick. It's our district's turn to serve the lunch next workday, February 10. They asked me to bring two dozen rolls. Donna is busy every minute she can spare, preparing her Theology lesson to give to the sisters at union meeting next Friday. Adel Bird was called on a mission for our church, Donna was asked to take her place this month on the stake board until they can find someone to fill it. I do hope they will not give Donna too many church obligations, she just can't say "No." Her responsibilities at home are huge; she is a counselor in the Jr. Sunday School and a teacher in Relief

Society to say nothing of her school activities, which one has with children in school. Rex and Donna had charge of the past two programs in the Special Interest class in Mutual. Last Wednesday Ernie gave a lecture on narcotics, tonight Br. Gene Wunderlick gave a book review on "The Witness" by Whittaker Chambers. Louis

## January 27, Tuesday

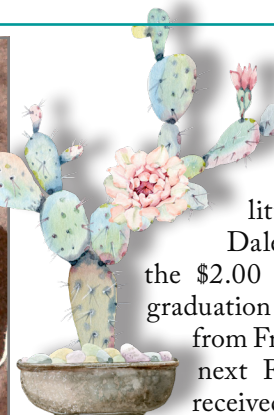
I read my Relief Society lesson and wrote two letters before going to Relief Society. Donna Gordon phoned to say they sold their car; they are buying a new one, but have not got it yet, so she couldn't pick me up. I was going on the bus, but Marie Doezie phoned and said she and Sr. Sidlow would pick me up. Nice friends are surely precious, eh? Donna drove her car today, Kathy stayed in the nursery and was very good, so the lady told me when I went to get her. I enjoyed Phyllis McDonnell's Social Science lesson, "The Progress of Man," our church attitude on government and law. We held our meeting in the recreation hall again this week, as the furnace is still not working well in our Relief Society room. Janet phoned the church to talk with Donna after meeting. I answered the phone as I was near it. I was surprised when she said, "Hello Grama," she recognized my voice. Janet and Warnie cleaned the inside of his new '40 Ford car out good after school, and she wanted to put a piece of the extra calawool rug that was left over from the house in the car. Donna said it was okay. Happy kids. This evening after dinner Lou went over to Del Andrus's home, a block from here, to talk to Marie and Del about a carpenter job they want Lou to do for them, kitchen cupboards, I believe. Donna and Jean Cummings came for me this evening, took me to Louise Andersen's home to the stork shower for Betty Paulson, she has four little children now, expects to go to the hospital any day. We had a nice time. Jean brought me home. Rex came for Donna tonight at Andersen's about 8:45. They went to Wilford Gurr's home, it is his birthday, and they invited them over to spend the evening and help celebrate.



First published in 1952, *Witness* was at once a literary effort, a philosophical treatise, and a bestseller. Whittaker Chambers had just participated in America's trial of the century in which Chambers claimed that Alger Hiss, a full-standing member of the political establishment, was a spy for the Soviet Union.



*Wilford and LaRue Gurr  
The Marshes helped him celebrate  
his birthday on January 27.*



and I went and enjoyed it very much. It is almost sickening to hear how men, high up in our government offices, were planning to overthrow our government.

I composed a little verse to send Dale Andersen with the \$2.00 I'm mailing in his graduation card. He graduates from Franklin High School next Friday evening. We received a postcard from Ruby and Gordon Hodges, they are in New Orleans to a Venetian blind convention, went by plane.



### January 29, Thursday

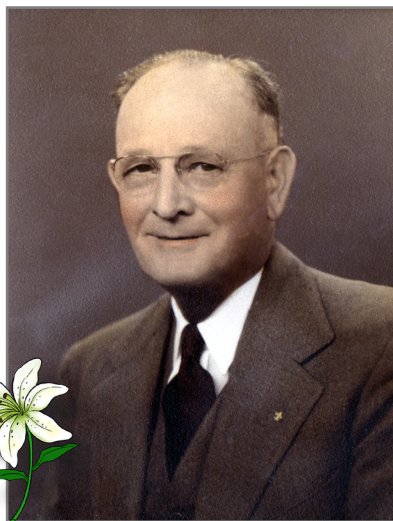
Ruby said in her postcard that she really enjoyed her first plane ride. I'm glad she did and hope they'll have a wonderful time while in New Orleans. I talked to Donna on the phone, she was putting the finishing touches on her Theology lesson to give at the stake union meeting tomorrow, a lot of typed material to give out to the sisters. I wrote a letter to Louise Pearce, walked to the 15¢ Store, bought a graduation card for Dale, and mailed both at the post office. The phone company changed our phone, a new style dial and works; they say we should have better reception now. The bell sounds very different, it is adjustable for soft or loud ring. After dinner this evening Lou went to see a man about a carpenter job they want done in their home in Alhambra. Mrs. Brotherton phoned him about it, he did some work for her a while back. I wrote a letter to Flora and Will [Taylor] after dinner. Annie phoned this evening and said Elsie was coming to California this weekend. She is going first to San Diego to her sister Beatie's. The son's wife is very sick in an iron lung from polio. They will stay in Raymond's home where Beat is taking care of his little children. It is sad when a mother or father is stricken down like that. I feel sorry for them; Elsie will call back to Los Angeles to see all of us on her way back home. She has to be back to work on the 13th of February. We enjoyed our television, but a strange sound has developed, I'm afraid we'll have a repair bill one of these days, darn it!

### January 30, Friday

I wrote a letter to Lillian Keller this morning before starting my cleaning. We are having beautiful sunny weather. We have had a warm winter so far. Some of our cannas are still blooming; every other year we've had them all cut down before this time. The roses were blooming when Lou cut them back the first of January, even had new growth coming out. Rex was home today with intestinal flu. Donna took Terry Maxon and Kathy with her to Las Flores Ward to the Relief Society stake union meeting, the little ones stayed in the nursery while Donna gave the Theology lesson to the sisters of our stake. This afternoon Donna brought John and Terry here; they watched T.V. while Donna went up to the Wilson School to attend Joan's class demonstration on cosmetics. It was given by June DeBry's sister. We received an announcement of the birth of a baby boy to Bruce and Renee Kemp, Renee Girscher? She was one of my little Sunday School children years ago. I was delighted when Lou phoned this afternoon and said we'd eat dinner out this evening. I sent a dish of rice, ground



Jack William Bailey circa 1950



Nathan Hubbard died January 25, 1953.



beef, and cheese home with Donna. She can add it to her leftovers for them. Lou and I had a very nice dinner in the Crown Cafeteria. We went to Highland Park, left some lesson material Donna sent to Miriam Clayton. Beverly and Bill were there to pick up Lorene. Sue and Annie were at home waiting for Lou and me. We all went to Franklin High School to see Dale Owen Andersen graduate. Very nice exercises. Lorene treated us to ice cream after; it was delicious rocky road ice cream. We ate at Andersen's. Glen and Irene took Sue home after they came from a party.

### January 31, Saturday

I slept until nine o'clock this morning. I didn't rest too good in the night, but oh, it was a wonderful sleep this morning. I didn't hear Lou get up or drive the car out, he didn't fix breakfast here as usual, I guess he ate hot cakes or something nice before going to his carpenter job in Alhambra. Dolores phoned this afternoon and read Violet's letter to me, and the newspaper clipping she sent. I was very sorry to learn of Bill's accident, Owen and Lydia's boy Bill was in an auto accident in which a young girl was killed. Bill was driving; the four young folks were out in Bountiful, Utah. I haven't the details but Violet phoned Lydia, Bill got home from the hospital that day, he had a bad cut on his head and one or two other cuts on his face and body. He felt dreadful about the sad accident. Poor Jim slipped on the ice and broke his left arm, which he has in a cast. I guess Owen and Lydia feel like all h\_\_\_ has turned loose on them. I received a short note from Elsie, she sent a newspaper clipping of the death of Lou's old boyhood friend, Nathan (Red) Hubbard. He died last Sunday evening in a Salt Lake hospital. Elsie is leaving Salt Lake today for her trip to California. Annie phoned this evening, she was worried over Bill's condition so she phoned Salt Lake and talked to Lydia. The report was about the same as we got from Violet, Bill has a pain in his chest, but the x-ray showed no broken bones. Rex was home today, he feels better. I think he worked on his front lawn; he is sowing a new lawn in the front yard.

### February 1, Sunday

I cooked a lamb roast and some potatoes in their jackets and some boiled eggs before going to Sunday School. Lou took me down to Sunday School, but he came back home and worked in our yard, cut lawns, pulled weeds, and etcetera. Sr. Fox is still up north with her daughter and new infant, so I took over her job again of class greeter in Sunday School. We had only one visitor this morning, a Br. Young from New York. Br. Rowberry's lesson was good, as always. I enjoyed the fast meeting later, I sat with Janet, she had

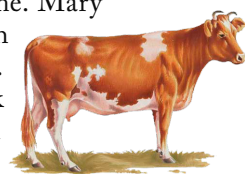
a magazine with pictures of automobiles in color. Dale H. gave her some pictures of autos he's taken, too. My little Janet would be a good automobile mechanic if she were a boy, she knows as much about cars now as some boys do. Janet drove me home from Sunday School in their car with the family. Rex stayed home today; he sowed his new front lawn. Donna cooked a leg of lamb this morning. Lou had a nap after dinner, it was so warm, he slept in the swing. I took the rubber off my asthma nebulizer and washed it and cleaned the brown stains out of the Pyrex with fine wire. It is a job to get it cleaned. Annie phoned to tell me that Elsie phoned her from the Los Angeles depot, she was waiting to change trains, on her way to San Diego. She said she'll be back in Los Angeles on Thursday February 12. Lou and I went to church tonight. It was the scout and explorers program, was nice. None of Donna's family came, but Rex and Donna were there after meeting as they had a Sunday School board meeting to attend. Our speaker tonight was Grant E. Syphers of the Las Flores Ward.

## February 2, Monday

It was another warm sunny day. I had my washing out on the lines by 9:30. Lou went up to Donna's this morning to get her four kitchen chairs, he took them to the shop to give them a coat of paint, he sprayed them. They were badly in need of it. He left early, work at the shop has been dreadfully slack lately, but it has picked up a little now. Lou took the poem, the tribute to queen Bonna Gordon, up to Donna this morning; she is going to type it for me. Mary and Johnny are both home from school today with head colds. Kathy and Donna have colds, too. There is a lot of flu around now. I lost my black gloves two weeks ago. I thought I'd go uptown this afternoon and buy some more, but I was too tired to walk the five blocks to the bus, so I stayed home and rested. After resting an hour, I patched Lou's underwear, after bringing it in from the lines. He had four suits in the wash; two were new ones and didn't need patching. Donna should have been in bed all day, but what can a mother do when her three little ones are half sick with colds and so many things to do in the house? Lou took the chairs back this evening all painted and dry enough to use. Nice daddy, eh? Donna did her ironing today and by evening she was really feeling miserable, she was feverish and was aching all over. She knew she wouldn't be well enough to give her Relief Society lesson tomorrow, she phoned a Sr. Grace Martin of Las Flores Ward to ask if she'd give her Theology lesson in our ward, but she wasn't feeling good herself. Then Donna phoned our president, Helen Palmer, and she arranged to have Ann Hartshorne give her Social Science lesson. Donna will give the Theology lesson next week. Babe phoned Sue, said Bill was on trial in Salt Lake courts today for manslaughter, caused by the auto accident when he was driving and a girl got killed. I'm so sorry for Bill and his parents.

## February 3, Tuesday

That dear Marie Doezie phoned me this morning and said she had a free day tomorrow and she wanted to go out to Donna's home and do her washing or ironing or cleaning. I told her Donna said she washed on Saturday and ironed Monday, but I told her to phone and ask Donna if she'd like her to do something. Donna told her with the girls help, she'd manage okay. She said she felt much better this morning, the cold was in her throat, her voice was very hoarse, the fever gone. The children felt better, too. John and Mary have been home from school with colds, John will be okay for school tomorrow. Kathy coughs hard but is not sick. Bonna Gordon came for me at 11:45 a.m., she was driving a big old Ford car, loaned to them until their new Oldsmobile arrives. They sold their other car last week. I sat out in the car and read the Social Science lesson while the visiting teachers had their lesson. Sr. Brunt, Clarice Warnick's mother, sat in Bonna's car with me and read her lesson too. Ethel Burk invited me in her car, so I sat with her a while. She was knitting a yellow sweater for her daughter-in-law. Mae Burmeister sat with us, it is the first time she's been out to church for a long time, it was good to see her again. I enjoyed Ann Hartshorn's lesson. She had a panel of six ladies. Donna sent my typed copies of Queen Bonna's tribute, and a note for Clarice Warnick and her teacher's report with Clarice Tanner. I took care of all for her, I also asked C. Tanner to take Sr. Brunt home after Relief Society, as she drives by her home. Clarice didn't stay for the meeting as her baby had a cold. I walked to the Broadway Store after the meeting, bought some black rayon gloves on sale for \$1.00. I also bought a cute black straw hat, \$3.95. We went out to see Donna and family tonight. I took my black velvet hat out to her; she looks better in it than I do. Our baby Kathy is so darn cute, that lingo she talks, but she can say a few understandable words now. I watched Donna give her a bath. She went to bed like an angel. Smog was bad this afternoon; everyone's eyes smarted.



*Kathy stopped drinking milk when the bottle was taken away but she started her life long love of all other dairy products.*



## February 4, Wednesday

Janet and Warnie went to a basketball game at P.C.C. Jr. College last night. Joan and Marion S. went, also. Rex took them down on his way to a quartet practice. Marion's mother picked them up after the game. Janet and Warnie went to the game in Virginia Kelly's boyfriend's car. Joan had a difficult time maneuvering a way for her and Marion to go, but she made it, ha ha! Oh, I do love my teenagers, bless their hearts. I phoned Donna this morning and was happy to learn that she felt much better, John had gone to school, but Mary was home, as her cold hasn't cleared up yet. Kathy feels fine, but coughs hard. She was eating cottage cheese this morning. She saw the carton of cheese when the icebox door was opened and she insisted on having some right now. She had already eaten her breakfast; she can say "cheese" plain enough. Lou took my electric iron to be repaired this morning. He tried to find



out the trouble last night, but couldn't. These new automatic irons are not easy to fix. He could always get my old irons going. The iron went dead yesterday when I got to the last shirt. I had to get out my old heavy iron to finish. Lou and the Maytag man took it apart. Gordon told him to take it to the City Hall, said they would repair it for the cost of parts, so the iron is in the City Hall electrical department. I had dinner ready at 5 p.m. Lou had to leave here at 6:30. He took Mae Cazel to the General Hospital to see her husband, Ray. I was invited to go, but I thought I might go to Mutual tonight to the speech festival directed by Clarice Warnick and Bob Gordon. Lydia Smith had the musical interpretation of the festival's theme, "America and Freedom." Joan sang in the chorus. I ended up by staying home; I did not want to walk the five blocks to the bus in the dark. I enjoyed T.V. programs. We received a wedding reception invitation for Bonnie Smith and Jay Weight's reception on February 14. The smog was awful today.

### February 5, Thursday

It was overcast this morning, but the sun got through by nine o'clock. The weatherman said, "continued smog," I do hate that dreadful smog. The committee on smog called an emergency session yesterday as the smog blanket covered this area. Will they do something about it? We have enjoyed lovely clear sunny days this winter for the most part until the past three days. I try to keep in the house when it's smoggy outside. Donna phoned this morning and invited me to ride with her and baby Kathy over to Alhambra this afternoon. I started the job of listing the contents of my two scrapbooks today; I numbered the pages in books and then listed contents on a paper. I grouped them in pictures of families, friends, church, poems, and etcetera. Donna is going to type my diaries and add the poems when she comes to the day I composed the poem, so this listing will help me find it, if I have saved it. I think I have most of them since 1929. Violet said in her last letter that she got in her old cedar chest and found some rhyming I did in 1919, 1922, and 1923, in letters sent to her, all amateur stuff, but fun. She did say I have improved through the years, ha ha! It's still very amateur, I'm aware of that. Mrs. Thost wasn't at home, so Donna had to bring the replica "Sword of Laban" back

home. She did, however, buy the songbook in Alhambra for Ethel Burk's crippled friend, at our church bookshop. She also bought a picture book for Kathy, in the 15¢ Store nearby. I received a nice letter from Ethel N. and one from Eloise B. She has been ill, she expects to be operated on for gall bladder when she can lose some more weight. They sent her home from the hospital to lose pounds. Sr. Herber of the Pasadena Ward passed away this evening, she has been ill a long time.



*Joan sang in the American and Freedom Festival on February 4.*



### February 6, Friday

Our weather is more like the good ole summer time. We have had such a mild winter, like they were the first years we moved out to sunny California, very few chilly days this season so far! I spent most of this day on my scrapbooks; I have the contents listed and the pages numbered, so I can find what I want without

going through the entire book each time. Donna phoned and told me that Sr. Herber passed last evening. It is surely a blessing for her, the dear little lady has been ill many years. Her funeral will be held in the Pasadena Ward chapel tomorrow. Louise Anderson phoned, invited us to the building fund dinner at her home next Tuesday. I'm to bring rolls and butter. She phoned again later to ask about her Venetian blind, I gave her the shop number. Lou fixed the blind for her today. He took it there this evening after work and hung it for her. She's expecting her mother for a visit. I phoned Annie to ask about the refreshments we'll serve at Strong's meeting at her home tomorrow

night. Bless her heart, she is going to make little tuna pies and Bev will make fudge as only she can make it! Annie read Violet's letter to me over the phone. Violet is busy working for the Relief Society bazaar. Yvonne just got back from Salt Lake city, she says Bill and Owen and Lydia feel very dreadful about the auto accident Bill was in, which a girl got killed, Bill was driving. I'm very much concerned about it, too. Hope his trial worked out well for poor Bill and the folks. It is indeed a sad affair. Just imagine us sitting in the house, in February, with the front door open and sprinklers going on the front lawn at 9:30 tonight. Well, we did just that.



February 7,  
Saturday

Lou went to Alhambra again this Saturday to work on the carpenter job he is doing for Mrs. Brotherton's friends. It was a lovely, warm, sunny morning. I phoned Burk's home to check on the time for Sr. Herber's funeral; it is at twelve noon. Donna would have gone to the funeral, but she had to take Joan to town in Los Angeles to the only place they can buy the kind of paper Joan must have to decorate for the next party at school in which she is the Hospitality and Thrift leader. She was elected to the office by the school; she is also president of the Y Teens Club. That's my Joanie! I left home at 11:30, went to church on the bus. I was a few minutes late, as I missed the bus when I was almost to the corner to catch the darn thing. I waited 20 minutes for another one. I think it was a few minutes late. I was pleased to see such a nice, big turn out to Sr. Herber's funeral. Bishop

Armin Hill conducted and gave a nice talk. Eddie Kawai gave a nice talk, LaVer Millard sang, "The Lord's Prayer," lovely. After the service I rode over near to the Broadway Store with Br. and Sr. Jones. I had a wedding gift sent to Bonnadell Smith from the Broadway Store. It was from Lou and me and Rex and Donna, a large glass salad bowl with a large plate for bowl, and six smaller salad plates. I thought it was nice. I bought five little red satin heart boxes, filled with little candies in Albert Sheet's Candy Store, 15¢ each.

# GOLD EDITION WILSONIAN

WILSON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL      PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, FEBRUARY, 1953      VOL. XLVI, NO. 4



SMALLMAN  
Secretary
CARTER  
Vice-president
MARSH  
Thrift
RYDMAN  
Entertainment
COX  
President
SHORT  
Safety
BENEDICT  
Publications
DAVIS  
Girls' Activities
WARNICK  
Boys' Activities

## Girl Prexy Heads Students

### Hidden Wishes Come to Light

Do you want to fly to the moon? Or would you like to go hunting in South Africa? The Publications Council looked around and found both fantastic and sensible secret ambitions.

Kitty Langston's secret ambition is to have an ice cube fight. Round I coming up.

To tell a good joke in Mr. Yeast's class without flunking the ambition of Freda Glynn.

Travel is the secret ambition of many Wilsonites. Andy Graver wants to go to Norway. Frances Pyzer to South Africa. Dick Olhoffer wants to go to the moon. Margie Mathewson wants to go to the planet Jupiter with her boy friend because it has 12 moons and it must be romantic. Johnny Winn doesn't want to travel far, but he would like to travel from Wilson this year. (In other words: graduate.)

Jack Rydman's secret ambition is to be a ballet dancer. Carrie Hoerger says that if that is Jack's ambition, then her's is to see him do it!

Beth Sharpe says: "My secret ambition is to be a secretary; only the boss must have a vacant lap." What? ? ?

Mary Cox wants to be smarter in Spanish. She's not the only one.

Wendy Alexander and Carol Kline are two very thoughtful girls. Their secret ambition is to have Miss Nowlin become a Mrs.

Lois Bouvier wants badly to get in the middle of a football huddle. But what girl doesn't?

Dorothy Chiriaco has quite an ambition. She wants to be a famous dress designer and dressmaker in Paris.

Judi Lenhart says: "I think it would be fun to count all

### New Officers Still in Clouds as Cabinet Duties Confront Them

#### Wheels Reveal Student Office Goals

Even though elections are over certain members of our student body may still be seen walking through the halls of Wilson in a daze. These students are the nine members of the Student Cabinet for the new semester—spring, 1953. The thought of winning still seems too good to be true but each of them came down out of the clouds long enough to say a few words to the Wilson Press.

Mary Cox, who is the first girl president Wilson has had for 13 years, is truly one of the most thrilled of all. She feels quite honored to be Wilson's Student Body president and she hopes to prove that a girl is just as able as a boy for the job. As co-chairman of the PTSC she is going to promote the spiritual and moral ideas of the council.

Verna Carter is the new vice-president. Her interview sounded like this: "I am very happy and excited about getting veep as I've probably shown. I know that this semester's council is going to be wonderful. I just hope I can accomplish all my plans for this semester so I can keep up with the swell job last year's council did."

Joan Smallman, who is secretary of the Student Body, remarked that she does not want to strive only to make her name one of the very best secretaries Wilson has had but to carry out the duties assigned to her to the best of her ability. She is co-chairman of the PTSC and hopes to work closely with Mary Cox to promote better cooperation

### Students Bring Laughs

The January 22 Nominating Assembly was organized around three men who had just experienced a drastic airplane crash in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. As they floated around in a half-deflated rubber boat waiting to be rescued, they thought back to their old days at Wilson. As they thought back, the candidates who made the finals put on their skits, one by one, to keep the audience roaring with laughter.

Jim Cunningham, David Lucy and Larry Baugh were the three weary soldiers who were finally rescued by a blimp. Bob Bennett again gave his weird voice as Wilson's spirit and Lynn McCaffrey beautified the waters as a sultry mermaid.

As always, the Nominating Assembly was a success thanks to the direction of Miss Wilson.

between the students and parents in campus activities. Barbara Davis as Girls' Activities Commissioner is planning the Mother-Daughter Party which she hopes to make a big success. She is going to do her best to make pep during baseball season better than ever before.

During the new semester the office of Boys' Activities Commissioner will be filled by Jerry Warnick. Jerry is very anxious to get started and he stated: "As Boys' Activities Commissioner I hope to make the intramural program really successful, but this can only be accomplished with the help of all the boys here at Wilson." Jerry promises one of the biggest and best Father-Son Picnics ever.

Ruthie Benedict who is Publications Commissioner hopes to make this semester's Publications Council function in grand style. With the amount of money we have for the annual she is going to do her best to make it one that everyone from seventh to tenth grade will remember for a long time.

Gary Short as Safety Commissioner is going to work on the Wilson Way as was done last semester and he is trying to make the students feel that safeties aren't "mud on their feet."

Joan Marsh is the only ninth grader on the new

• continued on page 2

I bought Owen and Annie a birthday card and bought some valentines in Woolworth's Store, then to Grants and bought two little flower corsages, 69¢ each for Janet and Joan. They had a sale on real silk scarfs, very pretty ones, large size for 79¢ were marked \$1.00. I bought three of them. I think I'll give them to Janet, Joan, and Donna. I bought red beads for Mary, ran out of money so had to quit. We had our Strong's meeting at Andersen's tonight. We had a real nice time. Not many out, Bette and Ray brought Sue over, but they had to



go elsewhere. Blanche, Oscar, Clint and Ellen, Helen and her husband, were the only ones from that end of town. They all came in one car, a brand new Mercury; Clint left his car at Blanche's. My precious sister Sue gave two of my poems in our meeting, "My Family Tree" and "Aunt Ettie's Visit," both long compositions, what a memory that gal has. It is surely a wonderful tribute to me to have someone think my poems worth that effort, bless her heart. I was amazed to hear Miriam say that little Marilyn is going to school now, started kindergarten this month over in Herman, she told me the name of the school, but it has slipped my mind.

### February 8, Sunday

Lou and I picked Hilda Botting up on Allen Avenue this morning and took her to Sunday School. We brought her home after Sunday School. There was a real strong wind this morning. Rex conducted Sunday School, he told the ladies they all looked charming with their wind blown hair dress, cute, eh? I wore my little new black straw hat; it kept my hair in order quite well. Johnny and I walked up to the corner store to buy a package of Sen-Sens, I gave him a dime, and he bought two. I put one in my purse to keep him from eating both packages down, that's my boy. I was pleased to see Monty Kunz home from his mission. I can surely see a wonderful development in him. He leaves tonight for Utah; he is going to the B.Y.U. College. He gave a nice talk in church, his father, Br. Kunz, spoke first, fine people. Joan went to a fireside chat after church. She told her dad, but Donna didn't know and she was looking all over the place for Joan. Janet gave a talk in church on the Book of Mormon. She gave it well. We went out to Donna's place to take the little rocking chair Uncle Bill sent to Kathy and to take the delicious fudge Beverly made and then sent home for Donna's family. Donna and children went to church with us.

### February 9, Monday

Strong winds yesterday did a lot of damage, according to our newspapers, some large trees were uprooted, awnings blown down, and many things turned over, such as little paper stands and etcetera. Our back lawn and cabaña are a mess with sticks and leaves from the avocado tree in Mrs. Stacey's yard. It was a wonderful drying day, with sun and wind on the job. Donna says that Kathy likes the nice little rocking chair that Uncle Bill sent to her. After lunch I walked up

to the Shopping Bag Market and bought two dozen butter rolls, and a half-pound of butter to take to the Relief Society luncheon tomorrow. Ruby Andersen and Clarice Warnick asked the ladies on their district to help serve. When Lou came home this evening he raked the leaves up from the back lawn and washed the patio cabaña and furniture. I dried the metal chairs off good. It looks nice out there again for a change. We neglect the patio in the winter. Donna brought Johnny and Mary down this evening to see the "I Love Lucy" show on television. She brought a box of blue jeans to be patched on my machine. Joan needs a formal gown to wear to the "Sweetheart Ball" that our stake is giving next Saturday night. We talked it over. Oh dear, if only money grew on trees, as young people sometimes seem to think it does, eh? Well, it's better as is; I'm afraid the poor trees wouldn't have any branches on 'em, ha ha! I served the folks some chocolate ice cream and Girl Scout cookies. Rex was home with the baby. Donna phoned Uncle Bill and Beverly to thank them for the little rocking chair and delicious fudge.

### February 10, Tuesday

Today is Annie's birthday; she is 59 years old. It was a lovely, sunny, clear day, the winds took care of the dreadful smog condition that we had a few days ago. Lou phoned just as I was about to leave the house this morning. He told me to tell Donna if she can find a formal dress for Joan, not over \$15.00, he'll buy it for her. Isn't he a darling? Joan needs a formal gown to wear to the "Sweetheart Ball" that our church is having next Saturday night for the young folks of our stake. Joan has a date with the young Nickels boy, I think that's his name? Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:45, her son Charlie was driving, Marie Doezie was in

the car, she had a large carton full of clothing to send to the flood stricken people in Holland. Her people are still over in Holland; her mother is 83 years old. We had our quilting in the recreation hall today, as it is too cold in the Relief Society room. The furnace isn't working in that part of the building for some reason. They finished up the big quilt that I worked on last time and tied a baby quilt. I didn't sew today, as I had to help serve the luncheon. I took two dozen butter rolls and some butter. It was Ruby Andersen and Clarice Warnick's district's turn. I'm in their district. I read the poem in tribute to Queen Bonna Gordon; she was our "Queen for a Day." She was really surprised and cute. Donna embroidered on a quilt block for



Queen "Bonna Gordon"

Today we crown another Queen,  
Our third Queen to honor thus,  
The dear little lady of our choice  
Doesn't care for pomp or fuss.

Her majesty, our honored Queen,  
Will no doubt be surprised,  
'Cause her coronation this day  
She hasn't yet surmised.

She is an extremely important cog  
In the wheel of our Relief Society,  
Her labor calls for precise care,  
A work of exact responsibility.

A perfect record of our meetings she keeps  
And our money she carefully banks  
We'll crown her now, "Queen Bonna"  
With our love and heart felt thanks.



a baby bed. Everyone seemed to enjoy our lunch, we served 27 sisters and six children, some of our rolls got burnt a little, we didn't understand that old oven. We had scalloped potatoes with weenies, fruit Jello salad, and a delicious date nut cake with whipped cream. Annie phoned this afternoon to thank me for the birthday card and \$2.00. Annie and family are going out to Glen and Irene's home tonight to a fried chicken dinner in honor of Annie's birthday. We had a nice time and a very good (building fund) dinner tonight at Andersen's. Not many came, but we had fun. Louise's mother and father are visiting from Utah, the Wests. We had a Dr. Alder and his wife, Lorene; they know Dody and Bevan, Virginia Peak, and the young Maun boy, the Andersens and us were all. We came home at 9 p.m.

### February 11, Wednesday

I spent this entire day patching and mending blue jeans for Rex and Johnny, six pair. I was tired when dinnertime came. This evening Rex brought Mary and Johnny down with him to watch the Blue Ribbon Bouts, boxing, Chuck Davey and Kid Gairlan. We left them here to enjoy the T.V. and some cookies while we went to Andersen's to have Lon Timpson take care of our income tax. We watched T.V. over there while Lon was working on Bill's taxes. Ernie Oates and Bill A. went out on church work after seeing the fights. Andersens are disappointed this year; they have to pay about \$46 more, because they forgot to have Dale taken off their dependence slip after he started to work. Bev will have about that amount refunded. Lou will have a \$90 refund. We stayed at Annie's to see the "This Is Your Life," Ralph Edwards program on T.V. Rex and children were home when we got back here.



Ralph Edwards, host of "This Is Your Life."

### February 12, Thursday

Rex had to take his car this morning and we had to have a car, so Daddy said Donna could drive his car. She and Joan went to the shop from Sierra Madre on the bus to get the car. Lou said he'd come home on the bus and she could take the car home and bring it back tonight. I went to town on the bus and met them at the Broadway Store. We started our search for Joan's formal gown trying to find one for the \$15 Grampa said he'd pay. He gave me a blank check, so I knew he'd go higher if he had to, bless his heart. We couldn't find anything under \$19, most of the best looking ones were \$24 to \$35 and up. Joan found a darling orchid color gown in Hertel's Store, it had a pretty lace jacket, most of the gowns are naked tops, excuse please, strapless, but still naked to me. I just don't like 'em. This dress cost \$19.95, \$20.65 with tax. I paid for it with the check, Donna paid \$3.00 cash to have the alterations made, the bodice had to be taken in a little bit. We had lunch in Hertel's. Donna and I ate some vegetable soup, Joan a hamburger sandwich and a chocolate malt. Donna put a dollar's worth of gasoline in the car because she wanted to go to Los Angeles to buy some

special construction paper for Joan's school valentine party. I bought some red and white mints in Albert Sheet's before we left for L.A. Tonight Beverly brought Aunt Elsie over to see us. Annie and Lorene had to be at the stake house to a correlation meeting. Donna and family came down, Janet drove Grampa's car here. I served lime Jello salad, Hi-Ho Crackers, with creamed cheese on, some had red jelly on, red and white mints and 7Up drink. Janet helped me. Baby Kathy preferred cottage cheese tonight to my refreshments. She's a cutie. Rex came over after his church meeting.

### February 13, Friday

I'm glad the weather is lovely while Elsie is visiting in California. Miriam Clayton took Aunt Annie and Elsie to see the Bullock's Pasadena Store this morning. They ate lunch in Van de Kamp's in Pasadena. I was going to meet them, but I didn't feel up to the walking around, so I phoned Annie before they left. I had myself a happy time fixing little valentine gifts to take out to my little Marshes'. I used the Christmas card boxes to put the gifts in, silk scarfs and flowers



for Janet and Joan, silk scarf for Donna and I put my gold bow pin, and earrings in Donna's box. I covered printing with red paper that Joan left here last night.

I pasted valentines on top of the boxes. Mary's gift was red beads, John's a miniature lantern filled with candy. All have a little red satin heart with candy in. I must get Kathy a carton of cottage cheese, a red yo-yo in Johnny's.



Donna mailed Lou's income tax papers today, she took it home to put in a large envelope and mail for Daddy. I was delighted when my darling phoned and said he'd take me out to dinner tonight. We

had a lovely dinner at the Crown Cafeteria in Pasadena; it's our favorite place. We had a nice drive out to Sue's home in Burbank, we got there early, about 7 p.m., we saw Bette and Ray's darling infant



son, he smiled for me, he has the dearest little smile, dimples and all. Annie, Bill, Lorene, Beverly, and Elsie Bailey came about 8:30; they had been out to Van Nuys to take valentines to the kiddies first, Mary's and Glen's. Elaine and children, all but Carol Sue, came. We had a nice visit. Elsie Smith and her husband came over to see Elsie after Elsie Bailey phoned her. I read some stories to little Karen; she is a cutie. Sue let Karen have one piece of candy and she said to her Granma, "Why don't you give that kid a piece," meaning Uncle Lou, ha ha! Bette and Ray and Shirley and Kenny went to the Sweetheart dance at the stake house later this evening. Sue served a delicious ice cream cake and hot chocolate. Bette made cake, it looked grand, but I wasn't feeling too good so just enjoyed watching others eat. We had candies, too.

### February 14, Saturday

Lou went to finish up the carpenter job he's been working on the past two Saturdays in Alhambra. I took a bath before dressing. Beverly, Annie, (I'm not sure if Lorene), and Sue went, but they took Elsie to the Farmer's Market for lunch. I was invited to go along and I would have enjoyed it, but

it's asking too much to have Beverly come over here for me. Donna said she'd take me to Andersen's, but I wouldn't have that, as she is so darn busy today. I'm better off home, so "that's that!" Donna had to pick up Joan's formal gown at Hertel's Department Store today, make cupcakes and take Joan to school, cause her decorations at school had to be taken down. I walked up to the little 15¢ Store and finished my valentine buying. I bought a sand strainer pan and tin shovels, and a card game for Mary, Animal Rummy. I put it in the pretty fruitcake box I promised Mary when the cake was gone. I bought some chocolate candies, M & M's, and some Cup 'O Gold bars for Rex and Lou. I fixed Lou's in the red heart that I always use for him. I bought a cottage cheese carton to put in Kathy's sand strainer pan. She loves cottage cheese. Lou and I went to market for a grocery order this evening. We ate broiled salmon dinner at home, then went to Donna's after putting gas and air in car. Johnny and Mary were waiting for us to come and send the valentines. We used the back door to keep off of Rex's new lawn. Lou helped me send them, one or two at a time; we used a long stick to push valentines over to the door and knock on the door with it. That way we didn't have to run up and down the back steps. I can't make a quick get-a-way, like I could 15 years ago when I started this fun. We went in Donna's after the valentines were all sent. The baby was asleep, but Mary brought her out of a sound sleep to see her valentines. She coughed real hard, but was fine after she got woke up good. Mary and Johnny made a pretty valentine for Grampa and me. Donna typed a nice verse in it. They gave us some lovely homemade cupcakes, pink frosting with coconut on. Janet took her clothes over to her girlfriend's home to get ready for the stake Sweetheart Ball. She and Warnie went with Virginia and her boyfriend. Joan went with the young Nickels lad from our ward. Lou and I went to the wedding reception at Smith's. The bride looked beautiful. It was all very nice; lots of people were there. We waited for Rex and Donna, and then we went in our car from our place to the San Marino Women's Club to look in on the young folks of the stake at their Sweetheart Ball. The girls were lovely in formals and of course, I thought Janet in her white formal and red and white corsage (red roses and white gardenias) and Joan in her orchid formal with orchid corsage were the most beautiful of all. I would, eh? It was a lovely party.

### February 15, Sunday

Yesterday was a big day, the valentine sending, the Sweetheart Ball, and Donna Smith's wedding reception. We all went to Sunday School as usual. Sr. Fox was not there so I took care of her class-greeting job again for her. After dinner Lou took his usual nap. Rex and Donna went to Sunday School union meeting. I phoned Annie to ask if Elsie got away last evening on time. She did, on the 5 p.m. train.

Her niece Florine came to see her at the depot before she left. Annie said they had a nice day yesterday. They went to the Farmer's Market in the morning, ate lunch there, and looked around the place. Lorene, Norma Hardy, Annie, Elsie B., and Beverly in Andersen's car. Bette H. brought Shirley B. and Sue to the market. Bev took her folks to the Forest Lawn Cemetery to see the huge famous painting of the Crucifixion after they came from the market. Before Elsie's train time, in the evening, they took her to see Little Old Mexico, on Alvera Street. It was Annie's stake conference today. I was surprised when Annie told me that Elsie's niece Florine has four grandchildren; her married daughter is 22 years old. She had a 10-year-old son [*Edward Gordon Stevens*] with her last evening. Lou took a walk after his nap. I felt sleepy by that time, so I had a nice nap until almost time to get ready for church. We had a nice meeting. Br. Willard was the speaker, also a young man from Monrovia Ward. A lady sang two solos, she is not a member of our church, but has a nice voice. She was late getting to our meeting, so she sang just before our closing prayer. There was a mix up. It seems they came just as the Pasadena Ward was letting out, they didn't know we hold two services in the chapel, so naturally thought they were too late, so they went home. Miriam Summerhays went to their home as she guessed the reason for them not being in our meeting. Rex, Joan, Janet, and Warnie were the only ones from Marshes in church. Joan wanted to go to the fireside after church, but Rex said she was out late Friday and Saturday nights, so home it must be tonight.

### February 16, Monday

More summer like weather today, I did my washing and the things were dry in a short time. My brother-in-law phoned me this noon and tried to sell me insurance. It was Otto Fife, I had a feeling someone was trying to kid me, but I didn't think of him in California. He came down with Dody, Bevan, and the children in Dr. LaMoyné Hickman's car. They went to Cedar City over the weekend and Otto came back with them. He is only staying a day or two, he hadn't seen Dody's new home until now. Dolores said she would come by for me when Nadine wakes up and we would take Otto out to see Donna and baby. Joan is home from school today; she needed a rest, too much activity for school and church parties last Friday and Saturday. She's a busy little gal. I composed a tribute in rhyme to our next "Queen for a Day" in Relief Society. This one is for Ethel Burk. Melba Kunz asked me to have two or three tributes ready for other sisters, in case the one we've planned on doesn't show up that day. It is always a surprise for the one to be crowned. Melba suggested the other names, Hazel Morgan and Sr. Waguman. I'll have to get her first name! Melba K. chooses the queens, I write a



Joan and Janet Marsh circa 1952. The "most beautiful of all" at the 1953 Sweetheart Ball according to Elvie.



tribute to them. Dody, Otto, and children came for me about 3:30 and we went out to Donna's. Otto looks fine, he has put on a little weight, and it looks good on him. Joan made some cupcakes with chocolate icing; she treated. I didn't indulge, but enjoyed watching the others enjoy them. Dolores and Bevan took Otto over to see the Andersens tonight. Baby Nadine is surely cute.

### February 17, Tuesday

We haven't had our winter this season. It has been warm and sunny most of the time. They are enjoying a mild winter back in Utah, too. Otto says the weather in Cedar is lovely and warm. We get the same report from our folks in Salt Lake, they had only one heavy snowstorm in Salt Lake, but it was a dilly, broke all records. Bonna Gordon and Marie Doezie came for me at noon. I finished reading the lesson out in the car, as we were early. Donna brought Terry M. and Kathy. She came early to practice with the ladies, songs for our conference. I took a little walk around churchyard with Kathy and Terry while they sang. Donna came with Mary Howard, the new counselor in our Relief Society, a sweet young woman. I enjoyed Dorothy Mortenson's literature lesson on the poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley. I phoned Dolores this afternoon; she had entertained Sue, Bette, and Shirley and the three little children, Steven, Karen, and infant, Richard Albin [Bird], at lunch. Dody phoned to tell the girls to bring Sue because Otto was here in California. I did part of my ironing this morning and finished it up this afternoon. I was happy to have my iron back from the City Hall repair shop; the darn thing cost \$6.31 to repair. Dolores brought Otto over this evening about 5:30, he sat out in the cabaña in the swing and talked with Lou. Our dinner was over and the dishes done when they arrived. Dody had her dinner cooking in Lo Heat; Bevan gets home about 6:30. They were going to Mutual tonight. Otto hoped to see his old friend Jean Wunderlick in Mutual. Louise Andersen told us in Relief Society that her brother Bill West has been appointed bishop of the new ward cut off from the Fullerton Ward.

### February 18, Wednesday

We're still enjoying warm, sunny weather. I talked to Donna on the phone this morning. She told me she'd found out why Ovena sent us a thank you note for the punch bowl set, and not them. Ovena didn't know they had sent it with us. Ovena says their names were not on the card, in the wedding gift. I looked it up in the 1952 diary; Donna and I had it sent out from Nash's Department Store. Donna wrote the card. Ovena is going to look the card up again to see if Donna did really forget to put their own names on it. I was relieved to learn that it wasn't me who wrote the card, ha ha! Otto left for Cedar city this morning, he expected his friend to come for him this morning at ten o'clock. I composed a tribute in rhyme for Hazel Morgan and one for Margaret Waugman today. I did one

for Ethel Burk on Monday. We use one of the tributes once a month when we crown a "Queen for a Day" on our workday. I keep two or three ahead in case the lady of our choice doesn't come out that day. It was ward achievement night in church tonight. Donna and Rex and the girls, Janet and Joan went. Rex had a short talk to give. They served punch and cake and danced after the program. Lou and I enjoyed our nice little home and the television.

### February 19, Thursday

Lou worked until noon; work is so slack at the shop that the fellows have taken turns laying off for a couple of days. Lou is off until Monday. I had planned on going uptown, then take the Sierra Madre bus and go with Donna to the school. Lou phoned just before I left the house, he said he'd meet me in town at noon and take me to Donna's house. I was delighted to know I didn't have to go out on the bus. I bought a new black plastic purse in Penney's, a Hazel Bishop lipstick with a free sample of complexion glow in the drug store. I went in Kress for a hair net, and seven spools of colored sewing thread, as my supply of colors was low. We came home to bring my packages, and then went out to Donna's. I wiped the dishes for Donna; Kathy was asleep. Lou stayed at Donna's; he rested on the couch while the baby was asleep. Donna and I went up to the school in Daddy's car. I was amazed at the lovely school. I've been

there before, but not around the place like I did today. The P.T.A. served a very lovely luncheon to a large crowd. It was free. I surely enjoyed the delicious food served, buffet style. Johnny's second grade put on a cute program in the auditorium after lunch. Our Johnny boy played a trumpet solo, (Oats, Beans, and Barley). Johnny also played in the rhythm band, "The Syncopated Clock," he played the clock beats; he did a good job of both. He is surely a handsome little fellow. We came home and Lou washed the car while I was inside the car mending the rip in top of the car where it broke out.



Johnny Marsh 1953.  
John played a trumpet solo on February 19, 1953.



LET'S PLAY MUSIC

## OATS & BEANS & BARLEY GROWS

Oats and beans and bar - ley grow, Oats and beans and

bar - ley grow, Do you or I or an - y - one know, How

oats and beans and bar - ley grow?

FOR ACTIVITY IDEAS AND EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS OF THIS NURSERY RHYME, VISIT: [GC-MUSIC.COM/OATS-AND-BEANS-AND-BARLEY-GROW](http://GC-MUSIC.COM/OATS-AND-BEANS-AND-BARLEY-GROW)

### February 20, Friday

Lou made Sue's cork sewing table today. He went to the lumberyard this morning, he looked at a new Pontiac car too, no sale, but he can dream, can't he, ha ha! The wind blew a lot of avocado leaves down in our patio and lawn. I raked them up and burned them while Lou was out this morning. We went to the market after lunch. Lou also bought the hardware for Sue's table, for the folding legs. He was working on them when Champ Cuff came to talk to us about an investment plan, a saving at from five to seven percent. We are going to think about it?? Mary slept with Dody Bush last night and spent the day there today. Johnny had Candy Bush over to his house for lunch, she played with him, so everyone was happy, eh? Warnie had a "For Sale" sign on the '40 Ford that he bought a few days ago. Two boys took it out yesterday to try it. I haven't heard what they thought about it? Our winter has been so warm that the famous old Wisteria Vine is in full bloom; the Queen will be crowned soon. Janet was Queen last year, her coronation wasn't until March 29, the vine wasn't in full bloom by then, but it was a cold spring, which held back the blossoms. Annie phoned and said that Beth J. and Sue had been in to see her. Beth came for L.D.S. garments. Aunt Ida wrote to Beth telling her that Owen is very much broken up over son Bill's accident. I'm sure Lydia and Owen do feel dreadful about it, poor Bill, too.



*Wisteria vine in Sierra Madre was in full bloom in February of 1953.*

### February 21, Saturday

It was a cold clear morning, there were frost warnings issued last night to the citrus growers. I didn't notice any frost this morning, but it felt cold enough for frost. We have had a very mild winter so far. Lou got up early this morning and went to do some donation work on the church. He worked from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. He enjoyed the lovely lunch the Primary teachers took to the men. I spent all morning preparing dinner for tomorrow. I made two lemon pies; I used Pillsbury's pie mix. It is good, and the Jello lemon pie filling is good also. I made a carrot and pineapple Jello salad, with whipped Jello and cottage cheese topping and walnuts. I baked a large pan of scalloped potatoes. I'll cook the beef roast in the morning. Donna and family are coming to dinner after Sunday School. Lou watered the lawn this afternoon while I mended the other broken out place in the top of our car. I did the first mending job Thursday, it was tough to do because of it's location in the top; hard on my neck

and arms, but I'm glad it's done. Lou and I met the Sunday School workers at the church this evening at 6:30. We parked in the parking lot and rode to the French Restaurant, (Taix). Br. Rowbotham had reserved the banquet room, there were forty of us to eat, the Sunday School workers and their partners. Al Rowbotham took flash light [*flash bulb*] pictures of us. The dinner was excellent, served family style. I never tasted better baked ham. Br. Rowbotham paid the bill for forty of us. We all went back to the church to the Gold and Green Ball. I danced once with Champ Cuff, Lou danced with Mary Dawn. Joan went to the dance with Dee Austin. Janet and Warnie went to a show. Joan slept with the Steimle girl tonight after the dance and eats with the boys. Carol Steimle, I believe her name is.

### February 22, Sunday

It was clear, but cool today. I cooked the beef roast this morning. We arrived at church a half hour early, so I enjoyed the radio in the car while Lou attended his Sunday School prayer meeting. It was Lou's turn to give a short inspirational thought in the meeting. My little Marshes came to the car to join me until Sunday School time. We all ate Sen-Sens and went to our classes smelling, "but good." I was happy to see Sr. Fox back in Sunday School, to take over her class-greeting job. Don Rowberry's class was interesting as always. I had

the table set and dinner well on it's way before leaving for Sunday School, so we didn't have long to wait. Donna brought some whipping cream for our lemon pies. Donna fed baby Kathy first, she was asleep soon after so Donna could enjoy her dinner with us. The children didn't want pie, so they enjoyed ice cream and cake for dessert, one or two of them ate pie. Most of the family took naps this afternoon. Mary and John took a walk to the market, bought all day suckers, which they didn't need. Ovena and Chet left Gary here with Donna while they went to a wedding. We expected to see the Jack Benny Show on T.V. at 4:30, but it was canceled because of Jack's illness. Rex and Donna took Kathy and Gary home this evening. Warnie M. called to take Janet to church; he took Joan, also. I promised John and

Mary I'd stay home tonight and let them see the Red Skelton Show. The young folks came here after church; I fixed a little lunch for them. They took Mary home later, Johnny stayed all night with us, as invited, there is no school tomorrow, so he is visiting with us. George Washington's birthday today, so no school tomorrow.

### February 23, Monday

It started raining early this morning. Johnny was awake at the crack of dawn. I managed to keep him undercover until Lou was up and the house warmed up a little. I got Lou's breakfast and lunch up, and then Johnny had his breakfast. He kept me busy thinking up things for him to do to entertain him, until my work was done and my hair combed. We looked through the scrapbooks, read some of the poems that a little boy could enjoy. I had thought I'd take him uptown to a show, but the rain changed that idea. There wasn't anything on the T.V. until after 10 a.m. that could hold



my boy's attention. At 11 a.m. he announced it was his lunch time, he said they eat lunch in school at 11 a.m. Ah me! We were eating our lunch at 11:45. I managed to hold him off that long. The television held him "quiet as a mouse" all afternoon. Terry Maxon came to spend the day with Donna. Mary helped take care of Kathy and Terry for Donna. Donna cut her hand on a cup today. Rex didn't go to work because of the rain; he helped Donna bake bread and some pies after she hurt her hand. They came for Johnny about 4:15 p.m. Kathy and Terry were with them. Rex brought the knife and fork drawer down to glue the parts in. He changed the drawers; it was so inconvenient to have the utility drawer under the breadboard. I gave Donna the Queen tributes to type for our next three queens in Relief Society. Rex bought two fryers from the egg man this morning, so my little Marshes enjoyed a delicious fried chicken dinner tonight. I'm always happy when they have a luscious dinner. Daddy and I enjoyed our dinner, too, me a lamb chop, him his beloved pork chop. Joan's boyfriend, Richard Berger, came to see her, Warnie called to see Janet. Holiday from school.

### February 24, Tuesday

It was sunny but cold this morning. Our mountains are white with snow; pretty to look at, the first real cold we've had this winter. Bonna Gordon came for me at noon. Marie Doezie was with her, we picked Chuck Gordon up at his school, he is using the car this afternoon. Joan Sidlow brought us all home from Relief Society. I helped little Kathy with her lunch while Donna was rehearsing songs with the sisters. It was nice to have the furnace in working condition again in our Relief Society room. We've had to meet in the large hall or the chapel for the past few weeks because we couldn't warm up the Relief Society room. Donna gave a very lovely lesson as always. She was ill on her regular lesson day, so took her turn today. She will have next Tuesday's lesson, also, to get them all going in their proper place again. The testimony meeting was very fine after Donna's lesson. Joan Sidlow's testimony was wonderful. Our little Mary and her club had a "tea" for the eleven little girls and their mothers this afternoon at Dody Bush's home. The club was held in Donna's home last time; Mary served cookies and punch then. I made a rice pudding this afternoon. I had dinner all ready at 5 p.m. Lou didn't arrive here until almost 6 p.m. He had taken his car to have the old carburetor taken out and the new one installed, \$18.00. He said the car performed beautifully coming home.



*Joan is very busy this spring, pictured here with the student council, girls ( L to R:) Joan Sanallman, Joan Marsh, Mary Cox, Ruthie Benidict, Barbara Davis, Verna Carter; boys ( L to R) Gary Short, Jack Rydman, Jerry Warnick; and Mrs. Edwards, the principal in 1953.*

### February 25, Wednesday

It was a nice sunny morning. The weatherman has promised us rain by late afternoon or evening. I had my washing on the lines by 10:30. No clouds in the blue by 1:30 p.m., at present writing. Clarice Warnick and little daughter came this morning to do Relief Society visiting teaching. Clarice's partner, Ruby

Andersen, couldn't come because she has started to work, guess we'll have a new visiting teacher in her place soon. Mary was out of school with a head cold today. Donna is fighting a head cold, also. Kathy's nose is running a little, too. Her cough hasn't cleared up from the last cold. Janet went to school, but she has a slight head cold, too. There are a lot of people suffering with colds or the flu now. Donna told me that Alicebeth Ashby gave birth to a baby girl; I think she said it was born Monday. This evening Louis and I were enjoying the television when my old friend, Mary Stead, phoned. She was at her son Albert's home in Los Angeles. She had been to Phoenix, Arizona, visiting with Harold and his wife. Harold brought her to Los Angeles when she heard that her sister Alice was dying in a hospital in Los Angeles with cancer. I was sorry to learn about Alice, I hope and pray with Mary that the good Lord will take her out of her dreadful suffering soon. We both enjoyed the T.V. program, "This Is Your Life;" it is our favorite. It was real thrilling tonight, the life of Dinah Shore. She thought it was to be the life of Eddie Cantor and she was on stage to introduce him, which she did very charmingly, she is cute.

## February 26, Thursday

The weather crossed up our weatherman again, the promised storm didn't arrive last evening. We have a beautiful sunny sky again today. The 1953 Wisteria Queen's picture was in our paper this morning. She is Pat Murphy of Arcadia, a charming little Colleen [*meaning a charming Irish girl*]. Our Janet was the 1952 Queen, last March, she was announced in the paper on March 20. I'm so glad Janet's picture was not in a bathing suit, as was this year's queen. Oh, I wonder why they have to spoil the lovely dignity of this fine honor? Pat is a sweet looking girl, but to me they look so much nicer in a dainty dress. The wisteria vine is in bloom one month earlier this year because of our warm mild winter. I talked to Donna on the phone this morning. Janet and Mary are out of school with head colds. Mary was home yesterday, also. Donna has a cold in her sinuses and baby Kathy has a head cold. Donna did a big washing yesterday which made the cut on her hand sore today. She wore rubber gloves and a Band-Aid, but the cut on her hand is on her knuckle, the bending so much wasn't good. Oh, I wish I could help her out at times like this, but I am too far away to be of much help. Gordon Hodges phoned this evening soon after Lou got home. He wanted Lou to go and see what was wrong with the Venetian blinds they sent out to a lady today. She couldn't make them work. I rode to her place and waited out in the car while Lou fixed the blinds. He had to restring them, they'd put them together wrong at the shop. We went to Sierra Madre to take the little black case to Johnny. To our delight and our amazement, the Toy Loan record player fit just perfect in the case. Our Joan missed her two school buses this evening; she walked home in the dark. Rex and Donna went out in the car to look for her. It is so much fun to talk to Richard Berger and let the bus go bye bye!

## February 27, Friday

It was another lovely sunny day. Janet and Mary both feel better today, but they didn't go to school. Donna went to her Relief Society union meeting. I had plenty of work I could have done this morning, but it was more fun to write poetry. I added two more verses to the poem I composed a few weeks ago, My Silly Rhyme. I enjoyed myself saying some poems over out loud to keep them alive in my memory. A lady phoned, she wants Lou to do a carpenter job for her. I gave her the shop's number; she is a friend of someone that he did a job for. He gets lots of work that way. The Deseret Industries came this morning. Lou gave them his black pin stripe suit, it was in excellent condition, but too small. I wish it was Rex's size, he surely could use a new suit, bless his heart. We sent our old lawn mower with them, also. I gave Lou a list of the groceries we need over the phone. He went to the Boy's Market after work and he brought home some fresh fish, which I fried for our dinner. The cost of food is tremendous now days, as is everything else. But we are thankful he has a job and income to take care of us. We spent another quiet evening at home enjoying our television. How did we ever get along without it all these years? Of course, I know we went out to shows and visited with my folks a lot more than we do now, then we had the radio programs, too. If I had a family of children, I would not want a T.V. set in the house for many reasons. It



### A Silly Rhyme

*Today I'm in the mood to rhyme  
I have the urge and I have the time.  
If only I had a brilliant brain  
These lines might well go down in fame.*

*But alas, I'm doomed to a simple jingle  
'Cause greatness and me just do not mingle.  
Instead of composing for you "a dilly"  
You'll find my lines are very silly.*

*'Tis said the corn on the ear does grow  
Then why, oh why, grows the corn on my toe!  
Now if the calf of my leg would only go  
Down and eat the corn on my toe.*

*I could be happy and full of cheer  
While beating on the drum of my ear.  
Surely I'd do something without fail  
If the crook in my elbow was sent to jail.*

*I'd shoulder my arms with precise care,  
And toss my tulips in the air.  
I'd lie in the shade of the palms of my hands,  
And sharpen my shoulder with the sands.*

*I'd take the nails from my fingers and toes,  
And shingle the roof of mouth with those.  
With my tongue laced up in my shabby shoe,  
I'd measure off a couple of feet for you.*

*My face and hands, like a clock, show the hour  
And ladyfingers, one by one, I'll devour.  
From my ribs an umbrella I'd make,  
While a pie from my Adam's apple I'd bake.*

*If the jewel in the crown of my head are lost,  
Will I find 'em if the bridge of my nose is crossed?  
Or will the pupils in my eyes keep 'em there,  
Locked up with a key from the lock of my hair.*

*Say, wouldn't I be a sight to see,  
With a feather in the cap of my knee?  
Or eyeballs rolling around on the floor,  
While I raised my eyebrows a foot or more.*

*My eye lids I'd snap shut with a zest,  
And open the window and throw out my chest,  
But, if the finger of scorn at me ever points,  
I'll just have to close up all of my joints.*

*'Cause if worse comes to worse; I'll have to flee,  
Or they'll hang me upon my Family Tree.  
Well, this is the end of my silly rhyme,  
To listen was just a waste of your time*

Poem by Elvie Renshaw written December 11, 1952





is hard on the eyes, for hours at a time, and most programs are not fit for growing children. They always choose the worst kind to watch, the shootin' and killin'. I never watch that trash, but I do see some silly trash for pastime once in a while. I like the good music and the panel programs best.

### February 28, Saturday

Lou tried to take a tire off his car this morning, but it wouldn't give, so he took it to the station to have it changed. He thought he was going to have one retread, but they told him it wouldn't pay to retread it, so he will wear it out. Lou was going to finish up Sue's sewing table this morning, but Kenny Frandson phoned, he wanted Lou to come to 675 Cliff Drive and help him do a carpenter job, building a bar in the Rossiter home. Janet and Warnie went to get a piece of glass for the little lamp table; Kathy broke the other glass. Warnie was on his lunch hour. Joan went with her Sunday School class to see through a museum somewhere. Mary Dawn Cuff took her. Joan went to the Y tonight, she sold cake in a booth there. Richard Berger brought her home from the Y. Rex took Mary and Johnny with him somewhere; he had to water down a cement job on a building. Lou came home this evening about 5:30. I had dinner all ready. He said he had a nice lunch; Maureeta Rossiter fixed a lovely lunch for Lou and Kenny. We had to hurry to get to the conference tonight, in Las Flores Ward. The wives were invited to attend this opening session of our stake conference. The chapel was crowded. It was a very fine session. We were all glad to see Br. D.K. Broadhead back from his important office in Washington, D.C. He came here for the conference; he'll be released from the stake presidency in conference tomorrow. Apostle LeGrand Richards was our representative from Salt Lake. He surely gave a wonderful talk; he is one of our best speakers. It was raining when we came out of conference tonight.

### March 1, Sunday

It was windy and cold this morning, with blue sky and clouds, which made a pretty picture. We had a very lovely conference session this morning. Jennie Jones conducted the Las Flores Ward's choir. A young woman who just returned from a Spanish mission gave a good talk. President Hunter conducted and gave a fine talk. President D.K. Broadhead was released in the presidency's meeting before the general conference this morning. He gave a fine talk; he only said a few words about his new calling in our U.S. government. He came here from Washington D.C. to attend this conference. Bishop J. Talmage Jones of the Las Flores Ward was put in Br. Broadhead's place as counselor to President Hunter. He is a good man, also. Apostle

LeGrand Richards gave another powerful talk in our conference this morning. I enjoyed him as much as I did last night; he is a wonderful speaker and a grand man. I saw Donna, Rex, Janet, and Joan in conference this morning, but didn't get to speak with them. That huge auditorium in the Monrovia High School was filled with people. It's amazing how fast we L.D.S. grow out here. Lou and I ate a good dinner in a café in Alhambra, then he went to see some folks about a carpenter job they want him to do in May. They live in Alhambra. I sat out in the car and enjoyed the Sunday paper and a chocolate bar, which I bought in a drug store there. We talked to Margie and Fred Pack after morning meeting; he is bishop of the Covina Ward now. Marie Doezie phoned to see if we were going to conference this evening. I told her we'd pick her and the girls up. Donna phoned, Rex was afraid for her to drive their car on the wet streets, as the brakes were gone. We picked Joan up at her friend's house, then the Doezie's. We took the three Doezie's, Donna, Mary, and Janet in our car to the evening session of conference. It was another wonderful meeting; so glad I went. Lou phoned Gordon Hodges tonight, it is okay for him to lay off tomorrow. Work is so slack at the shop. He will help Kenny Frandsen with a carpenter job. Joan came to the conference tonight with Tim and Nancy Higgins. Janet went home from conference with Steve Schirm, she and Warnie have broken up again.

### March 2, Monday

It was a pretty morning after our rain yesterday. I talked to Donna on the phone, she had little Terry Maxon today, his mother was going to the school or home to see her little abnormal son, Rod. The poor little child is not doing at all well; it is a sad case. The doctors can't seem to understand his condition, he is a good-looking little fellow, but can't or won't talk, play or even eat without help. Donna says that Mary Wride was operated on for a breast tumor last Friday or Saturday. I was sorry to learn that. Donna was trying to put the last minute touches on her Theology lesson for tomorrow but little Kathy and Terry weren't much help. Neither is Mother so far away where I can't take care of the two little ones for her. I did a little hand washing. Lou worked with Kenny

today, building a bar in the Rossiter home; he worked on it Saturday, too. Annie phoned me, she read Lydia's letter telling all about Bill's accident. I couldn't keep the tears back; I know how dreadful that sweet boy feels about it and how heartsick Lydia and Owen are, too. A young girl was killed while Bill was driving the car. I wrote to Lenore Lewis and to Ethel Newbold, later in the afternoon I wrote a letter to Eloise Brooks and started a letter to Lydia and Owen. I ate alone this



*Pasadena Stake Presidency 1954: President Howard W. Hunter, 1st counselor A. K. Barry, 2nd counselor J. Talmage Jones, clerk Frank Jensen.*

evening, Lou had Waureeta Rossiter phone and tell me that he was going to work later than expected and for me to eat without him. He came at 7:30 and I fixed his dinner then. Janet's friend Steve Schirm brought her home from school; she went to school on the bus this morning. Donna says she misses Warnie. We all like Warnie, I wonder if the breakup is for good? Never can tell about our teenagers, eh? I wish happiness for all of them, I hate to see anyone hurt and heartsick.



*Steve Schirm is dating Janet.*

### March 3, Tuesday

It was a bright blue sunny day, a little chill in the breeze, but oh, so pretty outdoors. Janet's friend Steve called to take her to school this morning. Warnie is still "in the dog house." He's a nice fellow, I hate to have him or my Janet hurt, but they were too young to become so infatuated anyway, they have gone together steady for two years. Florence Marsh phoned to tell me that Melba Boshart's son died of a kidney illness; his funeral is in Alhambra tomorrow. He was in the U.S. Navy at the time of his death. Rufus Marsh is in the Veteran's Hospital in Sawtelle, Florence says he is quite ill. Donna says that she and Rex plan to go to Sawtelle to see him tonight. I finished Lydia's letter. I sent Jim my poem, "Silly Rhyme" and a \$1.00 bill in the letter. Bonna Gordon and Marie Doezie came for me at 11:45. I played with Kathy at church while Donna sang with the Singing Mothers. Bonna G. drove her brand new 1953 Oldsmobile today; it is a beauty, lovely blue. I fed Kathy her applesauce and sat in the baby nursery until she fell asleep in one of the cribs. I was surely surprised when Florence Marsh peeked in the nursery door. She came to hear Donna give her Theology lesson. I was glad to see her, Donna had assigned several of the sisters parts in the lesson, it was very interesting, on Nephi, the character and teachings of Nephi. Sr. Kunz called on me to open the meeting with prayer. Florence and I bore our testimonies, as did several others. Kathy and I walked to the bus with Grama Marsh. I took care of Kathy for an hour while Donna was in an officers meeting after Relief Society. Ernie Oates Jr. is in the U.S. Marines. Florence Marsh got a lovely letter from him; it made her so happy!

### March 4, Wednesday

Another lovely day. I did my washing and got them all dry, even the loop rugs. I phoned Annie and was glad to find her feeling fine again. She was doing her washing, too. Little Kathy fell off the kitchen chair again today, she will climb up on the chairs, then she steps off. I was talking to Donna on the phone when she fell today. Well, it looks like the romance between Janet and Warnie is off for good this time, he went up to get his picture today while Janet was at school. Donna gave it to him. She said she felt sorry for him; he is hurt. I've felt sad about the kids, too. I hate to see anyone

feeling badly. Warnie is a nice boy, I like him, but I love my little Janet, I hope it is for the best for both of them. I'm surely enjoying our lovely clear days lately, free from the smog. Our newspapers and radio and T.V. news are all headlining the illness of Premier Josef Stalin. The Moscow news says, "Stalin is in a deep coma," from a cerebral hemorrhage. The poor fellow's power and influence can't do a thing for him now. He has rejected God, so can't even look to Him for help in his hour of need. Rex, Donna, Mary, and Johnny called in to see Grama and Pa Marsh last evening after they'd been out to see Uncle Rufus Marsh. Uncle Rufus's condition is improving. Steve Schirm had Janet's wristwatch band fixed today after school. She is taking the money to him tomorrow to pay the cost of the new band.



*Josef Stalin died March 5, 1953.*

### March 5, Thursday

Ah, such a beautiful spring day, our rose bushes are in bud, it won't be long before we'll have lovely blooms on them. I sprayed the aphids on the plants; the aphids and I have a battle every spring to

see who is going to enjoy the roses. I swept the patio cabaña out and raked up the leaves that fell in our yard. I was due for a rest by that time. I talked to Donna on the phone, she was in a rush to be ready when they came for her at 10 a.m. for singing practice with the Relief Society sisters, she had a Relief Society board meeting after the rehearsal, she had to take little Kathy along. I wish I were nearby so I could take care of baby for her; I'd love that. After lunch I did my ironing while listening to the radio then I rested. Lou cut the lawn before dinner. Our dear little neighbor, Mrs. Lowe, gave us a pretty bouquet of her sweet peas. She promised Lou a bouquet when she planted them, she thought they'd bloom by Christmas, but they didn't come up fast enough for that.

### March 6, Friday

Our weather is just perfect; sunny and clear and not too hot. Emma Dewey phoned me this morning, she invited me to their Relief Society birthday party on March 18, wants Donna to come, also. She asked me to be on their program, wants me to read one or two of my own poems, nice compliment, eh? Our own ward is having their party on March 17, so it will work out fine. I hope Donna can arrange to go with me. Lou came home from work about 2:30; work is very slack. Lou put the legs on Sue's sewing table, it was a job and he isn't satisfied. The tabletop with cork and all is too heavy for folding legs of the kind she wants. A larger leg would make the table too heavy for her to handle. I phoned Sue, Shirley answered, said Sue was in Hollywood. Sue phoned later this evening. Lou wanted to take the table out to her, but I had a silly little weak spell, heart or something, so I had to rest. I was invited to Jean Cummings's stork shower tonight. I didn't go, but Donna did. After dinner Daddy and I enjoyed our nice little home and the television programs; our favorite



was on tonight, the Lawrence Welk Show. Ethel Newbold phoned this evening, she is with her son and family in Los Angeles waiting the arrival of the stork. She and daughter Ada came from Salt Lake last Wednesday. Ada is with her father and wife in Los Angeles.

### March 7, Saturday

I helped Lou a little in the yard this morning, he really gave the place a good cleaning, cut lawns, dug up around flowers, and pulled weeds. It looks nice again. I planted some small ivy in the little spaces on each side of the front porch steps. I planted some ferns in the front garden. Donna phoned to ask the name of the Maytag Company that we bought our washer from. Her wringer broke today. Rex took it apart but couldn't fix it because there was a broken part. Lou will take it in to the shop on Monday. They're not open today. Richard Berger came to see Joan today. Janet went to Warnie's home while he was at work and his mother gave her the pictures she gave Warnie. Now they both have their own pictures back. Janet has a date with Steve Schirm tonight. Warnie took his old girlfriend out last night. Sweet kids, both of them, we hope it turns out well for our little Janet. Warnie seems almost like one of the family, he has been up to Donna's so much in the past two years. It may be better this way; they were too young to go steady so long. I hope they can be friends, anyway. It looks hopeless now. Lou had a nice nap in the cabaña swing after lunch. Rex and Donna took Johnny to town to buy him some shoes. We took Sue's sewing table out to her this evening; she seemed pleased with it. Bette let me hold her adorable infant; he is surely a cutie. Ray showed us the pictures he had taken in color; we looked at them through the little stereoscope, he has some darling pictures of the baby, good of all of them. He showed us the one he took of Lou and me in their home on Christmas day. It was good, too. I gave Bette \$1.00 to have two finished up for us. Today is Carol Sue's birthday. Her friends gave a surprise party for her tonight. I saw Ann's graduation picture; she is a beautiful girl. We took Sue for a ride this evening, we tried to find Shirley and Kenny's new home, but got lost so came back to Burbank and ate in Bob's place. Kenny and Shirley hope to move into their new home soon.

### March 8, Sunday

Dee Austin came for our fast offering as usual this morning. I had two faint spells this morning, but felt better so went to Sunday School. Sr. Fox was there to do her class greeting. Br. Rowberry's class was interesting as always. We had a very fine testimony meeting. Bishop gave an appealing emergency talk on our building fund needs. I hope we will all respond to it. Warnie sat with Janet in fast meeting, he took her home after, I guess the storm is over now? Rex brought Kathy in fast meeting for a while, but he had to take her back to the

nursery, as she wanted to talk and sing out loud. I held her for a few minutes. Donna came to the fast meeting for a change; she is always in the Jr. Sunday School on all Sundays. Lou left after the sacrament, he went to Boy's Market to buy our groceries. We didn't get around to doing it yesterday. We rode out to Donna's this afternoon. I took a little box of chocolate mints to treat them. Warnie was there with Janet. They ate dinner out somewhere, and then went for a ride later. Joan was enjoying a nap. Rex was at the priesthood meeting. I took a little walk with Kathy. She brought her coat and bonnet to me and coaxed so cute, in baby lingo, which I can't understand a word of, but there wasn't a doubt of her meaning, ha ha! Adorable baby. Mary walked with us. Lou and I brought Mary and John home with us until church time. I treated them to some Hi Ho Crackers with peanut butter and jam and a glass of milk, a snack while they enjoyed television. Our Relief Society had charge of the program tonight. Donna sang in the chorus, she also had a part on the program, as narrator. It was a nice meeting. I stayed in the nursery room after church with Mary, Johnny, Kathy, and Bishop's two little children, while the Sunday School officers had a meeting. Bishop and counselor had a meeting after that with Donna and Rex?? Joan went to Las Flores Ward tonight with Richard Berger, Charlene Barnhart, and Richard Jones. Rex bought Donna a Kenmore automatic washing machine yesterday from Sears. They'll install it next Friday.

### March 9, Monday

My Joanie is home from school today with a cold in her throat. Donna had to wring all of her washing by hand this morning.



Ray Haddock took this photo of Elvie & Lou on Christmas day in 1952. On March 7, 1953 Ray showed them the photo and they ordered two prints.



Her wringer is broken. She will have a new Kenmore automatic washing machine installed next Friday. I found out the reason for the serious talk last night that Donna and Rex had with the bishop. They want Donna to be the new president of our Relief Society. It was a terrific shock to her; she said she couldn't sleep for thinking of the fearful responsibility of that office! The bishop asked her to think about it for a day or two and then let them know. Lou called to tell me he'd talked to Jack about Donna's old Maytag washer, he said Jack would pick it up and repair it and then try to sell it for Donna. She would have

to pay the repairs out of the sale price. Lou looked up a house for sale in our Sunday paper this evening after work. People are living in it, but he called the agent on the phone after he got home and made an appointment to see through the house after work tomorrow. My Lou can't stop reading the want ads. It would be grand if we could find one we liked, for the price we could afford, so we could get a home paid for again. We love this dear little home we are living in, but we owe too much on it. It is about half paid for. We owe \$4,908.60. Miriam Summerhays phoned to tell us that the Warnick family have illness (flu), so the building fund group that was going to Warnick's home will join the group at the

bishop's home tomorrow night. I made my Jello fruit salad tonight after dinner. Ovena Mayo gave Donna a nice chair and lampshade she didn't need. Kenny F. phoned, gave Lou a phone number to call about a carpenter job. He will go see the man after work tomorrow, instead of seeing through the house. Lou went over to the hospital near us, on Blanche Street, this morning at 8 a.m. to ask about a job in the paper for a "house man," he didn't want it, not enough money.

### March 10, Tuesday

It has been cold and cloudy all day, but we didn't get the promised rain this morning, for which I'm thankful, as it was our Relief Society day. Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:40 a.m., she had her son Charlie, a neighbor lady and Marie Doezie. Clarice Tanner brought Donna and Kathy. I think Mary Howard took them home as Clarice's brother was sick and she was anxious to get home to him. I quilted on a pretty butterfly quilt; it belongs to Lillian Neal. Donna worked with the younger group, making crepe paper hats to be worn Friday night at our ward birthday party. They made over 200 of them. I tried to get Kathy to sleep in the crib in nursery, but she wasn't in the mood, so I took her in the other nursery room where the playthings are. I read stories to the little Kunz boy and another cute little fellow. Kathy sat on the rocking horse by me. When Mrs. Morris, the nursery lady arrived at 11 a.m., I went back to the quilting. The sisters appointed to the luncheon today forgot all about it, so the officers had to go out and buy some lunch. We had a nice lunch, anyway. We crowned our queen before lunch when all of the ladies were there. It was nicer this way, with everyone there to see the coronation. Melba Kunz insisted that I read the tribute to our queen; I wanted her to do it, or Donna. She said Donna was to do the next one. Ethel Burk was a lovely queen, in a brown suit, blue blouse, yellow crown, and corsage. Bonna made the pretty daffodil corsage. Bonna brought me home, bless her heart. Lou and I both rested an hour before getting ready to go to the bishop's home to the building fund dinner. Miriam's table was very pretty, a lovely set of dishes and lace cloth, center piece of sweet peas. The dinner was delicious, casserole dishes, hot rolls, tossed salad, fruit Jello salad, cake and ice cream. We all had a famous name pinned on our backs and we guessed who we were before dinner. I was Mamie Eisenhower; Lou was Elder Ezra Taft Benson. Rex and Donna went to Little's home tonight to dinner.

### March 11, Wednesday

The sun was shining this morning, but rain clouds were in the sky. I did my washing in spite of said clouds; a nice breeze dried everything. Joan was home from school again today, her throat feels better, but neck glands are sore and swollen. Donna went Relief Society visiting teaching this afternoon. I rested after bringing the clothes in and folding them up. Lou came home from work this afternoon, a half hour earlier; there is very little work in the shop these days. I surely hope it will pick up soon, or Gordon will have to lay off his men! Lou and I went over to see the house that he was interested in. The agent met him at the place; it is on Martello Avenue, not very far from our location. The owner is still living in the little house; she has three very pretty little children. The house is small, but was clean. I'd hate to pay \$8,900 for that old style little shack. We enjoyed a good fish dinner. I broiled some salmon. Warnie took Janet to Mutual tonight. They are not going steady now, but are friends, which is fine. We all like Warnie. I haven't seen Steve, the other lad.

### March 12, Thursday

It has been cold and cloudy all day, but no rain yet. I shampooed my hair this morning, I always wish I had short hair when I do that job, but I like the looks of my hair long best. It seems like I can dress it better when it is long, at least it is different from the majority of heads today, eh? I did my ironing after lunch. I sent \$1.00 to the Easter Seals for crippled children, a good cause, if they get it? But there are so many things to give to, always someone asking for help. I'm saving each week now to help my own children get some new Easter clothes. Joan went to school this morning; she's been home all week with a cold. I hope this raw day won't harm her. Donna went to the Los Flores Ward to rehearse with the stake Singing Mothers this morning; she took Kathy with her. The baby stays in the nursery. I received a nice little thank you note from my nephew Jim Bailey for the "Silly Rhyme" and dollar bill I sent him. I also received a nice letter from Eloise Brooks. She said some lovely things about my silly rhyme poem, bless her. I'll get conceited if she keeps up these nice compliments, eh? She has composed some really fine poems herself. Lou phoned this afternoon to tell me he was going to the church lot from work to do some donation work on the building. He told me to eat when I got hungry, as he didn't know how long he'd be. Rex and Donna went out to eat dinner with the stake seventies tonight; they went to the French Restaurant, Taix. Steve brought Janet home from school tonight, may the best man win, eh? My little Janet is having quite a struggle with her romantic boyfriends, both want her to go steady, she wants to be free to date other nice boys until she is old enough to be engaged.



**TAIX**  
FRENCH COUNTRY CUISINE  
ESTABLISHED 1927



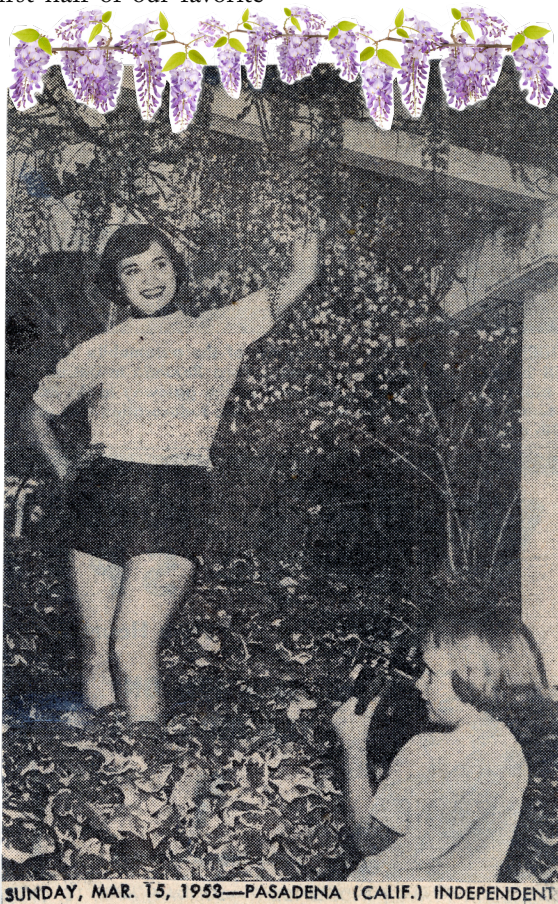
### March 13, Friday

East Pasadena Ward's birthday party is tonight, three years old, I think. I used my hand sweeper to clean up the house today. I gave it a good vacuuming last time. I worked in the yard, cleaned the patio, and watered lawns and flowers and hanging baskets. This evening Lou and I went to church to the birthday party. We got there late, as we wanted to hear the special Red Cross program on T.V. (All Star). It was good, we also listened to the first half of our favorite program, "Lawrence Welk." We got to the church just in time for the refreshments, ice cream and cake, nice eh? We missed the games, sh! (On purpose). Janet stayed home with Kathy; the others came to the party. Donna served in the kitchen; she took a cake.

### March 14, Saturday

I got up first for a change, cooked a nice breakfast for Lou. I had my hair dressed before Lou got up at 8 a.m. Lou and I worked in the yard this morning. He dug up the plants and I transplanted the mums. He dug up our three camellia plants on the north side and planted them on the south side. I believe they'll do all right on the south side, as Mr. Edgecomb's new house will shade them most of the day. We couldn't enjoy them on the north, as we couldn't see them, they were not doing too well there, anyway. Donna and Mary came about 9 a.m. I had the washer ready, she had a huge washing; she filled my lines and Edgecomb's, also. Lou and Mary went to the market, brought us cold meat, potato chips, pickles, cottage cheese, milk, and doughnuts for lunch. Lou also brought our week's supply of groceries. Donna and Mary went uptown to buy shoes for Mary I brought the clothes in and folded them. Donna did some mending on the sewing machine before going uptown; she fixed two of the girl's outgrown slips for Mary. She came back for the clothes just as Lou and I were about to leave for a ride out to Monrovia to see Pearl and Pannie. We had a nice visit; they have a pretty new rug on two front rooms, wall to wall. They invited us to go to Crown Cafeteria with them this evening, but Lou didn't have his coat. We stopped in Donna's to pick up Mary; she was out riding with her folks. Joan said they said they would drop her off at our place. The Nickels boy was at Donna's calling on Joan. Lou and I took a little drive up in Altadena; we went to the big Catholic Monastery for a look. Joan went

with Richard Berger and a group tonight to the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. Janet went to a show with Steve Schirm. Mary slept here tonight. I put her hair up in pin curls. I stewed two chickens this evening; I invited our Marshes to eat with us tomorrow. Janet had her picture taken today up at the wisteria vine. Ethel Newbold's new grandson was born this morning. Harold and Margie now have two girls and three boys.



SUNDAY, MAR. 15, 1953—PASADENA (CALIF.) INDEPENDENT

ALL THIS AND THE '53 QUEEN, TOO  
... '52 queen Janet Marsh poses for Sally Thayer, 6

## Shutterbugs Dust Lenses for Wistaria Fete Beauties

Amateur photographers will get that chance they all love, to "shoot" glamor—or "cheesecake" pictures, in an all day photographic contest to be held at the Sierra Madre Wistaria Vine Festival Saturday.

Gold cups will be offered for the best color photo, and for the best black-and-white, and news photographers will be the judges, Festival Manager Lorne

Pratt announced yesterday.

Models for the contest will include Wistaria Queen Pat Murphy and her four princesses, Jane Lange, Barbara Wilson, Phyllis Besocke and Penny Bell, as well as Janet Marsh, 1952 queen.

Though the contest itself is restricted to amateurs, there will be an exhibit of professional photography in the garden patio, with the 61-year-old, acre-wide vine as a backdrop.

Artists also are invited to set up their easels and record the feminine royalty of the 1953 festival on canvas.

Now in mid-bloom, the vine showed negligible damage from the recent sudden change to chilly winds. It may actually bloom a week or more longer than usual, because many of the buds brought out by early warm weather have been slowed down, Pratt said.

Article from Elvie's  
scrapbook.

### March 15, Sunday

I cooked bacon and eggs and toast for Mary and Grampa this a.m. I ate some grapefruit and raisin toast. I got the vegetables prepared, Mary helped me get the table set, and we all went to Sunday School. Warnie was there, he brought Janet home to our house after Sunday School. I invited him to eat with us, but he was going to his grandmother's home for dinner. Donna and Rex stopped in Ralph's Store to buy some rolls for our dinner; Rex brought butter, too. Bishop Summerhays called for Donna this afternoon, they went to call on Melba Kunz and Clarice Tanner to talk to them about being counselors to Donna in the Relief Society. Just think, our Donna is going to be the new Relief Society president, may the good Lord bless and give her the needed strength for this mammoth responsibility. Rex got baby Kathy to sleep on my bed, then he came out to join the others in watching the television programs. When the baby woke up, Rex took her and Joan home. The bishop left Donna off at her own home. Janet took a nap. Steve phoned Janet, they talked so long that Grampa got upset for fear someone wanted to call us. Ah me! My teenagers! Warnie came for Janet this evening, he took her to church and they went to the fireside chat after the meeting at Austin's home. Rex left Joan and Kathy off here on his way to church at 5 p.m. We took the children to church. Mary stayed in the nursery with Kathy. John sat with me. Lou wasn't in the mood for church, he went to town and ate, came back for me after church. There was a cute picture of Janet in our Independent Newspaper this morning, taken at the wisteria vine yesterday. She was Queen last year.



### March 16, Monday

It was a lovely clear day; I'm delighted to see our camellia plants and the mums that we transplanted holding up so well, not even dropped a little. Donna told me over the phone that Clarice Tanner and Melba Kunz would be her counselors. I'm happy these fine sisters are going to work with her; she'll surely need their help and good counsel. Joan met me on the bus this afternoon about 2:30. We were going to meet at the Broadway Store, but she was on the same bus I was on. We went in Field's Ladies Store, and she tried on several cute dresses, but didn't find the right one, so we looked in the lady's shops on our way down to Hertel's Department Store. She found a very pretty linen jacket dress, navy blue, with white pique trim. I think she looks real sweet in this little navy and white ensemble, with white shoes, hat and gloves and bag. She'll be a doll in the "Easter Parade." I paid \$5.00 down and put it in "Will Call." It cost \$9.26. I sent \$5.00 home for Janet to pay down on her Easter dress; she will look tomorrow after school. Lou and I finished up the chicken stew this evening, so dinner was a cinch. Bonna Gordon phoned, she is leaving early for church tomorrow, I told her Donna was going to leave Kathy with me in the morning while she went to Helen Palmer's, she would come for us later and take us to Relief Society. Bonna has charge of the luncheon tomorrow.

### March 17, Tuesday

Donna phoned this morning to tell me she wouldn't be going to Helen Palmer's this morning. She said Clarice Tanner was going to take her and baby to Relief Society. I phoned Melba Kunz, she said she'd come by for me. I helped Marie Doezie and Mary Howard put up card tables for our luncheon, also the chairs. Bonna Gordon had a busy morning with the other sisters in the kitchen. She had charge of the delicious creamed chicken luncheon. We had a very lovely program after the luncheon while still at the tables. Lydia Steven's daughter-in-law, and her sister, sang three beautiful duets. Both are lovely looking blonde girls with beautiful voices. Mary Howard gave two cute readings. I wore my green sequin tie and a green bow in my hair, in honor of good old St. Patrick's Day. Oh yes, green earrings, too. Kathy wore her green bonnet and coat. It was a nice birthday party for our Relief Society. They had a large square cake decorated beautifully in our gold and blue, the letters saying, "Happy Anniversary" with lovely roses in yellow, green leaves, and tiny blue flowers. It was pretty. Sr. Felicia Washburn brought two very lovely flower displays in gold and blue to put on the table, each side of the huge cake, and three tall white candles in crystal holders, also. It was so pretty. This evening Lou put in a new washer in the front tap; he also drained our water heater, as we hadn't cleaned it out since Lou installed it about 6 or 8 months ago. In Las Vegas, Nevada, today they had a 22nd atom blast! It was an atomic test on Doom Town, two American type homes, with realistic wax mannequins in.



*A civilian defense observer inspects a bombed mannequin "family" that was 4,700 feet from ground zero of an atomic blast on March 17.*

### March 18, Wednesday

I phoned Annie this morning and was surprised to learn that Bill was in bed with two cracked ribs. He slipped in the bathtub last week; he fell against the tub and broke his ribs. He didn't know they were broken until the doctor informed him today. He was relieved of most of the pain after the doctor taped his side up good. I phoned to tell Annie to let Emma Dewey know that Donna and I were coming to the Relief Society party, but we'd be a few minutes late. Mary stayed home from school today with a slight headache. She came in handy to help take care of Kathy and the other little children in the nursery at Garvanza Ward. They had a unique program, the sisters on the program sat around a quilt and talked in a casual manner. They told of some interesting events, which happened in the early days of the Garvanza Ward Relief Society. They were quilting while the program went on. We had a very lovely trio sing two numbers, Louise Goodsell, Truman Fisher's wife, and another girl. Lorene Clayton read a poem from the Relief Society Magazine, Emma Dewey gave short story from the magazine. Miriam Clayton gave a cute poem she'd composed about what she is learning in Relief Society. Florence Marsh, Annie Andersen, Jenny B., and Beth Bywater conversed about Relief society in the old days. I gave my poem "Spring." The luncheon was delicious, a rice and meat casserole, salad, a delicious lemon and whipped cream dessert, with date nut bread. We went to Andersen's after the party. I stayed with baby Kathy while Donna took Florence Marsh and Mary to Highland Park to buy material to make Mary a dress for Easter. I gave Donna some money to help buy the material, Grama Marsh paid for the material. She is going to make the dress, too. She's a dear. Donna bought a cute little pink and blue organdy dress in Ivers for Kathy, for \$6.00, I paid \$4.00 on it. She looked just darling in her new dress; it is trimmed in blue. Lou took care of Kathy tonight while we went to Mutual. It was M.I.A. ward conference. The Rex Marsh family put on a "Home Night" demonstration. Mary took charge of their program. She did it very well, the cutie. She called on Janet to open with prayer, John to play his trumpet solo, Joan played for their song, Mary recited a poem, and Rex gave a little talk on the Book of Mormon. The family asked questions and had cute discussion. Donna closed with prayer. I was so proud of them all. Today Annie gave me a history of Sarah Hill Strong, written by Blanche Hoglelund. I was happy to have this nice copy all typed.

#### HISTORY OF SARAH HILL STRONG

Pioneer of 1849  
By Blanche Strong Hoglelund

In writing this history of my Great Grandmother, Sarah Hill Strong, I might say that other histories have been written of her life, but I have found a few interesting facts that so far have never been recorded. I will quote also from a sketch of her life that was given by her grandson Alvin C. Strong also information that has been recorded by her great granddaughter Harriet Strong Spiers.

Sarah was the daughter of James Hill. She was born September 1, 1806, York County, Pennsylvania. Her father moved from York County in the year 1819 or 1820 to Indiana

*Continued on next page.*



County, Pennsylvania, about the same time a family by the name of Strong purchased four hundred acres of land in this same section. These two men got together to lay this townsite out and to give it a name. They drew cuts to see who this town should be named for. James Strong, drawing the winning straw, gave it the name of Strongstown.

James Strong's son Jacob fell in love with Sarah, daughter of James Hill and they were married February 28, 1822. While living in this section, she became the mother of five children. Three girls: Sarah, Susan, and Lucinda and two sons, William and John Albert. Lucinda died when she was six years old and John Albert when he was eight years old. Both these children were buried in the Strongstown cemetery. The location and burial ground for this cemetery was given by Sarah's father-in-law, James Strong.

During the year of 1835, Elder Erastus Snow was sent out by the Mormon church to preach the gospel to the people in this locality. Sarah and her husband were converted and baptized. They were also confirmed members of the church by Erastus Snow in 1836. Sarah, with her husband and children, immigrated to Nauvoo, Illinois, in September 1839. In the Relief Society handbook published in 1931 are the names of the members of the Nauvoo Relief Society. Sarah and her daughter Susan were both members of the Nauvoo Relief Society. While living in Nauvoo, Sarah became the mother of two more sons. In 1841, James Thomas was born. In 1845, Hyrum was born. In 1840, her eldest son, William was baptized in the Mississippi by the prophet Joseph Smith. In June 1846, William joined the Mormon Battalion and went west with 500 other men and boys of the Latter day faith to fight the war with Mexico. Sarah, Jacob, and children were among the Saints who were driven out of Nauvoo into the wilderness.

In Salt Lake City, September 30, 1849, word was received that one hundred fifty yoke of cattle were to be sent back from the valley to meet an approaching company of immigrants. The Tenth Ward was to furnish two teams. (During the year of 1848 at the close of the Mexican War, William was released and returned to Salt Lake City, residing in the Tenth Ward.) William agreed to take his wagon and David Pettigrew his yoke of cattle. There they met his father and mother and other families and assisted them the balance of the journey. Sarah and her family arrived in Salt Lake City in October 1849.

Sarah, like other pioneer mothers, was blessed with many abilities. She learned the art of spinning and weaving apparel and bedding. After the wool was clipped from the sheep, the wool was washed, dried, carded, and spun. Sarah did the carding and spinning and weaving. All the clothing worn by this family was made by hand.

While Sarah and her family were living in Salt Lake City, the Saints were ordered to move south because of the approaching army which they feared were coming to destroy them. (This family was told to go to Springville.) They did not have a wagon cover, so Sarah spun the flax into thread and wove it into cloth for this purpose. In a month, the scare was over and they returned to Salt Lake City, residing in the Tenth Ward. The wagon cover was later used for sheets upon their beds.

The first Relief Society in the Tenth Ward was organized in 1867 with Sarah as their first president. Amanda M. Pierce and Elizabeth Morris as counselors. The first recorded minutes of January 2, 1873, showed these officers at the head of this organization with Mary E. H. Paul as Secretary and Mary Ann Ashman, Treasurer. Sarah served as president from 1867 to 1879. She was indeed a mother to those in distress. She was a natural nurse and understood the use of herbs. Herbs used and grown by Sarah: (by memory from Sarah Walsh Swift)

**Wormwood**—This was pulverized and given for worms and

also used to bruises. Wormwood is used at present chiefly for making absinthes.

**Tansy**—was prepared by her for earache, also menstrual cramps. (Both wormwood and tansy come from the Aster or Thistle family.)

**Peppers**—Tea made for colds.

**Horhound**—A bitter mint with hoary downy leaves. Sarah extracted the juice from the leaves and put it in molasses candy to be used for coughs and colds.

**Wild Peppermint**—Used for tea.

**Elderberries**—She removed the brown bark and used the green covering which she would boil with fresh butter in salted water until it was thick enough to form a slave. This was used for burns.

She also grew **Hysop**—a nice drink brewed for tea. Savory and Sage were in her herb garden also for seasonings.

Sarah passed away on May 9, 1884, at the age of 78, in her home.

Resolutions of respect for Sister Sarah Strong:

"Whereas, it has pleased the Great Creator to take unto himself our beloved Sister Strong who has been president for 12 years of the Tenth Ward Relief Society, a devoted friend to the poor, and wise counselor in her family, and whereas, it is fitting that she be held in honorable remembrance therefore be it resolved by the sisters of the Relief Society of the 10th Ward that while we mourn not as those who have no hope, yet we realize that we have lost a faithful president who died as she had lived, in the hope of a glorious resurrection. Resolved that these resolutions be put upon the records of the Relief Society and that a copy thereof be sent to the family of our dear sister, and also to the Woman's Exponent."

*Above is a copy of the history of Sarah Hill Strong given to Elvie on March 18, 1953.*



### March 19, Thursday

I'm still thinking of my dear little Marsh family and the Home Night program they put on in Mutual last night at the M.I.A. ward conference. It was so cute; Grama Elvie was bursting with pride. Janet stayed out of school today; Donna made an appointment for her to go see Dr. Peterson in Sierra Madre. She has had headaches a lot, her eyes do not look normal, her neck glands are swollen and sore, she has a slight temperature, but she is not sick. She came with Donna this morning to my house. I helped Donna with her washing, we filled my lines, and she took the rest of the clothes home to hang on her lines. Janet made sandwiches for us and she fed Kathy and got her to sleep, then she went to town to the "House of Nine" store and paid \$5.00 down on a cute skirt and blouse for her Easter. I gave her the \$5.00; I have \$5.00 paid on Joan's dress. I like to help them get something new for Easter. We took care of Mary's yesterday in Highland Park. It'll cost a lot for Rex and Donna to buy new shoes, hose, gloves, purse, and etcetera for the girls. Ah me, it is really something in these days of inflation to keep a family looking well dressed, eh? Janet's outfit cost \$10.95, Joan's \$8.95. Donna left Kathy here asleep; she stayed with me until Donna came in time to pick Rex up at his work near us. I darned a hole in Kathy's red sweater. My darling Lou and I enjoyed our nice dinner, nice home, and nice T.V. programs tonight as usual. Gordon Hodges was home again today; he has pains in his stomach.

### March 20, Friday

I phoned Annie this morning. Bill went to work; Br. Hardy took him in his car. The doctor told Bill he could go down and superintend the job, but he was not to work until his cracked ribs have healed. I phoned Donna to see how Janet felt; she is better, no temperature this morning. Her neck glands are still swollen and sore. The doctor gave her a shot of penicillin yesterday and some pills to take today. I had intended to wash today, but it looked like rain. We had a nice rain last night. It was cloudy and cold all day but no rain. I spent this entire day patching and mending for Donna's family. Lou invited me out to dinner but I decided I'd rather go on Sunday. He said he would take me Sunday, but I want the extra money to help buy Easter togs for my little Marshes. After dinner Lou went to the Shopping Bag Market near us and bought our weeks supply of groceries. I did dishes and defrosted the icebox while he was gone. We enjoyed our dessert when he got home; ice cream. Tonight we ate half an apple and half of a Cup of Gold chocolate bar while watching our favorite T.V. program, Lawrence Welk. Isn't it wonderful to have a nice show every evening in your own living room, eh? Marvelous! Joan went to a picture show tonight in Glendale with Don Lee Jorgensen, Norma Jean Wright, and Lee Christensen. She is going out tomorrow night with a young man from Janet's school, Dick Calvert. Oh the joy of the teenager, eh? It takes me back to my own happy teenage days; also her own sweet mother's days.



took French bread. Lou signed up with Garrett Sewer Contractors to put our sewer connection in to the house.



Lou and Elvie LOVED watching the Lawrence Welk Show. They saw it in black and white in the early years but much later they got a colored T.V. Kathy remembers Lawrence Welk's schmaltzy words and corniness of the show. Elvie mentions on March 20 "Isn't it wonderful to have a nice show every evening in your own living room, eh? Marvelous!" The word "Marvelous" Welk often used along with "Wonderful, Wonderful!" As a teenager Kathy disliked the show but she knew that it was a special program for her grandparents and that she needed to keep her comments to herself about the show! The wholesome format, dancing, and the familiar tunes made it a very memorable and perfect entertainment for the Renshaws. As the years rolled on not many things were allowed to compete with the Lawrence Welk Show.



### March 22, Sunday

It was a very pretty spring morning, sunny blue sky, birds singing, flowers blooming. Oh, how grand to be alive. Lou got up at six o'clock and cooked his breakfast. I got up at 7:30, dressed my hair, and ate my fruit and toast. Lou took the screens off the kitchen, bathroom, and his east bedroom windows and washed the windows on the outside, now we can see through again without seeing the rain spattered dirt. He went to priesthood meeting at 9:30 a.m. I told him I'd come to Sunday School on the bus. I enjoyed the five blocks walk. Hilda Botting was on the same bus, we walked up to church together. The stake officials were in attendance this morning. We had a nice Sunday School as always. Janet and Kathy stayed home today; Janet's neck glands are still swollen. Lou and I ate a good dinner in the Crown Cafeteria. Ray and Carol Blied were there, too, a little ahead of us. Lou brought me home, and then he went to the Sunday School convention in the Las Flores Ward. My little Mary whispered to me on her way to class, "we had lamb chops for dinner last night and we are going to have fried chicken today" ha ha! Bless her heart; it makes Grama Elvie happy, too. Joan went to her friend's home, Diane DeBry. She walked over here after and went to church with us. This is a big red-letter day for us. Donna has been set apart as the president of the East Pasadena Ward Relief Society. President Howard W. Hunter called on Helen Palmer, the retiring president, and Donna to talk in the conference session tonight. Lou's and my heart were filled with thankful gratitude to God for this precious daughter of ours. We know she is capable, and we pray that the good Lord will bless her with health and strength to carry this huge responsibility and take care of her family and home, too. She gave a very fine talk. Our conference was lovely. Melba Kunz and Clarice Tanner are Donna's counselors; Bonna Gordon is secretary.

### March 23, Monday

I had my washing on the lines by 10 a.m., it was a large one, as I didn't wash last week.

Janet feels better, but didn't go to school. Johnny was home today, too. He has a slight cold. Donna had a meeting with her Relief Society presidency this afternoon. This morning, Helen Palmer, the retiring president, brought the Relief Society belongings that she had over to Donna's. Donna asked me to take care of the Relief Society scrapbook work. Carol Blied has been doing it, but she wants out. I phoned Florence Marsh to ask her to phone Ivers Store to see if Mary left her red coat there last Wednesday when she tried on a dress there. Florence phoned back to tell me it isn't in Ivers Store. Annie is going to ask Br. Udall if Mary left it in the church when we were over there on Wednesday. I talked to my neighbor,



*Donna Marsh, Helen Palmer, Sr. Summers.  
On March 22, 1953 Donna was set apart as the East Pasadena Relief Society president. She replaced Helen Palmer.*



*Bonna Gordon, Melba Kunz, Donna Marsh, Clarice Tanner,  
are in the new Relief Society presidency.*

Mrs. Stacy, over our back fence this morning. She wanted to know something about the Garrett Company who we've signed up with to put the sewer connection from the sidewalk to the house. She says she is going to talk to the city man about it before she signs. She asked if we'd be home tonight, she'd like to talk to Lou about it. She didn't come, so I guess she was satisfied with her talk with City Hall. I'll be glad when the job is finished. Donna and Rex are worrying about their cesspool now, the days they use a lot of water they can hear a gurgling sound in the house drains. I believe they are going to have it drained soon, at a cost of \$15.00. Baby Kathy reached a box of common pins with a razor blade in the box from a table near her crib. Donna found her asleep with the pins all around her and the blade in her crib. Her Sunday School papers were strewn all over the crib too; thank God no harm came from her experience. Rex is having hernia troubles; I wish he could be relieved of this worry.

### March 24, Tuesday

I watered the flowers and did most of my ironing before time to go to Relief Society. I made a peanut butter sandwich to take for Kathy. Donna baked bread this morning, but she didn't have any to make a sandwich; she took cottage cheese and fruit for the baby. There isn't time to feed Kathy at home before Relief Society. I helped the baby with her lunch

in the nursery room while Donna was busy with Relief Society business. I went to the meeting when Mrs. Morris came to take care of the children. She had her little daughter with her; the little girl is recuperating from an operation. She was a help with the children today. Donna did a lovely job of conducting her first Relief Society meeting, I was proud of her. It was strange to see Helen Palmer in the audience instead of up front; she was a good president, we all loved her. We had a wonderful teacher in our literature lesson today. Sr. Helen Hinckley Jones from Pasadena Ward gave the lesson, we all enjoyed it so much. I was delighted to see my sweet cousin LaPriel Bunker after the meeting. She and her husband, President Bryan L. Bunker, were having a missionary conference in our Pasadena chapel; she was on her way into the second session when Donna and I saw her. Bonna Gordon took me to Relief Society and Melba Kunz brought me home. They are dear sisters; I love them both. I finished my ironing when I got home. I brought the Relief Society scrapbook home. I've been asked to take care of it, put interesting pictures, events, and etcetera in it. This evening we rode out to Donna's to take the box of mending I did for her. We enjoyed a nice visit with them. The ward teachers came, Champ Cuff and Raymond Summers. Janet had her hair cut today. Joan had a feud with her friend, Richard Berger over the phone, tish, tish! The beloved Dowager Queen Mother Mary, grand old lady of Britain; died today at the age of 85. Mary is going to be a little robin in a Girl Scout program tomorrow. She had Mama help her make paper wings and a beak out of brown paper. I tried to draw feathers on the wings with brown pencil, but they didn't show up. Janet jumped up from her arithmetic problem and painted feathers in with furniture polish.

### March 25, Wednesday

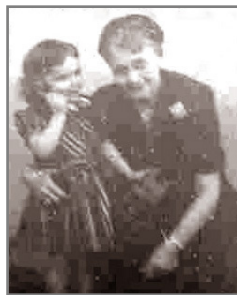
This morning Donna said the furniture polish had dried out on Mary's paper wings leaving only oil stains, so Donna touched up the feathers with brown shoe polish. Sure, it takes a heap of living in a house to call it home, eh? I mailed Owen a birthday card with \$1.00 in to treat family to ice cream cones, bless his heart, I wish I could send him a million dollars. Donna got a letter from Marty Strong, telling her that Uncle Ern is very ill; he is 79 years old. I was sorry to learn of his illness. I composed a "Queen for a Day" tribute to Miriam Summerhays and one to Helen Palmer for our next workday. We will crown Helen Palmer as the queen. I've composed a little tribute to each queen in rhyme; Helen will be our fifth queen. I have two or three extra poems ready in case the chosen queen doesn't show up that day. I wrote a little note to Uncle Ern and sent it in the mail after Donna told me of his illness. Mary was in her little program



*LaPriel and Bryan Bunker in front of the mission home in 1952.*



*Dowager Queen Mother Mary in her younger years. She died on March 24.*



*Kathy & Elvie 1953. Kathy likes to talk on the phone.*

this afternoon, it was a mother and daughter tea. Donna went up to the school. I guess Kathy went, also. Our ward teachers came this evening; they were substituting for our regular teachers, Dr. Jessel and young Lynn Rowbotham. The doctor is ill and couldn't take care of it this time. We had a nice visit with the two fine young men, Elder Wells, just recently returned from a mission and the young man from the Pasadena Ward, a Br. Thompson; they are both local missionaries now. They'd planned to do missionary work tonight, but did the ward teaching instead.

### March 26, Thursday

Donna phoned this morning, she had a busy day ahead, as usual; Singing Mother's practice this morning in Las Flores Ward. She takes Kathy with her there; the baby stays in the nursery. Donna brought the baby here from Las Flores Ward. I fed her lunch then she took a nap. Donna had an appointment to have her hair dressed at 1 p.m. She picked Joan up at school; they both had their pictures taken at the Juanita Studio on Lake Street across from Lou's work. Joan had hers taken a few days ago, but they were not good, so she took her over again today. She is getting her picture through the school somehow. Donna's picture is paid for by the Pasadena Independent newspaper, it will be in the church news section on Sunday, I understand. Bishop Summerhays sent Donna there to have it taken. Lou worked half a day for Gordon, then went to the church lot and worked the other half. Work at Gordon's shop is really slack. Gordon paid Lou for a full day and told him to take tomorrow off and be back on Monday. I wrote the words to a building fund song to please my Lou; our ward is having a song contest to see who can compose the best pep building fund song for the ward to use. I wrote four verses to the tune of "Battle Hymn of the Republic," Donna took the song and a queen tribute to type at home for me. Kathy didn't sleep long; she surely is a busy little so and so when she's awake. She lifts the receiver off the phone and stands there talking in her baby lingo, into the phone, so cute. Kathy and I took a little walk.

### March 27, Friday

Bonna Gordon picked me up this morning at 10 a.m. Lou went up to the Whelan Drug Store for me this a.m., the pharmacist had the Breatheasy Asthma Inhalant there. He told me he'd get it for me, nice of him, eh? It was the smallest bottle I've bought. I didn't know they put out one that size, \$1.50. I've had very little trouble with asthma since last September, only used the spray a few times. It would be wonderful if I could get along as grand in the summertime, eh? Bonna took Melba Kunz, Joan Sidlow, and Marie Doezie with us to the Las Flores Ward this morning. Clarice



Tanner brought Donna and baby Kathy. Kathy stayed in the nursery while we were in meeting. It is not called union meeting anymore, but leadership meeting. I think that is the better name, too. Our friends on the outside wonder what union we belong to? Little Kathy was not happy in the nursery today; I could hear her crying when I was in the Theology classroom. I was a substitute today. I picked Kathy up and took her into the chapel for our closing song and prayer. She was so happy to see me. There were a lot of little children in the nursery. I think our baby felt strange. I fed baby her lunch and put her to sleep on my bed while Donna went to Marie Doezie's with her Relief Society board to a luncheon and meeting. Marie invited me to lunch, but I wanted to bring Kathy home here to eat and sleep. She was still asleep when Donna came for her. Lou worked on the church building today; he was paid for today's work. He broke his spirit [bubble] level; he is borrowing Rex's level for his work tomorrow. I went with Donna and family tonight to the McKinley Jr. High School to see the Pasadena Stake play, "A Comedy of Errors." Janet went babysitting. Joan was one of the pretty usherettes for the stake drama. She and the girls wore their lovely formals, all looked sweet. Mary's little girl friend, Virginia, went with us. She stayed all night with Mary. Joan came home with Jerry Schusler and some other young folks; they went somewhere to eat first. We all enjoyed the play; it was well done by our stake people. There was a large cast, five or six of our own ward people in it. It was free, too, a ward budget admission. We saw Grace Hanson and her teenage daughter. Grace looks about the same. Grampa Lou took care of baby Kathy. Rex brought us a large box of oranges he had picked somewhere.

### March 28, Saturday

Lou worked on our church building from 8 until 2 p.m. Some of the ward sisters took a nice warm lunch to the men on the job. Rex worked for Br. Kunz today, a small plastering patch job. He took Johnny with him. They took their lunch, were gone all day. The job was at a mental sanatorium somewhere? Mary and her little girlfriend went to a matinee. I went uptown about noon. I went to Hertel's Department Store and paid the balance on Joan's Easter dress. The clerk gift-wrapped it nicely. I went to the House of Nine and paid the balance on Janet's dress. I brought the dresses home. I bought the girls each a white daisy flower corsage. I hope to get something for Kathy and Johnny next week. I helped Donna buy Mary a dress. Grama Marsh is making the dress, too, bless her heart. Donna will have to buy them all new shoes, I guess. It surely costs to live these days, eh? After Lou's bath we went up to the Shopping Bag Market for our week's groceries,

bye bye more money! Janet went uptown this afternoon with her girlfriend, Virginia Kelley. I think she was going to buy shoes; she received a small return from her income tax, with which she was going to buy something for herself. Lou and I drove over to Highland Park tonight to see Lorene. We visited for a while with her. Miriam and Ray took little Coy (Carol) to the doctor yesterday; she had a temperature of 103. The doctor said she had tonsillitis. She is better this evening. Bill gave me two cans of tuna fish, bless his heart. We went to Andersen's from Lorene's and enjoyed T.V. with them. Bev and Lou went to the church to get Mary's red coat. Lou treated her to ice cream; he ate berry pie.

### March 29, Sunday

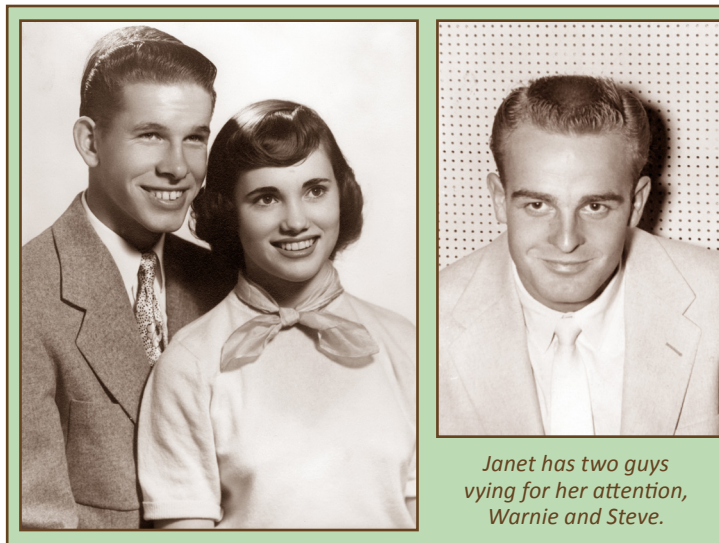
It was cold and cloudy most of this day. I hope next Sunday will be a nice sunny day for Easter. I was sorry to learn that Phyllis Cannon, George F. Cannon's wife, is very ill with cancer. He asked several of our members to fast and pray for her today. Our bishop is in Utah; he left a week before conference to take care of some business with the officials about our church building. Br. Bob Austin gave our Sunday School lesson again today for Don Rowberry; he is an excellent teacher. Lou and I ate a delicious dinner in the Crown Cafeteria; we both had Swiss steak. Nephi Andersen and his wife ate there also; we spoke to them. President Andersen was very embarrassed when he didn't have enough money to pay for his dinner. He had forgotten he had loaned his son the \$20 he thought he had in his wallet. They had been talking to some friends they knew in the cafeteria, so he went back to them and borrowed the extra money needed. I talked to Janet after Sunday School; she said she bought three pair of shoes yesterday. Mary stayed home with Kathy this morning. Lou and I looked at the new Oldsmobile on the way home. I got some brown oil stain on my light tan jacket from a light pole where I got out to look at the cars. Lou cleaned it off with thinner when we got home. We took Janet's and Joan's dresses out to them and Mary's red coat that she left in Garvanza Ward two weeks ago. Mary stayed home tonight; she has a head cold.

She was the babysitter for Donna. Grampa and I gave her some money, about 50¢ in change. We gave John some nickels, too. We took Rex and his church books to church; Donna brought Janet and Joan later. Janet had a date with Steve S. after the meeting. Warnie is at the beach for a week.

### March 30, Monday

I mailed a birthday card and \$2.00 to Violet and wrote a letter to Sue sending her the last part of my "Family Tree" poem. She asked for it, the Elsie Daisy branch

of the tree. I also sent a note to Violet in her card. Annie phoned to tell me our Strong's meeting has been postponed one week so Elias, Oretta [Strong], and Harriet [Strong]



Janet has two guys vying for her attention, Warnie and Steve.

*Spiers*] can attend. They will be in Los Angeles next week. Our meeting will be at Clint Strong's home on April 11, it was going to be at Nora's on Saturday night the 4th. I hope I can go on the 11th, it'll be fun having the folks from Salt Lake City with us. I met Donna, Mary, and Johnny uptown at one o'clock in Penney's Store. Donna had already bought Mary's white Easter shoes. She bought her a little white straw bag and some white nylon gloves. Then it was Johnny's turn. She bought him a nice little suit, light tan and blue sport jacket, with brown slacks. I think it was \$10.00 and a few cents. I paid \$5.00 on it. Donna bought him a belt (his heart's desire) with a miniature gun and bullet, in a little sliding compartment, which will slide off the belt, as Johnny says, "When he goes to Sunday School." We'll see, eh? Ha ha! I bought the children an ice cream cone in Grants Store. Donna bought a pretty box of stationery in Hertel's Store. She had it wrapped for mailing. She went to the post office and mailed it with a congratulation card to her friend Barta Haslam who is in the hospital with a baby girl. We talked to her husband, Glen, in Penney's Store today. He is the assistant manager there. We were waiting for our bus when Waureeta Rossiter came along, her young son with her. She lives out near Donna and she invited them to ride home with her. I came home on the bus. I was glad Donna didn't have to ride on the bus, as the Sierra Madre bus only goes every hour and they had missed it we felt sure. I bought a white shirt for Johnny, \$1.49 in Penney's. Lou worked on the church building again today. Work is very slack at Gordon's shop.

### March 31, Tuesday

Lou worked on the church again today. It was a lovely sunny morning; the television news reporter said last night we'd have cloudy weather until afternoon today. I was happy to see the sunshine. Warnie told Janet he was going to stay out to the beach all week, but he came back to town yesterday. I felt sorry for him as she had a date with Steve Schirm last night. I was happy to learn that Kathy feels better this morning. She had a head cold yesterday. Donna and Joan went to town last evening and bought Joan's white Easter shoes and gloves and some new white shoes for Kathy. Mary was the babysitter today while Donna went to Relief Society. Janet went swimming at her friend's home Virginia Kelley, in Sierra Madre, this afternoon. Joan went to Pasadena town with a girlfriend. This morning Mary and Johnny went to the pet shop in Sierra Madre to buy some gold fish, ah me! I addressed a few Easter cards, Ethel N., Florence Marsh, and Eloise B. Lou addressed one to his sister Lillian last night. The three nearly always send us an Easter card, so this time I've remembered them. We didn't have as many sisters out today, maybe the Easter vacation had something to do with it with the children home from school and etcetera. Hazel Morgan gave a very nice lesson, Social Science, "The Progress of Man." Donna didn't feel very well today, she has a head cold. Sr. Clarice Tanner gave her a cold tablet; I hope

it will check the cold. Donna brought Dorothy Mortenson's ironing home to do last night, she worked on it this evening, and miserable as she was feeling. I'm so sorry that I am not near enough to take Donna's ironings home and help her out that much. May God bless my Donna, and help her through all the many things she has to do.

### April 1, Wednesday

It is sister Violet's birthday today; I hope she is enjoying her day. Donna drove her car to Lake Street and Villa this morning. She left it there for Lou to come home in. She and the children drove up here in Grampa's car, Janet at the wheel. Steve Schirm had been waiting here about half an hour for Janet. He took her in his car to the beach. I had a nice talk with Steve, it was the first time I'd seen him; he seems like a nice fellow. It seems strange to have someone else taking Janet out, we are so used to Warnie. Donna took Joan and her girlfriend Sandy Herbert and Mary and Johnny to the Balboa Beach where the young school kids congregate at vacation time. Janet and Steve went to Laguna Beach.



Although Elvie doesn't know about this, Roland Renshaw is made an officer in the Los Altos police department on April 1, 1953. Roland is 2nd from right.

Kathy had two very short naps, but she was good. I devoted my day to her, we both had fun; she was so darn cute. I raked avocado leaves up from the patio, put them in a big carton box and Kathy worked along with me, putting leaves in the box; sometimes a hit, sometimes a miss, adorable baby. Rex came here from work and waited for his family. Janet and Steve got home to Sierra Madre about 5 p.m. Donna and children arrived here about 6:30. Donna fell asleep on the beach, so didn't get as early a start home as she

expected. They had a lovely time, I fed Kathy her dinner, and the folks went home to eat. Pearl and Pawnee Redborg came about 5:30; they'd been to the Crown Cafeteria for dinner. They watched T.V. while Lou and I ate dinner. Lou and Pawnee enjoyed the Blue Ribbon Bouts on T.V., Pearl and I visited and ate ice cream and cookies. We're sorry to learn of Aunt Jane's [*Jane Olorenshaw*] accident, she was hit by an auto. She is 90 years old, is in serious condition in the hospital.



Aunt Jane Olorenshaw Rowe

### April 2, Thursday

Annie phoned me this evening to see why I hadn't fooled her yesterday. I didn't April fool anyone, getting old, I guess? Lou worked at Gordon's shop again today, we are happy that the work is coming in better now. I did a large washing. Donna went to the Singing Mother's practice in Las Flores Ward this morning. I talked to Joan on the phone; she isn't going with her friends to the beach as planned today, but maybe tomorrow. Her girlfriend's mother is going to take them down. Florence Marsh phoned, talked to me about Easter gifts for Rex and family. She has made a dress for Mary and one for Kathy; she is a dear soul. They are taking the gifts out to Donna's this evening as they plan to go to San Diego on Sunday to see Ernie. He is stationed there. Mary took her little friend Virginia Davies to Primary today then



she went home with Virginia to dinner and stayed all night. Virginia stayed with Mary one night last week. Janet went to the beach with Steve to the big party the school kids have to wind up the vacation. I received a nice Easter card and poem from Eloise Brooks and a letter from Flora Taylor telling the family news. She wrote that Elsie and Wilfred have gone to the temple. I thought at first she was writing about Elsie Bailey and her brother Wilfred, but found out as I read on, it was Flora's sister-in-law Elsie and her husband. I didn't know his name was Wilfred. She also told of Aunt Janie's auto accident, she was struck while crossing the street to her home and is in the L.D.S. Hospital. Annie had a luncheon yesterday for her Relief Society board members. She talked to me on the phone this evening.

### April 3, Friday

Lorene phoned last evening and asked me to think of some of the interesting things which happened in Annie's younger life; she and Miriam are going to write a tribute to Annie to be given in Relief Society on the luncheon day. Annie is to be crowned as the Garvanza Ward's first "Queen for a Day." It's a surprise, diary, so keep it concealed, please. I wrote down a few things that I thought would be amusing to hear. I phoned Miriam and gave her the data this morning. Our income tax return check came Monday; it was \$98.83. Lou took it to the bank today on his lunch hour. Joan went uptown to buy a white purse with her babysitting cash, she met Richard Berger by appointment, "Ain't love grand?" He he! The two of them came to my house this afternoon; they looked at my scrapbooks and watched T.V. until time for Joan to catch her Sierra Madre bus. Richard walked to Sierra Madre Boulevard with her, actually Blanche Street and Sierra Madre Boulevard, where she got her bus. Mrs. Cummings wanted Joan to babysit for her this evening; she was coming to Donna's at 6:30 to pick Joan up. Janet went to work in Penney's store from noon until 9 p.m. to earn a few dollars. Steve Schirm brought her home after work. Annie phoned to tell me that Sue is leaving tonight with Beth Johnston for Salt Lake City on the train. Beth will come back in a few days. Sue will stay a few weeks. Bette and Shirley are going to take care of Sue's work while she is gone. Donna wants me to do Relief Society visiting teaching with Ruby Andersen; I think I'll enjoy going with Ruby.

### April 4, Saturday

I'm glad Sue could go to Salt Lake for a visit. I think it will do her a lot of good to have this change. She hasn't felt very well lately. Aunt Ida has invited her to come for a nice long visit with her. Lou worked on the church building today. Br. Harlan Goodsell, superintendent, phoned and asked Lou

to come to work every Saturday if possible. Lou didn't feel very well today, he has a slight cold on his chest; I think he should have stayed home. Bless his heart, he gave me \$5.00 extra for Easter gifts. I phoned Donna and made arrangements to go to town with her to finish up a little Easter shopping. We parked the car in Penney's parking lot; we bought socks for Johnny, Mary, and Kathy in the children's department. Janet waited on us; she worked in the children's department yesterday afternoon, also. I bought some white rayon, plastic lined, panties for Kathy. We went to Mode O'Day, I bought an Easter gift for Donna, an off white, butcher linen dress with a dark blue belt and tiny blue stripe in the tailored dress for \$6.99. She gave it to us for \$5.99 because of a spot, which may be from the sewing machine; it is hardly noticeable. We walked to Juliette's Candy Shop and bought chocolate Easter eggs. I bought a box with six small eggs in for Lou and another one to treat my children tomorrow. I cooked a leg of lamb this afternoon and potatoes for salad tomorrow. Donna made Jello salad and Joan made a chocolate cake for our dinner tomorrow. We enjoyed the T.V. as usual tonight.



Easter Program—April 5, 1953  
East Pasadena Ward

### April 5, Sunday—Easter Sunday

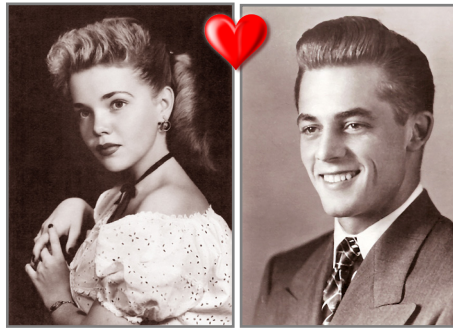
I was disappointed that it was cold and damp this morning, it rained in the night. The people who wanted to go to the Sunrise Service this morning must have felt disappointed. We had a lovely program in Sunday School. My children all looked beautiful in their new Easter togs. Mary in pink and blue organdy, Kathy in yellow organdy with little flowered slip, Janet in a red and white check two piece dress, Joan in navy blue with white trim, Johnny in his new suit, brown slacks, and tan and blue jacket, Rex with a new tie, and the girls had new white shoes and bags. Donna was pretty in her black faille suit; I wore my pretty blue dress, Grampa looked nice in his gray suit and new blue Easter tie. Florence and John Marsh are in San Diego with Florence Oates, to see Ernie Jr. He is in the Marines. Our Sunday School printed programs were pretty, with a lovely colored picture of Jesus and Mary at the tomb on the cover. Elinor Ramish sang in the program and again this evening in the M.I.A. program. Donna accompanied her on the piano, both programs. Janet and Joan took their friends Steve Schirm and Richard Berger to Sunday School today. They went in Steve's car. Warnie Mueller brought his mother to Sunday School. Richard B. came over this afternoon to see Joan. Warnie M. came to see Janet. Steve S. came this evening to take Janet to church. Rex stayed to a Sunday School meeting after church. Donna brought Joan and Richard to our house, we brought the children home, all ate a lunch. Steve took Janet home; I hope they ate somewhere? Rex came later and ate a bite. Donna and Joan took Richard home. It was a happy Easter with my children and sweetheart Lou. Rex and Donna phoned the Marshes tonight; Florence was feeling low because Ernie Jr. isn't too happy in the Marines.

### April 6, Monday

It rained in the night, was damp and cloudy this morning. I phoned Donna about nine o'clock. Little Kathy's ill, she woke up early at 5 a.m. crying and hot with fever. Janet and Mary are both home from school, Janet with a cold which she's been battling for several days; Mary with an upset stomach, too much Easter candy, eh? I think she and Johnny each ate a package of Life Savers yesterday while watching T.V., then a small chocolate egg in the afternoon. Ah me! We buy it for them and they eat it all at once, when it should last 'em several days. Johnny worked hard at trying to convince Mother he wasn't well enough to attend school today, but when he found it wouldn't work; he reverted back to normal and went off to school like a wild Indian. It's hard to go back after an Easter vacation, eh, Johnny? I worked on the Relief Society scrapbook this afternoon; put the Queen's for a day in and up to date. I phoned to see how little Kathy was feeling. Janet said she was still feverish. Donna and Clarice Tanner had gone out to make a few Relief Society calls. Lou feels better; he isn't as hoarse today. Ethel Newbold phoned this afternoon, she wants Lou and me to meet her in Los Angeles town sometime before she goes back home to Salt Lake. She says she wants to treat us to dinner in town, sweet gal.

### April 7, Tuesday

I was delighted to see the sunshine after the weatherman said we'd have drizzles this morning. It has been pretty all day, but there was a cool breeze. I phoned Donna and found she had all but Joan home from school today. Janet feels a little better, Mary's throat hurts, John has a slight cold. Kathy was feverish this morning but felt better this afternoon. Bonna Gordon came for me at 11:40; Marie Doeze was with her. Donna conducted and gave a nice talk to the visiting teachers. Sr. Frandsen gave the teacher's topic in her mother's stead. Sr. Waugaman had been to Salt Lake to conference, she arrived home late last night. It was a very good lesson. Clarice Tanner conducted our Relief Society meeting, she did a nice job, her first time. Melba Kunz is in Salt Lake to conference. Donna gave the Theology lesson, Nephi's predictions, promises and instructions. It was a very interesting lesson. Donna is an excellent teacher; we'll all miss her Theology lessons. Lydia Stevens will take over in her place; she will be good, too. We had a wonderful spirit in our testimony meeting, I believe everyone would like to have stood up to bear testimony, we had a large attendance, the room was filled. I went to town, to the post office for stamps, to Kress Store for hairnets and stationery, then home on the bus. Lillian Keller phoned Lou at the shop about noon, she had just come from San Francisco where she had been visiting Shirley and the children. Jack met her in Los Angeles, she was going to drive back to Phoenix with him. I'm glad she phoned Lou. I ate dinner alone as Lou went to work on the church from the shop this evening.



Bonnie Maughan & Harold Smith marry on April 3, 1953. These photos were found on Family Search.

### April 8, Wednesday

It was another sunny morning, the weatherman said cloudy and some drizzle. It's amazing how often he'll miss it, poor fellow. Lou emptied his pockets of small change last night so I could go to town and send a wedding gift out to Bonnie Maughan and Harold Daines Smith. They were married in the Salt Lake Temple, April 3, the reception is Saturday April 11 at the Smith boy's home in Altadena, and sorry we can't attend. It is our Strong Family Society night at Clint Strong's in Compton. I phoned Donna, the baby is still feverish, and her little mouth is sore. Donna phoned the doctor, she is taking her to his office this afternoon. Joan stayed home from school today, with a cold. Johnny was the only one to attend school today. Janet is better, but having some asthma trouble. Donna had her hair dressed this morning by someone she and Clarice Tanner visited the other day while out Relief Society visiting, an L.D.S. lady, who has a small beauty shop in her home. Janet went uptown this afternoon, Joan took care of the baby. Donna had her pictures retaken this afternoon, the first ones didn't turn out good, I hope these will be a lot better. The doctor gave Kathy a shot of penicillin and gave Donna a prescription to have filled for her; it cost \$6.00 for the little pills. I went to town this morning to the bank to deposit a check for Lou; it was a check from his building job at the church lot. I looked in Nash's glass department, but didn't see anything for my price. I walked up to the Broadway and sent the same style glass salad set to Bonnie and Harold Smith, as I did a few weeks ago to his sister Bonnie and her husband. I talked to "Queen Annie" on the phone this evening, she told me about her coronation today. She was crowned "Queen for a Day" in Garvanza Ward Relief Society. Miriam Clayton read a nice tribute in rhyme, which she wrote for the occasion. Annie is Garvanza's first "Queen for a Day."

### April 9, Thursday

I was happy to see the pretty clear day as I had a washing to do. Rex was home from work today; the plasterers are caught up with work until the builders get ready for them tomorrow. Rex and Donna went to Highland Park to the bank to arrange for their tax loan again this year. Janet is out of school again, but she is much better, the others are all back in school. Baby Kathy still has a sore mouth, but she feels better and the fever has gone. I did some work on my scrapbook this afternoon.



Steven Delbert Phillips

My heart gave me a little trouble in the night and again today. I think my blood pressure was too high, as I felt a little light headed or strange. I was glad the whirling sensation did not come this time; I hate that feeling. I didn't mention it to anyone but you, my Diary. Annie phoned this evening to tell me that Glen phoned her and said Ramona [Ramona Strong Phillips] has a baby boy [Steven Delbert Phillips]. She has three children now, twin girls and the infant son. Annie says Ray and Miriam are driving to Compton to the Strong's meeting, Beverly will drive the Andersen's car, so



we can all go in the two cars, if we'll drive over to Clayton's. I hope Rex and Donna will go with us. I got a postcard from Sue; she is in S.L.C. with Aunt Ida and Uncle Alvin. I received a letter from Violet thanking me for the birthday card and money. She had a nice birthday, a new dress from Dody and family, Sue sent her three pretty half aprons, Lorene, Annie and I sent money, Bev sent Hazel Bishop lipstick, three in one, Yvonne gave her Red Cross Shoes, Otto nylon hose and a box of groceries, can't mention all, Donna sent stationery. Violet's friend Irene Palmer had a lovely birthday party for Violet, a delicious turkey dinner.

#### April 10, Friday

I phoned Donna this morning, and was happy to learn that the baby is feeling much better. Her little mouth is still sore, but her temperature is normal. Donna said they made a bank loan yesterday and paid the taxes. They bought Rex a new suit in Penney's Store; Glen Haslam sold it to him. They also bought a record player for the family and some records, some paint for the kitchen and the children's room, and paid Dr. Nebeker up in full. Isn't that something? It makes me happy, also. I watered the lawn and flowers this morning and worked on my scrapbooks in the afternoon. I finished the index cards. Lou phoned and invited me to eat dinner at the Crown Cafeteria this evening. He said, "Bring your watch!" The main spring broke a few weeks ago, and I've surely missed it. I met Lou near the cafeteria; we ate first, to get ahead of the big dinner rush. Then we went to the jeweler nearby, looked at watches. The man would only give us \$7.50 as a turn in on my little \$55.00 Gruen wristwatch. We went to the Pasadena Jewelers, a few doors west, and Lou bought me a new Elgin wristwatch, it cost with tax, \$38.69. It is a size larger than the other, so I'll enjoy it, as my dear little Gruen was too tiny to read it at a quick glance. My eyes are not as sharp as they were once. We left the little watch to be repaired, \$10.00. My darling is having it fixed for Donna, isn't he precious? Rex and Donna left the baby with us while they went to town to get Rex's new suit and shoes. He wore them home, looked handsome. Lou gave Donna \$30 to pay on the Kenmore electric sewing machine in the Singer machine store where Lou and I looked at it this evening. Rex will



*Kenmore sewing machine like the one that Donna got in April of 1953. This sewing machine lasted Donna the rest of her life. Kathy learned to sew on it in Junior high school. Kathy made most of her clothes on this machine through high school and until she married in 1976.*



*Elias Strong spoke in the April 11 Strong meeting.*



*Ann Vandergrift's senior picture that Elvie mentions on April 11, 1953.*



pay the \$20 on time. This has been a happy day, so many nice things for the children and me. Joan went to a picture show tonight with girlfriends. Janet went to a show with Steve Schirm. Johnny and Mary went to town with parents, he got new blue jeans, and she got pajamas.

#### April 11, Saturday

I cooked a nice breakfast for Lou; he went over to work on the church from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donna had a busy morning, as she was in charge of the lunch that was served to the men working on the church. It was the Sr. Sunday School's turn to serve; Rex is in charge of that so Donna planned it. I gave \$1.00 to help with the wieners. They served hot buttered French bread, potato salad, wieners, and fruit punch. Annie phoned this afternoon and read Violet's letter. Yvonne's friend Dr. LaMoyne Hickman, went to Cedar City last weekend and he took little Ronnie Jones with him on the bus. It was a wonderful happy surprise for Violet to have her precious little grandson for a few hours. Rex painted their kitchen ceiling and the shower room today. Lou and I went to the Shopping Bag Market this afternoon, and got rid of \$15.00 without much effort, but are thankful we have the money to buy the food. Lou took a nap in the swing when we got back. This evening Rex and Donna left their car in front of our place; we all drove to Clayton's in our car. Rex and Donna drove to Compton in Ray's car, Miriam took the two little girls with them. Lou and I drove in Andersen's car with Bill, Annie, Beverly, and Lorene. We had a very nice meeting at Clint Strong's tonight. It was a special occasion; we had visitors from Salt Lake. Elias Strong, his wife Oretta, and sister Harriet Speirs. We sang my jubilee song for the opening song. I wrote it for our family reunion and the Indiana, Pennsylvania folks back in 1934. President Bryan Bunker and wife, LaPriel, and sweet little daughter-in-law came later. He gave a nice talk on the Salt Lake City conference. They just returned from it. We had a very nice talk from Elias and Harriet tonight, too. Elias is in the bishopric of his ward now. I got the pictures Sue left at Clayton's for me. I'm delighted with Ann Vandergrift's beautiful picture. Donna's electric sewing machine came out today. I'm delighted that she has one at last.

### April 12, Sunday

I had a half hour to wait in the car at church this morning. I enjoyed a nice chat with Janet's friend Warnie. He came early to the priesthood meeting. Donna stayed home this morning with little Kathy; the dear little thing is suffering with her sore mouth. Donna phoned the doctor, he said to wash her mouth every hour with half peroxide and half water. He thought the penicillin shot would clear it up, but it didn't. Donna cooked a nice steak dinner for her family, so the children informed me. They even invited us to go home with them to eat. Mary and Johnny said they like lamb chops better than steak, like Grama, eh? Lou and I drove to the Crown Cafeteria; we sat in the car and talked then decided we'd eat at Fisher's Place. On our way we picked up Sr. Mable Dunn and Hilda Botting waiting for the bus. We let Mable out at Allen where she catches the Altadena bus. Hilda was near her home when she got out. We came on home and fixed ourselves a nice little lunch, which we both enjoyed. We saved the money for dinner, nice, eh? Lou had a nap this afternoon; I wrote in my diary and enjoyed my scrapbook. We went out to Donna's about 5 p.m. It surely hurts me to see our precious baby so miserable with her sore little mouth. The Marshes had been out to see them before we arrived. Rex went to a priesthood meeting this afternoon, he looks so nice in his new suit. He had to go to choir at 5 p.m. so we brought Donna, Joan, and Johnny to church. Mary stayed home with the baby. Donna had the baby in bed and settled before we left. Warnie came for Janet; they sat with us in church. Joan went to a fireside after church. Skipper Steimle [*Leonard Nathaniel Steimle*] got married today, his second wife [*Margery Pearl Minnoch*]. We had a nice meeting tonight; several members gave interesting conference reports. Lou paid the bishop \$20 for building fund banquet tickets, \$10 a plate, a stake affair.

### April 13, Monday

I did a little scrapbook work this morning. I phoned Donna and was pleased to learn that Kathy's mouth is better than it was. Donna had an appointment to take her to the doctor at 3 p.m. She has a little sore on her eyelid and one on her cheek. Her eye looked a little swollen this morning so Donna wanted the doctor to look at her again. I talked to Annie on the phone; she said they had a startling experience in their fast meeting yesterday while the sacrament was being passed. Br. Jess Dewey had a bad spell, which upset their meeting. He had an epileptic spasm and had to be carried out. I wrote nine postcards this afternoon. Donna came here about 5 p.m. She had Kathy and Johnny with her. She said



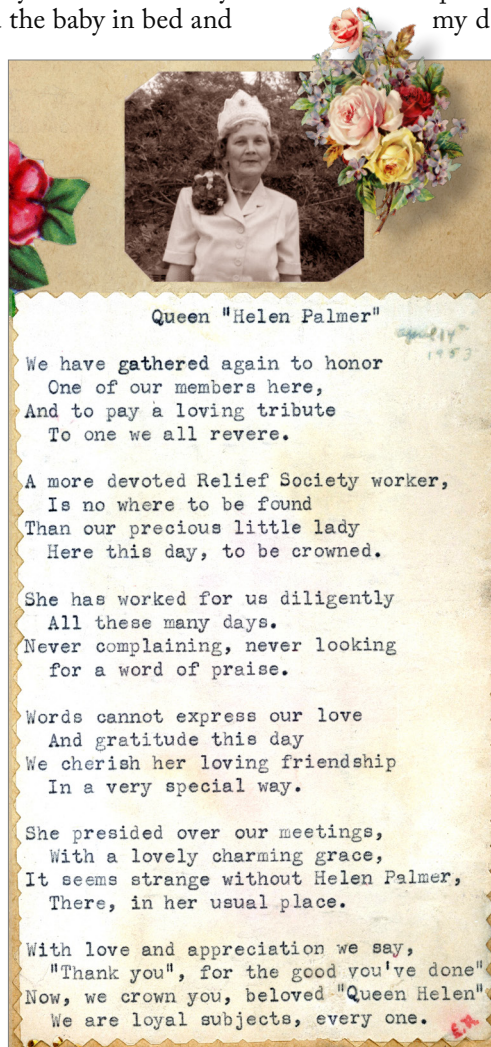
the doctor was very concerned about the condition of Kathy's mouth; he swabbed her mouth with a strong medicine. He gave her another prescription to use; she is not to use the peroxide anymore. The doctor says Kathy has a form of trench mouth. I wonder how she ever got that dreadful infection? Daddy cut the rosebuds for Donna to take home; she borrowed our silver and some dishes. She is having the building fund dinner at her home tomorrow night for their group, fourteen of them. Lou and I are going to Carl Warnick's home for the dinner. I made a Jello salad tonight for it. I wrote a letter to Ethel Newbold this evening telling her we'd pick her up next Sunday morning and spend the day with her. We may go to church down in her neighborhood. Janet told Steve she was going back to Warnie! That is, going steady again. I guess Warnie has won out once more.

### April 14, Tuesday

I watered the lawns and flowers this morning. Bonna Gordon came by for me at 9:45. It was our workday, and "Queen for a Day." Clarice Tanner brought Donna and Kathy. Our baby is some better, but her poor little mouth is still very sore. She wasn't very happy so I took her in the baby nursery room and let her play in the playpen until Donna brought her a drink of warm milk with a little chocolate flavor in. She isn't eating much now; she looks a

little peaked, too. It surely hurts my feelings to see my darling baby so miserable and unhappy. I

didn't do any sewing; I gave my full attention to Kathy. Donna was very busy with her duties as president; it is a huge job. I'm surely glad she has such excellent counselors and secretary. I love them all. I felt so fatigued this afternoon; I had to lie down for two hours. Lou took a nap when he got home. I bought a 40¢ can of Circus Peanuts from a cute little group of kiddies selling them at the door, for the Blue Bird Camp. They had a doll buggy with the cans in. We left for the Warnick home this evening at 7:25. We had a very nice dinner, creamed baked potatoes with cheese on top, meat loaf, green peas, hot rolls, my lime Jello salad, cake and ice cream. There were only six in our group, Carl and Lou the only men there, with Ethel Burk and Ruth Teague and Clarice and myself. After dinner Lou and Carl went to the building to settle a question about poles in the building. We enjoyed visiting after dinner, no games for which I was happy. We came home about 9:45 p.m. Donna had her building fund dinner; there were twelve in attendance. Joan and Janet both went out babysitting tonight. Helen Palmer was crowned "Queen for a Day" at our meeting today.





### April 15, Wednesday

It was surely a pretty sunny day. Mr. Edgecomb built the little side porch on his house today, on the north side. The place is about ready to move into now; it is a lovely little home. Ruby Andersen came for me about 10 a.m. After a word of prayer in my home, we went out to do our Relief Society visiting. We couldn't finish up all of our district because she had to go to the bank and fix lunch for her husband. She said she'd phone me if she didn't have to go to work at noon and we'd finish up this afternoon. Donna took Kathy to the doctor this afternoon; he painted her mouth again. He says she is clearing up now. Ruby phoned from work, so we'll finish up another day. Donna, Johnny, and Kathy came here about 3:40 p.m. Donna had been to see a sister in the ward that she thought may need help, but the lady said, "no thanks," Janet stayed with this sister's children last night while they went to the building fund dinner at Donna's. I went to Penney's Store with Donna and the children. We changed the baby's panties for the right size. I gave Donna a dollar to help buy a cute little sun suit for baby. I took Kathy for a ride in the store in one of the baby carts. I bought a gift for Margie Elton's new infant son in Gorton's Baby Shop. We went to the studio across the street from Gorton's Shop where Donna took her proofs back. Johnny went across the street to get Grampa Lou. I came home with Lou, and Donna took the children home.

### April 16, Thursday

I talked to Donna on the phone and was happy to learn that our baby is feeling much better; she is eating more like her little ole self again. She has surely had a sore mouth; it isn't all healed up yet. Donna took Kathy to the Singing Mother's rehearsal in Monrovia Ward this morning. They usually have it in Las Flores, but a special Primary conference is being held there today. Dolores took Ronnie to the rehearsal today too; the kiddies have a nice nursery to play in with an attendant there. Ronnie has hives on his body, so Dody says. I did my washing this morning and then while I rested this afternoon I composed a tribute in rhyme to one of our next "Queen for a Day" programs in Relief Society. This one was written to Felicia Washburn, the sister who brings the beautiful floral displays to church. I try to have three tributes ready in case the one we plan on crowning is not present. Lou phoned Ray Blid this afternoon. He came over this evening and figured the cost of papering our front room and Lou's bedroom. He will paint the ceilings and paper the rooms for \$45. I guess we'll have him do the job. Lou is going to paint the woodwork in his room; we'll clean woodwork in the living room and other rooms. Ray B. went to the box factory from here; he is working on a church project there. Mr. Adrian had Janet go to his studio this evening to be there with some of the other Adrian models for a man to decide which girls he wants for a fashion show. He'll let them know later. Warnie took Janet to the studio.



*Felicia Washburn brought beautiful floral displays to church.*

### April 17, Friday

I phoned Donna, little Kathy is feeling fine today. Donna takes her to the doctor this afternoon for a check up. Her mouth has cleared up, almost normal; she enjoys eating again. The city has been making a noise digging up our street for the sewer pipes to go in. The street was closed off up to our driveway while they worked. I'm glad Lou was able to drive in when he came this afternoon at 2:30. The work is slack again at the shop and Gordon told Lou and Bart to flip a coin to see which one went home early. Lou won, so he came home and polished his car with the electric polisher from the shop. He had the car washed on his lunchtime at a car washing station. Mr. Edgecomb painted the little side porch he built on the new house Wednesday. Each little thing he does improves the looks of his place. It's a nice home. Mary ate dinner this evening with her little friend Carol Colvin. She went to a program tonight with the family and stayed all night with Carol. I get all my diary news from Donna over the phone. I wouldn't have much to write if I didn't have my little Marshes, bless 'em. Rex went out tonight with Wilford Gurr doing missionary work. Donna is going to bake a ham tomorrow for their club dinner in the evening. Joan and some of her friends went to the Academy in Pasadena to see a picture show tonight. Ah! Richard Berger was with the group. (Now Grama, cut it out, ha ha!) Janet went to a show with Warnie. I wonder what became of Steve? The doctor was pleased with the improvement in baby's mouth. Grama is happy, too.

### April 18, Saturday

Lou had hot cakes for breakfast; I ate one and it was good. He went to the church lot to work on the building. I phoned Donna, Kathy's mouth is improving, and the infection is about cleared up. She talked her baby lingo to me over the phone, cutie. Rex and Johnny went to the church lot to work. Donna and the baby called by there, too, they talked to Grampa Lou, but didn't see Rex or Johnny. Donna had been to Little's home to get the ham she is cooking today for their club dinner this evening. I don't know who is having the dinner in their home this time; I forgot to ask. I phoned Ethel Newbold at her son's home to make sure she'd be ready to go out with us tomorrow. She received my letter and said she was waiting anxiously for tomorrow morning. I had to lie down after I'd finished vacuuming; my heart was giving me a little trouble. Lou cut the lawns and dug around the flowers when he got home at 2:30. Mrs. Stacy left her car in Edgecomb's yard last night, the street isn't dug up past our house as the other half of Vinedo Avenue is in the county, so only half of our street can have the sewer put in. We are in Pasadena City, isn't that something, eh? It's a shame they can't do the street down to the corner anyway. Mr. Edgecomb would surely like to have connected his new home up to the sewer now. I'm glad our driveway is clear to drive in and out of. The men put a bridge over the deep excavation at Mrs. Stacy's driveway, but she was afraid to drive over it, and I would be too. The bridge looked narrow, and the excavations on each side are so deep, over twenty feet, I think.

### April 19, Sunday

We left home at 8:40 a.m. We enjoyed the lovely ride to Harold Elton's home in Los Angeles. We did a little unnecessary touring in West Los Angeles, but saw some very pretty homes and flower gardens in route. We arrived early in spite of the tour. Margie thought our gift to her infant son was cute. The baby is surely a good-looking little fellow, her children are all lovely, two girls and three boys. We took Ethel to Sunday School in her son's ward, Morning Side; I believe she called it. They are building a lovely new ward and stake building, it's about as far along as ours is. They meet in a lodge hall for the present. I was surprised to see Althea Robinson and daughter Marilyn in Sunday School. They sat back of us; we talked to them after Sunday School. We all enjoyed the Sunday School; we had a very good steak dinner at Scrivner's Drive In, a very nice place. We ate in the dining room by the huge windows with a beautiful view of the lovely hillside apartments and gardens. The flowers are lovely everywhere. Ethel insisted on paying for the dinner. Lou took us for a wonderful drive along the oceanfront, miles of beautiful blue ocean. I was glad the sun was shining at the beach. We got out a few times to look and stretch our legs. I thought Cabrillo Beach was especially nice. It was five o'clock when we got back to Los Angeles, not hungry, but Lou treated us to pie and ice cream. The folks were out riding when we took Ethel back home so we decided to sit in the car and visit until they arrived to open the door for her. Then young Bob Elton came, he had a key so he let Granma Ethel in the house. Lou's left arm has hurt him a lot lately. Ethel told Lou to get some Dolcin Tablets, which he did on our way home. I hope they will help my darling Lou. This has been a lovely day with our good friend Ethel. I missed not seeing my dear little Marshes this day. Warnie and Dody Bush ate dinner with the Marshes today. I phoned tonight, Janet answered, they were having her group, Br. Bob Perine's Sunday School class, to the fireside chat, so we didn't talk long. There were thirty of them coming. Phyllis McDonnell had a baby boy born today.

### April 20, Monday

It rained a nice quiet rain most of the night; glad I don't have the watering job today. It was raining off and on all morning. Donna phoned, said they missed us yesterday. I missed not seeing them, too. She and Rex and Clarice Tanner went to a reception honoring Helen Hinckley Jones, author of "Persia is My Heart." We had intended going, also, but it was the only day we could



Scrivner's Drive In



Cabrillo Beach

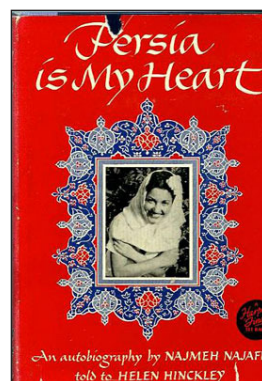
spend with Ethel before she leaves for home. Donna said they met the young lady the story is about, Najmeh Najafi. Helen autographed books for them. Janet was upset because so many of the younger kids who are not in their Sunday School class came to the fireside last night. She planned for about twenty at most, and thirty showed up. They served cupcakes, ice cream, and root beer. Janet, Donna, and Mary all had a hand in the cupcake deal, maybe Joan, too? Donna had to frost them after church last night, ah, me! "It takes a heap of livin' in a house to call it home." Our baby fell off the kitchen chair again this morning while Donna was talking to me on the phone. She was back up again after her crying was over. It worries me how often she falls off the chairs; bless her heart. I forgot to get the insurance money from Lou this morning, so had to shell out \$5.23 of my own allowance. I did a little hand washing and was able to get it dry between the showers. Thirty American prisoners have been released by the Communists at Panmunjom yesterday. Twenty

other disabled allied prisoners were released; the exchange of war prisoners is going on now until all the men are released. Many homes are made happy to know their boys will return. Ovena Mayo phoned this evening, asked me to compose two poems for the Mother's Day program in May. Lou felt better, he rested well last night, maybe the Dolcin tablets will relieve the pains of arthritis and rheumatism, I hope so.

### April 21, Tuesday

I met Bonna Gordon at Blanche and Vinedo this morning; our street is torn up. Chuck, her son, and Marie Doezie were with her. We left Chuck and his golf clubs off at the P.C.C. College. We had a nice big turn out of sisters this morning. It seems that the ten o'clock meeting is better for most of them. I played with my baby Kathy in the nursery

until Mrs. Morris arrived to take over. She had fifteen little ones today, bet she was glad when our meeting was over. Fay Timothy gave a very interesting literature lesson on Jane Austen. I was very sorry to learn of the illness of dear little sister Edna Peak, we prayed for her recovery in our meeting. She had a mental breakdown yesterday while out to the beach with her husband on a fishing trip. He had a dreadful time getting her home; she is in a mental hospital now. Ovena Mayo talked to me after the meeting; she gave me a little book of Mother's Day verses. She wants me to





compose a poem for the mother with the largest family and a poem to the mother of our ward, Bishop's wife, Miriam. No poem for these mothers in this book. It has tributes to all mothers, to the oldest and the youngest, which they will use. I played with Kathy after the meeting until Donna got some of her business taken care of. Oh, what a job this office is. I browned some beef brisket this afternoon and made a nice stew for dinner. We both enjoyed this nice rich brown stew. Lou painted the kitchen cupboards a pretty bright yellow tonight. I love it, and him, too.

### April 22, Wednesday

My cupboards look so pretty this morning with the bright yellow shelves; almost dry this morning. I talked to Donna on the phone, happy to report that they are all well, no one out of school today. She told of an unhappy event, which occurred yesterday at their home. Mary had her little club there after school. They had a nice time; one of the little girls is going to move away from California, so they gave her a gift of 50¢, money from their dues. Janet came home from school with Warnie. She left her purse on the front porch railing while she talked to him out at his car. Mary's little friends were leaving for home about then. When Janet came in her purse wasn't on the railing, she found it in the bushes in front of the porch, it was torn and open and her \$3.00 was missing. It made everyone feel awful. Janet went to each of the little girls houses and talked to them, she feels confident she knows who took it, two little sisters were enjoying a large bag of candy and their mother was the only mother to take offense at Janet's asking the girls if they saw her purse when they came out of the house. These little girls didn't have 15¢ to pay their dues a few hours before at the club, too bad to spoil the day like that. All the little girls feel dreadful about it. Donna and Clarice Tanner had the job of making Jello salad for the big stake building fund dinner tomorrow night. My daughter is really busy now. Ruby Hodges phoned this morning to remind me of the Tupperware party at her home on April 28, she said Aunt Janie Rowe had a cerebral hemorrhage caused by her accident, I guess. We had a letter from Vinnie yesterday saying her mother was coming along very well from the accident; too bad this had to come. I worked most of the day on the poems Ovena Mayo asked me to do for Mother's Day program.

### April 23, Thursday

I washed woodwork and windows in the living room this morning. I enjoyed doing woodwork for the first time in my life, I used Soil Off and it is wonderful. Donna brought Kathy about 12:30, Clarice and Donna went to the church to serve lunch to the full time missionaries, about twenty-six of them. She didn't know about it until last night when a young missionary called her on the phone. He got her out of a Mutual class. He'd forgotten to ask her Relief Society if they'd serve a lunch to the boys today. President Bunker and LaPriel were fasting so they didn't eat. We get to see them once in a while when the missionaries use our church for their meetings. Janet and Warnie came to get the baby after school; she was asleep so they waited a little while until she woke up. She didn't wake up happy as usual, so

we had a crying spell for a short time, our temperamental baby. This evening Lou and I went to the Woman's Club in San Marino to our Gold Plate Building Fund dinner. We surely enjoyed the turkey dinner. Donna took four turkeys over that Br. Summers had cooked for the dinner. Each table had a host and hostess; the host brought the turkey in and carved it at the table. The dinner was served family style; the tables were just beautiful. The program was fun;



after dinner speeches from the Stake Presidency, Bob Gordon led us in his building fund pep songs. The Champion Crown City Barbershop Quartet put on an entertainment for us, they're good! The precious sisters that served worked so hard. Clarice Tanner and Waureeta Rossiter served our ward tables; they were tired out. We should have had two more to help them. The Primary made and embroidered linen tablecloths for

our stake dinners; the dear sisters decorated the tables so lovely, too. Joan babysat for Donna, Janet went out to babysit.

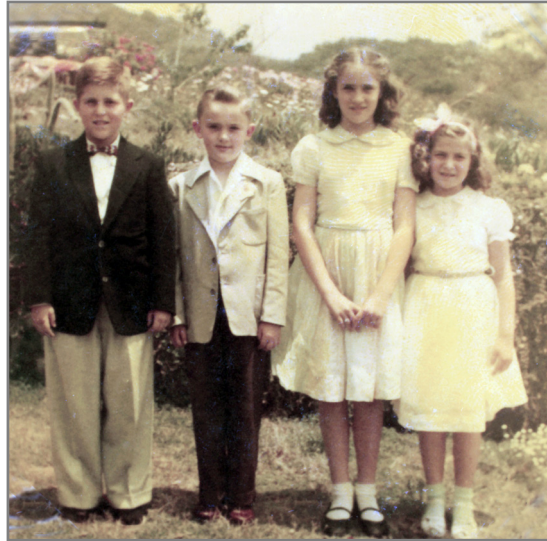
### April 24, Friday

I mailed Dolores Jones and Frances Helman birthday cards last evening. It's Dody's baby's birthday on her own birthday, too. I forgot it when I sent the card. Lou stayed home today, as work at the shop is slack again. He found plenty of work to do around here. He painted the woodwork in his bedroom; Ray Blied came with the paint this morning before we were out of bed. It is a lovely delicate rose. Ray mixed it for Lou. We cleared the living room out ready for Ray to come this afternoon and paint the ceiling and paper the walls. He came while we were eating lunch. Donna took Kathy with her to the Relief Society leadership meeting in Los Flores this morning. She left her off at our house at 12:30, and then went to her local board meeting. The baby ate lunch with Grampa and Grama. Donna brought her baby food. She loves canned peaches, so we had some for our dessert. Kathy was delighted with the doll that I got down from the top of the linen cabinet. It was one that Joan or Mary had me put up there to keep for them. I have two other old dolls up there now; the kids have forgotten they ever had them, I think. The baby slept in the cabaña swing for about thirty minutes. Donna came for her about 2:15 with several ladies in Clarice Tanner's car. The meeting was at Joan Sidlow's home. Johnny phoned here to check on Mama. I told him that she was on her way home; he had just come in from school. A letter from Violet this morning, she mentioned that Dolores and

baby Nadine have birthdays on Saturday the 25th, she wishes she could be in California to celebrate with them. The baby will be a year old. Sue wrote to Annie and Lorene, she told them that Bill's [Bailey] manslaughter case would not come to trial, for which we are all thankful to Gordon Strong, his attorney, and to God for answering our prayers. Bill is a good kid; it was just a tragic accident.

### April 25, Saturday

Today is Dolores and baby daughter's birthday. Nadine is one year old; Dody is 25 years old. I hope they both have a happy day. Lou worked over on the church. Ray Blid gave the three ceilings a second coat of paint; they look lovely now. (The living room, my bedroom and Lou's bedroom.) He also painted the hall. He thought he could finish the papering job, but he didn't feel well, so went home after papering the living room. He'll do the hall and Lou's bedroom on Monday. We'll be in a mess over Sunday, but that's all right, a man can't work if he is ill. He went home at 3:30 p.m. This afternoon Lou and I went to town, we bought some pretty rayon net curtains for Lou's room. They have a little gold thread design in them, we looked for rose drapes for our living room; we couldn't find the shade or when we did, they didn't have two pair. We brought some home from Mather's Store, I felt sure they'd be too light, and they were, but we are going to change them on Monday. We hung up a



*David Howard, John & Mary Marsh, & Bonny Howard in 1953. On April 25 they had overnight stays at each other's homes.*

pair, and then we knew they'd never do. Beverly and Annie came this evening after wishing Dody and Nadine a happy birthday. Lou and I ate a grilled tuna sandwich while they watched T.V.; they had eaten. Our living room was a dreadful mess with Ray's paper hanging table and tools around. Mary slept at Howard's tonight with Bonny; David Howard came to stay all night with Johnny. Rex went out to do missionary work with Wilford Gurr, Donna came by this evening after Andersens had gone. She brought the typing she did for me. They are poems I composed for the Sunday School Mother's Day Program and some more "Queen for a Day" poems for Relief Society.

### April 26, Sunday

Today is Lorene's birthday, bless her heart. The family gave her money this time; she is going to buy a new dress. Mary gave her new curtains for her bedroom. Daylight savings time starts this morning. I was sorry to miss Sunday School, it isn't right, but we were in such a mess. Ovena Mayo took care of Lou's Sunday School music. We had a busy morning. Lou put fertilizer around our plants after digging up around them. I dug up a few weeds and put acid around the camellias, the azaleas, and the hydrangeas. Lou waxed and polished the floors around our rugs, he used the church electric polisher, and on the Sabbath day, of all days, ah me! I had a nice talk with my neighbor, Mr. Edgecomb, I loaned him my Book of Mormon and a little book by Cleon Skousen, "A Story of the Book of Mormon." Joan and her friend, Richard Berger came this afternoon. They just got settled to watch a movie on T.V. when the Claytons came. It was Ray and family, Mary and Lynn Jorgensen, and Aunt Lorene. I was delighted to see them, but sorry the living room was so upset with the paper hanger's table and materials around. Joan introduced the folks to Richard, then they took the little radio and went out in the cabaña. The three little children followed them out, which made visiting more pleasant for us adults in the house, but young love in said cabaña swing? Oh, oh! Claytons didn't stay long, so Joan and Richard saw some television before it was time for us to go to church. Donna was going to call by for Joan at 5:15 to take her to choir practice, but Rex didn't get home from his visit in missionary work in time to go to choir. We took Joan to church, Richard went home, he lives near us. Harry and Mary Howard spoke in our sacrament meeting tonight, a nice young couple who moved into our ward a few months ago. They are converts to the church. Lou and I went over to Lorene's after church. The Andersens came and Ray and



*Bonny, David, Harry, and Mary Howard in 1952. They joined the church in 1951. In the Spring of 1953 they moved into the East Pasadena Ward and became acquainted with the Renshaw and the Marsh families. Soon they were dear friends with the Rex Marshes.*



family. We had a nice visit, a good coconut lemon cake and punch; we talked about the new missionary method.

### April 27, Monday

I surely did enjoy my visit with the family last night at Lorene's. Raymond is well versed on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, he's so interesting to listen to and he is an intelligent young man. I phoned Donna this morning; she said that Jean Cummings had her baby this morning, a girl, three girls now. It rained most of the night and off and on all day. Work is very slack at the shop again; Gordon has to lay the men off in turn. Bill, the installation man, took off today so Lou went out on his job; he had a call up our way so he looked in for a second to see how the paper-hanging job was coming along. Ray Blid felt better today, but he is not well yet. He did the hall and Lou's bedroom. He went home at noon and rested for a while and then came back and finished up. He is a good paperhanger and painter. We are well pleased with his work. Ruby Anderson phoned to see if I wanted to go out to finish up our teaching. I told her I was going to town to change the drapes we bought on Saturday, but I'd go with her instead. She said, "No," she had to go into town her self to help her husband at the store, so she'd call by for me. I was happy as it was raining. She came about noon. I showed Ray where we keep our back door key if he got back first. Mather's Store gave me the refund without any trouble, very nice about it. I bought some rose rayon drapes in Nash's Store, came home and turned up hems, pressed and hung them up; they look nice. Lou helped me get the house back in order.

Donna was tired tonight, but she brought the children over to have home night with us, the three little ones. Rex came for them after his missionary call. He watched television with us. Wilford was called home. Sr. Gurr called and told Wilford that their little girl had eaten several aspirin tablets, he rushed home and took her to the emergency hospital, had her stomach pumped out.

### April 28, Tuesday

We have to hustle on Tuesday mornings now. We've changed our meeting time to 10 a.m. Bonna Gordon came for me, Marie Doezie is always with her, I love these sweet ladies. I read a storybook to some of the little tots in the nursery until Mrs. Morris came to take over. Our little Kathy is very happy to stay in the nursery, she likes Mrs. Morris; I believe the kiddies all like her. We had a nice meeting, we were so crowded last week in our own room that we met in the

chapel today, and it was better. Hazel Morgan gave a nice lesson in Social Science, "The Progress of Man, In the Way of Destiny, the Kingdom of God." I'm so thankful to Bonna for picking me up on Relief Society day. I'd miss a good many meetings if I had to take the bus, as the five blocks to the bus and two blocks to church are too many for me, if I have to hurry at all. Faye Timothy invited Donna, Mary Howard, and Edith Robinson home to eat lunch with her. Clarice Tanner was home with the flu; she is much better, we're glad to know. Lou came home from work early today. He hung pictures for me and cut our lawns. We used our meat grinder on the electric mixer for the first time this afternoon. I made some delicious hash from the little beef roast we had left over from yesterday. Florence Marsh phoned, I called Rex's home to see if they'd be at home as the Marshes would visit them if they were home. Yes, so I relayed the message to Florence. Rex did have a missionary call to make but he waited for his folks to come. I went to the Tupperware party at Ruby Hodges, parted with \$4.46.

### April 29, Wednesday

I phoned Donna this morning, Johnny's out of school. He fell off of Kirk's wall yesterday afternoon, knocked the wind out of him, and skinned his stomach up. He's too miserable to go to school, but he is enjoying his little ole self at home playing records and entertaining Kathy and little Janet Cummings. Her mother is in the hospital with a new baby girl. Mary had an accident at school yesterday afternoon, also. She was playing and running backwards, she ran into a pole, which raised a large bump on her forehead and it made her feel ill for a while.

Donna read a nice little letter to me from Sr. Rhoda Cash wishing her the best and God's blessings in her new Relief Society office; she is a dear little soul. Ruby Anderson phoned, said she'd call for me at 2:30 today to do the rest of our visiting teaching. So I changed my mind about washing today. I did wash the woodwork in my clothes closet with Soil Off and now my room is done. The kitchen and bathroom is all that's left to clean. Ruby had her small son Paul with her today, we made three calls, found only one at home, LaDorna Perine. She has two children sick in bed with the measles. She is a sweet little lady, made us feel welcome. Donna went Relief Society visiting this afternoon with Waureeta Rossiter. Clarice Tanner came over to stay with Donna's children and the Cummings child while Donna was out. This evening I went to Mutual with Donna; she left Kathy here with Grampa. Mary and Johnny went tonight, it was a special program. Johnny sang in the Jr. Sunday School building fund song contest. Lou's song



was the first one sung on the program; Donna led his song. He was the first to turn in a song for the building fund. Alice Beth Ashby brought a school of young dancers to Mutual for the Ashby's program night. Mary enjoyed them immensely. Grama was weary before they got through. They didn't have half enough time in Mutual to sing all of the songs turned in for the building fund contest, only four were sung. Mary Dawn Cuff's song was elected the best of the four. It was good. I enjoyed all of them. Mary Howard's little Jr. Sunday School song was cute. My song wasn't on the program. I think Bob Austin said they had sixteen songs entered in the contest.

#### April 30, Thursday

The sun was shining brightly when I hung my washing out, but the black looking clouds came later. I thought it would surely rain, but a friendly wind came up and drove the clouds away. It made my laundry soft and nice and dry. I like that nice strong breeze, "ye bet ye." Donna took Kathy with her to the stake Singing Mother's rehearsal in Las Flores Ward this morning. This afternoon she went to Margaret Waugaman's home to check over the visiting teacher districts with her, she left the baby with Janet. We received a letter from Flora Taylor; Will had a heart attack last Friday, he is in the hospital. Aunt Janie is not expected to last long, she had a stroke, which paralyzed her right side. She has been unconscious for two weeks. An auto struck her a month ago, the head injury caused the stroke, she is 90 years old. Donna called in here after her visit with Margaret W. I gave her a package of Epsom's salts and my electric heating pad with instructions to be sure and take care of her poor sore back and hip with hot packs tonight. She has been suffering with this trouble for a couple of weeks and done nothing about it. At times like this I wish I were nearby to help her. There is altogether too much for her to look after with housework, family, and church. I'm enjoying my pretty new wallpaper and rose drapes; our living room has a rosy glow, which I like. It seems more friendly and cozy now with the contrast in woodwork and walls. It was all blue green before. It is Open House night at Joan's school, Rex



Mary Bailey mentioned on May 1, 1953 was in Elvie's dreams.



Elvie Virginia Royalls held by Jane Olorenshaw, Hazel Melvina Rowe next to Jane, and sitting in front Sarah Nichols circa 1914. On April 30, 1953 Jane dies and is reunited with her mother Sarah.

took her over. Daddy Lou gave Donna the little wristwatch this afternoon; he got it back from the jewelers.

#### May 1, Friday "May Day"

'Twas a wonderful, bright blue morning for the first day of May. Pearl Redborg phoned Donna to tell her she'd received a telegram from her brother in Salt Lake saying that Aunt Janie Rowe passed away last evening. She told Donna to tell me. Lou is sending flowers with the family out here. I talked to Ruby on the phone. Donna says her back feels a little better today; she'll put the hot pack on again tonight. I wasn't in the mood to iron, but had to do it anyway. I was happy to learn that Edna Peak came home from the sanitarium yesterday. Sr. Hill has been staying with her children the past few days while Edna was ill. I felt fatigued after ironing, so I rested on the couch for an hour. Lou was late coming home; he did a little wiring job for a lady customer after work. After our dinner Lou put a new light switch and new plastic cover in our living room for the front porch light. The old one didn't look nice with our pretty new wallpaper, so he got a new one. Our little home looks so bright and cheery; I love it. Lou put a new light globe in the kitchen too, the other one was burnt out. I did the dinner dishes while Lou went up to the market for our week's groceries. Rex was going out to do missionary work tonight, but his appointment was canceled, so he took Mary and Johnny to the picture show in Sierra Madre. It was Open House at school, but the show sounded better to them, eh? I talked with my sweet mother last night in my dreams; she looked beautiful.

#### May 2, Saturday

It was a lovely sunny May day. Lou worked half a day on our new church building. Annie read a letter from Lydia to me over the phone. All is well with them again, I'm happy to say. Beverly is going to stay a week with Norma Hardy while her father is away somewhere visiting his son in San Francisco. I wrote a letter to Flora Taylor and one to Lillian Keller, Will [Taylor] is in the hospital with a heart attack. I sent Lillian, Flora's, and Vina's letters telling about Aunt Janie's accident and death. While Lou was enjoying his nap I wrote a letter of



condolence to Vina Royall [*Jane Olorenshaw's daughter*]. This late afternoon Lou and I took a nice ride; we saw some lovely hillside homes. We got up high so we could look out over the towns. We came back to Pasadena and ate a good dinner in the Crown City Cafeteria; they really have excellent food there. Rex helped a friend today with a little plastering job. We rode out to Donna's this evening and played with the baby for a while. Rex and Donna went to a picture show tonight. Joan was the babysitter at home. Terry Maxon is spending the weekend with Marshes while his folks are away. Donna can't say "no," bless her heart. He is a nice little fellow and they pay Donna \$6.00. We brought Janet into Pasadena with us, she stayed overnight with a girl friend, Judy Swim. They live a few blocks from us in a lovely home.

### May 3, Sunday

It was a lovely day. I enjoyed Sunday School and the testimony meeting, also. Janet brought her girlfriend Judy Swim to Sunday School; she stayed with Judy last night. Marshes took Judy home to eat dinner with them today. We brought Mary home to eat with us, I felt badly all day that I didn't bring Johnny home, also, cause the little fellow felt slighted that we didn't ask him. I hadn't prepared anything for today. Lou and I eat out often on Sundays or else we just have a cold lunch at home, unless we've invited our little Marsh family home to dinner. I cooked some frozen lamb chops; Mary loves them. This afternoon Lou took Mary and me for a ride out to Duarte to look at some new homes. Most of them in the tract are sold. I surely wouldn't like to live there, it looks so hot and dry, no trees. The little homes are nice enough but it was so warm. There are lots of young couples and children. By the time they are my age, 60, the trees will be big ones, and the children married and gone. They'll have the old home and shade to comfort them, eh? We called in Donna's on our way back, got Mary's clothes to wear tonight, her blue and pink organdy dress. We looked through two houses in Pasadena for sale. I put Mary's hair up in curlers for an hour before we had to leave for church. Rex went to a missionary meeting this afternoon. Both Rex and Donna had an early meeting at church. They brought Joan, Johnny and Kathy here. We took them to church. Mary was in a little play, she took the part of Nell Talmage, and Steven Clawson was Sterling Talmage. I'm sorry I missed most of the program. I was in the nursery. Mrs. Morris was ill and couldn't come to take care of the children. It was our Ward Primary conference.

**Sterling Talmage was interviewed. It was his wife, Mrs. Nell Talmage, deceased, who conceived the idea of children giving birthday pennies. She felt in that way the children would feel as if they owned the hospital.**

*This from a newspaper article from February 6, 1954 Deseret News. It was about the program to give pennies to the Primary Children's hospital. Perhaps this is was the theme of the play that Mary was in May 3, 1953.*

### May 4, Monday

It was a bright, sunny day. I was going uptown this morning but remembered the stores do not open until noon on Mondays; they stay open until nine tonight. I phoned Donna, she was busy as always, washing, and had a Relief Society meeting at Melba Kunz's home. Melba has some of

her boys in bed with measles so Donna couldn't take Kathy there. I told her I'd take care of baby while the meeting was in session, we don't live far from Kunz's. I made a lime Jello salad, with cabbage, celery, pineapple, creamed cheese, and walnuts for Donna to take to Jean Cumming's house. Jean and new baby daughter are coming home from the hospital today. Clarice Tanner has a meat loaf and cherry pie to take over. I walked up to our market to get walnuts and creamed cheese. Oh, how I miss my little corner store on Garfield. It's 4 1/2 blocks to our market here. Donna said they'd take me to the bus at 2 p.m. I was all ready when they came at 2:15. Kathy wouldn't take her nap today, it was the first time she has fought taking a nap here. I got to the bank with 15 minutes to spare, deposited Lou's money, and then went to Nash's Store. No purchase there, I bought some artificial asters in Kress, then I went to the Broadway and bought an artificial potted plant with purple flowers, a verbena plant, I think? Anyway it looks very natural, it cost \$2.00. I was really tired when I got home. After dinner Lou wanted to ride over to Andersen's to borrow Bill's saw. I was glad to have a nice visit with my sister Annie and Bill. Bev was at church, in a Mutual rehearsal. Dale was at a missionary meeting.

### May 5, Tuesday

It was another summer day; no wraps needed this day. Bonna Gordon came by for me. We had our visiting teachers meeting in the Relief Society room at 9:30 a.m., a nice big attendance out. Donna's postcard reminders did a good job of getting the sisters out to their meeting. Bishop Summerhays came to the teachers meeting, he gave a splendid talk after Sr. Waugaman gave our message. It was a fine meeting, Donna asked Bishop to come and talk to the sisters. He couldn't stay for our regular meeting. We had so many sisters out for our theology meeting we had to move to the chapel. Our lesson was interesting. Lydia Stephens gave this lesson. We had a lovely testimony meeting following the lesson. It is fine to see the new members coming out. Alicebeth Ashby brought a neighbor lady out. I looked after my baby Kathy before the meetings until Mrs. Morris came. She has laryngitis and the children wondered why she talked so strangely, they all like her. I walked around outside with Kathy after the meeting until Bonna was ready to leave and then Donna took her. Clarice Tanner and Donna went to see Edna Peak before going home. The City Assessor came this afternoon. Gordon Hodges phoned this evening, told us to tune in to channel 11 and see the T.V. program of "Death Valley Days," a story of the Mormon pioneers settling in St. George, Utah. It was very

interesting, I was glad Ruby read about it and had Gordon phone us. Gilbert Andersen's birthday is today; he is six years old. Annie and family are taking him a lot of gifts out tonight, lucky little fellow. We got a letter from Lillian, Jack Keller's mother [*Lillis Ellean Simmons*] passed away; he went with the family to bury her in her hometown, in Missouri. She died last Thursday.



*Sego Lilies (1953) was the show that Elvie mentions on May 5, 1953. Sego Lilies was from season 1, episodes 16 on Death Valley Days.*

### May 6, Wednesday

It would seem that our summer is in our midst, a real warm sunny day, perfect for washing and drying my kitchen rugs which I did. I washed two large loop rugs in my washer, also. I had to lie down for a while until I felt rested. I read the Book of Mormon assignment for visiting teachers to take out, Second Nephi, chapters 5 to 10. I love the Book of Mormon. I had a nice visit with Donna on the phone. Our Janet has broken up with friend Warnie again, and is out with Steve S. I'm afraid Janet and Warnie will not find happiness together, I wish he could forget her. I want them both to be happy. Donna and I talked most about Relief Society work. I talked to Annie, she told me about Gilbert's little birthday party last night. Glen's and Irene's parents and Bev and Dale were there. The little fellow was tickled with all the gifts. New furniture arrived for Edgecomb's new home; I guess they'll be moving in one of these happy days, a lovely home for very nice people. I'm happy for them, too. I just enjoy looking across our street at the neighbor's pretty stucco house, since he changed the color to the lovely chateau green. It is a wonderful improvement; sorry I do not know their name? They both work, we see very little of them, but they are friendly to nod or wave when we get a glimpse of them. Lou and I picked Janet up this evening at her friend Judy Swim's home. She went home from school with Judy. We went to Mutual to hear a panel, American Trio, composed of Catholic, Jew, and Protestant, their religious philosophies, it was very interesting. Ovena and Chet Mayo presented the panel tonight. Thank God for the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. My building fund song was sung in the opening exercises in M.I.A. along with several other contest songs. Mine met with favor, nice, eh? Warnie came to Mutual; he and Janet talked things over after Mutual? I was amused at my pretty Joanie, the center of attraction, enjoying her little ole self with a group of young men surrounding her, - ah me!

### May 7, Thursday

We had a nice crowd out to M.I.A. last night. The Pasadena Ward met with us, also. I was thrilled to hear so many of our young folks from both wards taking an active part in the discussion after the panel trio had all spoken. They asked for questions and they surely got them. When the meeting was dismissed, many of our young people surrounded the panel to fire more questions. I believe the young college students were glad when Chet and Ovena rescued them. It was all friendly anyway. Mrs. Edgecomb brought over a lovely bouquet of sweet peas this morning before Lou left for work. She also brought Gordon's shade book and told Lou the shades they'd decided on for the house. Gordon was here yesterday to measure for blinds; it's nice of our

neighbors to buy their linoleum and shades from Gordon's shop. Donna took Kathy with her to chorus practice in Las Flores Ward this morning. Mary stayed home to rest; her stomach was upset this morning. We received a short letter from Will Taylor; he just got home from the hospital. He is very weak but feeling much better. Flora went to Aunt Jane Rowe's funeral the day he wrote. Lou went to Sears Store after work and bought a pretty mother of pearl toilet seat to match our henna tile trim. It looks very nice in bathroom. He also bought fifty feet of clear plastic hose; both were on sale. We now have fifty feet of plastic hose in the front, and fifty feet in the rear. We don't have to move it anymore, nice, eh? Lou cut back lawn after dinner. We enjoyed our pretty little home and the television tonight as usual. Clare Smith phoned to invite us to the building fund dinner at her home next Tuesday. I'm to take rolls and butter, easy this time, eh?

### May 8, Friday

It is cooler today, several fluffy clouds floating around in the sky, wonder if it means a shower? Donna phoned this morning to report, ha, ha! She knows I'll call and ask after all of them if she doesn't. Mary felt better, she went to school, but Johnny has sniffles in his nose, so he is enjoying a day at home resting, so he can go with Rex tonight on the Father's and Son's outing up to the church camp at Cumorah Crest. The flowers are really beautiful everywhere now, I just love to look out in our yard at the lovely blossoms along the wire fence; Edgecomb's flowers on one side, and ours on the other, many lovely colors. We have roses, geraniums, camellias, and cannas, along the fence, also ivy growing over the fence. Edgecomb's have iris, geraniums, and very lovely carnations,. It is a glorious sight; our fuchsias in the hanging baskets are budding now, so we'll have more color in a short while. Life is beautiful, isn't it? Annie phoned this morning, she had talked to Bette Haddock on the phone. Shirley and Kenny and children moved into their new home a week ago, they bought some new furniture, Bette says they are thrilled with this lovely new home. Sue is leaving Salt Lake City tomorrow evening. She'll arrive home Sunday morning on the train. The family is having dinner at Shirley's home in honor of their mother, it will be

on Mother's Day. Sue has been gone a month or longer? I looked it up in the diary, she and Beth Johnston left on the third of April. I saw Warnie while I was waiting for my bus at 4 p.m., he offered to drive me uptown, but my bus was coming and I didn't want to have him go so far out of his way. He was on his way to P.C.C. School. He is a sweet kid. I went to Nash's Store. Lou wanted to give me a gift for Mother's Day. I met him at Nash's Store where he bought my gift. It is a pretty potted plant of assorted tropical leaves, they are artificial, but look so very real, it cost \$3.00 for the plant, \$1.00 for a pretty rose colored jardiniere to put the pot in. He bought me two



*"Mrs. Edgecomb brought over a lovely bouquet of sweet peas"*

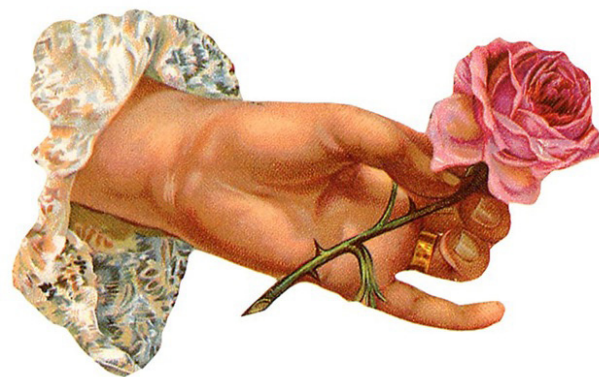
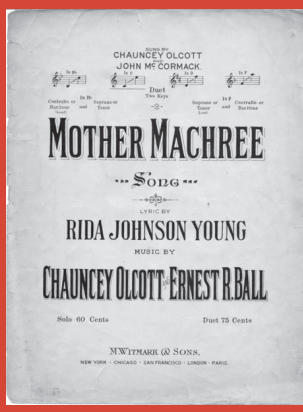


of the jardinières, so I could put the flowered plant I bought Monday. They look so nice in the little rose jars. We stopped in our market on the way home, Lou bought leg of lamb so we can invite our children to eat with us Sunday, bless his dear heart. I phoned Donna tonight, she and Kathy were enjoying peace and quiet. Janet out to a picture show with girlfriend Judy Swim, Joan to a school play with the Nickels boy, Mary to a show with little girlfriend and mother, she ate dinner with them, Janet ate at Swim's also. Rex and Johnny at camp.

### May 9, Saturday

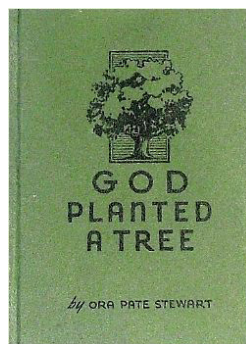
I am enjoying the lovely bouquet of sweet peas Mrs. Edgecomb gave us. Lou worked half a day on the church building. I cooked the leg of lamb, made Jello salad, cooked potatoes in jackets for salad, boiled eggs, walked to the market for rolls, butter, creamed cheese and ice cream for tomorrow's dinner. The wind blew most of the night and today. Our yard was a mess with Mrs. Stacy's avocado leaves all over. Donna made a coconut cake and deviled eggs for our dinner tomorrow. It will be cold, and not a lot of work to get ready. I saved \$13.00 to buy Joan's photographs; they cost \$13.46 for three large pictures and two little ones. My darling

Lou paid for Donna's three large pictures. We are surprising her with her photos tomorrow on Mother's Day. She thinks she'll pay for them later, sometime? Somehow? Lou took a nap this afternoon; I kept quiet so he could sleep. He didn't rest well last night, he was thinking about the songs on his Mother's Day program in Sunday School tomorrow. Joan went to the Wilson School to decorate for their dance tonight. She came here after they'd finished. Richard B. was with her; he helped her put the pictures of school officers in the poster panel the Juanita Studio made for the pictures. Lou brought it home for Joan, with the pictures of Joan and Donna. I'm delighted with the pictures; they are lovely. We took Joan and her picture panel home this evening. Donna insisted on us eating dinner with them, it was all ready, nice, eh? I helped Janet with the dishes, I pressed Joan's silk dress, and she went to the dance. Janet went to a party with Steve Schirm. Mary stayed all night with Carol Colvin; I rode with Donna to take her clothes for tomorrow. She is going to Sunday School with Carol and family in the morning.



### May 10, Sunday

It was a very pretty day; we had a lovely Mother's Day program in Sunday School. The printed programs were very nice, too. (A young mother and baby in round frame with lovely red roses circled halfway around the frame.) Lou directed the song medley to mothers; we each had a printed copy of the words, and enjoyed singing, "Wonderful Mother of Mine," "Mother Machree," "Little Old Lady," and "M-O-T-H-E-R." Donna and Rex sat with me. Johnny sang with the Jr. Sunday School. Joan gave the poem tribute to Sister Peak, the oldest mother. Her girlfriend, in Sunday School class, gave the other tributes I composed, to the youngest mother, the mother with the largest family and mother of the ward. Phyllis Burk was the youngest mother, Lillian Neal, largest family, and Miriam Summerhays ward mother. Br. C. L. Stephens paid a lovely tribute to his mother, to all mothers, and to his wife, with lovely red roses to his wife. We all enjoyed a nice cold dinner at our home after Sunday School. Everything was prepared yesterday so it didn't take long. Donna made cake, Janet deviled some eggs, and I cooked leg of lamb, and made salads. My children gave me a box of lovely pine scented toilet soap and a book by Ora Pate Stewart, "God Planted a Tree." I'm anxious to read it.

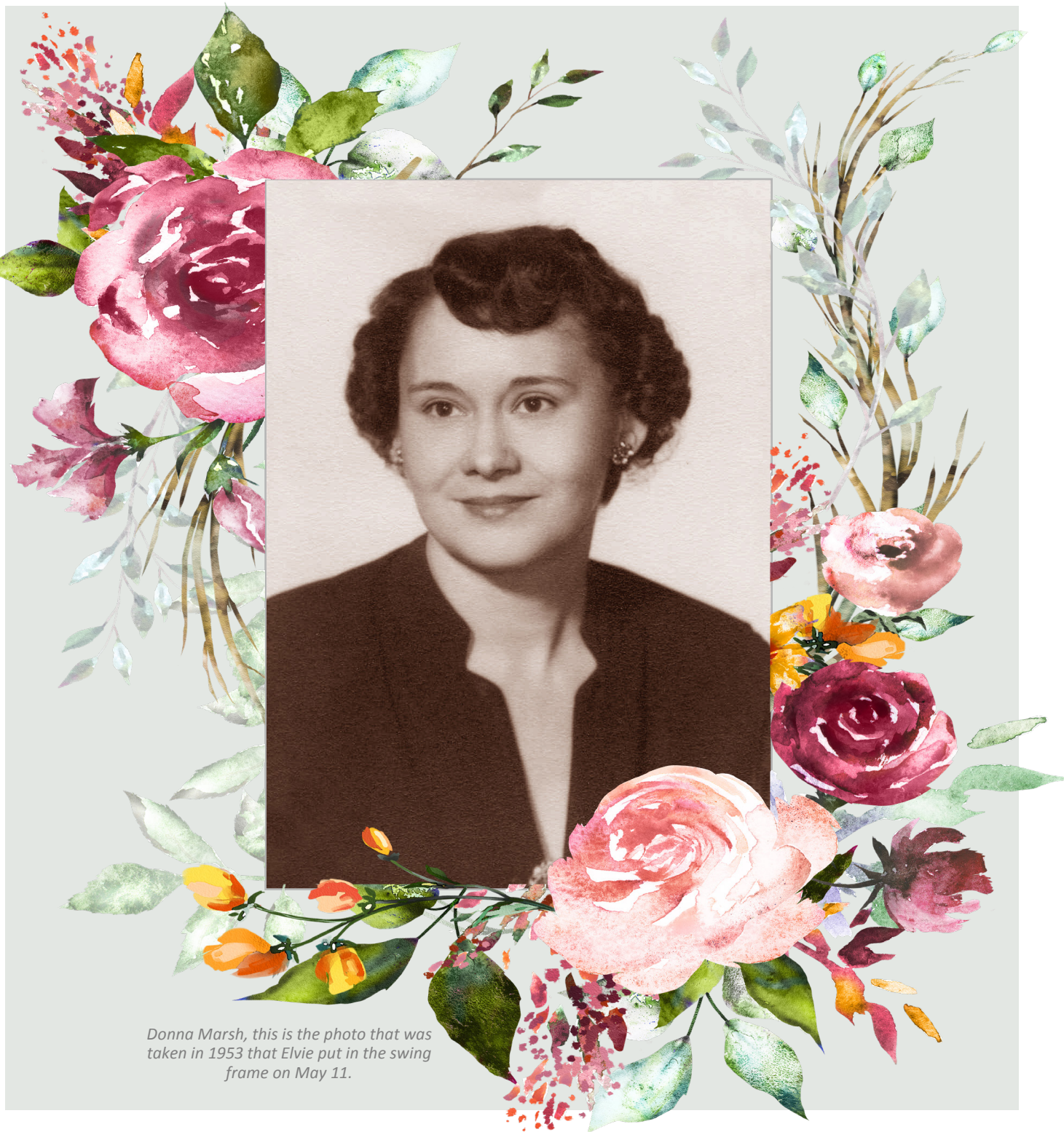


Donna and Kathy had a nap on my bed, Joan slept on Grampa's bed, and Lou rested in the cabaña swing. Rex was on the living room floor, Janet on the couch, Johnny and Grama watched T.V. Richard Berger came later; he and Joan visited in the patio swing. Rex and Donna took Johnny and Kathy to Aunt Florence Oates's to give Grama Marsh a Mother's Day gift. We took Janet and Joan to church this evening. Janet drove our car. Warnie brought her home. Joan went to a fireside at Hamson's. Lou and I went to a fireside at Ruby Willis's new home. The speaker was from the Star Newspaper. Earl and Ruby have a very lovely new home, we enjoyed our evening there. I missed our little Mary today; she was with her friends the Colvin's.

### May 11, Monday

Donna said the wind was blowing hard out there this morning; it had been blowing hard all night. We had a strong breeze for a while but not bad. In fact, I didn't notice it until she mentioned it. Dolores Jones phoned this





*Donna Marsh, this is the photo that was taken in 1953 that Elvie put in the swing frame on May 11.*

morning to tell me the sad news that her Aunt Florence Fife was dead. She was fatally burned when she dropped a bottle of cleaning fluid while cleaning out her kitchen cupboards. She was wiping up the fluid when it ignited from the stove light, blew up the stove and burned her from head to feet; she died in the hospital a few hours later. I was surely sorry to hear this tragic news. Annie talked to Florence's sister Wavie on the phone. She lives in Glendale. Dody asked Annie to phone her to find out if Aunt Florence was still alive. Dody phoned Violet yesterday to wish her happy Mother's Day. Violet told Dody of the accident, but

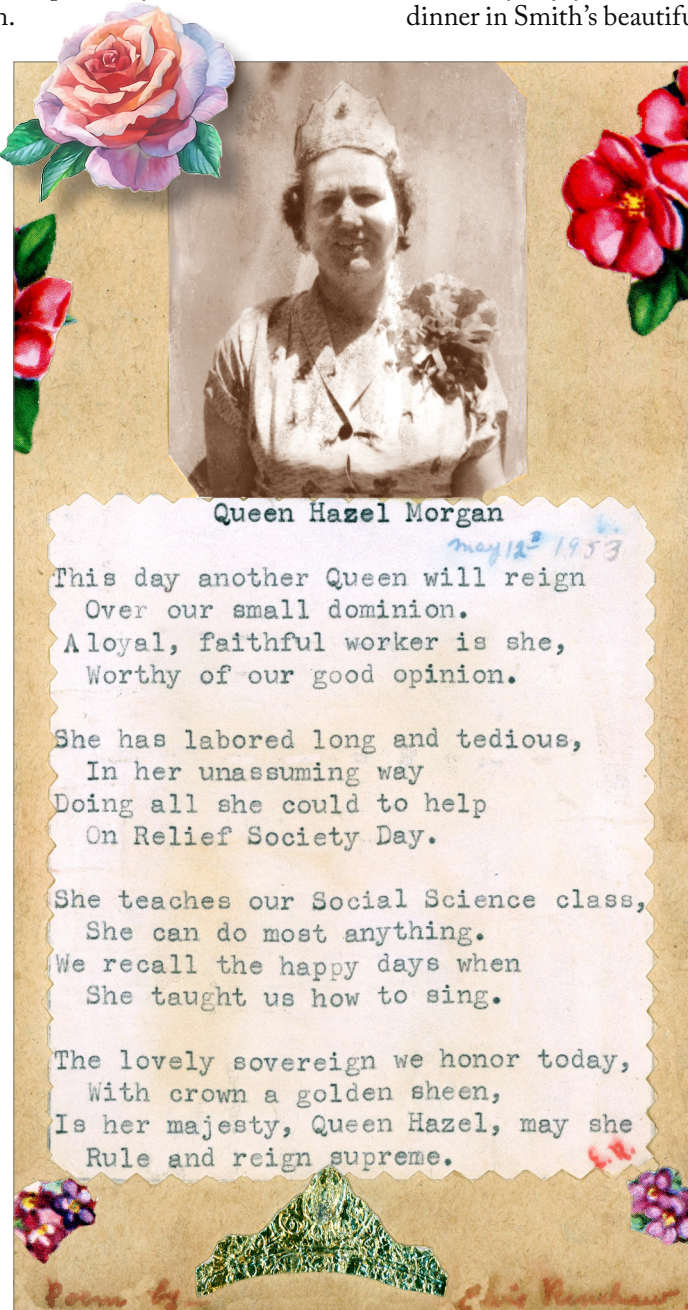
Florence was still alive then. Sue told Annie over the phone that Aunt Ida fell two days before she left Salt Lake; she had cracked some ribs and her pelvis bone. Sorry to learn this distressing news, also. Melba Kunz invited me to a bridal shower on Joan Sidlow's daughter Joy next Wednesday afternoon. I took Donna's picture out of the swing frame, and put the new 1953 picture in it. I put the other picture in my scrapbook. Janet went to Dr. Don Anderson's dental office after school today. The doctor thinks he can train her to be his office assistant. His current assistant, Norma Peer, is going to get married and leave him. It is a wonderful



opportunity for Janet, I surely hope she will learn quickly and well. Ruby Hodges had my Tupperware taken to the shop so Lou could bring it home this evening. We enjoyed home sweet home and the T.V. tonight. Rex bought a truss to support his hernia, \$18.00, poor boy. I wish he could afford to have it operated on.

### May 12, Tuesday

Oh, our weather is lovely; it is hard to realize that some parts of our country are still having snowstorms, hurricanes in other parts. We have had some strong winds, but not like some parts of the country where folks have lost their lives, homes, and etcetera. Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:40. We had workday in Relief Society. I worked at quilting; we finished up the pretty butterfly quilt for Lillian Neal. Donna started a pretty copper plaque for herself, a rather large one with a lovely flower design. We had a very nice luncheon served by one of the districts. We had a nice crowd out. I read the tribute to our queen, Hazel Morgan. Melba Kunz crowned her and gave her the gift, some pretty material to make a dress. She pinned a pretty sweet pea corsage on the queen, also. I went to town after the lunch. I rode the bus to the bank and deposited \$20 for Lou. I went across the street to Nash's and bought a pretty green towel set. Donna and I are giving it to Joy at her shower tomorrow afternoon at Melba Kunz's home. I bought a frame for Joan's picture. I took the bus back to El Molino just as Donna was just driving out to meet me. She took me to Ralph's Store to get two and a half dozen rolls for our building fund dinner tonight at Clair and Eric Smith's. She and Rex are going to Nellie Fisher's home to their building fund dinner. Donna took her children to Dr. Don Anderson's at 4 p.m., for a check up on their teeth. This is Janet's second day, or afternoon, in his office. We took Marie Doezie and Ruby Andersen to the dinner at Smith's tonight. We all had a nice time, good dinner. Clarice Warnick gave her interesting lesson on "Home Management" after we ate. Alicebeth read a cute essay.



### May 13, Wednesday

I phoned Donna this morning. Mary is home from school because of the nosebleeds she has had several times in the past few days. Johnny was out because of intestinal flu. We surely enjoyed ourselves last night at the building fund dinner in Smith's beautiful home (Harry and Mary Howard, the Campbell's, the McCloud's, the Smith's, Marie Doezie, and Ruby Andersen, the Coles, and us). Donna and Rex had a nice time at Fisher's home, too. Donna came for me about 1:30 today; we went to Joy's bridal shower at Melba Kunz's home. Joy is Joan Sidlow's stepdaughter, she is a sweet young girl and her wedding day is Friday next. We had a nice time; it was a small group, about a dozen. Melba served Jello strawberry pie with whipped cream; it was delicious. Vera Smith made the pie shells, I think. She and Bonna helped with the shower. Several of the ladies couldn't come but sent their gifts. Donna and I left soon after the gifts were opened; she had a lot to do at home. Mary was looking after Kathy and Johnny at home. Donna took me to the market, I was glad I didn't have to walk there in the hot sun. Joan had to take one dozen cookies to her Mutual class tonight, Ella Wride was going to buy her daughter Mary's cookies at the Two Sisters Bakery, so Donna asked her to buy Joan's for her while she was there. I'm glad she didn't have to rush home and make them this afternoon as planned. The Sears man came to Donna's this morning and made some little adjustment on her new Kenmore automatic washing machine. I helped Lou polish the chrome on our auto this evening before dinner. I'm happy the work at Gordon's shop has picked up; they are all busy this week. Edgecomb's are enjoying their television; it is strange to see their lights on after 10 p.m. oh, these T.V. programs will do it! Donna is cutting a wisdom tooth. Doctor took an x-ray of it yesterday, it is coming okay.

### May 14, Thursday

I phoned Donna this morning. She was expecting someone to call for her any minute to take her to Singing Mother's practice in Las Flores Ward. She was taking care of Terry Maxon today, so had to take him with her and Kathy; the children stay in the nursery. I phoned Dolores to find out how

her baby Nadine was today; she has the measles. Dody was expecting sister Yvonne from Cedar City. Ronnie answered my phone; I had a nice visit with him as Dody was out watering their new front lawn. Dody called me back later; she had a phone call from Yvonne at 5:20 this morning from Las Vegas. The bus she was coming to California on had been in an accident; it collided with a car. The man and woman in the car were killed, and several people in the bus were hurt, some broken legs and arms reported. We are thankful Yvonne was not seriously hurt, a bruise or two was all. Dr. LaMoyné Hickman (her boyfriend) met the bus and brought her to Dolores's about 2:30 this afternoon, she talked to me on the phone. She said she was okay. She came down to go to a special party and dance with LaMoyné on Saturday night. Yvonne phoned Violet in Cedar when she arrived at Dody's. The accident happened near the airport, just a few miles before they got to Las Vegas. They were taken into Las Vegas and stayed there about three hours. Ruby W. can't bake the pan of beans she promised for Relief Society tomorrow so I told Donna I'd do them for her. Donna bought the beans, catsup, brown sugar and bacon at her store. She sent the ingredients home from church with her daddy tonight, both Lou and Donna were at church getting things ready for the building fund carnival-bazaar tomorrow evening.

### May 15, Friday

Florence Fife's funeral in Cedar City was at 2 p.m. today. They brought her body from Albuquerque, New Mexico. She was burned in a tragic explosion last Saturday. This has been a very busy day for Donna and her board. I baked three pounds of beans for the dinner this evening. Donna made a cake. She had to pick up several things this afternoon that folks had cooked for the dinner tonight. I watered the lawns and flowers this morning while the beans were baking. My house smells good. I composed a tribute to another queen for a day, Lydia Stephens, I composed one to Elvenia Summers yesterday. That makes ten tributes in rhyme to our queens. We've already crowned six of them. Donna brought Kathy for me to enjoy while she went to church at 3:30. She took Johnny with her; he helped her carry things to and from the car. I thought she was going to leave him with me, but she changed her mind. Lou and I took Kathy and our baked beans to church about 5:20. Lou spilt some of the juice down his suit and had to come in the house and change to another suit. I felt dreadful about it. I should not have had the pan so full. It upset me and made me feel ill. I took care of baby Kathy until Rex came later, and then he took over. Lou ate his dinner first while I was watching Kathy, then he took care of her while I ate. The food was very good; French dipped sandwiches, extra delicious. Br. Summers cooked the beef and made the good brown gravy. Mary was at her

scout weekend trip, Joan at a school dance, Janet at a P.C.C. College carnival; I missed my girls. Johnny was busy in the midway at church, helping older boys run the concessions, busy little man, eh? Janet's picture was in our Independent News this morning, for a fashion show.

### May 16, Saturday

Lou worked until 2 p.m. on the church building. Donna phoned Lou at the church lot, and told him to stop by for some beef and gravy and rolls she bought last night at the church after the dinner was over. He forgot to call at her house so we went back after he got home. The roast beef was surely delicious in that brown gravy; I was glad she could buy some for herself, and us too. Rex finished the first coat of plaster in the little garage house today. The white finishing coat will not be as hard to do. It is a cute little apartment, can be fixed up real nice for someone. Janet took Rex's car and went to get her friend Judy Swim. Judy stayed with Janet tonight; they went on a double date with Steve and Judy's friend. Mary slept at her little girlfriend's home; she went home with Carol Colvin from the Girl Scout camp. Joan spent the day at the beach with some school friends, Richard Berger and others. Dr. LaMoyné Hickman brought Yvonne over to see us this evening. She looked so pretty, they are going to the dance tonight. His faculty is sponsoring it, she had to go to Dody's and press her formal for the big affair. She leaves on the plane after the dance, at 2 a.m.; she has to be in Cedar City tomorrow to graduate from the Institute of Religion. The dance was at Cero's; she had a wonderful time the short time here. The doctor took her to see a T.V. show, to the police show, to see 3D "House of Wax" picture show, to Santa Barbara to a steak dinner, to the beach, and to the Palladium. Beverly and Annie came over tonight, brought my box of greeting cards and two large sacks of canned foods for Donna. Bless

my sister Annie and daughter Beverly; they also brought Donna a dozen eggs and a pound of butter. Rex and Donna went to the conference welfare meeting tonight. Joan stayed with Johnny and Kathy tonight.

### May 17, Sunday

Today was Pasadena Stake conference. We went to Donna's this morning early; we took the canned foods, eggs, and butter that Annie and Beverly left here last night for Donna and family. I took Joan's short gray coat to her; I turned the collar on it last night. She got tired of the little metal design on the topline, so I put it underside. Joan tried to take it out, but it was clamped on too good. Lou took Donna, Kathy, and me up to Colvin's big home in the Sierra Madre Canyon to get Mary. She stayed with Carol last night. Donna wanted her home to take care of Kathy while we were in stake conference this morning. It was a fine session. I was delighted to see Willmia Robinson there; she sat



*Florence Williams and her cousin Louie Mae Williams circa 1912. Florence married Arthur Root Fife in July 1913. She died in May 1953. Image from Family Search.*



with Lou and me. Her son Ed was singing in the wonderful choir from Los Angeles, Fredrick Davies the conductor. I've never heard better singing; I was thrilled. The center section was filled with the young men and girls of our stake, (Aaronic priesthood and girls of that age.) Joan sat with them. Janet and Warnie sat together in the rear of the building. Donna and Rex sat by us. Joe Christenson gave his report, he just returned from a mission to Mexico. A brother from Salt Lake, a welfare worker, German born, gave a splendid talk. Lou and I ate a cold lunch at home, he slept for a half an hour and then we went to Highland Park, picked Lorene up, then Annie and went out to Burbank to see sister Sue and the Haddock's. We had a lovely visit, Sue told about her visit in Salt Lake. She had a really fine time; everyone was so nice to her. She gave my family tree from memory at the Strong's meeting. Bette made hot biscuits; they served a delicious fruit salad, cinnamon bread and hot chocolate. We all enjoyed our visit tonight. Bette's baby is surely a darling. Jerry is a handsome little fellow; he helped serve us the lunch, cute kid. We found a note from Donna tonight when we got here. Rex, Donna, and three little ones called to phone Andersen's and enjoyed some of our candy chews; bless 'em.

### May 18, Monday

I had a large washing this morning, but I got a good early start so had time to rest and write. I talked to Dody on the phone; Yvonne got as far as Las Vegas on the plane, then they had to land because of bad weather in Southern Utah. She had to go home on the bus from Las Vegas. I guess she was disappointed. Annie phoned and said her neighbor called to tell her how wonderful she feels after taking the alfalfa tea. I want Lou to try it for his arthritis or rheumatism condition. Fay Timothy phoned, she asked me to read the song, "God Moves in a Mysterious Way" tomorrow in her lesson period in literature. I told her I'd be happy to do it for her. Bishop Kenneth Bywater mailed us a couple of tickets \$1.50 each, and wants us to buy them for their welfare fund. It sounds like a good program, all professional talent, Moods in Music. Wendell Noble is going to be master of Ceremonies. It's to be Friday, May 22, at 8 p.m. Lou was later coming home this evening; he went to South Pasadena to buy some tires. He bought two of them, new seconds. Rex, Donna, Mary, and Kathy called in tonight; they brought us three nice slices of fish from the big fish that Warnie brought to them this evening. He went fishing yesterday, I think. Lou was in bed when they came, he was tired so went to bed early.

### May 19, Tuesday

It was a nice clear day. Bonna had a car full when she came for me. Our nursery lady, Mrs. Morris, was late, so Kathy sat with me in the chapel until she came, then Donna took her into the nursery room. We had a very interesting literature

lesson, a review, Readings in Romanticism. Fay Timothy gave the lesson; she had several of the ladies read poems by the poets we've studied. I read William Cowper's poem, "God Moves in a Mysterious Way," I was familiar with it as we sing it in church. Donna and Alicebeth Ashby sang a lovely duet, Moore's beautiful poem, "Believe Me, If All Those Endearing Young Charms." Ethel Burk gave a real cute

reading with a Scottish accent, there were others, I've forgotten who gave what? But it was a nice lesson. Fay is an excellent teacher. I met a lady out to Relief Society for the first time. She was Lou's neighbor when they lived on 6th South and 6th East [Salt Lake City], Emma Birkinshaw Veldenzer. Mr. Birkinshaw, her father, had a little grocery store near Lou's home. When she heard my name, she asked me about Lou and family, she remembers all of them. I rode to Colorado Street with Clarice T. and Donna. Kathy cried when I got out of the car. I went to the health store to buy some alfalfa seed to make a tea for Lou; Annie says it helped her neighbor. I hope it will help Lou as well. I looked in several stores to see if I can find the drapes we want for our living room, the new rose rayon drapes are not right for the room. Annie says she'll take them for Dale's room. She'll let me have L.D.S. garments for them and she'll pay for the underwear. Dody phoned this afternoon, she said Ronnie has the measles. I guess little Nadine had them last week when she had the rash, eh? She had a fever before the rash.

#### God Moves in a Mysterious Way

*God moves in a mysterious way  
His wonders to perform;  
He plants His footsteps in the sea  
And rides upon the storm.*

*Deep in unfathomable mines  
Of never failing skill  
He treasures up His bright designs  
And works His sov'reign will.*

*Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;  
The clouds ye so much dread  
Are big with mercy and shall break  
In blessings on your head.*

*Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,  
But trust Him for His grace;  
Behind a frowning providence  
He hides a smiling face.*

*His purposes will ripen fast,  
Unfolding every hour;  
The bud may have a bitter taste,  
But sweet will be the flow'r.*

*Blind unbelief is sure to err  
And scan His work in vain;  
God is His own interpreter,  
And He will make it plain.*



### May 20, Wednesday

I got a good start on my ironing this morning, so was through by lunchtime. Ruby Anderson came for me about 1:35 p.m. We did our Relief Society visiting. We called on the ten families in our district, only found five of them home. I enjoy going with Ruby, she is a dear little lady. We picked up her small son Paul after he got out of school, he went with us to visit the last three or four places. I talked to Donna on the phone; all are feeling fine there. Little Kathy talked to me; it is so cute to hear her baby lingo. I couldn't understand a word of it, but it sounded so cute. Donna says she stood there on the floor, holding the telephone receiver to her ear, and pointing to one of Johnny's toy trucks on the floor with the other hand. I guess she was telling Grama all about the truck, eh? Oh, she's a cutie! I left home at 4 p.m. went uptown on the bus, met Lou at the Broadway Store. We bought two pair of drapes that we thought would look good in our living room. They have a green-blue background with some pretty scenery, pine trees and mountain stream. They look nice hanging up, with our lamps on, but I'm not sure the shade is right until I can see them in the daylight tomorrow morning. I wanted to go to Mutual because Alicebeth asked us to go, but I was just too tired after my big day. Alicebeth had a Dr. Crowley come out and give a lecture on foods. The drapes we brought home this evening cost \$19.98 a pair.

## May 21, Thursday

I was disappointed in the drapes this morning, they were not nearly as pretty in the daylight as in the lamp light last night; the green background looked like a perfect match in the artificial light, but this morning, not so good. I took one pair of the drapes back to the Broadway Store this morning. Leo Strong was in the department and he talked to me. I received excellent service from the nice lady clerk when she learned I was related to the big boss; Leo is manager and buyer for all five of the Broadway Stores, (drapery departments). I brought home another pair, one drape from two pair, the same pattern, but different colors. One drape has a beige background, the other a gray. The gray one has rose and yellow flowers in; the beige has rose and blue flowers. I like the beige background up in our house the best. I left the three different drapes hanging for Lou to see. Ruth and Dick Deal and three girls are expected in Los Angeles today. Lou came home this evening 15 minutes early. He liked the one I did, but just wasn't satisfied with it. We took all the drapes back and came home with a more expensive pair, which cost \$22.98 a pair, \$46.12 with tax. We ate a delicious dinner in the Crown Cafeteria, the precious drapes locked in car trunk. There were a lot of big baskets of flowers in the cafeteria, we inquired as to the occasion. Mr. Beedel sold out; the new management was honored with flowers at opening. I hope they'll continue to serve the same good food. I think we'll be happy with these lovely drapes; they look very lovely hanging in our pretty little living room.

## May 22, Friday

Well, at last we have the drapes we like, we are both happy with these lovely new drapes. I talked to Donna and Mary and baby Kathy on the phone this morning. Mary has an earache, Donna put her lunch up to take, but she didn't go because of the earache. Kathy did such a cute thing, she climbed up and got Mary's lunch sack while Donna and I were talking on the phone, she came over to Donna making the kissing sound, to be kissed, then she started for the front door, like Mary does each morning. She knew that the lunch should be on its way to school, ha ha! The cutie. Rex didn't go to work today, he has a cold. His brother-in-law Dr. Deal gave him a shot of penicillin last night when they came to see the family. They are visiting the folks here for a few days while the



*Kathy Marsh 1953. On May 22, Kathy was ready to take Mary's school lunch and to go school herself.*

doctor is here for a convention. Rex and Donna are taking them to a stage play tomorrow night at Nathan and Ruth Hale's theater in Glendale. Tonight Rex and Donna went to the Garvanza Ward to a welfare program, all professional talent, \$1.50 a ticket. Bishop Kenneth Bywater mailed us tickets, also. Lou didn't want to go, so we took care of Donna's three little ones. Janet was out babysitting and Joan went to a movie in Pasadena with some school girlfriends. Wendell Noble was the Master of Ceremonies. Ovena and Chet Mayo brought Gary here, he stayed with us until Rex and Donna came and took him with them. They had to wait for Joan to get here from the show before they could take the sleepy little kiddies home about midnight. Kathy slept on my bed, Gary on the couch. He wouldn't go in the bedroom, John and Mary watched T.V.

## May 23, Saturday

I am surely enjoying our new living room drapes, so pretty. Lou went over to work on our church building this morning. A Mrs. Misner phoned, Lou did a little carpenter job for her a few weeks ago; she wants him to fix a door for her. Bishop Thompson phoned about the Venetian blinds the shop is fixing up for his ward chapel. He wants to change the color of the nursery blinds to blue instead of green. Donna helped Joan get her talk ready for tomorrow in church. Janet went to work in Dr. Don Anderson's dentist office. She goes there after school and on Saturdays. She was not well yesterday, so didn't go after school. Warnie brought her home from school. I received a dear little thank you note from Jean Cummings, for the salad I made for their dinner the day she came home from the hospital with her new baby girl. Donna took the dinner over all ready for them to eat. Clarice Tanner helped with it. I talked to Bill Andersen on the phone, he isn't very well, his legs are giving him trouble; twice lately one of his legs hasn't functioned properly and he has fallen down. He said, "Don't tell Annie as she worries." Annie was at the bank. Bill was cutting their lawn today, his leg gave out and he fell on the lawn. Well, we are not what we used to be, eh? I thought Lou would work until 2 p.m., but he came home at one o'clock. He had his lunch and took a nap in the swing. This evening I talked Lou into taking me to the uptown neighborhood theater to see "Call Me Madam" and "Come Back Little Sheba." We went early, 6:30, it's our first picture show in a theater for about a year. We enjoyed both pictures



*May 23 Lou and Elvie go to see two movies. First time in about a year. The television has kept them entertained at home.*





a lot. Since we bought our television set we stay home for entertainment. Rex and Donna took Dr. Deal and Ruth to a stage production in Glendale tonight. Janet went to a show with Warnie's friend, Frank.

### May 24, Sunday

I cooked a little pot roast this morning, left it in a low oven, with carrots, potatoes, and onions while we were in Sunday School. It was cooked just perfect by the time we got home. It didn't take but a minute to get dinner on the table, nice, eh? Donna and Kathy didn't come to Sunday School, Donna was miserable with hay fever. Don Rowberry led our singing this morning. It seemed strange to have Lou sit with me in the audience; he'll be back on his old job next Sunday after his talk with Al Rowbotham. Elinor Ramish was all pretty with smiles this morning. Her boyfriend, Gilbert Jorgensen, was home on furlough, over the weekend. He must report back Monday morning. I phoned Marshes for my little Mary, they wanted to go down to Grama Marsh's this afternoon if they were going to be home. They were. Ruth and Dick had gone to Long Beach, but the little girls were there and that is what Mary was interested in mostly.

Rex took the children.

Donna stayed home to do some typing. I think Joan did some studying on her talk. She gave it in church tonight on fasting; she gave it well and looked very pretty up on the stand. Janet told me this morning that she was going to babysit this afternoon; she was in church tonight with Warnie. Lou enjoyed a nice long nap on the couch after dinner. We sat with Rex, Donna, Johnny, and Mary in church tonight. Johnny drew a gym set on his program. Mary drew our television set on hers; she also made a glamorous girl out of the good-looking Meier's boy on the front cover. Our returned missionary from Pasadena Ward gave a good report tonight on his Mexican mission; Joseph Christensen. I talked to him after church, a fine young man, good looking, too.

### May 25, Monday

I had Lou's bed sheets changed this morning before he left for work. We got up earlier than usual so he enjoyed the morning paper a little longer. I've developed a brand new ache, yesterday and today, in the groin region. I haven't mentioned this one, and I won't, unless it gets too severe. I think it will leave as many other unmentionable pains have done before this one, eh? Johnny is home from school, says his stomach aches. Janet is home, a hurt in her side, a touch of pleurisy they think. She had it a few days ago, also. Lou

was later getting home; he went to Mrs. Misner's home to repair a door. He couldn't finish the job as expected cause the wood had rotted too bad to be used again. He has to get some new material and a new threshold. He'll have to do the job tomorrow after work. Rex and all of his family gathered at Pa and Ma Marshes' home tonight to spend the evening with Dr. Deal and family. Dick, Ruth, and the three little girls leave for their home in Oakland in the morning. The Oateses, Lewie and family, and all of them were home for the occasion. Janet bought her white nylon uniform today; she wore it to Grama Marsh's this evening. I hope she will continue to be happy with the training she is receiving in Dr. Don Anderson's office; she likes it so far. It's a wonderful opportunity for her if she can stay and learn to be a good receptionist, or dentist's assistant, or whatever they call it?

### May 26, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon came for me this morning. Marie D. was with her as usual. We picked up Sr. Strang at her home. We held our meeting in the chapel again. This is our last lesson day until the fall. We had a nice meeting. I enjoyed Hazel Morgan's Social Science lesson. My new friend, Emma

Birkinshaw Veldenzer came out

to our meeting with Ethel Burk again. We talked about friends we both knew in Salt Lake. Her brother married into the Crabtree family; I lived in the 10th Ward when the Crabtree family lived there. Her mother's sister married Bishop Joseph Christenson's brother,

Hyrum, a small world, eh? Dolores came for me this afternoon. I expected Jenny Jones to come with her car, but the appointment she had in Highland Park was canceled, so Dody brought her car. She had Marilyn and Kathy Jones, and her own two children. I

took my scrapbook over to Annie's with us, so Dody could copy the two condolence

poems she wanted to send in her letter to her Uncle Arthur, since Aunt Florence passed away. I took the rose drapes to Annie, the ones we bought to hang in our living room, but they didn't look very pretty with the blue walls and woodwork. We made a trade. I brought home five pair of L.D.S. garments, three cotton for me, and two rayon to give Donna on her birthday next week. Nadine looked so cute in her pretty little white poked bonnet.

### May 27, Wednesday

Donna brought baby Kathy about 11:45 this morning. She was with Clarice Tanner and Mary Howard. They sang with the chorus of Singing Mothers, a rehearsal, then in to the



Kay Deal, Mary Marsh, and Miriam Marsh have fun together at Grandma Marsh's house.



Relief Society convention in Alhambra Ward. As soon as my little cutie got her coat off, she pulled a chair up to the kitchen table and demanded her lunch. I can't understand all of her baby lingo, but she left no doubt as to what she wanted this time, she loves cottage cheese, and she pointed to the ice box and said, "sheese, sheese! While she was eating the "sheese" I warmed up her baby-canned vegetables that came with her. She's a good little eater, she had some Jello and some canned peaches, too. Donna said she was sleepy, but she wouldn't go near my bedroom when she saw I had it fixed with pad and etcetera as we do for her. Well, I enjoyed playing with her and the curtain rings; she loves to put the rings on the stick of our big plunger. Later we used the bowl of the plunger to give her plastic toys a merry-go-round ride. She went to her nap willingly, after playing for an hour. She is adorable. Donna came for her about 4:15 p.m. She said they had a lovely convention. Sr. Belle Spafford, the president of the general Relief Society board in Salt Lake City, presided over their convention. I had dinner ready for Lou; he went to work for three or four hours on the church building after dinner. It was our ward's night to work. I did some composing this evening while Lou was working on the church; I put a finishing touch on two "Queen for a Day" tributes, one for Carol Blied, the other, Annie asked me to help her with Garvanza Ward's queen Miriam Clayton. I believe Miriam has the honor in July after her vacation to Salt Lake. I told Annie I'd let her have a copy of all the queen tributes I've done, so they can change them a little for their queens. I hope the queens never get together and compare poems, eh?

### May 28, Thursday

It rained a little this morning enough to dampen the cement. I talked to Annie on the phone, she says the alfalfa tea was helping her and Bill a lot. She's had no pain or ache in her body since the first quart. Bill's legs are a lot better; he can rest well at night now. They each drink a quart of it a day. I wish Lou could get the same results, I think it is helping him, but darn it, he drinks ½ a glass night and morning, ice cold. Bill and Annie drink it hot, like tea. I put honey in Lou's to help him drink it; I think it tastes good. The Andersens like it a lot, and they don't



Belle Spafford

Marion Isabelle Sims Smith Spafford (October 8, 1895 – February 2, 1982) was the ninth Relief Society General President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Church), serving from April 6, 1945 until October 3, 1974. She served longer in this capacity than any other woman in the history of the Relief Society. Spafford was also the second counselor to president Amy B. Lyman from 1942 to 1945. In 1974, Spafford was succeeded by Barbara B. Smith.

Born in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, to John Gibson Smith and Hester Sims, Spafford was youngest of seven children.

Spafford served under six LDS Church presidents, from Heber J. Grant to Spencer W. Kimball. During her tenure as president, the society grew from just over 100,000 members to more than one million, spanning several dozen countries. Spafford oversaw the discontinuance of the Relief Society Magazine in 1970 and promoted the Ensign as the primary magazine for the women of the church.

Spafford was one of the founders of the LDS Church's social services program, the program that is today LDS Family Services.

Spafford was a member of the National Council of Women of the United States, and served as its president from 1968 to 1970. She was also a member of the American Regional Council of the International Council of Women. In the late 1970s, Spafford was a vocal opponent of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment.

Spafford attended both the University of Utah and Brigham Young University (BYU). She did work with special education instruction at BYU.

In 1921, Belle married W. Earl Spafford. They had two children, Earl and Mary. The Belle S. Spafford Endowed Chair in Social Work at the University of Utah is named in her honor. She authored two books: *Women in Today's World* and *A Woman's Reach*. —Wikipedia

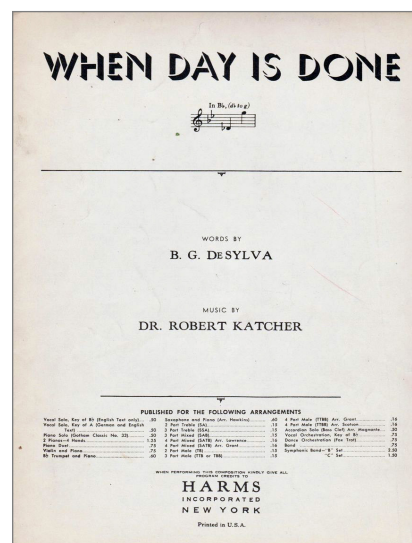


put any sweet in it either. Donna went to Las Flores Ward this morning to the Singing Mothers chorus practice; she took Kathy with her. They have a baby tender in the nursery there. They are going to sing for us tomorrow at our Pasadena Stake Spring

Symphonies program in Las Flores Ward. Lillian Keller phoned this evening from the Mayflower Hotel in Los Angeles. She and Jack are staying there a night or two; Jack is here on business, waiting to see a man when he comes back from his weekend trip somewhere? She talked to Louis and invited us to come to Los Angeles tomorrow evening and have dinner with them. Lou told her we'd be there at 5:30 p.m.

### May 29, Friday

Bonna Gordon came for me at 10:10 a.m. We picked up Melba Kunz and Marie Doezie, and then went to the Las Flores Ward to the Pasadena Stake Relief Society Spring Symphonies. The banquet tables looked very pretty; Ethel Burk had charge of the decorations of tables. We sat at the tables while they had the program, it was surely a lovely program, every number was excellent. The Singing Mother sang, "When Day is Done," oh, it was so lovely.



Singing Mothers sang, "When Day is Done" on May 29, 1953.



Ethel Burk presented President Madge Fowler with a pretty decorated umbrella, which had about 100 recipe cards tied in the underside. Ethel asked the sisters to each bring her favorite recipe to her, and she tied them all underneath the umbrella. The luncheon was delicious; it was a very nice party. I went to Donna's in Sierra Madre in Mary Howard's car. Ovena Mayo and Clarice Tanner were with us. Donna fed the baby while Ovena and I did the dishes. Ovena took Kathy to her house, Donna and I went up to school to pick Johnny up and tell Mary we were going to town. We went to Nash's Store; they were having a big sale on most everything. I got a cute hat for \$2, Donna got one for \$1 but she couldn't find the dress she wanted. We went to the Broadway where she got two cute dresses; one for \$11, and one for \$6, she also bought some pink gloves. I paid \$7 on the dresses; Rex paid the rest. It's for Donna's birthday gift. I have two pair of rayon garments for her, also. We picked Rex up where he was working today at the Court House. I got home just in time to freshen up and go to Los Angeles to the Mayflower Hotel to meet Lillian and Jack Keller. We had a lovely visit with them, we watched Lawrence Welk T.V. show in their room. They treated us to a very lovely dinner in the Biltmore Hotel. It is surely a magnificent hotel.

### May 30, Saturday

I made hot cakes for breakfast, was sorry I ate any, as I had asthma after eating them. Lou cleaned the yard up and watered lawns and flowers. Lillian and Jack phoned to say they were at Sierra Madre Boulevard and San Pasqual. I told them how to get here; they were not far from us at that point. They were here in just a few minutes. Lou was going to meet them on California Street and Santa Anita, they were going to phone when they left the hotel, but decided they could find our house without having Lou meet them. He was at the market when they came. We took them to the Crown Cafeteria for lunch, and then we went to see Lutie and Paul Solem, then out to see Donna and family. Sorry we missed Ruby and Gordon Hodges, they'd gone to see a sister-in-law in Long Beach. We took them out to Monrovia to see Pearl and Pawnee. Rex and Donna took the three small children to the Griffith Park Zoo, then to Grandma Marsh's home. Joan came here this afternoon from her visit with Sheila Gesell; she stayed at her house last night. Janet stayed with Judy Swim. Joan tried for almost an hour to get one of her girlfriends to go and babysit in her place at Dorothy Mortenson's, no luck, so she had to go herself. She had a headache and surely wanted to stay home tonight and get to bed early. I felt sorry for her. She phoned Mortenson's; they said they'd come for her. Jack and Lillian left here about 3:30 for Lynnwood to his sister's home. Today was Memorial Day.

### May 31, Sunday

It was cold and cloudy today; we had to have the heat on some of the time. I phoned Donna this morning, invited them to come to dinner, but she was cooking a roast for dinner at home. I was so busy yesterday I didn't get time to prepare anything for today, so waited to see how I felt this morning.

We went to Sunday School and enjoyed it as always. Donna looked real pretty in her new birthday dress. It's brown and white print, with cute cape, lined in brown taffeta, with a small white collar. Daddy and I bought it for her, I paid \$7 down and Daddy sent \$5.00 in her birthday card this morning, so that paid for it. I only had \$7 in the store, so Donna paid the balance on it; it cost \$11.00. She bought a pretty navy blue silk dress with money Rex gave her. We brought Mary and Johnny home to eat dinner with us. Joan stayed home this morning with Kathy. Janet stayed with her this evening. The kiddies watched T.V. most of the afternoon. Rex and Janet came by for a few minutes, they'd been to Dr. Don Anderson's home to borrow his fishing pole and net. Rex is leaving for Blythe with Br. Kunz in the morning. He is going to stay a week to help him do some work on his place there. He says there is lots of fish in the Colorado River, near Kunz's place. I hope he has good luck with the fish and the \$80.00 fishing pole, eh? Mary, Johnny, and I played a drawing game for a while, to give the T.V. a rest, as well as their eyes, and Grampa's nerves, ha ha! Beverly phoned just before we left for church. She asked if Donna would be home tomorrow night. She says they'll go out early before Donna has to leave for Mary's Scout award program. We had a very lovely program in our ward tonight. The Daughter's of the Utah Pioneers chorus sang several songs for us and gave two excellent talks. One retold a pioneer story. The sisters were in costume.



*Bonna Gordon, Melba Kunz, Donna Marsh, and Clarice Tanner.  
For Clarice and Donna's birthday they showed love and  
appreciation for the birthday ladies, Donna and Clarice.*

### June 1, Monday

Our daughter's birthday, she is 38 years old. I phoned to wish her a happy day. She had planned to have her counselors eat lunch with her, before their little meeting today. She was just about to phone and tell them to come a little early and eat with her, when Bonna Gordon phoned and invited her to go to lunch with her and Melba Kunz. They wanted to treat Donna and Clarice Tanner, as it is Clarice's birthday tomorrow. A happy surprise, eh? When Donna phoned Clarice she informed Donna she had just baked a birthday cake for her, she had intended to bring it and some punch to the meeting. (Aren't these sisters precious?) I took care of Kathy while Donna went to the lunch at Fisher's and the meeting at Kunz's. Clarice was in the car with her. After Kathy's lunch and playing an hour, Kathy took a nice nap. I did my washing this morning. Rex left with Br. Kunz this morning for Blythe, California. They're going to be gone a week. They're doing some work on his place there. We went to Donna's early this evening, as Donna had to attend Mary's Girl Scout award program at 7:30 p.m. John and

Florence and Annie and Beverly were there with lovely gifts. We all had some of the delicious birthday cake that Clarice Tanner gave Donna, (a decorated chocolate cake). Donna bought the ice cream; it was lovely too. She received many pretty birthday cards; Aunt Lillian Keller gave her a pretty gold compact on Saturday. Marty sent her something, I've forgotten what? I paid Annie \$2.50 more on the garments, she had made a mistake and had given me the \$3.75 a pair instead of the \$2.50 as we thought. She was there when Donna opened them up. It was a shock to her to see they were not the ones we thought. They had part nylon and were much nicer. "That's where my money goes, to buy my baby clothes eh?" Well I'm happy they are nicer. Janet got Kathy ready for her bed. Joan cleared up the food, both did the dishes; bless 'em. We gave Donna a dress and two pair of L.D.S. garments, Lou gave her \$5 in her birthday card. Rex gave her a dress, hat, and gloves. Marshes took her a beautiful white slip. Annie and Beverly took her a set of three Hazel Bishop lipsticks and a big sack of canned foods.

## June 2, Tuesday

It's Clarice Tanner's birthday, I phoned to wish her a happy day. She is a truly fine person; everyone loves her. She is so good to Donna and is a wonderful help in her Relief Society calling. I was sorry to learn last night, of Br. Spangenberg's [William Henry Spangenberg] passing away with a heart attack. His wife Grace [Grace Lucile Thomas] has a weak heart. The doctor put her in the hospital for a day or two, until she recovers from the shock. Mary Cutler stayed overnight with Grace in the hospital; she, Mary, is such a grand person, I'll always love her for staying with Sue and Al when he was so ill in the hospital and her kindness to Sue since Al died. Bishop Ellsworth's mother [Julia Eliza Claridge] and father [James Clarence Ellsworth] were in an automobile accident last weekend, coming home from the Mesa Temple. A drunken driver ran into their car. It killed Sr. Ellsworth and put Br. Ellsworth in the hospital with both legs broken, it was dreadful. I talked to Annie on the phone this morning. We talked about refreshments for our Strong's meeting next Saturday night, at Ray Clayton's home. Lou and I got up at 2:15 a.m. to watch the coronation of Britain's beautiful, youthful queen. The picture was of the buildings and the people and horses and coaches. I was up until



Grace and William Spangenberg,  
image from Family Search.



James and Julia Ellsworth,  
image from Family Search.



Queen Elizabeth II  
coronation photo, 1953  
photo by Cecil Beaton.

3:30 a.m. without a glance at her highness, so I went back to bed. Lou didn't stay up very long, however, I did see the coronation at 1:30 this afternoon, by film on the T.V. It was surely interesting and impressive. (I also listened to her speech, over the radio, to the people outside of Buckingham Palace at noon.) The pictures were clear, also the voices. I did my ironing, it seemed strange not going to Relief Society today. I'm going to miss it this summer. I've enjoyed it such a lot. Bless that dear Bonna Gordon's heart for coming for me every Relief Society day.

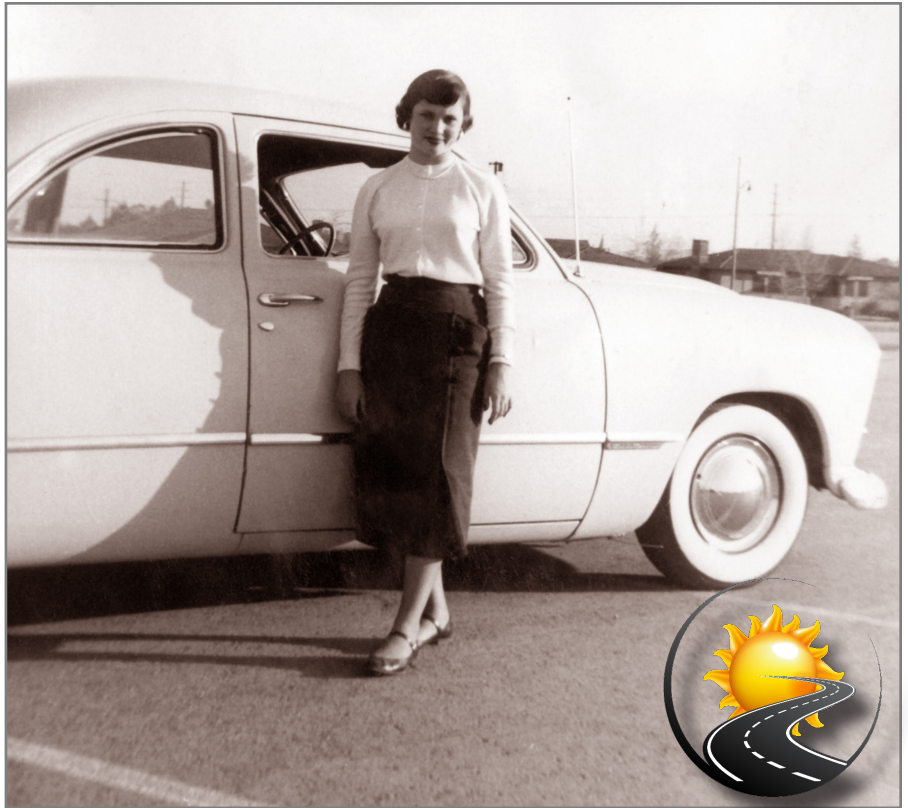
## June 3, Wednesday

Melba Kunz came for me a few minutes before ten o'clock this morning. Bonna Gordon was with her. These sweet sisters are just grand to pick me up and take me to Relief Society. We were invited to the closing party of the Pasadena Ward Relief Society. They had a Sr. Fike, from North Hollywood Ward, I think, come to Pasadena and give a very interesting review on a few religious faiths, ending with a review on the Book of Mormon. Sr. Fike studied to be a minister before she was converted to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She is surely well read. After the review, we enjoyed a very lovely lunch. The tables looked so pretty, they had place cards with a dear little yellow fiber flower on each. My name was at the guest table, nice eh? Everyone made us feel so welcome. They are lovely ladies. Sr. Alexander made the little fiber flowers for the place cards; she had charge of decorations for tables and luncheon. I'm glad I went. Donna and I went to town after; we had Kathy. She was in the nursery while we were in the meeting and luncheon. We parked the car, Donna mailed some letters for Relief Society business, I believe? She got her watch and Janet's watch from the Pasadena Jeweler, where she'd taken them to have the stems repaired. We took her typewriter to Parkers to have a new ribbon and small spring put in the machine. We met Corinne Woods in the typewriter shop; she had her sweet little baby girl. She is expecting another baby in a few months. We came home and Donna typed all of the queen tributes that I've composed. I promised to let Annie and Burnie have them for their ward queens. Donna typed the tributes I did for Annie, one to Miriam Clayton and one to Viola Sorenson. I had a pleasant evening at home with my Lou and our T.V. Janet drove the car to Mutual tonight. She took Joan to a piano rehearsal first.



### June 4, Thursday

Joan is going to be in Mrs. Post's piano recital soon, she had a rehearsal last evening before Mutual. She is playing in a piano duet, I think? Janet took her to the rehearsal in their car. Then she drove alone to Mutual later. Mrs. Post took Joan over to the church to her Mutual later. Janet loves to drive a car. She brought Joan home last night and she talked Donna into letting her take the car to school this morning. It was her first time to take it to school. She took Joan to her school first. Janet will enjoy driving to her work after school, at Dr. Anderson's office. She seems to be doing all right in her training there. Dr. Anderson had Janet take an x-ray of his teeth to give her the experience. Donna is going to have a wisdom tooth extracted by Dr. Anderson tomorrow. I'll be happy when that operation is over, too. I answered letters today, wrote to Eloise B., Violet F., and Ethel N. Lou painted the window frames on the rear of our house this evening. My sweet Daddy keeps things looking nice around here, eh? There is a silly character in Sierra Madre, a man about 25 years old. He has been coming around Donna's place lately, watching the girls. Janet saw him up in a tree, looking in her room just before dark tonight. She flew out of the



*Janet Marsh loves to drive. This photo was taken December 1953.*

house, mad as a hornet, picked up a long bamboo stick and started out after him. The guy dropped out of the tree and ran for the sidewalk in nothing flat. (That's our Janet, ha ha!) She called the police about a week ago, when the same guy was hanging around there. The police told him to move on, away from the Marshes. It seems like there has to be one of that kind in most every neighborhood, eh? Rex is in Blythe, California, working this week. Donna went to the Relief Society chorus practice in Las Flores Ward this morning. She took Kathy in Clarice Tanner's car.



*Singing Mothers practice at Las Flores Ward Building. A small part of Donna's face can be seen in the red circle.*

### June 5, Friday

Today is Florence Marsh's birthday; she is 69 years old. Our neighbors the Edgecombs moved into their lovely new home this morning. The icebox and stove came out of the little rear house early this morning. He told me "when the electric icebox and the stove are moved into the new house, I know we have really moved in." They've been carrying things in all day. Annie went to Br. Spangenberg's [William Henry Spangenberg] funeral this morning in East Glendale, I believe. Grace was there; they let her out of the hospital yesterday. I hope she will be able to get through his burial and everything, without another heart attack. She is flying to Ogden at 4 p.m. today; he will be buried in Ogden



tomorrow. I gave Annie an order for two slips and two panties for Kathy's birthday. I'm buying a slip for Mary too. Donna ordered panties for Janet, Joan, and Mary; three pair a piece. Annie sends to Salt Lake City, to "Lady Gay" for the things. I was sorry to learn that our neighbor across the street Mrs. Barnes is ill in the hospital, too bad. I wondered why I hadn't seen her out lately. She's been gone over a week. I was happy when Donna phoned this evening and said her wisdom tooth came out without any pain or complications. She was surprised when Dr. Anderson told her the tooth was out. She had expected some difficulty. Joan went with Richard Berger to see the three-dimensional moving picture, "House of Wax" tonight. Janet stayed home and took care of Garry Stonebraker. Donna brought Mary, Johnny, and Kathy to our house. We took them in our car to Marshes' to wish Florence Marsh happy birthday. Donna took a birthday cake and the beautiful \$10 book (three in one), Book of Mormon, D & C, and Pearl of Great Price, from Rex and Donna and Florence and Ernie Oates. I gave Florence a box of rose colored, "Send a Note" stationery. John was out; he came home with a lovely navy blue dress for Florence. She got lots of pretty cards and some nice gifts. Florence O. took her mother to lunch today. Miriam and Lewie's two little girls are staying at Marshes for a few days while Miriam is at the beach with the stake Beehive girls. Rex sent his mother a pretty card from Blythe. We all enjoyed ice cream and chocolate cake.

### June 6, Saturday

Mary and Johnny had fun last night, at Grama Marsh's, playing with the two little cousins. There was a little excitement for Donna when she got home from Marshes last night. Some crazy kids from Joan's "Wilson School" had taken a flare and some lanterns from a work project in Pasadena and put three of them in Donna's yard, one in front yard and two in the backyard. Joan was out to a show with Richard Berger but Janet was home alone taking care of little Gerry S. The same kids put a lantern at Pat Swim's front door a few nights ago. One of the boys told Joan he was with the gang that did it. A week ago they left a flare on Donna's front porch! When Ovena and Chet came for their little boy, Janet was all upset because of the incident. Chet was phoning the police when Donna arrived. Donna talked to the police; she gave them the boy's name. I hope they'll put a stop to this darn crazy stunt. Joan does not like that gang of boys and they know it by her actions toward them. Maybe they resent it? Janet went to a party in Sierra Madre tonight with Steve S. The kids wore old clothes; they call it a "bum" party. What next? Joan went to a house party with a young man from another ward. His name is Herb Warren, and he comes to our ward. Lou and I went to the market this evening. We were surprised to see Johnny and Mary come in.

Donna and Kathy were out in the car, parked next to our car. She'd been to our house and put the Jello cream salad in our icebox. Her face was swollen [*because of wisdom teeth removal*] and she didn't feel well enough to go to Clayton's tonight, to our Strong's meeting. I was disappointed, and sorry she felt so miserable. Lou bought a pot roast for Donna to take home for our dinner tomorrow. I bought a half-gallon of ice cream. Lou is going up to Donna's in the morning to nail the casing on doors and windows in the little garage house. Janet is coming to take me to Sunday School in Grampa's car. We had a nice time at our Strong's meeting tonight. Clint read a history of his Grandmother, \*Alice W. Strong. It was very interesting. That dear little lady surely had a terrific struggle in her pioneer days. Ruth Cartwright, Uncle Ern, Merilyn, and her husband came after 11 p.m. They had been to the church to have one of Merilyn's children baptized, a long session in Long Beach Ward. Then they got lost trying to find Clayton's. Most of the folks had gone home. Renshaws, Andersens, and Claytons were left. I was delighted to see them and so glad I waited. Sue went home with Blanche to stay a day or so. Helen's daughter Ilia May is going to be married tomorrow. Our refreshments were extra nice tonight, I thought. We had hot barbecued buns, a creamed Jello salad and cream puffs. Lorene and Miriam made the cream puffs.



*Alice Fish Bury Walsh Strong, the second wife of Jacob Strong and grand mother to Clinton Strong. Clint gave her story on June 6, 1953 at the Strong meeting in Southern California.*

*The story below may have been the one read at the Strong meeting June 6, 1953 by Clint Strong.*

### \*Alice Fish Walsh Strong

Contributed to Family Search  
by Christie Kimball

Alice Walsh Strong was born April 16, 1829, at Over Darwin, Lancashire, England. As a girl she worked in the cotton mills at Lancashire and rose to the position of overseer of four of the steam looms. She joined the church when she was sixteen, and was afterward married to William Walsh and became the mother of three children by him - Robert, John, and Sarah.

It was the desire of the Saints then as now to come to Zion and this wish was granted to the Walsh family in the spring of 1856. They, with other Mormons, set sail from Liverpool on the 19th of May of that year in the ship "Horizon." The bank of saints that left at this time were unfortunate from the outset. They began the journey a little later than usual and before definite plans had been made. They were forced to commence the trip because the men had given up their positions and funds would not permit their staying in England.

The ocean voyage that can be accomplished in less than a week now required six weeks on the "Horizon." While on the ocean the oldest Walsh child, Robert, had the measles and the mother was so ill that she had to stay in the berth the entire trip. But the end of the voyage finally came and the "Horizon" docked at Boston, Massachusetts. From Boston the immigrants

*Continued on the following page.*



traveled on flat cars to Winter Quarters, arriving there July 8, 1856. The riding on flat cars was exceedingly uncomfortable as they were so crowded that it was impossible to lie down. The party was delayed at Winter Quarters for six weeks as the hand-carts were not ready for them. This wait made them very late in commencing the trip across the plains.

However on August 25th, 1856, the journey was begun. The Walsh family was assigned to the Martin Company. There were 576 persons, 146 handcars and seven wagons in the company.

The first great sorrow of the family was the death of Robert. He had not been well at all after they started across the plains. When he became so ill that he could not eat the food provided, his father took one of their blankets and went a long distance to a settlement and sold the blanket to buy something that the boy could eat. The child did not get well and somewhere between Winter Quarters and Devil's Gate was laid away. The mother's suffering was so great at the time that she does not recall where the spot was.

As stated before, the handcart company was late in leaving England which would have been all right had it not been for the early winter. On October 19 the first snow fell and winter commenced in earnest. From then on the misery of the handcart can notably be described. No covers had been provided for the handcars and as they had been made of unseasoned timber, they broke down; and owing to the weakness of the immigrants and the teams, the baggage had to be limited to ten pounds per person. This necessitated throwing away blankets and supplies that were really needed for the comfort of the people. Shoes gave out and they were forced to walk in the snow barefooted. Then the food supply grew short and they were rationed. History says that toward the last of the journey strong men broke down and wept like children. Alice Walsh-Strong has told of her suffering on the way.

"There were three couples to one tent and nine children under eight years of age. The weather was getting very cold and the men had to stand guard every other night, and not having much to eat they could not endure it. I have seen them come into camp looking wild for the want of food and clothing. When we arrived at Devil's Gate we were all widows, with no protector or anyone to pitch our tent. Many nights we shoveled away the snow to make our beds on the ground; getting up in the morning wet through with the warmth of our bodies coming in contact with the cold earth.

"This we did day after day as long as we had strength. One night as I came into camp, I dropped to the ground in a dead faint, with my baby in my arms. I had some pepper-corns with me and as soon as I came to my senses, I took some of them to warm me. I had only a little thin gruel all day, this being our ration. It was very hard to keep ones strength, especially with a nursing baby.

"My husband died at Devil's Gate. The ground was frozen so hard the morning he died that they could not dig a grave. I think they must have put him under the snow. Nine others died the same night.

"This left me alone to care for my two children. The boy became so weak that he could not stand alone. I had to sit and hold both of the children nearly all the time. When we came to a place where we could go no further and I had no exercise, my shoes froze to my feet. Later when I was able to remove them, the skin and flesh came off too, leaving only the bones. My hands were severely frozen. I can remember seeing some of the people eat singed rawhide, but I could not do so. Finally relief came. When Brother Young (Joseph A. Young) rode into camp on a white mule covered with snow, we thought he was an angel. When the wagons were filled and all were ready to start, I was sitting in the snow with both of my children on my lap. There seemed no place for me, but just before they left, it

was decided that I should ride in the commissary wagon.

This I did and remained in it until we reached Salt Lake. Joseph B. Alvord, the young man who drove the wagon, understood frontier life and helped me with my children."

The part of the ill-fated handcart company of which Alice Strong was a member, arrived in Salt Lake City November 30, 1856. She found herself in a strange land, she knew no one, and had nothing but the clothes she wore.

There were others in the same plight and to take care of this difficulty, so many were allotted to each ward. Alice Walsh Strong was assigned to the Tenth Ward and went to live in the home of Jacob Strong, whom she afterward married. So desirous was she to let her mother in England know of her safe arrival, that she went out washing to earn sufficient money to buy a stamp (25¢) to write home. Her mother could not actually believe that the letter was from her daughter, as she thought she had perished on the trip across the plains.

The arrival in Salt Lake did not end the trials of Sister Strong. Just when she was rejoicing in having a home once more, word came that Johnson's army was coming. The saints and her family went to Springville. Hard times came to them there and it was very hard to obtain enough food to eat.

After their return to Salt Lake during the same year, Alice Walsh Strong's first child by Jacob Strong was born, Lucinda. Two others, William J. and Alma E. blessed this union. When one of these children was born, mother was living in a log cabin with a dirt roof. One day it started to rain and continued to rain for seven days. After it stopped raining outside, it still kept raining on the inside of the cabin. Cups and pans, and an umbrella were used to try to keep the water off the bed, but mother caught cold and was ill for a long time.

In those days the pioneers had to make their own clothes and Alice Walsh Strong learned to spin and weave. They had to get the wool from the sheep's back and card, spin, color, and weave it into cloth. There were not many weaving machines at that time so the cloth was made into clothes by hand. Mrs. Strong also did weaving for other people.

The settlers also had to depend on the crops alone for their food. When the grasshoppers came and ate all their wheat, hard times again appeared. Flour cost as much as \$25.00 and \$30.00 a hundred and was very hard to get even at that price.

But with all the trials and hardship, her faith never wavered. At one time her mother in England wrote and told her that she would send the money to defray the expenses for her return to England, but Sister Strong replied that "not for all England would she return." This is her testimony:

"I joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Over Darwin, Lancashire, England at the age of sixteen. The girl who taught me to investigate the principles of Mormonism, afterward apostatized.

"I have always been proud to think I had the courage to join, and although the suffering which I passed through was terrible, I am still thankful that the Lord preserved my life and made it possible for me to get to Zion. Jesus said, "Unless we forsake Father and Mother, houses and lands for His sake, we are not Worthy of Him." This I have done for Him, because I am the only one of my Father's or Mother's family to join the church, and I left my loved ones and all those dear to me in England. I have passed through many trials but have never regretted coming to Zion."

On the 18th of February 1872, her husband Jacob Strong died and she again was left a widow. To provide for her family under the trying conditions of pioneer life is an accomplishment worthy of record in this sketch. During the summer of 1890, she

*Continued on the following page.*

discontinued keeping a house of her own and for the balance of her life she lived with her children. In later years of her life she was afflicted with rheumatism and deafness so that she was never really able to enjoy the reward that the toil and hardship of her earlier years had earned. Never the less in her advanced years she enjoyed the companionship of friends who would frequently call and visit with her.

She passed away peacefully on the 8th day of August 1924 at home of her daughter Lucinda Strong Campbell, at North Ogden, Utah being at that time in her 96th year.



## June 7, Sunday

Ray Clayton and family left for a trip to Utah, after his priesthood class this morning. Helen's daughter Ilia May was married today. Sue was down to Blanche's; she went with her last night. Lou went up to work in Rex's garage house this morning. More casing on windows and doors. Janet and Joan came for me in Grampa's car. Janet drove us to Sunday School and home again. Rex took Mary and Johnny. Our B.Y.U. girls and boys were home from college in Utah. Joyce S. and Donna Wride bore lovely testimonies in our fast meeting. They are fine young people, all of them. Donna's face is still swollen from her wisdom tooth being extracted Friday. She had dinner ready for us to eat when we got home and it was delicious. Janet's girl friend, Judy Swim, was waiting for her in her boyfriend's car. Judy ate dinner with us. Joan ate in the kitchen, near the phone, which she was busy talking on most of the time, between bites. That's my Joanie. She had everything arranged with the girlfriends by the time dinner was over. Janet drove Joan to her girlfriend's home in Mickey's car, he is a boyfriend of hers and Warnie's. Warnie came; he waited for Janet and Mickey to come back. Janet had changed to old clothes; she helped Mickey wash his car in Rex's backyard. Warnie and one of Janet's girlfriends watched them work. Judy Swim had gone somewhere with her boyfriend, this other girl came later. It is interesting to watch the teenagers; our Johnny thinks so also, but he surely gets in their way. Ah me! Sister Janet has to get real mad at little brother before he'll leave them alone. Lou and I came home about 3:30 p.m. We each had a nice nap before church time. Donna had to be at an early meeting. Rex brought the three younger children here to watch television for half an hour before church time. I combed Mary and Johnny's hair. They were both on the program in church tonight. It was the Sunday School's night. The Junior Sunday School had a nice program, songs and poems. It was good. Joan went to a fireside after church. Janet stayed home.

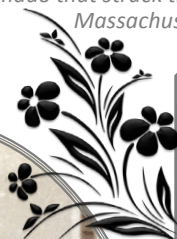


*This picture of Johnny Marsh was in Joan's photo collection. Years ago she wrote the numbers on the picture to look like Johnny was a prisoner. On June 7, 1953 Janet was annoyed with little brother's interest and attention in what she was doing with her friends. The numbers might explain Janet and Joan's frustration, at times, with little brother Johnny. ☺*

## June 8, Monday

It was cool and cloudy all morning. Donna feels better; her face isn't as swollen today. Mary stayed home from school today; her stomach was upset. I made a double portion of tapioca cream pudding this morning. It is for our building fund dinner at Nellie Fisher's home tomorrow evening. I went uptown to the bank this afternoon at 1 p.m. I deposited \$90.70 to our account. I looked at costume jewelry in Nash's Store, but did not find anything I wanted to give Ann Vandergrift for a graduation gift. I went to Mather's Department Store and bought a white bead necklace, with earrings to match. I think it is a pretty set, two short strands of beads, with little gold bands set in between the beads, (between every two beads). The beads are the size of a large pea. The set cost \$2.48 on sale. Ann is graduating from the John Burroughs Senior High School in Burbank, California. We're all proud of Ann. She applied for a scholarship and won it. She is going to B.Y.U. in Provo, Utah next fall. The girls and boys from our wards in California are nearly all back home for the summer vacation, from Brigham Young University at Provo, Utah. Lou and I enjoyed our pretty little home and the T.V. tonight as usual. Lorene is sleeping at Annie's while Ray and Miriam are away on vacation in Salt Lake City, Utah.

*The 1953 Worcester tornado was an extremely powerful tornado that struck the city and surrounding area of Worcester, Massachusetts on June 9, 1953. See below.*



## June 9, Tuesday

Our radio news told this morning of the tragic suffering caused by the worst tornado in the New England states since 1878. Two hundred and two lives lost, hundreds hospitalized, millions of dollars damage. The worst hit, Ohio, Michigan, Sioux City, Massachusetts, and Worcester and some damage in many other cities. Melba Kunz and two small boys came for me this morning at 10:00 a.m. Ovena Mayo brought Donna, Kathy, and her little



son Garry. We went to the East Pasadena Relief Society park picnic in Santa Anita Park. It was cold in the park at first, but warmed up beautifully by noon. Ovena bought two cute little nigger dolls. *[Elvie did not intend this to be derogative. It was a common choice of word in this time period. If Elvie was alive today she would have said black dolls.]* She gave one to Kathy and one to Garry on their way to the park. Kathy just loved her little black doll, she carried it most of the day. We had a nice crowd out to our picnic; it is a very nice park. It was the first time I was in it. I took Garry and baby Kathy to the playgrounds. We were entertained by watching some firemen, practicing for the endurance test. I went on the kiddies push merry-go-round to please my two little ones. I sat Kathy on the thing and little Garry pushed it around. It was fun until my stomach got a queer feeling, then Grama got off the thing. Kathy wouldn't go on it without me. Marilyn Ashby got her shoes filled with water, when she came down the slide into the water at the bottom. The water was from the watering earlier this morning. She cried so hard, but enjoyed running barefooted all afternoon. We had such a lot of good food, everything tasted good to me. There were fifty of us who sat down to eat. There was one man in our group, Mary Dawn Cuff's son-in-law, and her daughter are here on their honeymoon. There was lots of good ham left over; The Relief Society sold it to the ladies. I bought 35¢ worth; they took in \$6.00 for sale of ham. I walked to the market this afternoon to by a big bar of Hershey's sweet chocolate to grate into the tapioca cream pudding for tonight. We had a very nice time tonight at Nellie Fisher's home at the building fund dinner. We ladies helped Nellie do the dishes up before coming home. It was fun. We had a good laugh after dinner, while at the table. Cute jokes were told. I told my best ones, too.



*A merry-go-round similar to the one Kathy and Elvie rode on June 9. Kathy wanted to talk to Grama about it again the next day.*

### June 10, Wednesday

We really did enjoy ourselves last night at the building fund dinner in Nellie Fisher's home. The food was delicious; everyone liked my creamed tapioca pudding with the grated sweet chocolate in. I thought it was delicious too. I'm glad Donna told me about glamorizing the pudding this way. It was worth the long walk to the market for said sweet chocolate. I did my washing this morning, was glad for the sunny day. I had a conversation over the phone this morning with baby Kathy. She talked her baby-lingo. I talked to her about the playground at the park yesterday, her merry-go-round ride with me and etcetera. She didn't want to give the phone back to Mama, she was enjoying it such a lot and so

was Grama. Work at Gordon's shop is very slack again; Lou came home early. He is "taking off" until next Monday. I surely hope it will pick up again. At Lou's age it isn't easy to find a job. The carpenter work is much too strenuous for him to work at steady like he used to do. Lou has some finishing work to do in Rex's garage home, now that Rex has finished with the plastering job. Mr. Edgecomb, our good neighbor, took Lou's power table saw in his truck this evening out to Sierra Madre. Lou was with him, of course. The Edgecombs went to see the Home Show in Los Angeles tonight. I've been looking at it on our television for a few minutes the past few evenings. It looks interesting. I went with Lou to the shop to get some wood he had there, for the work in the garage house. We took it out to Donna's. I had gum in my purse for the children. Rex and Donna took the children to the carnival near their home last night. My little Janet let her girlfriend cut her pretty hair off short, like a boy's cut in back. She looks cute, but I liked her long hair, by far the best! Warnie took Janet to a show tonight. Joan went to Mutual.

### June 11, Thursday

Lou and I passed the carnival grounds last night on our way to Sierra Madre. It would have excited me 50 years ago, like it has my little Mary and Johnny now. Rex and Donna took the three small children, and some of Mary's little Girl Scout friends last night to the carnival. One of the Sierra Madre School teachers was crowned "Foothill Queen" last night at the community fair, or carnival. Her name is Mrs. Florence Neilson. She received a week's vacation at the Apple Valley Inn, \$100 cash and a tailor made wardrobe, so says our paper. Lou came home for his lunch at noon from the church building job. I did my ironing this afternoon and mended two of Lou's rayon sport work shirts. I walked up to the post office to mail Ann Vandergrift a little graduation gift, (the white necklace and earrings). It was warmer outside than I thought, I was glad to get back home and lie down. My heart hurt for about thirty minutes. Lou was tired and hot when he came home from the church building job. He took a bath and a nap before dinner. Our neighbor Mrs. Barnes came home from the hospital this morning. I didn't know she was ill until a few days ago. I hope she will be well again soon. She is a lovely person. I did miss her, not seeing her out around her place as usual, but thought she was busy indoors, or away somewhere. Donna took Kathy with her this morning to the Singing Mother's rehearsal in Las Flores Ward. This is surely a wonderful age to live in; we sit at home and are entertained by the best talents over the television. Mary and Johnny are out of school for summer vacation "Happy Days." Lou went to town to see about a maintenance job at the Buick place, but it was filled. He went to work on the church building at 9 a.m. There was another city lantern on Donna's front porch last night. Joan stayed at Sr. Lillian Neal's until Rex and Donna came home. A crazy gang of wild boys from Wilson School doing it!

### June 12, Friday

Such a beautiful sunny day, Lou cut the lawns and watered the flowers. I cleaned out the patio cabaña. We went to town at 10:30 a.m. Lou read in the paper where Nash's Department Store wanted a carpenter maintenance man. He

went in the store to see about it and they gave him the job. They wanted him to start on Monday, but he wanted to give Gordon a week's notice. I went across the street and cashed Lou's check in the Bank of America. I bought two cute little seersucker play dresses for baby Kathy's birthday; they were on sale for \$1.49 each, in Nash's. We called in Gordon's shop, Lou told him about the new job, he was pleased cause his business has slackened so much he would have had to lay one of his men off soon, if it didn't pick up. Gordon was just grand about everything; he said he'd give Lou a month's leave of absence and if the job doesn't work out okay, to come back. He also told Lou he could work Monday and Tuesday, and then go out to Blythe with Br. Kunz to work three days for him, hanging doors, and etcetera. Gordon is surely one swell guy. Lou and I ate lunch in the Crown Cafeteria; I had a cold lunch, it was good. Lou bought some oil, five gallons, at Sears and a little plane tool in the hardware store. We drove over to Annie's, before going to Gordon's, for the panties and slips she sent to Lady Gay for us. We brought Donna's order home too. Lou paid for it, \$3.00. I bought two little rayon slips and two panties for Kathy and a slip for Mary. It cost \$4.81 for mine. Donna got nine pair of panties, three for Janet, three for Joan, and three for Mary. Lou filled out his application blanks and took them back to Nash's Store this afternoon. I mailed a birthday card to Kathy, with some gum sticks in it. Lou took me to the bridal shower for Norma Peer at Elma Frandson's home at 9 p.m. We listened to Lawrence Welk first. Donna and Clarice Tanner went to help Fay Timothy do some cleaning this morning. She is expecting her mother. They enjoyed a lovely lunch with Fay. Wauretta F. took a casserole dish for their lunch. Joan was in a piano recital tonight.

### June 13, Saturday

Norma was opening up the shower gifts last night when Donna and Janet arrived after 10 p.m. They'd been to the piano recital that Mrs. Post gave. Joan played in it, a piano duet on two pianos. Mrs. Post played the other piano, in the duet. Irene Oates was in the recital; she played three solos, and one two piano duet. There was a large crowd at the shower last night; many friends from the Pasadena Ward. We had a very nice time. Norma received many lovely gifts. Donna, Janet, and I gave her a pretty waffle set and a jug for the syrup and a larger one for the batter. We also gave a cute egg timer. Donna bought them in Sierra Madre. Donna Wride and Carol Fisher have pretty diamond engagement rings, too. Both girls just got home from B.Y.U. College in Provo, Utah. I put the Queen's pictures in the Relief Society scrapbook this morning. We've crowned six Relief Society sisters so far. Warnie called for Janet at the shower last night. They left with the keys to Donna's car. Janet changed clothes and brought the keys back before Donna even missed them. We were still at the shower. Donna brought me and Clarice home from the shower, they came in while Donna got the Lady Gay order from Aunt Annie that I had. Mary and Johnny had a very excited and happy afternoon at the carnival with the Kirk kiddies. Mrs. Kirk took them and called for them later. Each child had \$1.18 to spend. Mary and Johnny took care of Kathy yesterday and last evening. They did the dishes and brought clothes in from the lines to earn their money. It

was kid's day at the carnival today; all 25¢ rides for 9¢ today. They had their fun all budgeted to the very penny, (cute kids). Florence Marsh phoned this afternoon, she was going out to give Kathy a birthday gift, (if John felt in the mood when he came home). Elaine Oates left last evening for summer school at B.Y.U in Provo, Utah. Ernie Oates, Jr. is home for a ten day furlough. Lou borrowed Mr. Williamses' electric clippers last evening and cut our hedge. It looks good now. Lou worked on the church building today; there was a crew of electricians on the job today also. The men were served lunch by some of our ward ladies.



*Kathy on her second birthday.*

### June 14, Sunday

It's our baby Kathy's birthday, two years old, and she is a cutie. She received my greeting card yesterday with the little blue-eyed kitten and the gum sticks for her and brother and sister. Donna phoned to let her say "thank you" but she wouldn't say "ta too", however she was enjoying the gum and she did say "please," (peize). It was another lovely sunny morning; I wore my lavender linen suit and lavender hat, white shoes, purse, and gloves. My husband said I looked very pretty, nice eh? We had a nice big Sunday School, everyone looked pretty in their Sunday best. Donna made an announcement in our Sunday School class, inviting all the sisters to come out on June 25 to the book review, when our Relief Society presents, Ora Pate Stewart's book. She is the author of several good books. Donna and Rex gave me one of her books for Mother's Day (God Planted a Tree). I enjoyed it a lot. We picked Hilda Botting up at the bus



line, on Colorado Street and took her to Sunday School. Br. Harry Wells gave the lesson, on short notice. Br. Don Rowberry wasn't able to come this morning. After our dinner and Lou's nap was over, we went out to Donna's. I had my long green seersucker housecoat on. Baby Kathy was still asleep. Rex had gone to priesthood meeting. Donna frosted the birthday cake. Warnie Mueller ate dinner with the Marshes; he wiped the dishes while Janet talked on the phone to her girlfriend, Judy Swim. Warnie's brother Don got married yesterday. He eloped to Las Vegas Nevada with a 17-year-old girl. He is 20 years old. Kathy was cute when she woke up. She opened the two boxes we had for her, two rayon slips and two panties to match, one yellow, one white, and two little seersucker play dresses. Donna put one of the dresses on Kathy and she had her picture taken, sitting in her new red wagon, with her birthday cake on her lap and little sponge rubber doll that Grama Marsh gave her in her arms. We sang Happy Birthday to her with two little candles burning on her cake. She was too embarrassed to blow them out. Lou took Rex, Donna, Joan, Johnny, Kathy, and me to look at a four-bedroom house for sale in Altadena. Johnny, Kathy, and I stayed in the car while the others looked through the house. They were not very favorably impressed. We went to church this evening. Elders Quorum had charge of the program. 'Twas rather long, the room was warm, (enough said)!



*Kathy Marsh turns two on June 14, 1953.*

### June 15, Monday

I walked to the drug store for shampoo and cream rinse, and shaving soap for Lou. I bought three new washcloths in the market. I cleaned out the cooler and washed it inside and out, ready for Lou to paint. Lou had a nice talk with Gordon this morning, he phoned me this afternoon; he has about decided not to quit working for Gordon, so maybe the new job at Nash's Department Store is not going to materialize after all? Lou has always enjoyed his work at Gordon's place, but he felt the work is so slack that Gordon would feel relieved if he'd find another job. This evening Lou painted the inside of the

**\*cooler** a pretty yellow, same as we have inside our kitchen cupboards. He is going to take the shelves to the shop and spray paint them cream color tomorrow. Mr. Edgecomb came over this evening and visited with us in the patio for a short time. He had a cute desk inkstand, made of a brass doorknob mounted on wood. He won it, and \$75.00 at the Home Show last weekend. He won it in a contest, nice eh? Their new rugs came Saturday and they are enjoying the lovely new home now and everything is moved in at last. Donna mailed Mary's slip back to Aunt Annie; she is returning it to Lady Gay in Salt Lake for a larger size. Mary takes the size 14 now. I bought size 12 for her, but it is too short. Kathy's slips and panties are okay. Nellie Ellsworth and daughter visited our ward last evening in church. They are living in their Mountain home at Mt. Baldy for the summer.

### \*Cooler Cupboard

This cooler was a cupboard, next to the fridge. It was open to the crawl space (the area below the home) and the attic. The shelves, instead of being solid, had slats with wire underneath. Because of this the air could circulate through the cupboard. Elvie kept a lot of food in it. This special cupboard was cooler than the rest of her kitchen cupboards.

### June 16, Tuesday

It was cloudy all day, a light rainfall early this morning. I did my washing in spite of the dismal looking morning, most everything got dry. Lou's carpenter overalls and work pants didn't get entirely dry. Lou phoned the Nash Store to let them know he has decided to stay with the Deluxe Venetian Blind job, so that settled the wondering about changing jobs. After his talk with Gordon, yesterday, he decided to stay with him. It is a nice job and Gordon is really a swell boss. We hope the business will pickup so all can be happy. Bart is on his vacation this week. Lou is thinking of taking his vacation next week. Kenny Frandson has a carpenter job for Lou next week if he wants to take it. I talked to Donna this morning. She had planned to go out this afternoon with her counselors, to visit some of the ward sisters. I guess they went. She said she was going to phone Ruby Hodges and invite her and her sister Lutie to come to the book review on June 25. I think they will enjoy it, if they'll come? Tonight Rex and Donna went to a party for the ward officers, at Bishop Summerhays's home. It is the closing of their correlation meetings until the fall. Lou brought home some heavy cord and a package of Tintex dye for me to dye the cord a rust color. They have a re-string job at the shop, on the roll-up type of shade. It's for an Oriental stick blind; five of these shades to do I believe. Annie phoned this evening, she had received the package from Donna, with Mary's slip and a ticket for our book review. It was cold enough today to enjoy our gas Yule log burning. I had some heart distress and pains in legs and arms this evening, I said nothing about it to anyone, but you, Diary.

### June 17, Wednesday

Lou received a \$4 dividend check from his Mountain Fuel Company stock today. I talked to Donna on the phone this morning. I'm always happy when I hear her say they are all well and happy. With a family of children, so often one of them has a head cold or something. Tomorrow night is the graduation prom dance for the senior P.C.C. Junior College students. Janet is going with Warnie Mueller. Joan is going with the Steimle boy, in our ward, Larry. I went to the bank this morning to deposit \$34; Lou's \$4.00 dividend check and \$30 cash. I bought some small items in Kress and Grants Stores, and came back home within the hour. It was cold and damp but no rain. I enjoyed my lunch while listening to the soapbox operas on the radio. Ruby Anderson and small son Paul came for me at 2:15 p.m. they had a little girl from Paul's school along. We drove her to her home, and then did our Relief Society visiting; we have ten families in our district, six were at home. The other four are seldom ever home when we call. I've been going three months and have not met them yet. Ruby is going to Salt Lake City, Utah next Sunday or Monday and she expects to be gone a month or six weeks. Her mother and father are both ill, she may bring her father back with her in his car. She is going on the train and taking the three boys with her. I phoned Margaret Waugaman and Bonna Gordon to report our visiting done. Lou brought the cooler shelves back from the shop this evening. They'll be dry enough to put back in the cooler tomorrow. I'll be very happy with the inside of the cooler now. The walls are bright yellow, like the inside of our kitchen cupboards. The shelves are light cream color, very pretty. I'll be glad to get the things off our kitchen table and the sink. I do not like a messy looking kitchen. The ladies on our district are, Marie Andres, Carolyn Thatcher, Edith Fox, Nora Williamson, Elizabeth Alrulind, Louise Anderson, LaDorna Perine, Georgia Nibbly, Verda Ord, and me.

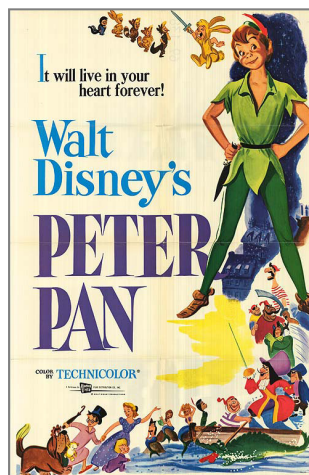
### June 18, Thursday

Today was graduation day for Warnie Mueller; Janet went to his commencement exercises this evening in the Pasadena Rose Bowl. Ann Vandergrift graduated from John Burroughs Senior High School this evening at 8:15 p.m. in Burbank, California. We had a light rain fall this morning; our Chamber of Commerce calls it a heavy mist. Anyway I didn't have to water the lawns and flowers. I shampooed my hair and dried it by the heat from the gas Yule log. We are surely having a cool June. After lunch I put the pretty painted shelves back in the cooler. Lou painted them with a spray gun, at the shop on Tuesday. It was nice to get the things back in the cooler and have the kitchen in order once more; inside the cooler looks so nice with yellow walls and cream shelves. Donna took Kathy to Monrovia Ward with her today, while she rehearsed with the Singing Mothers. Mary and Johnny stayed home. Janet and Joan will be out of school for summer vacation after today. Mary and Johnny got out last week. I enjoyed the little radio while doing my ironing this afternoon. I talked to Dolores on the phone this afternoon; she said Donna took Johnny and Mary to

Monrovia this morning. They stayed in the nursery with Kathy and Dody's two little ones, while the Singing Mother's rehearsed. Donna changed her mind about leaving Mary and Johnny home, eh? I did my ironing this afternoon. Both Janet and Joan went to the P.C.C. Jr. College Prom dance tonight at the Civic Auditorium in Pasadena. Janet went with Warnie Mueller and Joan went with Larry Steimle. Judy Swim and boyfriend went with Janet and Warnie. Joan was in her pretty lavender formal, Janet wore Judy's blue formal. I hope they'll all have a lovely time. Dolores and Bevan took the children and Dr. LaMoyne Hickman to Cedar City last Friday. They fished with Otto on Saturday. Violet took care of the two children while Otto and the others fished in the mountains. They came home on Monday. LaMoyne came home on the bus on Sunday.

### June 19, Friday

Our weather is still cool and cloudy. I worked in the yard this morning burning up the cuttings that Lou had drying in the backyard. I watered lawns and flowers. I made a rice pudding and brewed Lou's alfalfa seed tea when I came in the house. I also defrosted the icebox. The girls had a nice time at the prom dance last night. Joan went with her Sunday School class and teacher, Mary Dawn Cuff, today to visit the Farmer's Market in Los Angeles. Janet went to work at 1 p.m. in Dr. Anderson's office. I did my vacuuming this afternoon; I hit the high spots was all. I had to rest on the bed for an hour before I could fix our dinner. Lou enjoyed his nap in the patio swing after dinner. Rex and Donna took Mary and Johnny to town this evening; bought them both new shoes, Johnny two pair, and then they took them to see the movie "Peter Pan." Joan stayed home with Kathy. Janet had a date with a boy from Sierra Madre. LaDorna Perine phoned me yesterday morning. She'd made arrangements for a babysitter and was all ready to go to the book review which isn't until next Thursday, A good thing she phoned to check on it eh?



### June 20, Saturday

It was nice to have a sunny morning again for a change. Lou got up and fixed bananas and cream for his breakfast. He went over to work on the church that our ward and stake are building. Janet went to work at Dr. Anderson's. Rex took her this a.m. He had an appointment with the doctor to have a tooth filled. I went uptown this morning to get a Father's Day card and a gift, for a wonderful father, my Lou. I bought two pair of argyle socks, \$1 a pair, and I bought a bottle of Rybutol Vitamin Tablets, \$2.03. I've heard him say he was going to buy some Rybutol and see if it would help him. So I decided now was as good a time as any to give them a try. Donna had me buy two boxes of See's chocolates for them to give their fathers, Lou and John Marsh tomorrow. They both love See's Chocolates, so they'll enjoy their day, eh? Lou was served a nice lunch at noon on the church building job. He came home shortly after 2 p.m. He had his bath and a nap. We bought some canned goods at the Shopping Bag



Market. The Iris grapefruit was on sale for 19¢ a can, we got six cans today and he bought several cans of it yesterday also when he was up at the market. We went for a nice ride this evening. I surely enjoyed it this beautiful summer evening. We went to Covina, Duarte, and Azusa, and came back through Sierra Madre. Janet and Warnie were the only ones at home. Rex, Donna, Joan, and her girlfriend Marion S., and Mary, Johnny, and Kathy called in here later, to get chocolates to take to Grampa Marsh. They gave Lou his box. Joan and Marion played miniature golf in Highland Park tonight, while Rex and Donna went to the Marshes', the three children went to Marshes' with them.

## June 21, Sunday

Father's Day. Donna gave Lou See's Chocolates, I gave him argyle socks and Rybutol. It was another lovely summer morning; we went to Sunday School as usual. Sr. Lillian Neal, our class greeter, was not there so I welcomed the folks to our class and introduced the new comers or visitors. We had several visitors from Utah this morning. Donna visited the Pasadena Ward adult class this morning and made an announcement about her Relief Society book review next Thursday. The author will be there in person, Ora Pate Stewart, and will review her book, "From the Book of Eve." Harry Wells gave the lesson in our class, in the absence of Br. Don Rowberry. We brought Mary and Johnny home to eat dinner with us. I fried a chicken before going to Sunday School. Janet wore a very cute blue and white cotton print dress to Sunday School, (new). The Fox girl had one on identical, both looked real cute in their new dresses, a darling style. I'm afraid our little Janet's dress won't come to church again, ha ha! I enjoyed a nap while the children were entertained with the television programs. Lou took a nap in the patio swing. After Lou's nap, he cut an opening in the cabaña door and put some copper screen over it. The breeze from the west will help keep the cabaña cooler. Rex and Kathy called in for a few minutes; she looks so cute in the little seersucker dress we gave her for her birthday. We took the children to church this evening. Mary stayed in the nursery with Kathy, but Johnny sat with us. Donna and Rex had to go to an earlier meeting, so Janet brought Kathy and Joan later. Robert L. Gordon was our speaker tonight and gave an excellent talk. Lou paid \$25.00 on the building fund and \$2.50 for the yearbook. He got two tickets for the next gold plate dinner. Rex and Donna went to Gurr's for ice cream tonight. His mother is visiting then. Warnie bought two quarts of ice cream to treat the Marshes after church for Father's Day.

## June 22, Monday

Today was a warm summer day; Lou forgot to write a check for the insurance man, for \$5.23, so I wrote it. I seldom ever have to write the checks as he always takes care of such business. Mary's baby kitten got excited this morning and scratched her, inside her lip. I was talking to Donna on the phone when Mary came in to get the Merthiolate on it. Baby Kathy was telling me all about it over the phone, oh, it was cute. The way she says "Kitty Kitty" is really something to hear! It sounds like a Scotchman rolling his words. I did some scrapbook work this morning and changed linens on the beds. I wanted to go to town for more construction paper, but didn't feel up to it. Joan went to her school today

to get a work permit. She is going to try and get a job for herself this vacation. Janet is working for Dr. Anderson, half a day some days, Wednesday and Saturday all day; I believe that is how it is? Lou and I stopped in the shop last night on our way home from church, he found a used blind that will be just the thing for our cabaña door and it is mahogany color. He brought the little mahogany colored Venetian blind home this evening. It's going to be just perfect for the cabaña patio door. He brought two different remnants of tape, in dark green, but they won't work together, as the little tape holders inside are not spaced the same. He'll get some more tomorrow. Lou painted the frame, around the door opening, green; to match the green trim on our mahogany stained cabaña. He also nailed two woodblocks to wedge my box springs and mattress, so they will not slip on the bedstead. We thought maybe that was causing it to creak and groan when anyone sat on the bed or turned over in

bed. My Lou is the best "Fix It" man I know. We have no leaky taps, or broken furniture round our house for lone. I found out that Joan did not go to school today for her work permit as her mother thought. She went to town with a girlfriend instead.

## June 23, Tuesday

Lou was on his way out this morning to go to work. The kitchen door had developed a squeak; he came back in, put down his lunch, got the oil can and fixed the squeak, but good! See what I mean about his being a fix it man? Kenny Frandsen phoned Lou before he was out of bed this morning; they talked about carpenter jobs. Kenny gave a lady Lou's telephone number, but Lou hasn't heard from her yet. I did a large washing this morning, so I had to take it easy all afternoon. I talked to Annie on the phone; she was canning apricots from Irene's Mother's trees. She and



**They secretly pitied her husband  
when they should have pitied their own**

THEY had the old-fashioned idea that a woman isn't fair to her husband if she serves him canned vegetables.

But they didn't realize that canning does not change a vegetable. It merely seals in nature's original freshness and food value.

When perishable vegetables, such as peas, corn, string beans, tomatoes, asparagus or spinach, are put into a can, they are

garden-fresh—only hours away from the soil. They are hermetically sealed before exposure to the air does any harm. They are cooked in the sealed can, without preservatives and with oxygen excluded. For these reasons, virtually none of the vitamin value is lost.

Furthermore, a canned vegetable represents a choice portion of the crop, grown from selected seed in an ideal climate and season, and picked when fully and naturally ripe.

So next time you buy a canned vegetable, remember that "canned" simply means: "garden freshness and goodness sealed in."

"Canned foods are the safest foods that come to our tables because of the sterilization to which they are subjected." The cans are specially made for food.

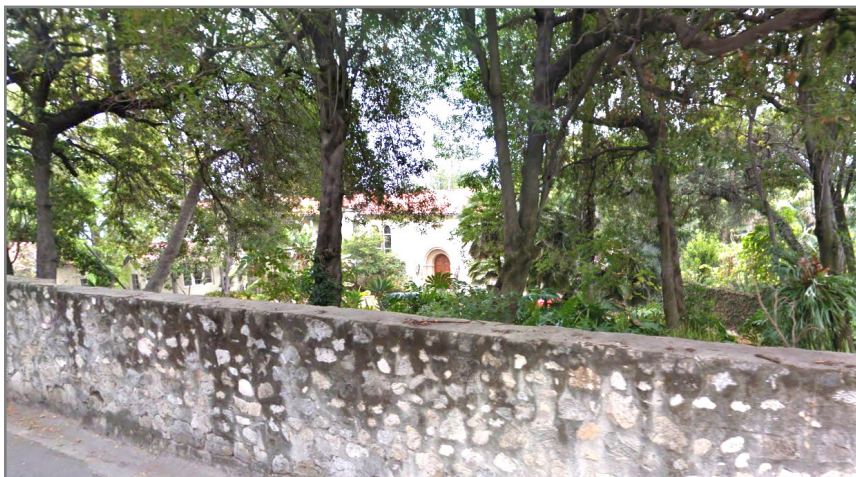
**CONTINENTAL**  
NEW YORK, CHICAGO

**CAN COMPANY**  
SAN FRANCISCO

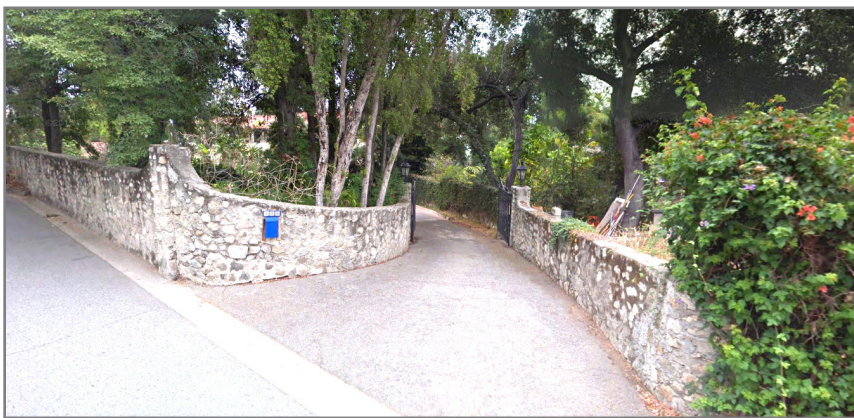
*Vintage ad touts: So next time you buy a canned vegetable remember that "canned" simply means "garden fresh and goodness sealed in."*



Bill and Glen picked the fruit the other evening. Annie is canning Mrs. Booth's apricots also for the fruit she gave them. We received a nice little thank you note from Ann Vandergrift, for the necklace and earrings set we sent her for her graduation last week. Vera Smith came here this afternoon, to get the article about Ora Pate Stewart, which was in our little church paper, (The California Intermountain News). She took it to our Star News, in Pasadena, with an article about our Book Review next Thursday at church. The author will be there in person to review one of her books, "From the Book of Eve." I've had asthma troubles and heart distress last night and today, so I haven't much pep. Lou brought home a piece of green tape; to go with the one he had here, for the little mahogany Venetian blind, which he hung in our patio cabaña. It's a perfect match for the mahogany stain that we have on the redwood cabaña. Mary Marsh is visiting the Colvin's in their Sierra Madre Canyon home, she loves to stay with her little girlfriend Carol Colvin in their big old mansion. She has been there since Monday.



*This is the home Mary visited. Above is a glimpse of the front door. From Zillow we learn: It is a 7968 square foot single family home with six bedrooms and five bathrooms. It is located at 336 Sturtevant Drive in Sierra Madre, California. The lot is 1.4 acres. It was built in 1925. We are wishing that Carol Colvin still lived there and we could visit her. Mary remembers the arched front door and the big living areas behind that front door.*



*Driveway to the home. These images were taken from Google Maps.*

### June 24, Wednesday

Donna took Janet to Dr. Anderson's this morning, she works there all day on Wednesdays. The doctor filled a tooth for Donna this morning. Rex took her to work Saturday morning and had one of his teeth filled. I should take her

to work sometime and have my lower teeth all extracted eh? Ha ha! They should come out, but I dread getting used to a lower plate, if my heart could take the excitement, that is my main concern, believe me! I talked to Annie on the phone this morning, she was rushing around as usual, it is her club day, at Anna Horrick's home. She had some ironing to do, and had to go to the bank first. She is a busy gal. Mary Marsh has been visiting her little girlfriend, Carol Colvin in their spacious canyon home, in the Sierra Madre Canyon. She's been there since Monday and she has had a lot of fun going places with Carol and her family. They went to see Little Old Mexico, in Los Angeles last evening. Donna came about 12:15 noon, she left Kathy and Johnny with me. She and Joan went to Bullock's Store, to buy some pretty handkerchiefs \$1.00 a piece. They are gifts for our guests on the book review program tomorrow. Joan has her school work permit and social services [security] card now. She applied for work at Kress Store and Woolworths. I hope she can find a job for the summer to help buy her some school clothes and

keep her from being too restless these vacation days. Donna brought a sack of plums and apricots from their trees. I cooked a pot full of apricots for our eating pleasure. Kathy slept for a while. Johnny watched T.V. We looked at my scrapbook later in the patio cabaña. Lou cut the back lawns tonight. Bonna Gordon phoned to tell me she'd call for me tomorrow at 12:15. She is a dear.

### June 25, Thursday

I had a startling experience in the night; I think it was caused by high blood pressure and heart condition. This was the second one this week, in the night. Thanks to dear Uncle Frank, (Dr. Bailey) I am able to take my blood pressure down myself for immediate relief. He told me of several valuable aids, which I often put to use. (How to take the pressure down in an emergency, and how to get the blood circulation going again.) Uncle Frank was a chiropractor and osteopathic physician; he was wonderful. I used to wake Lou up when the spells came, because I was panicky, but I never bother him anymore. I've had them often and I know what to do, but, every time it happens, I wonder if this is IT? (Now don't snicker pal, "it" is coming to all of us sooner or later.) Florence Marsh phoned to check on the time for the book review. She and Annie thought it was 2 p.m. They surely had to rush when I told them it was 1 p.m. They came over on the bus; Irene Oates was with them. They got there in time. Bonna Gordon came for me at 12:10 p.m. She had Marie Doezie along and the car full of her famous "Bonna cookies." Donna brought a

big batch of delicious looking cookies, too, and several of the ladies brought homemade cookies (Clarice Tanner, Melba Kunz, and Felicia Washburn, with her beautiful flower displays). We were all on hand to help along with Elvenia Summers and several other dear sisters, too. It was really a



nice affair. Ora Pate Stewart was charming to look at and delightful to listen to. We had a large crowd out, many of Las Flores Ward members came. Dolores [Jones], and Jenny Jones [Dolores's mother-in-law] came; Dody [Dolores] brought me home. She had Ronnie and a little girl his age. They were in the nursery. She left Nadine home with a babysitter. I was glad to see an old Garvanza friend, Lu Blackmer, she is a full cousin to the author, Ora P. Stewart. She lives in the Las Flores Ward now in Temple City. My Donna did a beautiful job of conducting the program, I was real proud of her. She looked so pretty too. Her hair was dressed very lovely, she had it done this morning. Joan stayed home with the two little children. Mary came to Primary this morning and stayed to help in the nursery with the children. We had two lovely vocal solos by a young lady from Pasadena Ward, and two beautiful cello solos by a sister from Las Flores Ward, I believe. The refreshments looked real good to me, but I did not indulge; having asthma troubles now. They served cupcakes and cookies and sherbet punch. Ora Stewart autographed several of her books for people who had bought them; she did mine. The one Donna gave me for Mother's Day, "God Planted a Tree." Someone phoned Lou this evening; he went to look at the carpenter job they want done. It is in a little church at Fremont Street and Raymond Avenue. They want some little shelves built and a door cut off. Our block teachers, Br. Summers, and Lynn Rowbotham, came while Lou was out. It is the first time Br. Summers has been. He was bishop of Pasadena Ward a few years ago. We are enjoying the cooked apricots, thanks to our sweet daughter. She brought plums and apricots from their trees yesterday.

### June 26, Friday

It has been another warm day; we have had smog too, which doesn't help my condition any. I talked to Donna on the phone; they were busy. Joan was putting new shelving paper on the kitchen shelves, in the cupboards. Janet was cleaning out her clothes closets; Donna was going to vacuum her bedroom. Janet had the day off, because Dr. Anderson's little girl had a birthday and he stayed home to celebrate with the family. Nice daddy, eh? I think so. I sewed two of my dresses up, that opened to the hem. I don't like them buttoned all the way down the front, because the skirt loops open when one sits down. This evening Lou went to work at the Box Factory with some of the men from our ward. It was his first time to go there. There wasn't enough work at the factory, for all of the men, so some of them left to go over and work on the church building. Lou stayed at the Box Factory. It is a building fund project our stake has now, to help build our church.



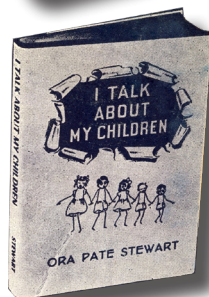
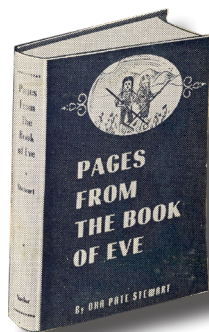
### L.D.S. to Hear Utah Author

Relief Society of East Pasadena Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, will present Ora Pate Stewart, Utah author, at 1 p.m. tomorrow at 150 N. El Molino.

Mrs. Stewart is conducting a series of lectures this summer under the sponsorship of the National Artist and Lecture Service. She has been lecturing for 22 years and estimates she has given 7000 programs all over the United States.

Her lectures are in the form of book reviews of eight of her own books. Her 12th book is to be published this summer.

She will review "Book of Eve." Among other books she has written are "Branches Over the Wall," "God Planted a Tree," "Letters to My Son," and "Gleanings." The public is invited. A donation will be taken.



### June 27, Saturday

It was a sunny warm day, but some smog, which is not pleasant. Lou fixed his own breakfast and went over to work on the church building at 8 a.m. He came home at 1:15; he was hot and tired. He had been nailing sheeting on the roof. The building is coming along fine; it was Pasadena Ward day. Bishop Hill and his crew were there; Lou worked with Br. Sheer on the roof. Donna took Janet to her work this morning, to Dr. Anderson's office. She passed our new church, coming home, and talked to Daddy, while he was on the roof. Baby Kathy was with Mama; she was still in her little pajamas. She wouldn't look up to see Grampa on that huge building, I guess she couldn't understand where his voice was coming from. I had lunch ready for Lou; he enjoyed a nap in the cabaña swing after lunch. I finished my work in the house and then rested on Lou's bed. When Lou got up at 4 p.m. he tore down the work bench he had in his garage and put a much more narrow bench, so he can get in and out of the garage with ease. I dusted out the patio cabaña when I got up from my nap; I also picked up two small cartons of leaves, which had fallen from our neighbor's avocado tree. We get as many leaves as she does. The same goes for the fruit from said tree, too, so I guess I'll say no more. We love avocados. Donna phoned at 5 p.m., she and Rex were taking the children out to Covina, where they were going to pick oranges. The grower told Rex he could have all the oranges they could pick. Nice eh? I haven't much pep these days; the summer time brings asthma and other troubles to me. Florence Marsh phoned this evening to ask if Rex had his company doctor's examination today. Sorry, I couldn't tell her, they had gone to Covina. I found out later he did have said exam. The young Marx girl in Garvanza was having her wedding reception this evening. Marshes and Oateses went.

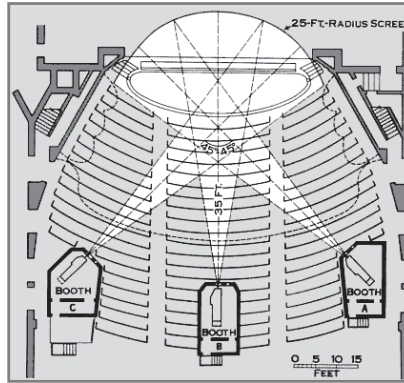
### June 28, Sunday

Mary Jorgenson gave birth to a baby boy at 6 a.m. She and Vernon have three little boys now. The baby weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces. I cooked hotcakes for my Lou this morning. They looked real good; he was enjoying them so much. I felt tempted to eat some too, but I let my better judgment prevail. I have not felt very well lately and the delicious tasting hotcakes would not help the situation any. Well, I enjoyed my old standby, cooked grapefruit, with Grapenuts sprinkled on top. We went to Sunday School as usual, we have several visitors from out of town these days (summer vacationers). Many of our ward members are away on vacations,

also. Br. and Sr. Burk have been gone for a few weeks. I miss not seeing them in Sunday School. Br. Harry Wells took our class again, for the third week, in place of Don Rowberry. Lou and I enjoyed a nice dinner at the Crown Cafeteria. I had chicken potpie. I started to have cramps in my stomach after eating, my stomach hurt to touch. It was very miserable but we rode over to Andersen's anyway. We visited there until 5 p.m. Lou had a nap on Annie's front room floor. Annie and I rested on her bed. Bill had a snooze on Dale's bed. Dale went up to Oateses' for a while, then to his missionary appointment later. My cramps became very severe this evening after we got home. They were in the lower abdomen then, I felt really ill for a while, running off bowels and nauseated. Intestinal flu, I guess? I phoned Donna this evening; little Kathy had a fever and was feeling miserable. She seemed all right this morning in Sunday School. Mary and Johnny ate dinner with the Howards today. Mary stayed all night with the little girl (Bonny). Johnny and David Howard stayed tonight with the Rex Marsh family. My Joan peroxidized a lock of her hair in front; Janet did the same thing at that age. Ah me! What teenagers can think up?

### June 29, Monday

Lou worked today in a little church, at Tremont and Raymond Street, he is building some shelves. The Garrett Company sewer contractors sent out a crew of Mexican men to start the digging in our front lawn, to connect us up with the sewer, which was put in our street a few weeks ago. There are twelve men working on Vinedo Avenue, four in our yard, others digging in the two yards across the street from us. They will connect it up tomorrow. Mrs. Stacey came over to see me, she did not sign up with the Garrett Company as we did. She talked to the foreman on the job this morning, he wrote her up a contract. She came here to compare it with ours; it was the same deal. She'll let him know tonight if she wants them to connect her home up. I phoned Florence Marsh to find out if she could locate some Hall's Canker medicine for little Kathy. Florence located a drug store near her, which carries it. John will pick it up, she says. I was sorry to learn that Florence is feeling very miserable with a bad cold in her chest and throat. Donna says Kathy's fever has gone but she has some canker sores in her little mouth. Janet is home from her work until Wednesday. The new girl is coming in tomorrow, to take Norma Peer's place. She'll work with Norma tomorrow, to get on to the work there. Johnny Marsh has his little friend David Howard visiting him today. Mary stayed last night with the Howards, to be with Bonny, her little friend. Harry Howard came by Donna's today and picked up David and Johnny and took them with



Cinerama is a widescreen process that originally projected images simultaneously from three synchronized 35 mm projectors onto a huge, deeply curved screen, subtending 146° of arc. The trademarked process was marketed by the Cinerama Corporation. It was the first of a number of novel processes introduced during the 1950s, when the movie industry was reacting to competition from television. Cinerama was presented to the public as a theatrical event, with reserved seating and printed programs, and audience members often dressed in their best attire for the evening. —Wikipedia



him on his truck to Los Angeles. (Fun for the little fellows, eh?) We experienced the thrill of a lifetime tonight, in the Warner Hollywood Theater, when we saw the most remarkable production in moving pictures and in sound never on a screen before. It is called Cinerama; one just has to see it to appreciate this marvelous advancement in movies. I feel as though I'd been for a trip around the world, a wonderful production indeed. Janet and Warnie drove with us, he met Marshes here. Wilford Gurr and his wife and his mother took Rex and Donna in their car. The tickets cost \$2.80 a piece. We got tickets, and then ate dinner in a restaurant near the theater; all but Wilford had fried chicken or barbecued chicken. Price was not bad either and the food was good.

### June 30, Tuesday

Lou worked on the same job again today, in the little church on Raymond and Tremont Streets. The plumbers from Garrett Company came this morning and connected our house up to the city sewer, also the neighbors across the street. I phoned Donna, baby Kathy's mouth is still sore. I do hope and pray she'll not have another bad case of sore mouth like she had before. I hope the Hall's canker medicine will clear it up. John and Florence Marsh took a bottle of it out to them last night, while we were in Hollywood seeing "Cinerama." I talked to Florence this morning on the phone. She is not at all well, the cold has settled on her chest. I'm so sorry to have my dear friend feeling so miserable. She was going to stay in bed with a hot application to her chest today. I was inconvenienced for a few hours, this morning. I couldn't flush the toilet, or let any water down the drains until the plumber told me it was okay to do so. Glad I felt better today, ha ha! Gee, if I'd had the intestinal flu today, like Sunday night and Monday, oh me! I spent the time today working on scrapbook work. I made five folders for the queen tributes to go in, and pasted said tributes in folders and prettied them up with flowers I cut from my greeting cards. I now have five tributes ready for our coronation day, once a month. We have crowned six already. I've composed thirteen tributes, counting the two for Garvanza Ward queens. I've enjoyed doing it. Mrs. Stacey gave the okay to go ahead with her sewer connection so they started to dig her yard up this afternoon. They got part of ours covered over this afternoon; they'll finish up our job in the morning. I guess it is a mess, but I'm glad to have the sewer connected up to the house, believe me! Donna phoned this evening. Kathy's little mouth isn't any better; it seems a bit worse. Donna phoned the doctor in Sierra Madre, the one that took care of Kathy's sore mouth before. He told her what to get at the drug store. Janet went to get it in Warnie's car. She fixed lunch for Warnie today, and then took him back to work so she could use his car this afternoon. David Howard has been



visiting with Johnny since Sunday; Mary has been at Howard's with little Bonny Howard. The Howards got the little boys today so all four children ate dinner at the Howard's this evening. Then, their joy was complete when the Howards took them all to see a picture show tonight. They saw "Ma and Pa Kettle." Our children love the Howards; they have lots of fun there.

### July 1, Wednesday

July 1 already! Yes, "time surely does fly on wings of lightning." This is Lou's third day working in the little church on Tremont Street and Raymond Avenue. I think he said it is a Baptist church. He is doing some small jobs, like putting up some shelves, fixing doors and etcetera. Business is slack at the shop, so Gordon told Lou to do this job if he liked. Kathy's little mouth is not as well as we'd hoped for after the treatment the doctor in Sierra Madre suggested. Donna took Janet to her work at Dr. Anderson's office this morning. She took Kathy with her and let Don have a look at her mouth. He advised Donna to take her to Dr. Nebeker, the dentist. He is a brother to the Dr. Nebeker who delivered Kathy for Donna. Both are in the same office building in Arcadia. It is not far from Donna's. She and Kathy called in here on their way home from Dr. Anderson's at 8:30 a.m. She phoned from here and made an appointment to see Dr. Nebeker, the dentist, at 11 a.m. He is a specialist in mouth disease, but he said the sores were not caused from mouth disease. He thinks it is an allergy. He suggested Donna see a baby doctor. (I don't know how to spell pediatrician.) Ha ha! Donna took Kathy, this afternoon, to see the brother, Dr. Nebeker. (What an atrocious writer and speller am I, with the nerve to keep a daily record for over 23 years. You'd think my penmanship would improve, eh? No such luck.) Well anyway, I'm glad Dr. Nebeker said our baby did not have a mouth disease; he says it is an allergy caused by a vitamin deficiency. He gave Donna a prescription for a



Johnny Marsh, David Howard, Mary Marsh, and Bonny Howard circa 1953.

mouthwash, a tincture of violet, and for vitamin drops. The doctor gave Kathy a shot of penicillin, (Money, money!) but our baby must get well.

### July 2, Thursday

It is another warm day. I keep inside the house on days like these. Lou went to Gordon's shop this morning to use his power saw to get the cabinet made to put in the Baptist church he has been working on this week. The men filled in our sewer excavation this morning and tamped it down good. They placed the grass sod back on. I hope it will grow and settle down, so as not to look like a new grave. It's a mess they've made of our lawn, but the sewer is all connected up for which we're happy. I'm also happy to

learn that little Kathy feels better this morning. She ate her egg this a.m. Donna says her mouth looks better. I talked to little Mary on the phone. She and Johnny are going to fix the dinner for the family this evening. They were on their way shortly to buy the food from the store. (My cute kiddies, bless 'em.) Rice and meatballs is their main dish, I think she said pineapple and cottage cheese salad and chocolate frosted graham crackers. (Later: Mary and Johnny's salad was the candle stick salad, a banana for the stick, half slice pineapple for the handle and cottage cheese for the

base.) Donna went to her Singing Mother's rehearsal in Las Flores Ward this morning. Janet went to her work at 1 p.m. in Dr. Don Anderson's office. Joan took care of baby Kathy. I wrote to Eloise B., Ethel N., and Violet F. I did my ironing after. Donna phoned this evening to ask if I'd like to ride down to the Wilshire Ward with her and Clarice Tanner to hear a musical program. I'm sure it will be lovely, but I do not feel well enough to go. Clarice didn't want to drive alone. I'm glad Donna is going with her, she'll enjoy it, I'm sure. It is \$1.00 a ticket, a church benefit, I guess. I felt so weak and miserable tonight I went to bed and left Lou up, looking at the television! That is really something! He always leaves me there to close up the set. When this gal gets in bed first, she is sick, he he! Asthma season is here, poor me!



### July 3, Friday

I went back to bed after getting Lou's lunch up. I had a restless night because of asthma. I got immediate relief from the spray, but it didn't last long enough. My heart condition is aggravated when I use the spray too often. I can't win, cause if I fight asthma, without the spray, the

*sores were not caused from mouth disease, he thinks it is an allergy - he suggested Donna see a Baby doctor (I don't know how to spell, p.e.d.i.a.t.r.i.c.i.a.n) he, Donna took Kathy this afternoon to see the brother - Dr. Nebeker. (What an atrocious writer and speller am I with the nerve to keep a daily record for over 23 years) - you'd think my penmanship would improve eh? no such luck -*

We are thankful for her faithful diary writing. It is nice to know that our spelling woes come to us naturally. We think her penmanship is just fine. And we don't mind her creative spelling at all!



heart pains come even worse. Well, I did enjoy several months free from asthma, it started in again about two weeks ago. That's why I love the winter months and dread summer time. Donna has her one-party telephone line now. They gave it to them yesterday. She was on the phone all morning with a list to call for Relief Society business. I'm glad to report that baby Kathy's little sore mouth is getting better. Bonny Howard is visiting Mary and Johnny. She stayed with Mary last night. Lou is working again today in the little Baptist church. I think he'll finish up the job today. Mary is invited to go to visit her little friend Carol Colvin for dinner and a stay overnight. She loves to go there, they live in a big house, in the Sierra Madre canyon. Lou finished up his job early, he came home about 2 p.m. Donna, Kathy, and Johnny came a few minutes later, they had taken Joan over to visit her girlfriend Pat Swim near our home. She is Judy's sister; Janet and Judy are pals. Janet is working this afternoon in Dr. Anderson's dental office. He is training her to be his assistant. She's been there a month now. She works afternoons, and all day on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Donna took Mary up to Colvin's before coming here. She took Bonny Howard home. Lou went up to Donna's this afternoon to work in the garage house. Johnny and Kathy rode up with him. I vacuumed, but it was a tough job, I'm fighting asthma too. Our baby looked like a tattooed doll with her violet colored medicine on her little mouth and face. I sent a bag of Kraft caramels home with Donna. I gave Donna \$4.00 for our part of the wedding gift, Clarice W. and a few others are giving Norma Pearce some china to match her pattern. Donna took our money to Clarice W. for the gift on her way home today.

#### July 4, Saturday

Our boy Rex, was provoked to good works this morning, on the fourth of July, no less. His well-meaning, but never-the-less, irritating father-in-law, phoned Donna this morning and offered to come up and cut their much overgrown hedge, if, (and here's the painful prick), they would borrow the electric hedge-clippers from their neighbor, Mr. Kirk! That did it! Rex wouldn't dream of asking said neighbor for the loan of his clippers, so he got busy clipping by hand, and his anxious little family had to stand-by while their gleeful plans, for an early start to the picnic grounds up at Mt. Baldy, were temporarily deferred. Grampa, the ambitious offender, appeased his own abundant energy by working in his own,

well-manicured yard. Ye know, a washing machine isn't the only place where an agitator can stir up action, he! I composed a little birthday verse to Bill Andersen, while Lou enjoyed his nap this afternoon. We drove out to Sierra Madre this evening to take some cuttings from our plants. Lou dumps his said cuttings in Rex's rear yard, when we have too many to burn in our incinerator. We were happy to find the folks back from their picnic to the mountains. Janet and Warnie M. were back safe, from the beach too, but they both had bright red complexions. Oh, oh, I know a little lady that will be very uncomfortable for a few days. Janet and Warnie went to the Rose Bowl tonight to see the fireworks display. It was a disappointing day for Joan, her best boyfriend was up in the mountains fighting fire. Rex's car boiled up so hot they couldn't make it as far as the Oateses' cabin in Mt. Baldy, so Joan couldn't swim and have fun with the young friends from Garvanza as planned. They ate their lunch in the canyon and came back home. Mary and Johnny were delighted with the fireworks Rex bought. Lou and I went with Rex, Donna, Mary, and Johnny to Santa Anita Park tonight to see the fire works and let Mary and Johnny send off the fireworks Rex bought for them. I enjoyed the fireworks tonight, the first I've seen in a long time. Lou didn't find us after he parked the car until it was all over. We took both cars to the park tonight, but kept together until the parking. Joan stayed home with baby Kathy tonight and made some chocolate fudge.

#### July 5, Sunday

I did not feel well enough to go to Sunday School. I had an annoying cough and felt weak. Lou stayed home also, he doesn't have a singing practice on fast day, so he thinks they will not need him that day; someone else can lead the one opening song. I always regret missing the fast meeting, as I do enjoy hearing the testimonies. We told Donna to leave Kathy off at our house, as she has some of the violet colored medicine on her little face. Grampa met them at our corner so Donna didn't have to turn around. Kathy was very happy to come with Grampa while the others went on to Sunday School. Janet stayed home, she was very miserable from the sunburn she got yesterday at the beach. I wonder how many bad burns our little teenagers must suffer in order to remember to apply something to their skin first, or keep covered at the beach? One bad burn was all I needed, but of course I'm older. We

enjoyed our adorable baby today. I poached an egg for her lunch; she liked it so well she was real mad at me because I didn't have more egg ready when she was finished with the first one. But she loves canned peaches, so all was well when she saw them. She ate cottage cheese before her egg. Kathy slept for an hour and a half after lunch. Rex came for her shortly after 4 p.m. Lou and I were delighted when Ray and Bette Haddock drove in our yard about 3:45 p.m. They had Jerry and baby Ricky and Grandma Sue with them. We were in the patio cabaña, eating ice cream (or Lou and Kathy were). I dished them each a dish of ice cream, they were all warm so it just



Jerry and Ray Haddock  
circa 1945.



“hit the spot” they said. Rex wouldn’t let me fix him some; he said he’d have some at home. Donna was busy all afternoon with meetings and music rehearsals. We fixed a little lunch for the folks about 7 p.m. and ate out in the cabaña. There was a slip up someway and the diaper bag didn’t get put into the Haddock car, so baby Ricky didn’t have a change, or a bottle. His baby food and nightclothes were left at home. But it turned out all right anyway. Ray, Bette, and Lou went up to our market and she bought some baby cereal and a bottle and nipple. Lou bought cold cuts for our lunch, milk, ice cream, and a half-gallon of root beer. We had root beer floats with our sandwiches and potato chips, sweet pickles and etcetera. I was surprised to learn that Bob and Inis Stanton have bought a new home up in La Crescenta. It’s near the new La Canada Ward chapel. I believe it is in the same ward that her sister Myrtle and Ed Robinson live in. We rode to Gordon’s shop this evening. Lou, Ray, and Jerry went in and Ray bought new tape for his Venetian blinds. We rode in Ray’s nice car. We surely did enjoy their visit; hope they’ll come again soon.

### July 6, Monday

I didn’t feel well enough to do the washing so I took it easy. I did some scrapbook work. Janet couldn’t go to her work at Dr. Don Anderson’s office this morning. She was too unhappy suffering from the dreadful sunburn she got on Saturday at the beach. The office isn’t open as a rule on Monday, but the holiday made it different, I guess. Mary and Johnny went on a picnic today with Johnny’s Sunday School class. Mary Howard and Ruth Meier are the teachers. I think they went to the Monrovia Canyon or park? Donna took baby Kathy to see Dr. Nebeker today at 3 p.m. Her sore mouth is better, but not well yet. The doctor said it was healing up nicely. I do want to go to town and buy Mary Jorgensen’s new baby boy a gift. Annie says Mary could use a new crib blanket, so I think I’ll buy one for us to send her. Oh, I wish I felt better. There are several things I need from town, but I just can’t seem to get the needed strength to go uptown. I do not like to look in the mirror the past few days. I have an unnatural pallor. Thank goodness for rouge and lipstick, which takes care of that situation. Ha ha! My little Johnny boy’s inventive ability came forward this day. He rigged up a contraption with a rope and pasteboard carton; the said rope was attached to the carton and to the back door, thence to the

patio clothes line. The baby kitten was blissfully asleep under the carton, and when the back door would open the carton would be lifted up and expose little kitty much to our Johnny’s delight.

### July 7, Tuesday

It is my brother-in-law’s birthday, Billy Andersen. I hope he is well and has a happy day and many more of ‘em. I mailed a card and a little poem that I composed to him last Saturday, the 4th of July. I wanted to go uptown today, but wasn’t feeling well enough to walk around in the heat. If I didn’t have that long walk to the bus line it would be different, or, if I felt stronger, I could go and enjoy the walk. I always liked to walk before I got this asthma and heart distress, poor Grama, eh? I do have so many wonderful blessings that I must not complain about my poor health now. Donna and her Relief Society officers met with the Pasadena Ward officers, this p.m. to plan for the potato salad they are to make for the gold plate dinner that the stake building fund committee has planned for next week, July 16. They met at church; she went with Clarice Tanner. I composed a queen tribute to Melba Kunz this afternoon. I used the first two verses that I composed for Miriam Clayton’s queen tribute, (Garvanza Ward). This evening I phoned Andersen’s to sing “Happy Birthday” to Bill. Glen and Irene and family were visiting them. I did not feel well enough to ride over to Highland Park. Lou and I had thought we would go to South Pasadena to the Gold Shell, and see the opening program of the season. They had a very nice program scheduled for tonight, but we gave up that idea also. Lou worked around in the yard this evening when it got cool, he thinned out our cannas and the geraniums.



July 6, 1953 Elvie did some scrapbook work. Here is one of the pages from her scrapbook.

### July 8, Wednesday

"Twas pleasant to have the clouds this morning and not so hot outside. Dr. Don Anderson is having the cooling system installed in his office, so he isn't working for a few days. He had Janet go to work today anyway. He gave her a full day, some letters to type and several other jobs to keep her busy. I hope my little cutie got everything done up all right, it is all very new to her. My little Janet, like her Grama Elvie, finds that spelling can be very exasperating. I took some soil marks off my kitchen woodwork with Soil-Off, this morning. It is really good stuff, doesn't take hard rubbing like other cleaners do. I wish I felt well enough to do the walls and ceiling and all of the woodwork, but just wiping marks off makes me fatigued and weak. Ovena and Chet Mayo are being honored tonight in Mutual, they won the honor by getting the largest attendance out to Mutual on the two evenings they sponsored the Special Interest class programs. Our ward Mutual is giving a party for them, games and etcetera. Donna is invited to a stork shower tonight for Dorothy McCloud. I phoned my neighbor Mrs. Barnes this morning. She has been very ill, was operated on a few weeks ago and her comeback is very slow. We've had several pans full of peaches from our neighbor's tree; Edgecombs are very generous with their fruit. They have plums and berries too; we had some of them earlier when they were in season. I did some scrapbook work this afternoon. I put Ann Vandergrift's graduation picture in my scrapbook. Lou feels much better, the Rybutol and the alfalfa tea are paying off.

### July 9, Thursday

Another hot summer day, I got my washing out and work done before it got real hot. I am not up to my normal health, so I find it is an effort to do any work at all. I had to rest all afternoon. I have aches and pains around the heart regions and breathing becomes difficult at times. Enough! I can't fill the diary up with my troubles. Donna took Kathy with her to the singing practice at Las Flores Ward this morning; she enjoyed playing in the nursery there. Dolores takes her two children, too. Little Nadine can walk now. Johnny and Mary went to Primary this morning. Mary Howard brought them home, they all had lunch at Donna's then Mary H. took them up to the Sierra Madre Canyon pool to swim this afternoon. Joan went with them. Mary Howard's girl and boy are pals to our Mary and Johnny. The secretary of the Baptist church phoned Lou this morning; he thought he was finished with the carpenter job there, but they have some shelves and a few little jobs in the basement for him. He went after work this evening to see about it. Lou went to the Mutual Savings at noon, he had \$28.39 interest and he took all but \$34 out of our savings at the Bank of America, \$320.72, to make an even \$2,000 in our Mutual savings. We'll have to build our checking account back up now. Dr. Anderson and wife Louise are enjoying a vacation in Nevada while the cooling system is being installed in his

office. Janet is working there just the same; he left her plenty of work for three days. I was disturbed to learn that Phyllis and Wendell Burk have separated. I thought they were very happy. Cruelty is her charge, I hear, sorry. Rex has the go ahead from his insurance company, he wrote to Dr. Deal, now it is up to Dick to make the hospital arrangements for Rex's operation. After dinner this evening, Lou went to Monrovia to work two hours in the box factory, a church building fund project. Donna read Shirley Little's nice letter to me over the phone today.

### July 10, Friday

Joan went babysitting last night for the Greens, in Sierra Madre. Janet and Warnie went swimming in Bob Hamson's pool, he invited Joan, (through Janet) but she was babysitting. It was another real hot day. I did my ironing this morning. Donna phoned and said she had the car and she'd come pick me up after lunch, so we could go to town and buy a gift for Mary Jorgensen's new baby boy. She had to get a gift for Janet to take to Norma Price's wedding reception tonight. She brought Johnny with her. Mary took care of Kathy; she took her over to Dody Bush's house to play. We parked at Nash's Department Store lot; she bought a pretty crystal relish dish for Janet. We bought a pale green crib blanket and a cute green toy to send Mary's infant. The store delivered it for us. We saw Miriam, Joyce, and Dale Summerhays in Nash's Store. We went across the street to Nash's Drapery Store, Donna bought five yards of dark green material to make bed spreads for Mary and Johnny's bunk beds. Johnny and Mary have moved out to the garage house to sleep these summer nights. I bought some construction paper in a stationery store for scrapbook and Relief Society queen tributes. We stopped in the market near our home (Shopping Bag). Donna bought groceries for their dinner. Johnny and I went in the little 15¢ Store next door, I bought him a toy airplane, some gum and Life Savers and Donna's green sewing thread for the bedspreads. Rex got ready to go to the reception and found he had lost his wallet with his week's paycheck and identification cards, and etcetera. It was upsetting for all. He rushed back to the job and found it where he had changed clothes. Our prayers were answered again. After phoning back and forth tonight, we made arrangements for Janet and Warnie to come to our house, leave his car here and drive our car to take Janet and me to Norma and Tommy Price's wedding reception in Alhambra. It was at Norma's sister's home. It was almost into Los Angeles. Lou was too tired to go, he worked overtime on the shelves in the basement at the Baptist church, a job he did after he left Gordon's shop this evening. Norma was a beautiful bride in her lovely white satin and lace gown and pretty red hair. We did not stay long at the reception and didn't go downstairs to have refreshments. It was real warm this evening after a hot day. We sat in the patio cabaña and



*Ann Vandergrift  
senior picture  
decorated as Elvie  
might have done.*



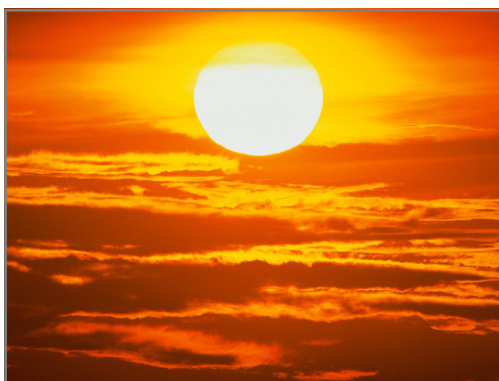
talked to Lou, he was out in the swing when we got back. Rex and Donna were just driving up to the reception as we were leaving. We were delighted to learn he'd found his wallet. Dr. Deal and Ruth phoned Rex last night at 9 p.m. He is going to operate on Rex next Thursday at 11 a.m. Rex must be in the hospital on Wednesday. I phoned Florence M. this morning to tell her Dick and Ruth phoned about Rex's operation.

### July 11, Saturday

Ye Gads! It has been hot today. Rex, Donna, and Kathy came down this morning to bring Joan to help me. Rex and Donna went to the store for me to get some Soil-Off. I fixed a torn place in Rex's robe, Donna took it home to do the handwork and send it to the cleaners. They fixed a swing stand for a Sr. Anderson. I think they took an old stand from their yard to her for her swing, not sure. Lou went to work on the church for our ward and stake. He started at 7 a.m. Joan worked hard and fast, she did an excellent job cleaning the ceilings, walls, and woodwork in our kitchen, bathroom, and back porch. I did what I could to help on the lower part where I didn't have to climb. We got the plastic curtains washed and dry and hung up again. Lou came about 1:30 p.m. I cooked a lamb chop dinner and we all rested until Rex came for Joan. He made three trips here today. Johnny came the first time, he enjoyed raisin toast while Rex and Donna shopped. My little Mary is sick in bed today with a sore throat. Grampa gave Joan \$5.00 for her work today, bless him. Janet is working at Dr. Anderson's office. He is on vacation to Nevada. I have really suffered from the heat today. Florence Marsh phoned Rex, she isn't well enough to take the three little children as she thought she'd be able to do. Rex had planned to take Joan with him. She said she would stay home and help me take care of the three kiddies up to their house, so I guess Lou and I will move up to Sierra Madre when Rex and Donna go to Oakland for his operation. I hope I can manage to keep well and let Donna go with Rex. She really does need to get away from home for a while too. This afternoon Joan went to the beach with her Mutual class. Ella Wride is her teacher. Annie phoned and said she got a special delivery note from Lydia. It says Mildred and family will be in Los Angeles or Southern California for two days. I hope we get to see them.

Max Temperature in Southern California for July 1953 was 87 °F. The average was 76 °F. The lowest temperature was 70 °F. The humidity was the problem for the month of July, it ranged from 75% to 90%.

Considering very few places were air conditioned and the Renshaw's home probably didn't cool off much in the night it is easy to see why Elvie was uncomfortable in the heat and humidity.



Brother-in-law, Dr. Dick Deal will operate on Rex Thursday the 16th, 1953.

### July 12, Sunday

I didn't feel strong enough to make the effort to get up and ready for Sunday School. A.H.H. to blame (asthma, heart, and heat). I rested until time to prepare lunch for Lou. When he came home from Sunday School, we enjoyed a cold lunch; a green tossed salad that I put hard-boiled eggs and tuna in, also. It was good. We had some lovely sweet strawberries for dessert. Little Mary stayed home, her throat

is still sore but the fever has gone. All the other Marshes went to Sunday School. Beverly phoned to ask if we'd seen the Olsons, Mickey and Vern. They left Salt Lake City on Friday. Bette and family were expecting them out in Burbank. Aunt Sue phoned to see if we'd seen them. Beverly talked to Mickey later at Burbank, she said they stopped in Pasadena this morning to see Lou and me but no one was home. I was here all day, so I guess they went to the old address on North Garfield Avenue (Sorry). Dody phoned, she was anxious to go out to Burbank to see the Olsons but couldn't arrange the time as she and Bevan were tied up with too many church meetings. Rex went to priesthood meeting this afternoon. This evening we took Donna, Janet, and Joan out to Burbank. Rex stayed home with the three little ones. The folks were all out in the patio; they'd been in swimming on and off all day. Mildred, Vern, and

their three lovely children looked good to us. Mickey has a real summer tan, Vern is too fair to tan, he just burns. The children Cherie and Mark have grown a lot, baby Kristie is a cutie too, she has big brown eyes, light yellow hair, first time we've seen her. Babe H. and husband and little daughter were there, Shirley, Kenny, and family and the Vandergrifts also. It was a real warm evening. Janet and Joan went in swimming. Sue and girls served ice cream and cookies. I did not indulge. Beverly and Annie came to Burbank after 9 p.m. they went to church in Garvanza first. Joan tried a new dive and hit the bottom of the pool. She thought she had knocked her front tooth out, it did seem a little loose to her! We had a very happy time with our relatives tonight in Burbank. Donna and Rex have decided to take Johnny and Mary to Oakland with them.



### July 13, Monday

Ah me! I never remember such a long spell of "hot" weather in California in the 29 years we've been here. Three or four days was the limit, then we'd get a cool spell, but gee wiz, almost a month without a break and what I mean it's hot!

Donna phoned this morning the plans have been changed again. John and Florence Marsh have reserved airplane tickets for Rex and Donna to fly, Wednesday at 7 a.m., to Oakland. They, the Marshes, will take Johnny and Mary down to their home until the parents are back, after Rex's operation. I will go up to Donna's and stay with Janet, Joan, and Kathy. We haven't decided how Rex and Donna will come home, will worry about that later, eh? It was surely grand of the Marshes to pay for the plane tickets to Oakland. Rex will be out of work five or six weeks, I guess. I mailed my sister Bonnie a birthday card today and a dollar bill. I talked to Annie on the phone; she was suffering from the heat, too. She'd been to the bank in the hot sun. Micky and Vern Olson and three children are leaving today from Bette's in Burbank, for their home in El Cerrito, California, near Oakland. Larry Steimle called to see Joan this afternoon, but she was babysitting somewhere. Janet was out with Warnie. Lou watered our lawns and flowers before dinner. He said he was too hot to eat until later; he kept coming in the house to drink cold root beer with ice cream in, (root beer floats). No wonder he wasn't hungry, eh? Mary has a little breaking out on her body; it is like she had about two years ago. Donna took her to a skin specialist then, I surely hope it will not get bad like it did then. It's just got to clear up, darn it! Janet and Warnie enjoyed the swim so much in Virginia Kelley's pool today; they talked Donna and the kids into going again in the evening. All had a swell time.

### July 14, Tuesday

We had hoped for a break in this hot weather but today was another scorcher. If that sweet Bonna Gordon hadn't come for me at 10:15 a.m. I never could have gone to Relief Society. I feel so weak and miserable in this heat. Marie Doezie was with Bonna, as always, I do love these dear ladies, all of the ward ladies are grand. We tied three baby crib quilts; my job was to keep the needles threaded with wool and it kept me busy. Joan and Mary took care of the children in the nursery today. Mrs. Norris couldn't be there. Bonna paid Joan \$2.00 and Mary \$1.00. They had the kiddies about four hours. Mary spent part of the time watching the ladies sew. Kathy was restless, she thought sister Joan wasn't the official babysitter and she didn't have to stay in the nursery with her. So Mary had to take her for a walk a time or two. I had her a short while, so did Donna. I read the Queen's tribute to Felicia Washburn, she was pleased with it and she looked pretty in her golden crown. We had a very lovely luncheon prepared by the sisters in Elma Frandson's district. Bonna brought me home about 2 p.m. I did a small ironing, but oh, I was fatigued and hot this day.

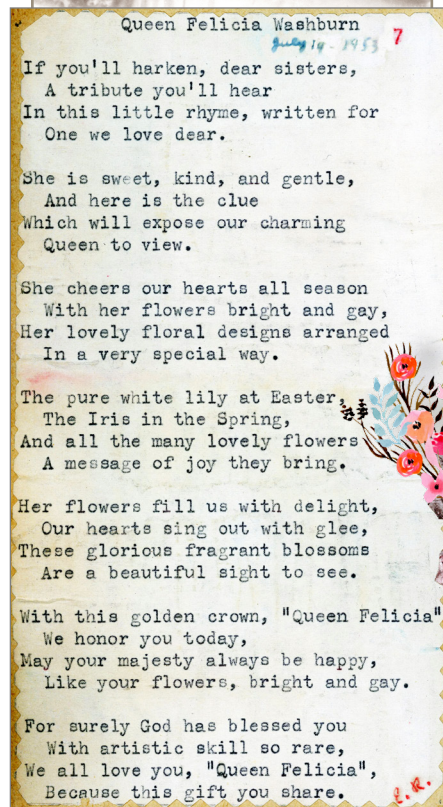
Lou ate bread and milk when he got home this evening, then went over to work on our new church for a few hours. We talked to Donna on the phoned this evening and made arrangements to take her and Rex to the Burbank air terminal in the morning. We told them we'd be there at 5:30 a.m. Rex is going to be operated on in Oakland, Thursday, at 11 a.m. Br. G.S. Worsley passed away, at 1 p.m. today, heart trouble.

### July 15, Wednesday

We got up at 5 a.m., went up to Sierra Madre to get Rex and Donna. We were surprised to find them still in bed. The United Airlines had phoned them at 4 a.m. to tell them the plane would be a half hour later leaving this morning so they dropped off to sleep. We had plenty of time anyway, had family prayer before we left. Johnny and Mary went with us, Joan, Janet, and Kathy stayed home. Janet went to work at Dr. Anderson's at 8 a.m. We stayed to see Rex and Donna board the plane, and to see the plane take off. It left at 7:30 a.m. They looked so sweet on way to plane, like a couple of honeymooners. I'm sorry it isn't a second honeymoon. Rex has to be operated on tomorrow for his hernia, but I hope and pray they'll enjoy the rest away from home and family. Rex gave Johnny and Mary a dollar bill each before he left on the plane; Rex and Lou had a bite to eat while waiting for the plane time. Marshes are coming up to get Johnny and Mary this evening. Lou let us off in Pasadena town, we took the bus home, he was late to his work anyway. I fixed breakfast and the kiddies watched T.V. while eating breakfast. I phoned Joan, she was just feeding Kathy her breakfast.

Dr. Anderson sent Janet out on an errand. She called in here for a minute. Johnny and Mary walked up to the market near us, they bought a picture puzzle for 35¢, came home and we all worked on it. Fascinating, 304 pieces and we couldn't get it together in one afternoon. The children both took a nap after lunch. I cooked a nice lamb chop dinner for my little family at our house. Joan got dinner for Janet and Kathy at home. We took the children to Sierra Madre after Lou had seen his Blue Ribbon Bouts Boxing from 7 to 8 p.m. Florence

Marsh and Florence Oates came for Johnny and Mary about 8:45 p.m. When we arrived at home, in Sierra Madre, Mary missed her purse, with the \$3.00 in, \$2.00 was hers and \$1.00 was Johnny's. I felt so sorry for her cause she and Johnny were taking it to Grama Marshes to spend over their vacation time at Marshes. Grampa found it in our house when he went home tonight. Mary had another disappointment too, she left the little doll and bed and dresser she got from Toy





Loan to take to Marshes. She left it on a chair at her home. I put it up in her cupboard so baby Kathy can't get into it. I wish I had noticed it before she left here. Janet and Warnie went with the Mutual class to a swimming party at Bob Hamson's. Joan went with girlfriends to the show in Sierra Madre. Lou went home to sleep in his own bed; he stayed here until 10 p.m. Br. Radicks phoned to ask after Rex this evening. Some missionaries came for Books of Mormon.

### July 16, Thursday

Rex was to be operated on this morning at eleven o'clock. He has been on my mind all day. I had a special prayer for him and his doctor, Dick Deal, that all would go well. Joan got up and fixed the baby's breakfast, both girls have been sweet and willing to do things to make my stay here a pleasant one. Donna would be proud of them if she could see how well they are doing. Janet went to work at Dr. Anderson's office at 1 p.m. Joan babysat for Sr. Cummings this morning. She took baby for a walk after her nap this afternoon. She fixed Kathy's lunch too, before her nap. I had a little trouble with my heart last night, but feel all right today. Baby Kathy was surprised to see me in her mama's bed this morning. She stared at me as if she couldn't believe her own eyes. When I spoke to her she grinned and gave me a long lingo of baby talk. I could understand a few words, such as "mama, bed, and night night and Bampa," which she says for both Grampa and Grama. Joan phoned from her girlfriend's house, she and Kathy had been gone so long she thought I might be worrying; they were at Phyllis Nipps. Lou came here after work, we left soon after Joan came. He took me home so I could get ready to go to the stake Gold Plate dinner (our second one), \$10.00 a plate. It is a donation on our new church building fund. Lou gave them \$25.00 for the tickets this time. Joan and Janet fixed their own dinner and fed Kathy her dinner. I phoned Florence Marsh (at my home), and I talked to Mary and Johnny also. Mary wanted me to mail the money she left at our house, so I put it in an envelope and sent it to her, \$3.00; \$2.00 for her and \$1.00 for Johnny. Rex gave them each a dollar bill before he boarded the airplane. There were about 400 people at the banquet. We enjoyed the dinner. It was cold salads and cold beef roast and baked ham. There was lots of food. The tables were lovely; we each had a tiny pottery gold plate with our name printed on for a place card. We didn't stay to hear all of the program; a brother sang two lovely base solos. Br. Bob Austin gave a pep talk and demonstration in a light vane. Lou brought me to Donna's and then he went home to sleep. Joan went to babysit for the Cummingses again, I think. Janet took care of Kathy; she put out a little washing this evening. Warnie came to see her; he was here when we got home tonight. All is well here; I wish I knew how Rex got along. Clarice Tanner came by at 11 p.m.



*Elvie Bailey circa 1912. July 16, 1953 Elvie was up late telling Janet and Joan about her younger days.*

### July 17, Friday

That dear Clarice Tanner came last night and brought a huge pan full of potato salad, left over from the banquet. It was almost eleven o'clock. The salad was in Donna's turkey roaster. Janet took a large bowl of the salad over to their neighbors, the Kirks this morning. Clarice came in last night because she saw our lights on. I was telling the girls about my young days, and they loved to hear it. Janet took us to the store this morning. I bought a mop and stick and some Dreet for dishes. Janet bought milk, eggs, cold meat, and seedless grapes. We planned to have a cold dinner because of our potato salad; we ate some of it at lunchtime.

I've a hunch we are going to get darn tired of potato salad, made with sour cream dressing, before this deal is over, but it is good for a meal to two. I expected Lou would come up this evening and help us eat it, but he informed me, over the phone, that he was going to water lawns and flowers and maybe cut the lawns this evening. He said there were a lot of leftovers in our icebox he could finish up. Well, it turned out this evening, that Joan and I were the only ones to eat any of the said salad. Janet had to rush to get ready to go out with Warnie; he was here for her at 6:15 p.m. All she'd have was a meat sandwich, which she took with her. They were going to a show in Hollywood with another young couple. Joan was going to babysit for a lady today, but the lady phoned at five to say she was sick with mumps. The Cummingses phoned and wanted Joan this evening for two hours, so she went, after she'd given Kathy her bath and got her ready for bed. The baby lay on my bed with me, and her dolls, until she fell asleep. Lou talked to Florence Marsh on the phone; they got two letters from Donna, one written after they arrived in Oakland, and one after Rex's operation. I hope we get a letter tomorrow. I'm glad Florence heard today; I know she was very anxious to hear. Joan walked to the drug store for me this afternoon, after she got home from a babysitting job for Mary Dawn Cuff. She bought some Rex Salvine for me to use on Kathy. Her little vagina is sore. I hope this Rex Salvine will heal it up. I'm sure my Lou is enjoying his favorite program on T.V., Lawrence Welk. Florence Marsh says Dr. Deal said Rex would be in the hospital for five days, then at his home for three days. He wants to keep him there until the stitches are removed.

### July 18, Saturday

I'm so very thankful the hot spell has broken at last, little Kathy and I had a rather restless night. I was really worried

over her; she didn't sleep at all well. She had a very loose bowel movement before bedtime last night, and I was afraid her stomach was upset because of the many seedless grapes she insisted on having. She would go to the icebox and make such a fuss for the grapes, we all gave in to her. The girls both said, "She always eats a lot of them." At three o'clock this morning I gave her a third part of a children's aspirin and some water; she felt so hot. She slept good from 3:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. About noon, when the fever came back again and she felt miserable, I put her in her little crib-bed with more aspirin. She was glad to go in her little crib, she felt much better after two hours of sleep. The fever was gone, and she was ready to eat her dinner. No more grapes or minced ham if I can help it. Lou worked on the new church until about 1:30 p.m. He came here and ate lunch with Joan and me. We had more of the Gold Plate potato salad. Diary, between you and me, "I'm getting so sick of potato salad." Lou rested for an hour on one of the children's bunk beds and then he and Joan went to the market in Sierra Madre, where Donna buys her groceries. He bought a nice round bone beef roast, four quarts of milk, baby food, and a sack full of food, can't name all. Lou went home to cut lawns and clean up. Janet got home early today; she rested for two hours. Warnie came for a few minutes, he came back this evening and they went to a priest party at Bob Hamson's home. Warnie had an accident and cut his nose with a spear he was playing with. It boomeranged so he didn't go in swimming at Bob's, so Janet stayed out to watch with him. Joan went babysitting for a Mrs. White. Bless my Joan girl; she sure has put in a lot of time babysitting this week. Grampa Lou came back this evening. Janet fried him some ground round; we had eaten. Pearl Redborg phoned, she is lonesome, as Pawnie is away again. Lou and I took Kathy out to visit Pearl for an hour tonight. The girls were both gone when we got home. Janet wants to go to the beach tomorrow on Sunday! Andersens have a new Ford car; they came out this evening. We were at Pearl's. Joan made a lovely chocolate cake last evening; she went to the store for sugar and shortening. She made it before going to White's. We were happy to receive two letters from Donna today; we have all been watching the mailbox. Violet and Yvonne arrive tomorrow.

### July 19, Sunday

I'm sorry we missed seeing Annie and Beverly and new cream colored '51 Ford last evening, Janet was the only one home. I'm sure Rex and Donna wouldn't approve of Janet going to the beach on Sunday. I wore myself out trying to talk her into the mood of going to Sunday School. She was very sweet about it all, but "man oh man" can she put up a wonderful argument and it makes sense. "Her day off is Monday, Warnie has Saturday off. His friends can't go any other time, and they are taking Janet and Warnie. They are sure this will be the only time

they will ask to go on Sunday again, and it isn't because Mother and Daddy are away, and on and on!" I gave in. What a miserable day I'll have until they return, in time for church they promised. Joan and Kathy went to Sunday School; Mary Howard picked them up. The baby looked like a big doll in her yellow organdy dress and her curly head. I had dinner ready when they got home, the gravy wasn't so thick as I made it with whole-wheat flour, which I'm not used to. It is different. The baby was all ready to eat when she arrived; she started to climb up in her highchair. Joan had to use her best psychology to get the little yellow organdy dress changed into a sun suit before she could eat. It was my first attempt at cooking a roast in the Low Heat stainless steel pan. I was delighted that it was so tender and a rich brown. The girls told me how to do it, and I followed directions. Kathy was ready for her nap when she'd finished dinner. She was asleep in no time. I wonder how little Mary and Johnny are enjoying their visit with Grama and Grampa Marsh? I miss them, but I'm glad they are there now. I do so want to keep well enough to keep things going here while Donna is away. Joan is happy over the few dishes we have now, just Grampa, Joan, me, and Kathy today. Lou took a nap in the garage house, Joan in the front bedroom on Donna's bed. I wrote in my diary and did a small ironing, then took a nap on Donna's bed after Joan got up. Larry S. and Robert B. called to see Joan, wanted her to go to the canyon pool with them to swim. She told them she had to stay home and look after her baby sister. Br. Bob Austin and Dr. Don Anderson came to see Lou and me. They want to call us on a local or stake mission. We talked over my heart condition and

etcetera, but we are to think it over. I felt weak after they left just thinking about the meetings and all with my poor health. It seems impossible and is, unless I feel a lot better than I now feel. Lou and I went to church this evening. Joan stayed home with Kathy. Janet and Warnie came to church late and had red faces, from the day at the beach (Corona Del Mar). They went to the fireside after at Bob Hamson's. We had a very nice meeting tonight. Sr. Alder played two lovely violin solos and Br. Gene Wunderlick gave a fine talk. The baby was still awake when we got home at 8:45 p.m. She ate at 5 p.m. and she was hungry so ate again with us. Joan sewed on a navy blue cotton skirt this evening, while we were in church, tisk tisk!

### July 20, Monday

Janet did the washing this morning. I helped her hang it out. She and Joan went to the store between washer runs; we only had two runs today, mostly Kathy's things. Joan straightened up the house. I fed Kathy and used Soil-Off on some of the kitchen woodwork. I wish I could have done more of it, but maybe a little each day will do it. Warnie and his friend Stevie came about noontime. I made use of Warnie. I asked him to dig a hole in



*Persuasive Janet talks her Grama into a trip to the beach on Sunday.*



the rear yard for me to bury the garbage. The girls do not know what day the garbage collection is made, so I got rid of it. Warnie was very nice about doing it for me. I let the [garbage] can have a good sunbath today. We were all happy to receive a nice letter from Donna this morning, our third one. We got two on Saturday. Joan wrote to Donna yesterday, she sent it airmail this morning. I'm glad Rex is doing well; Donna says he will leave the hospital on Tuesday (tomorrow), he'll stay with Dick and Ruth about three days and then they expect to come home Friday or Saturday. Warnie came back again this evening for a short visit. I think he made three trips here today. Joan's friend Marion Straughan came this afternoon, she and Joan walked to town in Sierra Madre. Joan bought a pattern for a sleeve-less blouse, and material for two blouses, a light blue and a brown. She spent all afternoon making the blue blouse. She had some little difficulty with the electric sewing machine; I wasn't any help to her there, as I did not know a darn thing about it. Janet got out the little book of instructions and between them, they got it threaded and working.

Joan finished her blouse; I sewed up the bottom hem, as she was tired. It was her very first attempt at making a blouse with darts and stuff. I think she did a good job. Lou phoned this evening, he went to work on the building fund project after his regular work. Our L.D.S. men are putting on the roof of a building on Walnut Street to get money for our own church building. Lou was tired tonight and he read Ethel Newbold's letter to me over the phone. Lou went to apply for a carpenter job this morning, where Br. Austin works. He wouldn't take the I.Q. test, the young woman was there to give the men said test, but our Daddy wouldn't have it, ha ha! The boss told him he could come to work tomorrow, but when Lou got up to the shop he learned that Gordon was ill today so he'll stay and help him this week. Gordon is going to have an x-ray tomorrow. An oil truck hit a car, and turned over. Janet saw it before and after the accident. Janet washed her car this evening. She took Kathy to the store at 6:15 p.m. That is when she saw the oil truck turned over.

### July 21, Tuesday

Violet and Yvonne arrived last Sunday at Dolores's. I haven't had a word with them yet; it is a toll for me to phone from here on Donna's phone. My girls have been very sweet, and willing to do everything to help me. They give Kathy



*Janet and Joan Marsh 1943. On July 21, 1953 Janet and Joan stay up late talking and laughing with Grama Elvie about things from their younger years.*

her bath every night and put her to bed. Janet curled her hair in ringlets yesterday and she looked so cute. Of course Joan is here with me most of the time as Janet works for Dr. Don Anderson, so Joan takes care of Kathy most of the time. I hope my dear little Mary and Johnny are happy down to Grandma Marsh's, and I hope Grandma Marsh is feeling well and enjoying then. We were delighted to have another letter from Donna this morning. She said Rex will leave the hospital Tuesday (today), and they will stay with Dr. Deal and Ruth until Monday. Dick will remove the stitches from Rex on Thursday. So they'll be away a little longer than they expected. Donna had a nice visit with Shirley Little and seven year old Janet. She went to San Francisco on Saturday night and stayed all night with Shirley. They had a wonderful "talk talk." They picked little Janet up at a friend's home on Sunday morning and went to Sunday School. They had a nice ride after Sunday School and a delicious steak dinner, and then Shirley went back to Oakland with Donna to see Rex during visiting hours at the hospital. Donna took Shirley out to Ruth's home, little Janet

played with the Deal children. Ruth and Dick were out somewhere. Fred and Vera Rich visited Rex on Sunday too. Donna is going to visit them also. I'm so glad she can have this nice rest away from home and family. I only hope and pray I can hold on here until she is back to take over. Joan walked to the store after lunch to buy a few groceries we need. Janet went to work this afternoon at Dr. Anderson's office. Clarice Tanner and Lillian Neal came this afternoon to see how we were getting along. Clarice said she'd come and take over anytime I called her if I felt I couldn't keep-up. She is a sweet soul. Lillian Neal has been very sick again, but is better. She looks a little weak and pale today. After dinner, Joan went to play tennis with her friend Marion S. She had three phone calls while gone. Richard Berger phoned, another boy, I didn't get his name, and friend, Bob Perry. He was the one she wanted to hear from. She gave me a number to give to him if he called. She was at a friend's home after the tennis game, Monique P. Bob couldn't leave his fire station at Oak Grove Park, and so Joan's friends took her to see him. The friends were Chuck Nipps and Marion S. Janet gave Kathy her bath tonight and then she and Warnie went to a picture show in Sierra Madre. Marshes brought Mary and Johnny up. They were longing to see little Kathy. I was glad to see them both, too. Grandma and Grampa Marsh are doing all

they can to make them happy, but diary, I think they are a little homesick. How true! There is no place like home. Janet, Joan, and I sat until almost midnight talking and laughing about things in their childhood last night.

### July 22, Wednesday

Janet was expected at Dr. Anderson's office at 10 a.m. this morning but she couldn't start the car. She phoned Warnie M. and he took her to work in his Ford. Good boy, eh? Joan made tollhouse cookies this morning, oh oh! Janet was back home by noon. She got a kink in her neck and couldn't turn her head very well, so Warnie's friend let her drive his car home. He picked it up later. Janet phoned the office to tell them she couldn't make it there today. She has gone around all day with her head on one side. Joan has a sore cord in her neck. I told her she was getting the mumps. I rubbed both girls' necks with BenGay so we smell to high heaven now. "Ain't we got fun!" Joan walked uptown to meet her girlfriend, Marion S. They went to a radio shop to have Marion's little radio fixed. Joan stopped in the store on the way home to buy milk and cracked wheat for our baby's breakfast. I cooked the cereal tonight. Kathy can't wait long for breakfast Grama learned. Lou went to work on the church project, of building a roof for a man to get money for our own church house. He went from 5 to 9 this evening. He worked at his regular job at Gordon's today. I talked to him on the phone this afternoon. Gordon is ill; he is having x-rays and examinations to see what is causing his pain. Violet phoned me this afternoon from Dolores's. They arrived there last Sunday morning. Yvonne and her boyfriend, Dr. LaMoyné Hickman, were enjoying a day at the beach. Warnie came by again this evening; he and Janet went over to Kelly's house to get Virginia Kelly's address. She is vacationing in Europe. Janet answered her letter today on Donna's typewriter. Joan walked to her girlfriend's home, near the park, this evening. The girl's name is Monique P. I can't spell or pronounce the last name; it is French. Richard Berger phoned while she was away, he told me to tell Joan "he made the team," she knew what he meant. Her new flame phoned, and he came to see her later this evening. She was not home when he phoned, but "goody goody" he came to see her anyway. He took her with him to see his cousin. He hadn't eaten so she went with him to eat also. Warnie and Janet sat out on the porch where it was cool tonight. Warnie invited me to join them, but I remember what they say about "three's a crowd." I had things to do anyway. Rex and Donna have been gone one week today, it seems much longer. Dr. Deal said he would take Rex's stitches out Thursday, (tomorrow). Joan's latest boyfriend's name is Bob Perry. I didn't think anyone could ever take Richard B.'s place. That's the teenagers for you. Bob stays up at the camp. He's been fighting brush fires. Bless him.



### July 23, Thursday

Little Susie Q, Kathy, insisted on getting up at 7 a.m. so there was nothing for this Grama to do but get out of bed and take care of her. She is ready to eat as soon as she is dressed and can't understand why she doesn't have the egg or cereal the minute she climbs into her high chair. Well, I am glad she enjoys eating anyway. She is cute, and I love her. Warnie Mueller came with the big truck this morning and pushed Janet's car out of the yard and up to the boulevard until she got it started. She left it in front of the house until time to leave for work at 12:30. Dolores brought Violet over to visit with me while she went to the Singing Mother's practice at 10 a.m. Yvonne and the two little children, Ronnie and Nadine, went with Dody. Janet went to the store for me so I could fix a lunch for them all when they got back here. I had a time to persuade them to stay, they thought it too much for me, but I insisted. We didn't fuss, Joan, Yvonne, and Dody helped make the tuna sandwiches, slice tomatoes, and etcetera. I surely enjoyed my nice visit with Violet and her family. Janet had to leave for work as soon as Dolores and Yvonne came. Joan went to the canyon pool this afternoon. I stayed with Kathy. Jennie Jones was taking Violet to the Scout Jamboree this afternoon near the beach. It is a big national jamboree. Lou didn't go work on the church project after work today; he bought some lamb chops and two quarts of ice cream and came out to have dinner with us. I cooked carrots and potatoes. We enjoyed a good dinner thanks to Grampa; bless him. Janet was later getting home, she took the car to a garage, Warnie's friend's place, to have the battery charged. He told her she needed a new battery. He charged it but said it won't last long. Lou called Harry Howard; he is going to bring a new battery out in the morning. Janet says she'll pay for it. Joan did the dishes and then she went to visit her girlfriend, Monique P. Janet took care of Kathy, gave her a bath and put her to bed. Lou took me down home for a change of clothes. I took a nice bath and felt much better in clean clothes. I phoned Florence Marsh. She took Mary, Johnny, and Lewie's two children over to Lincoln Park today. They had a picnic lunch and three rides on the fun things. They had popcorn and a good time.

### July 24, Friday

Florence Marsh got a letter from Donna yesterday, she says they will leave Oakland Monday morning on the Daylight Limited. Florence and John will meet them and have dinner ready for them, nice eh? They'll bring them and the children home. They'll meet them in Glendale. I phoned Annie when I was home last night, she said Elsie, her sister Beat, and Harriet S. are on one of their vacation tours, will be in Los Angeles on Sunday. The family is planning a potluck dinner out to Burbank, at Sue's and Bette's home. Lou and I decided it would be too much for us to undertake. Dolores phoned this morning and talked about it, then I caught the mood, (I am not as tired this morning) so I'm wondering if I can talk Lou into going eh? Dody says she'll take me, if they, my family here, do not



want to go. Br. Harry Howard brought out a new battery and put it in Janet's car. Little Susie Q, Kathy, got me up before 7 a.m. I tried to persuade her it was too early and too cold but no luck. Poor Grama, ha ha! Janet took Kathy to the store this morning for milk, baby food, bread, carrots, squash, and Soil-Off. She ironed her nylon uniform and a few other pieces before going to work at Dr. Anderson's office. Joan had stomach pains. I had her drink warm milk; it helped. She and I did some kitchen work; she washed the windows inside and out. I handed her the wet and dry cloths. We have gone over the woodwork in the kitchen with Soil-Off. I've been doing a little of it every day. Roger Nickels came to see Joan this afternoon; he found some money, a comb, and several little items in the big blue over stuffed chair. Joan hid his car keys so he was looking for them. Oh these teenagers! Kathy had a nice long nap today. She has been real good to take her nap after her lunch. It is Dollar Day in Pasadena; papers are full of the sales. I'm not interested, I didn't think I'd ever come to that age when new clothes didn't interest me, but I have. I'm not well enough to shop in crowds anyway, and then, there's the money angle, too. My Joan or Janet would love to shop in the crowds on these sale days if they had the needed lucre. Wish I had it to give them. Dr. Anderson paid Janet \$40 of the \$100 he owes her, for this month. She was late getting home tonight; she stopped to buy two pair of shoes, (\$19.00 worth). One pair are nurses white shoes for her work in the doctor's office and a pair of white dress shoes, a white cotton slip, and a few little items, like sunglasses and etcetera. Carol McComas phoned to see if Joan was going to Brookside Park this evening with our ward folks to celebrate the Utah Day. She wasn't interested in going until she talked to Carol M. and Mary Wride. I told her to go with the McComases' she ate here first. Estella M. came for her at 6 p.m. I gave Kathy her bath in the water basin. I sat her on the tile drain with her feet in the basin. She thought it was fun. It's too hard on me to lift her in and out of the tub and get down to wash her. We had a tossed green salad, with hard-boiled eggs and tuna fish in. Joan ate alone before she went to the park. Janet ate alone after she got home from her shopping. Warnie was here waiting for Janet this evening. They went to a show. I washed the shelves in Donna's shower bath and the medicine cabinet. Lou talked to Florence Marsh this evening on the phone. She got another letter from Donna. Now they will arrive home Sunday evening instead of Monday

evening as expected. John and Florence will meet them at the depot and take them to their home for dinner, then bring them here to Sierra Madre later.

### Elvie's prediction comes true!

"My Joan is a wonderful worker, she'll be an excellent housekeeper, I believe."

Joan kept a very clean and tidy home. Even while raising her large family, Joan's home was most often clean and neat.

In later years when Joan's sisters hired help to house clean their homes, Joan continued to do it all herself. Not only was her home clean, but it was organized and in perfect order.

### July 25, Saturday

It was cool and overcast this morning but sunshine by 10 a.m. Janet left for work at Dr. Anderson's office at 8:15 a.m. Joan and I gave the house a good cleaning. She did the vacuuming and dusting and both rooms, all but the floors, I took care of the kitchen floor, both bathrooms, and the back porch. Joan washed the patio cement off. My Joan is a wonderful worker, she'll be an excellent housekeeper, I believe. She washed glass on the end tables and flower bowl and candlestick holder. She has worried me because she isn't hungry, never any breakfast, if she can help it. I had to insist on her eating lunch, (could she be in love? Ha ha!) Between you and me, Diary, I think Joan has too many boyfriends; they are a nuisance to me. Calling her on the phone and coming to see her at mid-day, while she is working. Larry Steimle made

three calls to the house today. He and some friends were going to the Hollywood Bowl tonight to a concert. They wanted Joan to go with them. She is a good pal to the boys; they enjoy having her along. Joan had to find a girlfriend to take over her babysitting job tonight at Syllman's, I think. Lou came over from his church job about 1:30 p.m. He didn't stay long, just found out what I want him to buy for this household in groceries. He came up later this afternoon with a big box of groceries and vegetables, a leg of lamb, Tide, and etcetera. Bless his heart; I do love him for doing this for our precious little Marshes. When Janet got home from work at 4 p.m. she did the washing. I helped hang them out, she went to the store to get some things I wanted, rubber pants for baby and baby food, a few things I did not ask daddy Lou to buy. Joan left with three boys; I believe they were going to pick up another girl. I hope so, anyway. I know Larry; I told him he was responsible for my Joan's safety. He said he'd take good care of her. He seems like a nice lad. Janet gave Kathy her bath and then Grampa Lou took me and Kathy for a nice ride in the cool of the evening, up the Santa Anita Canyon. We also rode up to

Sierra Madre Canyon. Kathy got real excited when we passed Carol Colvin's big house, she pointed and shouted, Wary! Wary! Meaning her sister Mary. She has been up there with Donna to get Mary or take her up there. She thought we had gone up to get Mary and she was delighted. Warnie M. is away on a trip in the



*The trees were much smaller when Kathy spotted the Colvin's home and shouted, "Wary! Wary!"*

mountains somewhere. Janet went out with his friend Phil Caputo, the gas station boy. He gave her some gasoline for free and hand lotion and toothpaste, a gift of Avon. Janet and Phil went to a show. Kathy was very much impressed with Janet's new sunglasses and insisted they were hers. She wouldn't give them up and said, "mine, mine." Janet bought her a tiny pair of sunglasses, which satisfied her. She wore them on our ride, for about 15 minutes without taking them off. She looked so darn cute sitting between us, curly head, all sweet and clean from her bath and the dark glasses on her little face. Her nose looked so small, she is adorable. Joan came home from the park last night with some kids from Sierra Madre. At 10 p.m. Larry Stiemle came to our door to see if Joan got home okay. He and some other boys talked to Joan until I called her in at 11 p.m.

### July 26, Sunday

Kathy got me up at 7 a.m. She played on the cement patio after her breakfast. Joan got up at 9 a.m. and made a cake before going to Sunday School. Janet drove us all to church. We picked up Marilyn Ashby on our way. The lot was full up so we had to park in the corner parking lot. I enjoyed Sunday School as always, I've had to miss it a few weeks lately because of not feeling well. Kathy was ready to eat soon as we got home, she wouldn't wait for the sun dress, and it was all we could do to get the little yellow organdy dress off. I was glad I'd cooked the carrots and squash before we left for Sunday School. I didn't have to warm it up; she had two helpings of each. Joan frosted her cake and Janet fixed our lunch, cold salmon, tomatoes, and lettuce salad. Kathy had a nap. Janet brought the clothes in from the lines and folded them up. She also washed the dishes. I wiped them. Joan had two boyfriends call to see her, so she got out of the cleaning up (Larry Steimle and a David??). Lou didn't come home to eat with us, he wanted to go home and water the lawns, etcetera. I packed my belongings; we left the house in order for Mama and Daddy's homecoming. We met Grampa Lou in his car, at Colorado Street and Sierra Madre Boulevard, about 4:45 p.m. He led the way to the Glendale Depot, where we had the thrill of watching the train pull in, which brought our beloved Mother Donna and Daddy Rex. Janet and Joan had their dark glasses on and tried to get Kathy to wear

hers, but she was too excited to see the big trains coming and going to be bothered with sunglasses. I was sorry that little Mary and Johnny couldn't be with us at the depot to see Donna and Rex arrive, but they were anxiously waiting for us at Grama Marshes. I was happy to see Rex looking so well after his operation. Florence and John had a very delicious dinner waiting for us. It was a surprise to Rex and Donna as we didn't mention it to them. They had leg of lamb, homemade ice cream and two vegetables and Jello salad. It tasted so good. Donna insisted on washing the dishes. Janet and I wiped them. Joan and Grama Marsh put them away. Joan wiped some also. Johnny and Mary were as happy to see baby Kathy, as they were their parents. Grama Elvie was so glad as anyone to see this little Marsh family in one unit again. I enjoyed my stay at Donna's, the girls were so sweet and helpful, but I'm happy to go home and take care of my own sweet Lou, he has been so wonderful about everything. We took Johnny and Mary home with their wagon and tricycle in the back trunk. Rex drove his car with the others, we are all back to our own home sweet homes. Thank God everything turned out as well as it did. Now Rex has cesspool worries, which must be taken care of. Florence Marsh is expecting her brother Weldon [Green] tonight.

### July 27, Monday

Johnny was so glad to see Kathy yesterday, he took her out of our car and with her in his arms he tripped over his tricycle, but he held her up so the fall didn't hurt her, bless his dear little heart. He is precious. Today is Beverly Andersen's birthday. I hope she has a very happy birthday. Oh, it is good to be back home and to be of some assistance to my Lou again. My dear Donna is back on her busy life's schedule, bless her heart. I wish I could do more to help her. Our headlines from Panmunjom, Korea this morning are "End War! Delegates Sign Truce While Artillery Roars"?? Donna took care of the cat situation, old Tom was sick and Kitty was a dreadful worry, with the baby, as she loved him so, she wouldn't leave him alone. She'd put her mouth on his, and he'd lick her face and mouth. It was best to have the Humane Society take care of them; Donna phoned them this morning. Janet, Joan, and Kathy took the two yellow cats in a box to the Society. Of course baby wasn't aware of



*Los Angeles Union Station where Rex and Donna arrived after trip to Oakland.*



*(1939)—View showing workers at Los Angeles Union Station alongside a Southern Pacific Daylight Special which would link Los Angeles with San Francisco on daily trips.*

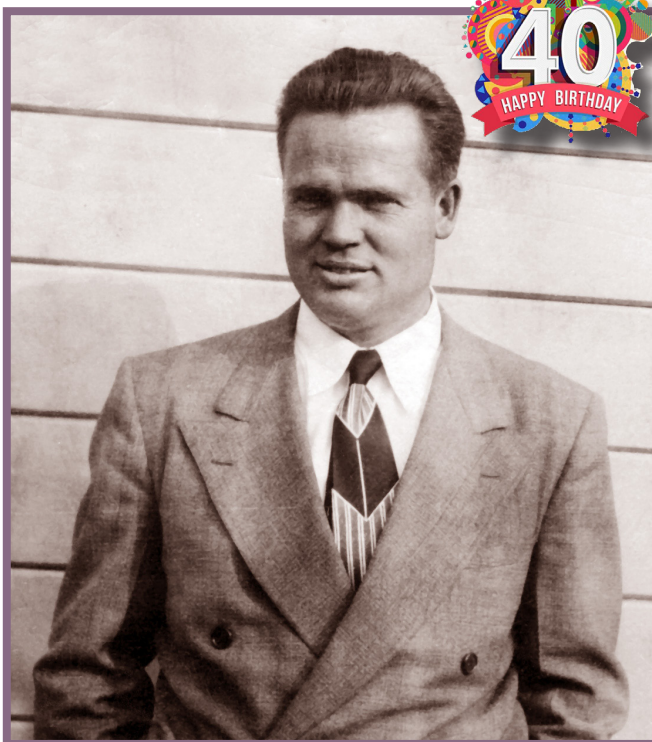


what they were about. Mary and Johnny had gone uptown to buy Rex a birthday gift, with the money he gave them before he went away, sweet eh? The kitten would never have left for the ride if they'd been home. They felt bad and cried when they heard about it. But Rex took them for a nice ride and they feel better now. Donna applied for work at a marmalade factory; they didn't need anyone. I put out a large washing, Lou had just about run out of shirts and underwear, while I was away. This evening Donna, Joan, Marion S., and Johnny came here; we took them to Highland Park. We left Joan and Marion off at the miniature golf course, we went to wish Beverly a happy birthday. Sue, Bette, baby Ricky, Elaine, Ann, and Sharon were there. Violet was visiting the Andersens; Yvonne and boyfriend, Dr. La Moyne Hickman, were there. They went to a show later. Dolores came alone later. She brought pretty material for a dress for Bev. Donna gave Bev cologne. I gave her \$2.00. Bev received several nice gifts, I can't name 'em all. They served ice cream and cake to all. I did not indulge as usual. Annie had invited Elsie and her sister Beat to dinner this evening, but they had an engagement to eat dinner with their niece, Florine. Harriet S. was visiting with Blanche; the three of them are here on a Greyhound tour. Beverly went to the hotel in Los Angeles and brought Elsie out to Andersen's so she could visit with us. Beat stayed with her niece Florine, in the hotel. I was disappointed, as I would like to have seen Beatrice. Dale and Ann went to the golf course to get Joan and Marion. They all went up to the Oateses' for a visit. Dale invited Joan out to a dance on Thursday night. She was pleased about it. It will be at the Civic Auditorium. Janet took care of baby Kathy tonight. I talked to Harriet S. on the phone at Annie's; she was at Blanche's house.

### July 28, Tuesday

Joan phoned me this morning and wanted me to phone Aunt Annie to have her tell Dale she will not be able to go to the dance with him next Thursday night after all. The friends that are taking her to the beach for a few days will not bring her home before Saturday. She was disappointed, as she wanted to go with Dale. Donna says she'll have to get a job while Rex is out of work convalescing. Daddy Lou looks up the want ads he thinks she would like to apply for work at. I hope and pray everything will work out all right for our dear Donna and family through this difficult period. My ironing took me most of the day it was a whopper for me. Lou had eight shirts in the wash. Florence Marsh phoned to ask me about Rex, I told her he was feeling fine and enjoying his

nice rest at home. He took the children to the Griffith Park Zoo this afternoon. Donna went also. Bishop Summerhays called on Rex and Donna this evening. He had a nice heart to heart talk with them. He thinks it better if Donna doesn't go out to work, as she is needed in the home with her little family. He let them have a loan to carry them through until Rex is well enough to go back to work. This is a wonderful relief for Rex and Donna and makes us happy too. A grand person is our bishop, always knows when to come to one's aid. The bills can be paid and Rex can relax. I talked to Annie on the phone; she is going to see if Dody has room to take me with them tomorrow to Burbank. I cut Carol Ann Fisher's picture out of the Sunday's paper this morning and put it in my scrapbook. She will be married in the fall.



*Rex Marsh circa 1945. In 1953 Rex turns forty years old.*

### July 29, Wednesday

Rex's birthday, "Life begins for our boy, eh? He is 40 years old. Annie phoned, I talked to her and Violet, they said Dolores would be by for me about 8:30 a.m. I had to hurry to be ready; she didn't come until 9 a.m. so I was ready and waiting. She had the two children with her, we picked Annie, Violet, and Yvonne up at the Andersen's, then we had a car full, but it was fun. We arrived out at Burbank about 10 a.m. Dolores, Yvonne, Ann V., Ray H., and little Ronnie went in swimming. Ronnie was afraid at first but when he found out the life preservers kept him afloat, he had a wonderful time. Little Nadine didn't like the pool, so she wasn't in long. Ray took his infant son, Ricky, in the pool and he loves it. He is 7 ½ months old, it is surely cute to

watch him splash, and he has a grand time. They should have movies of him in the big pool with Daddy. Sue and Bette served us a lovely luncheon, fruit salad, date-nut bread, fruit punch, pecan nut ice cream roll and mints. Sue and Bette seemed happy to see me today; glad I invited myself to go. After lunch we drove out to Panorama City in Van Nuys, to see Lorene, Mary, and children. The new infant, Randy, is surely a good-looking little fellow. He has a lot of dark hair. Both Lorene and Mary look worn out, the baby's food doesn't agree with him and he cries most of the time. I'm sorry about that. I was also very disturbed to learn that Lorene has to have an operation when she comes back from her trip. She has a hernia from lifting Charlie so much and a growth on her uterus, and needs a minor operation on her rectum. It's a dreadful shame. I missed Lynn; he was at school in some summer program. Little Kenny is cute. Ray, Bette, Ann V., and Ricky met us at Mary's. Ray led us to Shirley and Kenny's new home in Reseda. (I believe it

is in Reseda?) They have a very nice home, three bedrooms now. Shirley is expecting another baby in a few months. She looked lovely. Her two children are very good looking little blonds (Steven and Karen). I'm sorry we didn't get to call on Irene while we were out in Van Nuys, but we had to follow Ray so as not to get lost on our way to Shirley's. Beth J. is out there too, but darn it, we just couldn't call on them all in our short time. Sue went to the bank after we left, so she didn't go along. I got home about 5:30 p.m. I missed Jerry Haddock today; he is at Boy's Camp for a week. Lou was eating his dinner when I got home. I'm surely glad he can get his own meals when I'm not here. After the fights on T.V. (boxing 7 to 8) we went out to wish Rex a happy birthday. His Uncle Weldon Green was there, he'd eaten dinner with them. We gave Rex a card with \$5.00 in. John, Florence, and Ernie and Florence Oates came. Marshes gave Rex \$5.00. The Oateses gave him a check for \$50.00. Isn't that grand? Rex had on the yellow sport shirt that Janet and Joan gave him. Ovena, Chet, Jerry, and her father, Br. Richens came, we all had ice cream and cake. Donna didn't have time to make a cake, so she bought a Van de Kamp's angel food cake. I have surely enjoyed my son-in-law's birthday all day, hope he has too.

### July 30, Thursday

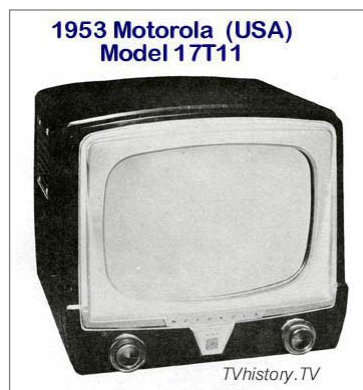
Ruby Anderson and I did our Relief Society visiting this morning. We just did get in this month; she has been in Salt Lake City five weeks. I was up to Donna's two weeks. We found five of our ten families at home. It is vacation time and many are away. Donna went to her Singing Mother's practice this morning. Dolores went also. I talked to Violet on the phone, she hasn't made up her mind yet, if she'll leave Saturday or stay a few days longer. Beverly and folks are leaving Saturday morning. Lorene, Yvonne, and David Andersen are going with them (Annie, Bill, and Bev). I hope they'll have a wonderful trip. I want to take Violet for a nice ride and dinner somewhere on Sunday if she'll stay over, but she'll let me know. If she is going home Saturday we'll take her out Friday. I wrote a letter to Ethel Newbold. Rex took his children to the beach today. They were gone when Donna and Kathy came home from Singing practice. They went to Balboa Beach, where Janet's and Joan's friends, Judy and Pat Swim are vacationing. The Swim family invited our girls to stay at the beach until Saturday with their daughters, so Rex left them down at the beach. I hope they have a very lovely time. I'm glad Janet had a few days off work, so she could have a nice vacation at the beach too. Br. Summers and Lynn Rowbotham came this evening; they are our ward teachers. Donna went to a stork shower tonight with Clarice Tanner and Clarice Warnick. The shower was for Dorothy Mortenson. Well, it happened! Our television has gone on the bumper. ☹ I got all nicely settled to watch T.V. and couldn't bring in the picture. The sound is all right, but just light flashes where we should have the picture. Dad and I were like a couple of lost souls tonight without our T.V. programs. It would happen when we'd had the extra expense of paying for the sewer to be connected up to our house. Well, that's life, eh?

### July 31, Friday

It just doesn't seem possible that our summer is almost over, only one month left. Donna said Jean Cummings mailed me a shower invitation to Dorothy Mortenson's stork shower last night, and sure enough I found it this morning in the little corner desk drawer. It came while I was up at Donna's and Daddy put it in the drawer and didn't mention it to me. I phoned Jean to let her know I had received it, without being aware of it. She was relieved to know I had it. Donna said there was a large attendance and Dorothy received many lovely gifts last night. I was really too tired to go out last night anyway, so it's just as well I didn't know I was invited, eh? I talked to Violet on the phone again today, she has decided to stay a few days longer, so I told her we'd take her out for a nice ride on Sunday. I think I'll phone Sue and see if she'd like to go along? Lou said he'd take us to see the new L.D.S. temple they're building in Southern California. We have a change in the weather this afternoon; it feels like it is trying to blow up a rainstorm. We could use a nice shower. I hope we get one. Janet and Joan are at Balboa Beach today, with Pat and Judy Swim and family. They'll bring them home tomorrow. Lou phoned a television repair shop this morning. They sent a man out this evening; he worked on our T.V. for about an hour but couldn't locate the trouble. He is coming back in the morning with a truck and a man, to take our T.V. into the shop, to take it apart and find the trouble. Oh! Oh! I hope it will not be too steep!

### August 1, Saturday

Lou went to work on our church building this morning, half a day. I cooked hot cakes for him; he had his beloved pork sausage all cooked and the batter for hot cakes ready when I took over. I never eat pork. It smells good, I'll admit, but it is not good for "mama" eh? I phoned Sue at 9 a.m. She'll be delighted to go with us tomorrow, we'll pick her up about 10:30 a.m. The television men came for our set at 11 a.m., they left us a Motorola T.V. table model. It has a 17-inch



*The repair shop brought the Renshaws a loaner T.V.*

screen. The men Rex works with, the plasterers, took up a collection for him, while he is convalescing from his operation. They gave him \$50.00. Isn't that grand? I went uptown on the 11 a.m. bus, I went to Grants Store and bought two sport shirts in seersucker, for Johnny at \$1.49 each, and two trucks in plastic, 59¢ each; the fire engine and the tow truck. It's Johnny's birthday on Tuesday, he'll be eight years old. I'm sure he'll like the toys better than the shirts. I bought house slippers for myself and my One A Day Vitamins and one dozen plain

white dessert dishes to give Donna. I noticed she was about out of the little dessert dishes. Where there are little folks in a family, the dishes get broken often. I bought a few small items in Kress Store. My week's allowance was about shot, so I came home. I had to buy several birthday cards, the 5¢ cards are now 10¢, darn it. Lou was taking his nap when I got home. He fixed his own lunch, "bless his heart." I ate



alone and then rested too. I wanted to buy Kathy some new socks but, maybe next time. This evening we rode out to Donna's to take the dozen dessert dishes and some jelly glasses. Rex, Donna, Joan, and Mary were busy planting and transplanting ivy geraniums in their front garden; a row of white and now a row of rose color. I do hope that Rex hasn't done himself harm, so soon after his operation. I gave Kathy a swing and took her for a ride in her red wagon this evening while the folks worked in the garden. Warnie got home from his camping trip today. He had a fall up in the mountains, which almost ended in tragedy. He took Janet to Bob's new eating-place in Pasadena this evening. We saw them there when we stopped to buy us a hamburger. Beverly, Annie, Bill, Yvonne, Lorene, and David Andersen leave this evening for Utah.

### August 2, Sunday

Lou and I called for Violet at Dolores's this morning at 10 a.m. Little Ronnie met us, with his adorable toothless grin. He surely would liked to have gone with us, he said, "Aunt Elvie, is your car going to be filled up?" (Cutie) Little Nadine looked like a big doll, dressed in her fluffy lavender dress. Both children were ready for Sunday School. It would never do for us to have little ones along today, as we'd planned a long drive and they get too restless. We picked Sue up in Burbank, about 10:35 a.m. Sue sat in front with Lou, Violet and I in the back

seat. It was nice and cool this morning and overcast. We enjoyed the lovely drive, went to Hollywood, out Beverly Hills way to the L.D.S. Temple building, which is out near Santa Monica. I was amazed at how far along that beautiful structure is. I had no idea it was going up so fast! We drove all around the building, close to it. The mission home, near by, is about completed. It is lovely too. We drove to Santa Monica along the coastline, past Point F, to San Pedro and on to Long Beach. We planned to stop in Long Beach and eat our dinner, but couldn't find a darn place to park our car anywhere near an eating-place. The streets were lined with cars on both sides. It seems everyone had the same idea about Long Beach today. We drove out of the town, thinking we'd stop at a drive-in place but didn't see one that looked just right to us, so on and on until back in Los Angeles, where we had a very delicious dinner at the good old Van de Kamp's where we were sure of getting something good to eat. It was 3 p.m. but worth waiting for. We took Sue home to Burbank and went in her house to rest a while. Lou took a short nap on Bette's couch. Jerry is still up at the boy's camp. He comes home tomorrow, little Ricky

looked so cute in his little green nylon suit, he is surely a cutie. I think he'll be walking when he is 9 months old. He is a darling. It was Primary night in Bette's ward, (in every ward I think?) Bette was on the program to open the meeting with prayer. Ray was on the program too. We brought Violet home to Dody's about 7 p.m. We all enjoyed this lovely drive today and the nice dinner, thanks to Daddy Lou, he treated to everything. Florence Marsh phoned this evening to ask about Rex. I phoned Sierra Madre for her. Rex called his mother on the phone to talk to her so I didn't call her back. Little Mary had a cold so didn't go to Sunday School. She had the dinner almost ready when her folks got home, mashed potatoes and everything. Donna cooked a roast this morning. Joan went to a slumber party in Sierra Madre last night, (Saturday), Diane Oates was there also. I think she went to Sunday School with Joan this morning.



*The Los Angeles temple, Lou, Elvie, and Violet drove to see the temple on August 2. Photo shows the temple under construction on July 31, 1953.*

### August 3, Monday

It is another lovely summer day. I did my washing; I had it out on the lines and the house cleaned up by noon. Donna got an early start this morning too, as Johnny had to catch the 6:30 a.m. bus for his day camp. He goes every day this week and Mary will go next week. Donna goes a little later to play the organ for their little community song program each day, from 8 to 9 a.m. The Andersens and Aunt Lorene will leave Cedar City this morning for Salt Lake City, if they are going as they planned before leaving here. I hope they'll

have a wonderful trip all of the way. They are going to Butte, Montana to see Bill's sister Jo and to Yellowstone Park. I believe they are going to the canyons, Zion's and Bryce from Cedar today. It sounds like fun, eh? I noticed that Nash's Store was having a sale on Men's summer sport shirts, values \$2.95 and \$3.95 for \$1.99. I mentioned it to Lou when he phoned this afternoon; he needs some sport shirts. He wanted me to meet him at Nash's Store after work. I went down on the bus. Lou bought three nice shirts, a tan seersucker, a green seersucker, and a white Dan River cotton. We ate our dinner in the Pasadena Cafeteria. We had some delicious lamb stew, which they know how to cook for sure! It was a treat for me, as I was dreadfully tired from my washing and all. I got the clothes in and dampened down before I went to town. I talked to Donna on the phone this evening; she and Joan went uptown this afternoon. She bought Johnny some swim trunks, and two or three toys for his birthday tomorrow. She bought a house dress for herself and socks for Kathy. She did her shopping in Penney's Store. The television man phoned, our T.V. will cost \$35.00 to repair. Oh me! Donna lost the queen tribute

I did for Melba Kunz, too bad. I'll have to do another one for Melba because that was the only copy we had of hers. Bart isn't working for Gordon anymore. He quit last Friday. Lou surely misses him. He was a good man. The work has picked up and they could use him this week.



*Rex and Johnny Marsh 1953. On August 4, John turns 8!*

### **August 4, Tuesday**

Our Johnny boy is eight years old today. He went to the day camp again this morning on the 6:30 bus. Donna went in her car at eight o'clock to play the little organ for their program and songs. She goes each morning while the day camp is in session. The children surprised Johnny by singing "Happy Birthday" to him this morning, then Donna let him pass each child a piece of candy, a Tootsie Roll. Mary and Marilyn Kirk rode to the camp with Donna this morning. They are going to the day camp next week. I composed another queen tribute to Melba Kunz this morning. The first one got lost. It wasn't hard to do, as I already had the first three verses I used in Miriam Clayton's tribute for the Garvanza Ward Relief Society. Annie asked me to do one for Miriam and one for Viola Sorensen. The gas man came this morning and worked at our meter box. They put a little vent out on our house, a small cap on a little pipe. They didn't turn our gas off this time, like a few weeks ago. They've changed the pressure in our street, so have to change our meter some how. My heart has hurt as has my left arm and shoulder since Sunday, but I'm trying to ignore the whole affair. I can't do anything about it anyway, eh? Donna had a Relief Society board meeting this afternoon. I did my ironing. I talked to Violet on the phone; she and Dody had been out shopping. She bought a pattern and some material to make a jumper dress for herself. Dody and Jenny said they'd help her make it before she goes home to Cedar next Thursday. We are happy to have our own T.V. set back and glad it is in excellent condition, it cost \$32.09 for repairs. I'm glad the bill is paid too. After dinner this evening, we went to Sierra Madre to take John Louis Marsh his birthday gifts. He was across the street at Bush's house when we arrived. The gift packages were a huge temptation to little sister Kathy. She couldn't understand why she had to

wait for brother Johnny to come home to open them up. He wasn't long coming and he let little "Susie Q" help him open them, so she was satisfied and happy about the whole affair. We gave him two seersucker sport shirts and two little fire trucks with rubber wheels. Diary between us, I'm sure he liked the toys best! His family gave him some swim trunks and two toy airplanes and a water gun, which he was anxious to try out on us, but he nobly restrained, said desire, with a few helpful suggestions from his mother, ha ha! Johnny's birthday cake was white with blue frosting, no less. 'Twas his special request. We sang "Happy Birthday" to Johnny, while his eight little candles burned brightly. Then the family enjoyed ice cream and cake. Johnny made a cork Indian head at camp today; it was cute. We came home in time to enjoy Ina Ray Hutton's all girl program on T.V. at 9 p.m. We took our two suitcases out to Janet and Joan this evening. Joan is going to the Oateses' for a week. Rex is going there also. Florence and Ernie are going to Detroit for a new car. Rex and Joan will stay with Irene and Diane while they're away. Janet is going to the beach for three days. Donna will be home with the three little ones. There was a swim, dance, Mutual party at Wagner's pool tonight. Warnie, Janet, and Joan went. Donna went to the Mutual party later tonight.

### **August 5, Wednesday**

Rex took Florence and Ernie Oates to the airport this morning. They are flying to Detroit to buy a new car. Rex and Joan will stay at Oateses' with the girls while they're away. Janet is going to the beach to enjoy three days with her girlfriends. Donna will be alone with her three little ones. Elaine Oates is in Utah to summer school at B.Y.U. Ernie is in the service, a Marine. Lou is the only man working in the shop now, and he has been kept very busy for a change. He surely misses Bart, since he quit and went to work in Palmdale. I mailed Irene Andersen a birthday card. Her birthday is August 7. I phoned Dolores and invited her to bring her mother, Violet, and the children over to eat lunch with me. They came about 12:35 noon. I baked a macaroni, cheese and tuna casserole and made a tossed green salad and cooked green peas. We had Jello and peaches for dessert and chocolate covered brownies I bought from my Helmsman. We had a nice visit. Dody and I did the dishes, while Violet took care of the baby. Violet has her bus ticket to leave for Cedar tomorrow night at 10 p.m. Gee, her vacation time here went fast. Yvonne went home last Saturday evening with the Andersens (Beverly, Annie, Bill, David, and Aunt Lorene). Rex took Irene Oates to the beach this morning after he'd taken Florence and Ernie to the airport. Joan and Diane O. will be with Rex at the Oateses' ranch this week. Rex took Janet to her girl friend's house this afternoon (Judy Swim), One of the girl's mothers is taking them to the beach for three days. Donna is playing the little organ for the day camp this week and next. Johnny goes this week and Mary will go next week. Florence Oates told Donna and Rex they could use their cabin up at Mt. Baldy next week, but she has to play each morning for the day camp. Too bad, eh? Also, Mary is going to the day camp. Maybe they can go the next week, eh? Grandma Oates is going to Oateses' next Tuesday to stay with Irene and Diane until their parents come home. Lou phoned this afternoon and said Gordon had hired a



young man to help out until they get caught up on the work. Strange how the work came in after Bart quit. Work had been slack for several months. Bart became discouraged and found another job. Lou worked an hour overtime this evening. I watered the flowers and lawns this evening; while Lou enjoyed the Blue Ribbon Boxing Bouts. I just cannot endure the fights. They are too much for my peace loving soul. There could be no wars if all of God's children loved each other, and wanted peace, as I do. I hope to live in a world of love some time. It is so easy for me to love.

### August 6, Thursday

Lou went to work an hour earlier this morning. He has been swamped since Bart quit. Well, it's nice to know the work at the shop is picking up anyway. I got a nice early start this morning, also, as I got up to put a lunch up for my Lou. I shampooed my hair, which is a big job with my long hair. It is past my waistline again, I'll have to cut a few inches off I guess. My hair grows very fast. I cut about six inches off a few months ago. I like to keep it to the waistline. I always wish it were short when I shampoo it, but I like to dress long hair so much. I think Donna had a busy day as usual with Singing Mother's practice this morning and the day camp program from 8 to 9 a.m. Song practice is 10:30 a.m. and she gets home about noon. I cut some beautiful red roses yesterday for our luncheon table. I surely am enjoying their lovely beauty and fragrant perfume now. Our roses have been just gorgeous this summer. It's a beautiful world we live in. I wish people's lives and thoughts could be as lovely. I hope my little Janet is enjoying her vacation at the beach. And I'm sure my Joan is happy at the Oateses' ranch with cousin Diane. Rex is there, too, enjoying the television and looking



*Elvie cut some beautiful red roses for her luncheon table.*



*Lou enjoyed the Wednesday night Blue Ribbon Bouts Boxing. Elvie did not enjoy the fighting.*

### Blue Ribbon Bouts Boxing

... Boxing is one of the oldest sports, as well as one of the earliest professional sports. In the earliest days of professional boxing, the sport was a savage and brutal exhibition, with few rules and lots of blood. The matches held in private clubs and there was a great deal of betting on the outcomes. Thus, the sport of boxing developed a stigma that it was still overcoming in the 40's and 50's.

It was corporate sponsorship of the bouts that helped to legitimize professional boxing. The Gillette Razor company was one of the first marketers to recognize the profitable link between sports and products geared towards men. Gillette became the sole sponsor of the World Series broadcasts in 1939, and in 1942 began broadcasting The Gillette Cavalcade of Sports, featuring regular Friday Night Fights from Madison Square Garden.

The Pabst Blue Ribbon Bouts were Wednesday night fights from 1948 through 1955. The show was on all three major radio networks over the years and was a popular part of the television lineup. The fights broadcasts originated from several arenas around the country and featured a number of title bouts.

The program begins with a call for the listener to get comfortable, and be sure he has plenty of snacks like popcorn or pretzels handy. And of course, plenty of cold beer! After introducing the evening's fighters, the colorman and the blow-by-blow announcer give a quick pre-fight analysis. Between rounds, in addition to the obligatory plug for Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer and other products, there are interviews with boxers and boxing officials who are in the crowd. . .

after the girls. Johnny is happy at his day camp. It's Mary's turn next week, "bless her heart." Baby Kathy and Mama are keeping the "home fires burning," oh, I love them all, my Marshes and my precious Lou, too, and my relatives, everyone. It's a grand feeling to have your heart full of love, no room for hate that way, eh? Gordon hired a young man to help Lou out in the Venetian blind shop. He started this morning. Lou said he was catching on okay. I phoned Violet this evening to say goodbye until we meet again. She told me about the flood they had in Cedar City last Friday, the day before the Andersens and Yvonne arrived home to Cedar. Yvonne didn't mention it when she phoned Violet last Sunday, she didn't want to upset her. But Joneses' read about it in the newspaper. Violet was worried about her house, as it is in the basement. The paper said four to six feet of water were in the streets of Cedar City. Well, Violet phoned Yvonne this evening to ask if any water got in their house. It did! When the folks arrived last Sunday, they had to put rugs and pads out to dry. Oh me, what a wet homecoming eh? Yvonne informed Violet that everything was dry and good as new now. Violet has her doubts about the "good as new" part! A flood, once in a while, would be swell, if it could accomplish that, eh? I surely do hope Violet will not find a lot of damage done when she checks her household. She went home on the bus tonight; left from El Monte at 10:30 p.m. I hope she will enjoy the trip and find things okay at home. Lou did not work overtime this evening so we had dinner over early. I talked to Donna this evening; she and the three little ones are home alone this week. Rex talks to her on the phone from the Oateses' ranch.

### August 7, Friday

It is Irene Andersen's birthday today. I hope she has a happy day. I mailed her a card on Wednesday. Lou went to work again at 7 a.m. He is trying to get caught up on the work at the shop. I hate to get up so early, but am always glad when I am up. The morning was so lovely. I went out and watered the flowers and lawns after Lou left. Mrs. Edgecomb is on the jury, for Los Angeles County. She has been going to Los Angeles eighteen days now. She dreads the long drive and the long hours in the warm courtrooms. She has

only two more days to serve, if they do not get on a locked jury. I hope she will be through in two days; she wants to go back to her regular work at Woolworth's Store. I miss Mr. and Mrs. Lowe (Mrs. Edgecomb's mother and father). They are visiting with their son and family out in Duarte, California. Donna phoned this morning, after she got back from playing the little organ at the day camp. She took Mary and Kathy with her this morning. Johnny's week at camp is about over, eh? Mary goes next week. Donna will play for their group too. She is getting a stencil from the school; she'll make some copies of the words to the songs they'll use next week, for the older children, as they can read the words to the songs. Donna says that Rex is enjoying the Oateses' television. It keeps him up until midnight. It's good he doesn't have to get up early to go to work, eh? Joan is enjoying her visit at Oateses' with cousin Diane. Irene is at the beach with friends. Janet is at Balboa Beach with her friends, Judy Swim, and others. Donna expects her home Sunday afternoon. I talked to my neighbor Mrs. Edgecomb this morning. She was about to leave for her tiresome drive to the Los Angeles Court House where she is serving on a jury. Excuse me please, I've already mentioned it. It's vacuuming day and I'm not in the mood, but I'll have to get busy anyway, darn it! Later, well, it's done; I hit the high spots this week. The house didn't look bad before I started but I like to know the dust is out of the rugs anyway. I rested for two hours before dinnertime. Lou came home early, his regular time, 4:45 p.m. We had dinner at 5:30. He cut and watered the front lawns while I prepared dinner; a nice green salad with hard-boiled eggs and tuna fish in it. We also had cream of tomato soup. Lou napped in the cabaña swing after dinner, then cut the back lawns. Our long daylight evenings are nice, because he can do such a lot in the yard, before dark. The only trouble, Daddy gets hungry and has to eat again, ha ha! Oh, he has his snack in the wintertime, too. It's a habit with him. It's okay by me, as he takes care of his own second feeding. One dinner is all I worry about. Between you and me, diary, his clothes would not shrink as fast if he'd leave off the last feeding, eh? I think he'd sleep better too. But we love him!

### August 8, Saturday

It was a little overcast this morning, but sunny by nine o'clock. Lou went to work on our church building. Donna phoned me this morning from the Oateses' ranch. She and the three little ones stayed there last night. Rex went home yesterday and took John and Mary to the Oateses' ranch. He called Donna on the phone at 5 p.m. and wanted her to bring Kathy over and ride out to the beach with him and John and Florence Marsh. The Highland Park Ward was having a beach party, a wiener bake. Louis and Miriam were going to drive out to the beach with John and Florence, but when they arrived at Lewie's they found Miriam had stomach cramps so they were not going. Florence and John drove over to the Oateses' ranch and then Rex told them he and Donna would go with them to the beach party. The party was held at the Plaza Del Ray Beach. Joan stayed at Oateses' with the three children (Diane had a babysitting job last night

while Joan was with her own little sister at Oateses'). Rex and Donna watched a T.V. movie when they got home from the beach. Donna called in here on her way home today. She had Mary and Kathy. Johnny stayed at Oateses' with his daddy. Dale Andersen, Don Lee Jorgenson, and Garry Kitchens took Diane and Joan to the beach this morning. They went out to get Irene O. She has been at the beach this week. Ronnie and Ray Johnson came to Oateses' soon after the kids had left for the beach. They rushed away in their car to the beach, I guess, also. Oh these young kids have a wonderful time, eh? I'm so glad they can have a lot of fun; they're all sweet kids. Donna says that Robin Marsh is working out at Catalina Island. She has been there two weeks, I believe. Joan and Diane have a date tonight with two of Diane's boyfriends. Donna received a nice little thank you note and a gift package from dear old Sr. Peak; she is 80 years old. She sent Donna a crocheted potholder and a doily. She thanked Donna and her Relief Society for being so kind to her son's wife and family, while Edna was so ill. Donna and her counselors called on Sr. Peak the other day, she wasn't home, so Donna wrote a note to her saying they were sorry they had missed her. The dear little lady answered the note and sent the gift, bless her heart. We do have many wonderful people in this world, eh? Lou came home about 1 p.m. I fixed lunch while he was bathing. We both enjoyed a nap this afternoon and went to Shopping Bag later. We saw Clarice W. and talked to her. We were surprised and delighted to see Grace Hill in the market. She is visiting her friend out this way. Armin Hill has gone to Alaska to talk to her husband, Les Eddington. He has been in Alaska for about three months, Grace said. We received a postcard from Hilda Botting; she is visiting her folks in Toronto, Canada. I have missed Hilda at Sunday School, she was always there at the door passing out the program. She is a lovely person. It is an open house for Harriet Pack tomorrow at her daughter's home, Clara Parks. Sue told me a week ago, we were going to get an invitation, but it didn't come. Rex drove the folks out past the Los Angeles L.D.S. Temple last night in John's car.



Hilda Irene Perry Botting, image from Family Search.

### August 9, Sunday

I had intended frying a chicken for our dinner today, but Lou suggested last night, that I stew it, so I could look at the television programs while it cooked. A happy thought which I was delighted to comply with. I had some heart distress last evening, it had me worried a little, but I said nothing about it. No use two of us upset, eh? But, I slept well last night and feel all right this morning. One sharp pain was all this morning. Grace Hill phoned, just as we were about ready to leave for Sunday School. She is visiting her friend Mrs. Cleasby who lives not far from us, on White Street near the Frandson's home. Grace wanted to know if Lou and I were going to Sr. Harriet Pack's birthday party, out at her daughter's, Clara Parks, in Venice, at the beach. Sr. Pack is 80 years old and Clara is having an open house for all her old friends. Sue told me that Clara wrote her and asked for our address, but somehow the invitation didn't arrive. Lou didn't think we should go. I was sorry to disappoint



Grace, as she had no other way to get out to Venice. She wanted to find a way for herself and Sr. Brunette. I'm really sorry about it, I'd loved to have gone and taken them. Donna would like to have gone with us too. Lou had that long drive last Sunday in the heavy Sunday traffic, he didn't want the same experience today, so he enjoyed his nap as usual. Donna cooked dinner for her family and the three Oates children, Ernie Jr., Irene, and Diane, at the Oateses' ranch today. Joan went to Sunday School with the Oates girls in Garvanza Ward. Rex came to his own ward, East Pasadena. Donna brought Mary, Johnny, and Kathy to Sunday School from Sierra Madre. She cooked their roast at home this morning, and took it to the Oateses' after Sunday School. Janet did not get home from her vacation at the beach, so she wasn't in Sunday School. Lou put our dinner on the table while I was phoning to Grace Hill after Sunday School. I had it all prepared, cold chicken, Jello salad and etcetera. It was good. I was dreadfully sorry to have to tell Grace we couldn't take her and Bernice to the beach to Sr. Pack's open house party. I would love to have gone too. We had a very fine meeting tonight in church. Truman's Fisher's sweet wife sang two lovely solos, our speaker was Br. Daken K. Broadhead, he gave an excellent talk; he is here from Washington, D.C. He came to be with his wife when her baby was born, a boy, their fifth son. No girls. Sr. Broadhead was with him tonight, a lovely woman. D.K. Broadhead [*Daken Karl Broadhead*] is executive assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, in President Eisenhower's cabinet. Br. Benson is a member of the twelve apostles in our church. Br. Broadhead was in our stake presidency before his call to Washington. We were all happy to see Jim and Nell Ellsworth in church tonight. He came to take his family back to Oklahoma, where he is an executive in the F.B.I. Ernie and Irene Oates came to our ward tonight. Joan went to Garvanza with Diane Oates. Edna Peak was out to church; I was delighted to



*Daken Karl and Olene Broadhead*

Daken K. Broadhead, 93, Noted Business and Civic Leader -- including former executive assistant to the U.S. secretary of agriculture -- died Feb. 21, 1999, in Newport Beach, Calif.

Born in Nephi, Mr. Broadhead had lived in California for 25 years. He was the retired president of Allied Record Co. and the co-founder of Beverly Enterprises.

He was a 1928 graduate of Utah State University and began his business career as a manager with Safeway Stores. Mr. Broadhead was a member of the War Food Administration during World War II and had served as an assistant to Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson from 1953-55.

From 1945 to 1986 he was the president and principal owner of Allied Record in Los Angeles, now known as WEA Manufacturing. He co-founded Beverly Enterprises, the nation's largest skilled nursing facilities chain, in Pasadena, Calif., in 1963 and served there until 1969.

He was also president and a director of Bonneville Entertainment Corp. and vice president and a director of Deseret Trust Co. of California.

Mr. Broadhead served as a founder and director of Metropolitan Bank, was a chairman of the board of advisers of KBIG-FM radio and also a member of the Brigham Young University Marriott Management School of Business Advisory Council and the Utah State President's Round Table.

He had been a past president of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and helped develop the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He had also served as president of the San Marino School Board and was a member of the Hollywood Rotary Club.

Active in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he had served as a counselor to Howard W. Hunter when he was stake president in Pasadena, Calif. He had also been a sealer in the Los Angeles Temple and a regional representative for the church.

He organized the USU Alumni Chapter and was a major early fund-raiser for BYU, USU and the Utah Symphony.

—From *Find A Grave*, Daken K. Broadhead obituary.

see her well again. Rex and Wilford Gurr were the speakers in the fireside chat tonight after church at the Kunz's home. Joan went to the stake dance last night with her cousin, Ernie Oates. I wonder what happened to the date she had with one of Diane's boyfriends? I'm glad she went to the stake dance.

### August 10, Monday

I was so happy last night to see Edna Peak out to church after her long illness. She looked so well and happy. I talked to Rex on the phone this morning. He said they had a nice time in the fireside chat last night, at Kunz's home. He and Wilford Gurr were speakers; they introduced the new missionary method of teaching our gospel. Donna had gone to take Johnny over to visit with the Howard's this morning so Rex talked to me. He said baby Kathy has a cold in her eyes and nose. Janet got home from her vacation at the beach, last night. She was going to work at Dr. Anderson's at 1 p.m. today. Mary started her week at the day camp this morning. I had my washing out by 10:25 this morning; it was not a large one. Rex stays over at the Oateses' nights, to be with the girls. Irene was out to the beach last week. She is up at Mt. Baldy now, with the Ellsworths, or they planned to take her last night after the fireside chat. I guess they did? Rex took Ernie back to his bus station last night. There was no one at the Oateses' so both Joan and Rex stayed in Sierra Madre. Diane stayed with a girlfriend and there was no need for Rex to be at the ranch. He and Joan went back this afternoon. Ernie Jr. will be shipped out Wednesday for Japan. I do hope and pray that the fighting is over for all time, so our sweet young men will be safe. We received postcards from Beverly and Lorene this morning from Butte, Montana, where they are visiting Bill Andersen's sister, Jo. They are having a wonderful vacation, no car trouble, all are happy. I'm thankful everything has been so pleasant this trip. I had a job pinning my four pretty lace doilies on my rug, over paper. I'm not as young as I once was. It is hard for me to kneel down so long now.

Well, they're done again, for a long time, I hope. I phoned Sue, she was feeling miserable, with a head cold. She went to Sr. Pack's open house birthday party yesterday with Elaine and Ernie. It doesn't seem possible that Harriet Pack is 80 years old. Well, here I am, 60 years old. T i m e

marches on, eh? I washed my white wool stole today. It looks so pretty, fluffy and white. Lou and I enjoyed our chicken soup and the pieces of chicken, left from dinner yesterday. Lou worked in the yard until almost dark. Tomorrow is our workday at Relief Society. We'll crown a queen (for a day) and enjoy a nice lunch. I have four queen tributes ready, Melba Kunz will decide which one we crown. We have Carol Blied, Lydia Stephens, Margaret Waugaman, and Elvenia Summers all composed in rhyme. Which one will it be? We had a nice letter from Flora and Will Taylor today.

### August 11, Tuesday

An astonished Queen was crowned today in Relief Society. Now I know how the queens we crown feel when they're surprised! Well, diary, the Relief Society sure pulled a fast one on me this day. I was all set to hear my tribute poem read for Queen Lydia Stephens. Melba Kunz they called on Ethel Burk to read the queen's tribute; she gave a beautiful tribute to me, "Queen Elvie." It was her own composition and it was very lovely in rhyme and the next thing I knew I was wearing the golden gown and had a pretty rosebud corsage pinned on my dress and a gift package to open. It was wrapped in colorful flowered paper and white satin ribbon ties and bow. It was three pretty little guest towels. Ethel made two copies of the poem, typed on nice floral stationery. One copy was for the Relief Society scrapbook and one for me. Clarice T. took my picture for the scrapbook. I didn't think Melba Kunz would double cross me like that! I've had a tribute composed for Melba for several weeks. Donna and I had it all planned to surprise her next time. Well, we'll do it one of these times when she is expecting to crown some one else, eh? Rex brought Joan over from the Oateses', to babysit for the

mother's today. Mrs. Morris is on vacation until we start regular meetings in the fall again. Joan earned \$3.00. Vera Smith took me to the Bank of America on Lake Street and Green Street. I learned something new. I can deposit to our account in any Bank of America, they take care of it, with our own bank, where our account is. We are in the main branch, in Pasadena, on Colorado Street. Live and learn, eh? Vera bought butter, rolls, and salad dressing at Ralph's Market and some sewing thread in the 15¢ Store near Ralph's. I spent my time threading wool in the needles for the sisters to tie two crib quilts. Johnny came to Relief Society with Donna. He helped thread the wool in needles, until Rex came with Joan, then he went home with Rex. Janet was home with Kathy; she had to go to work at 1 p.m. so Rex took over then. We had some men come out to church today to demonstrate a stainless steel salad mixer. They



Queen Elvie Renshaw was crowned on August 11, 1953.

#### To A Friend—Elvie Renshaw

*Some Queens are chosen from a contest,  
Some through line of birth,  
Some win their laurels by the way  
They live and act on earth.  
Such a one we have at this time,  
Who has queenly virtues to spare,  
Who is a wife, a mother, and a grandmother,  
With friendliness to share:  
For all with whom she comes in contact  
Her gentleness is a light;  
It strengthens all with whom she mingles  
By its sweet majesty and might.  
She shows by living example, and  
Her goodness and beauty is plain,  
It reaches down deep into all our hearts  
And for this she will reign  
As Queen of all the others that  
Have been crowned in this way  
She is our own Elvie Renshaw,  
A guiding light and sunny ray,  
As the crown of this achievement  
Upon your head is set,  
May this symbol show our love for you  
A wonderful queen, you bet.*

—Ethel Leone Burk

made a very delicious green salad, which we enjoyed at our lunch. It is a wonderful machine, I wish I could buy Donna one, or better still, I wish she could afford to buy one, and everything she needs. The mixer cost about \$30. It is a wonderful grater for any vegetable and works with such ease. I helped wipe dishes after the lunch. Joan put glasses and dishes up in the cupboards (high up), she stood on the kitchen stool. Rex took Joan back to Oateses' this evening. Grama Oates arrived to take over today. So Rex is back home. Diane wants Joan to stay longer. Melba K. stopped on our way home for some groceries and bought her little boy, David, a new belt, the two little boys were with us. We had an early dinner; Lou went over to work on the church building at 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. I worked on the Relief Society scrapbook. Bonna Gordon took me to Relief Society today and Melba Kunz brought me home.



### August 12, Wednesday

Miriam Clayton was crowned Queen of Garvanza Ward Relief Society today. Lou had a bad attack of leg cramps last night; he hasn't had any for several months. I guess I'd better make more alfalfa seed tea, eh? We'd just got nicely settled back in bed; when a terrific sound set us bolt upright again. My first thought was a bolt of thunder, but it sounded like it was in Lou's bedroom. I called to him and he was up again. He went outside to see how much of our neighbor's avocado tree was down on his roof. The tree is so heavy with fruit this year that Lou had been afraid the branches would snap off which is just what happened. A branch broke off and fell on the patio cabaña roof. Gosh it made a noise. Lou propped one heavy branch up off our light wires last week. The tree is surely loaded this year. It had very few avocados last year. I phoned Miriam Clayton this afternoon. She told me that she was honored in Garvanza Relief Society this morning; she was crowned "Queen for a Day." A royal family, eh? My coronation was yesterday and her's today. I worked on my own scrapbook this morning, instead of ironing. It is a lot more fun, but darn it, I had to do the ironing this afternoon. Rex went to have his boss, Br. Kunz sign some benefit insurance papers for him. He has to stay out of work six weeks because of his operation he had on July 16. He should stay out of work, but he is so worried about expenses piling up and no income to meet them, he says he is going back to work next week. I surely hope he will not harm himself. The Andersen's vacation is about to an end now. Strange how we plan and anticipate a vacation trip and then it is over so quick, eh? I think they plan to be home Saturday. I have missed Annie a lot because we visit over the phone often. Lorene works, so I don't hear from her as often. That dear sister has an operation facing her when she gets home. I wish she didn't have to undergo the worry and misery of an operation. I'll surely be happy when she is over with it too!

### August 13, Thursday

Donna took Kathy with her this morning to the Las Flores Ward to the Singing Mother's rehearsal. I think Clarice Tanner took them. Rex took his car; he went to work with his father and Lewie today. I hope it isn't too soon after his operation? I had a nice talk with Janet over the phone, after Donna left. She was a bit perplexed, as Mother forgot to leave the bus fare; we had to laugh, as I had money, but couldn't help her out. It turned out okay, she found some pennies in Daddy's desk and friend Warnie dropped by and loaned her the balance. I think she needed 40¢ for the fare to and from Dr. Anderson's office. Donna said she remembered Janet's bus fare when she was singing her best note and it almost choked her, ha ha! My dear old neighbor Mrs. Scott phoned to tell me she is a great grandmother. Paul's daughter Joan has a baby girl. Mrs. Scott is going to live with her daughter, Janet; she

can't live alone anymore. She is blind and not well, I believe she is 80 or past. Ethel Burk phoned to tell me how happy my "sweet" little thank you note made her feel this morning. We had a real nice visit over the phone; I do have some lovely friends. Donna phoned about 1:30. We made arrangements to meet uptown at the Mather's Department Store at 2:30 or as soon as her bus arrived; she had to transfer from Sierra Madre bus to Number 1. I had to wait about fifteen minutes for her. We went across the street to the jewelry store and I bought an expansion bracelet for Janet's wristwatch for \$5.95. Donna brought the watch with her. We did some shopping in the Kress Store. I bought four pair of socks for Kathy. Donna bought Mary some bras and a few items for the little kiddies to give sister Janet for her birthday tomorrow; nail polish remover, deodorant, hair wave set, and etcetera. I bought a can of plastic Band-Aids for Donna to take home. The bishop called for Lou tonight, they went to work at the box factory for three hours. Russell Fowler came by for Lou also, but he'd gone. I tried to reach Russell on phone but couldn't. Donna got home as soon as I did today. I'm glad she didn't have long to wait for her Sierra Madre Bus.

### August 14, Friday—Janet's Birthday

*We were very proud and happy  
Seventeen years ago today,  
Baby Janet, our first grandchild came,  
To gladden our hearts in a special way.  
We've watched her grow from adorable infancy,  
Into a beautiful teenage girl,  
May she grow just as lovely in character,  
Keep sweet and good, through life's mad whirl.*



Janet Eileen Marsh in 1939, in 1953  
Janet turns 17 years old.

I hope you'll have a very happy birthday dear Janet. I haven't felt too good today, but managed to do my cleaning. The house looked so nice and clean it seemed foolish to do anything at all; no little ones to run in and out like up to Donna's. Her house needs some cleaning everyday, wish I could help her like I used to do a few years ago, when we were neighbors on La Riba Way. Dr. Anderson gave Janet today off. One of her friends, Tom Ryan, took her for a ride in his 1953 Ford this afternoon. Warnie M. took her to dinner and to the Palladium in Hollywood tonight. He gave her a beautiful black cashmere sweater. Tom R. is taking her out tomorrow night. Mrs. Stacey had the tree men, Mr. Milne and his men, cut some branches off the avocado tree this afternoon. They are so heavy with fruit that she is afraid of them coming down on our houses or light wires.

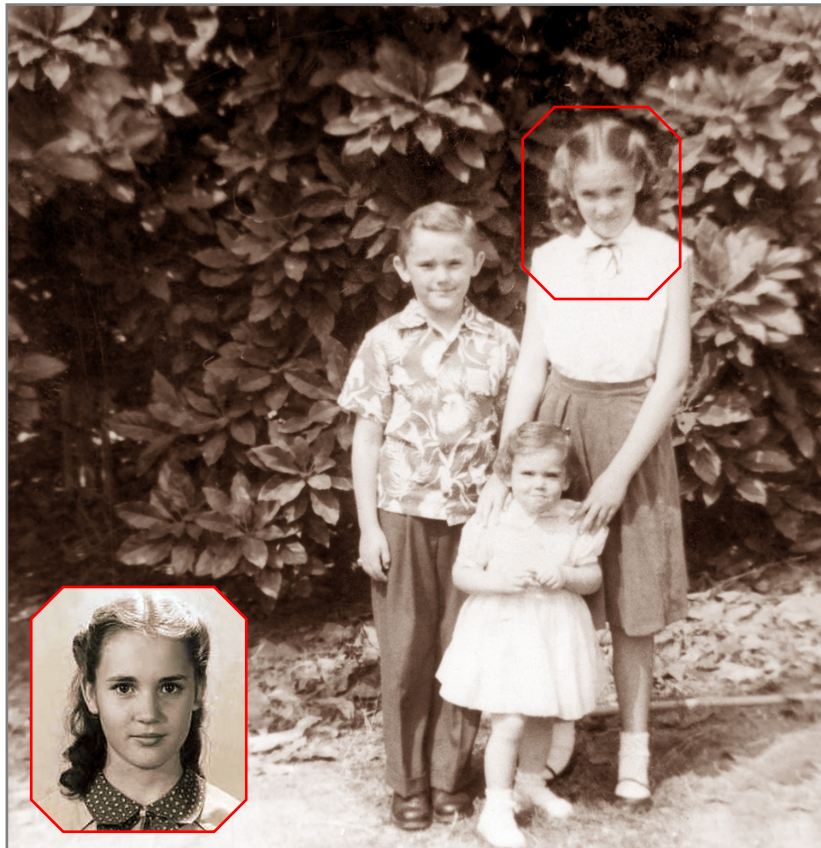
They asked permission to stand on our cabaña roof to cut the branches over-hanging our yard. Of course I gave it. Two men and a tall steel ladder, and all that heavy hard fruit made a lot of noise falling on the cabaña roof. If it leaks in

our rainy season we'll understand, eh? It seems a shame to sacrifice all that beautiful avocado fruit, but Mrs. Stacy is leaving for Chicago tomorrow and she doesn't want to worry about damage to either home while she is away for three weeks. We went out to Sierra Madre about 6:10 p.m. to wish Janet a happy birthday. She seemed pleased with the expansion bracelet we gave her for her wristwatch. Rex and Donna gave her money for a dress; we gave her \$5.00 in her card also. I'm not sure how much her parents gave her, \$10 or \$15, I think? Joan sent Janet two records to play on their record player. Joan is still at the Oateses'.

She sent the gift home with Rex. The children gave Janet several little gifts; hair wave set, polish remover, deodorant, and etcetera. Mary and Johnny have opened up a bank account in Sierra Madre. They have \$3.00 in it. Grampa Lou gave them another dollar to add to it. He gave Donna \$10 for herself, bless his dear heart. We brought Kathy home with us; Rex took Donna and the children to see a 3D picture at Washington Theater. We enjoyed our precious baby. She is such a pretty little doll and so cute. She went to bed at 8:30 on Grama's bed. She was real good about going to bed; she seemed to enjoy it. The folks came by after the show for the baby. I was lying on the bed with baby.

### August 15, Saturday

Lou got up and went to work on the church building without eating his breakfast, sorry about that. I got up at 9 a.m., took my bath and watered flowers and lawn. Janet phoned, she wanted to use Grampa's car to go to Dr. Anderson's office for her check and down to buy a dress with her birthday money. I phoned the church to ask him if it was all right for her to come after the car. She and Mary walked to the church. Mary stayed with me while Janet took care of her business. She bought a pretty little cotton dress, in a sheer material. It is white, with a tiny black pin strip. It is very neat and tasteful, as are all of Janet's choices of clothes. It cost \$12.00. Janet got home in time to pick Grampa up at the church at 1:15 p.m. He drove her home, and then came here. I fixed lunch for Mary and Lou. I wasn't hungry. Lou had his bath before eating and his nap after lunch. Mary and I cleaned



*John, Kathy, and Mary Marsh in 1953. August 15, Elvie writes, "Our little Mary is lovely to look at; she has large blue eyes and light brown hair, which has a pretty natural curl."*

out the cabaña before lunch. She watched a T.V. program while I wrote in diary. After Lou's nap we all three went to Shopping Bag Market. We purchased our groceries for the ensuing week. I bought Mary a little bright green coolie hat, at the market, 18¢. She looked cute with it on, the elastic band tucked under her curls. Our little Mary is lovely to look at; she has large blue eyes and light brown hair, which has a pretty natural curl. Irene Oates drove Joan home this evening from their home. Diane was with them. The four teenage cousins had a nice visit out in the Oateses' car for awhile, all sweet kids! Rex and Donna went with Ovena and Chet Mayo

up to the Ellsworth

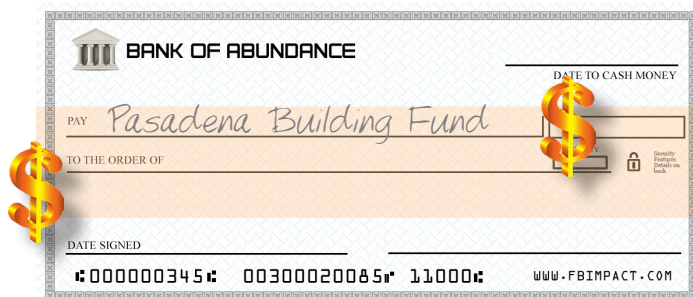
cabin in Mt. Baldy tonight, their club potluck dinner party. Joan stayed home with Johnny and Kathy. Janet went to a party with Tom Ryan. He goes into the service for U.S.A. on Monday. Mary stayed all night with us. We enjoyed television tonight. Annie phoned this evening and said they were back from their vacation trip, arrived home at 6 a.m. I was delighted to know they were back home safe and sound. They had a wonderful trip. They left David Andersen off at his home in Van Nuys, at 4 a.m.

### August 16, Sunday

Today was a special stake priesthood conference. It was the first official meeting in the new building at 770 N. Sierra Madre Villa, Pasadena. Donna took Rex to the new stake house building at 9 a.m. and then she came here with Mary's Sunday clothes. Johnny and Kathy were with her. Sr. LaRue Gurr called by for Mary and me to take us to Sunday School at 10:35 a.m. We had a car full with three adults and six children. Good thing we didn't have far to go to our church. Wilford Gurr and someone else, not sure who, drove to the new stake building in Lou's car. The priesthood meeting started at 9 a.m. This was a special meeting for the stake priesthood, to give the men the factual data on the stake building and make a gigantic drive for funds to carry on with the building program. The Sunday Schools were all conducted in the wards, but the sisters were appointed to do it this morning. It surely seemed strange without our men folks in Sunday School, but we had a very nice Sunday School anyway. Instead of the sacrament service, we had a



talk given by the Pasadena Stake Relief Society President, Madge Fowler. She gave a splendid talk about funds needed for our new building. Ethel Burk gave the lesson in our Gospel Doctrine class and did a good job. Donna was called on to teach one of the Jr. Sunday School classes. The Marshes insisted on me coming home to eat dinner with them. I rode in Clarice Tanner's car. She took part of us. Ovena took some also. I phoned Lou when I got to Donna's and told him to come up and eat with us. Donna had cooked a roast before Sunday School. We had a delicious dinner. She had a beautiful white cake with orange filling in it; oh, it was good! She also had some chocolate cake left from their club party. The children all like chocolate best, not us oldsters eh? Lou and I drove to Highland Park to see Andersens. We had a nice visit with Bill, Annie, and Beverly. Dale is at his camp up north, Camp Lewis, I believe it is. He'll be in training there two weeks. We went to see Lorene, she caught a cold coming home, so wasn't feeling very well, but she said she enjoyed her trip immensely. We found Donna, Rex, Johnny, Terry M., and baby Kathy here when we got home. They were enjoying a western picture on T.V. They left in time to get ready for church. I wanted to go to the sacrament meeting tonight, I missed sacrament in Sunday School, but Lou wasn't in the mood to go so we stayed home. Bryan and LaPriel Bunker were at church. Sorry I missed seeing them. LaPriel's two sons were with them tonight. President Bunker was speaker in the fireside chat at Mayo's after church. They passed blank L.D.S. checks out and took in over \$18,000 at the conference.



### August 17, Monday

It was quite foggy this morning but cleared up by 10 a.m. I changed the bed linen this morning, and pasted the lovely poem that Ethel Burk gave me yesterday, in my scrapbook. It is titled, "To a Friend." Lou wanted me to deposit some money for him, \$40.00, so I went uptown this morning instead of doing the washing. I bought some alfalfa seed at the Health Store, two pounds for \$1.39. I make tea from it for Lou; he doesn't have the dreadful leg cramps (Charlie horse), when he is drinking alfalfa tea every day, night and morning. I didn't stay uptown long; I bought hairnets in Kress Store and came back home. Dr. Don Anderson and family are away on vacation for two weeks. Janet goes to the office everyday to take care of phone calls, and the goldfish, the plants, and a pair of lovebirds (parakeets). Janet phoned me from the doctor's office to ask about the care for the birds. She remembered the little bird I used to have when she was a little girl. I had dinner ready early for Lou this evening. He went with the ward men to work at the box factory 6:30 p.m. to about nine o'clock. Rex worked for his

father and Lewie again today. I understood he was going back with Mr. Kunz and his plastering work. Janet went to a bridal shower on Donna Wride tonight. Her friend, Sam, drove her to the shower place; he was on his way to school.

### August 18, Tuesday

It was a bright sunny morning, I put out a rather large washing. It is always larger when I do the bed linen. I talked to Donna on the phone; she'd been ironing. She and Clarice Tanner were going out to call on some ward ladies, invite them to Relief Society, I guess? Joan had gone with Aunt Florence Oates and family, up to their cabin in Mt. Baldy, until Saturday, nice eh? Janet was at Dr. Anderson's office. Her friend, Sam H. called to see her there. She had him phone Donna, to ask if she, Janet, could go out with him tonight. Donna says he seems like a nice young man. After talking to him, she gave consent. I guess Warnie has at last given up hope of winning Janet's love. He is a sweet kid; we all like him a lot. I do hope he'll find another love, which will bring true happiness to him. Bonny Howard came to visit with Mary this afternoon. They took care of baby Kathy while Donna was out. I had a happy surprise this afternoon, when Donna and her counselor, Sr. Clarice Tanner, called on me. They came to bring the picture of me, taken last Tuesday with the golden crown on my head, when I was "Queen for a Day" in Relief Society. We are putting a picture of each queen and her poem tribute, in the Relief Society Scrapbook. I'm taking care of said scrapbook at present. Donna and Clarice were going to call on two ladies in Ruby's and my district, Sr. Akerlind and Sr. Nibley. I hope they have better luck finding them at home, than we do, eh? Florence Marsh phoned me this evening, wanted me to call Rex and remind him that his dad and Lewie wanted an early start in the morning. Rex is going to work with them. He worked for Br. Kunz today. Later Donna said they had a nice visit with Sr. Akerlind, but Sr. Nibley wasn't home. They called on one or two other sisters.

### August 19, Wednesday

Annie phoned this morning with the glad tidings that they have a new grandson, born last night at 10:10 p.m. The infant's name is James Charles Andersen. He weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces, has dark hair. I hope he'll look like his pretty dark-eyed mother, Irene. The other two boys are blond, like their handsome father, Glen. We're happy to welcome another little Andersen boy to our family tree. It was a Cesarean birth, as was her last baby, Gilbert. (I wonder how that [Cesarean] darn word is spelt anyway.) It has been another hot day; it got a good start, with bright sunny morning. I was glad to get my ironing done and lie down to rest, while I memorized the lovely poem Ethel Burk gave me Sunday, "To a Friend." We received an invitation to Carol Fisher's wedding reception on September 5. She and Virgil Smith are getting married in the Salt Lake Temple on August 31; the reception is at her parent's home in Altadena, California. Another one of our ward girls is getting married this fall also, Donna Wride. Both of the girls found their love interest at the B.Y.U. College last season. Joan is enjoying a few days with the Oates family up at Mt. Baldy. Janet is taking care of Dr. Anderson's office

phone calls, while he is away on vacation. She went with Warnie M. tonight to the swim party, for Mutual young people, at Bob Hamson's home. I had quite a bit of heart distress this evening, it had me worried a time or two. It became very painful a few times. I had to squirm a lot, but didn't mention it to Lou; we were watching a T.V. program. He asked me once what was troubling me; I answered "a little heart distress, nothing serious."

### August 20, Thursday

It was foggy early this morning but didn't last long. Donna phoned me about 9 a.m., she was about to get ready to go to Monrovia, to the Singing Mother's rehearsal. She takes Kathy with her. I think Johnny stayed home to play with the neighbor's kiddies. Mary is visiting with Bonnie Howard. Kathy had another flare up of fever and some sores in her little mouth; Donna was going to make an appointment to take her to see Dr. Nebeker, she wants Rex to go with her and baby to see what the doctor has to say about the other exasperating annoyance our little one has, that none of the doctors seem to understand. Only Dr. Haskell understands and he's so far away now. They've moved to Riverside, or is it San Bernardino? Well, anyway, he has gone from our location. Donna made the appointment for this evening, when Rex is home. There is always something to worry about with a growing family, eh? But oh, there is nothing so wonderful or grand. I phoned Andersen's this evening to ask about Irene and new infant; I talked to Beverly, she said her dad was ill with extreme stomach pains and Annie wanted to phone the doctor. She said she'd call me back later. It seems the doctor was out of town, but Bill vomited and felt better. I guess his dinner didn't agree with him. Bill was sleeping when Annie and I talked on the phone later. I wanted to phone Donna and find out what the doctor said about Kathy, but I knew she would be very busy getting dinner over and getting ready to go to Carol Fisher's bridal shower at Helen Palmer's house tonight. She and Janet took one of the L.D.S. Bridal Books to the shower.

### August 21, Friday

'Twas a bright sunny morning from the start. Lou is cutting down on his food, so has had a light breakfast these past few mornings, the kind I've eaten for years. His favorite breakfast, sausage and eggs, or bacon and eggs, or hot cakes, is a bit too unkind to the waistline, and makes a fellow short-winded and etcetera. I guess the bread man wonders what is wrong here. One small loaf is all I've bought this week. I phoned Donna this morning and was happy to learn that Kathy feels better. The doctor gave her a shot of penicillin last evening. He said the other little annoyance, she would outgrow, that it was nothing to worry about, nice eh? I did my vacuuming, got an early start with half of it done by lunchtime. My heart action has been good today, which keeps me feeling happy. I phoned Annie this morning. She said Bill felt okay and went to work. She has Glen's two boys while Irene is in the

hospital. Ray and Miriam took Lorene to Hollywood this afternoon to see the wonder picture, "Cinerama." I hope she enjoys it as much as I did; we went on June 29. Lou got home a few minutes early this evening; we ate dinner at 5 p.m. He rested after dinner for 45 minutes, and then got his carpenter overalls on and waited five minutes until the church brothers came for him. They worked at the box factory for three hours. The money earned is paid to our church building fund. I wrote a letter to Violet this evening. The Oates family came down from the Mt. Baldy cabin and brought Joan home this evening. I talked to her on the phone; she had a wonderful time up in the mountains. She went swimming everyday; did some hiking too. The Ellsworth's were up there in their cabin also. John Ellsworth phoned Joan tonight. Janet went to a show with Warnie tonight. Rex and Donna took John and David Howard to the show in Sierra Madre tonight. Mary is at the Howard's. Annie took care of Miriam and Ray's two little girls today while they were in Hollywood.



*Snow Crest pool in 2012. Joan, Mary, and Kathy took a trip to visit old haunts. They were sad to see this pool in such a state. Many days and weeks were spent swimming in this pool by the Marshes and extended families.*



### August 22, Saturday

Lou went to work on our church building from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. It was another hot day. This mama stays indoors all I can. My heart seems to give me a little more trouble lately, the past few months I've had strange feelings plus aches and pains in my arms and legs. I haven't mentioned it to anyone. I'd much rather talk about something more pleasant anyway. I took my bath before dressing this morning. I'm glad I did the housework yesterday, as I do not feel up to it this warm day. I defrosted the icebox and gave the bread can a good washing and sunning. I phoned Donna; Kathy feels fine, she talked to me on the phone, the cutie! Diary, just between us, I didn't understand much of her conversation, but I love it, bless her heart. Donna says Joan is as brown as a berry. (Are berries brown?) Well anyway, she got her suntan up in the mountains last week while Janet worked at Dr. Anderson's office. Joan is going to look after the office phone calls, birds, fish, and plants next week. The doctor will be home the following week, and then Janet will go back



to her job helping him. Rex is working with his brother Lewie today. David Howard went home with his daddy this morning; he had been visiting Johnny. Mary came home this evening from her delightful visit with Bonny Howard. Janet had a date with Frank, and Joan went for a ride with two of her friends, boys from Sierra Madre. I love to see my little teenage girls have fun, but, dear God, take care of them and keep them sweet and good. I fried a chicken this evening while Lou was watching T.V. I also made a fruit cocktail Jello salad and cooked potatoes, in their jackets, for our dinner tomorrow. Now I will not have to rush in the morning before Sunday School, nice eh? Johnny is coming home from Sunday School to spend the day with us tomorrow.



*David & Bonny Howard, Caroline & Byrant Smith, and John & Mary Marsh*

### August 23, Sunday

It started out hot this morning. I'll be glad when our weather is cooler. My man found another house for sale in the paper this morning. It was not far from here, a few blocks, over on Sunny Slope Avenue. We went to look at it before going to Sunday School. It could be made into a very nice little home, but, oh, it needs cleaning inside and out, painting and papering; the works! It surely is rundown. Lou is interested, he went to talk to Mr. Daily, the realtor, after dinner, now what? We had a very fine Sunday School. I was sorry I had to leave Br. Rowberry's class, I didn't feel well; I was having asthma troubles, which the spray took care of when I got to the rest room. Johnny came home to dinner with us. He enjoyed the fried chicken with us, and then he was entertained all afternoon with the T.V. programs. I wish I was well enough to cook a nice dinner for all of my precious Marsh family, bless 'em. I invited Joan and Janet, but both had interests at home. Joan had a young man coming to the house to meet her parents. I guess Janet had a date. Annie phoned to tell me they are expecting Elaine Strong and Bonnie Reynolds this evening, from San Diego. Elaine's brother lives in San Diego, he is bringing them to Los Angeles. They left Salt Lake City on Friday. Irene has been running a slight temperature, but the doctor says it often happens with a Cesarean birth. I surely hope she will be normal soon. We took Johnny to church tonight; we had a fine meeting. Our stake president, President Hunter, was our speaker. Janet had a date with Steve S. after church, and Joan went to her home in Bob Hamson's car. We went to Highland Park to see Bonnie Reynolds and Elaine Strong. They both look sweet; we enjoyed our visit. This afternoon I told Johnny the story of my childhood and read my poem

called "Memories" to him, while the T.V. cooled off. Lou had gone to talk to the realtor, Mr. Daily. Ray Clayton's friend of many years, committed suicide yesterday. His name is Carl Johnson. He sent a bullet through his brain. One of the Gates boys that lived in Garvanza Ward years ago was drowned at the beach yesterday. He leaves a wife and two children.

### August 24, Monday

I phoned Annie this morning and invited them to eat lunch with me at 1 p.m. They are going to Forest Lawn to see the famous painting first. I had to throw away my rosebud, queen corsage this morning. Believe it or not, it was beautiful until I took it out of the refrigerator yesterday, in fact, it was pretty all day, but was not lovely this morning. Bonna Gordon would be surprised if she knew I kept it until today; she made it for me on August 11, the day they crowned me "Queen for a Day" in Relief Society, something eh? I put it in cold storage to brighten it up and it looked so pretty every time the icebox door was opened and the light turned on it. I just left it there, to gladden my heart each time, (thirteen days). I had to have the room for food yesterday, so out it came. Bonnie R., Elaine S., Beverly A., Annie A., David, and Gilbert A. came to eat lunch with me today at 1:30. They were thirty minutes late but it was all right, nothing to spoil. We had a real nice visit while eating; the girls insisted on helping



*Elvie kept her corsage looking pretty in the ice box for thirteen days. It gladdened her heart each time she opened the ice box. Simple pleasures.*

with the dishes, which was lovely for me, eh? We all went in Beverly's Ford, out to Sierra Madre to see Donna and children. I was sorry that Joan was not home; she is working this week for Dr. Don Anderson, looking after his office calls while he is away on vacation. Janet took care of the office last week. She was home today. We left Donna's place and went to see Dolores and children. Ronnie was at a birthday party in the neighborhood. Dody phoned and he came home long enough to let Bonnie and Elaine see him. He was anxious to go back and eat his ice cream and cake, the cutie. Little Nadine had a lot of fun playing with Gilbert and David. Little Gilbert investigated Dolores's fireplace in the den while we were visiting in the living room. He wanted to see if it was large enough for Santa Claus to come down! Well, he looked like a chimney sweep! Aunt Beverly had to wash him off and she turned his tee shirt inside out, so the black wouldn't get on Dody's furniture or Bev's new car upholstery. Never a dull moment around little boys, eh? Ray and Carol Blid came here this evening; we went in our two cars, to the house on Sunny Slope Avenue. Ray and Lou went inside to talk over the painting and papering job. I sat with Carol in her car and visited; she is a nice person. I don't see how we can get enough money to fix that place up? Ray was very reasonable with his estimate, \$100, but that's only part of the repair job. We took some flower cuttings to Rex's yard for burning. Rex and Lou talked about fixing up the garage house for a lady and her little girl. Rex took Mary, John, and Kathy to his folk's home tonight after we left. Just as Lou and I were leaving Donna's place last night, two big cars drove up to the house, Steve S. to take Janet out, and Scott Lyon for Joan, in his shiny black Lincoln. Joan and her friend, Scott Lyon, went to the Academy theater, her first date with him. Janet went out with Steve S.

### August 25, Tuesday

Today was a hot day with a lot of smog. My lungs and heart do cause me a lot of distress when the smog is heavy like today. My eyes smart too. Lou has to go out with the truck, while Bill is on his vacation for two weeks. He had a call out this way about noontime, so he came home and ate his lunch with me. I added fruit cocktail Jello and a glass of milk to his lunch, (the sandwich he had taken this morning). Lou's eyes smarted from the dreadful smog; they felt better after he'd bathed them. I did my washing this morning, did my big blue chenille bathrobe, also. I took time out to phone Joan, at Dr. Anderson's office, to make like I was calling to make an appointment. She thought that she was talking to a Chinese lady at first, but it didn't fool her long. I fooled Janet last week, but she was on to me in a second, too. Mary and Johnny carried Kathy's highchair out under the huge avocado tree today. Donna served them their lunch out there. Oh, that surely is a beautiful big tree and the children just love to play under it. I was thrilled myself last evening



*Younger photos of Elaine Strong, Elvie Renshaw, and Bonnie Reynolds. On August 24, 1953 together again.*

when I walked under it with Mary, Johnny, and Kathy. They have their little table and bench and a baby swing, under it. The big leaves are swept, to divide the rooms for their "house." Elaine and Diane Oates came in the Oateses' brand new Ford car, to take Janet to the

beach with them for the day. Elaine has just returned from Summer School at the B.Y.U College in Utah. She and Irene are going back to college in the fall. I received a nice letter from Ethel Newbold today. She is heartsick again; Ada has started drinking and left home. It is a tragedy for dear Ethel, I'm so sorry it had to start all over again. I phoned my Marshes this evening and was happy to learn that Janet was home from the beach after a nice day of fun with her cousins. I talked to Joan; she was going to a girlfriend's home to a party, in Sierra Madre, Shirley Cook's home. Donna was resting in bed; she has a bad backache and slight sore throat. She had chills and fever last night. I'm sorry and I surely hope she'll be all right tomorrow.

### August 26, Wednesday

I phoned Annie this morning to find out how the guests are enjoying their visit. Bonnie says it is the best time she's ever had in California, nice eh? They took them to Van Nuys yesterday a.m. to see Irene and new infant son. David and Gilbert saw their new brother for the first time. The neighbor's two young girls are helping Irene, until Glen is on his vacation next week. Annie has David and Gilbert; they all report that the infant is a darling. They went to see Mary and her little infant, too. He is sleeping better now, and is adorable also. Lorene is with Mary again; she goes in the hospital next Sunday afternoon, for her operation on Monday morning at 7:30 a.m. The doctor says he'll do the hernia operation first, later she'll have to have the other operation. She has a growth on her uterus, bless her heart. She's had more than her share of trouble. It's surely too bad she can't have more joy in her living; she is such a wonderful person. The Andersens went to Burbank where they were invited to swim in the pool and eat hamburgers. Ernie Vandergrift assisted Bonnie into the pool before she had taken off her robe or put on her cap! I understand she made quite a splash! Beth J. and family and Diana and Al Selander (visiting from Salt Lake City, Utah) with their children were at the Haddock pool also. They all had fun. Bonnie and Elaine went with Beverly this morning to have her physical exam for the telephone company job. I hope she gets the job. They're going to have dinner this evening at the Knott's Berry Farm. Beverly took the girls to Long Beach tonight, after they'd been to Knott's Berry Farm for dinner. Donna had a dreadful backache last night and pain



in the top of her head all night. She doesn't feel very well this morning. We wanted to go uptown to look for school clothes for Mary, but it'll have to wait. She can't have the car anyway. Melba K. called for Donna this afternoon and they went out Relief Society visiting. Sr. Addie Strang was in a bus accident. She has a small bone broken in her back. They called on her and did her district this afternoon. I made a new page in my scrapbook with pictures of Mary and Kathy. Mary was posed as a teenage girl; sister Joan took the cute pictures. [See below.] Lou worked at the box factory tonight for three hours. The Realtor, Mr. Daily, came to see us tonight. He was disappointed that we have decided not to buy the house on Sunny Slope Avenue.

### **Glamour Photography by Joan Marsh**



**Lovely Model  
is Mary Marsh  
wearing her  
sister's lipstick &  
high heels.**



**Mary borrowed  
someone's  
kitty? The  
Marsh family  
kittens were  
moved away  
awhile ago.**



### **August 27, Thursday**

I had a restless night coughing, the irritating asthma cough. Lou told me to stay in bed this morning, said he'd buy some lunch while he was out on the truck. He'll be glad when Bill gets back from his vacation, as he doesn't like to install the Venetian blinds, he'd much rather work in the shop. Ruby Anderson came for me about 10:20 this morning. We did our Relief Society visiting. It took us a little over an hour as most of our folks are away on vacation. We have ten families in our district; only four of them were home this morning. I phoned Annie to find out how Bonnie and Elaine are spending their vacation days. This morning Bev took them to the Farmer's Market in Los Angeles. They are going to the beach tonight for a weenie bake and we were invited to go with them, but, Lou doesn't like night parties at the beach, and I do not feel well enough so we will not go. Ernie Vandergrift got passes for the girls to go through the immense Warner Brother's moving picture studios in Burbank tomorrow at 2 p.m. Elaine Vandergrift is going to meet them there and go through with them. Bonnie and Elaine leave for their homes in Salt Lake City tomorrow evening. Janet went to the beach today with Warnie's stepmother and his sister-in-law and Mrs. Mueller's mother. Donna, Mary, Johnny and I went uptown shopping this afternoon. Clarice Tanner stayed at Donna's while Kathy was asleep. She took her to her house when she woke up. We bought Mary four new school dresses in Sear's Store. Donna paid for two of them and took them home. I had two of them put in "will call;"

**Kathy Marsh  
not ready  
for glamour  
shots, but is  
happy to hold  
a towel and an  
umbrella.**





I paid \$3.00 down. I owe \$6.27 on them. Donna bought Mary some school shoes, and Johnny three pair of blue jeans. He wore one pair home. The other two are in "will call." We sent a wedding gift out to Carol Fisher from the Broadway Store. It was crystal trays and cups, service for eight. I paid for Donna's material in Penney's Store to make a back for her quilt, the one her club friends each made a block for years ago. She chose a very pretty orchid shade, 39¢ a yard. Lillian Neal is putting the blocks together for her. Donna took me to the Venetian blind shop at 4:30 p.m. I rode home with Lou; she went home from there. Donna went to her Singing Mother's practice this morning. Janet and Joan both had babysitting jobs tonight.

### August 28, Friday

John and Florence Marsh picked Mary and Johnny up early this morning. They have Ruth's two little girls visiting them, (Kay and Barbara) then they all went up to the Oateses' cabin at Mt. Baldy, for the day, swimming in the lovely pool and etcetera. Fun! It was cool and damp this morning, a touch of fall in the air. It was sunny and warm by 10 a.m. Dale Andersen brought Bonnie Reynolds, Elaine Strong, and sister Beverly over this morning. Elaine and Bonnie wore their cute quilted robes here. I had a box of avocados ready for Bonnie and Elaine to take to Salt Lake City, with them, twenty-two in the box. I hope they'll ripen nicely so they can enjoy them. One never knows until they're opened up what they'll look like. Some of them are not good. The girls met Elaine V. today to go through the big Warner Brother's Studio at 2 p.m. They will leave for home on the bus tonight at midnight. I talked to Joan on the phone this morning. This is her last day at Dr. Anderson's office. He'll be back from vacation next Tuesday and Janet will be back on the job again. Janet was going to the office today to clean it up a bit. Donna had her hair trimmed and set this morning by a lady in Sierra Madre. Ovena M. gave Donna a home permanent a few days ago, now she has it cut off? I've had an annoying headache all afternoon, but I did manage to answer Eloise Brooks's letter, doing part of it in rhyme. Lou cut our lawns this evening. I talked to Annie on the phone, Glen came for his two boys this afternoon, Annie washed all their dirty clothes this morning so she could send everything home nice and clean. Glen is on his vacation next week, so he can take care of the housework and the children. Irene will take care of the new infant and herself. Bette, Ray, Sue, Elaine, and Ernie V. took Beverly, Bonnie, and Elaine to eat dinner at the Smoke House this evening. Later Ernie entertained them with a murder story that he was assigned to a few weeks ago. The girls both say they have had the best vacation trip they've ever had down here, nice eh? Beverly being out of work while they were here was wonderful for all concerned. I do hope Bev will get a good job at the telephone company

soon. Andersens took the girls to their bus tonight. Joan had a babysitting job tonight, Janet went out with Warnie M.

### August 29, Saturday

The bus was late last night, it should have left at twelve midnight, but it didn't leave Los Angeles until 1 a.m. Andersens waited to see Bonnie and Elaine on their way home. I cooked a good breakfast for Lou this morning. He took the door Rex bought from Mr. Edgecomb up and hung it in the garage house. He fixed the front door and hung another door. The lady and her 12-year-old daughter, who want to rent the little garage house, came to see Donna again today. She is anxious for the place, but hasn't found steady work yet. I went to town this morning to pay our house payment to the Mutual Savings and Loan. I was surely provoked to find the place closed, not open on Saturdays in summer. The bank was closed also. I went to Nash's Store, looked at dresses then came back home without spending anything but my carfare. I intended on getting Mary's two little dresses out of "will call" at Sears, but I didn't feel well enough to walk from Nash's to Sears. I could have ridden to Sears, but it is seldom that one can have a seat on the bus, when you get it that far east on Colorado Street, so I stayed on the bus to assure me a seat all the way home. Some fellow phoned, just as I was about to leave for town this morning. He said he just wanted to talk, he wouldn't tell me who he was so I told him to find another number in the phone book as I was too busy to talk to someone I didn't know, oh me! I wonder what motivates some people? I told him he had the wrong number, but he said, "No" he had the

party he wanted to talk to. I told him I had five grandchildren and he said, "that is fine" but still he insisted that I was the person he wished conversation with. I had to hang up on the guy; he had a nice voice, sounded like Wayne Strong. Lou did our marketing when he came from Donna's this afternoon. He bought a can of chili con carne, and we ate it for dinner this evening. It was very good, tasted like homemade chili. This evening we drove out to Sierra Madre. Lou and Donna planned the cupboards for the little kitchen in garage house. The three children took Grama Elvie's attention over. They built walls with pieces from a domino game to entertain me. Joan was busy tonight, going through her wardrobe to see what she had to do to get her clothes ready for school. She made a new blouse today, a brown cotton, it is cute, has plaid trim.



Chili Con Carne ad from 1950s.

### August 30, Sunday

Our neighbor boys, the Buckner's, have worked all day long tearing down their pigeon house. I'm glad to see it go down, it was a sight. The two boys are cute, they told Lou they were going to build a new home for their pigeons. They are a year older now; maybe the new one will not be as crooked, ha ha! I think they are 13 and 15 years old. My sister Lorene



goes into the hospital this afternoon at 4 p.m. She will be operated on in the morning, for a hernia. She has been in my thoughts all day; a prayer is in my heart for that precious sister. I wanted to phone her at Mary's in Van Nuys, after dinner, but I couldn't make the connection as planned. We had a nice Sunday School as usual. Don Rowberry is an excellent teacher. I saw my precious grandchildren and their parents, which always delights my heart. Janet's and Joan's Sunday School classes went to the Forest Lawn Cemetery for their class period, to see the famous painting of the crucifixion. Lou and I enjoyed individual chicken potpies. I baked the frozen Swanson pies. They were good. I watched the T.V. Telethon, a benefit fund for multiple sclerosis. The program kept going eighteen hours. Peter Potter was the M.C. most of the time. I watched the last two hours. Peter Potter and Jack Rourke were on hand without sleep all the time. The money hasn't all been counted yet, but it was well over \$162,000. I learned later, that Ray and Miriam took Lorene to their stake conference this morning, in Burbank, and then to the Smoke House for dinner, and then they left her at the hospital. We went to church tonight and enjoyed the meeting. Bill R. from Pasadena Ward sang two lovely solos. An elderly missionary man gave a splendid talk; he was 71 years old. He had a fine sense of humor; I didn't catch the name. He and his wife are on a six months mission from Salt Lake City, Utah. Donna Wride was married last Wednesday, August 26, in the Salt Lake Temple. I do not know the groom's name. They are having a reception Tuesday September 1, in Br. Al Rowbotham's home. Rex, Donna, and Janet are invited. (Actually not sure about Janet?)

### Surgery Preparation 1953 Style

In the 1950s the patient could go out to dinner and do whatever they liked before going to the hospital for surgery...When Lorene checked into the hospital the night before, she likely was given an enema, and put to bed. The hospital took charge of what she could eat or drink from that time on. In the morning she would be there and ready for surgery whenever the surgeon was ready for her. It is quite a contrast from today. Now the hospital charges are extremely high and the patient checks in a couple of hours before surgery, not the night before.

*Hospital enema's were routinely given before abdominal surgery in early years up to 1980s. Now, if that is necessary, it will be done by the patient at home.*



### August 31, Monday

Sister Lorene was operated on, in the Valley Hospital this morning in Van Nuys, California. I phoned Ray this morning, at 10 a.m. He had phoned the hospital, but she was still in surgery. He said he'd phone me when he heard. I talked to Miriam later, after I got back from town. Ray had tried to get me; he talked to Mary at the hospital. The doctor had taken care of the hernia and removed the growth, (polypus) from her uterus. I wrote a little note to Lorene, in a get-well card, and mailed it to the hospital. I'm so thankful the operation is over and I hope and pray she'll recover her health quickly and enjoy to the fullest many happy years to come. I paid the Mutual Saving and Loan our house payment of \$50 this morning. I looked at some of the summer sale

dresses but nothing I wanted. I walked up to Sears Store and got Mary's two school dresses out of "will-call." There was a balance due of \$6.27. I came home, ate lunch, and wrote to Ethel N. Janet and Joan went to the beach this afternoon with the Oates cousins. Janet posed for LaDorna Perine, before going to the beach. LaDorna is doing some artwork for Bullock's, Pasadena Store, and wanted Janet to model for her. Edgecombs had some lovely new drapes hung up to their huge front room window this morning. A man brought the drapes out and hung them. It has improved the looks of their home immensely. Lou ate when he came home this afternoon, then he went out to Sierra Madre to work in the little garage house. I ate later, I wrote to Flora and Will Taylor. I saw Bonna and Susan Gordon uptown on the street, also Madge Fowler; she was in Sears Store. Just as I was about to board the bus to come home, Helen Wanker's mother called to me. Warnie M. was out to see Janet tonight. He says he is getting a new car tomorrow, a '48 Ford. I hope he can make the deal okay; he is a nice kid. I sent Mary's two dresses out with Lou tonight. The new pigeon house is well on its way. The two lads are doing a good job this time. I can watch them work from my kitchen window. They are real cute kids.

### September 1, Tuesday

Our fall has officially arrived; it is a very pretty day too. It was cloudy earlier. I did my washing; the loop rugs got nice and dry also. Lillian Neal has Donna's club blocks for her quilt all put together, but she needs another yard of the orchid material. She thought nine yards would surely be ample, but the embroidered blocks the girls did are smaller than the average quilt block. Dr. Don Anderson phoned Janet last evening; he wanted her to come in the office this morning, he just got back from his vacation trip. Janet assists Dr. Anderson and he is training Janet to be a dentist's assistant, which is a wonderful opportunity for her. I phoned Miriam Clayton this morning, she said they were going to the hospital to see Lorene today and she'd phone me later to let me know how Lorene is feeling. Ray phoned when they got home. He said his mother looked fine and she was doing nicely. He gave me her phone number, so I can talk to her. He said she received my get-well card and little note today. Lou phoned this afternoon, he said he had to work overtime an hour, so I held dinner back an hour. Donna phoned and said that Mrs. Wolf phoned and wants to move in the little garage house as soon as they can let her in. She is working at Van de Kamp's in Pasadena. Lou ate his dinner at 5:45 p.m. and went up to Donna's. He is building cupboards and closets in the little garage house. I hope everything will work out all right for them if they rent the little rear house. Bill Andersen phoned and wanted to talk to Lou. I talked to Annie; she phoned Lorene this afternoon. She said Lorene will have the second operation on Friday, she felt better today, was very uncomfortable yesterday. Donna Wride's wedding reception was tonight at Al Rowbotham's home. I do not know the groom's name.

### September 2, Wednesday

This is surely a strange switch in climatic condition. For several years past out here, we have had a heat wave in the first part of September and in the East things are cooling off

with the chill of fall. Now, we are enjoying chilly mornings and nights, nice cool days, while in the East and Midwest, they are having a tremendous heat wave; it has caused many people to collapse, several deaths reported. The "Good Book" says, strange things will happen in the last days, eh? I notice that our neighbor, across the street, is having his cesspool filled in today; I wish it were being done to ours also. Lou says he is going to do ours himself. I hate to have him do all that digging. I'm surely glad we are connected up with the sewer now. I wish Donna's place was too. I talked to Joan on the phone this morning. Janet brought the check, \$25, for taking care of Dr. Anderson's office while he was on vacation for two weeks. Joan gets \$12.50. She is going to buy a skirt she has had put away in a Sierra Madre store for \$5.00. I told her to put some down on something she'd like us to give her for her birthday and I'd pay for it, not over \$12.00 please, I told her. (She is a darling.) I wish I could buy both girls some of the school clothes they need. I mailed another get-well card to Lorene in the Valley Hospital. I sent Lydia B. and Margaret R. a postcard. I talked to Lorene on the phone at 11 a.m. in the hospital. She said the doctor had put her through a rather rugged exam a few minutes before I phoned. I was amazed when she said she had walked to the bathroom yesterday and today. They surely get them on their feet soon now after an operation. Donna and Clarice Tanner had an officers meeting at Melba Kunz's at 11:30 this morning. She let Johnny and Mary off on Daisy Street and they walked to our house. I finished my ironing. We

ate lunch at noon; they watched T.V. Later we played the drawing pictures game. Mary brought her little Vogue doll. I made a pair of blue jean slacks for the doll. Johnny brought four tiny cars he had made from a mold; they were made of plaster of Paris. Joan took care of Kathy today. Donna and Clarice went to town, to Penney's Store, to get the extra yard of material she needs for her quilt, she also bought the batting for her quilt. She wants to get it ready for the sisters to quilt on next Tuesday. Sr. Lillian Neal has put the blocks together in the lovely orchid material for Donna, she is a dear, bless her heart. She isn't well either. Lou phoned from the shop, said the young man quit at noon, so Lou is alone again. Bill S. is on his vacation, of course Gordon comes in each day but he is not well. Dan Wilkins was the boy's name. Lou worked overtime again tonight; he was too tired to go out to work in Rex's garage house. I believe Rex started to paint the

front room of the little house, after he had finished planting his tomato plants. He has a garden in their backyard. The two young Buckner boys, back of us, have almost finished their pigeon house; they've done a good job this time. I was glad they tore down the first one they built a year ago. It was surely a crooked sight to behold; they are cute kids.

### September 3, Thursday

Lou had a dreadful time last night with the leg cramps, Charlie horses. I felt so sorry for him; I wish I knew what to do to help him when he has them. I did rub some BenGay on the painful knots; he really does suffer with the tortuous leg cramps. Oh, I wish he would not insist on filling our cesspool in, all that digging is not good for his condition. He should have someone do it for him. The man wants \$35.00 I think. Donna went to her Singing Mother's practice and took Kathy this morning. Mary and Johnny

went to Primary. I got Joan out of bed to answer my phone call at 10:30 a.m. She was reading Paul Bailey's book, "Type High." She said she bought Kathy her lunch yesterday in a little café in Sierra Madre. Joan and some girlfriends ate lunch there. Kathy ate a bacon and tomato sandwich and drank some milk. It was her first lunch in an eating-place, I guess? Our baby gets around, eh? We are all happily relieved to know that the polypus growth taken from Lorene's uterus is not malignant. I walked up to the little 15¢ Store on Colorado Street and bought a get-well card to send Lorene, from our Strong's Family Society. I also purchased



*David, Mary, and Bonny Howard had lunch with the Marshes.*

some cards for my own use. I went to the post office across the street and mailed Lorene's card. Mary Howard and her two children ate lunch with Donna, the children stayed at Donna's. Bonny H. and Mary took Kathy in her red wagon to Toy Loan for a change of toys. Johnny and David H. planted some tomato plants this afternoon that Rex didn't get time to plant last night. I hope they'll grow okay. Their reward is a weenie and marshmallow bake in the backyard, in a bonfire. I talked to Mr. Keen, the man who is filling in these cesspools for our neighbor across the street. He says he'll talk to Lou about ours. Lou was held up again this evening with work, at the shop, so he was a half hour late, but he did talk to the man about our cesspool. He still thinks he wants to fill in his own. (I give up.) Lou had some lumber sent out to Rex's today to build the kitchen cupboards and clothes closets. After dinner this evening



we drove out there. The four children, Mary, Bonny H., Johnny, and David H. were eating their picnic lunch in the backyard, cooking their own wieners on long wire hooks they'd made out of clothes hangers. They had a bonfire. Some of the wieners looked black to me, but they were eating them like they tasted grand? Kathy and I took a walk, her idea. She was pushing her doll in a cute little Taylor Tot toy from Toy Loan. Oh, she is a cutie. We had trouble trying to get Kathy to turn back towards home. She was enjoying herself such a lot, but Grama was tired and I knew the baby would be too tired to walk back if she went as far as she wanted to go. I won out, with a bribe of some gum. Rex had a meeting of the seventies tonight. Joan went to a show with a girlfriend. Janet and Warnie went to see Judy Swim. Donna is taking care of Ovena's plants and lawn while she is away in her hometown of Henefer, Utah, visiting relatives. The Howard children stayed all night, the boys in sleeping bags on the patio, the girls in the house in bunk beds. The Mutual gave their opening party tonight, a "Come as You Are" party and dance. Donna and the girls went. I saw Warnie's new car, a 1948 Ford. It is good looking, a light blue.



1948 blue Ford, like Warnie's new car.

### September 4, Friday

I've had Lorene on my mind all day; this was the day for her second operation. I surely hope it wasn't hard on her. I phoned Miriam this morning, she hadn't heard from Mary yet. Mary was going to try to be with her mother this morning. I called Annie on the phone, was sorry to learn she is ill; she got out of bed to answer the phone. She has intestinal flu, I believe. Beverly had gone to have a physical exam for the job she applied for, at Cannon Electric Company. The telephone company wouldn't give her the job; she was "too heavy and too old." Isn't that something? Choosy, eh? *[Beverly was only 36 years old.]* Mary Howard took her two and Mary and Johnny home this morning to stay all day and tonight. Donna went to a chorus practice this morning for her Relief Society conference program on November 1. The two wards are going together for this conference. Donna is conducting the conference. Miriam phoned at noon, said Mary J. had phoned her. The doctor said Lorene was doing very well after the operation. He said she could go home in three or four days if she keeps on doing as well. This was a minor operation; the first one was major. I finished my vacuuming today, half the house yesterday the other half today. Lou has surely had a busy

time at the shop, he'll be glad when the installation man, Bill S., is back from his vacation. He has been gone two weeks. He'll be back next week. Lou doesn't like to install the blinds, or go out in the truck for pickups and etcetera. He is used to the work inside the shop, making and painting the blinds. Lou misses Bart a lot; he was a good worker. The new man, Dan Wilkins, quit on Wednesday so they've had a hectic time. Gordon isn't feeling very well either. It was 6:45 p.m. when Lou got home tonight. He had a lot of blinds to install after 4:30 p.m. I talked to Donna on the phone this evening; she and baby were home alone. Janet out with Warnie, Joan visiting a girlfriend in Sierra Madre, (girl's parents had gone to a show). Rex was out on missionary work, Johnny and Mary at the Howard's to stay all night.

### September 5, Saturday

I got up at 8:30 a.m. Lou's bed was empty; he got up early and was so quiet I didn't hear him. He ate his breakfast out somewhere, while his car was being washed and then went up to work in Rex's garage house. He is building the kitchen cupboards. I phoned the Valley Hospital at 11 a.m. and talked to Lorene. I could tell by her voice she wasn't too comfortable, but I'm sure she'll feel better soon. I'm so glad her operations are over with. Grampa had Joan down in the little garage house, or maybe it was Rex's idea? But anyway, she was busy putting spackle in the nail holes so they could paint the place. Mary and Johnny were at Howard's last night. They were on a hike with the children this morning. Janet was at work at Dr. Anderson's office. Baby Kathy was following Grampa and Rex about in the little rear house; Rex took her with them to buy more paint. I put a patch in Joan's blue silk print dress; I had to take a piece out of the hem to do the job. It took me almost two hours cause the seams were open in many places and the hem was out every few inches too. I did it all by hand. I received a letter from Violet; she was expecting Dolores and family



John Marsh was baptized by his dad on September 5, 1953.

to spend the week with her next week. Dr. LaMoyne Hickman was taking them to Cedar this weekend, in his new car. LaMoyne is Yvonne's boyfriend. This evening Lou drove me to Colorado Street and Rosemead Boulevard at 7:15. I met Rex, Donna, Johnny, and Mary there and went with them to the Monrovia L.D.S. chapel where Johnny was baptized by his father Rex. We had a nice service first; a lovely violin solo by Sr. Lorene Alder. There was a nice talk also. John was the first one baptized, there were several after him. Monte Kunz baptized a young lady he has been taking out, Ginger, I think her name is. We went to Carol *[Carol Anne Fisher]* and Virgil Smith's *[Virgil Bushman Smith]* wedding reception, at her parent's home, the Fishers. The young folks were married in the Salt Lake Temple. They made a handsome couple. *[Family Search update: Carol marries Von Haws in the Oakland temple October 21, 1961.]* We took Mary and Johnny with us, which pleased them a lot.

## September 6, Sunday

It was a bright sunny day from the start. Lou got up early and went up to work in the little garage house. Donna picked me up at 10:45 and took me to Sunday School. The children (all but Joan), were with her. It was a really hot day. Joan wasn't well, so she rested at home. Bob Hamson invited Janet to go to the beach with him tomorrow, but she was going out to the beach with Warnie. I enjoyed Don Rowberry's lesson and the fine spirit and testimonies in fast meeting later. Rex confirmed his son, John Louis, a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in fast meeting. I asked Rex to stop at the Ralph's Market on our way home so I could buy some ice cream. Donna had a pot-roast and the vegetables cooked before she left for Sunday School. They were still hot, in her big stainless steel pot and tasted delicious. She made an apple pie this morning also. We had delicious pie and ice cream. Some of her children will not eat pie, but they all like ice cream. I played a game (lotto) with Mary and Johnny while Kathy and Donna enjoyed naps. Warnie M. and boyfriend came up. Janet helped them wash Warnie's new Ford in Rex's backyard. The friend of Warnie's is hard of hearing. It amused me to hear them yelling at the poor kid. Rex went to a meeting after dinner. I watched Lou building the linen closet in the little house; we went home at 6 p.m. He was too tired to get ready for church. I hate to miss the night service, but I knew he was tired so I said nothing about my disappointment. We ate our lunch, and watched television to rest and relax us. Donna, Rex, and the little ones went to church this evening. Janet and Joan stayed home. My precious husband filled our car with gas and oil on our way home from Sierra Madre so we are all set for our nice drive to Van Nuys in the morning.

## September 7, Monday—Labor Day

I cooked bacon and hotcakes for Lou this morning. I ate my usual grapefruit. Lou worked with Rex all day in the little rear house. Rex was painting and Lou building a clothes closet. I made a box of tuna fish sandwiches, took some potato chips and bananas for our lunch. Donna took grapes and Toll House cookies. I took a big box of avocados with us to Van Nuys and Burbank; gave all of the folks some of them. Donna picked me up at 10:30 a.m. We got the baby crib quilt from church, then went to Highland Park to pick up Annie and Beverly. I had talked to Annie and Dale on the phone this morning. Dale and Don Lee J. went over to Sierra Madre and took Joan for a ride in Dale's new car. They invited her to go swimming with



*"Annie treated all of us to Foster Freeze cream cones on our way home."*

them, but she didn't want to swim today. A Sierra Madre boy had invited her to go with him, up to Big Bear, to the mountain resort. Rex and Donna didn't know the lad well enough to trust him so far away, with someone as precious as their daughter. Someday our Joan will understand and thank Mother and Daddy for their loving care, but not now. Warnie and Janet invited Joan to go to the beach with them, but it was too late to find some friend for her. She phoned her cousin Diane but she had a date. Uncle Bill stayed home alone to rest and relax. Donna asked Beverly to drive our car, as she was more familiar with the streets out to Glen and Irene's home. We stopped at Mary Jorgensen's first; the baby is growing so fast; he is sure cute and still has dark hair and eyes. I hope they'll stay dark. We went to Glen and Irene's next, we ate the lunch we took in their nice little house. The new infant is surely a lovely baby; he has such large dark eyes. Irene and Glen served us some delicious grape punch; it was perfect with our picnic lunch. We had a nice visit



*Ken and Shirley Bird with their three children.*

with them. Irene looks well; she is a pretty girl. Glen is on his vacation so he helps her with the work. We called to say "hello" to Beth and Dick Johnston and family; little Elaine was too shy to come out of her room to talk to us. Diana and David had grown up and changed so I hardly knew them. Kathy looks like I expected Diana to look. They do grow up fast! Everywhere we went the folks thought our Kathy looked like Mary did at her age. It is surely interesting to see the children after a year or two away from them. We had a nice visit in Burbank with Sue and her family, the Haddocks, Birds, and

Vandergrifts. Johnny and Mary had a wonderful time in the swimming pool. I had to stay out to see Johnny dive off the board into the deep water several times. We older folks visited in Sue's bedroom, where Lorene was in bed. She got out of the hospital this morning, and Ray and Miriam took



her to Sue's. I was happy to find her looking and feeling so well. Annie treated all of us to Foster Freeze cream cones on our way home. It tasted delicious on this hot day. Our baby Kathy was very good all day. She was tired when we got home at 6 p.m. Rex and Lou were still working in the garage house. Joan was in Donna's bed listening to radio. Janet was home from the beach. Lou and I came home; I fixed dinner. Rex bought them sandwiches for lunch. Donna went to church to put her quilt in the frames. I forgot to mention that Vernon and Lynn Jorgensen were on a camping trip; Mary was home with the two babies. Little Kenny is such a cute little fellow, too.

### September 8, Tuesday

Joan went to a show last night with Diane Oates and some boyfriends; she stayed all night. She came from the Oateses' ranch this morning to take care of the nursery at church today. Donna and Felicia Washburn went down to church last night and got Donna's quilt on the frames so we could start quilting it this morning without any delay. It is very pretty with the orchid color material and white blocks. The girlfriends, in her Married Gleaner Club, embroidered the blocks with flowers of their choice. I quilted until it was time to eat lunch. We had a very nice lunch prepared by one of our districts. We crowned our queen before eating and she was surely surprised, as she thought it was going to be someone else (Lydia S.). I read the tribute to our Queen, Melba Kunz. It was fun to see her look of astonishment. She was as surprised as I was last month when they crowned me, "Queen for a Day." Baby Kathy wouldn't let Joan take care of her after lunch and Joan had the other little ones to look after, so I stayed in the baby nursery with Kathy to keep her quiet and out of Donna's way. That ended my quilting for today. We'll have to quilt another full day to finish up Donna's quilt. Donna and I had a huge disappointment when



Similar to Donna's quilt. The Married Gleaners each made a block and signed it. Sr. Lillian Neal added the sashing. This quilt was used many years until it turned into rags.



Queen Melba Kunz

#### Queen Melba Kunz

Our country seems stimulated  
This coronation year,  
The crowning of Britain's royal queen  
Was exciting news to hear.

Even we have caught the regal fever  
Here in nineteen fifty-three,  
We're choosing lovely queens to crown  
In Relief Society.

'Tis true, our fair queen today will not  
Reign over the British Isles,  
But her coronation will assure us  
A reign of contented happy smiles.

The beloved Queen we'll crown today  
Is a favorite, there's no doubt,  
She knows her Relief Society work  
Both inside and out.

Faithfully and cheerfully she has served here  
Since our ward was organized,  
In all three presidencies she's labored,  
Her wise counsel has been prized.

Our charming lady has had the honor each month  
Of crowning a beloved Queen,  
But this time, to her great astonishment,  
There'll be a change of scene.

Now, "Queen Melba", you'll wear the golden crown  
And set in the royal chair  
As loyal subjects we honor and pay tribute to you,  
May you reign in peace without a care.



we learned the beautiful orchid material is not a fast-color, one of the sisters pricked her finger and Donna took a wet cloth to the material to get the blood stain off and found out the color came out with the stain. Everyone felt bad. It is on the back of the quilt, but now we know what will happen when the quilt is washed, eh? It is a shame to go to all that work and not have good material. It looked so good too, 39¢ a yard in Penney's Store. Lou worked

an hour over tonight so we were later with dinner again. He cut and watered our front lawn this evening. Mrs. Wolf was out to Donna's again today; she wants to move into the little rear house tomorrow. She says she can help paint and clean up the place. It would be so much better if she'd wait a few days longer, until the place is ready to move into. It seems that Rex and Donna "can't keep the wolf(e) away from their door" eh? Ah me, ha ha! Rex phoned Gordon tonight about tile for the floors.

### September 9, Wednesday

This has been another hot day; I did my washing this morning. Lou went to work half hour earlier and worked half hour overtime this evening. Donna and Mrs. Wolfe went to Gordon's shop this morning and selected the tile to put down in the garage house. Diane DeBry phoned Joan and invited her to come to their house for dinner. She hasn't seen Diane for some time. She went after Donna got back from Gordon's

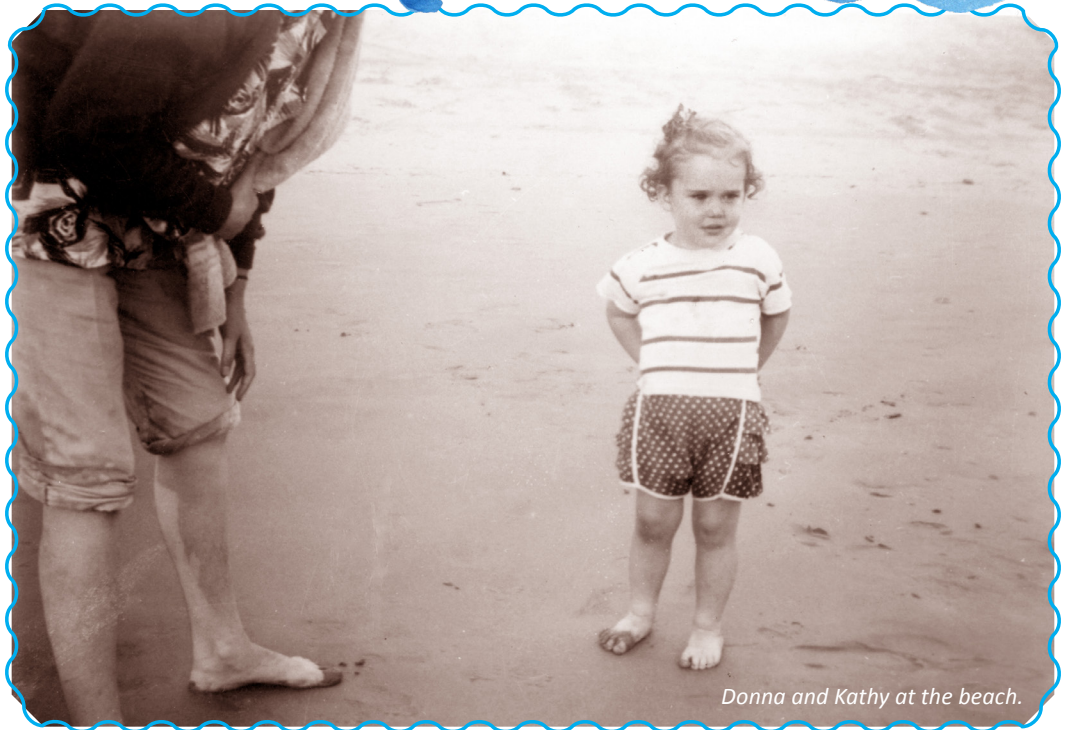


shop. Lou took care of Donna's sale, as Gordon was not in the shop. I talked to Beverly on the phone this afternoon. She doesn't like her new job at Cannon's Electric, but last night was her first night on the job, 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. She says she is going to school to learn typing to see if she can get in the office work there. I hope she can make it. Lou picked up a dozen avocados in our yard, this morning. They hit on the cabaña roof, in the dead of the night, and oh, what a noise they do make! I gave a box of the avocados to Mrs. Lowe this evening; she is Mrs. Edgecombs sister-in-law. They live in Duarte, California. They ate dinner this evening with the Edgecombs. Our neighbors, the Barnes, across the street are back from their vacation. I missed them, it is pleasant to hear and see them again. Mrs. Barnes has a very delightful laugh. Lou went out to Donna's place from the shop this evening and worked in the garage house until about 9 p.m. Donna gave him his dinner. Mrs. Wolfe went out to Donna's this evening and said she would move into the little house next Monday. I hope they'll have the painting done by then. It would be wonderful if the tile could be laid by then too, eh?

### September 10, Thursday

Lou had a truckload of dirt sent out this morning; he is going to fill our cesspool in with it. I paid \$3.00 to the man for the dirt. I did my ironing this morning; it was a small one, for which I was thankful on this hot day. I patched two pair of garments for Lou, and brewed his alfalfa tea. Donna phoned about noontime. She had been on the phone most of the morning doing Relief Society business. This afternoon Donna went to the beach for a weenie bake party for John's Sunday School class. She took Kathy, Mary, and John. They went in Mary Howard's car. Joan went to Louise Anderson's to babysit while Louise went to the beach party. I offered to tend Kathy, but Donna took her. I do hope she'll not tire Donna out. Br. Howard took his truck to take some of the Sunday School children in. Rex worked for his dad and Lewie today. Janet worked in Dr. Anderson's office. I cooked a nice dinner, on this hot day, but I do get tired of cold meals all the time. Lou went out to Sierra Madre after dinner to work in the little rear house. He phoned Dick Summerhays before he left, told him to come and get some avocados. Dick Jr. and the Smith boy came, we sent them home with two big sacks full, and they were shopping bag sacks too. Lou picked dozens of the avocados up in Mrs. Stacy's yard, she asked me to keep them picked up if we could, while she is in Chicago. I phoned the Barneses, our neighbors across the street, Marion B.,

and the young Teaters girl; the Barnes boy came and filled three smaller sacks full. I never saw such a bumper crop in my days. The avocados are falling fast, they hit our roof and it sounds like we are being bombarded! Lou took some avocados to Glen Clauson's house this morning on his way to work. Mr. Edgecomb and Lou got up on our cabaña roof and cleaned up the avocados, they had a large pan full from there. That tree is surely loaded. It's like taking one's life in one's hands to stand under the tree, the way the big hard fruit pelts down from such heights. The tree should have been topped last year. I enjoyed T.V. while Lou worked up at Rex's tonight. Rex had a meeting in his home tonight; the seventies I believe. Janet went to water Ovena's lawn and flowers. The Mayo's are visiting her folks in Utah. Lou came home about 9:30 p.m. Donna and the children were still not home from the beach. I started a tribute poem to Vera Smith but I didn't finish, my thinking is not up to par.

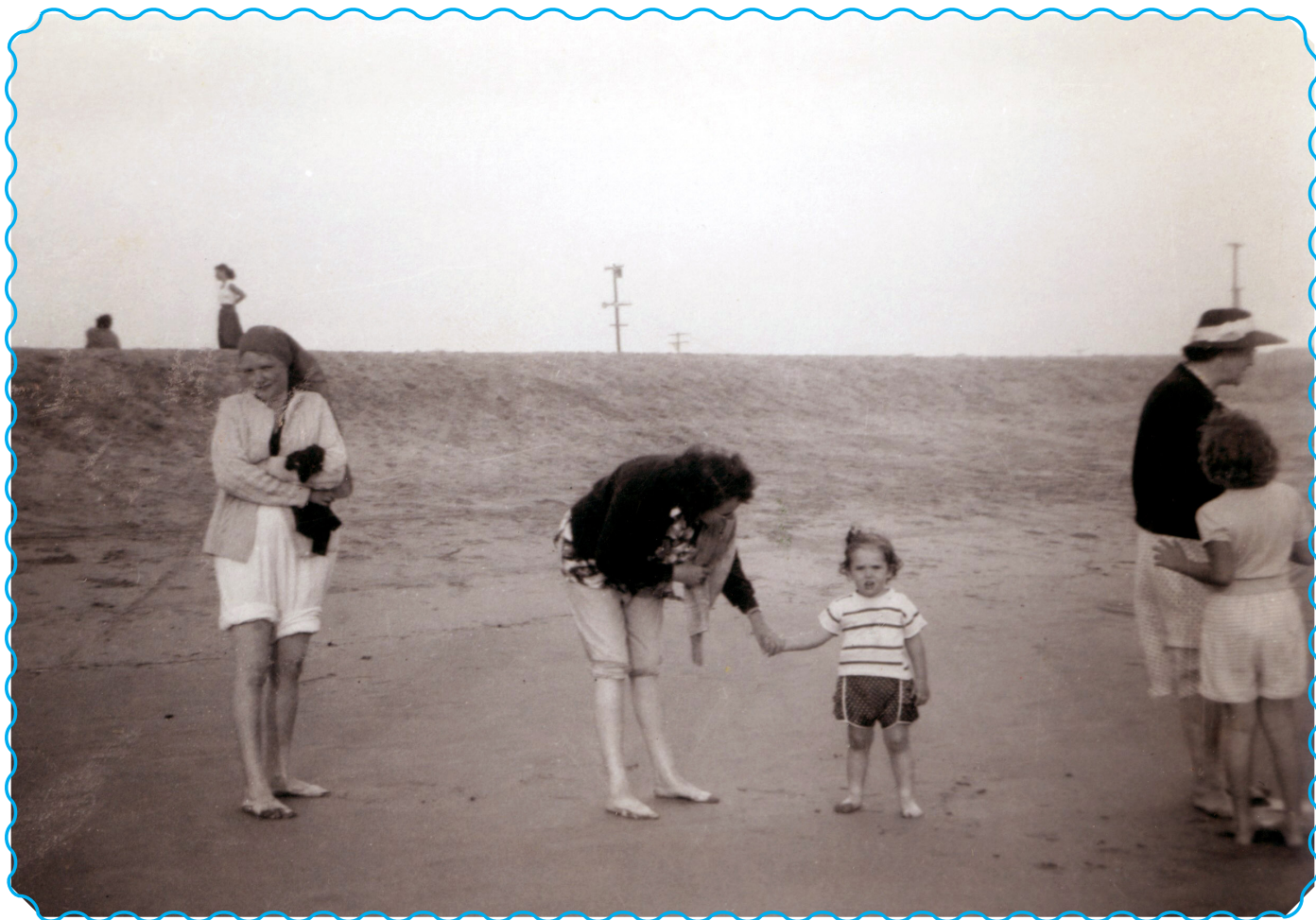


*Donna and Kathy at the beach.*

### September 11, Friday

It was another hot day. Lou went to work at 7 a.m., he didn't wake me as he ate out, and so I enjoyed sleeping until 8:30 a.m., nice eh? Donna took Kathy with her this morning to the Singing Mother's rehearsal. I talked to Joan on the phone, she said Kathy just loved the ocean yesterday after she once got her feet in the waves; she didn't want to get out again. She calls water, "wagen." It was her first time to get into the "big wagen." Joan had a sore throat; she didn't sound too happy this morning. Lou phoned from the shop, said the tile for Rex's little house has come in. He wants Rex to pick part of it up. Lou will bring the other half. Rex is working with his dad and Lewie today again, for Cannon Electric Company. I phoned Florence Marsh to have her tell Rex if





*Donna and Kathy Marsh at the beach on September 10, with John's Sunday School class.  
Pictures taken by Mary Howard in 1953 and scanned at daughter Bonny's home, in 2016.*

he stopped in there. I was surprised to learn that Lewie and family have moved into their new hilltop home, have been in the place almost a month now. I spent two hours this morning cleaning my Breatheasy nebulizer. It is surely a job to get the brown stains out from inside of the nebulizer. I have to work with suds and wire to do it. Annie read Violet's letter to me, over the phone. Violet is taking care of Dody's two children while Dolores, Bevan, Yvonne, and LaMoyne are enjoying a vacation trip to Salt Lake City and into Idaho. The four of them enjoyed a fishing trip up in the Cedar mountains with Otto before they left for this trip to Salt Lake City. Grama Violet is enjoying her precious grandchildren so she says in the letter. Everybody is happy, eh? I did some vacuuming today. Tonight Lou and I went to the Pasadena Civic Auditorium to the Policeman's Ball (The police of Monrovia). Frank DeVol's band played, we danced once; I didn't feel well enough to dance. A nice lady sitting next to us danced once with Lou, she told me he is a wonderful dancer, nice eh? (But I knew it.) The program didn't start until 11 p.m. but it was good. Ginny Jackson is really cute in person she sang four songs. We came home after the program. The dance went on until 1 a.m. Donna and Joan went to town tonight and picked out some school clothes for

#### Lewis and Miriam's New Home

The Marsh family moved into their home on 4698 San Andreas Avenue in Los Angeles in 1953. On September 6, 2015 Miriam passed away. Miriam was 105 years old. She lived in the home for sixty-two years.

Joan. I gave Joan \$5.00 to pay down on a sweater. We will give it to her for her birthday on September 29. Lou and I went in Kress Store tonight, as we were too early for the Policeman's program. We bought two seersucker work shirts for him. He has four now.



*Screen shot from 2019 Google Maps of 4698 San Andreas Avenue.  
Daughter Judy Marsh still lives there [2016].*



## September 12, Saturday

Lou got up and went to work without waking me. I woke later, when I heard Rex talking on the phone. He had come down to dig for the cesspool, to fill the thing in with dirt, as the city requires. Lou told him the location he thought it was, Rex started to dig, and he wasted an hour digging before he found he was too far north. It was hot today, I felt so sorry about all the hard work for nothing. Rex had to go to Fuller's Paint store before it closed at noon, so he left soon after locating said cesspool. He stopped in the shop to talk to Lou. They each took part of the tile, Rex had ordered for his little rear house, in their cars. Lou treated Rex to a hamburger sandwich, and then they came back here to fill in the cesspool. Mrs. Stacy, our neighbor on the north, arrived home this morning from her trip to Chicago to visit her daughter and grandson. She was gone a month. Donna says Joan paid \$5.00 on a nice black wool cardigan sweater, with the money I gave her. I'll get it out of "will call" for her birthday. She had a red wool cardigan and a slip over sweater put in "will call" for Donna to get out for her birthday also and a few other items put in for Joan. They spread the money out to get as much shopping done as they could manage, while they had the car. It is such a lot of trouble to take the bus, and transfer and etcetera. I think there is a white blouse in the "will call," too. They bought it all in the Broadway Store last evening. I haven't felt well today, I was kept awake for a long time last night with a brand new hurt. It started last night, while I was at the Civic Auditorium but I didn't mention it to Lou, he hears too much of my ills as it is anyway. It became real annoying in the wee small hours. It was very low, in the abdomen, a little to the right side?? Joan went to a wedding in a Catholic church, in

## Why fill in a cesspool?

### Is Potentially Fatal Danger Lurking Underground?

Lurking 1 to 20 feet underground, it can be an annoying inconvenience or a devastating, unexpected and unwelcome surprise.

But the worst part is, many homeowners never see it coming—including nine East Enders who, after this past Labor Day weekend, walked into their yards following a series of heavy rainstorms to find gaping holes where crumbling, block-style cesspools once stood.

"There are so many of those things under the ground that are just not recorded," Russell Beal, advertising director for Emil Norsic & Son, said last week during an interview at the sanitation company's Southampton office. "You can very often get taken by surprise."

"The block cesspools that go back from the late '70s into the '20s, they're getting older and older," added owner Skip Norsic. "They just have a lifespan of how long these blocks are gonna last. And nothing lasts forever." ...

Years of continual use and natural elements—rain...—have caused deterioration within the older cesspools and weakened their structural integrity, Mr. Norsic explained. Eventually, the cesspool's walls give way to gravity. And, oftentimes, over-saturated soil is the tipping point, as it was in the recent flood of collapses from Westhampton to Wainscott, he said....

"I'm not saying this is going to happen to everybody. I'm not saying to run out and do this," Mr. Norsic said of installing a new system. "What I really want to stress is just to know where your system is located and what it's comprised of. If somebody had walked over one of these on their way from the porch to the pool, especially a child, it could have been a tragedy."

Mr. Beal nodded in agreement. "This is the thing. There are no happy answers here, really," he said. "If you have an old house, you either take your chances or you get it taken care of."

<http://www.27east.com/news/article.cfm/East-End/35738/Is-Potentially-Fatal-Danger-Lurking-Underground>



Old block style cesspool collapses.

Sierra Madre this morning. She went with a young man. It was one of his boyfriend's weddings. They came home for her bathing suit after the wedding and the four young people went swimming in a private pool at one of their



Elvie was too busy to be bothered with a crank call from a random man.

When the telephone was in it's infancy and a while beyond some kids and some folks used it for their entertainment and it was extra annoying!

homes. Two weeks ago today a man called our phone number and said he just wanted to talk to me (August 29). He had a nice voice, but didn't make sense at all. I hung up on him. Well, the same voice phoned again today, shortly after Lou left to go up to work at Rex's. He gave the same old line, he just wanted to talk to me, only this time he asked if I was home alone! I hung up on the crazy so and so again, but this time I felt a bit nervous about it. I told him both times I was a grandmother and too old to waste my time on foolishness like that. (Talking to some stranger.) I wonder what is wrong with the guy? It was late when Lou got home from Rex's tonight. We couldn't do our grocery shopping for the week. Harry Howard and family came by Rex's and he helped with the tile work or painting tonight. The Howards ate with the Marshes tonight. The carpenter who helped Rex build his house came to call on them tonight. He has moved back to California. He gave them some good tips on how to lay the tile in the little house. His name is Red.



### September 13, Sunday

Today was the Pasadena Stake Conference. President S. Dilworth Young, from Salt Lake City, was presiding. Donna took Helen Rowberry early cause they were singing with the Singing Mothers. Don Rowberry called by Donna's place for Joan and me later, Lou took me to Sierra Madre. He and Rex spent the day working in the little house, laying tile on the floors. Mrs. Wolfe is moving in tomorrow. I put Mary's hair up in curlers before we left this morning. She took care of Kathy. Warnie took Janet to conference. We had a huge crowd out this morning in the Monrovia High School Auditorium. I sat with Joan, she had a miserable head cold, she had to go out twice to use nose drops. It was a fine meeting; the talks were good. LaVer Millard's Singing Mothers did a beautiful job. President Young is an excellent speaker. Sorry that Rex and Lou had to miss it this morning. We had to wait almost an hour while the Singing Mothers had several pictures taken. We had to wait for people to clear out, and etcetera. Dolores arrived home from Cedar City, Utah, this morning at eight o'clock and she was in conference singing with the chorus. The ladies looked lovely in their white blouses and dark skirts. Janet had the potato salad all made when we got home. Nine of us sat down to dinner, Warnie M., Lou, and myself as guests. We had cold meat, tomatoes, pickles, and salad. We had chocolate pudding with whipped cream for dessert, nice eh? Lou and Rex worked until almost 5 p.m. Rex had a

special meeting with the seventies and President Young at five o'clock. Lou came home and cleaned up, then came back and took Donna, Mary, Johnny and me to the evening session. The Primary children of our stake sang three songs for us, so lovely! Janet stayed home with Kathy and got herself ready for the opening day of school tomorrow. Rex went back home after his early meeting. He wasn't out of bed long. They've worked hard today, got all the floors, but the back porch and bathroom done. Lou was really tired out; very sore knees and a backache.

### September 14, Monday

It was another hot day. Janet and Joan started back to school this morning. Joan to Wilson School and Janet to Pasadena City College. Janet borrowed Warnie's car today. She took him to work, so she could use his car today. I wonder what his folks think? I know what her folks think! Oh well, that's our Janet girl. Janet was going to see if she could arrange a school schedule, which would make it possible for her to get away by 2 p.m. to work in Dr. Anderson's office. I hope it can be arranged. Nina Wolfe moved into the Marshes' little garage house this morning. It isn't ready yet, but she couldn't wait any longer, so the work will have to be finished while she is in the place. Mary and Johnny will start back to school on Wednesday. Mary helped Nina clean up the pieces of cut tile, and get the dishes and shelf paper in the new kitchen cupboards. She went to town in Sierra Madre,



*Singing Mother's at the Pasadena Stake conference on September 13, 1953. Donna Marsh & Dolores Jones circled in red.*

with Nina, to get a few needed items. Nina's daughter started her school today in the John Marshall School. Annie phoned, said her water heater had to be replaced, it sprung a leak; the new one cost \$132. Beverly just got started back to work after vacation, when the union called the Cannon Electric workers out on strike. The Union says that Cannon Company is not living up to the Union terms, so the trouble starts! Bev hadn't joined the union yet, but they stopped her from working last Friday. She had to go to a meeting today at 2 p.m. What next? She started working for Cannon Electric Company last week and now this! I had a nice visit with Dolores over the phone this afternoon. She told me of the beautiful trip they had last week up in Idaho, with some of Dr. LaMoyne Hickman's relatives. She and Yvonne and Bevan stayed two nights in Grace, Idaho. They met some of his relatives in Ogden and Logan, also. Our hearts were made glad tonight when we heard over our television news that little eight year old **\*Dana McClure** was found alive after six days lost in the Sequoia National Park. He is a little Mormon boy, we prayed for his safety in our conference on Sunday. Our kind neighbor Mr. Edgecomb helped Lou locate and open up the second cesspool in our front yard this evening. Lou filled in some dirt, until darkness came. I did a queen tribute to Vera Smith this afternoon. Glen Andersen went with some of his ward on a temple excursion to St. George temple this past weekend. I believe Dick and Beth Johnston went, too.

### September 15, Tuesday

Our morning paper said the eight-year-old McClure boy was found wandering on a ridge, in the Sequoia National Park, by two Highland Park boys, Ernie Gerisher and Cliff Jorgenson, and Randy Clark of North Hollywood. He'd been lost six days. He was taken to the Lodgepole Hospital for treatment. It was thrilling to read that two of our own boys, from our old Garvanza Ward, found little Dana. Nina Wolfe's new stove and icebox arrived today, the refrigerator is a little too tall to fit under the cupboard that Lou built, but Donna thinks a little bit can be cut away and it will go in place okay. Mary Howard took Donna and some ladies to



#### Hi I'm \*Dana McClure

I grew up in Southern California. I am a husband, a father, and a grandfather. I am alive today because I'm a Mormon.

#### About Me

I grew up in southern California. At age 7 I went with my family on a vacation to Sequoia National Park. I got lost for 6 days and 5 nights. I had been taught to pray to Heavenly Father and have faith in him. So on the first day I was lost I said a prayer to Heavenly Father that I would be found. I experienced the most peaceful feeling in my heart. I was not afraid and I knew things would work out. They did work out through the efforts of around 300 searchers a day, and the members of my church providing meals for the searchers. It was on the sixth day that they began the last day they were going to look for me. I had a feeling that I should yell out loud, help, I am lost even though I didn't see the man who found me. He heard my cry and came to my rescue. The Lord kept me warm, and He kept the bears from attacking me, and he kept me warm even though it was in the middle of September in the High Sierras. Through the fasting and prayers and searching of my fellow Mormons and other good people, I am alive today. That has allowed me to become a husband, and father, and grandfather. Without the faith and power of prayer I learned as a little boy, I would have died just like the rangers believed that I probably had already done. That is why it was the last day they would be searching.

#### Why I am a Mormon

Ever since my experience of the peace I received through prayer to Heavenly Father, I have known The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is true. I have had many opportunities to help other people, just as I had many people help me. I have taught the youth, and I have been a missionary for my church teaching those not of my faith the joy they can have in their lives through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I am able to face the challenges of life because of the peace I found through living the gospel. The Lord does not remove the burdens and challenges of life be He gives me the strength to carry my burdens. One great way I have found to lighten my burdens is to help other people with their burdens.

<https://www.mormon.org/me/2bqr>

the chorus practice at church this morning. They have songs to learn for our Relief Society ward conference in November. The Howard children stayed with Mary and Johnny. They ate a picnic lunch in the park. Johnny phoned me from the old empty Colvin home, I'm surprised the phone hasn't been disconnected all these many months. John and David H. were exploring

the place. Mary H. ate with Donna. I was very sorry to learn that Br. Hyrum Burk had an accident yesterday. He fell from a ladder and broke both of his heels and a small bone in his back. It was just about a year ago that his wife, Ethel Burk, fell from a ladder and broke her back. She was in a cast for many months. It is surely too bad. Rex stopped by here on his way home from working with his father and Lewie. He helped Lou put the remaining dirt in the cesspool. We'll need a lot more dirt. Mr. Edgecomb is digging some out of his basement, to enlarge it. Lou is going to haul it to the cesspool. We have one cesspool filled in; they hauled some tonight. Lou has a miserable head cold. He went to bed early. He had some hot lemonade and aspirin tablets. Glen Andersen went to the St. George Temple excursion last weekend; Dick and Beth Johnston went also. Glen spent most of his vacation taking care of the housework as Irene and new infant had just arrived from the hospital.

### September 16, Wednesday— Our Wedding Anniversary

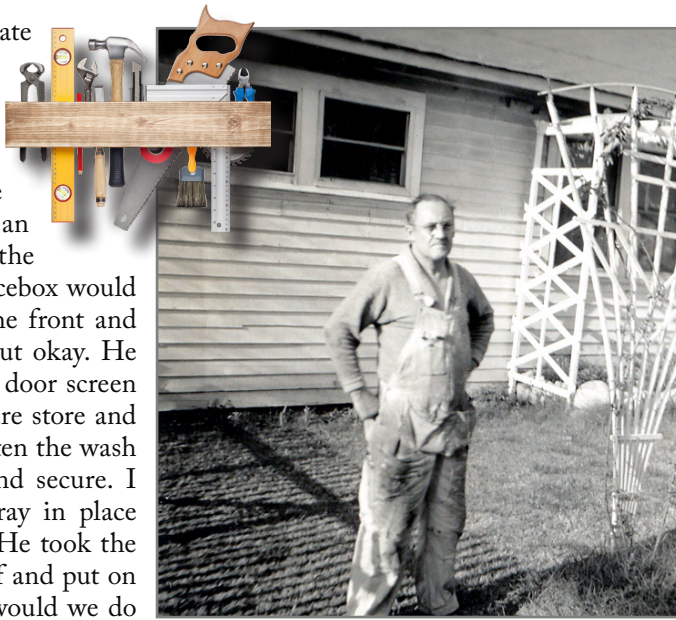
Thirty-nine years ago this morning, Lou and I became man and wife in the Salt Lake Temple. We've had a good life together; I do thank God for the blessings, which have come to us, through this union. Donna and Rex sent us a beautiful anniversary card. Lou felt so miserable with a cold; he didn't go to work. I wanted him to stay in bed all day, but he got out about 11 a.m. and worked in the yard with the flowers and etcetera. He rested again later. I did my ironing after lunch. We went up to Donna's about 2:15 p.m. She was in a rush, as usual, getting ready to leave with Melba Kunz at 3 p.m. for the stake canning project. They canned pears until about 10 p.m. Donna had her dinner all prepared, ready for Joan to put in the oven, It was a Spanish rice casserole and she made a delicious looking cake, also. I helped her the best I could, I did the



dishes, spread chocolate frosting on the cake and made a couple of tuna sandwiches for her to take with her. Lou did several jobs in the little rear house; he cut  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch off the cupboard in the kitchen so the electric icebox would fit under it. He fixed the front and back doors so they'd shut okay. He put a catch on the back door screen and went to the hardware store and bought long bolts to fasten the wash tray to the wall nice and secure. I helped him hold the tray in place while he bolted it fast. He took the old broken toilet seat off and put on a good one. Oh, what would we do without our Daddy? Mary took the tiny dog, from the rear house out for a walk. Johnny took him out first before Mary came home from school. Kathy was happy playing with the cute toys that Mary got her from the Toy Loan (a piano, a lawn mower, and some cute furniture). Donna's children have all enjoyed toys from the Toy Loan in Sierra Madre. Janet didn't work for Dr. Anderson after school today. Virginia Kelley came to see her at 5 p.m. Joan came on the 5:15 bus. She stayed after school to practice the "Pom Pom" girls. Mary, Johnny, and the neighbor kids played croquet on their front lawn this afternoon, the set came from Toy Loan. Lou and I left when Janet arrived this evening. We came home, dressed up, and went to Gwinn's lovely restaurant for a delicious fried chicken dinner. It was good, more chicken than I could eat. I brought two big pieces home with me. We went to Mutual, to please me. Sr. Summers had phoned and invited us to please come tonight. The Special Interest Class had John Goddard, a noted Explorer, come and show colored slides of his travels in Africa, the Nile River and of Egypt and the different natives. It was interesting. Janet was in a little skit in the opening program. It was titled "Dates." Several young boys and girls took part in the skit; it was cute.

### September 17, Thursday

Lou felt better this morning and he went to work. I talked to Donna on the phone this morning; she was in just as big a rush as yesterday. She had to go canning again this afternoon (more pears). Mary Howard was going to come to Donna's house and take care of some children so the mothers could go and can pears this afternoon. They'll work until about 10 p.m. again. Donna had an ironing to do and prepare something for her family to eat. Oh, I wonder how she can ever keep up this awful pace. It exhausts me to even think of all she has to do. Her family is not too happy about her being away so much at dinnertime. We hope this will end it for a while, eh? Bless her heart. It is an effort for her; believe me. Our good neighbor Mr. Edgecomb put a few loads of top dirt on the cesspool we have filled in. We need a lot of loads to fill in the second cesspool. Lou and Mr. Edgecomb are going to get it from Edgecomb's cellar,



*Handy Lou Renshaw circa 1939. He was always ready to lend a helpful hand.*

nice eh? I wrote a letter to my sister Violet. Our hot spell has broken and we have a touch of fall in the air and I love it. There is something thrilling about the fall season to me. I phoned Sue in Burbank, to find out how Lorene was recuperating from her operations. Lorene says she is feeling better every day. She thinks she can go home soon. Sue had her come to her house, from the hospital. Sue is a grand nurse, I know. I spent two months in her care when I had to be in bed with heart trouble, bless her heart! I am sorry that Sue has a miserable head cold now. Ray and baby Richie had it first. Ann Vandergrift has it now also, and she is to leave for the B.Y.U. College in Provo tomorrow. I surely hope she'll be well by then. Donna phoned me

this afternoon, she was happy and relieved that the plans were changed and she did not have to go can pears again tonight. Mary Howard was going in her place. The Robinson children are not coming to Donna's house for her to look after as planned. Mary Howard's two children would come home from Primary with Mary and Johnny. Donna would take them home later. I was glad Donna could be home with her family too. She had so much to do at home anyway. Lou hauled a few more loads of dirt from Mr. Edgecomb's cellar to our cesspool, we'll have the second one filled before long, if he keeps at it, and he will, as our daddy is a worker. We enjoyed our television tonight, we missed several favorite programs this week cause we were out somewhere.

### September 18, Friday

I phoned Ethel Burk this morning and got Br. Burk's address in the Huntington Hospital. I mailed a get-well card to the poor man. He had a painful accident last Monday; he fell off a ladder and broke both heels and a small bone in his back. Donna says that Rex came home from work last evening with a severe pain in his neck, it was swollen; she put hot Epsom salt packs on it. He went to work for his dad and Lewie this morning again. They are building a wall for the Cummings's in our ward. Rex has worked for them, the Marshes, this week, as plastering is slack right now. But Br. Kunz says that a lot of plastering work is lined up. Well, as long as he keeps busy, so he can keep his bills paid up, he'll feel happy I'm sure. I went to the bank after lunch. I deposited \$100 for Lou. He had been saving it in his wallet in his drawer. Ray Clayton gave Lou a beautiful alligator wallet that he bought when he was in Brazil. He said he wanted Uncle Lou to have it because he finished up the little house that Charlie was building when he had his stroke. So Lou saves his dollars in this lovely wallet until he gets a nice sum to bank. I went to the Broadway Store and got Joan's black wool cardigan sweater out of will call. I had Joan pick it out and pay \$5.00 on it last Friday evening. I paid the balance of \$6.33 today. I asked in the Thrifty Drug Store in town, about rubber corks to fit my Breatheasy asthma nebulizer, but they didn't have

any. A lady in one of the stores in our Lamanda Park district told me she got some hard rubber corks in the Thrifty Drug Store at Lake and Colorado, so I got off the bus at Lake Street, but had no better luck. They haven't had any for a long time. Well, I ended up buying the regular corks. I had to sand them down to fit okay. Lou and Mr. Edgecomb put several loads of dirt in the cesspool. It is a hard, slow job, digging it out of his cellar and hauling it to our cesspool.

### September 19, Saturday

Lou got up at 7 a.m., ate breakfast, and went to the shop; he made up the Venetian blinds to go in Rex's little rear house. He had me call Donna to make sure about the shade of slats, she phoned him herself later. They decided to use the gray slats that Mrs. Wolfe wanted. Mrs. Wolfe is the tenant. I felt a bit chilly last evening; I should have turned on the gas Yule log, but hate to do it unless Lou is chilly too, as he is warm blooded. I didn't want him to feel uncomfortable, but "darn it all," I have a head cold now, which I'm fighting desperately to get rid of. *[Could it be that sitting by Joan last Sunday when she was so sick had something to do with this cold?]* My blessed Donna made a meatloaf and a Jello salad to take up to Champ Cuff's home. Mary Dawn Cuff came home from the hospital yesterday, with her infant daughter. Joan went up to Cuff's for a few hours this morning while Champ had to be away on business. Diane Oates is staying with Joan, in Sierra Madre, while her folks are away in Utah. They took Irene and Elaine to B.Y.U. College in Provo, Utah. Donna drove by here this afternoon to get \$2.83 from me. Rex gave Joan \$10.00 but she needed a little more to get her blouse and two sweaters out of will call. Joan, Diane, and Joan's girlfriend, I've forgotten her name, were in the car. Baby Kathy stayed with me until Donna came back from taking the girls to town. My darling Lou rushed up to the store to cash his check so I could let Joan have more, but she didn't need it, bless his heart. Donna took a dozen doughnuts and a box of avocados to the carnival for me, on her way back home. She is a dear. Rex worked with his folks again today, Janet worked for Dr. Anderson. This evening Lou and I went to the carnival to eat and look around. Donna had taken Johnny and Mary to the carnival and left them there, with \$1 each to spend. I guess it didn't last long, ha ha! We saw Johnny; the little fellow was standing in the midst of all the noise, blowing on a little whistle, which inflated a paper mustache out each side of his mouth about ten inches. He had a canvas cap on his head. I watched him for five minutes before he noticed me. He was delighted to see us and informed us he was hungry, so Grampa bought him a hamburger, cute kid. Grampa gave him a 25¢ ticket to go see the show, which was just about to start. He looked tired so we knew he'd sit down to see the show. We looked all over for Mary to buy her a hamburger, but she had gone home. When she got tired she walked home. I fixed a shoulder sleeve on Janet's pretty new dress. Donna and Janet had already done one sleeve, they were happy to turn the job over to

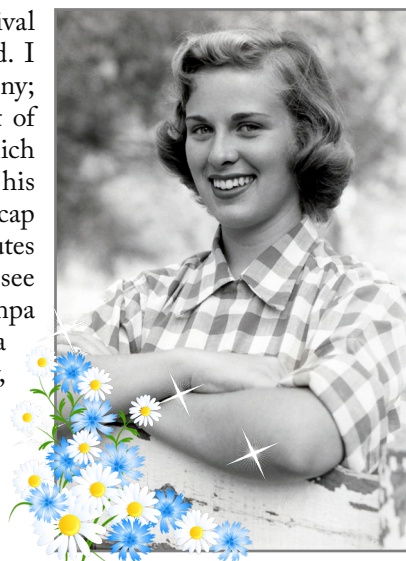
me. Warnie and Janet went to a party. Joan and Diane O. visited a girlfriend in Sierra Madre. Rex went to the carnival to pick up Johnny and then went to his missionary meeting. Kathy was so excited about the flying seats that were in front of the new church, a carnival. She saw them when Donna stopped to take my doughnuts and avocados in. She kept talking about the seats going "round and round." Janet and Joan didn't go to the carnival, not interested.



*Maybe this was the kind of ride that Kathy was talking about, "seats going round and round."*

### September 20, Sunday

I was feeling miserable when I got home last night, with the cold in my head. I doctored up and went to bed. I was too miserable to get up this morning and go to Sunday School. Lou went; I stayed in bed most of the day. Lou got up early and went to the shop, to assemble the Venetian blinds for the little garage house. He took them up to Sierra Madre and hung them before 9 a.m. The gray blinds look pretty in the pink room Donna says. I always feel sorry when I have to miss Sunday School. Lou stopped in the Thrifty Drug Store, on his way home from Sunday School, and bought an electric heating pad for me. That takes care of the chills; bless him. Lou fixed his own lunch; I got up and ate some grapefruit and raisin toast, then back to bed. Lou took a nap this afternoon. Annie phoned to tell me they brought Lorene home from Burbank last evening. Ray was going out to get her today, but they saved him the trip. Lorene must be careful for a few more weeks, but she wanted to be in her own home again. Sue was staying with Elaine's children at nights, while Ernie and Elaine took Ann to B.Y.U. College in Provo, Utah. Marshes were a little late getting home from Sunday School so Warnie phoned to see if Janet was here. Diane Oates is staying with the Rex Marshes, while her parents have gone to Utah to take Elaine and Irene to B.Y.U. College in Utah. The girls are having fun, having Diane answer the phone, she says, "Marshes residence, first maid speaking." I sat in a blanket this evening, on the couch to watch T.V. programs. I miss my church a lot.



*Diane Oates is staying with the Marshes while her parents take Elaine and Irene to BYU.*



### September 21, Monday

I didn't get up until 9 a.m. to pay the insurance man, then back to bed until noon, when I got out to answer the phone. I ate some grapefruit, brewed Lou's alfalfa tea, and cooked a pot of potatoes in their jackets, still feeling too miserable to get dressed. I am surely thankful for the new electric heating pad Lou bought for me yesterday. I have the annoying chills, and the heat helps to control them. Janet came home from school this morning with cramps. Lorene and Annie both phoned, I'm glad Lorene is feeling better. We girls sent Aunt Ray Bailey a birthday card each; Sue and Lorene sent theirs together before she came home. Nina Wolfe paid Rex three months rent for the little house, in advance, yesterday. Nice eh? We received a thank you note from Carol and Virgil Smith for the wedding gift (glass party set), which Donna and I sent. It was service for eight. I stayed in bed all afternoon; I got out to fix something for us to eat this evening. Lou and our neighbor Mr. Edgecomb, filled in more dirt in the cesspool. Mr. Edgecomb digs it out of his cellar and Lou hauls it to the cesspool. They think that one more evening's work will fill in the second one. It's a lot of work, but a good thing over and done with. The city of Pasadena insists that all abandoned cesspools be filled in with dirt. Mr. Keen tried for several hours to locate Mrs. Stacy's two cesspools, but couldn't find either one. I don't know what the city does in a case like that? Mr. Keen did the work for the neighbors across the street from us. Rex has been working this week with his Pa and Lewie. Diane O. didn't stay at Donna's tonight; she had a babysitting job in her own neighborhood. She stayed all night at Sr. Clark's home, near her home.

### September 22, Tuesday

I got up at 11 a.m. feeling better than yesterday. The pain and cold has left my head, but settled in my throat and chest. I was going to stay in bed today, but I looked out my bedroom window and to my surprise I saw that the first cesspool had caved in, making a hole about a foot and a half deep and about as wide. I got dressed and went out to cover up the cavity in case a child might step on the edge and it would cave in some more. I laid Lou's stepladder across it. Our front lawn is a mess now, one cesspool has Mr. Edgecomb's iron wheelbarrow sticking up out of it, the other has a stepladder lying across it. A few weeks ago it was all dug up for the city to connect us up to sewer. Rex came by this morning to get Lou's extension light cord; he is working on a wall at the Cummings's with his dad and Lewie. Donna and Kathy went to the chorus practice this morning. They are practicing songs for the Relief Society Conference in November. I mailed a birthday card to Ann Vandergrift, at B.Y.U. College. She is 18 years old on the 25th of September. I believe this is her first birthday away from home. It is Sue's birthday the 26th of September and Aunt Ray Bailey's tomorrow, the 23rd. I have mailed her a card also. My sweet Joan

will be 15 years old on September 29. I have a black wool cardigan sweater, which was Joan's choice, gift wrapped and ready for her. John and Florence Marsh called to see me this afternoon for a short visit. It was delightful to see them. He'd been over on our church lot to figure on a cement job for them. This evening Lou and Mr. Edgecomb filled the cesspools to the top. I hope they're packed good now. I don't think they will sink in a lot now. Lou has run gallons of water in to pack the dirt down good and solid. I enjoyed our T.V. tonight, while Lou went to a Sunday School meeting and social at Dr. Kratser's home. They served doughnuts, punch and ice cream. Lou had a headache before we went to the party; I hope he'll sleep okay.

### September 23, Wednesday

It has been a very pretty fall day. Donna left early this morning for a day at the Welfare Center, the Deseret Industries. Ovena Mayo took care of Kathy for Donna. I told her to bring her here but she was afraid I wasn't well enough to have her all day. I do feel much better today, I got up and put up Lou's lunch and I stayed up and managed to clean up the house a little. I vacuumed too. I hope I can do the washing tomorrow, as Lou is running low on work shirts and underwear. The dirty job of filling in our abandoned cesspools uses up the clean clothes, he gets so wet and dirty. My dear little Johnny-boy amused me this afternoon. He came home from school and found no one home, so he phoned me. This is the conversation: (Gr for Grama, J for Johnny) J: "Grama have you got Cummingses' telephone number?" Gr: "No dear, but your mother has it in her little book." J: "I can't find it." Gr: "Why do you want to call them?" J: "I want to ask Daddy if I can come up there and play with Carol." Gr: "I'm afraid your Daddy won't like you calling him." J: "Why?" Gr: "Well, I'll try to tell you why. You say the Cummingses have a nice home. J: "Yes." Sr. Cummings will answer the phone and tell Rex his little boy wants to talk to him. Rex is busy building a cement

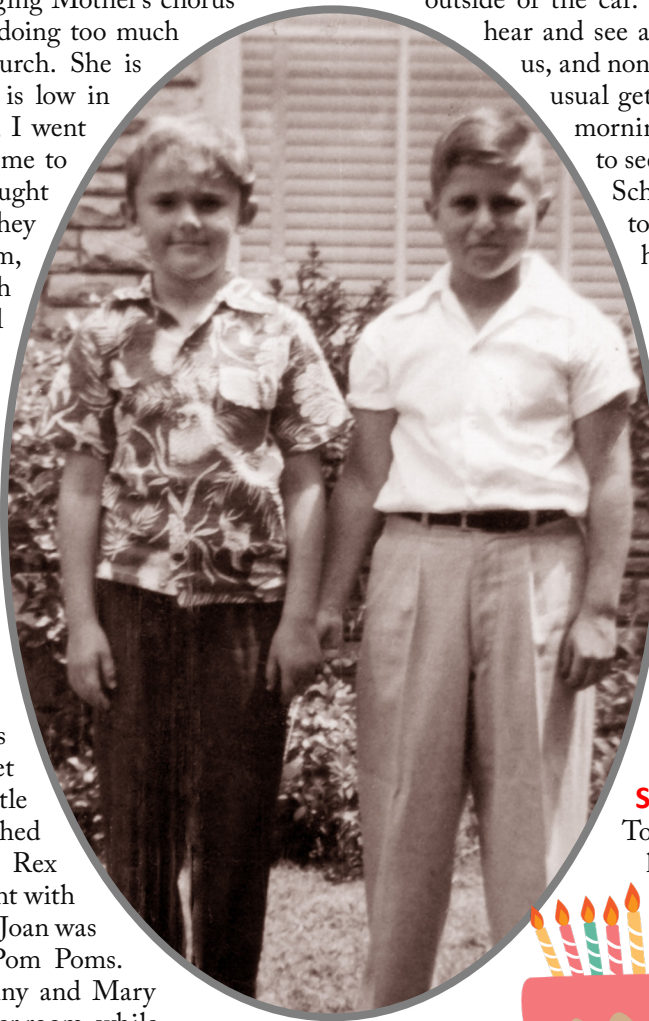
wall for the Cummingses. He wonders if something is wrong at home. He washes his hands at the tap outside, cleans off his shoes, goes in, and answers the phone. Johnny says, "Can I come up there and play?" Daddy says "No! and don't you ever try a stunt like that again," [pause] Gr: "Does that sound like what your daddy might say?" J: "No" [pause] Gr: "Well my dear, you know your daddy much better than I do. What do you think he would say to you?" [long pause] Gr: "What would he say dear?" J: "Gosh Grama, he'd be a whole lot madder than that. I guess I won't phone him." Cutie, ha ha!



*Looks like baby John was thinking hard 1945.  
On September 23 1953 Grama had him thinking  
hard again.*

## September 24, Thursday

It was just one year ago today that Charlie Clayton passed away. I've had him and Lorene on my mind all day. I hope it has been a beautiful happy year for him, and I'm sure it has been. Lorene, "bless her heart," hasn't had a very happy year, but now that the operations are over with, I hope and pray she'll enjoy living for many happy years. I phoned Sue and invited her to go with Lou and me for a little trip over the weekend. She said she'd love to go. I invited Lorene also, but she isn't well enough to ride so long at a time, her last operation was just three weeks ago. Lou thinks he'd like to take us to see Virginia City in Nevada. We'll go to Reno and Carson City also, unless we change the plans. I've talked to Annie and Beverly a time or two, I tried several times to get Lorene on the phone; she called me after Annie told her I was trying to get her. Miriam C. went to her club this afternoon, Lorene looked after little Coy (Carol), Marilyn was in kindergarten. Donna was busy as always, Singing Mother's chorus this morning. I'm afraid she is doing too much with family and house and church. She is tired all the time. I know she is low in iron. After dinner this evening, I went to the shop with Lou, he took me to the Owl Drug Store first. I bought some Rybutol tonic capsules. They were having a special on them, buy a large bottle for \$5.95, with 100 capsules in and get a small bottle, \$1.98 with 25 capsules free. So it was \$6.18 with tax. We took the large bottle to Donna, one capsule a day for 100 days should help. Lou is going to use the small bottle. I bought some Rex Salvine 57¢ a tube for me, and a birthday card for sister Sue. I helped Lou thread the slats in the Venetian blinds. We took them out and he hung them up in the little rear house. Nina Wolfe was expecting company (a Lo Heet Stainless Steel dinner). The little house looked real nice. Lou washed Donna's dishes; I wiped them. Rex and Donna had a meeting tonight with the seventies, to plan for a party. Joan was busy making her pink paper Pom Poms. Janet was out babysitting. Johnny and Mary went to talk to Dixie Wolfe, in her room, while her mother was having the dinner. Kathy had her bath and played with Grama until bedtime. She is a doll.



Johnny Marsh  
and David  
Howard have  
fun together.

## September 25, Friday

We had a heavy fog this morning, but it had cleared by noon. I defrosted the icebox and did the ironing. Donna took Kathy with her this morning to her Relief Society leadership meeting, she brought her here about 12:30 noon. I gave her some lunch, and Donna went to her board

meeting at Melba Kunz's home. Kathy and I enjoyed the patio swing and box of toys and curtain rings that I keep for her. She was so beautiful and sweet today, oh, I love her. I asked her if she wanted to take a nap on Grama's bed, and she nodded her curly head yes. She was asleep in a very few minutes, with the pretty dimpled arm across sister Joan's big doll, which I keep here in the linen cabinet for Joan, he he! I phoned Sue this morning, she says her girls and families are coming to her house this evening to celebrate her birthday in as much as she'll be away tomorrow. Some one of them will bring her in to Highland Park after the party. Kathy slept from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Donna phoned from Melba's. I told her baby was asleep so she went with her board members to the new church building to talk with a drapery man about the drapes for our Relief Society room. She and Janet came for Kathy about 5:30 p.m. Kathy and I were inside the car with the windows shut, and Grama was washing off the outside of the car. Baby thought it was thrilling to

hear and see all of that water splashing around us, and none on us. Lou is excited and fast, as usual getting car ready for our trip in the morning. I went with Lou this evening

to see about some carpenter work Mrs. Schumacher and daughter want him to do for them. They've sold their home and bought a duplex. We took them some avocados; they are nice folks. Mary stayed all night with Bonny Howard. David stayed with Johnny. I believe that Janet and Joan were both out babysitting tonight. Nina Wolfe was at Donna's; Dixie was out babysitting. We took some avocados to Glen Clawson's wife and to Donna. She and Rex were at the seventies party. Johnny and David Howard were in sleeping bags on Donna's living room floor. (In and out!)

## September 26, Saturday

Today is Sue's birthday. We picked her up at Andersen's a few minutes after six o'clock this morning. Annie was sitting up, in the dark, with Sue, watching out the window for our car. She started her washing after we left.

She leaves for Salt Lake City, Utah, on the train Monday evening.

She is going to conference. Lou and I came through a lot of fog on our way to Highland Park; It was not bad after we left Highland Park. We stopped in Palmdale to fill up with car gas, at the



Sue



Richfield Station. This is where our friend Bart works, he doesn't come on the job until noon. We were sorry we missed seeing him. He worked for Gordon a long time; they surely miss him at the shop. We enjoyed an excellent breakfast in Palmdale, also. It was 8:30 a.m. when we left. We stopped at the Overlade's for a few minutes in Lancaster. Bishop O. was not well, has a miserable cold, she looks well. They have a very pretty new home that he built. He is building the church house also, for his ward. We passed it and were surprised to find it was so large a building. It will be lovely. Some of the ward members were working on the roof. Bishop O. wants to go to Salt Lake City to conference next week; I hope he'll get over his cold in time. The next stop was Bishop, California, where we serviced the car and selves. We enjoyed a good sandwich at 1 p.m. Lou walked a few blocks for exercise and to buy some lemons for me. He bought some delicious Muscat grapes, which we enjoyed. Sue and I waited in the car and bragged about our precious grandchildren. Ha ha! Lou also bought a two-gallon tin of oil, for his car, from the Western Auto Store. The drive from Bishop, to Carson City, Nevada, was very lovely. We climbed up to 8,000 feet; one spot on the trip, the marker said 9,930 feet. We stopped at a pretty place up in the mountains for some 7Up drinks and a look at the beauty round about. We got out at several lookout points on way to Carson City and enjoy the scenery. There was a lake [*Mono Lake*], which was such a deep blue color, with the blue sky, the pine trees and lake it made a beautiful picture in this little place named Lee Vining, California.

It was 6 p.m. when we arrived in Carson City. We stayed at a darling motel, called Crystal Fountain, in Carson City. We had two rooms and a bath for \$7.50; it was up to date and perfect. Sue paid for our dinner and lunch. We'll have to hide her money; she can't do that again. We ate dinner after cleaning up and resting. It was a very nice dinner in Hunter's Lodge Café, a fish dinner.

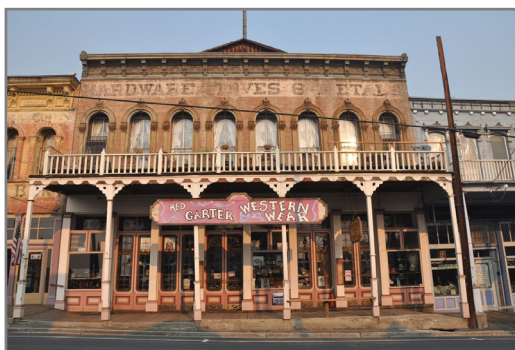
### September 27, Sunday

Oh, it is beautifully clear up in this country, the mountains look so near and so pretty. We all rested well in our lovely beds. Sue gave me some Bromo Quinine last night, I didn't cough at all after I got in bed. The motel man brought Lou a pot of hot coffee, with sugar and cream at 8 a.m. Isn't that something? We set our watches back to seven o'clock, as the daylight savings changed back to the regular time; this morning at 2 a.m. We gained the hour back we lost in the spring. We left our dear little motel and the pretty city of Carson, Nevada soon after 7 a.m. It was a beautiful drive to Virginia City, Gold Town, and Silver Town. I was surely intrigued with the quaint buildings and atmosphere of these old mining towns. What a story they could tell if they

could only talk! They are ghost towns now, but in the 1870's they were busy. It is very interesting to look and fancy you were back in the old days, when the place was very much alive, we enjoyed every mile of our drive today. The beauty of Lake Tahoe is uplifting to the soul; we drove for many miles around the lake, then got out and looked around at the marvelous lodge or hotel and buildings, stores, and etcetera. It was quiet on Sunday morning, nothing open, but we didn't intend to spend a lot of money anyway. We ate our breakfast in a nice place, Buckhorn Café and Cocktail Bar, on the California side of Lake Tahoe. It was interesting there, as the place was crowded with happy people, thirty Rotary club members eating at one large table near us. They were having a lot of fun, which we also enjoyed. We stopped for gas in Placerville, a pretty little lumber town up in the mountains. Sue bought some Muscat grapes, a large chocolate bar, and some fruit candy bars. She is a good sport. We passed through Ione Town; we almost made it into Stockton, California. The signboards said Stockton, "this way" but a few turns in the road and we landed in Modesto, California. I didn't have Melba or Elizabeth's addresses [*two of Aunt Julia Strong Paul's daughters*] and we were all too tired to look for them so we went on. It was 4 p.m. and I was dreadfully tired. Lou and Sue insisted I lie down in the backseat. Sue got up in front with Lou. I felt much better after resting; the chest and back pains left and we passed through the Merced town without me even lifting up my tired head. I was okay when we drove into Fresno. Sue and I enjoyed a fried ham



*Mono Lake near Lee Vining, California.*



*Old building in Virginia City, California.*

sandwich and Lou had a hot beef sandwich in a café a few miles out of Fresno. We had intended eating in the town of Fresno, but kept driving to find a Richfield station. We'd missed the one in the town. We were on the outskirts of town when we found the gas station he wanted. We stopped in Bakersfield for gasoline. I stayed in the backseat and rested on the pillows. I know that Sue and Lou are tired out. We left Sue at her home in Burbank at 11 p.m. She invited us to stay there all night, but we were so near home we came on. I was not tired of course. Lou had driven 16 hours when we arrived home at 12 midnight. A wonderful weekend trip, but always glad to get back to our sweet little home in Pasadena.

### September 28, Monday

Annie left for Salt Lake city, Utah on the streamliner train at 5 p.m. She is going to conference. Donna left Kathy with Grama Marsh this morning while she took Mary to the Children's Hospital in Los Angeles.

They spent four hours at the hospital just to get Mary's card fixed up and two appointments made for Mary to have x-rays and treatments for the trouble she is having in one of her feet. A bone is enlarged and sore. It is not a

union, but a bone in the arch somewhere. It is near the anklebone. Donna phoned me from Marshes about 3 p.m. Janet answered my phone call to their house about 2 p.m. She gets out of school at 1 p.m. now, so she can work for Dr. Don Anderson in the afternoons. He isn't in the office on Mondays. Warnie M. brought Janet home from school. Donna phoned me from home this evening. Oh my, what a busy person she is trying to get her Relief Society opening day invitations out, the family and it's needs taken care of, and the tenant satisfied. She, (Nina Wolfe) is anxious to have her little place finished, the painting and a few other jobs that were not done when she moved in. Rex is too tired when he gets home from work to display any interest in the work in the little rear house, or in his own house for that matter. Well, "it's a great life, if ye don't weaken," eh? Mrs. Schumacher phoned this evening; Lou was relieved to know they'd found a man that can go ahead with the remodeling work in her duplex home. She is so anxious to move into it and Lou is so tied up with work now he didn't see how he could help her. He did promise he'd go fix some doors for her on Wednesday evening. Donna bought two pair nylon hose for me to give Joan tomorrow. Donna bought new shoes for our little Kathy today.

### September 29, Tuesday

It is our Joan's birthday today, 15 years old. She is a cutie. Bob Hamson sent her a nice birthday card. Donna went to the chorus practice this morning at church. She took Kathy. They are practicing for our Relief Society conference in November. Both wards are going to join for the conference. I was delighted when Donna told me that Nina Wolfe, her tenant, had given Mary a winter coat that Dixie has outgrown, nice eh? I was worrying about my sweet Mary and her need for a coat this winter. Donna phoned Lou today, he is going out to do a few jobs for Nina in the little rear house tonight. I patched Lou's underwear this morning, two pair. Beverly phoned me this morning and said Annie got away on the train last evening at 5 p.m. she is going to Relief Society Conference. I had dinner ready early this evening so we could go up to Sierra Madre, Lou in his work togs, me in my best black crepe dress. We took a lovely bouquet of rose buds and our gifts to Joan. We gave her a black wool cardigan sweater and two pair of nylon hose. Rex and Donna gave her \$10 for shoes. Janet gave her white gym shorts; the children gave her socks. She received several nice cards. Grama Marsh sent a dollar in

her card. We sang happy birthday to Joan, with her birthday cake candles burning brightly. Everyone was in a rush it seemed. Donna and Janet to go to a social, for mothers and daughters, to hear Sr. Pettit's talk on chastity, Lou to work in the rear house, Rex, Mary, and I to June Johnson's home where the Seagull girls entertained their parents. I went in Donna's place. The girls put on a little play about the Utah seagulls. They had a nice little program. Mary is president of the class; she gave the welcome to parents talk. They each pinned a pretty paper camellia on us. June Johnson served ice cream and cookies; the girls helped pass it out. I combed Mary's hair tonight before we went. Baby Kathy enjoyed the birthday cake. Joan wore her new sweater to the show tonight. Don Austraman took her to the show. Johnny was the baby sitter at home. I read two short stories to Mary and Johnny after we got home, until Donna and Janet came.

### September 30, Wednesday

It was a lovely clear morning, but by noon the dreadful smog had rolled in and my eyes and chest hurt. I spent about two hours in the yard this morning tying up the chrysanthemums. They grew too tall again this year and I vowed I'd not let them do that. I thought I had cut them back enough, but not so I guess. Ruby Anderson and I went out this afternoon to do our Relief Society visiting, only four were at home out of the ten families in our district.

I received a nice letter from sister Violet, I wrote a little note to her and enclosed it in Yvonne's birthday card. I sent a dollar bill in the card to Yvonne. I'd like to have sent a nice gift, or more money but I'm broke this week. Joan's birthday yesterday took my allowance. I phoned Dolores and read her mother's letter to her at noon. She was home to her lunch. She had been working at the bank again for a few days, her girlfriend and mother-in-law, Jenny Jones, have looked after the children for her between them. Lou had expected to go to Mrs. Schumacher's duplex home and fix some doors for her tonight, but she phoned and said the man is remodeling now. She will phone Lou when he is finished, so he'll have more room to do the job conveniently. I was glad he didn't have to go out tonight, he was not rested up from the long weekend driving

ordeal. Ernie Oates phoned Lou again today, he is anxious to have him get started on the carpenter work he needs done at his gas station. Our neighbors, Edgecombs and Lowes, spent the day at the fair. They left early and came home after dark. The days are a lot shorter now we've gone back to regular time. It was almost dark at 6 p.m.



*Elvie Joan Marsh turns 15 years old on September 29, 1953.*



### October 1, Thursday

October's "bright blue skies" were not pretty and blue today because of our dreadful smog. Donna and Mary left Kathy here this morning, 7:30, while they went to Los Angeles to the Children's Hospital to have x-rays taken of Mary's feet. They didn't have to wait around as long this time, so Mary was able to go to school part time this morning anyway. Kathy was very good; I enjoyed her so much. She ate breakfast and lunch with Grama. She had a nice long nap after her lunch. I told Donna, over the phone, to leave her here, and get the letters taken care of, to the Relief Society sisters, reminding them of the opening day next Tuesday. She went up to school to take Mary, an L.D.S. teacher friend, let her make a stencil copy of the letters. I think she did it for Donna, but not sure. Donna typed the addresses when she got home. She came for Kathy at 4:20 p.m. after taking Johnny, Mary, and some other children to Primary. Someone else will bring them home. Beverly phoned to read Annie's card to me. Bonnie and children met Annie at the depot on Tuesday morning. They took her to Doris's for a nice breakfast, then to Elsie's, so she could press her clothes and get ready to go to the temple that evening. Donna left Clarice Tanner in her home working on



Relief Society materials while she came for Kathy. Clarice put the potatoes in the stew for Donna; she is a nice friend. Joan bought some Spalding Shoes for school today, with the money her folks gave her for her birthday last Tuesday. Lou went to Ernie Oates's gas station this evening after work, to look over the carpenter job Ernie has in mind for him to do. I ate alone at 6 p.m. I fixed Lou's dinner later.

### October 2, Friday

I did my washing this morning and shampooed my hair. After lunch I made a lemon pudding. I talked to Donna on the phone; she heard some good news while at her market. The district they live in has been rezoned at last. Mr. Andrus is going to put up a gas station on his corner. It is okay for Rex to rent the little rear house now. They went ahead and rented it because they knew the property was to be rezoned soon. Nina Wolfe did her washing in Donna's washer this morning. She has a new automatic washer, but the light power has to be changed before she can use it. Some amazing changes have taken place out in Donna's location, since they first moved out there. There is so much building, it will be wonderful when the big super markets are completed on the corner, a small business district so handy will save her time and money. It is a long walk to her little store in Sierra Madre, when she hasn't got the car, which is too often anytime to carry groceries home so far. Its nice exercise if one is out for the pleasure of a stroll and not loaded down with groceries, eh? Lou looked tired when he came home this evening. His back has hurt all day; he cut our front lawn in spite of his aches. What a man!



### October 3, Saturday

It has been a lovely clear day, so pretty, but hot, no fog or smog. Lou had planned on working at Ernie Oates's gas station today, Ernie has some carpenter work he is anxious to have done, but Lou's back hurt and he felt miserable, so he phoned Ernie this morning to tell him he wouldn't come to work today. Lou thinks he strained his back the other evening when he lifted his power saw out of his car. Rex helped him put it in the car in Sierra Madre, but no one was here to help lift it out. I rubbed his back with BenGay and gave him some Doan's Pills. He sat in the sun and heated his back for twenty minutes. It feels much better this evening. Janet, Joan, and Warnie went to the church building lot and worked in the relay line to pass the tile along for the church roof. Nina Wolfe wanted her chairs sprayed, but Lou didn't feel up to doing it this day. Lou phoned Sr. Summerhays to tell her we had a lot of avocados if they want to come for them. We left them on the table in the cabaña in a



large carton. We went to town, to Penney's Store. Lou bought two pair of gray work pants, some suspenders and a plaid flannel shirt. I bought a pretty plastic tablecloth for our kitchen too; it has fruit in it. I bought some bath towels on sale, two for \$1 in Grants Store. Lou paid for two of them and I paid for two; we got two yellow and two rose, they are nice Cannon towels. We had a nice dinner in the Crown Cafeteria. Lou bought himself a pair of canvas shoes with thick sponge like soles and two pair of argyle socks in Karl's Shoe Store in our little shopping district. I bought one dozen buttons to sew on Lou's new work pants so he can use suspenders. I got them in our little neighborhood 15¢ Store. We bought our week's supply of groceries in Shopping Bag. Richard Summerhays Jr. came this evening for the avocados; Lou gave him all there were in the carton. I'm so happy to see them go and know someone will enjoy them. Rex and Donna went to Sears Store tonight to buy material needed to fix the lights to a stronger power in the rear house, so Nina Wolfe can use her washing machine. Johnny and Kathy went also. Mrs. Scott phoned; she has some old quilts to give our church. John and Florence Marsh went out to Donna's tonight and took Kathy a new dress and Joan's, Janet's, and Donna's dresses she'd repaired. Donna is a lucky girl to have such wonderful in-laws, bless 'em.

## October 4, Sunday

Our church made history this morning. They started a brand new area; the general conference session this morning was broadcast by radio and television, to many of our Western States. They came on the air from 9 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Lou and I thrilled to the wonders of bringing that wonderful conference into our home. I felt almost overcome with joy, when I saw and heard our beloved President David O. McKay open up this morning's session, in that beautiful historic tabernacle, to hear the famous choir sing and see them with the lovely big organ in the background. It was an inspiration, I haven't words to express my feelings, but I thank God for the blessings of this day. Apostle Stephen L. Richards was the first speaker, Elder George O. Morris next, Elder Matthew Cowley, and Adam S. Bennion. The songs were, "Come, Come Ye Saints," "The Morning Breaks," and "O Ye Mountains High." We rushed off to Sunday School as soon as the broadcast finished. The bishop arranged with a music store to have two television sets at church, so the ward folks without television could hear and see the conference on T.V. at church, nice eh? It is a marvelous age we live in eh? We didn't fuss much for our lunch; Lou helped me grill some cheese sandwiches. We had green salad. We surely have a bumper crop of avocados. We have given dozens of them away. I'm getting too fat from eating them. The tree is in Mrs. Stacy's yard, but half of the fruit falls in our yard. After Lou's nap, we drove out to Sierra Madre. Lou put the new lock on Nina Wolfe's door. We passed Janet and two girls in Warnie's car on our way to Donna's. The girls were going to several teas, for school clubs they'd been invited to attend. Janet stayed home this evening to see if any of the clubs called to invite her to join them. We had a splendid meeting tonight. Virginia White gave a beautiful reading on Joseph Smith, the prophet. Madge Fowler accompanied her on the organ. Kathy looked pretty in the new yellow dress Grandma Marsh made for her. Louise Anderson has had her long tresses cut short. Aunt Del Bailey [*Alice Adella McKnight*] passed away today.

## October 5, Monday

We enjoyed Rex's nice patio last evening. It was a beautiful clear evening, the sun



*Photo from the first in state televised broadcast of general conference in 1949.*

### David O. McKay and the Rise of Modern Mormonism

By Gregory A. Prince, William Robert Wright

#### Radio and Television Broadcasting

The LDS Church's formal foray into broadcasting began in 1925 when it purchases majority ownership in radio station KZN and changed the call letters to KSL. It moved quickly to apply its new assets to religious purposes, broadcasting the October 1925 general conference. Four years later, KSL affiliated with the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) and immediately began weekly national broadcasts of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, an ongoing series that continues to this day and is the longest running in American broadcasting history. On June 1, 1949, KSL television went on the air, the first commercial TV station in Utah. Four months later, for the first time, a general conference was broadcast over commercial television.

Thus, when David O. McKay became president in 1951, he inherited a nascent broadcasting apparatus largely unrealized potential. Gradually, he moved to unleash that potential. In October 1953, general conference was televised outside of Utah for the first time; and six months later, out of state coverage expanded to ten stations in six Western states, an estimated potential audience of twelve million views. Speaking at a general conference session at which a new proselytizing plan was unveiled, McKay spoke of electronic media's potential in carrying the message of Mormonism to the world: "Today it is a simple matter for us to teach all nations. The Lord has given us the means of whispering through space, of annihilating distance. We have the means in our hands of reaching the millions in the world."

*Excerpt from the book titled above.*

just behind the beautiful big trees in Helen's yard. Ovena Mayo's old couch and big chair came in handy for us to relax in. I wish there was a roof over the furniture, so the rains wouldn't spoil it for them. Helen was watering the trees in her yard; she came over to the patio for a short visit. I took some fruit balls up, which the children enjoyed. Mary has a head cold. I phoned Donna this morning. Mary is home in bed with her head cold. Donna and Nina both washing, not enough power for both washers, so a fuse was blown out twice. Rex has to have his electrician friend come and connect up the new wiring Rex has put in since Nina got her automatic washer. Janet and her two girlfriends went to four teas yesterday afternoon. She received three invitations last evening, over the phone, to join their school clubs. I hope she will pass them all up and put her time in school and church work. I know the clubs will take her money and time, which she does not have an abundance of, while working part time for Dr. Anderson too. I phoned Mrs. Scott this morning to tell her Donna can find a place for the old quilts she offered to let our church have for some needy family. She said she'd phone me when she can get down to her house, to get them out of the trunk for us. Elinor Ramish and Gilbert Jorgensen plan to get married, in the temple, next month. She was on the program to sing two solos for us in church last night, but Bishop Summerhays excused her to go meet her husband-to-be's family, all together, at Mary and Vernon Jorgensen's home tonight. It is really strange how things work out sometimes, eh? Lou and I took Elinor to Garvanza Ward to sing at Charlie Clayton's funeral. Gilbert fell in love with her and now she will be Mary Clayton Jorgenson's sister-in-law. Lou phoned this afternoon and said if Nina Wolfe would bring her furniture to the shop, he'd stay overtime and spray paint it for her. She took it down and he painted it for her. He ate in town, after his regular hours, then went back to the shop and painted her four chairs and a kitchen table. Joan stayed at Grandma Marsh's last night so Grandma could make her "Pom Pom" costume today. She phoned from Grandma Marsh's and had me call up her mother to find out when they'd come for her. She said her "Pom Pom" costume was almost finished. That dear grandmother, Florence Marsh, I'm sure



it was a job to make that costume, with tights and a lined skirt, bless her heart. Donna made cupcakes tonight to take to Relief Society to serve after the meeting (punch and cupcakes). I phoned Beverly, she read Annie's postcards to me. Annie leaves Salt Lake City on Tuesday evening for home. Bev will meet her Wednesday morning. She is coming on the Streamliner Train. Diane Oates's picture was in our paper today. She is the campus queen. She is a cutie for sure. Aunt Lide Bailey [Eliza Ann Parramore] passed away. [The recording of the death of Aunt Lide was added to this date on October 7.]



Aunt Lide and Uncle Sam with five of their children, their spouses, and grandchildren circa 1932. Image from Family Search and it is attached to both Eliza Ann Parramore and Samuel Charles Bailey.

### October 6, Tuesday

It was bright and sunny all day. Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:10 this morning. Marie Doezie, Ann Hartshorn, and little Donny were with her. We picked up Addie Strang at her home. I stayed in the nursery room with the children, until Mrs. Morris arrived at ten o'clock. I missed the block teachers meeting; we went into the chapel for our Relief Society theology lesson, which was beautifully given by Sr. Louise Cotterell. It was on The Book of Mormon, Jacob and his teachings. She is a splendid teacher. I enjoyed the lovely spirit present, and the lovely testimonies after the lesson, in which mine was included. We had a nice attendance; I hope they'll continue to come each time. Donna's board served us some delicious punch and cupcakes after the meeting. Donna went to Penney's Store, to change some nylon hose that Rex bought for her. She took Kathy; they called in here later. I gave them cottage cheese and [canned] pineapple. Bonna brought me home early; Donna had to wait until everyone had gone so she could lock up the church. She had her car, I could have waited and gone to town with her, but I came home. I feel a weakness more so on these hot days. Beverly phoned to tell me that Hazel Anderson had phoned to tell them that Aunt Del Bailey passed away on Sunday. Her funeral will be tomorrow in the Matthews Ward Chapel at 2 p.m. That blessed Beverly says she'll take us to the funeral. Annie will arrive from Salt Lake City in the morning at 9 a.m. Ex-governor Earl Warren takes oath of office in Washington D.C. He is the new Chief Justice. Our new governor, the ex-lieutenant Governor, Goodwin J. Knight, was sworn in yesterday by Chief Justice Gibson. Lillian Neal brought a little sack of baby cookies for Kathy; she is a dear soul.

### October 7, Wednesday

This is Donna and Rex's wedding anniversary day. They were married 18 years ago. It doesn't seem possible it has been that long. I mailed them a card yesterday, gave Donna \$2.00 to treat themselves to something, bless their hearts. Beverly met Annie this morning at 9 a.m. at the depot. She came home on

the Streamliner Train. Blanche H. and Ellen Scott came home together, on a later train. Annie phoned me when she got home, I was sorry to learn that Aunt Lide Bailey passed away on Monday, October 5. She will be buried in Salt Lake City tomorrow, Thursday, October 8. Strange that the two brother's wives should go a day apart, eh? Aunt Del Bailey died on Sunday October 4. Her funeral is today at 2 p.m. in the Matthew's Ward. That sweet Beverly insists on coming over for me at 12:30 noon. I told her I'd come to Highland Park on the bus, but she'll have none of it. Lou said he'd take me to Andersen's if I'd meet him at Lake Street on his noon hour, but I'm glad he doesn't have to make that hurried trip. Donna took care of Dolores's two children today while she

worked at the bank. I put Lillian Neal's family group picture in our Relief Society scrapbook, and Diane Oates's, "Campus Queen" picture in my own scrapbook. She is a cutie for sure. Sue stayed with Lorene last night. Bette and Ray brought her to Highland Park. Beverly drove the four of us to Matthew's Ward. She stayed out in the car as she was in her work togs. She goes to work at 4 p.m. at Cannon Electric Company. Aunt Del's body was so thin it was hard to see any resemblance to the Aunt Del we knew. I was surprised that Tracey [Tracey Ralph Bailey] knew everyone of us, called us each by name and I'm sure it has been over 30 years since we've seen each other. The services were lovely. There were two fine talks and two beautiful ladies trio songs. We talked to Aunt Del's sisters, Myrtle and Wildie, to Hazel Anderson and husband, and Esther Graham and husband. I was surprised to learn that Aunt Ray's nurse is Clara Brown, June's sister. Sue and Lorene got out on Broadway in Los Angeles. Lorene went to pay her insurance. I stayed at Andersen's; Beverly had to go to work, bless her heart. I bought some ice cream and cookies and tomato sauce. Annie cooked meat patties and green peas. She made a nice salad. Lou was happy to find dinner ready. He went to the streetcar line to meet Bill. The four of us enjoyed a nice dinner together. Dale doesn't get home until 7 p.m. Lou and I came home about 6:30. Joan was waiting here for me to help her fix the collar on her Pom Pom costume. She stayed all night with us. Rex treated Donna to a nice dinner out in Pasadena. They went to a show in Los Angeles later. They ate a chicken dinner at the Golden Cock. I doctored Joan for her cold tonight. She slept in my bed; I slept with Lou.

### October 8, Thursday

Joan felt better this morning but she still has a cold. I hope she will not become worse because of going to school. She looked cute in her new Pom Pom dress. 'Tis another hot clear day, I worked with my mums in the yard until the sun became too hot for me this morning. I let them grow too

tall this year, so have to tie them up to the wire fence and to sticks. Our country is saddened by a dreadful tragedy, we learned yesterday that little Bobby Greenlease, six-year-old son of the millionaire Robert Greenlease, was slain by his abductors soon after he was kidnapped. They buried his body in a shallow grave in St. Joseph, Missouri. The F.B.I. have two of the killers, they're looking for a third one. One woman and a man have confessed, they got \$600,000 from the father and the boy was dead even then. It is shocking to think a thing like that can happen. Donna took Kathy with her this morning to the Singing Mother's rehearsal. I wrote a letter of condolence to Uncle Sam Bailey and family. Sorry I cannot attend Aunt Lide's funeral today in Draper, Utah. She was a dear little friendly soul; we all loved her. I wrote cards to Violet F. and Lenore Lewis telling about Aunt Del Bailey's funeral. Aunt Del was 83 years old, was born January 13, 1870. Our place looks strange without the little white fences on either side of our front garden. Lou took them to the shop to spray paint them. He did Nina Wolfe's table and chairs last week, now our fence. I'll be glad to have the fences back again. They make our little home look so pretty, I think. Lou worked in the yard this evening. He cut lawns, raked up leaves and watered. He also washed out the patio cabaña. I expected Joan to come back this evening after the school ball game. I told her to come, but she went home on the bus, cause she didn't think her parents would like her coming here again tonight. I was disappointed, cause I'd cooked a nice lamb chop dinner, she was very unhappy when she talked to me on the phone from home, she loves lamb chops like her Grama Elvie does. It was a beautiful, warm, clear evening. I enjoyed being out of doors. Aunt Del was buried in Inglewood Park Cemetery yesterday.

### October 9, Friday

I got up first for a change and cooked hotcakes for Lou. He bought lunch in town. He likes a change from sandwiches once in a while. Donna brought Kathy here this morning at 7:45. She took Mary to Los Angeles, to the Children's Hospital. Grama and Kathy had a lot of fun. It was lovely and warm outside; we swung in the patio swing, and rocked the dolly in the chair on the front porch. Kathy ate poached egg and toast with me for breakfast, and cottage cheese, green squash and peaches for lunch. Mary and Donna came about 12:45 noon; they had good news. The bone specialist said Mary's foot trouble is not serious, it can be corrected with the proper support in her shoes. She must not go barefooted anymore. He gave Donna a written prescription, to take to the shoe repairman. She left Mary's shoes at Zinkie's Shop to have them build up according to the doctor's order. I gave Donna and Mary some Jello salad and peaches. They couldn't stay long as Donna was anxious to get Mary back in school this afternoon. Donna phoned Florence Marsh from here. She had asked me to have Donna phone her when she got home from the hospital. She was anxious to hear about Mary's foot, too. I gave Donna a sack of potatoes, some that Lou brought home last evening. A truckload of potatoes lost a sack, Lou picked up a carton full. I wrote a letter to Owen and Lydia, sent my \$1.00 for Aunt Lide Bailey's funeral flowers and told them about Aunt Del Bailey's passing away and her funeral. Lou brought our little white fence home



*Lou Renshaw sitting on the porch with the white picket fence he sprayed at work in October of 1953.*

this evening, all painted nice and white again. I helped him put it in place around our gardens. It is so cute and tiny. We ate a delicious beef stew dinner in Gwinn's Restaurant, and then went to Shopping Bag for groceries. Lou bought a leg of lamb so I can have my little Marshes to dinner on Sunday, nice eh? We enjoyed Lawrence Welk's T.V. program as always. Rex and Donna took John and David Howard to the local movie tonight. Dixie Wolfe baby-sat. A tiny screw came out of Lou's glasses tonight. We couldn't fix it, he had to find his old glasses and wear them. Pasadena's new Pioneer Bridge was opened on the northern lanes today. Mrs. Alice Eaton Smith cut ribbon to open the **\*new bridge**. Nina Wolfe and Dixie have bought a T.V. set.

**\*Pasadena Pioneers Bridge** is named for the party of settlers led by Dr. T.B. Elliot, a physician who held meetings in his Indianapolis home for people interested in moving to California and settling where the sun would shine year-round. After extensive fact-finding, the party of settlers came by train, then boat, then wagons to what became the Indiana Colony.

Ground was broken for Pioneers Bridge in 1951. By then, daily traffic on the Colorado Street Bridge was causing stress to that structure to the point where traffic was not allowed during peak hours.

It is 1,364 feet long with three spans and is 131 feet tall. More than 41,000 cubic feet of concrete were used on the project, which includes 5.5 million pounds of reinforced steel. Total cost was \$6.5 million. At that time it was the largest bridge ever built by the State of California.

The dedication ceremony on Oct. 8, 1953, was spectacular. The 2 p.m. event included a parade, entertainment and plenty of speechifying. What made it particularly monumental was the presence of a handful of surviving pioneers and many descendants.

The opening signal was given by 95-year-old Jennie Hollingsworth Giddings, whose father had been the first to purchase a lot in the Lake Vineyard area of the colony after owner Benjamin "Don Benito" Wilson parceled off his ranch.

Later in the proceedings the ribbon was cut by Alice Eaton Smith, whose father, Judge Benjamin Eaton, had been a pillar of the Indiana Colony. As she cut the ribbon, Mrs. Smith said, "I dedicate this structure as Pasadena Pioneers Bridge to the memory of all Pasadena pioneers, especially to the 27 founders of the city."

[http://pasadenapio.blogspot.com/2009/10/mystery-history-solved\\_08.html](http://pasadenapio.blogspot.com/2009/10/mystery-history-solved_08.html)



### October 10, Saturday

Lou got up early, fixed his breakfast and went to work at Ernie Oates's home, doing some carpenter work for him. I got up at 7:30 a.m., took my bath, ate breakfast, and watered the flowers and lawns. I phoned Donna this morning, David Howard stayed all night last night with Johnny. Mary was at the Howard's with Bonny Howard. Harry and Mary Howard took the children, with a Sunday School class, to Griffith Park, to the zoo and to have a picnic lunch. Dr. Don Anderson didn't have Janet come to work today, he wasn't in the office, so she only goes four half days a week, which doesn't give her much to buy the clothes she needs. Joan went to the Civic Auditorium in Pasadena last night with Bob Lotterman, a Pasadena boy. There were two orchestras to dance to; Les Brown and I do not know the other one. Rex worked for his father and Lewie at Cannon Electric Company today. Warnie has a new job at a nursery on Rosemead. Br. and Sr. Washburn and Clarice Tanner are going to night school to learn Spanish. I invited Donna and family to come to dinner tomorrow after Sunday School. Lou only worked half day, he isn't interested in digging post holes for a fence. He got two posts set, will do more on the job next Saturday, I guess. It is hard work. We ate lunch and then Lou washed and polished his car. I vacuumed the house, the rugs and furniture. David and Gilbert Andersen spent the day with Grandma Andersen and family. Annie phoned when she got home from the market, I read Violet's letter to her. I thought that David and Gilbert were the only ones there, but Irene, Glen and baby Jimmy were also there. They were at the market with Annie and Beverly when I phoned first and David talked to me. I made a fruit Jello salad and tapioca cream pudding this evening. Lou had to wear his old glasses today, until he can have the tiny screw put back in his best glasses. Lou drove across Pasadena's new Pioneer Bridge today. It was opened to the public yesterday. Alicebeth Ashby invited us to a building fund dinner on Tuesday night. I will pay my share in cash, nice, eh?

### October 11, Sunday

Lou finished the polishing job on his car before going to Sunday School. I stayed home so I could take it easy and have the dinner ready when the folks arrived. I picked some lovely red rosebuds for my table. They look so pretty with the red drinking



*These glasses are similar to Elvie's glasses. She put red roses from her garden in a glass for the Sunday dinner table.*

glasses and colored plates. I see in our church newspaper, that Br. and Sr. Merlin Steed of East Glendale Ward have been called on a mission. They will be the directors of information at the Hill Cumorah, in Palmyra, New York. Nice, eh? Janet and Warnie were first to arrive home from Sunday School. I invited Warnie to stay and eat dinner with us. Joan went to the football circus last night and stayed all night at

the Oateses', with Diane. She went to Sunday School in Garvanza I think? Anyway, I missed my Joan today. They all enjoyed my leg of lamb dinner, creamed potatoes and gravy, green peas, carrots, Jello salad tapioca creamed pudding, and ice cream. Donna and I did the dishes. Grampa, Warnie, and Janet went out in Warnie's Ford to look at the new



*A 1954 Ford.*

1954 cars on the market. Rex went to priesthood meeting. Kathy had a long nap, Donna had a nap, but was dreaming of washing dishes and cooking dinners all the while. She is worrying over the big building fund dinner our ward is having next Friday night. The Relief Society is sponsoring it and she, being the president, feels the responsibility keenly. Johnny and Mary watched television all afternoon. We all ate meat and butter roll sandwiches and ice cream before going to church. Rex took Donna home to make some phone calls when he came from his meeting. Janet drove our car to church; I went with her. Rex and Donna came by for the three little ones, Lou and Warnie stayed home and watched T.V. Warnie has a head cold. I gave him two Bromo Quinine tablets to take tonight. We had a nice meeting tonight. I sat between my sweet little blue-eyed Mary and my handsome brown-eyed Johnny boy in church tonight. We had the general conference reports given by several of our members who had been to conference.

### October 12, Monday

It looked like it might rain this morning, but I washed in spite of it. The weatherman said, sunshine in the afternoon and he was right, the clothes dried nicely. Donna had Terry Maxon early today. His mother went somewhere; she said both little tots were standing on the kitchen chairs, watching her make a cake, waiting for the cake bowl with their spoons. Donna did her washing too. She had a meeting at her home this afternoon to plan for the big dinner the Relief Society is sponsoring next Friday night, for our building fund. Annie phoned, said the Strong's meeting is going to be at Blanche's home next Saturday night. Uncle Alvin, Aunt Ida, and Diana Selander will be there. I'm anxious to see them again. I'm sorry that Donna and Rex can't go; it's their club dinner evening. Dale Andersen took Joan and Diane Oates to Sierra Madre last night after the fireside chat at Andersen's. Joan went home to pack some clothes; she has been invited to stay all week with Diane O. The girls love to be together. Diane is a little lonely since her two sisters left for the B.Y.U. College in Provo this fall. Annie says Anna Mae Onley is going on a mission. Her farewell is next Saturday night. Lorene says she'll have to attend, as Anna Mae was her missionary partner in the stake. Sorry she can't be at our family society meeting at Blanche's. The indicator in our car, which tells we are going to make a turn, is broken. Lou took the car to a Pontiac repairman after work this evening. He is going to have a little work done on the car tomorrow. They fixed the indicator this evening. I had a few severe heart pains while eating dinner, but said nothing about them to Lou. We enjoyed our T.V. programs this evening, I felt fine.



## October 13, Tuesday

It was a cool overcast morning. I went to Relief Society on the bus this morning. Bonna had to take her daughter to the dentist. Vera Smith phoned and invited me to ride with her, but she was crowded with the sewing materials, hook rugs, and etcetera. I left a note on the door for Donna in case she should come by for me. She called for Sr. Elizabeth Akerlin, then for me and found my note. I went to Grants Store and bought two plastic tablecloths for Donna; one for her kitchen and one to use on the dining table, to save her some washing and ironing. I bought hairnets for me in Kress Store and two rose Cannon towels in Grants Store. I rode the bus back to El Molino and went to Relief Society. The ladies finished the quilting on Donna's quilt today; it is very pretty. The flowered blocks embroidered by her girlfriends, in the Married Gleaner Club of Garvanza Ward several years ago, made a lovely quilt, set in orchid colored material. I threaded wool in needles for ladies to tie a crib quilt. We had a lovely luncheon. We crowned Carol Blied, "Queen for a Day." She was pleased with my tribute in rhyme. Lillian Neal took both quilts home to bind. Clarice Warnick gave her lesson on Family Money Management, very good for young mothers with children. We had her lesson while the ladies quilted or did their stencil painting. We all miss Ethel Burk, she is home with her husband who is ill from his accident. She dropped in for a minute, to bring a package to one of the sisters. Donna and I counted the Relief Society's silverware; knives, forks, and spoons. They are really stainless steel. Donna brought me and Sr. Akerlin home; it was Sr. Akerlin's first time out to this Relief Society. She said she enjoyed it a lot and wants to come every time. She is a lovely person, was born in Sweden and has a cute accent. Betty Ramish had a long talk with me about Elinor and Gilly's coming marriage. Rex had a cottage meeting at Bush's home tonight, after his dinner at Heap's. Rex and Donna went to Orrin Heap's home on Belford Avenue to dinner. Donna took rolls and butter. The Oakleys, the Doutres, Renshaws, Br. Jorgenson, Sister Pack, and Br. Jorgensen's daughter were at our dinner. We had a nice time.



Rex had a cottage meeting at the Bush's home October 13. Above is the Bush's home. It was across the street from the Marshes' home.



Queen Carol Blied from the Relief Society scrapbook that Elvie put together.



This is the design of the Relief Society seal in 1953.

*"We are going to do something extraordinary!"*  
—Emma Smith



### October 14, Wednesday

Donna brought Kathy this morning about 9:30. She went to the chorus practice with the stake Singing Mothers, all the way out to Covina, where they are going to give one of their concerts. They rehearsed for four hours. They all took lunch and rested from the singing while they ate. Kathy was hungry at 11 a.m. She kept asking for her "unch," so I gave her lunch at 11:30 a.m., cottage cheese, poached egg, and fruit Jello salad. The little cutie asked for "sheese and egg." She was asleep with her dolly by 12 noon; she slept until 2:10 p.m. I did my ironing while she slept. Johnny phoned and asked me if I had a paper and pencil. He wanted me to take down a note for Nina Wolfe, so I could tell Donna when she came for Kathy; he is a cute kid. Clarice Tanner came for Kathy, she let Donna off at home, so she could be studying her retold story for Mutual tonight. Clarice asked the baby if she wanted to go home, the answer came quick, "No." We had to laugh. Kathy was enjoying herself looking at pictures through my TruView Projector. She likes Clarice Tanner and was happy to go with her. Mr. and Mrs. Lowe are visiting their son and family out in Duarte. I miss the dear old couple. It is so quiet around here. The Edgecombs both work. I wanted to go to Mutual tonight, and Lou wanted to watch the Blue Ribbon Bouts on T.V. He took me to the bus line and waited until the bus came. I was early so I went to See's Candy Store and bought a pound box of chocolates to send to Ethel Newbold. I bought her a birthday card in Thrifty's Drug Store and then went to church to Mutual. Donna gave her retold story "Cheaters" very beautifully. Dr. Crowe gave a very interesting discourse in our special interest class, she teaches handicapped children, corrective speech. Rex was horse tonight, so he couldn't do his part on the Mutual program. E. Smith did it for him. Elvenia Summers brought me home tonight. Donna had to stay to set up tables for the dinner on Friday.

### October 15, Thursday

Donna was late getting home from church last night; she found several of the large ward tables need attention before they can be used for the dinner. She phoned her daddy at work today, he said he'd go fix them after work this evening. I wrote to Ethel Newbold, Will and Flora Taylor, and to Violet. Donna had a busy day at home trying to catch up on a few household jobs. Tomorrow is her big day at church. Saturday, Mary and Johnny's school is having a carnival; Donna has been asked to take tickets at the door for John's class and to sell enchiladas and tacos for Mary's class, in the food booth. I marvel at all she undertakes to do. May the good Lord bless and help her to do it and keep well. I walked to the post office to mail Ethel's birthday gift box of See's Chocolates and my letters. We received a nice newsy letter from Lydia. I read it to Lorene and Annie over the phone. She told us about Aunt Lide's funeral, she and Owen went to the mortuary to see her the night before, as Owen couldn't get away from his work the funeral day. His boss was in Arizona and he had a big extra job to take care of that day. Lydia said Aunt Lide looked lovely; her temple burial robes were beautiful. She was sorry that they couldn't attend the funeral the next day in Draper, Utah. Lydia is delighted that her son Bob and wife Betty are expecting a baby.



They've been married several years. Our dinner was later this evening because Lou went to church to set up and fix the banquet tables for the dinner tomorrow evening. We enjoyed our dear little home and the television programs as usual this evening, after the dishes were cleared away. Rex phoned Lou this evening, he wants him to do some work in Nina Wolfe's house on Saturday. He says he will pay him to do it. Rex is going to work for Br. Kunz.



Aunt Del Bailey [Alice Adella McKnight] was Jacob Ralph Bailey's first wife. She died on October 4, 1953

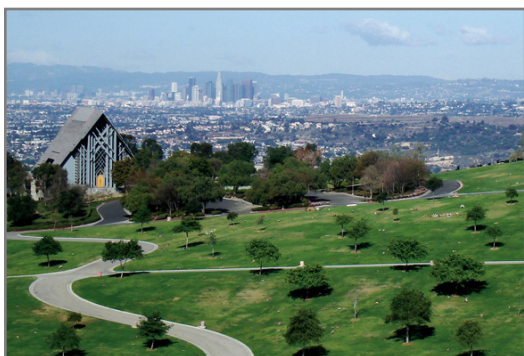


Aunt Lide and Uncle Sam Bailey, Aunt Lide [Eliza Ann Parramore] died on October 5, 1953

## October 16, Friday

Donna, Mary, and baby Kathy came about 7:50 this morning. Kathy stayed with me while Donna and Mary went to the Children's Hospital to have the doctor look at Mary's shoes to see if they are right, to correct the condition of her feet. Donna had the shoes fixed at Zinkie's Shoe Repair Shop. They had to wait almost four hours to see the doctor. He said the shoes are okay, he says she must wear that type of build up shoe for a year, then come back and let him or some foot specialist look at her feet to see if they are okay. Mary has weak arches. Kathy ate breakfast here; she pulled up the chair, got the pillow to make it higher, and was all ready to eat even before I could get her sweater off. My baby loves to eat! [Some things never change. ☺] It was a nice fall day. I burned some avocado leaves up in our incinerator. Kathy had a lot of fun playing in the dry leaves that have fallen from our Chinese Elm trees in the front; they are tiny leaves, she likes to toss hands full up and see them come down around her head. It was fun to kick them around and hear the rustle, too. Every little breeze would start the leaves falling down from the trees. Our baby liked that too. Donna and Mary ate lunch when they came. Kathy and I had just finished our lunch. Mary stayed out of school this afternoon to be with Kathy, at home, while Donna took care of her Relief Society work for the dinner. The Swiss steak is being cooked by a chef some place in Pasadena. The potatoes are being cooked by the sisters in their homes. The dinner was served shortly after 7 p.m. and it was very delicious. Each table had a couple of hosts and hostesses, one couple at each end of the long table. They each served one side of the table. It surely went along smoothly. We were all eating at the same time. There were about 300 there I think; a large crowd anyway. Rex was in the kitchen washing dishes all evening. The Rose Hills Memorial Park showed a movie of their beautiful cemetery in Whittier, California.

Our building fund received \$1.00 a couple from them. We received little pocket pencils from the Rose Hills people tonight. The movie was interesting and in color. Janet's girlfriend Ann, someone new from school, stayed all night with her last night. Joan was at the



*Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, California paid a dollar a couple to advertise at the building fund dinner.*

Oateses'.

## October 17, Saturday

Lou got up early, fixed his own breakfast, bless his heart. Then he went up to Donna's to do some work in Nina

Wolf's little rear house. Rex worked for Br. Kunz today. He said he'd pay Lou to do the work in his little rear house. I took a bath at 8:30 a.m., and then dusted up the house, defrosted icebox, raked up avocado leaves, and watered flowers and lawns. Our mums are coming into bloom now; the back fence looks so pretty with roses, cannas, and chrysanthemums blooming above it. Mrs. Stacy was raking up leaves too. We visited over the fence; she is a nice neighbor. She'd like to have the avocado tree cut down, but they ask too much for the job. They want \$75.00 just to top the tree. I wish it could come out too; our yard would look a lot nicer without the leaves in the patio cabaña. They're falling most of the time; we get them cleaned up and then down come a lot more. I wanted to go to town today and look at the winter coats on sale at Nash's Store, but I was too tired when I'd finished my work. Janet and her friend Ann cleaned up the front rooms in the house this morning, Ann stayed all night last night with Janet. She lives in Altadena. Janet drove her home later. Joan came home today; she has been enjoying a week at Aunt Florence's with Diane Oates. Joan has a date tonight with some boy from Pasadena, Phil somebody. Lou and I left home this evening at 7 p.m. and went to Highland Park to pick up Annie. The three of us went to Blanche and Oscar's home (an hours drive). We had a very lovely time tonight. I was thrilled when Glen Strong [*Glenn Albert Strong a cousin to Elvie*] and his little daughter Pamela [*Pamela Alice Strong*] came to the door and asked Blanche if the Strong Family was meeting there. Another happy reunion when Dick and Beth Johnston brought Uncle Alvin Strong, Aunt Ida, Diana S., and Sue Hoglund. They had been to Ensenada, Mexico. Our Salt Lake City, Utah, visitors all said a few words, Uncle Alvin gave a lovely talk on the changes in his life time. Glen Strong gave a nice talk in our meeting tonight also. He is a

nice fellow, like all of the Strong boys. Rex and Donna went to their club party and dinner at Joe Little's tonight. Rex should have been in bed to doctor his cold up.

## October 18, Sunday

Lou and I both overslept this morning; we had to hurry to get breakfast over, beds made, and to Sunday School on time. I enjoyed Sunday School, I always do. Janet drove the children and Nina Wolfe to Sunday School, Rex was sick in bed with a cold; Donna and Kathy stayed home too. Janet was in a hurry to get home after Sunday School as she had more school club teas to attend this afternoon. Lou and I ate dinner at Bob's Place in Pasadena, we bought our week's supply of groceries in Shopping Bag Market after and put them away at home. Then we went to look at a house for sale, with a small house in rear. It wasn't far from here, on Milton Street. We didn't like the looks of the place so we drove home and rested. Lou slept, I wrote in my diary. We ate a bite of lunch at 5 p.m. and got ready for church. President William Pettit gave a splendid talk; Elinor Ramish sang two lovely numbers. Gilly Jorgensen was with Elinor, they are going to be married November 17. Rex stayed home with Kathy, Donna had an early meeting. Johnny and Mary went early. Nina Wolfe brought



## KONSTERNATION IN THE KITCHEN



■ There was consternation in the stake house kitchen the day the salad "didn't set up." Ready were dainty rolls, split and spread with thyme, rosemary, and oregano; punch made of sweet apple cider and ginger ale, on which floated a coronet of giant fresh frozen strawberries; divinity, soft as a cloud; and butter-smooth pecan panocha. But what good was all of this beautiful food, when ninety sisters would be ready for luncheon in less than two hours, and the salad would have to be served in bowls and eaten with spoons.

"The salad didn't set up." The whispered information had all the overtones of a national calamity. This luncheon was important. The Relief Society stake board was honoring the ward officers and teachers following the last leadership meeting of the season.

The salad looked perfect, a delicate shrimp color and loaded, everyone knew, with such delicacies as tiny whole shrimps, sour cream, chopped chives, and other true party fare. But everyone who shook one of the twelve pans, or tried with a knife to check the consistency, sorrowfully agreed, "It hasn't set up."

The panicked sisterhood—all dazzling cooks but one—were not used to failure.

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Helen Hinckley Jones

"I guess it would be too late to add some concentrated gelatin," someone suggested.

"Far too late," Jasmine agreed.

"Why don't we take it up to Clarice's and put it in the freezer?" was the next suggestion.

Blocks of ice didn't sound appetizing.

"We'll have to run out and get some lettuce and tuna-fish and make a quick salad," Sally decided.

With a certain amount of timidity and humility, the non-cook spoke up. The non-cook was accustomed to failure. When her gelatin dessert didn't jell she used it as punch base and served it with cookies. When her custard, blanchmange, tapioca, or sago refused to thicken she served it as sauce over drained canned peach halves. When her cake was too moist, she cut it in squares, sprinkled it with powdered sugar, and called the result brownies, or when it was too dry, she steamed it and served it with lemon sauce for pudding. When she cut into her meat loaf and found it still raw, she sliced it, slathered each slice with barbecue sauce, and finished cooking it under the broiler. When her divinity refused to become candy, she used it for icing on graham cracker sandwiches and had a treat for her grandchildren for weeks to come. The unset salad wasn't an emergency; not even a full-sized challenge.

"Buy head lettuce, red lettuce, water cress, and any other good looking greens you see in the closest market. Chop them, toss them, and serve this salad as topping," she suggested.

"We'll all go to opening exercises and act as if nothing has happened," Jasmine said. And so they did. But during the class period, one of the sisters hurried away to get the greens.

"Don't ever tell a living soul what happened to the salad," Sally made everyone promise. But, of course, such a good secret couldn't be kept. "This is the best salad I ever tasted," the sisters kept saying. "Such wonderful dressing! May we have the recipe?"

Success is wonderful—it is much to be desired. But maybe we need a few salads that don't set up in order to teach us how to turn defeat into victory. Maybe our ingenuity would die if we never met with an unexpected situation. Many important scientific discoveries have been made because, through one small mistake, the method or the components were a little different and a new product was the result.

"Nothing succeeds like success," is an old proverb. The negative statement of the same truth might be, "Nothing fails like failure." But this isn't true. Nothing stretches our ingenuity, our abilities, like an unexpected "unset salad," and no success is as sweet as that which was born in near failure.

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Helen Hinckley Jones spoke at the fireside chat on October 18, 1953. Above is a story by Helen Hinckley Jones, It was published in 1968 in the Relief Society Magazine. Helen was born in Provo but lived in Pasadena and is buried there.

Janet and Joan. Janet ate dinner out with some club girls, who are looking for new members in their school club. The prospective members were treated to dinner at the Steak and Stein Restaurant. Janet has attended several teas given by the different clubs at her school. Diary, don't tell Janet, but I hope she doesn't join any of them for many reasons. After church we went to Pat and Al Rowbotham's beautiful home, to the fireside chat. Helen Hinckley Jones gave a talk and a short review on her book, "Prussia Is My Heart." It was interesting. Donna and Rex came, he brought some of her books from the seventies library. We were served chocolate sauce on ice cream atop a doughnut. Br. and Sr. Willis have had charge of the firesides for three months. Sr. Pack has charge now. She was voted in tonight. Donna nominated her. I was happy to see Joan today; she stayed at the Oateses' ranch last week.

### October 19, Monday

It was a lovely clear day with a nice brisk breeze, which made my washing dry so soft and fluffy. I talked to Annie on the phone, she washed of course, and most of her laundry was back in the house by noon. She went to her club, "The Daughters of Utah Pioneers." It was at Estella

Shirtlift's home this time. Janet worked after school for Dr. Anderson. She doesn't go on Monday afternoons as a rule, but he wanted her today. I read Violet's letter to Beverly over the phone, and she read her letter from Violet to me. I was sorry to learn from Donna, via phone, that Erva Miller fell and broke her ankle; it is in a cast. Erva's mother, Lillian Neal, is in the hospital for observation, she has been ill such a lot lately with a kidney disorder. I surely wish my Donna could be relieved of some of her responsibilities. I know she undertakes too much for her strength. She is very capable, but not too strong. May the good Lord bless and help her is my constant prayer. Lou has been suffering with backache the past few days. He raked up the fall leaves in our yard this evening and that didn't help any. I always enjoy my nice rocking chair (platform rocker), in the evenings, after a washday. I wonder how we managed without the television all those years, ha ha! I know one thing; we went out visiting a lot more in the younger years; home feels so good now. Janet applied for Christmas vacation work at the post office. Dr. Don Anderson told her it was all right with him if she can get the two weeks with full time work. She works only four half days a week for him.



### October 20, Tuesday

We are still enjoying beautiful blue skies and no smog. Bonna Gordon came for me this morning at 9:45. She is a dear to pick me up every Relief Society day. Marie Doezie always rides with her too. Bonna was half sick with a miserable head cold. She is our secretary and felt she had to be in attendance. We had several new members out today; I was happy to see Sr. Elizabeth Akerlin out again, Louise Anderson brought her. Faye Timothy gave the Literature lesson beautifully. We all enjoyed it so much. It was on the poet, Alfred Tennyson. My darling baby Kathy was delighted to see me. I had some cookies in my purse for her. She stays in the nursery with Mrs. Morris and the other little ones. Kathy wanted to come home with me. I came home with Melba Kunz and her mother. Faye Timothy took Donna and baby home. We received a nice letter from Flora and Will Taylor; she has been operated on, but is home and doing nicely. I wrote to Violet, Lydia, and Flora and Will. I went to the avenue to buy and mail a golden wedding card to Mr. and Mrs. Loughry Shank, of Indiana, Pennsylvania, from our Strong Family Society. [*Cordilla Veona Strong married Loughry Logan Shank in October 1903. Loughry died just over one year later. Dilla lived until 1966.*] They sent an invitation to our Strong Family Society. Joan went to town after school to get a blue skirt she and Donna had put in will call for Joan a few weeks ago. Something went wrong with Mary Howard's car, near Donna's place. Nina Wolfe let Mary take her car to Relief Society; she had Sr. Clark with her. Nice of Nina, eh? Lou went from work, to Sierra Madre, to do some work in the little rear house. He brought a large red onion, a small eggplant, and a fat green pepper from Donna's. He fried the onion with bacon for us.

### October 21, Wednesday

It was a lovely clear day; our mums are very pretty now. I watered the flowers and lawns this morning. After lunch I went uptown and bought four boxes of Christmas cards, twenty-five in each, and each box cost \$1. They're cute, some "From Our House to Your House," some "From The Two of Us," each box has a little different picture and verse in it, but the same kind in each box of twenty-five cards. I bought a

pretty tall flower pottery vase, in rose shade, in Grants Store for \$1.33, so I'd have something to put my lovely mums in since I took the nice big yellow vase that Rex gave me (he made it in school) up to Donna's. I haven't had a tall vase for flowers since then. Lou went to Donna's from work again this evening, he was to meet a man out there to look at the little rear house and decide what it will cost to put a gas wall heater in the little house, in the living room. He found it will cost \$250 to install said wall heater. Well, that's out! Lou thought he could get one in for a little less than \$100, but the little gas-stove heater will have to do again, I guess. We had a beautiful rose sunset tonight; the pink clouds were lovely to look at. The senior class of girls, in our Pasadena Jr. College, are excited now, while the Rose Queen is being chosen from among them. Janet has made the second line-up of girls. They will be chosen tomorrow at 4 p.m. All of the girls were taken in the first line up, on Monday, I believe from the senior girls of P.C.C and of Muir. They will eliminate the girls; until they have the girls they want for the Royal "Rose Court, queen, and princesses." Donna informs me they are not taking pictures of the girls now. Just choosing them from the lineup, pictures will come later, when they get the number they're after, about 150 girls, I think.

### October 22, Thursday

'Twas a lovely sunny morning, but clouded in the afternoon. By 6 p.m. we were enjoying a nice rainfall with lightening and thunder mixed in for good measure. I'm glad I cut two nice big bouquets of the mums today. I gave Ruby Anderson a bouquet. I have one in our house. I'd like to take one to Donna. I vacuumed the two bedrooms and hall this morning. Ruby came for me at 1 p.m. and we did our Relief Society visiting. Only four of our ten families were at home, so we got through early. Donna went to the Singing Mother's rehearsal this morning. She always takes Kathy. Lou got ready to go to the box factory this evening at 6:15; he sat out on the porch waiting for the men to come for him. He enjoyed watching the rain come down. The fellows did not come, so he came back in the house and enjoyed his television programs. The men work at the box factory one or two evenings a week. The money earned goes to our church building fund.

### October 23, Friday

It was another lovely fall day. I finished the vacuuming by 1 p.m. I gave the two front rooms a good going over this morning; drapes, Venetian blinds, furniture, woodwork, and rugs. It takes me two days when I go into the job like that. Lou phoned this afternoon, he invited me to eat dinner out. I told him I wanted to look at the coats on sale, in Nash's Store. He met me there after work at 4:35 p.m. I had in mind a rose-colored poodle wool coat; I came home with a lovely Juilliard, 100% wool coat in red, a tomato shade. The price marked was \$59.95, on sale for \$39.50. It's the first red coat I've had. It is very pretty; my gray hair looks okay with it. Lou and the





clerk both thought I looked best in the red one. I went to Grants Store before I met Lou. I bought a pretty rose vase, like I bought on Wednesday. This one is for Donna. They are very pretty for long stemmed flowers, like mums. I'm going to fill the vase with some of our beautiful white and yellow mums before I take it to my Donna; I wish I could have bought her a coat too, so does Daddy. He asked me if she had a coat when we were buying mine. She has to have a new pastel formal gown, for the Singing Mother's concert in December; if we can spare any nickels I'm sure she'd rather it be for the formal. We ate a nice dinner in the Pasadena Cafeteria and came home. Janet's heart's desire was granted, she has joined the school Phenix Club, and the club treated her to dinner and ball game in the Rose bowl tonight. Joan had a date with Phil Craft tonight; they went to a show. David Howard is visiting with Johnny again; Mary is at the Howard's with Bonny. Our little Kathy wasn't well today; she had a fever.



### October 24, Saturday

Lou got up at 6 a.m., ate breakfast and went to the Oateses' ranch to work with Ernie Oates. I got up at 8 a.m., took my bath, and ate breakfast. There wasn't much work to do in the house; I cleaned it good yesterday. I cleaned up the cabaña and patio, I'll be glad when the leaves stop falling in our yard. I watered the front lawn and picked four nice big bouquets of mums. I gave our neighbors the Edgecombs one, Mrs. Barnes across the street one, Mrs. Stacy wasn't home so I have her bouquet in the bucket on the back porch. I have a huge bouquet in Donna's new vase to take to her. I talked to Joan on the phone this morning; she said Kathy feels all right this morning; that was good news. Donna and Janet had gone to our church on El Molino to work with the ladies of both wards, cleaning up the church house. Rex was working on the new church building on Sierra Madre Villa. Joan was not too happy to be left with the housework at home and the baby to tend. Johnny and David Howard were with Joan; Mary is at the Howard's. I gave Mrs. Stacy her flowers when she got home this evening. We took Donna's flowers, in her pretty new vase, out to her this evening. Rex and Joan went to a Mia Maid father and daughter banquet this evening in Monrovia, a turkey dinner, for only 50¢ a piece. I believe they said it was to be in Monrovia? Janet made cookies to take to the stake Lucky Clover Ball, at Las Flores Ward. Kathy and I dressed her sleepy doll up in some of Mary's doll clothes; that baby is a cutie. Joan looked beautiful tonight; her hair is so long and pretty. She went to the ball at Las Flores, after the banquet.

### October 25, Sunday

I cooked a small beef roast this morning and left it in the oven on low, with carrots, potatoes and onions. It was all ready for us to eat when we got home from Sunday School and it was delicious. Donna stayed home with Kathy, the baby feels better, but she had some violet colored medicine on her sores in her mouth. After dinner Lou borrowed our neighbor's (the Williamses) electric hedge clippers and trimmed our hedge. I sent a big bouquet of mums to them when he took the clippers home. I talked to Annie on the phone, Sue didn't go home with Ida and Alvin. Ray and Bette are going to the St. George Temple soon, to have Ricky sealed to them. They have the final papers for his adoption now, nice eh? Glen and family were visiting Annie and family today. Annie says the baby is a brunette; the other two boys are blonds. I'm glad this one is dark. Lou managed to get in an hours nap before church time. We had a nice meeting this evening; two young girls sang two pretty duets; they were from another ward. Our Sr. Willard accompanied them on the piano. Truman Fisher gave an interesting talk on his recent travels in Europe. He was there with an art group from the college, where he is studying music. Rex didn't feel well; he can't seem to shake that cold. He stayed home with Johnny and baby Kathy. Our baby isn't feeling up to her natural self either; she has sores on her tongue. I wore my new red wool coat to church tonight; it felt good, as the nights are getting chilly now. Several ladies told me they liked my new coat, nice eh? I like it too.

### October 26, Monday

Donna went to the singing practice this morning for our Relief Society ward conference program next Sunday night, November first. Clarice Tanner took her to Gordon's Venetian blind shop after the rehearsal. I took the bus to town, Donna drove Daddy's car from the shop to Nash's Department Store where we met. I got there a little early, so I went to the basement and bought a cover for my ironing board. We went to the children's department, Donna wanted to buy a baby dress to send Marty's little one year old girl, for her birthday. She didn't find it there, but she bought some sleepers for Kathy. I paid \$2.00 on a corduroy jumper dress, in deep purple for Mary's birthday, November 28. We looked at formal gowns for Donna, in all of the stores on the main street, Colorado Boulevard, but found nothing suitable for the concert program in December. She wants one with a little sleeve in, anyway. I put a pretty white lacy blouse in will call in Broadway Store. It is for Mary's birthday to go with the jumper. Donna bought some red and white check material to make new curtains for her kitchen. She bought it in Penney's Store. In Broadway Store she bought a cute yellow baby dress and had it mailed to little Donna Kay Strong, Wayne and Marty's infant. Donna paid down on a white crepe blouse in one shop and a pretty black taffeta skirt in another shop. She wants to get them for her program next Sunday evening. We phoned Lou to tell him we'd be a few minutes late to pick him up (4:45 p.m.). We called in Ovena Mayo's for Kathy, but Ovena was out to the store. Donna went back for Kathy later. We left Donna off at her house and came on home. This "tired mama" cooked dinner for us. I'm weary tonight, believe me!

### October 27, Tuesday

'Tis another lovely, clear, blue October day. Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:40 a.m. Marie Doezie was with her. We picked up Ann Hartshorne and little Donnie and went to Relief Society. Mary stayed home from school with a little stomach upset. Donna left Kathy with her. We had a very nice crowd out. We stayed in the Relief Society room today and it was full. The funeral for Dr. Udell Gessel was to be in the chapel at 1 p.m. and Donna thought maybe they'd want to bring flowers in there and they did! Phyllis McDonnell gave a splendid lesson in Social Science; "The Constitution of the United States, and Man's Struggle for Freedom" was the subject of the lesson. I went to town with Melba Kunz and Helen Palmer to eat lunch. We had a good lunch in a nice café across the street from Sears Store. It was called The Headliner Café Coffee Shop. I had a chicken salad sandwich; they ate a chili dish of some kind and a green salad. Melba Kunz insisted on paying the bill, isn't she precious? We went back to church and found out that the funeral wasn't until 1:30 p.m. Clarice Tanner brought Donna back to the funeral, they had an appointment to clean the cupboards for the Relief Society kitchen but they postponed it, I guess. Bishop Stanford Smith was the speaker at Dr. Gessel's service; he is a fine friend to the Gessel family. He gave a lovely talk. Bishop Richard Summerhays conducted the service. Phillip C. Harvey sang two lovely solos. He has a beautiful voice. The interment was at Rose Hills Memorial Park. Helen Palmer offered to let Donna borrow her formal gown for the concert program. That was nice of her, but Donna wants to buy one, if she can find one suitable. Melba Kunz brought me home. Donna put some meat on to cook for stew before going to the funeral and forgot to turn it low, it burned black, while Mary and Kathy were in Nina's house, too bad!

### October 28, Wednesday

I rather hate to part with this beautiful month of October with the clear blue skies, the sunshine, the lovely flowers, and all. I love it! I did my washing this morning; Lou's work pants and his carpenter overalls made it a bit less enjoyable. I do like to wash when I'm feeling well. I had several heart pains yesterday, but am fine today. I did too much walking on Monday, as my heart was telling me to "slow down," so yesterday I did. Lou phoned from the shop to ask me to phone Andersens and see if Beverly would come and help them out a few hours each day for a few days. Gordon had hired a man to start this morning but he didn't show up. Beverly works nights at Cannon

Electric Company 4:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. She got up and phoned Lou, he talked her into coming to the shop today and she did. Donna kept the car today, so she could take Kathy to the doctor. The infection is in her dear little mouth again. I received an invitation to a bridal shower in honor of Elinor Ramish, for November 6, given by Sr. Waugaman and daughters, Elma F. and LaVonne J. Beverly worked from 10 this morning until 2 p.m. Lou said she caught on to the work quicker in four hours than the young man hired before her did in a month. Lou was glad he quit. Gordon was pleased with how well she caught on to the job of assembling Venetian blinds too. I just hope it will not be too much for her with her night work too. The doctor gave Kathy a shot of penicillin and a prescription or two which cost Rex \$6.00; a mouthwash and some little pills of penicillin also a bottle of iron vitamin tonic. Janet went to her first school club meeting, it was a pledge party. She had to wear fifty pieces of old clothing and leave it for a rummage sale. Her hair had to be in fifty pigtails, impossible with her short hair cut, no lipstick, etcetera. When I phoned Donna this evening, she was up on the sink washing walls. I had a nice visit with Mrs. Lowe; she came over to ask about vitamins I take to reduce my blood pressure. She is a dear.

### October 29, Thursday

We had October's bright blue skies again today, perfect weather. Donna brought little Kathy about 9:45 a.m. She was in Clarice Tanner's car with several ladies; they went to South Pasadena Ward to rehearse with the Singing Mothers for the concert in December. Kathy has a cough and her mouth is still a little sore, but she was real good. We stayed in the patio mostly. It was so beautiful and sunny today, nicer than in the house. As soon as little Kathy arrives now, she goes right to the linen closet and asks for her baby doll, "Bebe" a doll that Joan left with me for safekeeping. (We do try to be

careful with her Joanie dear, honest!) I gave Kathy her lunch at noon. Donna came for her soon after. I did my ironing and mended Lou's carpenter overalls and turned a collar on one of his white shirts. Beverly worked four hours at the Venetian blind shop again today, her second time there. I picked a pretty bouquet of rosebuds to take out to Donna this evening. Lou was late coming home from work tonight. I forgot he'd promised to go look at a small carpenter job for a lady who had some work done at the Venetian blind shop a while ago. I get a panicky feeling when he is an hour late, because of so many auto accidents. Lou is very prompt coming home always, and when he works



Bonny (holding her doll) and her dad, Harry Howard circa 1952.  
Kathy loves a doll that her Grama Elvie keeps in the closet.  
The doll belongs to big sister Joan.



overtime he phones me. All is well that ends well, eh? We took the roses and some of my little salad plates out to Donna this evening, also the nylon slip that I put new nylon lace on for Janet. Donna had to pay \$1.00 a yard for that lace. Donna was in a dither trying to get the house cleaned up. She has been away so much; there has been no chance to clean the house. Nina Wolfe bought new twin beds, so Donna's bedstead wasn't needed. Lou and Warnie put it up in Donna's bedroom and took her broken bed out. The Welfare [*Deseret Industries*] is coming to Donna's to take the overstuffed set Ovena gave Donna and her old bedstead and springs tomorrow. Rex was out doing missionary work tonight. Janet did some ironing; Joan cleaned the bathrooms. I helped Mary wipe dishes that Janet had washed. I recited my children's poems for them tonight.

### October 30, Friday

We had a rather heavy fog this morning, but it was lifted by 10 a.m. Yesterday's mail brought a wedding invitation to us for Elinor Ramish and Gilbert Jorgensen's reception. They are being married November 17, in the St George, Utah Temple. The reception is November 19, in Pasadena, 391 South Madison Avenue in her vocal teacher's big home. I do hope they'll have a happy life together. Lou and I brought them together for the first time when we took her to Garvanza Ward to sing a year ago. Today is a busy day for Donna; her leadership meeting this morning, her luncheon and local board meeting in her home this afternoon. Clarice Tanner is helping her with the lunch. Donna brought Kathy about 9:45 this morning. I'm thankful the little dear feels better; her cough has almost cleared up. I devoted my time to entertaining her this morning. After lunch she took a nap. Lou worried so much about Donna giving the bed springs away, he said he would send Beverly out to Donna's to put a note on the springs telling them not to take them away. He thinks they're much better than the ones they now have on their beds. The church welfare was scheduled to go to Donna's place this morning. I composed a queen tribute to Lillian Neal while Kathy was asleep. I'm glad she, Lillian, is home from the hospital. They say her trouble is not enough acid. We took little Kathy home when Lou got home from work. Mary Howard and Clarice Tanner were at Donna's doing Relief Society visiting. Lou and I took Mary and her two children, Bonny and David home, in the very top of the Sierra Madre



*Elvie, Johnny, and Lou in 1946. It is easy to imagine Elvie's distress seeing her precious grandson out on the street riding his racer with all the traffic on Sierra Madre Boulevard.*

Canyon. It is pretty up there. Lou and I ate an excellent dinner in Fisher's Restaurant. Mary and Johnny went to the store for Donna this evening; he took his racer scooter. I received a shock when I saw my precious Johnny boy on his racer, coming from the store, out in the street, on Sierra Madre Boulevard, this evening, and all the cars racing home from work. Oh me!

### October 31, Saturday

Today is Halloween. I phoned Donna this morning; she said baby Kathy felt better. Dr. Anderson phoned for Janet to come to work today. Joan is spending the weekend at Aunt Florence's with Diane; they went to the ballgame in the Rose Bowl last night. Janet and Warnie went to the Rose Bowl game, too. The Howards brought Mary and Johnny home at three o'clock this morning. They took them, with their children, to see the midnight, "Spook

Show" Oh oh! This Grama thinks it is awful, but what would my grandmother have thought, he he! I shudder to think. If we stayed out after 10 p.m. at their age, she thought my mother had lost her reason for sure. I cooked hot cakes for Lou's breakfast; he went up to Donna's to put a little porch over Nina Wolfe's front door. I worked out in the yard all morning, burning leaves, watering flowers and lawn. I sent a bouquet of mums to Donna and one to Nina W. with Lou. I cleaned up the little patio cabaña, then came in and put the house in order. Donna had a chorus rehearsal at the church at 1 p.m. The Relief Society Conference is tomorrow evening; the chorus will sing in both ward programs. I'm so delighted with our lovely chrysanthemums this fall. I've given several nice big bouquets away to neighbors; I picked a large bouquet of the henna shade mums, for my house this morning. They are beautiful in my new rose-colored vase. I surely would like to get some up to Al's and Charlie's graves, I'll have to work on it, eh? Nina Wolfe and daughter Dixie left this afternoon for a weekend trip to San Diego. They intend to sleep in their car tonight. I prepared twenty-five little packages for trick or treat children (four little cookies and an all day sucker). Twenty-six children came to our door, I'm glad I had a few lollypops left over. Warnie and Janet ate dinner out and went to a late show. Joan is at the Oateses' ranch. She and Diane went out tonight on a double date, to a show, I believe. Lou and I went to the Shopping Bag Market a few minutes before closing time tonight.

## November 1, Sunday

I went to Sunday School on the bus, Lou took me to the bus line, and then he went out to Sierra Madre to work on the little porch he is building over Nina Wolfe's front door. He has almost finished it today, all but shingling the roof. We had a very nice Sunday School and fast meeting later. Everyone was happy to see Br. H. Burk out again. He came in church on his knees, on heavy pads. He broke both of his heels about seven weeks ago. He bore a beautiful testimony. I enjoyed all the lovely testimonies. Lorene Alder brought me to my door after church; she is a very nice person. She had her little family in the car. Rex opened the Sunday School with a nice prayer, in which he asked the Lord to help Margie Eckles and the searching party to find Dell Eckles, her husband. He took a truckload of furniture to Mexico for the Deseret Industries; he delivered the furniture to the L.D.S. people in charge and started back to California. The truck was found in Mexico days later, but no trace of Br. Dell Eckles. The family and friends fear he has met with foul play somewhere in Mexico. He has been missing a week now. Janet stayed home with little Kathy this morning. The baby has some of the infection on her eye rim; Donna put the purple medicine on it, so she couldn't go out today. Lou came home to eat his dinner with me. He took a nap, and then we went up to Donna's this evening at 5 p.m. I took her a big bouquet of the henna red mums; she had gone to a meeting. I put the flowers in her big rose vase; they look lovely in it. Our Relief Society Conference was just grand tonight. The theme was "A World Sisterhood." Donna's greetings and report were beautifully done. The Singing Mother's chorus was lovely. Ovena Mayo was the director, Nan Rains, the organist. Testimonies from foreign lands; Germany, by Betty Ramish, Mexico, by Bartola Ramirez, Holland, by Marie Doezie, Russia, by Anastasia Spurlin. There was a tribute to foreign sisters, by Melba Kunz and sustaining of officers and teachers by Bonna Gordon. There was a reading, "One World," by Faye Timothy and LaVer Mallard gave a short talk. She was the stake representative. She did a good job. Invocation was by Clarice Tanner, the benediction by Bishop Richard Summerhays. It was a really wonderful conference which everyone enjoyed.

## November 2, Monday

It rained a few drops off and on this morning, but cleared by noon. Beverly went to work at the Venetian blind shop at eight o'clock this morning; she worked until noon. She rested this afternoon, so she could go on her night work job at Cannon Electric. I phoned Donna and was glad that little Kathy's infection is clearing up. Janet took Warnie to work so she could have his car today. She got paid last Friday, so I think there is a shopping tour in store, just my guess. Joan is still

visiting at Aunt Florence's with Diane. She loves it over there. I miss not seeing my sweet Joan at Sunday School, but I'm glad to have her happy. Bette brought Sue to Annie's to get Sue's quilting frames; she phoned me from Annie's. I told her I had a lot of chrysanthemums, I'd like to have some on Al's grave and some on Charlie's grave. Bette said she'd bring her over and they'd take the mums to the graves. I cut a huge bouquet for them. They had Annie and Lorene with them; baby Ricky was asleep in Sue's lap. I was so happy that someone would take the flowers up for me. Lou said he would take them up yesterday, but when I phoned to ask if Lorene would like to go, she was down to Mary's home in Van Nuys. I wanted Lorene, Annie, and Sue to go with us, so I decided to wait until next weekend. But I'm glad they have taken them now, as many of the flowers would be gone by next week. They have been so lovely and abundant this year. Annie had a few of her gorgeous mums; they are super. She picks all but one bud, off each branch. I do love my family, I was happy all day because they came here to see me, bless 'em. And I was delighted to have them take the flowers to Al's and Charlie's graves.



## November 3, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:15 a.m. We had our visiting teachers meeting at 9:30 o'clock. Mrs. Morris came early, so I enjoyed the lesson Margaret Waugaman gave the Visiting Teachers, "And See That Ye Have Faith, Hope, and Charity." I also enjoyed my daughter's excellent advice and the report from the General Conference, which she brought to us from leadership meeting. Donna is a very fine Relief Society president; my heart is full of joy because of her good-works. We had a full room for the first meeting, but we had to hold the Relief Society meeting in the chapel, as our own room couldn't hold all the sisters. We had a lovely theology lesson given by Sr. Lydia Stephens, "The Compilation of the Small Plates of Nephi." Ethel Burk, Carol Blied, and Elma Frandson reviewed some of the books for us, (books in the small plates). Our testimony meeting was beautiful to me, many wonderful testimonies by our dear sisters. I was first on my feet today, so felt relaxed to enjoy the others. Mrs. Morris had fifteen children to look after today; she was worn out by the time the mothers came for them. She needs an assistant. Bonna brought Kathy and me home; Donna and her counselors went to the Lamanda Park 15¢ Store, to look at their merchandise. The store is giving our building fund 10% off on everything sold, on the two evenings they have set aside for our fund. I'm not sure of the dates yet. Kathy and I ate lunch; I gave Donna and Clarice Tanner some lunch when they came for Kathy. I also gave Clarice a large bouquet of mums; she said she'd give Lillian Neal, who is ill, some. Donna and Clarice Tanner visited some ward sisters in Altadena this afternoon, when Mary came



from school to look after her baby sister. Donna brought Vera Smith's queen tribute typed to me today. I put Vera Smith's tribute in a little folder; it is ready for her coronation day now. Donna took Janet to Judy Swim's home near here, tonight. She brought Mary and Kathy here for a while to look at T.V. Johnny was watching T.V. with Dixie Wolfe. Warnie brought Janet home after her school club at Swim's. Our Joan is still visiting at Oateses'. Marie Doezie and Ann Hartshorn and son came with Donna this morning.

### November 4, Wednesday

I wanted to take care of little Kathy this morning for Donna, while she and Ovena Mayo went to Los Angeles to look for a formal gown for Donna to wear in the Singing Mother's concert in December. I was doing my dishes when I had a strange sort of blackout spell. I managed to stagger to the bed, where I was able to take my blood pressure down, as Uncle Frank taught me to do. My heart took some fancy skips for a while, but it calmed down to normal in a short time. These spells always leave me so weak and trembly. I felt it wise to let Donna know, because it would be dreadful if I took one of the crazy spells when our baby was here. I did so want to have her, too. Of course Donna wouldn't think of leaving her. Grandma Florence Marsh was happy to have baby Kathy and as they were going into Los Angeles anyway, it worked out okay. Donna's precious Daddy Lou left a blank, signed, check for her to fill in, up to \$20.00. Isn't he a wonderful daddy? We both think so, bless him. Rex gave her \$5.00 to pay down on the gown, and I gave her \$5.00 in case she needs it. Then she can save the long trip to Los Angeles to pick it up later. I felt better this afternoon and took advantage of it, to water the flowers and lawns. It was after six o'clock before Donna and Ovena got home. They had to leave Rex's car at Marshes and come home in Pa Marsh's car. Something was wrong with Rex's car, it was boiling and making a strange sound; maybe the fan belt is broken? Donna bought a rose shade formal gown in a little bridal shop at Third and Broadway. She paid \$31.00. She left it for a slight alteration. Ovena and Donna wore themselves out looking in all the stores before they tried this store. Mary phoned to say Rex had started to walk home from Rosemead and Colorado Street. Lou got in his car and



*Diane Oates and Joan Marsh circa 1946. Cousins and friends having fun together in 1946 and 1953.*

picked Rex up and took him home. Rex and Donna went in Pa Marsh's car to a cottage meeting in Monrovia. Jack West gave a lecture on the Book of Mormon. They took two investigators along. They took Pa's car home after the meeting.

### November 5, Thursday

It rained a nice gentle rain in the night and off and on this morning. Donna took Kathy with her to Covina, for the Singing Mother's rehearsal this morning. I believe they went in Clarice Tanner's car. Rex had to leave his car in Eddie Kawai's garage last night to have some repairs done. I washed out three of Lou's seersucker work shirts by hand and some of his socks. I have not been able to do my washing this week. I will wait until Monday now. Annie phoned last night, she wanted me to help her with a verse or two for Florence Oates's queen tribute so I finished Elizabeth Burnett's queen tribute and Florence's. I mailed them to Annie with two I'd composed for queens in our ward (Lillian Neal and Vera Smith). I walked to the post office, bought four large stamped envelopes, a hundred 2¢ stamps and five 1¢ stamps for my Christmas cards. I have my cards and stamps now. I bought some cinnamon rolls in Van de Kamp's Bakery, I baked potatoes for dinner, the oven feels good on chilly days like this. I gave mums to my neighbors again today, to Mrs. Edgecomb, Mrs. Stacey, Mrs. Barnes, and Mrs. Lowe, who lives in Duarte. The old folks, Lowes, are staying out in Duarte for a few weeks.

### November 6, Friday

I was happy to learn from Donna, that Dell Eckles has returned home to his family; he said he was knocked unconscious, put in a boxcar and came to in Texas. The Welfare truck he was driving for the church was found last week, out of gas and abandoned, in Mexico somewhere. Our Joan is coming home from Oateses' after school today, under protest. I surely miss my sweet Joanie when she is away from Sunday School and home. I know she loves to be at Aunt Florence's with Diane. Florence and Ernie are leaving this evening, for St. George, Utah, on the temple excursion. Annie, Dale, and Lorene are going also. The bus is picking them up at church. I believe the Oateses are driving because they plan to go to Provo to see Elaine and Irene at B.Y.U. Grandma Oates is going to stay with Diane. I vacuumed through rooms today.

Crazy me! I wrote most of today's doings on yesterday's diary page, from the red line at the bottom of yesterday's page is all today's record. The folks left this evening and not yesterday evening for St. George, Utah on the Garvanza Ward temple excursion. Joan came home from Oateses' today after school. Dell Eckles returned today after being lost for a week. I gave the bouquets of mums to neighbors today and vacuumed the house. I sent get-well cards today. When I started to record today's doings I put it on the other page, because it wasn't filled in. I do not think well at times, darn me! Gordon said that Paul Solem is worse again, bad heart. Lou and I enjoyed a delicious chicken pie dinner in Fisher's Restaurant this evening. We got in before the big dinner rush, so were serviced quickly. We rode out to Sierra Madre to see our little family; they were eating dinner. Terry Maxon is staying with them over the weekend. I wore my pretty new red coat tonight. I feel good in it. My girls like it also. Janet tried it on. She went babysitting tonight. Joan had a date with some boys and girls to go to a show. Diane DeBry was in the group. I helped wipe the dishes. Donna went to Elinor Ramish's bridal shower at Elma Frandsen's, 2208 White Street, tonight. I was invited also, but I'm going to a shower on Monday night for Elinor, also the wedding reception later. Mrs. Jorgenson and daughters-in-law were there. I should like to have seen Mary J. I sent get-well cards to Erva Miller in Huntington Memorial Hospital and one to her mother, Lillian, at her home in Sierra Madre.

### November 7, Saturday

It was a lovely clear morning; I couldn't resist doing the washing as our weatherman says a storm is headed our way. Lou washed his car this morning, and then went to Hammond's Lumberyard, to get shingles. He went out to Sierra Madre and shingled the little porch roof, of the garage house. Rex worked today, so he couldn't help. Lou spent all day at Donna's; Janet helped him clean up the yard. Johnny and Mary went to a Sunday School party at Mary Howard's home. I went to town this afternoon to get the purple corduroy jumper dress I had in "will-call" for Mary's birthday, in Nash's Store and the white nylon blouse in Broadway Store. I got off the bus at Broadway Store; I had a pretty hob nob glass bowl in pink, sent out to Elinor Ramish from us, \$3.62, for a wedding gift. It was on sale, marked down from \$5.95. It is lovely. I also bought a nice rose towel set at Broadway Store, for \$2.14 for Elinor's shower next Monday evening at Rowbotham's home. Pat R. and Ethel B. are giving it. I rode the bus from Broadway Store to Nash's to pick up the blouse. I managed to spend \$12.20 out of my \$17.00. I was really tired and wondered if I'd make it home okay. Glad I had a seat on the bus, it rested me for the walk home from the bus line. I got clothes



*This hob nob glass bowl in pink may be similar to the one Elvie bought for Elinor's wedding gift.*

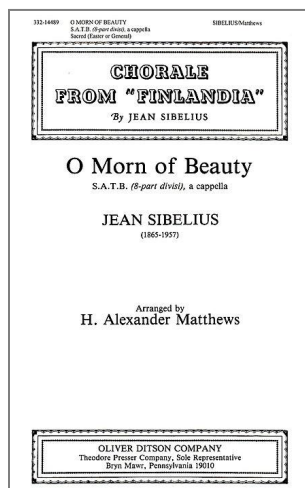
I got clothes

in from the lines and cooked dinner for Lou and me. I'm exhausted tonight. My heart gave me a little trouble uptown and I felt a bit nauseated but it passed off. All's well that ends well, eh? Gordon and Ruby Hodges came over this evening and we had a nice visit with them. We didn't even turn on the television. I gave Ruby a bouquet of mums, they left about 10:30 p.m. Rex and Donna took Mary and Johnny to the movies tonight, at the Colorado Theater, not far from us.

### November 8, Sunday

It was a clear beautiful day, the mountains looked closer than usual. I cooked a beef roast this morning, left it in the oven with potatoes, onions and carrots. It was just perfect when we got home from Sunday School, it was cooked slow in a very low oven. Little Terry Maxon came to Sunday School with Donna and children; his parents came home today and came for him after Sunday School. Lou called Elinor Ramish and Donna out of the audience in Sunday School to sing the verses of "An Angel From On High," we sang the choruses. They sounded just beautiful in that duet! We were given tags in church, to pledge our Thanksgiving turkey money to the building fund. Lou and I brought Mary and Johnny home from Sunday School; they enjoyed television all afternoon. Lou enjoyed his nap. I watered flowers and lawns; it was a real summer day. Lou went out later this afternoon to look at a house or two for sale that he read about in the newspaper. Janet and Warnie M. came to visit us, we all watched television. I fixed beef sandwiches for us before church time. Warnie and Janet went home to get ready for church. We took Johnny and Mary to church and enjoyed a

nice meeting. Our choir sang two lovely numbers, the sacrament song, and "O Morn of Beauty," it was lovely. Our speaker was **\*Parley Borgquist**; he is a friend of Carl Warnick, a fine speaker. Susan Gordon gave a nice inspirational talk first. Sr. Vilate Pack wanted us to go to Sr. Clark's to the fireside chat after church, but we couldn't talk Lou into the idea. Don Rowberry was their speaker. Donna and family hurried home after church, as the fireside chat for younger group was at their home. Truman Fisher was their speaker. He showed colored slides of his recent trip to Europe. We came home and enjoyed television and grapes.



### \*Parley Borgquist's Role in the Future

As a future note; Parley Borgquist was Mark Calkins bishop in the 1960s. Mark marries Kathy Marsh in 1976. Parley was made patriarch after being Mark's bishop. Parley gave Mark his patriarchal blessing. He also gave Mark the Melchizedek priesthood. Parley's wife, Belva, was a dear friend to Mark's mother Vera Calkins. Parley and Belva's son Steve was a good friend to Mark. It is a very small world in the church.



## November 9, Monday

Beverly went to work at the Venetian blind shop at eight o'clock this morning. She worked until 2 p.m. I hope she'll stay awake on her night job at Cannon Electric Company tonight. Annie, Lorene, and Dale arrived home from St. George, Utah, Sunday morning at 3 a.m.

Lorene slept on Annie's couch. I talked to Annie on the phone this afternoon; she said they enjoyed the trip and wonderful spirit in the temple. They left here Friday evening and went through the temple on Saturday, left there Saturday evening and arrived Sunday at 3 a.m. at home. Not much chance for sleep on the bus. I walked to our little dime store and bought scrapbook paste and some bread in Van de Kamp's. I worked most of the day on the Relief Society scrapbook, as they want me to take it to Relief Society tomorrow. I did my ironing also. Joan stayed home from school with a cold; I wish she'd get her cough cleared up. Donna had a Relief Society meeting at Melba Kunz's. Beverly had some new slacks on today; Lou said she looks nice. She has lost 17 pounds in the past two or three weeks.

Clarice Tanner called by for me this evening at 7:45. We went to the bridal shower at Pat Rowbotham's home. Ethel Burk and Pat gave the shower in honor of Elinor Ramish, who is going to marry Gilbert Jorgensen this month in the L.D.S. temple at St. George, Utah on November 17. It was a very lovely party; we each designed and embroidered a tea towel for Elinor, all done in red floss. I did a plate in the corner. We had a lot of fun and they served a delicious plate luncheon; sandwich, fruit salad, potato chips, date nut bread, candies, and nuts. Clarice and Felicia Washburn left early to go to church and put on a quilt for tomorrow.



Queen "Margaret Waugaman"

A sweet, mild, and gentle lady shall  
Be crowned our Queen today.  
A kind and gracious mother, with  
A sympathetic way.

Her obliging friendly manner makes us  
Glad to shake her hand.  
We're proud to crown her Queen, and  
Be subject to her command.

Each visiting teacher's message she  
Instructs us how to give.  
Her fine example helps everyone  
A better life to live.

"Queen Margaret", we now crown you  
In a regal way,  
May your Majesty reign supreme,  
Our "Queen for a Day".

who is going to marry Gilbert Jorgensen this month, in the L.D.S. temple, at St. George, ut. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a very lovely party, we each designed and embroidered a tea towel for Elinor, all done in red floss. I did a plate in the corner. We had a lot of fun and they served a delicious plate luncheon, sandwich, fruit salad, potato chips + date nut bread, candies + nuts. Clarice and Felicia Washburn left early to go to church + put on a quilt for tomorrow.

Above is a scan of part of Elvie's November 9 page.  
The little drawing represents the plate she embroidered.

time watching boxing matches on T.V. all evening.

## November 10, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon came for me this morning at 9:40. Marie Doezie and daughter Ephra were with her. Ephra got out at her P.C.C. School, she and Janet go to seminary school once a week at 6 a.m. I believe it was this morning that they went. I tied and quilted this day. We had a crib quilt with embroidered animal blocks in, we tied it in pink wool, all but the animals, which we quilted. The other sisters were working on a beautiful big quilt; it is really a hard one to do, tiny octagon pieces, in a pretty block. Clarice Warnick gave the lesson, "Your Shopping Dollar" it was interesting. We assembled for luncheon, I read the queen tribute to Margaret Waugaman, she was a lovely "Queen for a Day." I'm glad she has been crowned at last, I've had her tribute ready for many months, but she couldn't attend because of a grandchild she was taking care of. It was a very nice luncheon, served by one of our visiting teacher's districts. I was happy to see Sr. Elizabeth Akerlin out again; she is a lovely person. We had thirty-three sisters out today. Mary Howard took colored pictures of the queen, and our stake president and some of the past queens that didn't have pictures in color. Ethel Burk asked if she could take the Relief Society scrapbook home, to look over at

her leisure. I let her take it. My little Kathy looked so sweet this morning with her ringlets; she has pretty curly hair like her three sisters had at her age. Johnny had curls too, but they were cut off short. Bonna brought Sr. Akerlin and me home. Both Lou and I rested for an hour this evening before going to the building fund dinner at Perry Fuller's home. I baked my macaroni, cheese, and tuna fish casserole just before we left so it would be hot. We picked up Sr. Hilda Botting at her home at 7 p.m. Audrey said we'd eat at 7 p.m. We were at Fuller's a few minutes after 7 p.m. but waited

until 8 p.m. for Bagley's to come. I was glad Lou ate a bite when he got home at 4:45 p.m. We enjoyed our dinner in Fuller's cute little home. They pinned a Biblical name on each of us as we entered; my name was "Bathsheba." Lou's was "Isaac." Br. Ballard was "David," so we sat together at the table. Lou's partner was Sr. Dixon, "Rebekah." After dinner we sat in a circle and answered Biblical questions and had one writing game. I came out second in the writing game. Br. Bagley got the first prize, a bag of lemon drops, which we all enjoyed.

### November 11, Wednesday

Today is Armistice Day. It was a lovely clear day, no smog. I enjoyed this nice clean day of good air to inhale. Lou went to work. Rex had the day off; he took Donna and the three younger children for a long drive to Hemet, California. They cooked hamburgers somewhere along the line. They stopped at Idle Wild Camp, also. It was evening when they got home, tired, but happy. Joan spent the day with cousin Diane Oates; they went horseback riding. I believe Janet worked for Dr. Don Anderson today. She went to Warnie's house later, to see their new television set. Tonight was Janet's last endurance club meeting, before becoming a member in good standing, in the Phenix school club. (No comments, Grama!) I worked in the yard this morning, burning up the flower cuttings that Lou had stacked by the incinerator. I gave a nice big bouquet of yellow mums to a sweet looking gray haired lady who was working for Mrs. Stacey today, cleaning up her house. I believe the nice looking lad working in Stacey's yard was this lady's son. I told her I'd have the flowers ready for her when she'd finished her work; she came after them when they were ready to leave for home. I knew she loved flowers because she came to the fence to look at our mums and she told me they were beautiful and they are, too! The beautiful big white ball mums are coming out now. A few more days and they'll be grand. Annie phoned to tell me they surprised Elizabeth Burnett today, crowned her "Queen for a Day" in Relief Society. Annie read the tribute that I composed for Burnie.

### November 12, Thursday

It was nice again today, but the smog did come in a little. It was about perfect yesterday, no smog at all. Donna went to the Singing Mother's rehearsal this morning, took Kathy with her. I believe little Kathy gets around a lot more than any of Donna's babies ever did before her. I lived nearby when the others were babies, so they stayed at Grama's and she loved it. Donna phoned when she got home this afternoon, from South Pasadena, from the practice. Joan is visiting again at the Oateses' she loves to be there and they like to have her. Lou and I decided to pass up the Gold Plate Dinner tonight, \$10.00 a plate, for our stake building fund. We went to the other two Gold Plate dinners. Donna was on the committee to help serve the dinner tonight. Lou went

with some of the ward brothers tonight to work three hours at the box factory for our church building fund. Bishop Jack Thompson phoned, he said President Dibbel wants Lou to phone him; they need new Venetian blinds in their stake house. Lou tried several times to get him before he left for the box factory. I tried a few times too, I got the president's son, he took the phone number of the Venetian blind shop, said he'd tell his father to call the shop. We received a letter from our Bishopric, with a letter from the stake presidency asking for a Thanksgiving donation to the building fund. Money for a turkey; a church instead of a turkey this year. I couldn't get a clear picture on our television this evening, so I spent the evening reading and writing. I surely miss the T.V. programs when I can't have them. Annie sent the box of birthday cards I bought from her with Beverly to the shop. Lou brought them home (\$1.00).

### November 13, Friday

Lou sent the Simpson T.V. service man out to see what was wrong with our television this morning; he put two new tubes in and it seemed to be all right. Just as he was about to leave with \$6.72 of my money, the picture went crazy. It looked like a Christmas tree on a spree, so he took the back off again, said we needed a new deflection yoke in the darn set. I phoned Lou at the shop and had him talk to the service man: results, we have a new deflection yoke, three new tubes, and are minus \$23.78. The man had to go to town to get the deflection yoke. The picture is nice and clear anyway. Annie phoned, said Yvonne is at Dolores's for the weekend. She arrived at Dolores and Bevan's at noon today. She came on the bus. She came to have an understanding consultation with Dr. LaMoyne Hickman. They went to a show last night. I hope they both feel better now. Donna gave me a list of names to phone and ask for a contribution of bakery goods, bread, rolls, cookies, cakes, or pies, for the building fund carnival and bazaar next Friday evening on November 20. I spent all afternoon on the phone, made fourteen calls; only one turned me down. I'll do the other page tomorrow, I guess. Ladies would rather make cakes and cookies, than pies, it seems. Donna received a disturbing blow this afternoon, when Br. Summers told her he couldn't cook the meat for their dipped sandwiches this time. Her two counselors are both out of town, she'll have

to worry about it alone, until they get back, eh? Melba has gone on the temple excursion, I believe, and Clarice to a family reunion in Arizona. Our Joan is staying at the Oateses' ranch again, she loves it over there. Tonight Donna, Mary, and Johnny went with the Howard's to see a play that Harry Howard is in. The play was in the McKinley High School. I had an irritating rash break out on my neck and chest this afternoon. It is miserable. The Gypsy Cream will clear it up I think.



*Gypsy Cream, not only for sunburn, but other skin problems, too.*



## November 14, Saturday

It was raining when we got up and it rained all day, a nice steady downfall, which we were in need of. Lou was going to work at the Oateses' ranch with Ernie today, but the rain changed that. He went over to Andersen's and helped Bill hang a new door up in their front room. The door was a little narrow, so the door opening had to be filled in to fit the new door. I think Bill fixed a chair for Harry Christenson, while Harry helped Lou with the heavy door. Rex brought Mary and Bonny Howard here while he did some shopping in town. The girls brought coloring books and they colored a picture each, then looked through my scrapbooks. I fixed a little lunch for them. The television entertained my two little girls all afternoon. Rex came back for them, but they didn't want to go home then, so he left them. Johnny went to a concert with friends in Sierra Madre this morning. It was in the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. He got the ticket through his school, I believe. Lorene phoned me from Annie's, Beverly brought her home; they are going out to Van Nuys to see Glen and family and Mary and family. Annie says that Sue is leaving for Salt Lake City next Monday. Ethel Strong [*Ethel Francis Carlson*], Gordon's [*Gordon Rich Strong*] wife, is going to be operated on for a breast tumor. I'm so sorry to hear of Ethel's troubles, she is a darling girl. I cooked lamb chops for my family. Janet came to get Mary and Bonny, I had Mary phone her mother and tell her they would eat with us as it



Elvie shared her scrapbooks with Mary and Bonny. This was a favorite page for the girls.

### Scrapbook Inspiration

In March of 2016 Mary and Kathy went to visit Bonny Howard Harps and scan some of her photos. Bonny mentioned twice how much she loved Elvie's scrapbooks. Bonny said they made a big impression on her and inspired her to make scrapbooks when she was older. Bonny was 9 years old when she looked at Elvie's scrapbooks on November 14, 1953.

was on cooking. Donna had cooked a nice meatloaf. Joan is at the Oateses', so they only had Johnny and Kathy at home. I called most of the ward sisters on my list today, to ask for bakery goods for our ward bazaar on Friday the 20th. I cut all my lovely big white mums to keep the rain from spoiling them. I sent a bouquet to Donna and gave one to Mrs. Stacey.



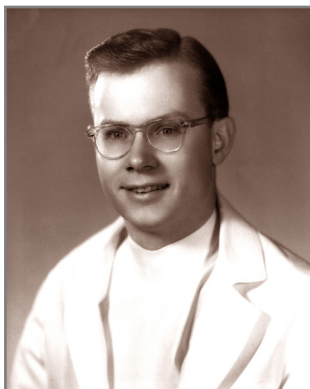
## November 15, Sunday

It was truly a beautiful clear day, after our wonderful rain yesterday. We went to Sunday School and enjoyed it as always. Lou and I ate a very nice dinner in the Crown Cafeteria. He had to go to Sunday School union meeting in Las Flores Ward. I phoned Dolores and she said they were going to be home, they'd be happy to have me visit with them, while Lou was in his union meeting in their ward chapel. I was glad to see Yvonne again and have a nice visit with my two sweet nieces. Dr. LaMoyne Hickman came to dinner. I read the Sunday paper while they ate dinner; I was too full to eat again. LaMoyne and Yvonne have decided they will not get married as planned, but they are still good friends. Yvonne came to California to talk it over with him. Yvonne is a wise, as well as beautiful, girl. She is leaving for Cedar City tomorrow afternoon on the bus. I wanted to go to church this evening, but Lou would not go to another meeting today. He said two meetings in one day is all he can stand. We stayed home. I fixed a lunch for us; we watched television. Donna and family went to church. Our Joanie is still at the Oateses' ranch. Yvonne and LaMoyne went to Andersen's tonight. She wanted to see cousin Dale; he'd been up to the training camp again. Rex painted the little porch on the rear house today. It was the wedding reception for Benjamin Christensen and Ruth Weber Christensen today. Donna, Janet, and Warnie M. went. The marriage was solemnized in the Mesa, Arizona L.D.S. Temple.

## November 16, Monday

Sister Sue leaves for Salt Lake City on the Streamliner train this evening. Gordon Strong's wife, Ethel, is going to be operated on for a breast tumor this week. Yvonne Fife left this afternoon for her home in Cedar City, on the 4:30 bus. Dr. LaMoyne Hickman took her to the bus in El Monte; I believe it was. It was a perfect day, sunny and warm. I did my washing and got everything dry in two hours. (This is winter?) I had dinner on the table this evening when Lou came. He had an appointment to meet President Dibble at the Burbank Stake Center tonight at 7 p.m. We drove over to Hodges, and left our car there. We went to Burbank in Gordon's car. It was such a lovely clear evening, the lights of

North Hollywood and Burbank and the other towns could be seen for miles around, all colors, a beautiful sight, up there on the hilltop entrance to the stake house. Ruby and I had a nice visit while Gordon and Lou went in the building to measure the windows for Venetian blinds. President Dibble told them to go ahead and make up the four big blinds for the room he wants them put up in. We were back in our own house by 8:30 p.m. I was glad to finish up the list of names Donna gave me to call on the phone, about donations for the Relief Society bakery booth at our building fund carnival and Bazaar next Friday. Everyone was nice. I was promised nine cakes, five batches of cookies, twelve pies, one pan of rolls.

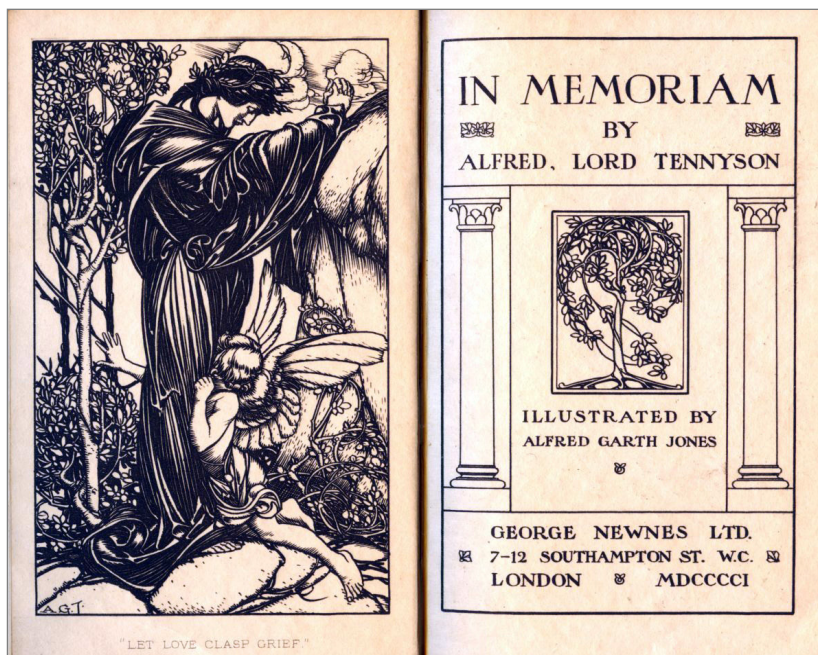


*LaMoyne Hickman must have been dating the wrong Yvonne, because in July of 1954 he married Dianne Yvonne Litchfield in Nevada. Dianne's first husband died in April of 1953. When LaMoyne and Dianne met they must have both been ready to tie the knot!*

## November 17, Tuesday

It was gloomy looking this morning, I expected to see it rain any minute. 'Twas surely a contrast from our lovely morning yesterday. Melba Kunz picked me up this morning; she had Marie Doezie and Ephra, and Melba's mother with her. Bonna Gordon couldn't leave the house because she was expecting the

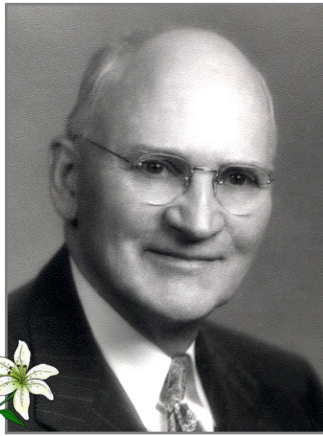
painters this morning; she came later. I came home from Relief Society with Bonna G. I went with her to Mark Smith's home, on Corson Street; Sr. Smith wasn't home, so Bonna couldn't pick up the bazaar articles that she had collected. I enjoyed our literature lesson in Relief Society. It was beautifully given by Faye Timothy, on the poems of "Alfred Lord Tennyson." We studied the lovely poem, "In Memoriam." Ethel



Burk and Ann Hartshorn gave parts of the poem. We are indeed fortunate to have such excellent teachers in our Relief Society. I had so many interesting phone calls this afternoon. I didn't get started with the ironing, as planned. I watered the front lawns, Lou threw some rye seed in the lawn last Sunday morning, so I watered it, in as much as we didn't get the rain I expected this morning. The sun came out this afternoon; it was lovely. Florence Marsh phoned to have me call Donna for Mary's measurements. She is making her a dress for Christmas. I phoned Donna, then Florence. I talked to Annie over the phone, about our next Strong's meeting and about Yvonne and LaMoyne's "heart interests." Annie sent some lovely mums with Beverly; Lou brought them home to me. Bev tried to get Alice S.



or someone to come to the shop and help out a few days; they have a lot of work on hand now. She couldn't bring anyone so they'll get along okay without extra help. Lou is glad he thought of Beverly. She is good at Venetian blind work. Lou worked at the box factory tonight for the building fund. Donna made two apple pies for Mary to take to the Father and Daughter's banquet tonight. The Girl Scouts are giving it. Rex went with Mary. It was in Sierra Madre. I shampooed my hair tonight while Lou was at the box factory.



*Uncle Alvin Strong died  
November 19, 1953.*

### **November 18, Wednesday**

We had a strong wind in the night; the backyard is covered in avocado leaves again. Mrs. Stacey says she'd have the tree taken out, but the cost is too much. She will have it topped soon, she says. The wind did some damage in parts of our country, but it blew away the smog for which we are thankful. It is bright and sunny and a lot cooler today. Donna took Kathy with her to Covina this morning, to the Singing Mother's rehearsal. I did my ironing. Janet made some changes in her school subjects for the new term in February. She has given up the idea of a dental hygienist college course; she is taking a lighter course than she planned on this fall. I'm afraid our little Janet has marriage on her mind, eh? She worked for Dr. Anderson this afternoon after school; he is training her to be a dentist's assistant. She likes the work. She's been with him several months now. She goes after school at 2 p.m. I was delighted when Donna told me that Br. Summers was going to have his chef cook the meat and make the gravy for their church dinner on Friday, for the bazaar. He told her a few days ago; he couldn't manage it this time. It is a wonderful relief to Donna and her counselors, not to have all that meat to worry about cooking. I walked up to the market, to get the three pounds of pink beans, one pound of bacon and two bottles of catsup for the baked beans I'm to cook for church dinner on Friday. I had the brown sugar at home; I bought a quart of milk and some cookies. I had about five pounds to carry home, and it made me tremble and feel so weak for a while. Just four blocks to walk carrying a little five pounds and I'm shot, oh me! Pearl and Pawnee Redborg came this evening; they'd been to the Crown Cafeteria for dinner. We had a nice visit with them. We saw Arthur Godfrey's program and "I've Got a Secret" on television. Pearl and I talked while Lou and Pawnee watched the boxing fights for 45 minutes.

### **November 19, Thursday**

It was another lovely clear day. I cooked and baked three pounds of beans with brown sugar, catsup, and bacon for the building fund dinner at church tomorrow night. They do smell good. I hope they'll taste as nice. Annie phoned to tell me the Strong's meeting would be December 19 at Beth and Dick Johnston's home in Van Nuys. It will be our Christmas Party. I cleaned through the house with the hand sweeper today. I'm surely enjoying the beautiful mums I have in the house. The big white balls are from our yard and the lovely huge assorted mums that Annie

sent with Beverly yesterday to the shop. The chrysanthemums have been just gorgeous this year. Lou went to the church from work this evening, but no one was there to tell him where the booths should go and etcetera. The Primary was in session anyway. He came home and we ate dinner. He phoned Br. Bob Gordon and Br. Kenny Frandson; he made arrangements to go and help, after he'd been to the Jorgensen reception. Annie phoned the sad news that Uncle Alvin passed away this afternoon. He was struck by an auto in Salt Lake City last evening. It was a dreadful shock to us, as Uncle Alvin seemed to be in the pink of health, I believe if he hadn't met with this awful accident, he would have lived

many more years. I think he was 77 years old. We all love him such a lot, dear little Aunt Ida, too. My heart aches for her. I'm glad sister Sue is with her at this time of painful sorrow. Lydia Bailey's picture is in the church news. Annie sent it to me with Beverly. Lydia is preparing the Children's Friend Magazine for mailing in the photo. She works for them. So I have another clipping for my scrapbook. I have one of Owen too at his welfare work. This evening we went to the wedding reception for Elinor and Gilbert J. It was at 391 South Madison Avenue in Pasadena. It's a spacious old home where Elinor used to take her vocal lessons. We were greeted at the door by a very charming little lady we love dearly, namely, Donna Marsh and that magnificent old home was perfect for this large reception. There were so many friends of the bride from the Pasadena Wards and all the many friends from Garvanza and Highland Park Wards. It was a real treat to see so many dear friends in one large group. Elinor was beautiful in her lovely wedding gown. Gilbert was not well, I felt sorry for him. He looked handsome, but ill. He had a fever and is coming sown with the flu, I guess. He'd been sick all day. He held up as long as he could for pictures and in the line for congratulations. He was rushed home to Ramish's about 10:30 p.m. where the doctor was coming to look him over. Elinor had to go to the motel and get their clothes, I was sorry for her. Rex and Donna brought me home as Lou left early to go to the church and help build the booths for the carnival tomorrow. My sisters and family felt sadness in our hearts because of the shocking news of Uncle Alvin Strong's death caused by an auto accident. Beth and Dick are leaving for Salt Lake City in the morning on the train. Lorene is going to stay at their home with the children in Van Nuys. I'm so proud of Mary Jorgensen, she did a beautiful job of making a wool suit for her husband Vernon, and he looks swell in it too.

### **November 20, Friday**

It rained in the night, but was clear and sunny this morning. I can't get Uncle Alvin and family off my mind, it was surely a shock to everyone of his passing away and the accident. Lorene is staying at Beth and Dick's home with the children, while they are away in Salt Lake City, Utah, to the funeral. They left on the train about noon today. We have had a brisk wind today. I cut most of the mums this morning. The rain of last night and the wind today is rather tough on the

beautiful big flowers. The ones I cut today are pure white; I love 'em. Donna and Clarice Tanner brought Kathy here at 3 p.m. The little dear woke up from her nap with an earache. Donna put some medicine in before bringing her here. The hurt stopped about 30 minutes after she came. I put some cotton in her ear as she lost the other Donna had put in. Lou and I took the baby to the carnival bazaar at 6 p.m. We were among the first to eat dinner. They had a nice plate for 50¢; a dipped roast beef sandwich, cabbage salad, and brown baked beans. I fed Kathy at home, but she sat with us while we ate and she enjoyed chewing on some meat. We bought pie for dessert, Lou ate lemon, I had pumpkin. I was sorry I didn't get lemon also. I walked around with Kathy for an hour. She fished in the Primary fish pond and got a tiny doll. Donna was busy in the kitchen serving up the dinner with her coworkers. I took Kathy to the nursery where we could look at storybooks and Grama could rest; a chair felt mighty good to me about that time. Rex found us there and he took care of Kathy after that. They had some very good bargains for sale, and near the end of the bazaar, the prices were cut in half and better. Mary got a gray wool skirt for 10¢. Bob Gordon announced \$1.00 off on all the skirts, and this little skirt was marked only \$1.00, so Mary rushed up to tell him she got it for free. Ha ha! He let her have it for a dime. I bought Mary a red jersey blouse to wear with her skirt for \$1.00. They were cut later to 50¢. I should have waited, eh? I also bought a yellow full skirt for Mary with colored braid trim, \$2.00. I guess I'll give it to her for Christmas, if I can keep it that long. Grampa bought Joan a bra. I believe she bought one with money Donna gave her also. Warnie bought a sports shirt. Janet and Joan both tried on cute skirts but they did not fit them. When Donna got through in the kitchen she bought a skirt for herself and some red shoes, a necklace in silver and rhinestones, it cost \$12.75 at first, closing out sale, \$1.00. Of course everything was donated to the fund so they could cut prices at the last minutes. Johnny got a good heavy pair of shoes for 35¢. Rex bought a lovely \$12.95 table lamp for \$3.00. Lou enjoyed eating all evening; he bought a lemon pie, a fruitcake, and a caramel cake to bring home. I got some earrings for a dime and some cute novelty glass flower containers for 10¢ each. It pays to wait until they are closing out the bazaar, eh? Lou bought a nice electric clock for his room for \$2.50. Donna bought two Jersey tee shirts for Kathy. My Johnny was eating most every time I looked at him or he was drinking a soda pop. I surely hope he'll not be sick tomorrow. Lou brought home



*Uncle Alvin and Aunt Ida Strong*

some scraps of the meat. Donna didn't get home until almost midnight, cleaning up the place. Clarice Tanner helped her and brought her home. Rex took the children home. Bonny Howard was with them.

### **November 21, Saturday**

Well the big carnival is over and Donna is worn out. She said she had to rest in spite of the work at home staring her in the face. Lou spent the day at home cleaning up the yard and repairing the sprinkler in the front lawns. Some men came by this morning, from the Williams Brothers Oiled Roofs Company. They talked Lou into letting them oil our roof for \$20, a \$10 reduction. It needed the oil, as the shingles were curling and very dry. Mr. Edgecomb let them do his new house roof shingles and little garage house, it cost him \$60 as he has twice as much roof as our little house has. I worked in my scrapbook today, made a new page with the typed poems that Donna did for me yesterday, my Thanksgiving Day poem and "The Spirit of Christmas." I composed them in 1948, but didn't get them typed until now. Miriam Clayton heard from her mother, Sr. Jensen, about how Uncle Alvin met his death. He was going out with Br. Jensen and Herman Greathes to do some church work on Wednesday evening November 18. They phoned Aunt Ida to find out why Alvin had not come to Jensen's as planned. She said he left a long time ago; they went out to look for him and

saw a crowd at 5th South and 8th East. An 18-year-old boy had struck Uncle Alvin down as he crossed the street. The ambulance had taken him to the hospital; he did not regain consciousness before he passed away Thursday afternoon. The accident happened very near his old home on 4th between 8th and 9th East.

### **November 22, Sunday**

We had a nice Sunday School as always, we were all delighted to learn that the building fund took in over \$1,600 at our carnival bazaar on Friday. It was a lot of work for a few; bless 'em. My hard working days are over now. We enjoyed dipped sandwiches again today, thanks to the meat scraps Lou brought home from the bazaar. I missed not seeing

Mary, Johnny, or Kathy in Sunday School. They stayed home because of slight colds. Lou spent the afternoon painting, he did the front screen door and back door, the hanging baskets and flower pots and house shutters, in green. He did the same shade they were, except for the flowerpots, they were the natural color, until now, and Lou did the garage door yesterday. He keeps things looking nice



around here. I was sorry to learn that Gilbert Jorgensen had to be taken to the hospital, he was surely ill on his wedding reception night. I think he is in the government hospital in San Pedro. Elinor and folks were going out to see him today. Rex worked all afternoon, trying to get a little piece of porcelain out of the toilet in the little rear house; It fell in the toilet from the broken top of the toilet box. He had to call on Tommy Dixon, the plumber friend. He'll be over in the morning to have a look. It was surely strange for Lou to decide to paint on Sunday. We went to church tonight, had a nice meeting. Our choir sang, Jerry Warnick gave a short talk; it was good. Bishop Geert Hulshaff gave a good talk on the welfare. He talked at the fireside after in our chapel. Lou didn't want to stay so we went home.



Bishop Geert Hulshaff,  
image found on Family  
Search.

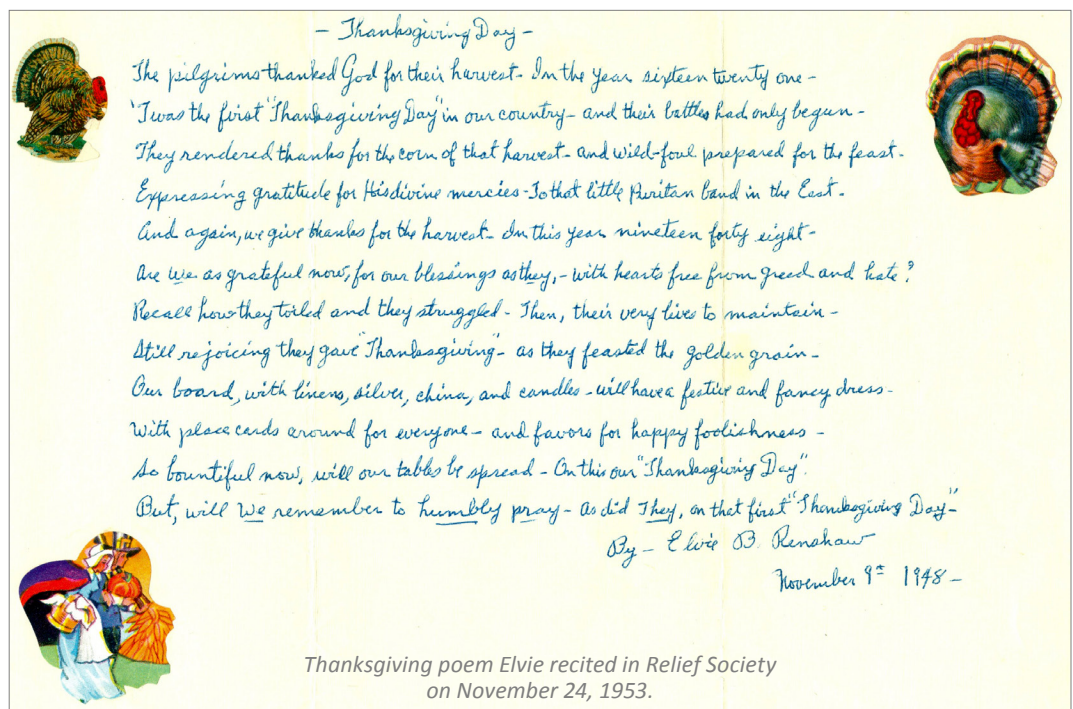
### November 23, Monday

The Pasadena Ward is thirty years old today; they're celebrating with a birthday party tonight. Mrs. Brotherton phoned just as Lou was about to drive out on way to work this morning. I called him back in the house. She wants him to do another carpenter job for her, they are so busy at the shop he couldn't promise anything and his Saturdays are mostly taken up too. It was a pretty day; I did my washing. Donna asked me to call a page on our ward list to remind them of our shopping evening at the Lamanda Park 5¢ to \$1 Store tomorrow evening from 6 to 9:30 p.m. We'll get 10% off on everything sold then, it will go to the building fund. Janet, Joan, and Warnie took Mary to town in Warnie's car this afternoon and bought her a new pair of shoes. She has to have them built up at Zinkie's shop because of a condition in her feet. I phoned Betty Ramish to inquire about her son-in-law, Gilbert Jorgensen. He was taken to the hospital on Saturday night; she said he is much better today. Elinor, his bride, has been ill today with the same virus; a sore throat, swollen glands, chills, and fever. She feels much better tonight. Gill was feeling very miserable the night of their wedding reception, last Thursday night. He had to be rushed home to the doctor about 10:30 p.m. Lou expected to attend a Sunday School meeting at the bishop's home tonight, but it was postponed. He was happy to stay home and rest while

enjoying television. Tommy Dixon fixed Rex's toilet bowl in about two minutes this morning. He has the proper tools to work with. Rex will have the job of putting it back in the shower room tonight in the little rear house. It was Uncle Alvin's funeral today in Salt Lake City, Utah. I would have loved to have attended!

### November 24, Tuesday

I was sorry when Donna phoned to tell me that Kathy had congestion on her lungs, she is coughing a lot and she would not be able to take her out to Relief Society this morning. Donna isn't feeling very well herself, she had a bad backache yesterday and a gas attack in lower intestines last night. She has been going too hard lately. She caught cold in her back Thursday night, in that cold hall, at the reception, greeting people for two to three hours, then the work at the carnival, with bazaar dinner and etcetera on Friday night. (Too much little lady!) Donna came for me this morning, as usual, bless her dear heart. Marie Doezie and daughter Ephra were with her. Ephra gets out at her P.C.C. School. We didn't have as many sisters out this morning, so we held the meeting in our Relief Society room. Clarice Tanner presided and conducted the meeting. I'm sorry Donna couldn't be there, I would gladly have taken care of the baby for her. Melba Kunz said she'd take me to Sierra Madre, but Donna was afraid I would catch the baby's cold. We had a lovely lesson in Social Science, "The Constitution of the United States," given by Phyllis McDonnel. She is a good class leader. I watered lawns and flowers when I got home. I phoned the list of ward members assigned to me to remind folks of our shopping night at the Lamanda Park 5¢ to \$1 Store, this evening 6 to 9:30 p.m. Oh I forgot, Sr. Tanner called on me to give my "Thanksgiving Poem," I did and they seemed to enjoy it. Ethel Burk said that the poem should go in the Relief Society Scrapbook and the ladies all agreed, so I put a copy of it in said scrapbook. I composed the poem in November 1948. I expected Joan here to eat dinner with us.



She went to town after school to apply for Christmas work in Grants or Kress. She didn't get through in time to come here, she had to go to the Lamanda Park Store at 6 p.m. to help take care of the extra people from our ward. They gave our building fund 10% off on all sales made from 6 to 9:30 p.m. I was sorry Joan didn't get home in time to eat the nice lamb chop dinner I cooked for her. I bought the Christmas gifts for Mary, a cake mix set, for Johnny, a walkie talkie set, and a cute cuddly poodle for little Kathy, and some Christmas wrappings, and a rubber yellow sink pad for my sink. I had a little heart spell just before coming home, while standing in the line for cash register. Lou had to take over while I sat on a stool in the corner. I'm always so darn weak after a spell like that. Donna and Rex had rubber twin dolls and a doll buggy put away for Kathy and an electric train for Johnny. They were still shopping when we left. Joan helped me with my purchases. It was nice to have our sweet young ward girls waiting on us in the store. I received a pretty Thanksgiving card from Ethel Newbold today.

### November 25, Wednesday

Ovena Mayo took care of Kathy today, while Donna went to the Singing Mother's rehearsal. I believe it was in South Pasadena this morning. Donna says Kathy feels better but is still coughing a lot. I phoned Annie this morning. Dale had a letter from Dick Johnston. He is arriving home tomorrow and wants Dale to meet the train. He told about Uncle Alvin's funeral last Monday. It was very lovely. I would loved to have been there. We are all so very fond of Uncle Alvin and Aunt Ida and their children. They are a grand family. I'm so thankful that sister Sue is with Aunt Ida now and when she heard the dreadful news of the accident. Ruby Anderson phoned this morning and said she could go Relief Society visiting with me this afternoon. I baked the yams that Lou bought last night. I'll candy them in the morning. We are having our Thanksgiving dinner with the Oateses and the Marshes, as always, bless their dear hearts. I did my ironing before lunch. Mr. and Mrs. Lowe are going out to stay with their son and family in Duarte until January. The son's wife has some extra Christmas work in Monrovia so Grandma Lowe will keep house for them. I always miss the nice old couple as

the Edgecombs both work. It is so quiet over there when the Lowes go away, too. I waited all afternoon for Ruby to come for me; she phoned in the late afternoon. Her husband Alvin had hurt his back and she had to take him to the doctor for an adjustment. I guess we'll try to go next Friday. I wrote a letter of condolence to Aunt Ida and family. That kind of letter takes a little more thought than the usual correspondence does. Lou expected to go to the box factory to work tonight, but the men didn't go tonight, there was no work, I guess. I'm glad he can rest. His dinner this evening was a cinch, bread and milk. He thought he was leaving for the box factory at six o'clock so he ate light. Lou feels like he is coming down with a cold. I hope not.

### November 26, Thursday—Thanksgiving Day

I sent some pretty rosebuds and some white mums up to Donna's with Lou this morning. He went up to measure the toilet top in the little rear house. He went to the shop and made a new one from hard wood. I wrote a letter to sister Violet. I phoned to wish Dody and family a Happy Thanksgiving. She was making pies to take to Jennie's. They are going to eat with the Joneses. Dale and Bill went to the train this morning to pick up Dick Johnston; we don't know if Beth came back with him yet. Irene Andersen cooked the turkey and brought it to Annie's. They will have a happy feast together. Lorene is with Beth and Dick's children, while they went to Salt Lake City to Uncle Alvin's funeral. I baked and candied yams to take to

Oateses' to our dinner. We also took three bottles of 7Up, a cinch, eh? I believe Donna took a cake, butter, and apple cider. Lou is fighting a head cold, sorry. I took a bouquet of white mums to Florence Oates. Irene Oates came home from B.Y.U. College for Thanksgiving dinner, but her sister Elaine stayed with her girlfriend. They went to Montana to eat with the girlfriend's parents. Elaine phoned from Montana to her folks at home. Ernie Jr. is in Japan with Uncle Sam's Marines. We missed them. It was hard for the two Florence's to keep tears away, when thinking of the children away from home. Ruth Deal hasn't been with us on Thanksgiving Day for several years. I was delighted to learn that Ruth has a baby boy [*Kenneth Deal*!] I'm sure Donna thinks she told me about the infant son, but I'm just as sure she didn't. She told me that Ruth sent her a



Game time for Janet Marsh, Robin Marsh, Kathy Marsh, Florence Oates, Joan Marsh, Diane Oates, and Irene Oates on Thanksgiving 1953.





*Florence, Robin, Janet, Donna, Elvie, Joan, Miriam, John, and Kathy; all are Marshes except for Elvie.*

thank you note for the gift, but I didn't realize it was for her baby. I was so embarrassed when I asked Florence when Ruth expected her baby? Oh me! And he is over a month old! Our turkey dinner was delicious, two huge turkeys with all the trimmings, homemade ice cream, and pies and Donna's super chocolate cake. We got to the ranch early so Lou helped John freeze the ice cream and helped Florence put potatoes through the strainer. John and Louis



*Robin Marsh, Diane Oates, Janet, and Joan Marsh Thanksgiving Day 1953.*

enjoyed naps after dinner. We had a time pulling the young folks away from the B.Y.U. ball game on T.V. Utah was playing B.Y.U. It was a close game, almost a tie, but Utah boys won. Our kids were rooting for B.Y.U. Cliff Olmsted came in the afternoon and again in the evening. Lewie Marsh took flash light [bulb] pictures of us. Mary, Johnny, Judy, and little Miriam enjoyed horseback riding; Robin and Aunt Florence had a ride and also Rex and Lewie. They tried to take baby Kathy but she didn't care for it. Donna brought her new rose formal dress. Miriam and Florence Marsh figured out an under sleeve for the lace one. Florence is going to do the job,

bless her heart. Warnie M. came in the evening. The young folks played a game at the table. Lou and I were the first to leave the happy party. I would like to have stayed longer, I love to be with the young folks, but Lou's cold made him feel miserable, so we came home.

### **November 27, Friday**

I talked to Annie on the phone this morning. She told me that Beth didn't come back with Dick; she'll come home Monday or maybe Sunday. Dick

and his children ate Thanksgiving dinner with his brother and family. Lorene went to Mary's to eat with them. This morning Donna went to her Relief Society Leadership meeting. The children were out of school today, so she could leave Kathy home. Joan went uptown this afternoon. I'm glad that Lou feels better today, the doctoring up last night paid off, eh? I wrapped Mary's, Johnny's, and Kathy's Christmas gifts this morning and fixed a queen tribute in a pretty folder for Lillian Neal. When her turn comes it'll be ready. Ruby Anderson came for me about 1:45 p.m. We did our Relief Society visiting, found only three families at home and so got



through early. I had a strange heart spell while in Ruby's car, but didn't mention it to her until later. It made me feel very weak. Joan was invited to go to the Palladium Ballroom with some friends that Monte Kunz brought home from B.Y.U. College for the holiday. I read several chapters from the Book of Mormon this afternoon. Ephra Doezie and one of the Barnhart girls, Carol or Charlene, I've forgotten which one is married, but I think it is Charlene, in that case it was Carol who went with the girls and boys tonight. I hope they have fun. Carol Christenson went also. We enjoyed the television as usual, what did we do before we had it? Well, I know we did go out a lot more, visiting Claytons, or Andersens, or Marshes and to a show once in a while. We used to call on Lou's cousins too. Ah me! The T.V. has changed a lot of homes and habits, eh? The young people didn't go to the Palladium as first planned, they went to the church stake dance in Whittier. It was Charlene that went with the group; Carol is married.

### Impact of Television

The impact of television is plain to see with the Renshaw family. Before television, the evenings were often spent visiting family and friends. Attending movies was a nearly weekly occurrence for the Renshaws. Also, it was normal to show up unannounced to visit family members in their homes even after telephones were common. Television seemed to make staying home a lot more attractive. Many families were starting a trend of home entertainment, that continues to today.

"Ah me! The T.V. has changed a lot of homes and habits, eh?" Elvie's comment seems to imply that although she enjoys the programs on television she does miss the sociality that existed before they had a television to watch.

### November 28, Saturday

It is Mary's birthday; she is 11 years old. Growing up eh? I'm glad it's a bright sunshiny day; Rex is taking Mary and a few of her girlfriends to the Oateses' ranch to ride horseback this morning. I have had her birthday gifts wrapped for a month, a white nylon blouse and purple corduroy jumper dress. It has a wide quilted piece on the bottom of the skirt. Rex and Donna bought her the Vogue doll that she desired. Lou and Beverly worked at the Venetian blind shop today. They have a lot of work on hand now and because of the holiday on Thursday, they are working today. I talked to Joan this morning on the phone. She said they had a nice time at the dance last night. They went to the stake dance in Whittier with Monte Kunz and three young college boys from B.Y.U. who are visiting here for the holiday. The girls were Charlene B., Carol C., Ephra D., and Joan

M. Little Kathy isn't feeling very well today, another sore in her mouth. Rex came for me at 1:30 p.m. He had taken the little girls to his home where they had lunch and sang "Happy Birthday" to Mary, while the candles were burning on her cake. They had hamburger sandwiches, cake and ice cream, and candy and nuts in a little Christmas boot. They went to the movies in Sierra Madre Theater to finish up the day. Janet decorated with blue crepe paper streamers from the chandeliers to the table. Janet and Joan gave Mary some red wool gloves and dark blue bag or purse. Mary tried on her jumper dress and blouse this evening; she looked real sweet in it. Rex and Donna went to a 6:30 welfare meeting in the Las Flores Ward this evening. Lou and I enjoyed a bowl of good soup that Donna made; I helped with the dishes. We came home after shopping at the market. Florence and John ate their dinner in the Van de Kamp's Restaurant in Pasadena this evening. Florence phoned to see if Rex and Donna were home, she had Donna's formal in the car. They didn't bring it out. Miriam Patricia Marsh stayed all night with Mary. Janet and Warnie went out to a show or dinner tonight. Joan went to the show in Sierra Madre with girlfriends.

### November 29, Sunday

Today is Warnie Mueller's birthday, 19 years old. It was such a beautiful, clear, warm day. Lou and I went to the conference in the Monrovia High School. I hope after our next stake conference that it will be the last one in a school building. Our lovely stake and ward home is coming along nicely. We hope to be in it next spring. We had a very fine session this morning, a large crowd out. The auditorium was full and the gallery, too. Apostle Adam S. Bennion and a Br. Wirthlin were our visitors from Salt Lake City. They both gave splendid talks. Br. Wirthlin spoke on the welfare plan. Br. Bennion gave a good gospel message, he has a keen sense of humor, which made him interesting indeed. I sat next to Sr. Caldwell; she lived in Garvanza Ward years ago, when we did. They live in Monrovia now. Lou and I took a nice drive out to Covina; we saw the new homes going up by the dozens. Many are ready for occupancy. We ate dinner in a very nice little restaurant called The Francays. It is in Monrovia on Foothill Boulevard. We had a baked ham dinner that was delicious. Donna had a 17-pound turkey to cook this morning, so she missed conference. Rex was there, but I didn't see the girls. Warnie ate with the Marshes, they invited us also, but we felt they had family enough. Rex didn't get enough turkey on Thanksgiving Day, he couldn't eat anymore, but he wanted some in his lunch for a day or two, so he bought one. Janet gave Warnie a pretty light blue slip-on sweater and a pair of



Mary Elaine Marsh 9 1/2 years old. On November 28 she turned 11 years old.



blue socks for his birthday. Sr. Doezie phoned to tell us that Ephra was on the radio in a piano recital from 5:15 to 5:30 p.m. We tuned in and enjoyed her lovely numbers. She played several beautiful classical pieces. Lou and I went to conference again this evening and enjoyed it a lot. Apostle Bennion was the first speaker, as he had to leave to go to the airport. He has an appointment in Denver, Colorado tomorrow. Rex and Donna wanted us to come over and have a turkey sandwich; I surely did enjoy it! Mrs. Mueller made a lovely birthday cake for Warnie; we all enjoyed some of it and some ice cream. Rex and Donna took little Miriam P. Marsh home. They took the three children with them. Joan and I did up the dishes. Annie phoned to tell me that Shirley Bird is in the hospital, the baby isn't due for another month or six weeks!

### November 30, Monday

I did my washing this morning, it was a small one so I was through by 10 a.m. Donna came for me at 11:30 and we went to town to look at the sale suits and coats in Helen Smith's Dress Shop. I couldn't find what I wanted in the price I wanted, so we went to the Broadway Store, no better luck. Donna was going to pick up a sister in Altadena at 2 p.m. and do some Relief Society visiting with her. I came home on the bus, after looking in one more dress shop with no better luck. I came home tired and not interested in clothes anymore. I lose interest in shopping after a few attempts to find something suitable, such as size, color, and the right price. It is a lucky day when I find all three to my liking, eh? I tire so quickly, which makes it hard on me. I received a letter from Sue. She sent a newspaper clipping of Uncle Alvin and the account of his accident and death. I put his picture clipping in my scrapbook. I was always very fond of Uncle Alvin; in fact I love all of Mother's fine brothers. Lou spent this evening on the phone arranging for the Sunday School Christmas program on December 20. Janet and Donna came down after dinner, Joan wanted to go with us to town, but she had a song rehearsal. Janet drove Grampa's car to the Broadway Store, where I bought a white wool cardigan sweater for Janet's Christmas for \$10.95, and an orlon white silk shirt for Rex, \$6.39. We looked at blouses and bags for Donna, but didn't buy any. Not enough time to look around. Janet bought a cute blue check blouse for herself. I sent \$10.00 with Donna for Joan to buy our Christmas gift for herself. She thinks she wants to make a felt skirt for herself. I hope she will find something that makes her happy. I want my precious grandchildren to be happy, if possible.

Shirley went home from the hospital. I hope everything will be well with her and the unborn baby. She is in my prayers.

### December 1, Tuesday

It was clear but cooler today, a coat or jacket felt good. Bonna Gordon and Marie Doezie came for me as usual this morning. We had a 9:30 meeting for the Visiting Teachers; I enjoyed Sr. Margaret Waugaman's teacher's message, and Donna's splendid instructions and advice. She also gave us a quiz on Relief Society visiting. We had a very nice meeting in the chapel later. Sr. Lydia Stephens gave our Theology lesson on the teachings of King Benjamin, from the Book of Mormon. It was a beautiful lesson. King Benjamin was such a beloved and wise ruler all of his days and a wonderful

orator. Donna read his oration from Mormon and Mosiah. It took twenty minutes, but she did it beautifully. Bonna brought me home. Clarice Tanner bought our baby Kathy a pretty little red plaid dress, for \$6.00, in Sierra Madre town, after they got home from meeting and a visit to Katie Austin's home. I wrapped Janet's and Rex's Christmas gifts after lunch. Sister Lorene phoned to tell me that Shirley Bird had a baby boy this morning. He weighed 6 pounds and 6 ounces. I was so happy to know that her baby is here. She had us all a bit worried when things started on Thanksgiving Day and the baby wasn't expected for a month or six weeks. She was in the hospital three days then sent home until she had to go back again last night. It was a breach birth, but Bette says Shirley and baby are doing all right now. The baby is in an incubator for a day or so. I did my ironing this afternoon.

### December 2, Wednesday

I wrote to Lydia and Owen and sent the \$1.00 for flowers for

Uncle Alvin's funeral. I answered Eloise B. and Mary S. letters. Johnny is home from school again, not very sick, but he has to stay in bed all day, so he'll be in the mood for school in the morning. Donna asked me to phone the ward folks on page four of the ward list, to remind them tomorrow is the last shopping evening in Lamanda Park 5¢ to \$1 Store (6 to 9:30). It is for our building fund, 10% of all sales go to the building fund of our church. I'm having a little trouble with my kidneys and bladder, but I'm determined to clear it up without going to the doctor. I'm taking Dr. Doan's kidney pills and using the heating pad at nights. Lou went with some of the ward men to the box factory tonight, but there wasn't any work prepared for them, so they came back and Lou enjoyed the television

## Traffic Toll Hits 176 As S. L. Banker Dies

Utah's traffic toll climbed to 176 Friday with the death of a Salt Lake City banker who died Thursday afternoon of injuries received Wednesday in an auto-pedestrian accident.

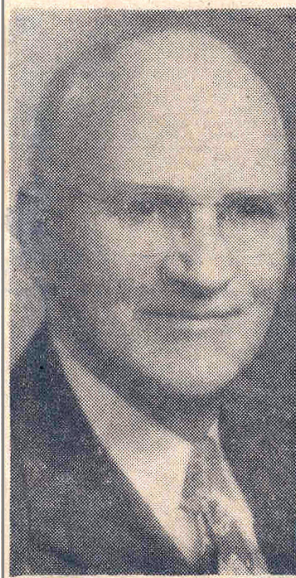
Dead:

**Alvin Charles Strong, 77**, of 130-7th East. He was an assistant vice president of the First National Bank of Salt Lake City.

Mr. Strong was struck by an automobile Wednesday at 7:10 p.m., at 5th South near 8th East.

An active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Mr. Strong served as a high priest in the Webster Ward. He had been a member of the Park Stake high council and for many years was senior member of the Liberty Stake high council. He had served a mission in the Southern states.

He is survived by his widow, Ida Rich Strong, whom he married in 1906 in the Salt Lake Temple; a brother, Ernest Strong, Salt Lake City; a son, Gordon R. Strong, Salt Lake City; three daughters, Mrs. Diane Selander, Salt Lake City; Mrs. Beth Johnson, Van Nuys, Cal., and Mrs. Ramona Phillips, Joliet, Ill. Eleven grandchildren also survive.



**ALVIN CHARLES STRONG**  
... dies of hurts

*This is the clipping that Sue Hoglund sent to Elvie.*

all evening while I went to Mutual with Sr. Summers. She came for me at 7:10 p.m. Marie Doezie, her son, and daughter Ephra and the Sidlow boy were along. Joan Sidlow has an infant son. We had a one-act play by the ward members, "The Valiant," it was well done. Harry Howard, Carol McComas, Br. Oakley, and the Cottom boy were in it. Our class met in the chapel later where we enjoyed a picture film by "The Friends" (Quakers). It was a forum on American Foreign Policy. It was interesting but kept us overtime. It was ten o'clock when I got home. I was glad to get here in time for "This is Your Life," on the television, one of my favorite programs.

### December 3, Thursday

I went uptown this morning on the ten o'clock bus. I changed Rex's orlon silk shirt. I bought it Monday night in the Broadway Store, size 16 ½. I had it wrapped and ready, when Donna phoned yesterday to say Rex can't wear 16 ½ now, it must be 17. The Broadway Store didn't have a 17 in nylon or orlon, so they gave me the money I'd paid for it, \$6.66 plus tax. I went to Hertel's Department Store and got the right size, in white orlon for \$6.95. I bought a pretty tie for \$1.50 to go with the shirt. It is wrapped and ready for Christmas once more. Donna went to South Pasadena this morning and

again tonight for last rehearsals before the concert tomorrow night. It was our building fund shopping night at the little Lamanda Park Store. Kathy and Johnny stayed with us while Rex and Mary went up to the little store. Mary bought a puzzle game for Johnny and a set of plastic dishes for Kathy's Christmas. We all watched "Place the Face" program on Television before Rex and Mary left to shop. It was more interesting

this evening because Nell Ellsworth was on the program, with Loraine Day, trying to place her face. Nell was Loraine's Primary teacher when she was a little girl in Long Beach. She cast Loraine in a play as a little boy, in a Primary program. The time was up before Loraine could place Nell's face. Nell was flown here from her home. I'm still fighting the kidney and bladder trouble, it isn't as painful as it was. I spent a few hours in bed this afternoon



*James and Nell Ellsworth circa 1960. The Ellsworths lived in Southern California before he was transferred out of state. He was a bishop in Pasadena, California. On December 3, Nell was on "Place the Face." Image from Family Search.*

with the heating pad to help the infected kidney and bladder condition. Lorene phoned and said Bette Haddock was coming to get her and take her to Shirley and Kenny's home. Shirley is coming home from the hospital tomorrow.

### December 4, Friday

We've had a strong wind all day, I'm afraid it has played the dickens with the Christmas decorations all up in our southland towns. A lady came to my door to sell Watch Tower books, but no sale here. She said the wind had blown down a lot of the pretty decorations on our main street, (Colorado Boulevard). I'm sorry about that, they looked so pretty Wednesday night. Mr. Edgecomb made some kidney shaped tables for the children to use in their church Sunday School. I think it was four of them? He has been working on them for several days; he took them in his truck to the church today. Lou took my pen again today, but the fellow didn't come for it as promised. It needs a new vacuum I think. I've had to dip it for a long time, as it will not work otherwise. Annie phoned, said Glen would get our See's Chocolates for Christmas, if we wanted him to, he gets a discount. Donna ordered five pounds; I ordered two pounds. Rex escorted his three beautiful ladies to the concert in South Pasadena tonight; all three wore lovely formal gowns. Donna in her new dusty rose lace gown, Janet in a white sheer with orchid slip, Joan in an orchid lace gown. They were all lovely to look at, bless 'em. Mary and Johnny went up to Howard's to stay all night with Bonny and David while Mary and Harry went to the concert. Little Kathy stayed with us. Mrs. Maxon brought little Terry and his cot here, while she and her mother attended the conference. The little ones had fun for a while, but both went to sleep very well at 8:30 p.m. Janet and Joan were usherettes with other young girls of the stake in formals. Mrs. Maxon said the concert was "wonderful." The girls ate raisin toast when they got here at 10:30 p.m. Donna and Dolores both sang in the concert.

### December 5, Saturday

Today is my birthday; I am 61 years old. I didn't think I'd ever make it, ha ha! Dolores phoned to wish me "Happy Birthday" this morning and my baby Kathy told me "Happy Birthday" in her baby way over the phone. Lou worked in the yard all morning. It looks lovely now. He washed the car, too. I started to mend a little tear in the cushion back of our car, where Lou tore it with some lumber that he took out to Donna's place. The Andersens came, Beverly, Bill, and Annie, so I left needle and thread, thimble and scissors in the back seat while I entertained them. They brought me a beautiful green, with gold trim, scrapbook, with a telephone book to match. The cover is genuine leather. It is really lovely. We looked in my old scrapbooks and I showed them the Relief Society scrapbook. Lou cut a big bouquet of our red Pyracantha berries for Annie to take home. Beverly drove out to Donna's and they took me along. Donna picked a sack full of avocados for them to take home. Harry Howard was out to their place putting a new battery in Warnie's car. Janet and Warnie are going to a ball game in Bakersfield this evening. I'll be glad when they are back safe. I hope they have a grand time; another



young couple is going with them. The Andersens went out to see Glen and family this afternoon. Dolores offered Aunt Annie and Beverly tickets to the concert tonight in Covina, but they couldn't get home in time. We sent money to Glen for the See's Chocolates that he is getting for us. I was going uptown shopping with Lou this afternoon to get a birthday present, but I had a heart spell and the weakness which follows one, so I couldn't go. He gave me a lovely card last night with \$5.00 in it. Violet sent me a hand crocheted handkerchief and some beautiful blue earrings; they are so pretty. Lorene is out to Shirley Bird's taking care of her and new infant son. She phoned me before

*This page has the program that Elvie placed in the East Pasadena Relief Society Scrapbook. The program was glued to the scrapbook so part of the text is obscured. It must have been a wonderful treat for Elvie's birthday to attend this concert.*

**INSTRUMENTAL TRIO**

MACIE EVANS	Pianist
LORENE ALDER	Violinist
HELEN WRIGHT	Cellist

Suite d'Automne . . . . . Tchaikowsky  
 in the Beguine . . . . . Cole Porter  
 Romance . . . . . Debussy  
 Allegretto Giocoso . . . . . Carl Nielson  
 Capriccio . . . . . Liszt

**PROGRAMME**

LA VER MILLARD	Director
HELEN WRIGHT	Pianist
MACIE EVANS	Organist

GREETINGS . . . . . President Howard W. Hunter  
 INVOCATION . . . . . Madge P. Fowler  
 The Lord's Prayer . . . . . Malotte  
 God So Loved the World . . . . . Stainer-Trekarne  
 For the Strength of the Hills . . . . . Sloan-Evan Stephens  
 . . . . . Wade Stephens  
 The Twenty-Third Psalm . . . . . Schubert-Saar  
 Chanson Arabe . . . . . Weinberg

CELLO SOLO  
HELEN WRIGHT

leaving, said she would see me when she gets back home. We drove out to Sierra Madre this evening. Donna had a lovely white coconut cake with "Happy Birthday" on it for me. Baby Kathy helped me blow the lights out! (Gee, I forgot to wish, ha ha!) They gave me a lovely card and some nice lipstick and cream sachet. Rex stayed with Johnny and Kathy tonight; we took Donna, Mary, David, Bonny Howard, and Clarice Tanner in our car to Covina, to the Relief Society Singing Mother's concert. The concert was just grand. The ladies were lovely to look at and the music was superb. Clarice Tanner worried because she forgot to wear her long slip with her formal. It didn't show, we had fun about it. I have very lovely cards from Flora and Will, Florence Marsh, Owen and Lydia, Violet, the Andersens and my Lou and Donna and family.

*Pasadena Stake Relief Society*  
presents the

**Singing Mothers**  
in a  
**Choral Festival**

This is the program  
that Elvie put in  
the Relief Society  
Scrapbook.

"The Music in my heart I bore  
Long after it was heard no more."  
—Wordsworth

Covina Ward Chapel  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints

December 5, 1953

8:15 P.M.

**CHORUS PERSONNEL**

**FIRST SOPRANOS**

Grace Jackson	Joan Sidlow	Herta Peacock
Bertie Meyer	Louise Willard	Betty Shane
Ella Stowe	Josephine Bellamy	June Jones
Clarice Tanner	Arlene Miller	Lydia Peacock
Mary Howard	La Von Rowbotham	Leola Ord
	Louise Bunker	

**SECOND SOPRANOS**

Flora Ostergaard	Lorraine Major	Leda Rublee
Darlene Lloyd	Janis Emerson	Hazel Morgan
Reah Burns	<u>Dolores Jones</u>	Helen Rowberry
Marjorie Pack	Connie Porter	Ida Starr
<u>Donna Marsh</u>	Lorna Laine	Jean Thompson
Vera Smith	Ivy Hibbard	Lillian Henry

**ALTOS**

La Vaughn Erbe	Macie Evans	Verness Stanford
Helene Jones	Alvah Pearson	Jeanne Hoggan
Jane Rogers	Iris Stein	Melba Copple
Elva Clawson	Geana Christiansen	Patsy Jane Adams
Maude Cutler		Ella Carpenter

**SPONSORS**

Dr. and Mrs. Don H. Anderson	Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Major
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Dr. and Mrs. Horace B. Alder	Bishop and Mrs. O. L. McFarland
Dr. and Mrs. A. Sanford Ash	Mr. and Mrs. Leonard L. Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Ashby	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Miller
Bishop and Mrs. Louis Ballard	Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Moehle
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bridges	Dr. and Mrs. Don Paul Nebeker
Bishop and Mrs. Daken K. Broadhead	Dr. and Mrs. McKay Neilson
Pres. and Mrs. A. Kay Berry	Mr. and Mrs. Ernest H. Olson
Mr. and Mrs. Hyrum P. Burk	Bishop and Mrs. John E. Pearson
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Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Felshaw	Mr. and Mrs. Severin L. Sorensen
Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Fischer	Bishop and Mrs. Richard Summerhays
Mr. and Mrs. Russell G. Fowler	Mr. and Mrs. William E. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. I. Verl Funk	Mr. and Mrs. Rosco N. Sonne
Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Gorrell	Mr. and Mrs. Elias A. Smith Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Gordon	Mr. and Mrs. W. Alan Thody
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Graham	Dr. and Mrs. H. A. Valentine
Dr. and Mrs. Ernest M. Hall	Mr. and Mrs. Carl G. Warnick
Bishop and Mrs. Armin J. Hill	Mr. and Mrs. Jack H. West
Mr. and Mrs. Orson A. Hoggan	Mr. and Mrs. Orville L. Willard
Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Howard	Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Y. Williamson
Pres. and Mrs. Howard W. Hunter	Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Wells
Pres. and Mrs. J. Talmage Jones	Mrs. Lois H. West
Mr. and Mrs. Herman R. Jorgensen	Mr. and Mrs. R. Earl Willis
Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Keller	Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Yount
Mr. and Mrs. Fayette F. Kunz	



## December 6, Sunday

Today is Russell Fowler's birthday; he is 50 years old. I'm still thinking of that very wonderful Relief Society "Singing Mother's" concert last night. Our stake ladies were lovely in their pretty formals and the singing was superb, the instrumentals and readings excellent also. I have a program to put in our Relief Society scrapbook. Dolores was in the chorus too. I was delighted to learn that Ray Willis was baptized into our church last evening; he was confirmed in fast meeting. I'm sure his sweet wife, Ruby, is happy now. We had a nice Sunday School and fast meeting later. The eldest Stemile boy and his Hawaiian bride came to Sunday School. She is a pretty little girl; I talked to her; she is a very lovely person, the Stemile family all love her. Lou and I ate a delicious dinner in the Crown Cafeteria. We took a walk in town, to look at the pretty Christmas store windows after dinner. The muffler on our car, has holes in it, it makes a strange sound. Lou says he'll have a new one put on the car tomorrow. Annie phoned to tell me that the baby Bette and Ray want to adopt was born yesterday on my birthday. They'll bring him home from the hospital next Tuesday. She says Bette and Ray are thrilled to have another boy, three boys now. The last two are adopted. Janet and Warnie got home from Bakersfield at two o'clock this morning. They went to a ball game there last evening. Shirley's son was born December 1, Sue has two infant grandsons to come home to. She is coming home next Tuesday, I believe. Dick says that Aunt Ida will not come to California with Sue now, she wants to adjust to her loss and take care of the business that Uncle Alvin's passing brought about. She may come later. We had a very fine meeting tonight. The little children from the Junior Sunday School sang two numbers. Rex gave an excellent talk, Clarice Tanner gave a talk and it was good, also. Some of the young folks gave short talks. Rosetta Carter sang two lovely numbers; Ovena Mayo accompanied her on the piano. We brought Mary and Johnny home with us tonight. Nellie Ellsworth visited in our ward tonight. Donna and Rex took Joan to Garvanza after church; she is going to stay a few days with the Oateses again. I think she went to a fireside chat tonight with Diane. Kathy went with her parents. Mary and Johnny enjoyed their sandwich, potato chips and ice cream while watching television tonight after church.

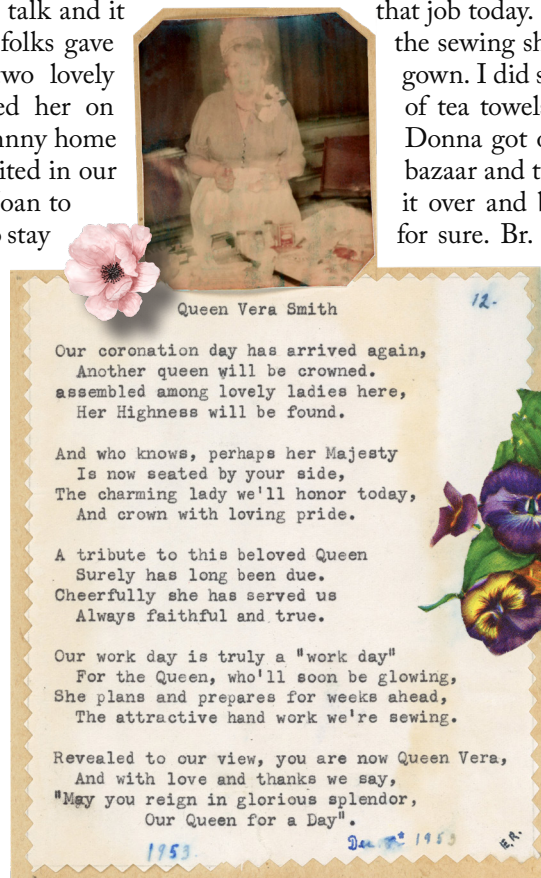
## December 7, Monday

I slept well last night, but was surprised and disappointed to find that the bladder condition was not as good as yesterday. I was so sure I had it on the improve. It was painful to urinate again; I really had a nice long prayer session with my Father in Heaven. The condition cleared up, I felt so well I did my washing. I sat on the heating pad an hour after lunch, while writing and

reading. I've been fighting this condition for ten days. I'm so thankful for God's help too; I just couldn't get along without His merciful blessings. I rested on the couch this afternoon. I wanted to wash the kitchen windows but there's another day, eh? We're still enjoying nice warm days; the smog isn't as bad as it was. Our wind blew it away. The clothes dried beautifully. I had dinner ready when Lou arrived at 5 p.m. He stopped to get his car at a garage where he had the new muffler put on it; it cost \$13.28. Mary Marsh phoned to tell us that their neighbor Sam Kirk was going to be on television tonight on the "You Asked for it" program at 8 p.m. on channel 7. Lou and I went uptown after dinner, we took my fountain pen to the pen shop; the man looked it over and said I wasn't filling it right. He said there is nothing wrong with it. He filled it for me and showed me the proper way, we'll see, eh? We went to Hertel's Store to buy Lou two white Tru-Val shirts, but they didn't have the 2-length sleeve so we didn't get any. We walked to Sear's Store; Lou bought me three pair of nylon hose, my favorite Royal Purple make. They fit me better. We got home in time to see Sam Kirk in his barber college demonstration; how beginners are taught to shave a rubber balloon. Rex and Donna took Kathy to Bullock's Store to see Santa Claus, Mary and Johnny went, too. Rex and Donna brought the three children here tonight after seeing Santa Claus in Bullock's Store. We all watched the Red Button's Show and part of Lucille Ball show.

## December 8, Tuesday

It was another pretty day. Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:45 this morning, bless her heart. Marie and Ephra Doezie were with her. We picked Sr. Margaret Waugaman up at her home. I didn't quilt today, as I was not well enough to undertake that job today. I did a little to help Marie Doezie with the sewing she was doing, making an outing flannel gown. I did some pinking seams and trimmed edges of tea towels, for her to hem on electric machine. Donna got out the clothing left over from our last bazaar and the sisters had a wonderful time looking it over and buying. It looked like a rummage sale for sure. Br. Beck brought his sweet wife to Relief Society; she has been ill with that dreadful arthritis for years. He stayed until after lunch. I think he enjoyed it too; he had his book or magazine, but I doubt if he did much reading. There are not many dull moments on our workdays. Clarice Warnick gave a good lesson, "Spending the Food Dollar," she had two of her sisters visiting with us today. Ethel Burk and Louise Cotterell served a lovely luncheon to us, the ladies on their district helped. Donna, Clarice T., Bonna G., and Melba K. made mince pies. They looked delicious and the aroma was grand, it is my favorite pie. I brought my piece home to Lou. Vera Smith was crowned "Queen for a Day." My precious baby Kathy was in the nursery with the other





children and Mrs. Morris. I peeked through the glass door at her. She is a doll, she was seated at the play table enjoying her little self. I found a birthday gift package when I got home. It was a pretty apron with yellow roses, in a quilted effect print. It was from my dear friend, Ethel Newbold; she is so thoughtful. Tonight we called for Marie Doezie and took her to Ruby Anderson's home to the building fund dinner. We had a nice dinner, a cinch for me, as Ruby made the hamburger, tomato, and onion casserole. All I did was help pay for it, 60¢. Alvin had to work; we had the Browns, the Johnsons, Dorothy McCloud, Marie Doezie, and the Howards. I wasn't feeling well, so we came home early, after helping with the dishes. We took Marie home too. Lou had some bad leg cramps at Andersons. I felt sorry for him. Rex and Donna went to Ovena and Chet's home to their building fund dinner. They had creamed chicken; it cost Donna \$2.00. Ovena cooked the dinner. We pay \$2.00 each to the fund. Sue arrived home from Salt Lake City this morning. Bette and Ray got their infant son home from the hospital today. My dear friend Betty Ramish sent some juniper berries to me tonight. Br. Ramish put them in my mailbox. I made some tea and drank two cups of it.



(NaturalNews) Using a natural remedy such as juniper berries for a urinary tract infection (UTI), especially if you catch it early enough, is a great alternative to antibiotics. Juniper berries have long been used to treat both kidney and bladder conditions, as they contain both antibacterial and antifungal properties. They are also a natural diuretic which helps the body flush the bladder and urethra in order to aid in clearing an infection.

Research has shown that it may be most effective in treating a UTI when one drinks juniper berries as a tea or takes them in the form of a supplement. However, you can eat juniper berries whole or in a tincture as well.

[http://www.naturalnews.com/043312\\_juniper\\_berry\\_urinary\\_tract\\_infections\\_natural\\_remedies.html#ixzz42R7iPEqi](http://www.naturalnews.com/043312_juniper_berry_urinary_tract_infections_natural_remedies.html#ixzz42R7iPEqi)

### December 9, Wednesday

I felt some better this morning, but still not free from the bladder and kidney disorder. I made some more juniper berry tea and drank it this morning. Lou went to work at 7 a.m. I put up his lunch last night. I got up at 8 a.m. and did some scrapbook work, so I could sit on the pillow with the heating pad, to clear up this miserable trouble if possible. I do not want to go to the doctor for another expensive and painful treatment. Annie phoned last evening, she said Sue

was upset because she, Annie, forgot to get the gift she had left at home, for Annie to give me on my birthday, from Sue. (That's my Annie.) She is almost as bad as I am, for not remembering, ha ha! No harm done, eh? Annie and I had a laugh over it. I thought Sue was too upset over Uncle Alvin's passing away to remember a trivial thing like my birthday, but bless her heart, she didn't forget. I'm glad she is back home again, but also happy that she was with dear Aunt Ida, when the tragic accident occurred. I should have done my ironing today, but I didn't feel like it. Anyway, it's a lot more fun to sit down and do scrapbook work, I think. Elvenia S. phoned to invite me to go to Mutual with her; I would like to have gone, but not well enough. They are having a Christmas retold story given by some lady who is well known for her retold story telling. I should like to have heard her. Lou went to the market after dinner. We needed bread and milk. He bought some ice cream and chocolate bars also and some scrapbook paste for my work. I have six pages in my beautiful new scrapbook already. Andersens gave it to me for my birthday.

### December 10, Thursday

Donna left little Kathy with me this morning, while she went with Melba Kunz and Clarice Tanner to Biggler's Furniture Store. They looked at furnishings for the Relief Society room, to put in our new building when it is ready. The management will have an estimate for them in a few days. I enjoyed my baby; she is a doll and so cute. I gave her my full attention and we both loved it. She insisted on eating "unch" (lunch), at 11 a.m. I managed to keep her happy until 11:25 and then she pulled a chair up to the table and demanded she be served lunch. She loves to eat. I poached an egg and made some toast for her. She had canned peaches for dessert. Donna came for her at 11:45 a.m. Kathy was satisfied and happy, with a tiny lollypop I'd given her. I did my ironing and wrote thank you notes to Violet, Ethel N., Lydia B., and Flora T. for the nice cards and gifts for my birthday. After dinner this evening my sweet Lou took me over to Betty Ramish's home to get some more juniper berries. I have been drinking the tea from them for a few days to clear up this miserable kidney and bladder condition that I've been suffering with the past fourteen days. Betty is sending to Salt Lake City for some more berries. I gave her a dollar to send. I mailed the Christmas cards to the two Strong Family Societies; one in Salt Lake City and the other in Pennsylvania. I also phoned Sue's home; Bette answered. She said that Beth Johnston came and took Sue out to Granada Hills, to see Shirley and her new infant son. It is Sue's first time to see the baby. I wonder if Lorene is still with Shirley? Bette says that both babies, hers and Shirley's, are very good so far. Shirley's boy was born December 1 and Bette's December 5. I received a Christmas card from Mary Stead with a note inside. I was surprised to learn that Lillian R. has a baby boy, little Tim.

### December 11, Friday

I felt discouraged this morning, I phoned Dr. Pettit's office and made an appointment for 3:45 today. I was really miserable this morning with this dreadful kidney and bladder infection. Betty Ramish phoned to ask how

I was today; she is a dear. When Donna phoned I told her I felt fine, because I wanted her to enjoy the day. She went to Los Angeles to see the corner stone laid in our beautiful, new, L.D.S. Temple structure. Clarice Tanner took Donna, Mary, and Johnny, and a lady friend of hers. Donna put up the lunch for the group. Ovena M. took care of Kathy. I phoned to tell Lou I was going to the doctors this afternoon and he made arrangements to come home and take me, isn't he wonderful? I wasn't well enough to do cleaning as usual, but I did wash the mirrors and windows in the kitchen inside. I took my bath and rested until Lou came for me at 3:30 p.m. It has been three years since I last went to Dr. Pettit for this condition, and that is too often! He suggested I go see some doctor he named, who specializes in bladder trouble, but I told him he cleared it up for me before and he could again. He said I had considerable pus in my urine. The treatment didn't seem as painful this time, for which I'm thankful. The nurse gave me the penicillin shot. I paid \$3.26 for some bladder pills. Lou waited outside almost an hour for me. He was interested in watching the cops tag the many cars that would park on the street, when the sign said "No Parking at Any Time." We didn't fuss much for dinner. Lou washed the dishes after. Joan phoned from the Oateses', she is going up in the mountains with them to their camp grounds at Mt. Baldy to a party tomorrow.

### December 12, Saturday

I'm a bit weak, but feeling oh so much better today. Lou and I both took it easy today; he went with Mr. Edgecomb this morning, to look at Mr. Edgecomb's lot. They talked about Lou buying the lot and having Mr. Edgecomb build us a house on it. Lou told him he was looking for a home near the bus line, for my sake, as it is too far for me to walk to the bus where we now are. I went over to look at the lot later with Lou. I guess it would be a nice place to live; it is about a block to the bus line. I like that! The homes are nice around it, but not as pretty a location as it is here in general. It's back of Bob's new eating place, being built now, on East Colorado Street, east of us, I like that it is closer to our new church. Well, we'll think about it after Christmas, eh? Lou put our Christmas lights up on the front porch; I put the wreath with little light, up in the front window. The inside decorations will come later, when I feel more like working. We hung the nativity scene up on the front porch. I trimmed it with some gold metallic fringe that I bought at our little 15¢ Store, next door to the Shopping Bag where we buy our groceries. We bought some Lipton's onion soup and liked it a lot. We've listened to Arthur Godfrey tell on the T.V. how good it is, so we tried it and approve. We also tried a Royal Instant Vanilla Pudding, like it also. Rex worked on the church again this Saturday plastering. Lou went up on Colorado Street this afternoon and bought a pair of tan dress shoes for himself. He also left a tire to be retreaded somewhere. I talked to Annie several times this morning about how she makes her delicious fruitcake. Donna is going to make a fruit cake; she asked me to talk to Aunt Annie about it. Dale played the

scale for me on his new saxophone. I had a nice visit with Beverly on the phone too. They all sounded so happy and full of the Christmas spirit, bless 'em. Donna and Rex went to a late show; they'll feel tired tomorrow afternoon, eh?

### December 13, Sunday

It was like mid summer today, too warm for a coat in the sunshine. We went to Sunday School, enjoyed the Christmas songs that we always practice at this time of year. Donna stayed home with Kathy, she has a cold in her head; she had an earache last night and this morning, so Donna kept her home. Lou and I ate a good dinner in the Crown Cafeteria and then took a ride. We drove around through the new homes going up in the Coronet District. I was amazed at so many homes up there, it's like a little town itself. A few have moved in already. We looked through our new church building on the way up. It is coming along fine. It's surely a beautiful place, so spacious too. Donna mixed her fruitcake this morning; she and Janet went to a Mother and Daughter tea this afternoon, given by Janet's school club. It was Janet's formal initiation into the Phenix Club. She wore her white formal gown., She looked real lovely, Donna looked pretty in her navy blue faille suit. She wore Ovena's little blue hat and bag; they went in Grampa Lou's car. Warnie went to Oateses' to pick Joan up and take her



*Elvie notes that Donna's children did not like fruitcake.*

to the East Pasadena chapel for a rehearsal for the Christmas program. I stayed to look after the fruitcakes baking. Rex was at priesthood meeting. I played with Kathy and her dolls, she felt better this afternoon. Lou didn't want to go to church tonight so we stayed home, ate a nice lunch, and watched T.V. I addressed some Christmas cards while Lou enjoyed his nap after we came home from Sierra Madre. We brought three of the loaf tin fruit cakes home. Donna has three. Her children will not eat it. I helped buy the fruit for it. A bad fire is burning brush in Mt. Baldy Canyon. I'm surely thankful that Joan and the Oates family got out safe this morning.

### December 14, Monday

Today was another lovely sunny warm day. Clarice Tanner took Lillian Neal to the doctors this morning. Donna rode as far as the Venetian blind shop with them. Daddy let us use the car to do our shopping today, bless him. Donna came back here for me. Janet stayed home with Kathy; she is out of school this week. She decorated the big mirror over the fireplace, with a snow scene. The mantel looks pretty with the little cardboard nativity scene that Janet and Donna put together last night. Janet had dinner ready for the family when Donna got home from town this evening. The aroma was very pleasant, they invited Daddy and me to eat with them, but we wanted to come home. Donna and I did most of our shopping in Nash's Store where she has a charge account. I paid cash for the things I bought. I bought a pretty gray faille coat dress with the money Lou gave me for a Christmas gift, it was \$14.95, and the first one I tried on, only one in fact. Donna bought lovely taffeta house coats for Janet and Joan and red outing flannel one-piece pajamas.



She got a cute outing flannel nightgown for Mary. She bought a pretty white blouse for Florence Marsh and house slippers for John Marsh, a watch chain for Rex, a lovely pin and necklace for me. I bought a pink silk blouse, and necklace for Donna. I bought a navy blue purse in Hertell's Store for Donna and a silver necklace and bracelet for Joan, pearl necklace and earrings for Janet.

Donna bought nylon hose for the girls. We went in Kress for some tree trimmings. Donna phoned Daddy before we left Nash's. He said he'd wait for us an hour. We took Donna home. I addressed some Christmas cards this evening. Rex took Donna, Mary, and Johnny to town tonight; they got two sheets with their stamp books. The kiddies did a little shopping in Kress Store.

### December 15, Tuesday

It was warm and sunny again today. Bonna Gordon couldn't come for me this morning. She went to town early, to buy some See's Chocolates for the Relief Society to give some of the old folks and needy ones. Melba Kunz came for me, she had Marie and Ephra Doezie with her. We had a very small attendance this morning. It was a shame too, because it was a beautiful lesson in literature, given by Faye Timothy, on the Life of Charles Dickens. She had a record of his Christmas Carol, which we all enjoyed. Clarice Tanner conducted, she asked me to read my poem, "The Christmas Spirit." I gave it before the lesson. The Relief Society gave Mrs. Morris, the babysitter, a box of See's Chocolates. Bonna Gordon brought me home. Our little Mary just turned 11 last month, and she menstruated last evening, growing up too fast my sweet Mary. Joan came home after school today; she had been staying at the Oateses' ranch for a week or so. She and Diane Oates love to be together. I addressed Christmas cards all afternoon until time to get dinner ready. I was thrilled when I opened Lillian and Jack's greeting card and saw a stamp picture of Mother Renshaw in it. It is a good likeness, taken not very long before she passed away. She had her pretty new suit and hat on. She looked so nice in that green suit and hat. These are busy days for everyone. I received a letter from Violet. She says they will leave Cedar City the day after Christmas, to come to California. Otto is coming with Violet and Yvonne. I'm so thrilled over the prospect of having them in California for the holidays. It's the first time they've all



been here at the Yule time, with Dody and her family.

### December 16, Wednesday

Beverly took the See's Chocolates, that Glen got for Donna and us, to the shop today. Lou forgot to bring it home this evening, but he went back for it tonight when he came to church for me. Donna had five, one pound boxes, and we bought two 1-pound boxes.

Glen got it for \$1.00 a box for us. We saved about 19¢ on a pound. Mrs. Edgecomb invited me in to see her lovely Christmas gift, from her husband, a new Frigidaire automatic washing machine. I did my washing this morning. I was delighted that everything dried beautifully, even the loop rugs. That couldn't happen in some parts of our country at this season, eh? Joan had a cold; she stayed out of school. Mary didn't feel well (cramps) and she stayed home, too. Our Johnny boy tried dreadfully hard to be ill, a bad cough, a sore mosquito bite and so on, but he was persuaded back to good health, with the aid of a clothes hanger.

He went to school with the Kirk kiddies, in their car. He arrived home after school well and happy. I watered our lawns and flowers this afternoon. My nice neighbor took my Christmas cards to the post office with hers this afternoon. I was glad I didn't have that long walk; she drives her car. Janet drove Warnie's car to church tonight. She took me with her. Warnie stayed here with Grampa to watch the boxing on T.V. He had seen the first part at home on his T.V. set. Lou brought Warnie to church after going to the shop for our candy. I enjoyed the lovely Christmas program in Mutual. Our young people's chorus sang several lovely Christmas songs, the sweet girls were all in their formal gowns. Joan was beautiful, as always, in her orchid lace and she sang in the quartet, with Ephra D., Jerry W., and Lorraine C. They sang "Let it Snow," it was cute. The chorus sang "The Night Before Christmas." Winter Wonderland" was sung by a group of girls from the chorus. The Primary children sang "Frosty the Snow Man." Don Anderson was Frosty; it was cute. The chorus sang "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" and "Silent Night." Will R. sang, "I'll be Home for Christmas," Madge Fowler played an organ medley. Br. Don R. gave a reading accompanied by Lydia S. Lorene A. played a violin solo, "Oh Holy Night." Helen Rowberry did a splendid job of directing the chorus. I'm glad I went. Punch and cookies were served after the program in the recreation hall.



## December 17, Thursday

We are still enjoying nice weather. Donna took Kathy this morning to the Singing Mother's Christmas party at Las Flores Ward. She phoned me this afternoon, said they had a lovely luncheon. They all took something. She, and the group that sing second soprano, took the set salads. One group took the casserole dishes; others took pies and etcetera. She was full and sleepy, so took a nap while the baby was asleep. The Christmas cards are coming in now. We have fourteen of them already. I noticed that we had one of the extra mail carriers on our route this morning. I did my ironing and walked up to Marcos Avenue, the street north of us. Marie Andrus came along in her car and took me to Colorado Street, nice eh? I bought three sets of nutcrackers at 49¢ each I'm taking two of the sets to our Strong's Christmas party. We have to take two gifts, not over 50¢ a piece. I'll keep a set, as our old crackers have lost the spring. I bought a few Christmas items in the 15¢ Store and walked home. We are the only ones on our block with the Christmas lights out so far, but we like to enjoy the Yule Tide season as long as we can. Mary Howard came to Donna's this afternoon and helped her make a costume for Mary to wear in the Christmas program tonight; a head dress of the Biblical times, and robe. It was white and blue. Our Mary was "the Mary" in the Christmas pageant and she looked just beautiful. I remember when Donna was "Mary" in the Christmas pageant. I was "the Mary" once, myself. History repeats itself, eh? Arthur Bingham was Joseph in Donna's play. Keith Garrick was Joseph in Mary's play or pageant. Our Johnny was one of the Biblical characters, on his way to Bethlehem to pay taxes. Donna called for me this evening; the three children were with her. The primary organization had charge of the program tonight. It was very good, considering all the children they have to work with. I enjoyed it a lot. There was a large crowd out. I had a good chuckle when little David Howard's long sleeves wouldn't stay tucked up. I guess it was his Dad's bathrobe and the sleeves were a foot too long, he finally gave up trying to keep them up and just let them dangle. The highlight of the evening was when Santa Claus arrived. He was very lively and jolly, but unaware that the white padding for his stomach was falling out from under his coat. He ended up by holding up his red trousers with one hand. It was a riot. Ha ha! I'm still enjoying the memory of Al Green as Santa. He used to live in our ward, a slender, young, married man. Kathy was afraid of Santa, but she did tell him "thank you" for the red stocking with candy and nuts and a plastic doll in. She wouldn't let go of the hold she had on her mama while Santa was in sight. I don't blame her; he was a sight to see!

## December 18, Friday

It was a little cloudy this morning but cleared beautifully by 10 a.m. I went uptown on the ten o'clock bus. I bought a pretty pin and earring set in Mather's Department Store to give Beverly, \$1.50, it was a half price sale they said. I also bought a set of scatter pins for my little Mary, half price, three for 50¢; they were marked \$1.00. I bought some socks for Dale Andersen, \$1.00, and a pair for my little Johnny, 59¢. Lou gave me the eight silver half dollars he had in a little box in his highboy dresser. It didn't take long to spend the silver pieces, \$4.00, so I came home. I bought a few things in Grants and Kress first, a plastic apron for Kathy in Grants, some hair nets for me in Kress. Our town looks very pretty with the Christmas decorations in the stores and overhead in the street. Mary Howard and Donna went shopping in Sierra Madre this afternoon to buy material to make a skirt for Mary's vanity dresser. The dresser is new, Mary doesn't know about it. Rex has to assemble it and paint it yet. Mary Howard took our Mary home with her this evening to stay all night, so Donna can work on the dresser skirt tonight. David Howard stayed with Johnny at Marshes'. Rex phoned from his mother's this evening, he had me phone Donna for him to let her know he was eating dinner with his folks.

Florence Marsh talked to me and invited us to dinner next Sunday after Sunday School. She is having all of her children home; it was surely nice of her to invite us. They are grand people. Mary Howard traded a chest of drawers with Donna. Hers matched the furniture Donna has for Mary and Johnny's room.

## December 19, Saturday

I made hotcakes for Lou's breakfast; he went up to Donna's after eating. Rex and Lou went to the shop and varnished the little vanity dresser that Mary is getting for Christmas. Donna is making the flounce skirt to go on it. They put the new screens up on the little rear house. Lou brought the electric sander from the shop. They sanded the kid's bunk beds and Johnny's desk. Rex sanded and Lou varnished them. I spent all day putting out the Christmas decorations in our living room and dining room, the little chapel in the pines, the choir boys, the Yule log, the Christmas card tree and pine cones, bells, and red bows. It takes a long time to arrange the lovely greeting cards on the tree. We have over fifty cards now. Lou cut a nice big bouquet of red berries to take with us tonight, for Lorene and Sue to take to Al and Charlie's graves tomorrow. Mary J. is going to take them to Forest Lawn Cemetery tomorrow. Andersens left early this evening for Van Nuys, they went to Glen's home to see the baby and children before going to



Mary Marsh as Mary the mother of Jesus.





the Strong's meeting at Beth and Dick's home. They took Lorene with them. Ray Clayton phoned to tell me that Miriam and little girls would stay home this evening as they had slight colds. We were going to take Miriam and girls and pick Sue up at Burbank, but it ended up by Lou and I driving out to Johnston's alone. Bette and Ray took Sue out and we brought her back to her home. We had a lovely time and a nice program, with delicious refreshments. Clint and his folks were afraid to drive to Van Nuys because of the heavy fog in their town. We missed them. We each got a gift tonight; we each took a gift. Beth invited a young woman in her ward to come and sing for us. She had a beautiful voice and sang three lovely Christmas songs. We didn't have many out tonight but we did have a fine meeting. Sue told us about Uncle Alvin's accident and funeral. Beth made a delicious fish set salad and a grand dessert and home made candy. She also made the best ever, a hot fruit drink. We, from our north side, paid \$1.62. Beth did all the work. Beverly stayed with Glen and the children while we were at Beth's. She came in time to take her folks home. Lorene stayed all night with Mary and family. Lou won the door prize, a small jar of Blanche's pickles, nice eh? Rex and Donna went to a turkey dinner at Dr. R. Watkins's, their club social.

### December 20, Sunday

Clarice Tanner phoned Donna's house to tell them that President David O. McKay was speaking on the radio over "The Church of the Air." Donna phoned us, so we all listened to his wonderful talk and the beautiful Tabernacle Choir music. It was thrilling indeed. We had a very nice program in Sunday School this morning. Ed Robinson couldn't come to sing his two solos, but Don Rowberry did a beautiful job in Ed's place. Lorna Bodily gave a reading, "The Giant's Garden." She was accompanied by Lorene Alder on the violin and Lydia Smith on the organ; it was lovely. The Junior Sunday School had the last half of the program time and they were very good. Our baby Kathy came in on the platform to sing with the little tots in the Angel Chorus. They looked like little angels for sure. Kathy looked like she was going to cry when she saw all the people, but she didn't; she put her finger in her mouth and amused folks while the older tots sang. Johnny had a poem to say, he did it very well too. We went to Marshes' after Sunday School to a very delicious dinner. All of the children were there; we ate at card tables. It was served buffet style and was it ever good (delicious)! I was sorry to see Florence Marsh half sick with a dreadful head cold. She went to bed feeling well last night and woke up in the night with a sore throat and bad cold in her head. Elaine and Irene Oates are home from B.Y.U. College for the holidays; they both looked sweet. We had some beautiful young ladies there today; all are pretty. Janet and Joan went home with the Oateses they went to Garvanza Ward tonight with the Oateses and then to a sing fest after in Glendale, I believe. I think the girls slept at the Oateses' ranch tonight. We missed Ernie Oates Jr., bless his heart; he is in Japan for the U.S.A. Marines. Lou



*Mary watched Kathy and Johnny all day on December 21.*

and I brought Johnny and Mary home from Marshes. They enjoyed two western pictures on T.V. before time to leave for church. Rex left Marshes after dinner, a ward member called for him; they went out to Sawtelle to administer to Br. Arnold Stephens. Donna took Kathy home; she brought some books back for Rex. He has charge of the seventies books. What do you know? This is the first Sunday night, since we bought the television that we have not turned it on. We listened to radio while we ate, then I addressed my last minute Christmas cards and wrote in diary. Lou went to bed. I had to buy a few more cards on my way home from church. We stopped at Thrifty Drug Store on the way home from Church, where I got the cards.

### December 21, Monday

Florence Oates brought Janet and Joan to our house this morning. They stayed with the Oateses last night. They had some of the Oateses girl's old clothes to wear while helping me. I took the burners of the kitchen stove out and cleaned the stove good inside and out. Joan cleaned the two drawers in the stove out and washed them for me. Janet vacuumed the drapes and Venetian blinds in both bedrooms and my bedroom rug. Joan cleaned up the patio cabaña, and cupboards under the sink. I vacuumed Lou's bedroom. The girls washed the living room and dinette windows inside and outside. We accomplished a lot of work; they took my heavy blankets outside and shook them and vacuumed the mattresses. We had just finished when Lou and Donna arrived at 5 p.m. Donna went to town to do some Christmas shopping, Lou picked her up at Hertel's Department Store where her packages were checked. Mary was home all day looking after little Kathy and Johnny. I rode up to Sierra Madre with Lou to take Donna and the girls home. We took the Christmas packages I have wrapped for them and put them under the tree until Christmas Eve. Lou cut a nice bouquet of red berries for Donna. We were loaded down when we went in Donna's this evening. Grampa gave each of the girls \$5.00 for helping me out today. Little Kathy was so cute when we went in the house, she had her toenails painted pink; Mary had fixed her with lipstick, rouge and nail polish. Her hair was in a horses tail do. Donna's living and dining rooms look very pretty with Christmas decorations and the beautiful silver tip tree that Warnie got for them. I phoned to see how Florence Marsh was, she is still sick in bed.

### December 22, Tuesday

Today was a lovely day; I did my washing. A nice wind dried everything and kept the dreadful smog away. We have so many lovely Christmas cards, the mailman comes twice a day now and each time I have a card or two from someone I didn't send to; so I hurry to the corner mailbox with cards for friends, after each mail delivery. I had Donna buy me another box of twenty-five cards yesterday. I thought the one hundred cards I'd sent would be enough, but so many ward folks have sent us this year. Lou came to

Edgecomb's with some lumber this afternoon, Mr. Edgecomb cut a scalloped valance for Gordon on his electric table saw, the header for this Venetian blind was too big for the shop's saw, I guess. Beverly got through her work at the Deluxe Venetian Shop last evening; the work is slack again. There were only two jobs to work on in the shop today. We did not have Relief Society today because of the Christmas busy rush for mamas in our Society. It surely is a busy time. This evening Lou and I went over to visit Gordon and Ruby and to look at their beautiful redecorated bathroom. They have a large bathroom and have papered it with a lovely flowered waterproof paper. It is very pretty. Lutie Solem came and we had a nice visit; Lou and his cousins talking over the days when they were kids in Salt Lake City. Lou ate candy and drank 7Up. I drank some 7Up. Joan got her black felt skirt almost finished last night; she put the finishing touches on it today. It is wrapped and under the Christmas tree now. Grampa and I are giving it to her for Christmas. We bought the felt material; gave her \$11.00. I gave her \$10.00 two weeks ago, and \$1.00 yesterday.

### December 23, Wednesday

We are having lovely warm sunny days; it gets cold at nights. I did my ironing this morning. Janet made cupcakes last night to take to the office today. Ruby, the office attendant girl, brought fried chicken. I believe Dr. Don Anderson brought punch and ice cream or something. The girls had a lot of fun serving the doctor a sandwich, spread thick with Vaseline, before they brought the chicken out. They had a contest for two weeks, to see which of the three of them could lose the most weight. Janet won the wager; she lost four pounds. Ruby lost three



*Janet Marsh and Warnie Mueller at the Christmas party December 23, 1953. Below it looks like it might have been an engagement announcement party.*



pounds and Dr. Anderson lost one pound. They each paid Janet a dollar. Mary Howard came over to help Donna with the vanity dresser skirt for Mary Marsh's Christmas. Mary stayed last night at Carol Colvin's home; they took her to a Christmas party yesterday, I think. This evening Lou and I went to Highland Park. Bill and Lou went to have shots at the Glendale Clinic. Bill has been once before; this is Lou's first time. The doctors there have helped Annie so much she wanted Bill to go. I hope Lou will get as much help for his arthritis as Annie has. Annie and I rode with them; we shopped in the Sears Store next door to the clinic. I bought suspenders for Lou, she bought a tie for Gilbert's gift, to go with his soldier suit they're giving him. Beverly and Dale gave us gifts, a pound box of See's Chocolates from Dale and a three-pound can of select sweet dates from Beverly, bless their hearts. I put a box of socks (two pair) under the tree for Dale and a pin and earring set for Beverly. Their tree is very pretty as always. I looked in the Glendale Sears for the little what not shelf Donna wanted, but they didn't have one. We bought a little unpainted what not shelf in the Pasadena Sears Store and took it out to Donna's tonight. Rex stained it later; it is for Mary's bedroom. Janet looked beautiful in a black velvet dress tonight; she and Warnie went to a party. Joan went out with her friend Phil. I didn't see my pretty Joan when she was ready.



## December 24, Thursday—Christmas Eve

We have surely been blessed with perfect weather these past few days, I mean weeks! I walked up on the Avenue for a few last minute Christmas gifts. I bought some Old Spice Cologne and after shaving lotion, a large bottle of Jergen's Hand Lotion, with a dispenser, Gillette Blades, Vick's nose drops and some Williams Luxury Shaving Soap. I put them in a box for Lou's Christmas. I bought some Dream Shampoo for Dixie Wolfe and a bottle of Italian Balm Hand Lotion for Nina Wolfe. I gave Nina half of one of my fruitcakes also. I cooked the big 7 pound leg of lamb this afternoon. Donna made pumpkin pies and a chocolate cake. She cooked the potatoes and peas and made a lovely set salad. We went to Sierra Madre after I got the gravy made at 6 p.m. I took the meat and gravy hot; I took half pound of butter, a can of olives and a can of cranberries. We had a very good dinner. Nina and Dixie Wolfe ate with us. John and Florence Marsh came before we ate, but they had eaten at Van de Kamp's before coming. Warnie M. ate with us. Lou washed the dishes; Donna and girls dried them. Mary and Johnny were anxious to start unwrapping the gifts. We let baby Kathy open one of her gifts; it was a cute doll from the Howards, she played with it, until we were all ready to open our gifts. We all received many lovely gifts, I'm glad John and Florence were with us. I'll not write what we gave the children as I have told about their gifts when I bought them a few days ago. Grama Marsh made a darling dress for Kathy and such a cute jumper dress for Mary, with a beaded jersey blouse. She gave the girls nylon hose, Donna a lovely nylon slip and hose, Rex L.D.S. garments and a box of canvas gloves, pajamas for Johnny. I can't remember all the little gifts they brought to Donna's. We had a grand time opening our gifts. Our children gave us so many nice things. Warnie gave Donna and me each a beautiful azalea potted plant in full bloom with a lovely wide satin ribbon bow; oh, they are lovely. Dixie went babysitting after dinner. Nina went to her little house. Janet received a diamond engagement ring from Warnie!



## December 25, Friday

It was another beautiful warm sunny day today. Lou and I left our gifts out in the living room all day. Donna and Rex gave Lou two very nice T.V. serving trays on stands, they fold up; also some very good clippers for his garden work. The girls gave him garden gloves and a Gillette razor. Donna and Rex gave me a beautiful rhinestone necklace and a large pin. The girls gave me some silver crocheted T.V. slippers, a lovely handkerchief and some cute bath soap on a cord. Mary and Johnny gave me a picture of them taken at school. I can't write down all the nice little gifts. Bev and Dale gave us candy and dates. My Lou gave me a lovely faille coat dress but we are going to take it back to Nash's Store. A misprint in back of skirt makes it look like I have a wet spot in it. I wore it before Lou noticed it. Lou gave me \$10.00 in a Christmas card also. Joan received two cashmere sweaters, a yellow one from friend Phil



Album cover from Oklahoma. Note from Mary Marsh Tibbets: "I wore that record out and memorized every one of the songs, I loved it!" Mary got full use of the gift for Joan. ☺

Croft and a pink one from another friend I think, oh yes, it was Bob Perry. She felt embarrassed at the expensive gifts from just friends. Bob Hampson sent Joan a music record "Oklahoma," with a lovely card. The poor lad is in the hospital. The girls were pleased with pretty taffeta robes from Santa and pajamas and other nice things. Mary loved her vanity dresser, Johnny his electric train. Yes, we all had a wonderful Christmas. Mary made a little cake and frosted it. With the cake mix set we gave her. It came out real good. Warnie and Janet went visiting his folks today; they went to see Warnie's grandmother, too. Janet's ring is very lovely. Lou and I went out to Donna's; baby Kathy had her dolls and the puppy and everything piled up in her little doll buggy. Rex and Johnny were on the floor running the electric train. Joan was dressed up in her new black felt skirt, jersey blouse with white trim, and white angora fur hat, white fur snowballs on the skirt. She was a lovely big doll (without the new shoes she needs). Oh me! Lou and I arrived at Andersen's just in time to eat a delicious turkey dinner with Annie, Bill, and Beverly. Dale came later. Annie's homemade mincemeat pies too, so good! I had some of Bev's super chocolate fudge; she surely can make good creamy fudge. Andersens and Lorene went out to Van Nuys this morning at five o'clock to watch their children when they came out to see what Santa left for them. Lorene went to see Mary's little ones and the Andersens were at Glen's. They all had lots of gifts to open. Mary and Vernon have a new T.V. set, 21-inch screen. Lorene ate dinner with Ray and Miriam and girls. Miriam's folks are here too. Lou and I went down to see the Clayton's this evening. They had a lovely lot of gifts too, all happy. We are indeed a blessed people.

## December 26, Saturday

Donna and Joan went uptown this morning, she changed Florence Marsh's gift for gloves. Florence isn't going to sew anymore, so will not need that skirt straightener that Donna bought for her. She can use the gloves. Donna took Rex's house slippers back and got a pair of slippers for Joan to wear with her new black Christmas outfit. They went to the Broadway Store and changed Donna's silver T.V. crocheted slippers for the correct size. Lou and I went to town this morning; we stopped at the Jim Clinton Men's Store and he bought a pretty maroon red jacket for himself. He looks real nice in it. The lining is a pretty red satin. We went to Nash's Department Store, where we got our money back, because they couldn't find my size in the dress that I had to change because of a misprint in the skirt. I tried several dresses on but didn't want any of them. We went up to Hartfield's Ladies' Shop, where I found a very pretty black faille suit, with rhinestone buttons and trim. I'm very happy with the change. It fits very nice and is good looking too. We went to the Broadway Department Store and I bought two cute little infant knit suits for Bette and Shirley's little infant sons for \$2.75 each. They were on sale, so says the store; they are two-piece suits. I'm anxious to see the two new babies on our family tree. Joan went to the stake dance tonight with Jerry Warnick; she wore her new black felt skirt and pink cashmere sweater and silver jewelry, all Christmas gifts; new shoes too. Janet went to the beach with the Swim family; she is going to stay overnight with them. They've bought the little home there; I believe it is in Balboa Beach. I called Dolores's home this evening to find out if her folks had arrived yet, and was surprised to hear Violet's voice answer the phone. They arrived at three o'clock this afternoon, made good time. The roads were excellent, no snow or storms to hinder them. I'm anxious to see them all again. Lou and I enjoyed our sweet little home this evening and the T.V. programs. Rex and Donna took their three youngest children to a drive in picture show tonight.

## December 27, Sunday

I was surprised to see Janet in Sunday School with Warnie M. I thought she went to the beach with the Swim family. Donna said they changed their plans and didn't go yesterday as they had planned. Donna wore her pretty new navy blue wool suit, her pink blouse and gloves, new blue hat and purse, and the pretty necklace and earrings we gave her with the blouse. She looked very stunning. The suit was a Christmas

### Grandma Marsh isn't going to sew anymore?

Florence Marsh has made so many dresses, jumpers, skirts, and clothing for her granddaughters. But it must have been time to hang up the needle, thread, and tape measure.

Florence Marsh was 69 years old and may have been tired of sewing. Her granddaughter Mary Marsh Tibbets turns 74 years old in November of 2016. Mary loves to sew every day.

*Sewing*  
MENDS THE SOUL

piece suit in yellow and white. We gave Shirley's new infant the same things, only in green and white. Bette said that everything Shirley's baby had been given was yellow, so she kept the yellow one. We took the green one to Shirley's infant. Sue invited us to come back to her home for a bite to eat, after we'd been out to Shirley's. We did and enjoyed her lovely lunch very much. The wind was blowing very strong out at Shirley's place. Kenny and Shirley and children were next door eating dinner with their neighbors. They gave Lou the key and we went in their cute home. They came in a few minutes later. The tiny little son is a darling. I believe he looks like Kenny. Little Stevie and Karen are cute, good-looking children. Bette and Ray's new infant son is surely cute also, a good-looking infant. We called to see the Vandergrifts after we left Sue and Bette's place. The Haddocks, Birds, Vandergrifts, and Sue all look well and happy; they had a lovely Christmas. Ruth Haddock was at Ray's visiting; we enjoyed seeing her again. She ate with us; she is a sweet girl.



Harry and Mary Howard in happier times. In December of 1953 their home was threatened by fire.

## December 28, Monday

We noticed a fire burning in the mountains near Donna and Rex's Sierra Madre home last evening, on our way home. It was a raging brush fire, fanned on by a 70 mile an hour wind and was roaring towards the homes in Big Santa Anita Canyon. We all thought of the Howard's home, up in the top of the Sierra Madre Canyon. It looked like the fire was right in that canyon. It was getting too close for comfort, so Harry and Mary Howard brought their two children down to Donna's to stay all night last night. He left his business truck in Donna's yard, but in the night, he took the truck and left his car with some of their clothes in Donna's yard. The

firemen ordered them to evacuate about 2 a.m. The elders from our ward got busy and moved all of Harry's furniture out of the house. They used Harry's truck and Br. Kunz's truck and took the furniture to the homes of members of our



ward, to store in their garages and homes. The giant blaze is still uncontrolled and is menacing the little cities nearby, Sierra Madre and Monrovia. It has destroyed more than \$2,500,000 in valuable timber and watersheds. It is now a serious threat to the multi-million dollar television and astronomical installation atop Mt. Wilson. Harry took Janet and Joan up to his house with him this morning in the Sierra Madre Canyon. They watched the fire for several hours while Harry was wetting down his house roof and etcetera. Waureeta Rossiter took some frozen beef stew to Donna's to help feed the Howard family. People are kind at a time like this. Don Anderson's wife, Louise, had the Howard's over to dinner this evening. Janet helped Louise and ate with them. Donna had the Howard children eat with them and stay all

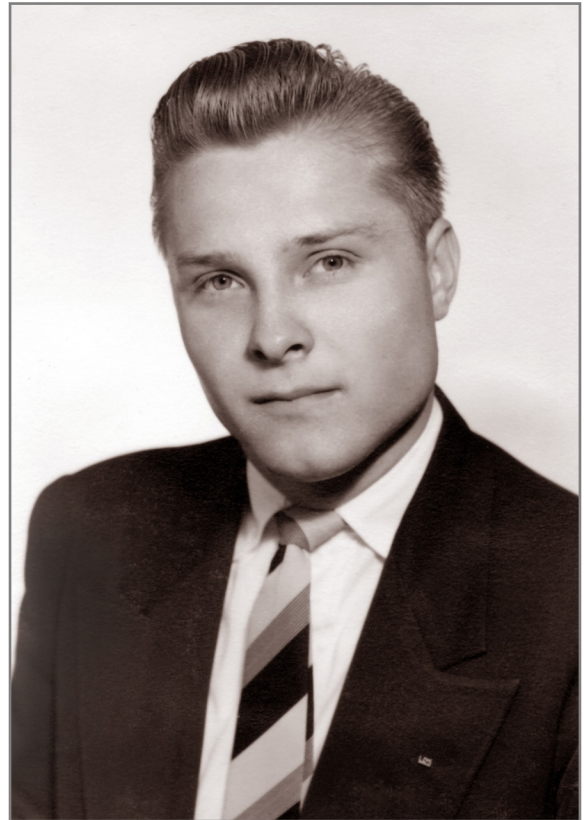


night. Clarice Tanner gave Harry and Mary Howard a good bed to sleep in tonight; yes, folks are good. Ashes from the big fire were all over Pasadena, Los Angeles and Hollywood this morning. I talked to Violet, Otto, and Yvonne on the phone today. They were going out to Van Nuys with Beverly today, but poor Bev is sick in bed with a painful back. She went to the doctor twice today for treatments. The Fifes went to see the picture "The Robe" tonight.

### December 29, Tuesday

I talked to Donna this morning and was happy to learn that the Howard's home is still okay. The brush fire burned down the hill almost to their home but the fire department trucks and men were there keeping the place wet down. We are all hoping and praying that the fire will be under control soon and no more wind. If that wind starts up again, it will surely be disastrous. Mary Howard was with Donna today helping her. She is a darling little person. Mary and Harry slept at Clarice Tanner's home last night, the children at Donna's. Terry M. stayed at Donna's for a while today. His mother went to a funeral. I phoned Andersens and was happy to find Beverly feeling much better. She thought she was well enough to go to her job tonight. My sweet little Mary isn't well today; she has a fever and cold. Sorry! I couldn't talk to the Fifes as I'd planned today; I talked to Annie on the phone, she said that Dolores, Yvonne, and Violet went shopping. Yvonne bought a new dress, her Christmas gift from her parents. Otto went to town in Los Angeles. He stopped off at the streetcar barns where he worked twenty years ago. It was the same old boss and some of the men still there; he had a nice visit with them. Otto went to Andersen's from town. Doug Jones and Yvonne Fife called for him at Andersen's. I tried to phone Violet this evening at 6:30; no one was home. They'd all gone to Hollywood to see the wonder picture show, "Cinerama."

They went to see "The Robe" last night. I'm glad to see they are enjoying their visit. I'd like to have them here to dinner if I can arrange it. Mary Howard helped Donna clean her kitchen cupboards, the top to bottom, and all the dishes, nice, eh? It is Dale Andersen's birthday tomorrow; I mailed him a card. He'll be 19 years old. I hope he has a happy birthday!



*Dale Andersen circa 1953.*

### December 30, Wednesday

I phoned Dolores this morning and invited them to park their car in our yard on New Year's Day, while they walked over to see the Rose Parade, then come back here and eat lunch. She seemed pleased with the idea. They went over to Andersen's this morning and Beverly drove them out to Burbank to see Sue and family, then out to Van Nuys to visit the folks out there. Irene and Glen invited the Fifes, Otto, Violet, and Yvonne to dinner tonight. I believe Irene was going to take them to see Mary J., Shirley B., and Beth J. Beverly and Dody came back home, Glen and Irene were going to bring the folks back to Andersen's tonight. Donna and I went Relief Society visiting this afternoon on my district. Ruby Anderson works and can't go with me anymore. We only found Edith Fox, Carolyn Thatcher, and Nora Williamson at home, out of the nine families. I enjoyed going with Donna, would like to have her for my regular partner, but she has her time filled with her huge job as Relief Society president. Nora Williamson will be my new partner; she is a very sweet person so I'm happy to have her. We went to the new Juliette Candy Store on Lake Street. Donna bought a two-pound box of chocolates for Janet to take to her school club tonight, to treat the girls and announce her engagement then. I insisted on paying for half of the box, \$1.25. I also put \$1.00 gas in her car. Mary

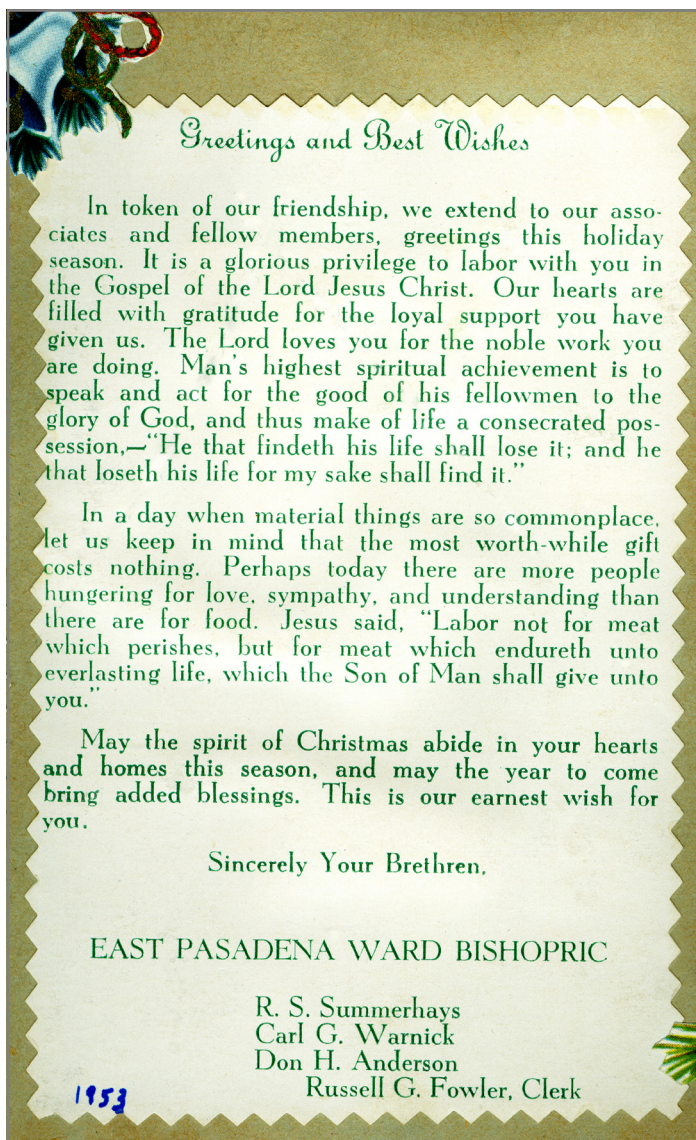


Howard went up the canyon to clean up her house; they hope to get moved back in their house this afternoon. The fire department has given them permission to move in. They feel that the fire danger is over in that part of the canyon. It is really dreadful to see the damage done in this tragic fire. Mrs. Stacy's kitten gave us all some concern this evening when he got up on our housetop. We were afraid he'd fall down our fireplace chimney. She saw her kitten on top of our house about dark. She got down okay. We were all relieved when the kitten walked in Mrs. Stacy's tonight as if nothing had happened at all. Lou was about to climb on our house and look down the chimney for her. Mrs. Stacy was really upset because she had seen her up there. Donna took all the children to have their teeth cleaned and checked over by Dr. Don Anderson this morning. They called in to see me after. Kathy didn't want to go home, bless her heart. Joan went to a slumber party at a girlfriend's home tonight, on Lotus Street. Rex and Donna took her there.

### December 31, Thursday

I saw frost on the housetops this morning and yesterday morning, but Mr. Sunshine took care of Mr. Frost in a hurry. We are enjoying lovely weather; I hope it will be

as nice for the big Rose Parade and ball game tomorrow. We are all thankful that the huge fire in our surrounding hills is about under control now. I talked to Annie, Bev, and Donna on the phone; making plans for our food for the family party tomorrow night at Dolores and Bevan's. I spent most of today preparing for the company we'll have here tomorrow, for lunch, after the parade. I made a Jello fruit salad, cooked potatoes and eggs for the salad, made a caramel cream sauce to serve over the plum pudding. I vacuumed, changed furniture in the living room and did the ironing. I was too tired tonight to watch the old year out and New Year in, on the television. Lou took our car over on Delray Street and Foothill Boulevard and parked it there overnight. He carried two wooden horses over later; he'll take a plank over in the morning so the folks can sit on it, while waiting and watching the parade. Donna and Rex went to the stake's New Year's Eve dance tonight. Otto took sick when the folks were in Alhambra tonight; they had to bring him back home to Dody's. Dr. LeMoyne Hickman gave Otto a shot and some pills to take; he slept and felt better this evening. Andersens went over to visit with Violet tonight. Yvonne and Doug Jones and I believe Dody and Bevan went to the stake dance. It was in the San Marino Woman's Club Hall, I think. We have had many happy blessings in this year 1953. I hope 1954 will be as nice to us. "Bye bye" 1953.



Christmas card from Ray & Carol Blid. Friends from the East Pasadena Ward. Mentioned seven times in 1953.